

## ABSTRACT

DIBSON WILLIANSYAH (2010). **The Major Characters' Response Toward Repressive and Ideological Structures That Sanction Violence Against Women in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University.

This study analyzes the novel by Khaled Hosseini entitled *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. This novel was chosen because it describes a unique society that has not often been discussed in English Literature, namely Afghanistan. The topic was chosen because it relates violence, an important issue, with both men and women. The writer was interested in examining the relation between violence, men and women in Afghan society.

Three problems are formulated to discuss in this study, namely how violence against women is experienced by the major characters in the novel, what are the structures that sanction violence against women, and how the major characters respond to the structures that sanction violence against women.

This study uses Abrams, Murphy, and Little's theories of character and characterization, Hawke's theory of violence against women, Althusser's theory of the repressive and ideological structures, and Heise's theory of factors that perpetuate violence against women. This study applies library research as the method and Gender Studies as the approach. Gender Studies is chosen because this study analyzes both male and female characters' experience in their society.

There are three results. First, there are four major characters in the novel, Mariam, Laila, Rasheed, and Hakim. Mariam is a victim of violence against women her whole life, since the pre-birth to the elderly phase. Laila is not a victim of violence until the early adolescence phase, but she becomes a victim from the late adolescence to the adulthood phase. Rasheed is a perpetrator of violence in his family. Hakim is a man who is not a perpetrator of violence. Secondly, violence against women is sanctioned by the repressive and ideological structures. Repressive structures include the government, the law court, and the police, while the ideological structures in the novel include the religion and family. Lastly, the major characters respond differently to the structures that sanction violence against women. Mariam responds passively to both structures. Laila responds to the repressive and ideological structures by to rebel to it. She is not easily influenced by the ideological structures, and as soon as the repressive structures are replaced, she is free from their influence. Rasheed responds to the repressive and ideological structures by using them to do violence against women. Hakim responds to those structures by refusing to use them to do violence against women; in Hakim's hands, the ideological structures lose some of the power to sanction the violence. In conclusion, repressive structures are more powerful to make the major characters obey them, but the ideological structures have more power to influence the major characters to react the violence against women in a long time.

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Studi ini menganalisis novel karya Khaled Hosseini yang berjudul *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Novel ini dipilih karena menggambarkan suatu masyarakat yang unik, yang belum banyak diangkat dalam bidang sastra Inggris. Topik ini dipilih karena berhubungan dengan kekerasan, sebuah isu penting, dengan pria maupun wanita. Penulis tertarik untuk meneliti hubungan antara kekerasan, pria dan wanita dalam masyarakat Afghanistan.

Tiga permasalahan dibahas dalam studi ini, yaitu bagaimana kekerasan terhadap wanita dialami oleh tokoh-tokoh utama novel ini, struktur-struktur apa saja yang memungkinkan adanya kekerasan terhadap wanita, serta bagaimana respon tokoh-tokoh utama terhadap tersebut.

Studi ini menggunakan teori karakter Abrams, Murphy, dan Little, teori kekerasan terhadap wanita oleh Hawke, teori struktur represif dan ideologis Althusser, serta teori faktor yang meneruskan kekerasan terhadap wanita oleh Heise. Studi ini menggunakan metode studi pustaka dan pendekatan Studi Gender. Pendekatan ini dipilih karena studi ini meneliti baik pengalaman pria maupun wanita dalam masyarakat mereka.

Ada tiga hasil analisa. Pertama, tokoh utama dalam novel ini ialah Mariam, Laila, Rasheed, dan Hakim. Mariam adalah korban kekerasan sepanjang hidupnya, sejak tahap pra-lahir sampai usia lanjut. Laila bukanlah korban kekerasan sampai tahap remaja awal, tapi sejak tahap remaja akhir sampai dewasa. Rasheed merupakan pelaku kekerasan terhadap wanita. Hakim bukan pria pelaku kekerasan. Kedua, kekerasan terhadap wanita dimungkinkan oleh struktur-struktur represif dan ideologis. Struktur represif mencakup struktur pemerintah, hukum, dan polisi, sedangkan struktur ideologis mencakup struktur agama dan keluarga. Yang terakhir, para tokoh utama menanggapi struktur-struktur tersebut dengan cara berbeda. Mariam menanggapi struktur-struktur tersebut secara pasif, karena ia selalu berada di bawah pengaruh struktur ideologis. Laila menanggapi struktur-struktur tersebut dengan memberontak. Ia tidak mudah dipengaruhi struktur ideologis, dan mudah bebas dari pengaruh struktur represif. Rasheed menanggapi struktur represif dan ideologis dengan memanfaatkan struktur-struktur tersebut untuk membenarkan tindak kekerasannya terhadap wanita. Hakim menanggapi struktur represif dan ideologis dengan menolak menggunakannya untuk melakukan kekerasan; di tangannya, struktur ideologis kehilangan kekuatannya untuk mendukung kekerasan terhadap wanita. Kesimpulannya, struktur represif lebih kuat memaksa para tokoh utama mematuhi struktur-struktur tersebut, namun struktur ideologis lebih punya kekuatan mempengaruhi para tokoh utama untuk bereaksi terhadap kekerasan terhadap wanita dalam jangka waktu yang lama.