

**SOCIAL CRITICISM IN OSCAR WILDE'S  
THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST**



**A Thesis Presented to the English Department  
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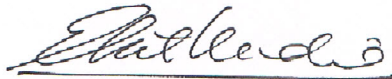
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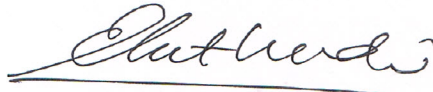
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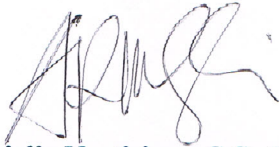
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**Dedicated to:**

- Allah S.W.T
- My Alma Mater
- My Family
- My Friends
- My self



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**Arik Pangestu Yuwono**

## ABSTRACT

**ARIK PANGESTU YUWONO (2010). THE ANALYSIS ON SOCIAL CRITICISM IN OSCAR WILDE'S *THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST***

**Madiun: English Department, The Faculty of Letters, Widya Mandala Madiun.**

The objectives of the study entitled **Social Criticism in Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*** are to (1) describe the social criticisms presented in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, (2) find out the effects of the social criticism on the main character John Worthing. The writer applies the library research including internet browsing to improve the data collection in order to find the data. The data may be in the form words, phrases, clauses and sentences related to the Social Criticism in Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of being Earnest*. The sociological approach is used to describe the social criticisms presented in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and psychological approach is used to find out the effects of the social criticism on the main character John Worthing.

The character of Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest* represents a person from Victorian high class. She rejects John Worthing to marry her only daughter, Gwendolen. The high class has some standard for searching her daughter's husband candidate. John Worthing is a person who has enough authority in country. He also has good working and enough wealth. But, his family background is not clear enough. This condition is un-satisfactory for Lady Bracknell, because the family background is important thing for someone. Therefore she refuses John Worthing to marry her daughter, although she exactly knows they love each other. Finally Lady Bracknell knows that John Worthing is her own nephew who was lost when he was a child.



## ABSTRAK

**ARIK PANGESTU YUWONO (2010). THE ANALYSIS ON SOCIAL CRITICISM IN OSCAR WILDE'S *THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST***

**Madiun: Sastra Inggris, Widya Mandala Madiun.**

Skripsi yang berjudul *Social Criticism in Oscar Wilde's The Importance of being Earnest* bertujuan untuk (1) menjelaskan kritik social apa saja yang terdapat pada drama *The Importance of being Earnest*, (2) mengetahui efek-efek dari kritik social itu pada tokoh utamanya, John Worthing. Penelitian kepustakaan termasuk mengakses internet dilakukan untuk mendapatkan data. Data yang digunakan meliputi kata, frase klausa, dan kalimat yang berhubungan dengan kritik sosial dalam karya Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of being Earnest*. Pendekatan sosiologis digunakan untuk menjelaskan kritik social yang ada pada drama *The Importance of being Earnest*, dan pendekatan psikologis untuk mengetahui efek-efek dari kritik sosial itu pada tokoh utamanya, John Worthing.

Nyonya Bracknell di *The Importance of Being Earnest* mewakili seseorang dari victorian kelas satu. Dia menolak John Worthing menikahi putri satu-satunya, Gwendolen. Golongan atas punya standar untuk mencarikan putrinya calon suami. John Worthing adalah seseorang yang punya cukup berkuasaan di desa. Dia juga punya pekerjaan yang baik dan cukup punya kekayaan. Tetapi latar belakang keluarga dia tidak jelas. Hal ini yang menghalanginya untuk menikahi Gwendolen. Kondisi ini menyebabkan Nyonya Bracknell tidak puas, karena latar belakang keluarga sangat penting untuk seseorang. Jadi, dia menolak John Worthing menikah dengan putrinya. Meskipun dia sebenarnya tahu mereka saling mencintai. Akhirnya Nyonya Bracknell tahu itu John Worthing keponakannya sendiri yang hilang waktu dia masih kecil.

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