

**AN ANALYSIS ON THE MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY
AMERICAN MALE AND FEMALE POETS' VIEWS
ON GENDER AS REFLECTED
IN THE USE OF SYMBOLS, METAPHORS, AND SIMILES**

TESIS

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**UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA
PROGRAM PASCASARJANA
PROGRAM STUDI MAGISTER PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS
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THESIS

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by

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UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA
PROGRAM PASCA SARJANA
PROGRAM STUDI MAGISTER PENDIDIKAN BAHASA
INGGRIS
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APPROVAL SHEET (1)

This thesis entitled *An Analysis on the Mid-twentieth Century American Male and Female Poets' Views on Gender as Reflected in the Use of Symbols, Metaphors, and Similes*

prepared and submitted by Audry Susanto (8212701003)

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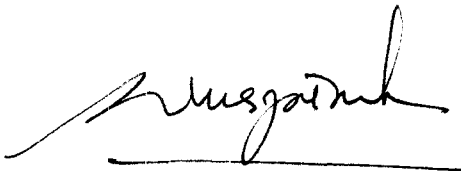
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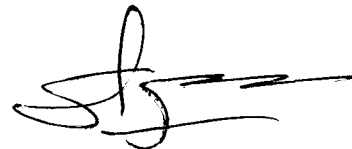
This thesis entitled *An Analysis on the Mid-twentieth Century American Male and Female Poets' Views on Gender as Reflected in the Use of Symbols, Metaphors, and Similes* prepared and submitted by Audry Susanto (8212701003) was examined and approved by the following Board of Examiners on oral examination with a grade of _____ on March 12, 2003



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ABSTRACT

Susanto, Audry. (2003). *An Analysis on the Mid-twentieth Century American Male and Female Poets' Views on Gender as Reflected in the Use of Symbols, Metaphors, and Similes*. Unpublished S2 thesis. Master in TEFL Program of Widya Mandala University, Surabaya. Advisor: DR. Agustinus Ngadiman.

Key words: culture, symbol, metaphor, similes, gender, psychology, social, characteristics, view, and poetry

The relationship between language, thought, gender, and culture has encouraged the researcher in conducting this study. The research is intended to describe the mid-twentieth century American male and female poets' views on gender along with the similarities and differences between them and the influencing factors behind them. The data of the study are limited only to the symbols, metaphors, and similes used by the American male and female poets in representing the psychological and social characteristics of men and women.

As the basis of analysis, the theories on the relationship between language, thought, culture, and gender are presented in the second chapter. Furthermore, the literature theories on poetry and figures of speech are also reviewed. To equip the researcher with knowledge on the background of the analyzed poems, the characteristics of the mid-twentieth century poems and historical facts on the mid-twentieth century American gender concept are also included.

In analyzing the pragmatic and semantic meaning of the symbols, metaphors, and similes, the researcher employed the composite approach consisting of the exploratory, descriptive, and explanatory stages as the research design. Furthermore, as the research techniques, the researcher used the content analysis, discourse analysis, and practical literature analysis. By employing those techniques, the analysis was done in three stages as proposed by Miles and Huberman (1984:21). They are the data collection reduction stage, the data display stage, and the drawing conclusion stage.

As a result of the analysis, it can be seen that there are similarities and differences between the mid-twentieth century American male and female poets' views on the psychological and social characteristics of men and women. On one hand, the male poets positively view men as having psychological characteristics of being aggressive, strong, rational, and dominant. They also try to maintain the superior status and extra-domestic roles of men in their description of the social characteristics of men. Whereas in describing women, the male poets describe them as being psychologically passive, parental, sensitive or easily hurt, emotional, and submissive. They consider women as being inferior and having domestic capacities.

On the other hand the female poets view men as having psychological characteristics of being aggressive, strong, rational, and dominant yet in a negative way. It is because men are considered to be insensitive. The female poets attempt to change the society's image on the superior status and extra-domestic roles of men. It is done by describing women as having psychological characteristics of being aggressive, strong, and rational as men, though they still possess their sensitivity to the feelings of others and parental nature. The female poets also try to show that women should be considered equal in their status and extra domestic capacities. Nonetheless, they cannot ignore the social facts that society still regards women as being passive, emotional, sensitive or easily hurt, and submissive.

The similarities and differences occur as men and women bring their own 'cultural world' in their linguistic behavior. The male poets show the tendency to exercise power and be dominant by describing men as being superior and women as being inferior. Whereas, the female poets have the tendency to strive for equality and solidarity in their linguistic behavior by describing women as being equal to men without degrading them. Furthermore, the similarities and differences can be seen as the reflection of the patriarchal concept held by American society and the rapid changes occurring during the mid-twentieth century period due to 1960's feminists' struggle. The dynamic changes of the gender cultural concept invite pro-contra arguments from the poets, which are reflected in the use of symbols, metaphors, and similes representing men and women.

Finally, it is expected that the result of this study can contribute theoretically and practically to English Department students and EFL teachers in the field of CCU, Sociolinguistics, Discourse Analysis, and Literary Appreciation. For society or laymen in general, they can learn to have a better cross-gender communication.

ABSTRAK

Susanto, Audry. (2003). *Analisa Pandangan Penulis Puisi Pria dan Wanita Amerika pada Pertengahan Abad ke 20 terhadap Gender yang Direfleksikan pada Penggunaan Simbol, Metafora, dan Simile*. Tesis S2. Program Pasca Sarjana Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Widya Mandala, Surabaya. Dosen Pembimbing: DR. Agustinus Ngadiman.

