

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Films have been considered more as a medium of entertainment than persuasion. However, what is clear, the film has the power of influence or persuasion is very large. The film is one of the channels or media for mass communication (Asri, 2020). The development of film as one of the mass communication media in Indonesia has experienced significant ups and downs. However, film media can significantly affect the process of delivering messages. Films can be made to convey the story of a culture and society in it (Wardaningsih & Kasih, 2022). One of the literary works was also made into a movie. A writer may use a movie to depict certain facets of human existence, such as the psychology of a tale character. (Made & Setiawan, 2021) It demonstrates how a movie's plot and characters are crucial. Literature is a creative activity of a work of art that is unique and, at the same time, systematic. Literature is everything that is written and printed. Literature is a creative activity of a work of art (Wellek & Warren, 2014). Guerin in Amelia and Mahendra (2020) argues that literature should be fun and instructive. Literature, as one of the leading media, must have moral values so that a literary work not only gives pleasure to the reader but also provides value and lessons (Afrianto, 2018).

In the study of popular literature, films are literary works. Although the means of conveying imagination are visuals and images, films have plots, stories, characters, and other characteristics similar to narrative literature. However, the primary means

of delivery are visuals with moving images. The film based on is a literary work that has developed a new form. The film is seen as a form of popular literature because it uses everyday language and is to the needs of society.

Popular literature is a literary work that tends to use everyday language among teenagers. Popular literature is a form of literature that has its roots in the needs, ways of thinking, knowledge, problems, and tastes of ordinary people. Popular literature is one form of popular culture. Literature is often treated as inferior literature and has no aesthetics. However, in its development, popular literature has a place for readers. The film is a popular culture that is produced through the media. The use of language and pictures are closer to the massive population provokes massive consumption of popular culture (Fithratullah, 2020: Fithratullah, 2021).

Literary works are born because of the power of imagination, in which there are ideas, thoughts, and feelings of an author. This imagination power can distinguish one literary work from another (Nurgiyantoro, 2007). This is because each of the authors has the ability of imagination and intelligence to express themselves in different forms of writing. In this case, literature can provide images of various types of people seen in society, therefore, confirming the difference between characters in literary works and real-life characters (Amelia, 2016). Representation in literary works is a literary depiction of a social phenomenon. Social phenomena are events that occur and can be observed in social life. These events occur when humans assume that everything that they experience is an absolute truth. This depiction is, of course, through the author as a creator. Representation in literature arises in connection with the view or belief that literary works are actually only

mirrors, images, shadows, or imitations of reality. In this context, literary works are seen as depictions that symbolize reality. Literature is used to express and represent themselves in voicing criticism and social protest (Kasih, 2018).

Literary work as a representation of real-life also contains activities that tend to act, which can affect the behavior of all psychological processes, such as learning, interests, understanding, and so on, eventually leading to attitudes. Attitude is something learned, and attitudes determine how individuals react to situations and determine what individuals seek in life (Nababan and Nurmaely, 2021). Attitude is a tendency to act, react, perceive, think and feel when dealing with a situation or object involving emotional problems. The film is a portrait of the society where the film was made. Films record the reality that grows and develops in society which is then projected onto the screen. Films describe various phenomena that exist in society, including psychological phenomena. Psychology and literature are not entirely new because the characters in literary works must be brought to life, given a soul that can be accounted for psychologically. The author, consciously or not, puts the human soul into his work. This will be seen in the characters where the story takes place (Suprpto, 2014). One of the psychological issues described in the film *Fathers and Daughters* is Katie's absence from her father. *Father and Daughter* is a short film by Michael Dudok de Wit which tells the story of a daughter waiting for her long-lost father. The film tells the story of a small family where a husband is left behind by his wife and lives with his daughter, Katie. The husband who died was named Jake, played by Russell Crowe. At that time, his daughter Katie was five years old, and while living together, Jake promised to write a novel for Katie because he was a writer. However, he got sick and had to be hospitalized, so Katie

was entrusted to his brother. Time goes on until Katie grows up and still remembers her childhood. In this case, Katie experienced an absent father when her father was still alive but did not get his father's role. Katie did not get her father's role because her father was busy at work. However, he also experienced an absent father because his father had died, so he did not get the role of a father since childhood.

Blain in Adepati and Samanik (2018) explains that cinematography is more than just photography. Cinematography involves the process of finding or making ideas, words, actions, deeper emotional storytelling, colors, and all kinds of other forms of nonverbal communication combined into one visual. In the science of cinematography, a filmmaker not only records every scene but how controls and regulates every place taken, such as altitude, distance, duration of shooting, and others. This explains that cinematography elements, in general, can be divided into three aspects, namely camera or film, framing, and duration.

Framing can be interpreted as the height of the image by the camera, such as the boundaries of the image area or frame, distance, camera movement, and so on. It aims to explain or explain particular objects in detail by seeking a visual form of the film that does not seem monotonous. Film making cannot be separated from the use of cinematographic techniques. The use of cinematographic techniques will affect the final result of making a film. With cinematography, the audience will find it easier to capture the message conveyed through a series of images arranged into a video clip. In this film will see how Katie experienced the absence of her father when she was a child. The film shows emotion and communication that is seen visually through cinematography.

