

ABSTRACT

ANINDITA, GRACIA PUSPA. (2023). **The Influence of Father Absence on Cassie Howard's Adolescence Behavior in HBO's *Euphoria* Season 1**. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Sam Levinson's *Euphoria* series talks about teenagers in Eastland High School, focusing on their life which involves many scandals such as drugs, sex, alcohol, as well as family problems. One of the characters in the series *Euphoria* is Cassie Howard. Cassie is the main study object in this thesis.

Cassie Howard's character is interesting to be studied because Cassie showed the struggles of teenagers as well as their vulnerability such as mental health issues, family problems, drug usage, and sexuality. Cassie's character is an embodiment of the struggle that many teenagers face nowadays. Having both parental figures is important, losing a father figure during adolescence can cause several problems for the child such as psychological problems, family dynamics, coping mechanisms, and self-identity.

This thesis examines the impact of the father's absence on the adolescence development of Cassie Howard and aims to address two problem formulations: understanding the characterization of Cassie Howard and investigating the impact of the father's absence on Cassie Howard's adolescent behavior. This study employs a library method by using two primary sources to answer the problem formulations, the first primary source is the series *Euphoria*, with relevant books, journals, and online sources as the second primary source. A psychological approach is utilized in this study. Two theories are integrated to answer the problem formulations: the theory of characterization, and the theory of adolescent development.

Through an in-depth analysis, the research uncovered various characteristics of Cassie Howard such as insecurity, people-pleasing behavior, substance abuse, being beautiful, and daydreamer. The research also uncovered the effect of an absent father figure on Cassie Howard's adolescent behavior making these effects manifest in relationship insecurity, psychological well-being, and unstable relationship with her parents.

Keywords: *influence, absence of the father, adolescent development, Euphoria*

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Serial televisi *Euphoria* karya Sam Levinson menceritakan tentang kehidupan siswa SMA Eastland yang banyak terkena skandal, mulai dari narkoba, seks, hingga masalah keluarga. Salah satu karakter dari serial tersebut adalah Cassie Howard, Cassie adalah subjek utama dalam penelitian ini.

Penelitian ini meneliti tentang efek dari ketidakhadiran sosok ayah pada karakter diri Cassie Howard. Karakter Cassie Howard menarik untuk dikaji karena Cassie menunjukkan pergumulan remaja serta kerentanan mereka seperti masalah kesehatan mental, masalah keluarga, penggunaan narkoba, dan seksualitas. Karakter Cassie merupakan perwujudan dari perjuangan yang dihadapi banyak remaja saat ini. Memiliki kedua figur orang tua merupakan hal yang penting, kehilangan sosok ayah pada masa remaja dapat menimbulkan beberapa masalah bagi anak seperti masalah psikologis, dinamika keluarga, mekanisme koping, dan identitas diri.

Penelitian ini menggunakan dua teori, yaitu theory karakterisasi dan teori perkembangan remaja. Dengan menggunakan metodologi pustaka dan menggunakan dua sumber utama yaitu serial televisi *Euphoria*, buku-buku yang relevan dengan penelitian, sumber daring, dan juga jurnal. Pendekatan yang digunakan dalam studi ini adalah pendekatan psikologi.

Melalui analisis mendalam, ditemukan bahwa karakterisasi Cassie Howard dalam serial televisi *Euphoria* adalah tidak percaya diri, mementingkan orang lain, pemakai alkohol dan narkoba, cantik, dan seorang pemimpi. Selanjutnya, ditemukan juga efek dari ketidakhadiran sosok ayah dalam karakteristik Cassie Howard semasa remaja yang menyebabkan ia tidak percaya diri dalam hubungan romansa, sakit mental, dan memiliki hubungan tidak baik dengan orang tua.

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