

Exploring Social Issues in 'The Crybaby' through Labovian Narrative Analysis Model

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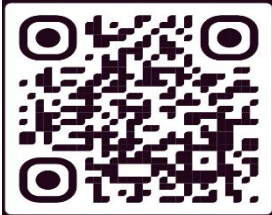
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Abstract

Narrative research is a framework of a qualitative research approach that involves the elicitation and analysis of stories to acquire a better knowledge of individuals, groups, and society. The content and structure of tales are used to develop and understand the information gathered through a narrative inquiry about persons and society. The purpose of this study was to conduct a qualitative investigation into Yudhi Herwibowo's short story "The Crybaby" to meet the study's objectives using the Labovian Narrative Analysis Model. The analysis of the lines taken from the text of the story demonstrates that society was callous and deaf to the cries of the orphans and that they were unable to provide a haven for them. When girls go to an orphanage, the grim picture of the orphanage reflects the savage and barbarous behavior of the workers who, instead of carrying out their responsibilities with integrity and caring for the helpless and the needy, treat them with an inhuman heart, tease them, molest them, and the girls are not safe there; they are rape who try their level best to leave that "Hell" even at the expense of their own lives.

Keywords: *The Crybaby, Qualitative Inquiry, Labovian Narrative Analysis Model*

Introduction

Language is a basic way by which we express our understanding of the world. Human beings are unable to exist without interacting with one another. People tell people stories about themselves. What did they go through? How should something be done? When people are attempting to make sense of their daily lives, they tell stories and hence use narrative. As a result, narratives bring coherence to our worldview and assist us in communicating it to others. As a result, people require a narrative to survive. Because linguistics is concerned with language, it is also necessary to investigate people's stories. Many hypotheses have been developed throughout the years to achieve this goal. Narrative analysis is the key to gaining a better understanding and insight into the personal narrative. In this study, the narrative will be analyzed using Labov's model. This paper used a small video clip for analysis. The purpose of this study is to demonstrate how Labov's six-structural narrative analysis is conveyed in this video clip. The structural analysis is separated into six areas, each of which will be investigated separately in the study. This study will help us understand why certain points in the narrative are placed in specific areas to highlight the story's value.

The words 'story' and 'history' are synonyms for 'narrative.' The narrative, according to Kramp (2004), is "a vital human activity that molds experience and gives it meaning." A narrative's process and product qualities, as well as its mode of inquiry, separate it from others. A narrative can be understood as a tool for structuring and organizing new experiences and knowledge by producing and making it more learnable (Pachler & Daly, 2009). The narrative study is a way of investigating how individuals see the world. There has to be someone out there who doesn't have a tale to tell (Pollinghorne, 1988). Whereas (Moen, 2006) says that life is a story made up of many separate stories. Narrative study is becoming more popular in educational research. Teachers and students are the primary touchstones in education, and they are the storytellers "in their own and other people's tales" (Connelly and Clandinin, 1990).

Narrative inquiry is both phenomenon and a method for people to share their stories; narrative researchers explain such experiences by gathering stories and building narratives about them (Connelly and Clandinin, 1990). Through narrative inquiry, the researcher can acquire access to the personal experiences of the participant, the storyteller. The storyteller

expresses and emphasizes life as experiences in a narrative form known as a story (Kramp, 2004). As a result, the researcher can study the participants in their natural surroundings and acquire a thorough grasp of their behavior, actions, and feelings.

Research Question

The main objective of the study is to trace out “What issues Yudhi Herwibowo has discussed in the short story The Crybaby”?

Importance of the Study

The Labovian Narrative Analysis Model is most commonly used in spoken conversation, but in this study, the researchers applied it to a short tale. It was proposed to researchers that they use the Labovian model to disclose the concealed concepts and ideas for the reader to understand the story better because the story is told by a narrator and has the tinges of a spoken language to it.

Literature Review

Narratives are a powerful tool for conveying one's thoughts, ideas, and perceptions about the world. Since the mid-nineteenth century, the narrative has been "one of the major issues of humanistic and social scientific philosophy" (Johnstone,2001)It is known as the "narrative turn" in various domains of human sciences. It's been employed in a variety of domains, including psychology, psychiatry, gender and language, crime, and technology. The focus on narrative analysis began with Aristotle, who established the basic structure of the narrative plot in his work Poetics. Many models for examining formal and semantic narrative structure have been proposed (Brockmeier and Harre, 1997). Van Dijk and Kintsch (1978), Hymes (1981), Chafe (1980), Sherzer (1982), Tedlock (1983), Woodbury (1987), Ochs and Capps (1996), and many more are among them, although Labov's approach is the most significant. A story recounted and retold; a report on real or fake events; a report of a series of events in a sequence; a sequence of past events; a series of logical and chronological events, etc. are all examples of narrative.

