

ABSTRACT

WIZH, GISELA ABIGAEL BUCIHALY. (2020). **The Impact of Mother's Abusive Treatment towards David's Personality Development in *A Child Called It* by David Pelzer**. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Novel plays a role as media to deliver information through its intrinsic elements. One of its functions is to share pictures of human's ideas, thoughts, feelings, emotions, inspirations, imaginations, and or circumstances by the time a novel is created. The researcher applies psychological approach to examine how Dave as a child could survive his mother's abuses in an autobiography novel entitled *A Child Called It* (1997). This novel tells story of Dave who is physically and mentally abused by his alcoholic mother.

There are three objectives in this research. The first is to find out how the characteristics of Dave are described in the novel. The second is to discover what abusive treatments that Dave receives from his alcoholic mother. The last is to examine the impact of his mother's abusive treatments towards Dave's personality development.

The researcher applies theory of character by Abrams and theory of characterization by Murphy to analyze Dave's characteristics. The researcher also uses the Terence Wilson's theory to analyze the types of abuse that the mother does to Dave, and Hurlock's theory to analyze the impact of mother's treatments towards Dave's personality development of Dave. The method used in conducting this study is library research method. The primary source is the novel *A Child Called It* by David Pelzer while the secondary sources are books, journal articles, essays, theses, and the internet..

The study shows that, first, Dave has eight characteristics which are grateful, fearful, timid, imaginative, hopeless, hateful, ill-behaved, and low in self-esteem. Second, there are four types of abuse that dave receives from his mother: physical abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, and negligence. Third, the abuses give positive impact towards Dave's personality development in which he undergoes changes from being timid to being trusting, from being fearful to being brave, and from being hopeless to being strong-willed.

Keywords: characteristics, child abuse, personality development

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Novel memiliki peran sebagai media untuk menyampaikan informasi melalui elemen intrinsiknya. Salah satu fungsinya adalah untuk memberikan gambaran tentang ide – ide manusia, pemikiran, perasaan, emosi, inspirasi, imajinasi, dan keadaan dimana novel tersebut dibuat. Peneliti menggunakan pendekatan psikologi untuk menganalisis bagaimana seorang anak bernama Dave dapat bertahan dari siksaan ibunya sebagaimana yang diceritakan dalam novel autobiografi berjudul *A Child Called It* (1997). Novel ini bercerita tentang Dave yang disiksa secara fisik maupun mental oleh ibunya yang pemabuk.

Penelitian ini memiliki tiga tujuan. Tujuan pertama adalah mencari tahu bagaimana karakteristik Dave diceritakan di dalam novel. Tujuan kedua adalah menemukan apa saja perlakuan – perlakuan kasar yang diterima Dave dari ibunya yang pemabuk. Tujuan terakhir adalah membahas bagaimana perlakuan – perlakuan kasar tersebut berdampak kepada pengembangan kepribadian Dave.

Peneliti menerapkan teori karakter dari Abrams dan teori karakterisasi dari Murphy untuk menganalisis karakter Dave. Peneliti juga menggunakan teori dari Terence Wilson untuk menganalisis macam – macam perlakuan kasar yang dilakukan oleh ibu Dave, dan teori dari Hurlock untuk menganalisis pengembangan kepribadian yang dialami oleh Dave. Peneliti melakukan penelitian kepustakaan. Sumber primer adalah novel *A Child Called It* karya David Pelzer. Sumber sekunder adalah buku, artikel jurnal, esai, penelitian lain, dan internet.

Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa, pertama, Dave memiliki delapan karakteristik, yaitu penuh syukur, penakut, pemalu, imajinatif, putus asa, pembenci, berkelakuan buruk, dan tingkat kepercayaan diri rendah. Kedua, ada empat macam kekerasan yang diterima oleh Dave dari ibunya: kekerasan fisik, kekerasan emosional, kekerasan verbal, dan pengabaian. Ketiga, kekerasan-kekerasan ini memberikan dampak yang positif terhadap pengembangan kepribadian Dave dimana dia mengalami perubahan dari pemalu menjadi penuh kepercayaan, dari penakut menjadi berani, dan dari putus asa menjadi anak yang berkemauan keras.

Kata kunci: characteristics, child abuse, personality development