

ABSTRACT

A. Linda Setyowati : A Point of View Analysis on
Harper Lee's To Kill A Mocking-
bird

Point of view analysis became my main concern in studying Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird as I believed that writers' or characters' point-of view would enable us to go deeper in comprehending the purpose of the author in writing the novel. It was interesting for me to notice that the author chose a child, a minor character in this novel, as the narrator. Furthermore, through many experiences that happened to the child, Lee seemingly enriched the readers with the valuable messages of life. To make this study sistematic, I formulated two main problems to be solved. The first one was the reasons why Harper Lee used a child, her minor character, as the narrator in her novel, To Kill A Mockingbird. The second was several values that Scout learns from her own experiences throughout the novel, especially during the hard time of Tom Robinson's trial. The objective of this thesis was to give answers to those two problems.

In compiling this thesis, I conducted a desk research method that was by studying and adapting some books which present critics' opinions on the novel, the theory of point of view, and the theory of literature in general. Regarding the theories of analysis, I refered to the two theories of M.H. Abrams' The Mirror and The Lamp. There were the Pragmatic approach and the Objective approach. I decided to use these two approaches as I concerned mainly with the novel itself,

the point of view, and the narrator's learning experiences.

At the end of the study, I could see that Lee uses a child, Scout, her minor character, as the narrator in her novel *To Kill A Mockingbird*, because Lee wanted to tell the readers all the problems in the society, such as the injustice of racialism in America completely. Through the eyes of an innocent child, the idea was easily gained. Besides, the readers could also enjoy the humorous way that Scout used in telling her story. But all in all, it did not mean that choosing her as a narrator, Lee did not have any shortcomings. Sometimes, Scout did not understand what other people are thinking. She was too naive to guess what comes on one's face. It was such a real human life which was hardly achieved by a child. Moreover, from Scout's learning experiences, especially during the hard time of Robinson's trial, the readers could learn four important things, i.e. (a) justice and injustice through Tom Robinson's trial; (b) prejudice and its effect upon the processes of the law and society; (c) courage as manifested in ways other than physical acts; and (d) respect for the individuality of human beings. Additionally, on a smaller scale, Scout learned numerous things about various people; she become aware of the difficulty of being a lady, particularly when in difficult times; and she also learned when to fight or not to fight as her father has told her.