



**The Relationship Between The Hefflys and Their Teenage Sons
As Reflected in
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodric Rules Movie**

A THESIS

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Submitted by:

PUJI NASTITI ROCHANIA

13020110130050

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY
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ABSTRAK

Keluarga merupakan tempat pertama kalinya seorang anak mempelajari kebiasaan dalam mengetahui benar atau salahnya suatu hal. Hal ini juga terjadi di Amerika. Peran orang tua sangatlah penting dalam membentuk kepribadian seorang anak. Disamping keluarga, lingkungan sekitar anak diluar keluarga juga ikut serta dalam pembentukan kepribadian mereka. Skripsi ini akan membahas tentang hubungan antara orang tua dan anak remaja laki-lakinya di Amerika yang diceritakan dalam film *Diary of Wimpy Kid: Rodric rules*. Tujuan analisis pada skripsi ini adalah menjelaskan tentang konflik apa saja yang muncul sebagai akibat remaja yang melanggar aturan dari orang tua, serta bagaimana cara orang tua mengatasi kenakalan anak-anaknya. Analisis intrinsik film ini menggunakan teori naratif dan teori sinematograf. Sebagai analisis ekstrinsik, penulis menggunakan teori tentang peran orang tua dan teori mengenai apa saja yang mempengaruhi kebiasaan seorang remaja. Semua teori didapatkan dari buku-buku dan website yang terkait.

Di dalam analisis, penulis menemukan bahwa segiat apapun orang tua mengajarkan hal baik kepada anak remaja laki-lakinya namun di luar rumah bisa saja teman-temannya mengajarkan hal buruk kepadanya hingga ia terpengaruh untuk berkelakuan buruk pula. Jadi, sebaiknya orang tua Amerika memastikan dan mengetahui siapa saja teman anaknya: apakah akan mengakibatkan suatu hal yang buruk atau tidak. Dengan demikian, anak remaja laki-laki mereka tumbuh sebagai anak yang baik-baik pula di masa mendatang.

Kata kunci: *American parents, teenage boys, parent's roles*

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Family is the smallest unit which introduces the children about environment and society. The family value among Americans is one of the important things in the states. Family is the first place where the children get the education about social knowledge and good attitude. Their parents have a big role to orient their children. They should manage their children to be good people. The parents show their children about their roles and what their children should do. So, in the future their children can separate the good from bad things. Besides, there are some external aspects that influence the children's habit such as the influence from schoolmates, the media, and community.

The writer will discuss the relationship between American parents and their teenagers that is reflected and described in the *Diary of Wimpy Kid 2* movie. The film describes about an American family, especially about the relationship between parents role and their sons. The relationship that is discussed is concentrated on parent's role and their teenage boy's life. The parents have their own way to make their children more intimate and respect each other. The parents show their children what parents should do to make their family become better in the inside and outside. They teach their children to respect each other. However, teenage boys have their own way to treat other people, friends, parents, and siblings.

CHAPTER 2

2.1 SUMMARY

The Diary of Wimpy kid 2 film was made in 2010 and released in 2011. It tells about family values and describes about teenagers in America. Mr. Heffly and his wife have three sons which have different habit. The first son is Rodrick Heffly, he is in the senior high school, the second is Greg Heffly, he is in the junior high school and the last is Manny Heffly, he is a toddler.

Rodrick and Greg are always hostile and they never get along. Rodrick as the oldest brother always disturbs Greg. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Heffly, have a struggle to make their children get along together. Their mother has a side job to write in a newspaper column about family peace conductivity, such as making the children get along together. That way the job is applied to her sons; however it is difficult for her children who never get along and always fight.

One day Rodrick and Greg fight in the church. It is shameful. After that accident, their parents was very angry *and* as the punishment, both of her sons are forbidden to join the family holiday vacation. Finally Rodrick and Greg spend the holiday at home together. Rodrick makes a plan to invite all of his friends and makes a party in their home while his parents are not at home

Since they have a shared secret they started to get along, no hostility and fighting. They become sweet children for their parents until someday their secret is open. As the head of the family, father is angry to know the truth. Mr. Heffly is

angry and consequently blames his wife and sons why the activities like that happened in their home.

After that accident, they get punishment. Mr. and Mrs. Heffly think that their sons deserve it. The punishment is to spend the holiday in their grandpa's home and they are not allowed to follow the talent show. On other other hand, the talent show is Rodrick's dream. His band wants to be famous through the talent show. Greg is worried about that. Finally Greg has a struggle to make his brother join the talent show. He convinces their parents. He wants to do anything to make Rodricbe allowed to perform and join the band. His struggle to convince his parents is successful. His mother is surprised, Greg is willing to sacrifice his brother. Since that event, Rodric and Greg get along and respect each other. Rodric realizes that his brother is very kind and loves him. Of course, the parents are glad to see them reconcile. It makes their parents happy and proud of their sons.

