



**BUDDHI DHARMA UNIVERSITY**

**AN ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL ASPECTS IN THE MAIN CHARACTER OF  
“THE FAT BOY CHRONICLES (2010)” MOVIE DIRECTED  
BY JASON WINN**

**Presented as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Undergraduate  
Program**

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**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES**

**TANGERANG**

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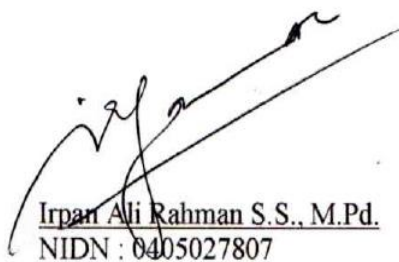
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It has been eligible to take the final project examination.

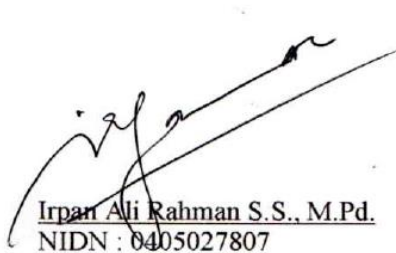
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**CHARACTER OF “THE FAT BOY CHRONICLES  
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## STATEMENT OF FINAL PROJECT AUTHENTICITY

I declare that this final project is my own writing. It is true and correct that I do not take any scholarly ideas or work from others. That all cited works were quoted in accordance with the ethical code of academic writing.

Tangerang, 31st August 2022



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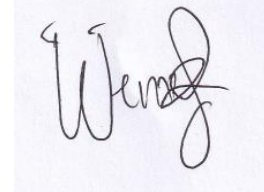
Praise God Almighty, for the presence of plenty of mercy and his grace, then the writer can accomplish the thesis with the title: An Analysis of Social Aspects in Main Character of “The Fat Boy Chronicles (2010)” Movie Directed by Jason Winn. This thesis was made to fulfill one of the conditions to achieve a Bachelor of Humanity Degree at Social and Humanity Faculty of Buddhi Dharma University in Tangerang. The writer realizes that the form and content of this thesis can not be separated from the shortcomings that arise because of the ability, knowledge, and experience of the writer is still limited. Therefore, constructive criticism and suggestions from readers for the perfection of this thesis will be accepted by the writer with pleasure. Many things have been obtained by the writer while participating in academic activities at the Buddhi Dharma University in Tangerang. Hence, please allow the writer with sincerity to express his deepest gratitude to:

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Finally, the writer wishes to show her gratitude to all people whose names can not be mentioned one by one, especially for the contribution, help, and support in the process of her research in order to accomplish this research.

