



**AMERICAN SOCIETY'S TREATMENT TOWARDS
HIV/AIDS IN THE MOVIE "*THE NORMAL
HEART*"(2014)**

A THESIS

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
S-1 Degree Majoring American Studies in English Department
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University**

Submitted By:

Delva Mufti Alfaridzi

13020119130074

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG**

2023

PRONOUNCEMENT

I hereby affirm that I independently conducted the research for the thesis titled "American Society's Treatment Towards HIV/AIDS in the Movie The Normal Heart (2014)." This work, undertaken for my S-1, S-2, S-3, or diploma degree at a university, is entirely my own, and I have not incorporated findings from other researchers. Furthermore, I confirm that I have solely relied on referenced sources listed in the bibliography, refraining from using materials from other publications or individuals' works.

Semarang, August 14th 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DM' or similar initials, enclosed in a light gray rectangular box.

Delva Mufti Alfaridzi

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“Grind like nobody's watching, and success will be your applause.”

“Don't stop fighting. You must keep going, even if you are the only one”

- **Ryo Kiritani (Yoru) Valorant**

VALIDATION

**AMERICAN SOCIETY'S TREATMENT TOWARDS HIV/AIDS IN THE
MOVIE "THE NORMAL HEART"(2014)**

Submitted by:
Delva Mufti Alfaridzi
13020119130074

Approved by
Strata I Thesis Examination Committee
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University
On October 25th, 2023

Chairman

Dr. Sukarni Suryaningsih S.S., M.Hum.
NIP. 197212231998022001



Member

Rifka Pratama S.Hum., M.A.
NPPU. H.7.199004282018071001



Member

Arido Laksono S.S., M.Hum.
NIP. 197507111999031002



Accepted and declared in Semarang on October 25th, 2023

The Dean of Faculty of Humanities



Dr. Nurbayati M.Hum.
NIP. 196610041990012001

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my gratitude to Allah SWT, whose unwavering support, resilience, and countless blessings have empowered me to successfully complete my thesis titled, "American Society's Treatment Towards HIV/AIDS in the Movie The Normal Heart (2014)". I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have stood beside me, offering their constant love and encouragement. Their unwavering support, especially during the demanding phases of completing my thesis, is deeply appreciated and acknowledged in this passage.

My substantial gratitude is addressed to Mr. Arido Laksono S.S., M.Hum, my thesis advisor, Who has generously offered me extensive guidance and valuable suggestions that have proven to be immensely beneficial for my thesis.

I also would like to send my sincere gratitude to:

1. Dr. Nurhayati, M. Hum, the Dean of Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University
2. Dr. Oktiva Herry Chandra, M. Hum., the Head of the English Department of the Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University
3. The English Department lecturers at Diponegoro University, who have provided guidance, education, and shared a wealth of valuable knowledge that has greatly benefited the writer.
4. My parents and siblings who always support and encourage me for everything I have done.
5. My cherished friends Adi, Aretha, Faisal, and Virel, whose presence has been a constant source of encouragement, and who have imparted valuable lessons that have contributed to my growth as a better human being.

6. Delva, who decided to stand still despite struggling with his own mental condition, has finally made it to this point.

I am aware that this thesis is not without its imperfections. Consequently, I am open to receiving constructive feedback and suggestions from readers, aiming to further enhance its quality. Ultimately, my aspiration is for this thesis to be of value to its readers.

Semarang, August 14th 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DM' or similar initials, enclosed in a light gray rectangular box.

Delva Mufti Alfaridzi

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER

PRONOUNCEMENT

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

APPROVAL

VALIDATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF PICTURES

ABSTRACT

CHAPTER 1

1.1. Background of the Study

1.2. Research Problem

1.3. Objectives of the Study

1.4. Previous Studies

1.5. Scopes of the study

1.6. Method of the Study

1.6.1. Method of Research

1.6.2. Method of Approach

1.7. Organization of the Writing

CHAPTER 2

2.1. Narrative Elements.

2.1.1. Intrinsic Aspects

2.1.1.1. Theme

2.1.1.2. Character

2.1.1.3. Settings

2.1.1.4. Conflict

2.1.1.5. Plot

2.1.2. Extrinsic Aspects

2.1.2.1. Stigma

2.1.2.2. Mechanism of Stigma

2.1.2.2.1. Expectancy confirmation processes

- 2.1.2.2.2. Automatic Stereotype Activation-Behavior
- 2.1.2.2.3. Negative Treatment and Discrimination
- 2.1.2.2.4. Stigma as Identity Threat