CHAPTER 3

LITERATURE REVIEW

3.1 INTRINSIC ASPECTS

Himawan says in “*Memahami Film*” book that the intrinsic aspects consist of two elements: narrative and cinematographic aspect.

3.1.1 Narrative Aspects

Based on Barsam in *Looking at Movies: An introduction to Film*, there are many narrative aspects. In this thesis the writer will discuss character, setting, event, story and plot

3.1.1.1 Character

Barsam says

“Thus, when we talk about characters in our analyses of movies, we should consider them both as beings who (much like living, breathing people) have discernible traits, habits, and dispositions and as formal elements that help develop the narrative.” (2010: 134).

The characters act their role to develop the narrative. Meanwhile, the characters are divided into two parts; those are major and minor characters.

“Major characters, the most important characters to the plot, make the most things happen or have the most things happen to them. Because plots depend on conflict, major characters—male or female—are often further described as protagonists and antagonists.” (Barsam, 2010:135)

Besides major characters, there are also minor ones. Barsam says about the minor characters:

“minor characters play a less important role in the overall movie, functioning usually as a means of moving the plot forward or of fleshing out the motivations of the major characters.” (2010 :136).

The role of minor characters is to support major characters and the reverse.

3.1.1.2 Setting

As for setting, Barsam explains as follows:

“The setting of a movie is the time and place in which the story occurs. It not only establishes the date, city, or country, but also provides the characters’ social, educational, and cultural backgrounds and other identifying factors vital for understanding them, such as what they wear, eat, and drink.” (2010 : 138)

The setting can make the audience imagine the condition of all events in the story line.

“The characters will wear clothes similar to our own, the designer understands that we will read these costumes more closely and interpret them on the basis of our experiences” (2010:171). So the audience can interpret the story’s setting through the costume too.

3.1.1.3 Event

According to Barsam events consist of two hierarchies.

“This hierarchy consists of (1) the events that seem crucial to the plot (and thus to the underlying story) and (2) the events that play a less crucial or even subordinate role.” (2010:127)

The first hierarchy consists of major events that become the main events in the film.

It also seems like the main conflict. The second hierarchy consists of minor events that are not essential elements.

3.1.2 Cinematography aspects

Pratista says in *Memahami Film* that cinematography elements are divided into four parts; *mise-en scene*, cinematograph, editing, and sound (2008:2). In the thesis analysis, the writer will only discuss sound, cinematography that concentrates on framing, and *mise-en scene* that only discusses lighting.

3.1.2.1 Sound

In *Looking at Movie*, Barsam’s book, Director Spielberg says that:

“The eye sees better when the sound is great. Sound—talking, laughing, singing, music, and the aural effects of objects and settings—can be as expressive as any of the other narrative and stylistic elements of cinematic form.”(2010:368).

From the explanation, sound gives a big impact for those who are watching the movie. Bordwell and Thompson argue in *The Film Art: An Introduction* Eight Edition that “sound can actively shape how we perceive and interpret the image.” (2008:265)

3.1.2.2 Cinematography

Cinematography of the shot is controlled by directors. Barsam says that cinematography is also known as the basis of motion picture photography that can make the movie image appear the way it does. The writer will discuss only one of the cinematography aspects: framing.

3.1.2.2.1 Framing

Framing is the “shot” that we see in the entire movie. Based on *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, “shot is a scene in a film or movie that is filmed continuously by one camera.” (2005). The framing of scene usually supports the scene and shows the audiences in detailed ways.

Bordwell and Thompson, in *Film Art: An Introduction* Eight Edition say that framing divide shot distance into seven types. Those are extreme long shot, long shot, medium long shot, medium shot, medium close-up, close-up, and extreme close up. (2008:191)

3.1.2.3 *Mise-En-Scene*

Mise-en-scene is anything that is captured in front of the camera to tell the audience more about the film: the lighting, make-up, and costume. In this part, the writer will focus on lighting.

3.1.2.4 Lighting

Barsam explains three point systems of lighting: key light, fill light, and backlight. (222:2010).

“Key light is the primary source of illumination and, thus, is customarily set first. Positioned to one side of the camera, it creates hard shadows. The fill light, which is positioned at the opposite side of the camera from the key light, adjusts the depth of the shadows created by the brighter key light.” (222:2010)

Key light and fill light are correlated to adjust the relationship and balance between these two kinds of lighting. It produces low-key lighting and high-key lighting.

3.2 Extrinsic Aspects

Extrinsic aspects of the film that the writer discusses are about the relationship between American parents and teenagers. Clement and Reinier claim in *Boyhood in America an Encyclopedia* published in 2001 that there are many aspects that influence the teenage boy’s habit and also the parent’s role to make their children have a good habit. In the discussion, the writer only focuses on family, school, and friends community aspects.

