CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background Of the Study

In recent decades, the traditional structure of the American family has experienced a significant transformation. The majority no longer fit the historically dominant model of a nuclear family, which consists of a married couple and their biological children. According to the Pew Research Center, by 2021 only 46% of American children lived in households with two married parents in their first marriage, a dramatic drop from 73% in 1960 (Livingston, 2021: 3).

Furthermore, different types of families are being recognized in American society, including single-parent households, blended families, and cohabiting unmarried parents. Parker (2020) states that 34% of American children grow up in non-traditional families, indicating the increasing diversity in family life (Parker, 2020: 7). These changes show the idea of the American family is becoming more flexible to adjust to modern conditions. In relation to social and economic factors, non-traditional family structures are more common in lower-income communities, which shows how closely family structures are connected to class and financial struggles (McLanahan & Percheski, 2008: 258).

Different kinds of family structures are becoming more and more accepted in American society, not only legally and financially, but also in everyday life. Families today can include more than just parents and their children. For example, it's now more common to see same-sex couples raising children. According to Badgett (2020), the legalization of same-sex marriage all over the country has

greatly helped to change people's perception of families (Badgett, 2020: 102).

These cultural changes have not gone unnoticed by the entertainment industry. Popular media, particularly film, has played a big role in showing how the public think about family. One clear example is the film *Fast Five* (2011), a film from the popular *Fast & Furious* franchise. While the film is best known for its action scenes and car culture, it also depicts a powerful portrayal of a chosen family. The main characters, Dominic Toretto, Brian O'Conner, and their crew, create a chosen family built on loyalty, trust, and shared experiences.

This portrayal aligns with Kath Weston's concept of "chosen families," which focuses on emotional kinship over genetic relationships, particularly among marginalized communities (Weston, 1991: 105). Through the main characters' relationship to one another, the film suggests that family is a matter of choice and action, not ancestry.

Finally, looking at how *Fast Five* represents family helps us understand how popular culture reflects and shapes social values. This research will focus on how *Fast Five* depicts the concept of chosen family through its main characters.

1.2. Research Questions

Based on the background of the study, the following are the of research questions:

1. What are the intrinsic elements in analyzing the film *Fast Five* (2011) that reflect the concept of chosen family?

2. How is the concept of chosen family by Kath Weston (1991) is discussed in the context of the film *Fast Five* (2011)?

1.3. Objective Of the Study

The purpose of this study are:

1. To discuss the intrinsic element such as theme, character and characterization, plot, and conflict in the film *Fast Five* (2011) that reflect the concept of chosen family.

2. To discuss Kath Weston's concept of chosen family in the context of the film *Fast Five* (2011).

1.4. Previous Studies

The first previous study is entitled "Analysis Slang Words in the *Fast Five* Movie" (2024) written by Prajnyawedanta, Aryani, and Putra. This journal discusses the classification of slang expressions in *Fast Five* using Allan and Burridge's (2006) typology. The study has similarities to this research as it discusses the film *Fast Five* but differs as it offers linguistic insight into character dialogue.

Furthermore, the study entitled "Analyzing *Fast Five*: A Turning Point in Action Films" (2021) written by Vikram Seth explores the shift in tone within the action genre, focusing on family and loyalty. The study has similarities to this research as it discusses the film *Fast Five* but differs as it identifies general developments in *Fast Five* but does not provide the concept of chosen family.

The third previous study is entitled "The Real Pleasure of Freedom in Justin Lin's Fast and Furious 5 (2011): An Individual Psychological Approach" (2012) written by Tuti Wirarni. The study has similarities to this research as it discusses the film *Fast Five* but differs as it adopts a psychological approach to the film.

The fourth previous study entitled "Conversational Implicature Analysis on *Fast Five* Movie" (2024) written by Sudrajat, Winarto, and Adiantika. The study has similarities to this research as it discusses the film *Fast Five* but differs as it discusses pragmatic elements in character conversations, highlighting types of implicatures.

The fifth study entitled "How Embracing Diversity Turned *Fast Five* into a Worldwide Hit" (2020) written by Mark Ciemcioch. The study has similarities to this research as it discusses the film *Fast Five* but differs as it analyzes the role of inclusivity and diversity.

For this research, there has been no previous study that discusses *Fast Five* (2011) using Kath Weston's (1991) concept of chosen family. Most previous studies use thematic, psychological, or linguistical approaches, rather than use the concept of chosen family in analyzing the intrinsic and extrinsic elements of the film.

1.5. Scope Of the Study

The scope of the study is limited to how the main characters' relationships and interactions portray the concept of chosen family. The intrinsic analysis will look at the film's main characters and how the concept of chosen family can be seen through the films' themes, plot and conflict. The extrinsic analysis, on the other hand, will discuss the portrayal of American family such as traditional family and chosen family by Kath Weston (1991) as the main theory.

1.6. Method Of Research

1.6.1. Method of Collecting Data

This study uses a qualitative research method, with library research serving

as the primary data collection method. Library research is a systematic process of gathering, evaluating, and synthesizing information from various written sources to answer specific research questions (George. 2008: 6). The primary data in this study is the film *Fast Five* (2011), which is analyzed through its intrinsic elements, including theme, characters, plot, conflict and using cinematography elements such as character shots and dialogue. Secondary data, the writer analyzes the topic by reading supporting books from the library and searching the internet for articles and journals to support the analysis.

1.6.2 Method of Approach

This study uses sociological approaches to analyze *Fast Five* (2011). Bordwell, Thompson, and Smith (2020), argues that a film should be analyzed as a self-contained text, focusing on its internal elements such as its narrative, and cinematography (Bordwell, Thompson, & Smith, 2020:56–58). The sociological approach, based on Kath Weston's theory of the chosen family (1991), is used to explore how the film portrays family based on shared experiences and not just blood, that reflect the social dynamics of a "chosen family" (Weston, 1991:105–113).

1.7. Organization Of Writing

This thesis is organized into five main chapters, each with a specific focus that supports the overall objective of the research. The structure is arranged systematically to guide readers through the development of the study.

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, research

questions, objective of the study, previous studies, scope of the study, method of research, and organization of writing.

CHAPTER II: INTRINSIC THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter focuses on the intrinsic theoretical framework that supports the analysis. It is divided into two main parts. The first part focuses on the narrative elements, focusing on intrinsic aspects including theme, character and characterization, plot, and conflict which help identify the development of chosen family in the film. The second part focuses on the cinematography elements such as character shots and dialogue.

CHAPTER III: EXTRINSIC THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter focuses on the extrinsic theoretical framework supporting the analysis. Its purpose is to explain the theory that will be used to analyze the data and address the research questions.

CHAPTER IV: DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the detailed analysis of the film *Fast Five* (2011). It examines how the concept of chosen family is constructed through the theme, characters, plot and conflict. The second part of the chapter discusses the extrinsic elements of chosen family by Kath Weston in the f.

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION

This final chapter summarizes the main findings of the research, highlighting how the film *Fast Five* (2011) portray a new definition of family in line with the concept of chosen family.

REFERENCE