

**Responsibility, Obligation and Conscience Through Nora's
Character in Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House: Moral Values**

A Thesis

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ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini membahas nilai moral yang terkandung dalam drama A Doll's House karya Henrik Ibsen. Nilai moral ini dilihat melalui seorang tokoh utama dalam drama yang bernama Nora.

Untuk menganalisa permasalahan yang dikemukakan dalam penelitian ini, penulis menggunakan pendekatan moral oleh Bertens. Bertens menyatakan bahwa nilai-nilai moral mempunyai ciri-ciri yaitu nilai moral yang berhubungan dengan tanggung jawab, nilai moral yang berhubungan dengan kewajiban, dan nilai moral yang berhubungan dengan hati nurani.

Dari hasil analisa tersebut, penulis menemukan bahwa tingkah laku tokoh utama dalam cerita A Doll's House mengandung ciri-ciri nilai moral yang berhubungan dengan tanggung jawab, nilai moral yang berhubungan dengan kewajiban dan nilai moral yang berhubungan dengan hati nurani tersebut. Tokoh utama dalam drama ini menunjukkan adanya kesadaran akan tanggung jawab, kewajiban dan hati nurani dalam melakukan setiap tingkah lakunya.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Research

In some of literary work, the author usually delivers a message that portrays human's life. These messages contain several values in human's life for example morality. Human behavior and society's life is related to morality. It concerns the content and values of the society. Since the moral criticism belongs to the extrinsic approach, the writer wants to apply this approach to find moral values in a literary work. In his essays entitled Moral/Philosophical Approach by FR Leavis in <http://www.gradesaver.com>, it explained about Humanist and moral criticism as well as Philosophical Approach. He says, "Moral/Philosophical critics believe that the larger purpose of literature is to teach morality". The statement shows that the literature gives us a description of morality in human's life. Thus, it is important to know about moral values that concern in a literary work for human's experience.

Literature is the reflection of human's life and certain society's life on particular period. To find out moral values in a literary work, readers should analyze the character's attitude and behavior in the society. Due to these reasons, it is challenging to analyze moral values in A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen since this drama deals with Norwegian moral values in nineteenth century which still influenced by Victorian era . Therefore, it is clearly enough that through a literary work the writer can convey moral values of human's life and society's life and the readers can get moral messages.

In this research, the writer wants to analyze a drama written by Henrik Ibsen. The title of drama is A Doll's House. This drama was written in 1879. Henrik Ibsen as the author conveys moral values through the story of drama. Actually, Ibsen has own style of language that is easy to understand for the readers. Thus, the writer chooses this literary work because this drama is also concerned with moral values toward the character's attitude. By analyzing the drama, the writer tries to catch the moral values that the author delivers.

Since Berten's theory about three characteristics of moral values through responsibility, obligation, and conscience are analyzed in A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen. Thus, this research entitles as **Responsibility, Obligation, and Conscience Through Nora's Character in Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House: Moral Values.**

1.2 Identification of the problem

Every literary work has moral values left to be grasped by readers as the social purpose of the author. Based on the explanation in the background above, the writer states that the problem that is going to be analyzed here is the moral values. Since the drama concern with moral values through the main character's attitude named Nora in A Doll's House which describes three characteristics of moral values. First, moral values related to responsibility. Second, moral values related to obligation. Third, moral values related to conscience through their attitudes. Thus, the

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

After analyzing A Doll's House, by using moral approach, moral values are found in the play A Doll's House that is pictured by the main character. Moreover, in A Doll's House, three characteristics of moral values that are reflected by the main characters are found. The characteristic of moral values consist of moral values related to responsibility, obligation and conscience.

Nora as the main character in the play of A Doll's House describes her good behavior in her life, such as responsible, she fulfilled her responsibility, her obligation, her conscience as a Norwegian in nineteenth century. Although, she has done something that refused by her circumstances to save her husband's life but her consciousness has brought to do better in her life by showing her responsibility of her guilt, her obligation to her child and her conscience in changing her attitude and to find of her identity actually describes her behavior in life. Thus, Nora has responsible enough of her guilt that she has done and she tries to change to be more responsible to o her obligation and to use her conscience to change her attitude to be a good in his life.

Furthermore, after analyzing this play, it can be concludes that the characteristics of moral values have been shown by the main character in A Doll's

House. The main character shows her responsibility, her obligation and their conscience in doing her life especially in marriage. In her or his life, human being has consciousness. Consciousness will take to do responsibility, obligation, and conscience. Then, it can be said that someone can understand about moral values that is described by the main character in the play A Doll's House.

In this case, Ibsen has successes in describing the moral values through Nora's character and making A Doll's House gives moral values in life around nineteenth century at that time. Furthermore, we can see how women conduct their life toward moral values in society instead of also breakdown the rule by involving in part of men nature. By learning about moral values, someone can apply about moral values in their life.

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