Narratives exist in oral, written, and visual textual forms and Applied Linguistics has studied them extensively. For example, in 2002, Benson and Nunan edited a special issue of the Hong Kong Journal of Applied Linguistics, and in 2005, the same authors arranged a book. See also the volume's review of the book edited by Kalaja, Menezes, and Barcelos (2008). A narrative,

according to Todorov (1979), begins “with equilibrium, when everything is balanced, develops as something comes along to disturb that equilibrium, and finally achieves a conclusion when equilibrium is restored.” The second stage, on the other hand, is never the same as the first. In various storylines in this special issue, instabilities, changes, and a new equilibrium, always distinct from the one in the first phase, may be seen. A narrative, according to Bruner (1986), is a series of events, mental states, and happenings involving human characters or actors. They can be real or imagined without losing their historical significance. Bruner goes on to say that humans are born with a set of predispositions to think and perceive the world in certain ways, as well as to act on those interpretations. These interpretations are crucial for researchers who wish to hear the participants' voices, i.e., researchers who want to do emic research, as is the case with the studies in this special issue. The narratives in this issue's research reports can be classed as personal experiences reports.

A personal experience narrative, according to Labov and Waletzky (1967), is "a special manner of recounting previous experiences, in which the order of a sequence of independent phrases is regarded as the order of the events referred to." Labov (1997) defines a personal experience narrative as "a report of a sequence of events that have entered into the speaker's biography by a sequence of phrases that match the order of the original events." He contrasts narrative from simply recitation of facts, stating that "events that have entered the speaker's biography will turn out to be emotionally and socially assessed, and therefore converted from raw experience." The term "knowledge about the effects of the event on human needs and desires" is used to describe evaluation. "The examination of story and other speech occurrences at the discourse level rarely permits us to prove anything," Labov acknowledges. It's fundamentally a hermeneutic investigation." In this new article (Labov, 1997), he claims that the most relevant data he has "gathered on narrative is collected from the reactions of listeners to the narratives, not from the observation of speech production or controlled trials." For us to understand how the writers of the research contained in this collection reacted to the tales they work with, Labov's observation is extremely essential. The narratives are examined not from the standpoint of textual structure, but from the standpoint of human experience organization (Bruner, 2002). "The goal of the study of narrative meaning," writes Polkinghorne (1988), "is to

make plain the procedures that produce its particular sort of meaning, and to draw out the implications this meaning has for understanding human existence.”

Theoretical Framework

Yudhi Herwibowo's short story "The Crybaby" was investigated using a qualitative descriptive technique. To summarise, Berg (2006) emphasized that qualitative research is a means of gaining acceptable answers to questions by exploring various social situations and the people that occupy them. The current research study was examined using the Labovian Model of Narrative Analysis. His model is made up of six components. Abstract, orientation, complex action, evaluation, resolution, and coda. He goes on to say that not all of the elements must apply to all of the texts. In any case, all of these components are appropriate for this investigation.

Data Analysis

Abstract

'The Crybaby' is a short story written by Yudhi Herwibowo, an Indonesian short story writer, novelist, and publisher who is also the proprietor of BukuKatta publishing. Halaman Terakhir, his most recent work, is set in Turkey (Nourabook). The understudy for the narrative is Liswindio Apendicaesar provided the translation. The story has been delivered by a narrator who has a limited amount of characters. Mimi, the narrator of the story, her long-lost sister, and a young boy are the only characters who appear to be actively involved in the story; the rest of the characters, including the dreadful guard, the rapist worker, and the oppressor official, are in the background, as is the young girl, Umira, who has been viciously raped by the employees. The story's central issue is the exploitation of social protection rights. The orphanage, which appears to be a place of refuge for young IDPs and the incapable, is referred to as a "Hell" in the novel because a girl who was unable to care for herself was transferred to a shelter for the helpless. In contrast, instead of receiving shelter, she is raped by the institution's nasty personnel, and she is forced to flee the orphanage to save her life. The theme is the central meaning of a given story that serves to explain the majority of its aspects straightforwardly. The theme should be synonymous with the major concepts and important aims of the document. The key component of the experience that is analogous to the significance of human life is the theme, and it is this aspect that made the event so memorable (Stanton, 2007). The story emphasizes the importance

