

ABSTRACT

VIDA LESTARI MAMUAYA (2007). **Alienation and Violence in William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* and J. D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University.

This thesis discusses William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* and J. D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*. Both contain the theme of alienation and violence. In *Lord of the Flies*, all characters are a group of school boys aged 6 up to 12. They are isolated in an empty island. Thus they become alienated with the world outside and their alienation leads to violence. While in *The Catcher in the Rye*, the main character, Holden Caulfield, is described as an unhappy person. He feels lonely in his life because he is an alienated person. His alienation makes him unable to control himself as to commit violence.

This thesis is meant to answer the problems of alienation and violence of the characters in both novels. This thesis has two purposes. The first is to depict the qualities of alienation and the relation with violence in both novels. The second is to find out the causes that influence the alienation in the characters in both novels.

The writer uses library research and internet research method in the analysis. Theories of character and characterization are applied to answer the first and second problems. Theories of alienation and violence are applied to answer the first problem. Theories of family and society are applied to answer problem number two. The psychological approach is used in analyzing the character's psychological tendency to alienation and violence.

The result of this study shows that the portrait of alienation and violence in both novels are different. In *Lord of the Flies*, the children become alienated all of a sudden because of the war. The children who are isolated in one empty island should face bitter experiences as alienated persons. Their qualities as alienated persons are isolation, being out of touch with the self, being out of touch with any other person, powerless, experiencing identity crisis, being neurotic, and undergo guilty feeling. While in *The Catcher in the Rye*, the alienation in Holden's character is because he experiences mental disorder. Holden tells the entire story in the novel from mental hospital. Further, he has the qualities as an alienated person namely being out of touch with any other people, experiencing identity crisis, being neurotic, undergo guilty feeling, goalless feeling, empty, flat, and devoid feeling, and estrangement from God. Nevertheless, the children in both novels have the same factor that influences their alienation and violence. The carelessness of the member of the family and the treatment of the society become the prominent factors in influencing the development of the children's alienation and violence. It makes all characters have a distance with their family and society. They cannot make a good interpersonal relationship with others. Besides, their alienation leads them to do both physical and verbal violence to release their feeling of alienation.