Tangerang, 31st August 2022



Wenny Septiani

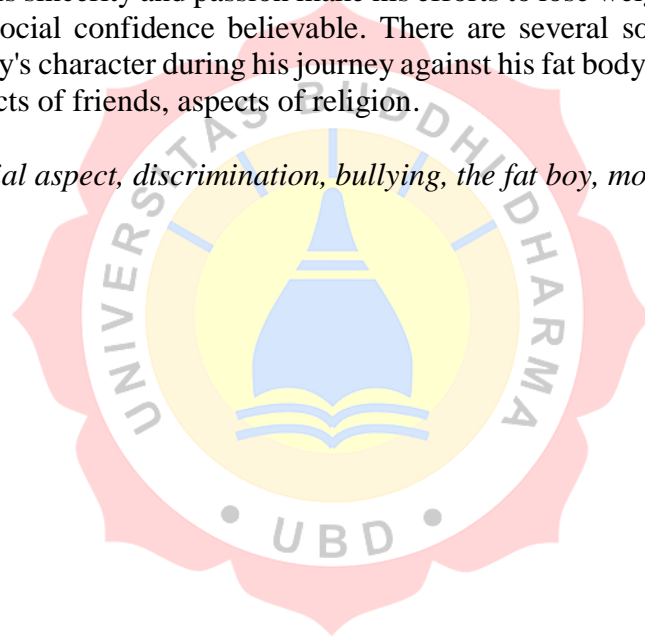




## ABSTRACT

This thesis presents to analyze the social aspects of the main character in the movie *The Fat Boy Chronicles* (2010), directed by Jason Winn. This movie tells about an obese boy. School life that was supposed to be fun turned out the other way around because of the bullying from his friends. In this research, writer will focus on studying the study aspects in movie *The Fat Boy Chronicles*. The approach applied in this research is qualitative research method. Writer uses a sociology theory by Warren and Wellek (1989) to determine the behavior of the main character. Jimmy becomes the object of ridicule from his friends and the adults in his life. But he decided to take control of his life by taking appropriate action rather than giving up. He is a warm and confident character. Despite all the challenges, Jimmy chooses to change himself for the better rather than blaming others for the bad treatment he has suffered. His sincerity and passion make his efforts to lose weight, his faith, and his increased social confidence believable. There are several social aspects that appear in Jimmy's character during his journey against his fat body, such as; aspects of family, aspects of friends, aspects of religion.

**Keywords:** *social aspect, discrimination, bullying, the fat boy, movie.*



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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of The Study

Literature can be defined as a source of art. Literature can be in the form of objects or objects, or various other aesthetic writings, creative, and important in contributing to our lives. Popular literature is one of the cultures who want to introduce literary works and can spread them all over the world as people think everyday. Examples of literary works are music, novels, movie, songs, paintings, etc.

Next, the writer chooses one of the popular literary works, namely movie. This movie contains stories about a person's life with other people around him with characters and traits that are unique to each other. movie is a moving image or moving image, is a work of visual art used to simulate an experience that communicates an idea, story, perception, feeling, beauty, or atmosphere through the use of moving images. These images are generally accompanied by sound, and less often, other sensory stimuli.

As though from the experts who say that watching movies can adds new broader insights for the audience because when we watch a movie let us know about everything and learn something we never expected. The writer chooses movie by Jason Winn and the title is "The Fat Boy Chronicles", which is a 2010 American family drama movie and based on the novel The Fat Boy Chronicles written by

Diane Lang. This is a movie with simple life story plot that can change your mind about self-love with the life journey about the characters in the movie.

To analyze this movie the writer's uses sociology theory. Sociology and literature have a lasting relationship. This happens because there is a reciprocal relationship between literary works and events in real life. Literary works that are appointed as works are the result of a relationship with sociology. Studying the sociology of Literature has benefits for understanding social situations, political issues, world views and the creativity of authors. Sociology and literature are relations between real-life thinking and culture that determine literary works.

The main character in this movie is Jimmy Winterpock played Christopher Rivera. He was an obese senior high school student who deal with bullying and trying to lose weight. Jimmy always gets teased by the football team for being overweight at 188 pounds and only 5 feet 5.

In this research, the researcher discusses about relationship between sociology and literature. Sociology is the study of various characteristics of society and the relationship between society and the social stability of its environment (Neubeck, Glasberg dan Silfen). Sociology is always related to human activities with their environment. Studying sociology is not only human behavior but sociological elements such as the structure of society, social stability and social change.

This movie tells the story of a problem that is served by the society today, where perfect and appeals is measured by the shape and size of one's body. The main problem in this movie is about how people judge according to body shape and size

and how having disliked body shape and size are becoming the reason for others to bully them.

## **1.2 Statement of The Problem**

The object of this research is a teenage boy named Jimmy Winterpock. As a freshman, Jimmy got bullied in his school because of his fat body. Everyone calls him as piggy and he only get to make several friends. Jimmy went through hard time at school as the bully never stop making fun of him every time. He doesn't only get a bad name from bullies but also get humiliated along the way. These doesn't only happen at school, but also outside when he went to a party and the bullies pull out their pranks.

Life for Jimmy is a constant struggle. But things started to change after series of bullying and he fell in love to the girl at school, Sable Moore. He writes every inner voice he has related to the bullying, his crush, and his life through the journal his teacher has been requesting them to do. Through the writing, we can see each of the improvement and thoughts Jimmy has which is the main idea of the story line in the movie.