Kata kunci: budaya, simbol, metafora, simile, gender, psikologi, sosial, karakteristik, dan puisi

Hubungan antara bahasa, pemikiran, gender, dan budaya telah mendorong peneliti untuk melakukan penelitian ini. Penelitian ini ditujukan untuk menggambarkan pandangan penulis puisi pria dan wanita Amerika pada pertengahan abad ke 20 terhadap gender, persamaan dan perbedaannya beserta faktor-faktor penyebabnya. Data yang diambil dibatasi hanya pada simbol, metafora, dan simile yang digunakan oleh para penulis puisi tersebut dalam menggambarkan karakteristik psikologis dan sosial dari pria dan wanita.

Sebagai dasar dari analisa, teori hubungan antara bahasa, pemikiran, gender, dan budaya ditampilkan di bab kedua dari tesis ini. Disamping itu, teori mengenai puisi dan kata kiasan juga terangkum. Untuk memperlengkapi peneliti dengan latar belakang dari puisi yang dianalisa, teori tentang karakteristik dari puisi Amerika pada pertengahan abad ke 20 dan fakta sejarah tentang konsep gender di Amerika pada abad tersebut juga disertakan dalam tulisan ini.

Dalam menganalisa arti pragmatis dan semantis dari simbol, metafora, dan similes, peneliti menggunakan pendekatan komposit yang terdiri dari langkah eksplorasi, penggambaran, dan penjabaran. Sebagai tehnik penelitian digunakan analisa konten, analisa wacana, dan analisa sastra praktis. Dengan menggunakan tehnik tersebut, analisa dilakukan dalam tiga tahap sesuai dengan teori dari Miles dan Huberman (1984:21). Tahap tersebut terdiri dari pengumpulan dan penyeleksian data, penampilan data, dan penarikan kesimpulan.

Sebagai hasil dari analisa didapati bahwa terdapat persamaan dan perbedaan pada pandangan penulis puisi pria dan wanita Amerika pada pertengahan abad ke 20 terhadap karakteristik psikologis dan sosial pria dan wanita. Pada satu pihak, penulis pria menggambarkan pria memiliki karakteristik psikologis yang agresif, kuat, rasional, dan dominan secara positif. Mereka juga berusaha untuk mempertahankan superioritas status dan peran ekstra domestik sebagai karakteristik sosial dari pria. Sebaliknya dalam menggambarkan wanita, para penulis puisi pria ini menggambarkannya sebagai sosok yang pasif, keibuan, sensitif atau lemah, emosional, dan submisif. Mereka juga menganggap wanita inferior dan memiliki peran domestik didalam rumah.

Di lain pihak, para penulis puisi wanita memandang pria memiliki karakteristik psikologis yang agresif, kuat, rasional, dan dominant tetapi secara negatif. Hal ini disebabkan mereka memandang pria tidak sensitif terhadap perasaan dan kebutuhan orang lain. Mereka juga berusaha untuk mengubah pandangan masyarakat akan superioritas dan peran ekstra-domestik pria. Para penulis wanita tersebut melakukannya dengan menggambarkan wanita sebagai sosok yang juga memiliki karakteristik psikologis yang agresif, kuat, dan rasional seperti halnya pria, meski mereka tidak meninggalkan sisi sensitifitas dan keibuan dari wanita. Mereka berusaha menunjukkan bahwa wanita seharusnya diperlakukan setara dan memiliki kapasitas ekstra domestik yang sama dengan pria. Meski demikian, para penulis wanita tersebut tidak dapat

mengingkari fakta bahwa wanita masih dianggap sebagai sosok yang pasif, submisif, lemah dan emosional oleh masyarakatnya.

Persamaan dan perbedaan pandangan terjadi karena pria dan wanita memiliki dunianya sendiri dalam ekspresi linguistiknya. Para penulis puisi pria memiliki kecenderungan untuk menunjukkan kekuasaan dan dominasi dengan menggambarkan superioritas pria dan inferioritas wanita. Sedangkan para penulis puisi wanita memiliki kecenderungan untuk meraih kesetaraan dan solidaritas dalam perilaku bahasanya dengan menggambarkan wanita sebagai sosok yang setara dengan pria tanpa merendahkan pria atau berusaha dominan. Lebih lanjut, persamaan dan perbedaan tersebut juga merefleksikan budaya patriarkal dan dinamika yang terjadi pada saat itu. Dinamika tersebut dipicu oleh gerakan feminisme pada tahun 1960-an yang tentunya mengundang pro dan kontra dalam masyarakat Amerika. Pro-kontra itulah yang direfleksikan oleh para penulis pria dan wanita tersebut melalui simbol, metafora, dan simile yang mereka gunakan untuk menggambarkan pria dan wanita.

Akhirnya, peneliti berharap penelitian ini dapat memberikan kontribusi baik secara teoritis maupun praktis bagi mahasiswa jurusan bahasa Inggris dan tenaga pengajar bahasa Inggris tentang bidang studi Pemahaman Lintas Budaya, Sociolinguistik, Analisis Wacana, dan Apresiasi Sastra. Bagi masyarakat pada umumnya, studi ini diharapkan dapat memberikan masukan tentang komunikasi lintas gender.

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The writer

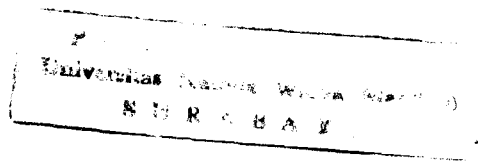


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