

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical framework is a structure that bolsters and supports a theory within a research study. It contains a narrative explanation of how the researcher applies the theory and its underlying presumptions to explore the research problem in addition to the theory itself. There are two elements, namely intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. In the intrinsic aspects, the writer analyzes character and characterization, setting, and conflict. Extrinsic aspects use Erik Erikson's psychosocial development theory, which is divided into

2.1 Intrinsic Aspects

In the Theory of Literature, intrinsic analysis is defined as "the interpretation and analysis of the works of literature themselves" (Wellek and Warren, 1977: 139). In this study, the intrinsic elements of literature are used as a tool to determine the content contained in the *Boyhood* movie. The intrinsic element is an element that is interrelated and is one of the elements that can build a movie into reality. There are Character and Characterization, Setting, and Conflict.

2.1.1 Character and Characterization

Characters are actors or other participants in the story. According to Abrams, story characters are individuals who are depicted in a play or narrative work and the reader perceives as possessing particular moral traits and inclinations based on their

actions and speech. The character given can be described in words, thoughts, and views in seeing a problem. (Abrams : 2009)

Character refers to the figures or individuals who appear in a story, such as the main characters who play central roles and the minor characters who support the plot. Characterization is the process by which a writer develops and reveals a character's personality and characteristics, either direct or indirectly through the character's actions, speech, thoughts, appearance, and others people's opinions. (Wellek and Warren: 1949)

A character consists of various personalities, traits, and behavioural patterns that are reflected through their social actions. This serves to differentiate the main character from others through the process of characterization. Characterization involves creating fictional characters and bringing them to life within a narrative for the reader's experience (Holman, 1985:75).

This thesis applies both approaches with each method has its own advantages; for example, direct characterisation provides a clear and immediate picture of a character, making them easier to understand. On the other hand, indirect characterisation requires the reader to interpret the character's traits through observation, thereby encouraging deeper engagement and analysis.

2.1.2 Conflict

Conflict is used to help drive the plot and enable the characters to achieve their goals. It is an essential part of the story's development; without it, the story would lose

its direction and purpose. The conflict function also aids in conveying the story's message by describing the types of conflicts that the characters confront and how they resolve them. A governing drive in a connected cause-and-effect pattern is defined as conflict (Robert and Jacobs, 1998: 105).

Conflict is the fight between opposing forces that propels the plot ahead, which can be internal (within a character's mind or emotions) or external (against other characters, society, nature, or fate). Together, these elements shape the structure of literary work and help create meaning and emotional impact for the reader. (Wellek and Warren: 1949)

Internal conflict and external conflict are the two types of conflict. Internal conflict is a conflict that arises within the character's thoughts. Internal conflicts in the protagonist must be overcome in the case of moral or psychological conflicts. External conflict is a conflict involving the characters or creatures of other people. The protagonist is pitted against other people, the environment, or society in an external battle (Meyer, 1990: 45).

2.1.3 Setting

One of the most important aspects of a story is the setting. The setting refers to the location of a specific scene in a story (Meyer, 1990: 107). It could be very specific in specifying the exact location and time. Another facet of literary works that is frequently addressed in analyses is setting. Setting refers to the time and place in which the story takes place, including the actual location, the historical or temporal era, and

the social or cultural environment that surrounds the characters and shapes their behaviour. (Wellek and Warren:1949)

According to Abrams (2009:362), setting is the overall location, historical period, and social context in which the events of a story unfold. In other words, setting refers to the depiction of place, time, and social environment within a narrative. There are three main components of setting: time, place, and social circumstances. These elements help readers understand the broader context in which the story takes place (Abrams, 2009:363).

The time setting relates to when events happen and can include specific references to hours, days, or years. Setting refers to the physical location where events take place, providing the reader with insight into the culture, values and atmosphere that influence the characters. Finally, social setting reflects a character's position within their environment, which is often depicted through their occupation, lifestyle and interactions. This social background plays a significant role, as it can shape the characters' behaviour and decisions throughout the story. This thesis adopts a setting approach centred on Abrams's explanation.

2.2 Extrinsic Aspects

Extrinsic aspects are story aspects that exist outside of the literary work and have an indirect impact on the story's building blocks. Extrinsic aspects, often known as extrinsic influences, have an impact on literary works (Wellek and Warren, 1997: 139). Extrinsic literary elements give literary works sensory properties, which can then

be interpreted as meaning. This thesis applies Erik Erikson's Psychosocial development theory to the movie *Boyhood* to determine the stages of psychosocial development and the consequences of each stage.

2.2.1 Erikson's Psychosocial Development

Erik Erikson is a central figure in contemporary psychoanalytic theory, who emphasized social relationships in childhood rather than unconscious processes. Erikson expanded Freud's psychosexual theory, which focused on the unconscious as a core aspect of personality. Extended Freud's developmental stages to encompass adolescence, adulthood, and old age. He argued that each stage of human development involves specific psychosocial struggles that shape personality. From adolescence onward, these struggles often manifest as identity crises, turning points in life that can strengthen or weaken an individual's character. (Erikson 2010: 20)

Erik Erikson built this theory based on his research on mental and social development in children, as well as the influences that occur on their development in adulthood. He has his own opinion. Personality develops in a predetermined sequence through eight predetermined sequences, through eight stages of psychosocial development. The stages are: trust versus mistrust, autonomy versus shame and doubt, initiative versus guilt, industry versus inferiority, identity versus confusion, intimacy versus isolation, generativity versus stagnation, and integrity versus despair. Each stage builds on the previous one, creating the foundation for a person's personality and behaviour. Every stage of human development is marked by a psychosocial crisis,

which can either positively or negatively impact for the development of their personality. This thesis only focuses on five stages, namely autonomy versus shame and doubt, initiative versus guilt, identity versus confusion, and intimacy versus isolation.

