

MORAL VALUES IN THE NOVEL "SOPHIE'S WORLD" BY JOSTEIN GAARDER

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ABSTRACT

Research on the novel Sophie's World by Jostein Gaarder's work focuses on finding the content of moral values in philosophical thoughts which are very useful for human life. The views of these philosophers are presented in the form of the novel to a young girl Sophie, a high school student who fourteen years old was getting a philosophy lesson from a mysterious sender of the letter, Alberto Knog created by his own father. Expected by reading this article, the reader is able to see any moral values as an obligation that must be invested in order to realize a good relationship between fellow human beings in order to create a better civilization.

Key Words : Decency, Honesty, Responsibility, Life Balance, Hold Short-Term Pleasure, Ethics, Moral Growth.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian terhadap novel Dunia Sophie karya Jostein Gaarder memfokuskan mencari kandungan nilai-nilai moral pada setiap pemikiran –pemikiran filosofis dari semua pemeran baik dari pemeran tokoh novel itu sendiri maupun pemikiran dari para filosof yang sangat bermanfaat buat kehidupan manusia. Untuk memperoleh hasil yang diharapkan, penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dalam pendekatan moral dengan mengkaji nilai-nilai moral yang terdapat dalam cerita. Penentuan nilai Moral yang dikaji adalah moralitas yang telah dirumuskan masyarakat secara umum dalam menentukan nilai-nilai moral baik dan buruk, seperti kesopanan, bersikap jujur, bertanggung jawab, keseimbangan hidup, menahan kesenangan jangka pendek, beretika, dan hambatan pertumbuhan moral.

Kata Kunci: *Kesopanan, Bersikap Jujur, Bertanggung Jawab, Keseimbangan Hidup, Menahan Kesenangan Jangka Pendek, Beretika, Hambatan Pertumbuhan Moral*

INTRODUCTION

Moral teachings in literature are often delivered either explicitly or implicitly experienced leaders in the search for absolute truth in ethics and morals. Therefore, at this stage of catharsis readers could take a literary work from the point of view of universal moral in order to the view that man is essentially sociable open-plan boundary

for the useful sake of unity of all mankind.

Sophie world is philosophical fiction works of Jostein Gaarder's raised view of the Greek philosophers of the twentieth century and has also been translated into more than 30 languages worldwide. The views of the philosophers also relates to the moral in

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the midst of the community to live in each run without the barriers that exist.

A brief story of this novel study philosophy from the beginning to the modern philosophy to bring the figure of Sophie Armundsend a high school student 14 years old. One day after school, he gets a mysterious letter which only contains one question. "Who are you?" The letter made Sophie think about life, he realized he was not going to live forever and will definitely go. The more he thought about life, about death case settled in her mind. He thinks we cannot feel alive without realizing that we will have to die, but it is equally impossible for us to realize that we have to die without thinking how wonderful life is.

Then he got the second letter which contains the question: "where it comes from the world?". Sophie is dizzy thinking about the answer and went to his hiding place in a park that is empty and deserted. For the 3rd time she gets a letter. The letter to Hilde Moller Knag but addressed to Sophie. The letter contained birthday greetings to Hilde 15th. The letters were made Sophie think that all three letters are interrelated.

Sophie kept thinking with the letters that he did not focus on learning in school. When he came home, he got a large envelope inscribed "philosophy lessons, caution". Then, Sophie ran to the nest and began to read a letter that consists of three pages.

One statement which reflects the morality of Socrates ... The wisest man who knows that he does not knowmeaning one becomes immoral to have the curiosity of every action whether right or wrong morally.

The excess of Sophie's World novel is to raise the nature of life in the philosophical musings of a teenage girl who narrated so easily understood. Therefore, the authors are interested to take the title "Analysis of Moral Values in the novel" Sophie's World" by Jostein Gaarder. So the main purpose of this study to describe the expression on Moral Values in which the moral values it is important to be studied and implemented in life.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this case the moral interpreted as directing the polite or well mannered life. This can be interpreted as a rule of moral decency in which there are all the norms, especially norms in good behavior. Moral necessarily relate to a person's socialization process in the absence of human morals, will not be able to do well socialization process.