## **1.3 Research Question**

Based on the statement of the problem, the research questions will be formulated as follows::

“How does the social aspects reveal in Jimmy’s character during his journey in fighting the social prejudice about his fat body?”

#### **1.4 Goal and Function**

The goal in this research is to be able to explain the research question about how does the social aspects reveal in Jimmy's character during his journey in fighting the social prejudice about his fat body that can be found from the matched data from the movie and the history of sociology.

Aside from that, the main purpose of the writer apart from providing previous comments, there are several functions of this paper that provide knowledge and information for future researchers who are interested in further developing this research.

The writer also wants the reader to learn and understand about the sociological side of human and according to the moral message that comes from this movie, hopefully it can open everyone's eyes so that they are not able to do body shaming and begin to apply self-accept and high self-love.

#### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

The scope of this research had analyzed and focused on characteristic of Jimmy in "The Fat Boy Chronicles" movie. The writer uses sociology theory to prove it and represent social aspects depicted in the movie. The limitation of this research is to obtain information about the struggles of men and how to deal with bullies. Not only to inform readers about it, but also to provide another side of the man's struggles and motivations that you can take from Jimmy. The author uses a type of sociological theory, namely a social perspective.

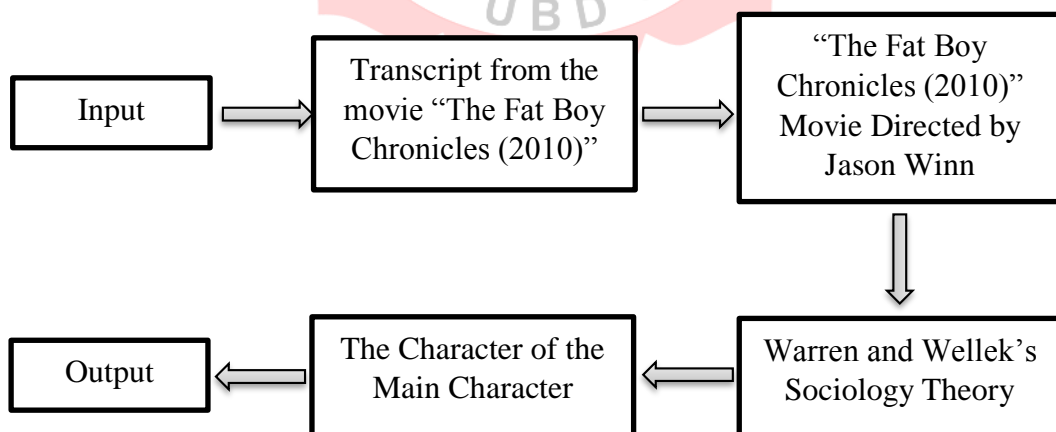
## 1.6 Conceptual Framework

At this point the writer could like to describe how he did this research. The writer uses sociology theory to discover the social aspects that occur in the story of the movie. This aspects will also include an analysis about the situation Jimmy and other characters has been facing.

For this framework the author wants to describe clearly from the introduction to the conclusion for this research. From the problem statement. The author wants to explain about the object of "The Fat Boy Chronicles" and more about the problem. The author can also describe about the theory used by the author.

After that the writer finds the research questions and how to get the answers to these questions, next is the purpose and function of this research, how many goals and functions the writer finds, and next is the scope and limitations. The author will describe the analysis using graph 1.1.

