

ABSTRACT

J.B. Titus Haridjati (2003). **Moral Teaching On Christian Marriage Revealed In The Characters of Sergeant Troy and Bathsheba Everdene In Hardy's *Far From The Madding Crowd***. English Letters Study Programme, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta.

The writer chooses *Far From The Madding Crowd*, a novel written by Thomas Hardy to be analysed in this study particularly because the writer is interested to find out the moral teaching on marriage based on Christian's perspective that reflected in the character of Sergeant Troy and Bathsheba Everdene, as a husband and a wife.

Three main problems will be explored in this thesis. Firstly, to find out how the character of Sergeant Troy is described in the novel. Secondly, to find out how the character of Bathsheba Everdene is described in the novel. Finally, the writer tries to find out the moral teachings of Christian marriage revealed from the description of the characters of Sergeant Troy and Bathsheba Everdene.

Since the main problems above are related with morality, then the moral philosophical approach will be applied in this thesis. Through this approach, the validity of the writer's hypothesis will become real that there are some moral teachings on marriage that can be found in the characters of Sergeant Troy and Bathsheba Everdene.

After analyzing the main problems, the writer can conclude that Sergeant Troy is a materialist person, he marries Bathsheba Everdene because of her richness. In the story, it is revealed that Troy himself is suffer from his own action, where he must loss the woman that he actually loves and also the son of him. As the result it brings him to his own death. The moral teaching of Christian marriage that can be revealed from the character of Sergeant Troy is that marriage is natural law of man, in which man's act supposes to be based on the grace of God. Jesus Christ through His teaching of love deepen man's knowledge of acting in grace, and He gives a dignity of a sacrament to emphasize the importance of marriage for the grace of God. Furthermore, man's act, which is based on the grace of God is not intended to limit their acts; moreover, it directs man to his/her happiness. It is reflected on the character of Sergeant Troy that he is suffering because of he disobeys the grace of God in marriage. The character of Bathsheba Everdene is revealed in the story as a reckless person and this is reflected from her hurried decision to marry. Then, it brings her to the unhappiness in marriage. In the character of Bathsheba Everdene, the moral teaching that can be found is that a marriage needs a process, which refers to the preparation for the qualities and possible circumstances for a marriage. From Bathsheba's reckless action to have a marriage, it is reflected that she does not consider those conditions carefully.

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Far From The Madding Crowd adalah sebuah novel karya Hardy yang dipilih oleh pengarang untuk dipakai didalam thesis ini, dimana lewat novel ini pengarang tertarik untuk menemukan pengajaran moral perkawinan berdasarkan sudut pandang Kristiani yang terefleksi didalam character Sergeant Troy dan Bathsheba Everdene sebagai suami-istri.

Tiga permasalahan utama akan dibahas didalam skripsi ini. Pertama, menemukan bagaimana tokoh Sergeant Oak digambarkan didalam novel. Kedua, menemukan bagaimana tokoh Bathsheba Everdene digambarkan didalam novel. Terakhir, penulis akan menemukan pengajaran moral perkawinan yang muncul dari gambaran tokoh Sergeant Troy dan Bathsheba Everdene.

Berkaitan dengan perumusan permasalahan diatas yang berhubungan dengan moral, maka pendekatan moral filosofi akan diaplikasikan kedalam skripsi ini. Dimana melalui pendekatan ini validitas dari opini penulis menjadi nyata, yakni adanya pengajaran moral perkawinan yang dapat ditemukan didalam novel dari tokoh Sergeant Troy dan Bathsheba Everdene.

Setelah menganalisa pokok-pokok permasalahan, penulis dapat menyimpulkan Sergeant Troy sebagai orang yang materialist. Dia menikahi Bathsheba Everdene karena kekayaannya. Didalam novel diceritakan bahwa Troy sendiri menderita karena perbuatannya sendiri, dia harus kehilangan gadis yang sesungguhnya ia cintai dan juga anaknya. Pada akhirnya juga membawa pada kematiannya. Pengajaran moral pernikahan Kristen yang dimunculkan Tokoh Sergeant Troy adalah pernikahan sebagai *natural law* manusia, dimana tindak tanduk manusia seharusnya ditujukan untuk kemuliaan Tuhan. Yesus Kristus lewat ajaran cinta-Nya memperdalam pengetahuan manusia mengenai hidup didalam kemuliaan Tuhan, lewat sakramennya. Ia menekankan pentingnya pernikahan untuk kemuliaan Tuhan. Lebih lanjut, tindak tanduk manusia berdasarkan kemuliaan Tuhan tidak bermaksud membatasi gerak manusia, tetapi mengarahkan manusia kepada kebahagiaannya. Hal ini terefleksi didalam tokoh Troy, penderitaan yang dialaminya dikarenakan ia mengabaikan hal tersebut. Karakter Bathsheba Everdene dimunculkan sebagai seorang yang ceroboh dan hal itu terefleksi didalam keputusannya untuk menikah yang terburu-buru. Dimana kemudian hal itu menuntunnya kedalam ketidakbahagiaan didalam sebuah perkawinan. Pengajaran moral yang ditemukan didalam tokoh Bathsheba adalah pernikahan membutuhkan suatu proses menunjuk pada persiapan terhadap kualitas dan kondisi yang memungkinkan untuk sebuah pernikahan. Dalam tindakan ceroboh Bathsheba itu, terefleksi bahwa dia tidak mempertimbangkan kondisi-kondisi tersebut secara cermat.