

**A SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH ON
PURITANISM IN NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S
*THE SCARLET LETTER***



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**A Thesis Presented to the English Department
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as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Sarjana Degree
in English**

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MADIUN
2005**

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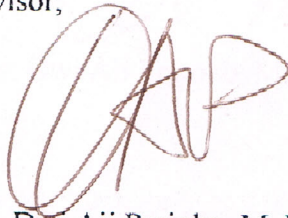
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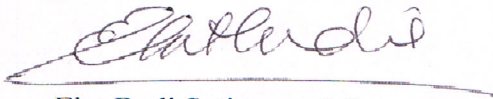
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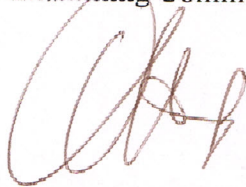
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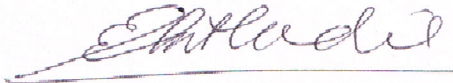
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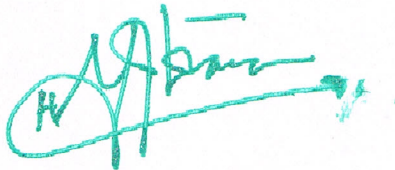
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Dedicated to:

-My beloved family

-My beloved sisters

-My beloved brother

-My beloved friends

-My Alma Mater

Motto:

“...Life is bliss, taste it. Life is a
beauty, admire it. Life is a game,
play it. **Life is life, fight for it...**”

MOTHER TERESA)

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ABSTRACT

A literary work creates an imaginary world which expresses real world. The relationship between literary work and reality offers transformation from a real problem into subject matter in literary work. The subject matter which is usually talked about is universal which is not restricted only to the place where it is written.

Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* expresses the aspect of relationship, religion, community, discipline and punishment in the puritan community of Boston in 17th century. The relationship between men and women is very constrained and that is what made adultery such a bad sin in the eyes of everyone in the community. Religion seems to govern over all, people would look up to the reverends. The community believes that fate is their destiny. Public discipline and punishment is used to discourage everyone else for committing crime or sin. As a student interested in literature, the writer tries to find out the stem of society's behaviors which reflect puritanism by analyzing the chosen novel, *The Scarlet Letter*.

In line with the above background, the aims of the study are (1) To find out the background of characters' behavior in *The Scarlet Letter*. (2) To find out the way puritanism revealed through the characters.

The background of characters' behavior on *The Scarlet Letter* leads to the various behavioral patterns. The Description of characters' life experience in *The Scarlet Letter* show the background of their action.

In treatment with the person who is considered as a sinner, in this case Hester Prynne, some of characters' behavior in *The Scarlet Letter*, namely John Wilson, Roger Chillingworth, Arthur Dimmesdale, and Governor Bellingham clearly reflect puritanism as shown in their unfair treatment towards Hester Prynne.

The library research is applied in this study to find the relevant theoretical based on the puritanism. They are then, used to analyze the data. Furthermore, theoretical based is also used to find the data. The data are all the words, the phrase or clauses that contain puritanism. By using the data, the researcher describes puritanism on the novel entitled *The Scarlet Letter*.

ABSTRAKSI

Kesusastaan adalah suatu karya yang mengungkapkan dan menyampaikan pikiran, perasaan, dan sikap terhadap kehidupan melalui bahasa tulis. Dalam arti luas, kesusastaan mencakup semua karya tulis. Karya sastra meliputi puisi, drama, novel, dan cerita pendek. Di sini penulis memilih novel. Novel adalah salah satu karya sastra yang sangat menarik dan disukai oleh banyak orang, terutama seseorang yang suka membaca buku. Dengan membaca novel, kita akan memperoleh banyak pengetahuan dan pengalaman hidup di dunia. Mereka juga dapat membacanya kapanpun dan dimanapun.

Pada skripsi ini, penulis memilih novel berjudul *The Scarlet Letter* karya Nathaniel Hawthorne untuk dianalisis. *The Scarlet Letter* menggambarkan kehidupan masyarakat puritan Boston pada abad ke-17 yang menganut aspek-aspek kehidupan antara lain: Hubungan, Agama, Komunitas, Disiplin dan Hukuman. Hubungan antara pria dan wanita sangat ketat dan dibatasi, hal tersebut menjadikan perselingkuhan sebagai hal yang sangat buruk dimata masyarakat puritan. Agama mempunyai peranan yang sangat penting dalam kehidupan masyarakat, mereka akan mengikuti apapun yang dikatakan oleh para pemimpin agama. Masyarakat percaya bahwa takdir mereka adalah menjalankan perintah agama. Hukuman digunakan sebagai alat untuk menekan para pelaku kriminal dan para pendosa. Sebagai pelajar yang tertarik pada kesusastaan, penulis mencoba menemukan pola kelakuan masyarakat yang merefleksikan puritanisme dengan memilih novel berjudul *The Scarlet Letter* sebagai bahasan.

Penulis menggunakan metode deduktif dalam skripsinya. Metode deduktif adalah suatu metode untuk mencapai suatu kesimpulan yang dimulai dari hal-hal bersifat umum menuju hal-hal yang bersifat khusus. Selain itu, penulis menggunakan peninjauan kepustakaan. Dia mengumpulkan data dari berbagai buku dan referensi. Penulis juga menggunakan pendekatan sosial psikologi. Penulis ingin mendiskusikan tentang: (1) Apa latar belakang tindakan tokoh-tokoh utama dalam novel; (2) Bagaimana puritanisme hadir melalui tindakan tokoh-tokoh utama dalam novel

Puritanisme yang hadir melalui tindakan tokoh-tokoh utama dalam novel antara lain : John Wilson, Roger Chillingworth, Arthur Dimmesdale, Governor Bellingham menggambarkan perlakuan yang tidak adil mereka pada seseorang yang dianggap pendusta yaitu Hester Prynne.

Novel karya Nathaniel Hawthorne berjudul *The Scarlet Letter* merupakan contoh kesusastaan yang menggambarkan keberadaan puritanisme di masa lampau. Selain itu novel ini juga baik digunakan sebagai bahan pembelajaran mahasiswa lain karena, novel ini mempunyai aspek-aspek lain yang menarik untuk dikaji.

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