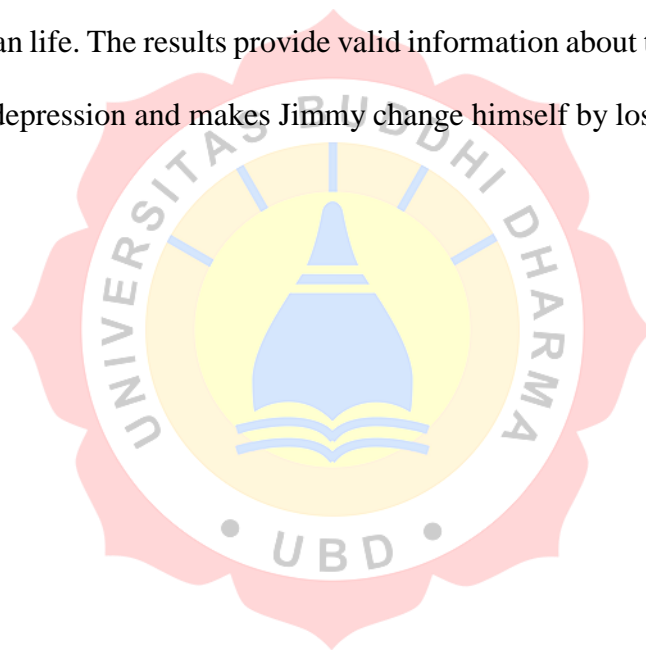
Collecting Data :



Graphic 1.1 Conceptual Framework



The framework shows that the writer chose the movie "The Fat Boy Chronicles" directed by Jason Winn (2010) as the object of this research. To find out what depression caused Jimmy to lose weight, the writer took data from the transcript in the movie "The Fat Boy Chronicles". "The Fat Boy Chronicles" directed by Jason Winn is analyzed using Warren and Wellek's Sociological Theory. Enter the character through the dialogue on the main character. After collecting data, the writer conducts a review. Then the final data were analyzed using Warren and Wellek's sociological theory about the social environment and all aspects of human life. The results provide valid information about the character that causes Jimmy depression and makes Jimmy change himself by losing weight.



## CHAPTER II

### THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Previous Study

Besides learning from the sources, during the research the writer also searched for research who using sociological theory. The first is thesis by Linda Miftakhul Rizky (2019) her thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree in 2019. She wrote about Sociological Analysis of Movie Literature “*Alangkah Lucunya (Negeri Ini)*” by Deddy Mizwar and the Relationship with the Learner Indonesian Language in SMP. She told about the theory of sociological literature so that the writer learned about the sociological literature and kind of sociological literature and the definition.

The writer also learning from Dinda Syafitrah (2019) bachelor thesis with the title Sociological Analysis of Main Character in the Movie “*Memoirs of A Geisha*” by Rob Marshall. From her thesis the writer knew about movie and main character in the movie.

The third preview study entitled “The Romantic Relationship Between Noah and Allie Reflected in the Notebook Novel by Nicholas Sparks (1996): A Sociological Approach” by Intan Mustika Utami (2019), the research finding are based on the romantic relationship of the novel, the reseacher analyze the indicator of romantic relationship, the character of figures, setting of the story, and events that happened in the story. From the research finding, the researcher divides into four types of characters that are related to the issue.

The researcher distinguishes this research from previous research, namely in this study the researcher does not only analyze the social aspect. However, this study also adds character analysis to the main characters as well as the process of fighting social prejudice.

## 2.2 Literature

Literary theory in a narrow sense is the systematic study of literature and methods for analyzing literature. According to Wellek and Warren (1989) literature represents "life" and "life" itself in large measure comes from a social reality, even though the natural world and the inner or subjective world of the individual has also been the object of the literary imitation.

According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the word "literature" was first used in our current sense only recently. Even the definition of "literature" includes memoirs, histories, collections of letters, studied treatises, etc., as well as poetry, printed plays, and novels. The limitations of literary taste as poetry, drama, and novels are even more recent. The word "literature" is defined in its now-obsolete sense of "Introduction to 'letters' or books; polite or humane learning; literary culture." One of the examples given by OED is as late 1880: "He was a very small literary man." Only by the third definition in OED can one:

*"Literary production as a whole; a collection of writings produced in a particular country or period, or in the world in general. Now also in a more limited sense, applied to writings that claim consideration on the basis of beauty of form or emotional effect."*

It means that literature is a work of works of fiction that is the outcome of construction design by additional natural emotion that is able to expose the skill of beauty are both based aspects of language as well as aspects of meaning.