3.2.1 Family

The internal aspect that influences teenager’s life is family. It is the primary aspect on their life. Based on Murdock in *Social Structure* , daily interaction that contains adults of male and female sexes, parents, and children that support each other is a family, (2004:23).

3.2.1.1 Kinds of Family Structure

According to Blessing in his article entitled “Type of Family Structures” (<http://family.lovetoknow.com/about-family-values/types-family-structures>. accessed on 1 july 2014)

“This family type consists of two parents and children. The nuclear family was long held in esteem by society as being the ideal in which to raise children. Children in nuclear families receive strength and stability from the two-parent

structure and generally have more opportunities due to the financial ease of two adults.” (2014:1)

Unlike nuclear families, extended family consists of a nuclear family and the relatives like grandparents, aunts, cousins and uncles. Blessing says in his article entitled “Type of Family Structures”(http://family.lovetoknow.com/about-family-values/types-family-structures. accessed on 1 July 2014)

The extended family structure consists of two or more adults who are related, either by blood or marriage, living in the same home. This family includes many relatives living together and working toward common goals, such as raising the children and keeping up with the household duties. Many extended families include cousins, aunts or uncles and grandparents living together. (2014:1)

They share the household duties and have responsibility to support each other. They live together in one house and have responsibility to take care of each other.

3.2.1.2 Parent’s roles

In a study conducted by Harkness in *“No Big Deal, but This Researcher’s Theory Explains Everything about How Americans Parent”* (www.slate.com/blogs/how_babies_work/2013/04/10/parental_ethnotheories_and_how_parents_in_america_differ_from_parents_everywhere.htm. accessed in 1 July 2014) and her international colleagues, American parents talked about their children as intelligent and even as “cognitively advanced.” It means American parents encourage their children develop their intelligence.

The parents usually give them “a quality time” or “special time”. Through family’s quality time, parents can make their children become good people.

Next, parents have an important role to make their children better people, such as giving them a discipline lesson. Clement and Reinier claim in *Boyhood in America an Encyclopedia* “The disciplinary efforts of parents, teachers, and others in positions of

authority have greatly affected the experience of generations of American boys.” (2001: 201).

3.2.1.3 Father’s and Mother’s role

In the Clement and Reinier’s book, *Boyhood in America an Encyclopedy*, Lamb and Pruett say in Clement and Reiner’s book that father

“.... was to be an equal in caring for children. Fathers were now to be coparents with mothers; less emphasis was placed on strict gender roles. By the beginning of the twenty-first century, social science research had empirically documented what many suspected for centuries: that fathers’ influence and involvement are important to children’s development and well-being. Children tend to do better cognitively, socially, and academically with their father” (Lamb 1997; Pruett 2000). (2001:244)

While he works for family’s welfare, father has an important role to be involved in his children development. Children will be better with father next to them.

As for Mother’s role, Clement and Reinier explain “ a boy’s relationship with his mother has been central to his physical, social, and emotional development,” (2001: 450). Mother obviously knows about the physical and emotional feeling of her children, because she is the one who takes care and the one who give much attention of the children’s growth.

3.2.2 School

Clement and Reinier say about the teacher and the rule

“They assigned students to sit at individual desks and to speak only to the teacher. Thus they made clear to boys that they should act as individuals and become self-reliant....Teachers also expected boys to obey the teacher without question.” (2001:589)

It indicates that American student should do their task individually and should to obey the teacher’s instruction.

3.2.3 Community of Friends

American teenage boy's community has a famous issue; bullying. According to Olweus in Clement and Reinier's book: *Boyhood*, Bullying is "exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more other students" (1993: 9). It usually happens not only in school but also at home between the older and the younger child. Clement and Reinier add explanation as the result of bullying. It makes the child who is the victim of bullying mentally suppressed. When the child is suppressed there are two choices about what to do; let their mental down or try to resist their rival.

Parents role to make any rules and the children's friends community influence children habit. The parent's roles that mentioned tries to tie their teenage children become a good people. Besides, the external aspects: friend's community and school possible to change the habit of American teenage boy.

CHAPTER 4

ANALYSIS

In the analysis, the writer connects the intrinsic elements of the movie with the theory between American parents and teenage boy reflected in "*Diary of wimpy kid: Rodric Rules*".

4.1 Characters in "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodric Rules" Movie

4.1.1 Major characters

There are some major characters:

Greg Heffly

He wishes something different to happen to his life. He is also a temperamental kid who likes to blame reality. However, in some situations, he is willing to sacrifice for his brother in solving a problem.

Rodric Heffley

He is the first son of Heffley family. Usually, the first son will be a good example for his younger brothers but in this case, he has bad habits, He is antagonistic and mischievous.