Moral of course, is a fundamental property that human being should have and instill in a formal education, because life is a moral absolute values in society as a whole. Self-moral may be assessed by local culture.

Morality is related to the actions in interacting between each other, so if one act or behave in accordance with values that exist within a society and can be received also in the environment, and he/she shall be considered to have good morals.

Morality, as Soyomukti (2011:221) said is a matter of personal values that guide decisions and actions. Morality is generally influenced by the culture, society, and religion. When ethics is used for more general, conceptual and principal. Ethics is the theoretical skills, which can be analogized as morally map.

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Then, moral is as direct orders, which can be analogized as travel instructions, (*ibid.*, p. 221)..

In the real world, there are people who say immoral or amoral and non-moral. Immoral or amoral is bad practice. While the non-moral good is bad acts are not questioned; such as drinking coffee with sugar or not, (Prawironegoro, 2010:81).

The importance of moral lesson in a formal education must be implemented in curriculum, as Downey & Kelly (1978: 166), said

“Most curriculum areas, such a history, environmental or social studies, the study of literature, health and sex education, the study of religion, offer obvious occasions for the discussion of moral problems. The expressive and creative arts too can provide opportunities for the development of the emotional or affective components of morality.

Based on the moral definitions above, it can be concluded that if a person act or behave arbitrarily incompatible with the norms that exist in a community, that person will be branded as morally bad, vice and versa.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

General approach of this research is to examine extrinsic elements outside of the context of the text. This study is a qualitative study using content analysis method. Content analysis, (Emzir, 2011:283) is an exhaustive analysis of the explicit and implicit messages and of all types of communications or context, both by quantitative and qualitative techniques. Analysis of moral values included in the extrinsic approach is shaped approaches to describe the

expression of moral values. Moral approach starting from the basic assumption that one of the purposes of literary presence among the people, the reader is working to increase the dignity of human beings as civilized creatures, thinking, and God concerns, (Semi, 2012:89). Qualitative methods with moral approach used in the study Novel Jostein Gaarder Sophie's World work by giving attention to the nature of data, in relation to the context of its existence by involving authors. The social environment, (Bahtiar & Aswinarto, 2013:16) in which the authors are located, including elements of the culture at large.

In accordance with the study design, the researcher (1) reads repeatedly to gain a maximum to see the views of the public about the moral , (2) examines historically the source of philosophy from the book as well as online media, and (3) looks at from the standpoint of theory existing in literature to assess the novel in order to remain within the framework of the general rules of literature.

FINDINGS AND INTEPRETATION

4.1 Decency

When Sophie gets a letter that no postmarks in place boxed letters. The letter was wet when a dry spring becomes something mysterious. Behind the letter was written.

Is there something called a natural modesty?

The wisest man who knows that he does not know ...

True knowledge comes from within. Whoever knows what is right will do

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right (Joestein Gaarder, trans. Astuti, 2013:108).

Politeness naturally is that if someone claims that he did not know anything, could gain new knowledge right to act properly This is the natural attitude of wise man's politeness.

4.2 Honesty

The foreign author Knog Alberto wrote his views on honesty associated with the opinion of a philosopher Socrates.

"What do you think, Sophie? Can you live a happy life if you continue to do things that are deep in the heart that you know is wrong? Many people who lie and cheat and vilify others. Are they aware that all this is not true-or unfairly? Do you think these people are happy?." Referring to Socrates. (Ibid., p. 191).

Socrates reflected a view to Sophie by the authors of the letter, namely that unhappiness present in people who are not honest and vilify people. This awareness is also intended by the author of the letter it is impossible to be happy if they acted against their better ratings.

4.3 Responsibility

The letter writer Alberto Knog (mystery man) raised philosopher Aristotle about one from the third happiness is responsibility.