### **2.3 Sociology Theory**

The terms of Sociology comes from Latin and Greek, the word is “socius and logos”, socius in Greek which means friend, friendship or community. While the logos incomes science or also talk about anything. Thus literally the term “sociology can mean the science of society.

Sociology of literature is a science which is related to the society. It is a science which is studies of human being in a social environment and all aspects of human life. There are two kinds of approach in analysis a literary work. First, intrinsic approach is an approach which emphasize on the element of literature itself, such characters, theme, point of view, plot and others. Second, extrinsic approach is an approach which relates to the literary works and the other subjects such as psychology, social, thought and biography (Warren and Wellek, 1989).

### **2.4 Character**

Character is one of the important elements of fiction. Character is element which can be found in a movie plot and character is inseparable, because plot is not simply a series of event happened that come out of character to declinate characters. Character is less the representation of a human personality than embodiment of single attitude or single attitude or obsession in a character.

Character is person who are appeared in a narrative prose or movie and it is interpreted by the audience as a person who has moral quality and certain tendency such as being expressed in what they say and what they do. The writer says that a character is not always someone but it can be a thing or authors themselves. A story can be told interesting when it depends the play the characters, because the characters is the key of the way of story life. In this case someone, things although the author can be the character, but they have to play in the story of the movie.

Character analysis is largely identical with the analysis of the resistances, but these are not determined by the content alone, but are also diverse in from case to case (as, for example, compulsion neurosis and hysteria are different in type). This formal difference in the resistances can also be reduced to infantile experiences. According to Maslow (2010), character was the person that were expressed in what they said through the dialogue and what they did through the action, the ground in the character's temperament and moral nature for his speech and actions constitute his motivation. Maslow's view of human nature is that humans are optimistic, free will, conscious in choosing, unique, can overcome childhood experience, and good. According to him, personality is influenced by heredity and environment.

## **2.5 Characterization**

Characterizations or disposition is a technique or ways of showing figures. There are several ways to show character. Analytical way, is how the appearance of characters directly through the author's description. So the author outlines the

characteristics of the character directly. Dramatic way, dramatic way in depicting his characters in a way not analyzed directly, but through other things.

The famous method of characterization is any two methods; they are dramatic characterization and analytic characterization. (Jones) continuous is saying about method of characterization as follows “There are two methods of characterization, the Dramatic and the Analytic. In the dramatic we form our opinion of the characters from what they do and say, from their environment and from what other characters think of them. In the analytic method the author comments upon the characters explaining their motives, their appearances and their thoughts.”

There are two types of characterization; there is direct characterization and in-direct characterization, tells about the audience what the personality of the character is where indirect characterization shows things that reveal the personality of character. The audience assume that direct characterization more easy to understand than in-direct characterization.

The writer only analyzes and study about the characterization of the main characters, and the main characters is based on these aspect:

1. Physical appearance of the main characters

It contains the physical of the appearances, related about their age, performance, describe how old they are, how they look like, about sex both men or women is like have pale skin, handsome or beautiful, long, black or brown, etc.

2. Social status of the main characters

This section describes how the main character of life (rich or poor), how education and treasure dignity. And discusses the background of the main character, such as: their educational background, their life in middle, high modern classes.

3. Social relationship of the main characters.

In this case, the writer wants to discuss the relationship between the main characters and others characters surrounding them (minor character or supporting character).

4. Personality of the main characters

It describe the personality of the main character such as: how to create romantic situation, can see good condition to play a role, whether or not are they responsible, neat persons or discipline.

## 2.6 Movie

A movie or motion picture is a series of still images which, when shown on a screen, creates the illusion of moving images. A movie is created by photographing actual scenes with a motion picture camera: by photographing drawing or miniature models using traditional animation techniques: by means of CGI and computer animation: or by a combination of some or all of these techniques and other visual effects. The process of movie making is both an art and an industry. Movies were originally recorded to plastic movie which was shown through a movie projector to large screen.

Movies is a still image which when displayed on the screen creates the illusion of a moving image. A movie is made by taking pictures with a moving image camera. Movies have become an audio-visual communication medium that is familiar to all people of all ages and social backgrounds. Movies have an impact on every viewer, be it an impact positive or negative impact (Rahmawati).

