ABSTRACT

DELINEATING AMERICAN VALUES THROUGH THE SEE YOU IN THE COSMOS NOVEL BY JACK CHENG

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In this thesis, the writer discusses the values that exist in American society. This thesis aims to find American values in the novel See You in the Cosmos. The writer does study American values since values are a significant component of a person's life, and each country has unique values based on its environment. This research is expected to provide a broader view of American Values.

The method used in this study is the descriptive qualitative method. To support the research, the researcher also uses library research. Stuart Hall's Representation theory and constructionist approach are used in this thesis. This theory involves using language as a medium of representation of a value. In using this representation theory and constructionist approach, the one who constructs the American Values is the author of the novel, who is American, while the researcher interprets the meaning. The representation of American Values is obtained from data in narration and dialogue in the novel See You in the Cosmos.

The result of the analysis revealed six American Values found in the novel. The six American values in this novel are individualism, competitiveness, informality, the future, change and progress, materialism, and directness and assertiveness. American values in this novel are seen implicitly and explicitly. The values can be seen from the characterization and also directly from their dialogue. In general, the novel See You in the Cosmos can represent the values that exist in American society.

Keywords: American Values, Novel, Representation