of the rights of vulnerable children, particularly those of the little girl who has been a victim of rape. The story has the sensation of radical feminism to it, which is appropriate. Radical feminism holds that men are responsible for the subjugation of women. This issue of male dominance must be investigated and understood, rather than being reduced to other reasons such as labor relations. Cultural feminism has been criticized because it gives a moral foundation for men to assert that they are unable to refrain from being repressive of women. As a result, it becomes normal for women to be subservient in the same way that it is natural for men to dominate (Ferguson, 1996).

Orientation

At the very beginning of the story, the narrator meets a boy in the Bazar, who is looking for her lost sister; the same is the case with the narrator. "The boys the narrator, where is my big sister"? On hearing this question the narrator was dumbfounded she was about to ask the same thing as her sister was lost whom she was looking for in the mob of people who were indifferent to her woeful plight.

Complicating Action

Mimi, the story's narrator, is in the crowd with her sister as the story begins. While her sister is securely clutching the tip of her index finger, the influx of people caused her to lose her grip and become separated from her sister, who was eventually lost in the crowd. The young lady is calling out for her missing sister, but no one appears to be able to assist her. She is desperately wandering around, yelling for her sister, who has gone missing. She is now exhausted, and if she continues to scream, she will almost certainly injure her own throat.

"A couple of years back, when my mother died, we were almost removed by social services to an orphanage".

In the course of her search for her sister, she came across a young man whom she did not recognize, but who gave her some back flashes, as if she had previously seen him. In addition to being exhausted and hopeless, she engages in idle conversation with the young man. The sad story of her mother, who died a couple of years ago, and how she and her sister were left homeless and helpless was told to the boy during the conversation. They found no other refuge

other than the orphanage. Because they were ostracised by the community, they were sent to an orphanage instead of receiving assistance. This demonstrates society's callousness and cruelty.

“She died after the people who work at the orphanage raped her”.

It appears from their conversation that they had been at the same location before their meeting. The boy about whom she is speaking may be a fellow orphanage resident. She is expressing her sorrow to him, who has also been through a similar experience. Umira was raped by the orphanage's employees, and she tells him the saddest and most heartbreaking narrative she has ever shared with him. It was Umira who was savagely raped and forced to flee that dreaded "Hell." Hell is the place where the wicked doers are punished for their sins by being burned at the stake. However, in the orphanage's terms, the girl is "hell on earth." This demonstrates that the refuge was not a haven for the poor and the weak, but rather a place where they were afflicted as punishment for their pleadings and cries for aid. It is a satire on the officials of the orphanage who were either aware of or completely unconscious of the wicked doer who did such a horrific crime, and a helpless girl was raped and forced to flee that 'Hell.'

“Umira died from a fall, during an attempt to escape the orphanage”.

In this chapter, the reader will learn that Umira, after being raped, attempted to fly over the wall to escape that dreaded "Hell," but she was unsuccessful and died as a result of her injuries. To convey to the sleeping government official the message that they were unable to observe and check on the crime that was taking place in the location where the needy and weak were meant to be protected and secure, Umira sacrificed her life.

“Before social services could come for us, we had already gone. Since then, we had been living in the street, begging for people’s kindness”.

She sat the youngster down and told him the entire story of the orphanage. He is told with a heartbreaking tone that after their mother died, she decided it was best not to seek refuge in the 'Orphanage,' which was essentially a 'Hell' for the residents, but instead to travel the streets begging for a piece of meat. She believes that begging on the streets is preferable to accepting social aid and the generosity of others. Ironically, Mimi, the narrator of the narrative, has used both of these phrases in the same sentence. All of these bleak and heartbreaking feelings soften the reader's heart as well as his feelings of pity for the services provided by a society that has

devolved into inhumanity and heartlessness, as well as his feelings of gratitude for the kindness of people who have devolved into savage and animal beings, afflicting, teasing, and raping the children who are under their supervision and care.

. "If he keeps it up, "said the guard. "No one will get a meal."