2.2.1.1 Initiative versus Guilt

The first stage of psychosocial development takes place during the preschool years. Children start to use play and other social interaction to demonstrate their dominance and control over the world at this stage of psychosocial development. Children who are successful at this stage feel competent and capable of guiding others. Those who don't learn these abilities will be reluctant, guilty, and lack initiative. (Erikson, 2010:19)

2.2.1.2 Autonomy versus Shame and Doubt

The second stage of Erikson's theory of psychosocial development, children start to gain more self-control in their early years. In this phase, they begin to gain some independence, performing basic actions independently, and making straightforward choice about things they enjoy. By allowing children to choose and take control over some aspects of their lives, parents and caregivers can play a role in helping them develop a sense of autonomy. (Erikson, 2010:19)

2.2.1.3 Industry versus Inferiority

The third stages is Industry vs. Inferiority which occurs approximately between the ages of 6 and 12 years old. During this stage, children begin to develop a sense of

competence by learning new skills, completing tasks, and receiving recognition from parents, teachers, and peers.

When children successfully achieve goals and are encouraged for their efforts, they develop a sense of industry, meaning they feel capable, productive, and confident in their abilities. However, if they experience repeated failure, criticism, or lack of support, they may develop feelings of inferiority, leading them to doubt their skills and self-worth. (Erikson, 2010:19)

2.2.1.4 Identity versus Confusion

The fourth psychosocial stage in adolescence has a crucial role in the formation of personal identity. Success at this stage will give rise to a sense of self-confidence and independence, while failure can give rise to role confusion and uncertainty. Teens who receive support in exploring themselves grow in confidence, while those who hesitate often feel insecure and confused about their future. (Erikson, 2010:19)

2.2.1.5 Intimacy versus Isolation

Young adults need to have intimate, loving relationships with others. Success in building strong bonds can lead to satisfying relationships, whereas failure can lead to feelings of loneliness and isolation. This stage occurs in early adulthood, when individuals begin to explore personal relationships.

Erikson highlighted the significance of forming intimate and dedicated connections. Those who make it through this stage tend to build lasting and secure relationships. (Erikson, 2010:19)

2.3 Research Method

Research methodology focuses on the study and evaluation of the methods used in research. This methodology examines research tools and techniques to determine whether they are valid, reliable, and appropriate for various situations (Mertens, 2020). Data refers to the information used to answer research questions. In this study, the author uses qualitative data, which includes words, descriptions, images, symbols, and observations, rather than numbers. A contextual approach is used to understand and analyse the meaning of the data within its specific context.

This research involves data collection and analysis, which are essential components of any scientific investigation. Data collection encompasses a range of techniques, such as surveys, interviews, observation and archival research, which enable researchers to gather relevant information about their research subject. Once collected, data analysis involves systematic methods for interpreting and deriving meaning from raw data, utilising statistical tools or qualitative frameworks depending on the research design. (Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D.: 2018)

This method is grounded in the scientific approach, which emphasizes the importance of objective and systematic investigation to address research questions. Grounded theory and thematic analysis are often used in qualitative studies to identify patterns and develop theories from data. (Braun, V., & Clarke, V.: 2006)

As a data source, the writer also uses the library to collect books, documents, and other printed items. The texts in this study are all texts from the movie *Boyhood*

that discuss or provide proof of. All data sources are taken from the text of the movie *Boyhood*.

2.3.1 Method of Collecting Data

Literature study is used as a data collection method in analyzing the psychosocial development of the main character in the *Boyhood* movie. Literature research is a type of qualitative research that does not need to go to the field to find data sources, but is only based on written works. According to George, library research is a method of gathering data through analyzing and comprehending material from books, theories, and papers that are closely related to the concerns, with the data being collected as primary data.

2.3.2 Method of Analysing Data

The contextual method is used to understand and analyze the movie *Boyhood*'s context. The contextual method is used as a broader picture, and responses and information with context analysis are contained in the movie *Boyhood*. By using this method, the writer tries to find, discuss, and explain the psychosocial development stages and the effects of the main character in the *Boyhood* movie, especially with the support of Erik Erikson's psychosocial development theory, with character, setting, and conflict analysis in the movie *Boyhood*.

2.3.3 Data and Data Source

The data are divided into primary and secondary sources. The primary data come directly from the movie *Boyhood* (2014) directed by Richard Linklater. The film

is the main source because it shows the main character, Mason, growing from childhood to adulthood. Other primary data includes movie footage, scripts or transcripts, as well as character development. The researcher's own observations and notes, derived from watching and analysing the movie, are also included in the primary data.

Secondary data was obtained from books, journals and articles that help to explain and support this analysis. These include Erik Erikson's theory of psychosocial development, which was used as the primary framework for understanding Mason's growth. Other secondary sources include academic writings and movie studies on *Boyhood*, psychological research on identity development, and film reviews from reputable media outlets such as TIME and RogerEbert.com.

In short, primary data is drawn directly from the movie and related materials, whilst secondary data is drawn from theories and research that help to interpret the movie. Both types of data are used in conjunction to understand Mason's psychosocial development in the movie *Boyhood*.