This film tells the life of a father and daughter whose story is more than any romantic story. The character of father's love that is practiced in every second of his life makes the daughter unable to forget it all. This film shows how the family has a huge influence on a person in searching for future love in a melancholic way. Side story, Katie's work as a psychologist who handles orphans is also the right side to show how Katie judges her father indirectly. Katie's character, played in the film, will be examined from a psychological point of view by seeing the psychological effect of Katie having grown up without a mother.

This study will also see the psychological effect of Katie's father's absence. The absence of one of the parties in educating children this time discussed the absence of a father (fatherless) in a child's life. If we previously knew that fathers and mothers have a significant influence on the success of children, especially regarding their learning achievement in school. What if one of them is not physically or psychologically present for the child?

Although so far, many parents still use the old paradigm, namely, they still have the assumption that in the parenting process, the most involved role is the mother. This disclosure is supported by a proposition that it is believed that the child is the mother's business and only the mother understands what the child needs. This belief is not only dominated by the Indonesian people but has become a universal view believed in various cultures of the world's people. Despite its title, "*Fathers and Daughters*" is only interested in one father and one daughter and in one idea: that your childhood experiences help shape your relationships and actions in adulthood.

Fathers and Daughters is a 2015 American-Italian drama film directed by Gabriele Muccino and starring Russell Crowe, Amanda Seyfried, and Kylie Rogers. The issue depicted in the film is the issue of psychology. The emptiness of the father figure felt by a child cannot be immediately realized. The feeling of loss was initially a question of the existence of a father in a child's mind. If he does not get an answer that satisfies his longing or loss, then he will keep it in his heart and continue the search. The confusion will remain in a child's mind until he gets the answer he wants, even though his mother or extended family tries their best to fill the void. The soul of a child will feel alienated when she sees the perfect picture of a family consisting of a father, mother, and children together physically and psychologically.

The absence of the father problem has become a global problem, all of which are packaged in the results of observations in several countries. The consequences of being fatherless are psychological problems and a stronger desire for suicide in adolescents in the Netherlands. In Finland, children of a father having a marital feud are involved in criminal activities. Meanwhile, in Australia, these fatherless children have to live in poverty. Brown (2018) found that daughters without fathers tend to be sensitive to other people's feelings, so they are cautious in choosing friends because they do not easily trust others. If the absence is due to death, the perception of the father is positive; if absenteeism was due to divorce or parental separation, participants reported less favorable perceptions of their father. According to some studies, parenting refers to a parent's desire and attempt to control their children. It also evaluates their children's behaviors and attitudes

against a standard that they have already established as an indicator (Putri & Samanik, 2022).

Fatherless, meant in this study, is the condition of a child who has a complete parental figure, especially a father. However, they lose the rights of a father, namely the important roles of a father, because of certain problems in the family or also the circumstances that make this happen. As said by Smith (2011) that a person is said to have a fatherless condition when he does not have a close relationship with his father and loses important father roles, one of which is caused by divorce or problems in parental marriage. The emergence of the fatherless phenomenon is primarily due to the parenting paradigm, which is influenced by local culture. The father's paradigm is influenced by cultural stereotypes that men do not deserve to take care of children and should not be involved in the parenting process.

Meanwhile, parenting is increasingly becoming a challenge in modern society due to various kinds of activities and the increasing need to maintain life. They compete to improve the quality of their lives in terms of material and position. Finally, the time together with family becomes minimal, especially spending time with children.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of research above, the writer formulates the research question into:

1. How is the psychological effect of an absent father depicted on Katie's character in *The Fathers and Daughters* movie?

1.3 Research Objective

Regarding to the research questions, the objective of this research is to describe the psychological effect of an absent father depicted on Katie's character in *The Fathers and Daughters* movie

1.4 Uses of Study

The uses of this research is divided into two main categories, they are theoretically and practically:

1.4.1 Theoretical Use

Theoretically, this research can be used as one of the references for the next researchers who are interested in conducting the similar topic discussion of psychological analysis in literature. Moreover, the writer also hopes that this research can enrich the readers' knowledge especially in the psychology of literature study.

1.4.2 Practical Use

Practically, the writer hopes that after reading this research, the readers are expected to learn about human beings, their lives, their problems so that readers can understand about another different side of a literary work, especially in the aspect of psychology. Hopefully, after reading this research, common readers can understand more about the impact of fatherless children in their futures.

1.5 Scope of Study

In the movie of *The Fathers & Daughters* (2015), the writer noticed that there are many aspects that can be analyzed and discussed. However, in this research, the writer only focuses on describing the psychological impact of being fatherless as

seen in the movie through the character of Katie. In doing the research, the writer conducts film semiotics by Metz (1992) to analyze the scenes from the movie related to psychological effects and applies Castetter's theory (2020) of Absent-Father Impact Theory.