

Hegemony in Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four :

A Marxist Study

A Thesis

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment to the Requirement

For the Degree of Sarjana Sastra



By:

ABADI PURNAMAMIZON 04 985 036



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT – FACULTY OF LETTERS

ANDALAS UNIVERSITY

PADANG

2008

ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini membahas tentang hegemoni yang dilakukan oleh sebuah partai yang menjalankan pemerintahan terhadap rakyatnya dalam novel yang berjudul Nineteen Eighty-Four karya George Orwell. Hegemoni ini dilakukan untuk mempertahankan kekuasaan dengan cara menguasai ideologi seseorang.

Dalam menganalisa novel ini, penulis menggunakan teori hegemoni dalam kajian Marxist. Teori ini disempurnakan oleh Antonio Gramsci yang menyatakan bahwa hegemoni adalah kemampuan dari kelas yang dominan untuk menggunakan kekuasaan sebagai alat memperoleh dominasi itu sendiri, dan dapat dilakukan tanpa kekerasan, berbeda dengan tradisional marxist yang menganggap ini hanya bisa dilakukan dengan cara kekerasan. Untuk mengumpulkan data, penulis memakai metode kajian pustaka dengan cara mencari dan mengumpulkan buku-buku serta esai-esai yang berkaitan dengan topik analisisnya. Sedangkan untuk menganalisis data, penulis menggunakan metode kualitatif yang kemudian dijabarkan dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif.

Setelah menganalisa novel Nineteen Eighty-Four secara seksama, penulis dapat mengambil kesimpulan bahwa hegemoni adalah suatu alat yang digunakan oleh *The Party* untuk mempertahankan kekuasaannya terhadap *Outer Party*, dimana efek dari hegemoni ini sangat buruk terhadap kehidupan seseorang taupun masyarakat, karena hegemoni itu sendiri akan merampas ideologi seseorang dan memaksakan nilai-nilai yang ditanamkan oleh kaum yang memegang kekuasaan.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Reading the novel in nowadays becomes a new trend in social activities. This thing is a favorite activity in society, even for college students. Novel describes reflection of human's life. Human divided into social life, they are separated into classes according to many aspects, such economic class, social class, religion, culture, etc.

Speaking literary works, it will untasty if we ignore works from George Orwell. Literary of late twenty centuries domination with story that influenced by Worl War. And the effect goes to Orwell's works too. Orwell's works such Animal Farm, Nineteen Eighty-Four, and Burmese Days are his master pieces. All of these works are influenced by War World. Animal Farm is seen as allegory from Russian Communism. Nineteen Eighty-Four is seen as Orwell's warning against totalitarianism. And Burmese Days is seen as the futility of British colonialism in India.

In our department several of graduated students have discussed about Orwell's works, such Animal Farm and Nineteen Eighty-Four.

In reaction to this, the writer interested and challenged to discuss one of Orwell's work Nineteen Eighty-Four, because he loves the story that tells about

power and domination. Having read one of Orwell's work, Nineteen Eighty Four, the writer is interested to discuss this work, and believe, it is one of the most interesting works to discuss. The novel that tells about totalitarian government get his attention, because the novel presents and describe about the unique ways how the upper class hegemonize the oppress class to keep the domination. This novel is successful in attracting many people's attention because this novel depicts a scariness of people in Europe at that time.

The writer had seen the power and domination is about how to make and keep the power and domination itself. Having identified of the novel, the writer entitled his research; Hegemony in Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four : A Marxist Study.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

This research is an analysis of Nineteen Eighty-Four. The novel tells about the totalitarian government known as the Party and led by some one known as a Big Brother. The novel is set in the year 1984 chronicles the daily life of Winston Smith, a government employee who lives in London, a part of Oceania. In running the government the Party done everything, controls and monitors all aspects of society, using fear and force to gain and maintain power. The Party was taken the most important thing from the human; ideology. While the oppressors are small in numbers, and could never possibly defeated by the oppressed, but the oppressed are too fearful and feel too insignificant to rise.

1.3 Objective of the Research

This research is needed to do by the writer to explain how hegemony took its role to take control toward people or society. In other hand, the way of ruling class hegemonize the oppress class to keep their domination. The other reason is to reveal the impact of hegemony toward social life. As we know, hegemony will influence the ideology of people, and it will make the society do not have their own desire. Beside that, the most important thing is to find out the messages that want to deliver by the author.

1.4 Limitation of the Problem

To limit the discussion, the writer will focus on hegemony itself and tries to find some interesting points to be researched, they are:

- a. The way of ruling class hegemonizes the oppressed class.
- b. The effects of totalitarian government to the social condition.
- c. The messages that want to be delivered by the writer.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

After analyzing Nineteen Eighty-Four by George Orwell, the writer concludes that the novel has shown how hegemony took its role as the ruling class tool to keep the domination. The Party hegemonize people's ideology to accept the Big Brother as the leader.

Novel Nineteen Eighty-Four tells about totalitarian government. Nineteen Eighty-Four is the story of a solitary man working in the Ministry of Truth in a totalitarian world. Winston Smith is a member of the outer party in a State where only one party exists. The Party controls every aspect of the people's lives even including their very thoughts. Winston is at the heart of the ideology of the party. His job is to alter past records in accordance with party wishes. The very essence of social culture is the notion of "doublethink", the ability to hold two conflicting facts as true even where they are total opposites.

The life of the main character makes sense to the social condition. His experience and his relationship with other people create the conflicts to the novel. This novel tells about how the Party as the ruling class keeps their power, in many ways.

The way of the Party in hegemonizing makes the society nor Winston as the first character are insisted to accept the force-value onto himself. Therefore, he loses his identity and needs to admit the Big Brother as the leader.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Abram, M.H. The lamp and the Mirror; Romantic theory and Critical Tradition. London: Oxford University. 1976
- Aubrey, Crispin & Chilton, Paul (Eds). Nineteen-Eighty-Four in 1984: Autonomy, Control & Communication. London: media. 1983
- Bennet, John. "Orwell's 1984": Was Orwell Right?" The Journal of Historical Review, 1986. Institute For Historical Review
<http://www.ihr.org/jhr/v06/v06p--9_Bennett.html>.
- Bocock, Robert. Pengantar Komprehensif Untuk Memahami Hegemoni. Yogyakarta: Jalasutra. 2003
- Endaswara, Suwardi. Metodologi Penelitian Sastra. Yogyakarta; FBS UNY. 2003
- Fokema, D. W and Elrud Kunne – BSCH. Teori Sastra Abad Kedua Puluh. Jakarta: PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama. 1998
- Guerine, Wilfred L. Labor, Earle. Morgan, Lee. Reesman, Jeanne C. Willingham, John R. A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature. 4th USA. 1999