2.2. Cinematography Elements

- 2.2.1. Lighting
- 2.2.2. Camera Angle
 - 2.2.2.1. Extreme Long Shot
 - 2.2.2.2. Long Shot
 - 2.2.2.3 Medium Shot
 - 2.2.2.4. Close Up
 - 2.2.2.5. Extreme Close Up
 - 2.2.2.6. Dutch Angle

CHAPTER 3

3.1. Intrinsic Aspects

- 3.1.1. Theme
- 3.1.2. Character
 - 3.1.2.1. Major Character
 - 3.1.2.1.1. Ned Weeks
 - 3.1.2.2. Minor Characters
 - 3.1.2.2.1 Bruce Niles
 - 3.1.2.2.2. Mickey Marcus
 - 3.1.2.2.3. Dr. Emma Brookner
 - 3.1.2.2.4. Tommy Boatwright
 - 3.1.2.2.5. Felix Turner
 - 3.1.2.2.6. Ben Weeks
- 3.1.3. Settings
 - 3.1.3.1. Setting of Place
 - 3.1.3.2. Setting of Time
 - 3.1.3.3. Setting of Social Environment
- 3.1.4. Conflict
 - 3.1.4.1. Internal Conflict
 - 3.1.4.2. External Conflict
- 3.1.5. Plot

3.2 Extrinsic Aspects

- 3.2.1. Stigma Portrayed in the Movie “The Normal Heart”
 - 3.2.1.1. HIV Considered as Homosexual Illness
 - 3.2.1.2 HIV Spread Through Physical Interaction
- 3.2.2. Factor of the Stigma

3.2.2.1. Expectancy confirmation processes.

3.2.2.2. Automatic Stereotype Activation-Behavior.

3.3.1. Negative Treatment and Discrimination.

3.3.1.1. Society

3.3.1.2. Government

3.3.2. Stigma as Identity Threat.

CHAPTER 4

References

TABLE OF PICTURES

- Picture 2.1: Different type of camera angle
- Picture 3.1: Ned meets Dr. Emma Brookner
- Picture 3.2: Ned meets Dr. Emma Brookner.
- Picture 3.3: Ned being a speaker on television.
- Picture 3.4: Ned persuades the Major's lawyer.
- Picture 3.5: Bruce arguing with Ned.
- Picture 3.6: Bruce trying to calm Ned.
- Picture 3.7: New York Times office.
- Picture 3.8: White House Building
- Picture 3.9: A demonstration in front of the GMHC office.
- Picture 3.10: A demonstration in front of the GMHC office
- Picture 3.11: Ned crying in a room.
- Picture 3.12: Tommy trying to calm Ned..
- Picture 3.13: Preventive sign at hospital.
- Picture 3.14: Dr. Emma met an HIV patient without using equipment.
- Picture 3.15: Newspaper reported HIV.
- Picture 3.16: A sign announcing HIV.
- Picture 3.17: GMHC asks for charity for HIV.
- Picture 3.18: Ned arguing with his brother.
- Picture 3.19: Medical staff dispose an HIV patient.
- Picture 3.20: Medical staff dispose an HIV patient
- Picture 3.21: GMHC Meeting the Major's lawyer in an abandoned apartment
- Picture 3.22: GMHC Meeting the Major's lawyer in an abandoned apartment
- Picture 3.23: Mickey contemplating his life
- Picture 3.24: Mickey contemplating his life

ABSTRACT

Stigma is considered as one of the most common issues in American society. This issue occurs due to differences between two individuals, people, or groups that have different orientation, appearance, or beliefs. One of the groups that are considered to be the victims of stigma in society are people who live with HIV/AIDS. This study aims to identify American society's perception towards HIV/AIDS in the movie *The Normal Heart* using the stigma theory approach by Goffman and four mechanisms of stigma by Major. Moreover, the research method of this study uses an objective criticism by Abrams to analyze the intrinsic aspects in the movie. The result of the analysis shows that there is a compatibility between four mechanisms related to the factors of stigma including expectancy confirmation processes, automatic stereotype activation-behavior, negative treatment and discrimination, and stigma as identity threat that lead American society to stigmatize and discriminate against people living with HIV/AIDS.

Keywords: *Stigma, American Society, HIV/AIDS.*