## 2.7 Genre

A movie is divide into several genres with the aim of making it easier for the audience to determine and choose the movie to watch. The types of movies are as follows (Rahmawati):

- a. Action, telling of good against evil such as war and crime is a common subject.
- b. Animation, using cartoon characters as characters. The image itself is hand drawn or digital.
- c. Adventure, tells the main character who goes on a journey to save the world or those closest to him.
- d. Friendship, involves two or more characters and usually tells about the rescue of one another.
- e. Documentary, tells about real life. This genre is almost always serious and involves strong emotions.
- f. Comedy, tells about funny or silly things that can make the audience laugh.



- g. Drama, sometimes tells about people who fall in love or need to make a big decision. Talk about the relationship between humans.
- h. Tragedy, almost like drama. But more focus on people who have problems.
- i. Noir, a 1940s detective drama about crime and violence.
- j. Family, mostly for kids but sometime entertaining adults too.
- k. Romantic, tells the story of a love story between two people who must overcome obstacles in order to unite.
- l. Science fiction, set in a future or fictional world about extraterrestrials or something robotic.
- m. Western, tells the story of American cowboys in the 1800s.
- n. Suspense, has more than one twist that can confuse the audience.
- o. Fantasy, involves magic and things that are impossible for humans to happen or do.
- p. Gore, showing brutal actions or sadistic things covered in blood.

## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Subject Matter

In this research, writer will focus on studying the social aspects in movie *The Fat Boy Chronicles*. The movie was directed by Jason Winn and released in 2010 Williamsburg Independent Movie Festival. The 78 minutes long movie focuses on the story of Jimmy Winterpock during his high school year. As an obese kid, getting teased and humiliated is what he has been facing daily.

However, as the story goes on, plenty of social issues around teenagers life are brought up to show the audience what goes on in teenage life during that era. The movie nudges the issue of bullying, mental health, child-abuse, even to studying problem. These interesting issues are wrapped and served in a swift storyline thorough the movie. Thus, writer is intrigued to focus on this matter to deepen understanding related to the issue.

#### 3.2 Materials

Considering the focus of the research, writer uses *The Fat Boy Chronicles* movie by director Jason Winn as the main material of study in this research. As supporting secondary materials, writer also uses materials such as relevant books, previous research articles, as well as movie reviews from various internet sources to comprehend not only the concept of social aspects but also the storyline of the movie to help develop writer's understanding before analyzing further.

During the analysis phase, writer uses a social aspects observation guide to help highlight and extract every social aspect found in the movie. This supports writer to do thorough analysis in the movie for the research. By utilizing the VLC media player, each timestamp is bookmarked and manually noted to keep track what aspects are recurring on each scene by minute.

### **3.3 Approach**

The approach applied in this research is qualitative research method. According to Creswell (2014), qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explore a social or human problem.

The researcher builds a complex, holistic picture, analyzes words, report detailed views of information, and conducts the study in a natural setting. This research conduct analysis by studying a movie through an in-depth observation method. This reason supports why the research is identified as qualitative research.

Aside from that, writer also focuses on the movie analysis approach in conducting the research. Movie analysis is the process in which movie is analyzed in terms of semiotics, narrative structure, cultural context, and mise-en-scene, among other approaches. By applying the approach, it supports writer closely observe the movie as the object of the research.

### 3.4 Procedure

In this research, there are several processes done as the procedure.

- 1) First, writer make sure of the theory and approach used before conducting the research. This step is necessary to help writer in building a theoretical framework as a guide and direction in conducting the research. It is important that deciding the movie shall be done during or before this step.
- 2) Next, based on the framework, writer decides what technique is suitable to conduct the desired method as a way to gather necessary information from the object. It is important to make sure the technique is right considering the need to collect the correct information needed for the analysis.
- 3) After deciding the technique, a data gathering altogether with the analysis is conducted. This is the key part of the research. Then, writer will develop a report about the finding from the data gathering and analysis process before finally a conclusion can be taken.