4.1.2 Minor character

Rowley

never lie to one another. Picture 4.8 taken in long shot shows Greg's bedroom where Greg and Rowley do their activity. When they have an idea to make a funny video, Greg asks him to wear an undercut on his head and he does it.

4.2 Setting of Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodric Rules Movie

“*Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodric rules*” movie was made in 2010. It means the film was made in modern era.



Picture 4.13 (*Wimpy Kid*: 00.00.28)



Picture 4.14 (*Wimpy Kid*: 00.14.00)



Picture 4.15 (*Wimpy Kid*: 00.38.59)



Picture 4.16 (*Wimpy Kid*: 00.25.33)

The pictures above explain the setting of film both place and time.

Picture 4.13 which is taken in extreme long shot shows people in small size, the front of roller-skate building and some trees in the background. Picture 4.14 in long shot is Greg's class room which uses high-key lighting. The lighting looks natural. Another shot is in medium long shot in picture 4.16. It shows the church quiet condition. Meanwhile picture 4.15 describes the home which is taken in long shot.

4.3 Heffly's crucial conflict

Mr. Heffly shock when he knows that his son held a crazy party in their home without any permission from him. Spontaneously he gets very angry. He blames his wife and sons.

After the accident, Father valued his wife because in fact she does not know the clear chronology. Greg and Rodric got their own punishment from their own mistake. They should spend a holiday in their grandfather's house and did not allow to join the talent show. From this case Father and Mother tries to maintain one of family rules.

4.4 Heffly's family form

The family consists of parents and three sons without any relatives living with them. So, Heffly's family form is a nuclear family.

4.5 Parent's roles and teenage sons of Heffly Family

4.5.1 The discipline and quality time

When the children make mistakes the parents usually give them punishment. The children does not repeat the bad behavior in the future and the good part is, American children are willing to obey the punishment and rules. Punishment has purpose to make children more disciplined

When Greg comes to the welcoming Westmore seven grades party, all of the family members accompany him.

Rodric : “This is a Greg thing. I don't see why I had to come!”

Mother : “Because, Rodrick, this is a family event, and like it or not, you're part of the Heffley family.”

Father : “Yeah. That and we already paid for your ticket.” (Diary of a Wimpy Kid 00.01.03-00.01.13)

Mr. and Mrs. Heffley want the family to spend special time together.

4.5.2 Mr. Heffly role as the father

As stated in literary review pages 21, father's role focuses on the children so that they tend to do better socially, cognitively and academically. When Rodric is in the 7th grades, he does his homework accompanied by his father. Mr. Heffly do his role in a good way. He wants Rodric to improve and develop his cognitive in academic parts.

4.5.3 Mrs. Heffly role as mother

Mother has a role to teach her children to be good people. Since that incident, Greg becomes an honest child like what her mother wants, but in fact, Greg has his own way to be honest. She is willing to do that because she has promise to support Greg to be honest.

4.5.4 Rodric and Greg as teenage boys

They have some close friends that can influence their habits. In the school life, Greg is not too naughty like Rodric in the past. It is because his friends are not too naughty. Sometimes they are ignore the teacher lesson and talk each other but they are not make noise.

Besides friendship that is the academic part. As mentioned in the setting analysis, American students sit in individual desks to improve their individual ability and independence.

Rodric becomes a naughty, rude, and rowdy teenage because of his friends and community.

Rodric has a bad community so he has bad habit too. He is rude with his brother and difficult to be regulated by his parents. Rodric often bullies his brother especially Greg. He always does that thing anytime.

4.5.5 Mr. and Mrs. Heffly's cooperation

Mr. and Mrs. Heffly together do their role well and support each other to take care of their children to be good people.

Mr. and Mrs. Heffly cooperative to save their child, Greg, eventough it embarrasses Greg. Mrs. Hefflyspeaks in the speaker and Mr. Heffly comes to save Greg. It is an embarrassing incident for Greg but it is the best way for the mother to save her child.

Mr. and Mrs. Heffly do the best cooperation to make sure that their children is safe and get along together until they are old.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Good American parents will do the best for their children to make them better. The father controls the children's social and academic life. Mr. Heffly notices his children when they do the homework and remind them not to make trouble around. The mother prefers to notice their emotional feeling. Mrs. Heffly teaches them to love and to be honest to each others. They are together giving the best for their children.

On the other hand, Greg and Rodric have different worlds aside their family's. The school life, friends, and community will influence their habits. Not all their children's friend give the good effect. So, Mr. and Mrs. Heffly are more careful and selective to let their sons make friends.

The Hefflys have rules that to be kept so the family member can get along together in long time. If their sons break it, they will get punishment. This is Mr. and Mrs. Heffly's cooperation rules to keep the whole family happy and respect each other. They want to make the children become better people with good habits too.

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