She goes on to tell the story of the newborn that was dubbed "The Crybaby" because she or he would not stop crying for an unknown reason, as well as other incidents. The orphanage's security guard does not assist or calm the infant; instead, he threatens the other children, stating that if the baby continues to wail in this manner, they will not be served their dinner. That the warders are cold-hearted and take advantage of children's rights is demonstrated in this instance. One of his friends urged him to be quiet, and he responded by lifting his brows and saying that he would not stop sobbing. On this, another child expresses his or her concern by saying, "They're going to send us to work, most likely." It implies that the orphanage's residents were plagued, misbehaved, oppressed, starved, and sentenced to death by the authorities.

Resolution

The main conflict and interest of the story is the exploitation of children who are homeless and needy. The bewails the indifference and carelessness of the Turkish people who have become stone-hearted and brutal and do not care for the depressed and the homeless children especially when their elders and relatives are no more in the world. The homeless and kinless children are taken care of instead they are sent to the orphanage where they are deemed to be taken care of by the government. In the orphanage premises, the story becomes more woeful and pettier when we hear the episodes of ill-feed and mistreatment of the children. The climax of the barbarism reaches to heart-rending position when we come that a girl, name Umirah, has been raped by the officials of the orphanage. When she tries to escape over the wall of the orphanage she dies. Hence, the orphanage that seems to be a sheltered place for the needy and homeless turn out to be a place of social exploitation where children are punished for fun and girls are raped and forced to sacrifice their lives for freedom. The orphanage, the shelter place, instead of being a paradise for the needed and depressed proved to be 'Hell'

Evaluation

The title of the short story, "The Crybaby," provides a hint as to the oppression and exploitation that takes place. It reverberates with the helplessness of the boy who is continuously crying throughout the story, but no one is there to assist her/him in any way. It is not known why the baby is weeping, but the wailing of the baby will cause problems for the other children, who have been threatened by the guard that if the baby's sobbing continues, the other children would also be denied meals. Workers at the orphanage where the baby is screaming out for aid appear to have no clemency, no assistance, and no mercy on their faces. The odious smell of blood in the orphanage in which children feel like someone had been badly beaten or slaughtered and the death of Umira is the heartrending vibrations that leave the atmosphere woeful to impress the heart of the readers.

Coda

In every community, in every country, it is possible to uncover that it is in the pitiful state in which the orphanage is currently located, as well as that it is engaging in social malpractice. To draw attention to this unfortunate situation, a research study on sweet houses (orphanages) in Pakistan is being made available here. In 2018, the authors reported on two sweet homes in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, which were named Sweet Home of Peshawar and Sweet Home of Abbottabad. Mahmood, A., Ullah, F., and Shah, F. 134 respondents were selected using the proportionate allocation method to participate in the study, which was quantitative in nature. A closed-ended questionnaire was utilized as the primary data collection tool, and information was gathered from the through a closed-ended questionnaire. It was discovered that a significant association existed between an index of various socio-economic problems of orphans and statements such as "children at sweet home are routinely harassed; adult children physically abuse younger children at sweet home, etc." and the dependent variable, i.e. protection aspects of orphanages, with the dependent variable, i.e. protection aspects of orphanages Some of the recommendations made in light of the study findings were that the government and staff should provide an environment free of harassment, abuse, stress, and anxiety, that foster mothers at sweet home should be advised to treat children as if they were their biological children, that the

staff should understand children's learning styles, and that exercises should be organized for children.

Discussion

The narrative structures contained in the selected narrative were thoroughly discussed in the analysis section. It includes all of the following elements: abstract, orientation, complex action, resolution, evaluation, and coda. It also includes all of the ingredients required for any narrative to be operational and effective. According to Labov's model of narrative structure, it meets all of the prerequisites for being present in an effective story.

Conclusion

The objective of the study was to reveal the main issues discussed in the short story 'The Crybaby by Yudhi Herwibowo'. The analysis of the lines taken from the text of the story demonstrates that society was callous and deaf to the cries of the orphans and that they were unable to provide a haven for them. When girls go to an orphanage, the grim picture of the orphanage reflects the savage and barbarous behavior of the workers who, instead of carrying out their responsibilities with integrity and caring for the helpless and the needy, treat them with an inhuman heart, tease them, molest them, and the girls are not safe there; they are rape who try their level best to leave that "Hell" even at the expense of their own lives. In most cases, the Labovian Model of analysis is more appropriate for oral communication; nevertheless, in this study, it has been used as a short narrative that has been written. It is the narrative approach of writing used by the story writer, Yudhi Herwibowo that serves as the basis for this approach. The scope of the investigation has been limited to a single short narrative. By taking five stories or a full-length novel at the level of an MPhil thesis, the scope of the investigation can be widened even more.

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