"Aristotle argues there are three forms of happiness. The first form of happiness is a life and more enjoyable. The second form is to be a responsible citizen. The third form is to be a thinker and philosopher." (Ibid., p. 191)

Moral approach located on the second view of Aristoles that

responsibility of morality that should exist as citizen.

4.4 Life Balance

Within view of a philosopher Aristotle who stated views about the moral contained in a letter given by Alberto Knog to Sophie.

"The same applies in the relationship between human beings in favor of Aristotle's "Middle Way". We must not be a coward and should not be reckless, but courageous (too little courage means a coward, too many bold means), not miserly nor extravagant but loose (loose enough not mean miserly, too loosely means wasteful). The same applies to dine. It would be dangerous if we eat too little, but also dangerous if eaten too much." (Ibid., h. 192)

The balance of life lies in keeping harmony in every whim, should not be excessive in every desire, should be controlled not excessive.

4.5 Short-Term Holding Fun

The next moral outlook lies in a philosopher Epicurus by Alberto Knog.

"Epicurus also believed that the favorable results in the short term should be detained for the sake of the possibility of greater enjoyment, more lasting, or more powerful in the long run." (Ibid., p. 217).

Then subsequently Alberto Knog gave a real view into the life of Sophie.

"Unlike animals, we are able to plan our lives. We have the ability to create "a calculation of pleasure". Chocolate is good, but a new bike or a more comfortable travel to England again."(loc.cit)

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After Alberto Knog has provided examples of statements from a philosopher Epicurus, then Knog provide concrete examples that are being experienced in the world of Sophie facing now.

4.6 Ethics

When Alberto Knog sat with Sophie and a long silence. Then Sophie spoke, trying to release Alberto mind of what had happened. In addition Descartes, Knog also provides the example of a philosopher Spinoza that convey moral messages with an ethical manner

"Let's find Spinoza's own reasoning. His most important is proven Geometric Ethics (Ethics geometrically demonstrated)."

"Ethics-which proved geometrically?"

"It might sound a bit strange to us. In philosophy, ethics means the study of moral conduct in order to live a good life. This was also what we mean when we talk about the ethics of Socrates or Aristotle, for example. Only at the time of our life ethics narrowed it means to be a set of rules to live a life without stepping on the feet of others. (Ibid., p. 390).

Ethics is a set of rules agreed upon by convention. If people are ethical, if they obey the rules agreed upon without harming others (through life without stepping on the feet of others).

"When Spinoza uses the word ethics, he means the art of living and moral conduct. "(loc.cit)

Spinoza also linked that ethical purposes is itself a moral purpose

4.7 Barriers to Moral Growth

Alberto Knog gave parable to Sophie on one of the trees that grow old together in a place exposed to the sun and good soil with plenty of water. One of the trees that grow old together in a place exposed to the sun and good soil with plenty of water. Other trees grow on arid land in the dark. Do you think, which of the two trees were bigger? And which produce more fruit?"

"Of course the tree with the most favorable conditions of growth." "According to Spinoza, this tree is free. He has complete freedom to develop innate abilities. But if he had an apple tree, he would not be able to produce pears or plums. The same is true for us, humans. We can be hindered in development and our personal growth by political conditions, for example. Exceptional circumstances can be an obstacle for us. (Ibid., p. 397)"

The parable above is a clue or challenge for a person who holds tightly to maintaining the principles of morality. Moral progress can continue to grow in the supporting environment. If not, it is a tough challenge for anyone.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This article examines the view of moral values presented in the form of decency, honest, responsible, life balance, hold short-term pleasure, ethics, moral growth inhibition of the philosophers. The views of these philosophers are presented in the form of the novel to a young girl Sophie, a high school student who is fourteen years old who getting a philosophy lesson from a mysterious sender of the letter. Alberto Knog who is a fake character created by his own father.

After reading this article, the reader is able to see any moral values as an

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obligation that must be invested in order to realize a good relationship between fellow human beings in order to create a better civilization.

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