



Representation of Family Communication in Wonder Movie

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Abstract. The movie Wonder, the main character "Auggie". He needs everyone's support, especially his family. Auggie received an award from his school for struggling and inspiring everyone. Communication in a family, especially between parents and children, has continuity between the two. Qualitative research is a method that has the aim of adding and interpreting a social problem. The author focuses on semiotic analysis, John Fiske. The author uses the Constructivism paradigm because the process of understanding that each human being has is different depending on the way of thinking, experience, and subjective point of view. Family communication in this film is conveyed through symbols such as gesture, dialog, shooting, and scenes. The Reality level that describes the form of family communication in the Wonder movie is from the gesture of each player. The Representation Level describes the taking of each scene containing family communication to show various expressions of each condition clearly. The Ideology level shown in Wonder movie is Patriarchy ideology.

Keywords : semiotics, representation, family communication, film

1 Introduction

Film is a work that has artistic value and mass communication media that is made based on the rules of cinematography (without sound) which is then shown to the audience [1]. The function of movies in society not only serves as entertainment after work. However, it can also act as a means of educative information that can persuade the audience [2]. A good movie, a movie that can represent the real life of society through audio, visual, and text. Therefore, through movies, the minds of the audience can be constructed in accordance with the plan to convey the content of the message by the filmmaker.

Movies can be considered mass communication media that have great appeal, making the target the community environment. This is because movies have audio-visual properties that provide many stories at once in a fairly short time. [3]. The shooting technique in a film production has several ways, such as Long shot, Medium Long shot, Wide shot, Medium close-up, Big close-up, Medium shot, and also Close-up [4]. Movies also create feelings of perception and sensation, even attention that includes many or few humans, thus making the phenomenon of communication in the film can be felt by human feelings as a group, mass, and also as an individual. Thus, the art contained in the movie is able to create an ideology. Ideology can be interpreted as a system of representation or depiction of a way of looking at the world but what is actually a power structure that shapes our society. Representation, according to Stuart Hall is the act of creating meaning through the use of language. The concepts derived from objects,

events, people, and other depictions, as well as the meanings they convey, all fall under this representation theory definition of meaning. According to this theory, representation combines the idea of writing/text with sound and visual representations, including foreground and background noise [5].

Movies have a wide variety of genres, including horror, comedy, drama, etc. [6]. In this study, the author chose a family drama genre movie. In accordance with the theme raised. The author emphasizes family communication in this film. The movie *Wonder* was released in 2017, directed by Stephen Chbosky and written by Jack Thorne, Steven Conrad, and Chbosky. The movie is based on a novel of the same name published in 2012 written by R.J. Palacio. With a budget of 20 million United States dollars (US), this movie got a considerable profit of 305 million US dollars [7]. The visuals in this movie are also included in the 90th Academic Award nominations in the Best Makeup and Hairstyling category [8].

The movie tells the story of a family with two children, Auggie (Jacob Tremblay) and Via (Izabela Vidovic) who live in a brownstone in Brooklyn. However, the main character "Auggie" was born with a medical facial deformity called "mandibulofacial dysostosis" and has undergone almost 27 different surgeries. The purpose of the different surgeries is for Auggie to see, smell, speak and hear.

Auggie had been homeschooled and when he entered fifth grade. Auggie's parents decided to send him to public school. At first Auggie was embarrassed to go to school because he had an abnormality in his facial condition. However, Auggie's parents and older sister always supported Auggie to continue his schooling. Finally, Auggie confidently continued his schooling and made many friends. However, not a few people consider Auggie a strange child because of his facial abnormalities.

In this movie, communication is indispensable. Because, seen from the main character "Auggie". He really needs support from everyone, especially from family. And where is Auggie's graduation ceremony at his school. Auggie is very grateful to his mother for enrolling him in this school. And Auggie received an award from his school for being willing to fight and inspire everyone. Basically, communication in a family, especially between parents and children, has continuity between the two. [9].

In the movie, it can be seen that family communication is very important. Because, support from this family is very influential for each individual, especially a child. Family communication must be built properly by each family member, both from parents and children. Well-conducted family communication can be seen from communication activities as a space of openness between parents and children, so that it becomes the key to interaction with each other. Parents and children can discuss many things with an attitude of mutual understanding and respect for each other's opinions. However, a good parent will not try or force to control their child's will. [10].

So, family communication is a communication in the family that occurs by means of one family member interacting with other family members. Interaction in the family can occur between husband and wife, father, mother, and child, mother and child, father and child, and child and child. [11]. This is also a place to form and develop existing values as a need for life guidance. [12]. The role of parents in the family is very important for physical development, intelligence, attitudes and behavior [13]. Thus, communication within the family becomes one of the important parts of a child's life that cannot be separated, so it has the smallest unit of society and the closest to the child. From the background above, the problem formulation of this research is how the representation of family communication in the movie *Wonder 2017*.

This research is supported by the title of previous research with "The Importance of Parent-Child Communication on *Self Efficacy* of school-age children" by Elly Junalia states that the

importance of communication between parents and children. So that children's self-efficacy in terms of academics, and emotionally can be stable. The higher the communication between parents and children, the higher the *self-efficacy* of school-age children. And vice versa, the less effective communication between parents and children, the lower the *self-efficacy* of school-age children. Thus, communication between parents and children is very important in the formation and development of school-age children's *self efficacy*. [14].

And in this study using the theory of semiotic analysis. In short, semiotic analysis is a method that can give meaning to symbols that exist in symbols or texts. The activity of semiotic analysis is to find a meaning that can be transported by a text in the form of a symbol. Or in other words, giving meaning to a symbol in a text is the center of focus of semiotic analysis. [15]. This provides an intellectual context for the content: examining the ways in which textual elements cooperate and interact with cultural knowledge to produce meaning [16]. To see family communication in the movie Wonder 2017, the researcher used John Fiske's semiotic analysis technique to understand family communication contained in this film. Semiotics is the study of the signs and meanings of the sign system, about how signs of meaning are built in media "texts". According to Mursito quoted from, John Fiske explains how an event (event) becomes a "television event" if it has been conveyed by social codes, which are constructed in three stages, namely reality, representation, and ideology [17].

2 Research Methods

The method used is descriptive qualitative. And qualitative research is a method that has the aim of adding and interpreting a social problem. Data collection techniques and methods in this study are through combining various sources related to the journal title or relevant sources, then comparing and presenting them into one journal article In this study the authors focused on John Fiske's semiotic analysis.

In addition, the author also uses the constructivism paradigm, because the process of understanding that each human being has is different depending on the way of thinking, experience and subjective point of view, so it is possible that there are differences in the meaning of this advertisement from each individual.

In this research, the author uses the research subject of Wonder Movie, while the object of this research is the Scene that contains elements of Family Communication in Wonder Movie. The primary data in this research is conducting in-depth research on the scenes that contain the meaning of family communication contained in the movie Wonder. While the secondary data in this research is supporting data on the movie, such as news about the movie.

3 Results and Discussion



Fig. 1.

At 12.30-13.46, Auggie's family provides support to him on the first day of school.

At the level of reality that shows the existence of family communication in the movie "Wonder" is that Auggie's parents and older sister accompany Auggie to the front of the school gate with a neat appearance. And when they were about to release Auggie, they one by one gave support and encouragement. So that, Auggie's first day of school he feels happy even though he has a disorder than other friends.

The dialogue that shows the behavior of family communication in the film "Wonder" is found in the following scene:

Mom: "I love you"

Auggie: "I love Mommy too"

Then Auggie's older sister also whispered to Auggie, then Auggie's father was seen giving directions.

Father: "I love you"

Auggie: "I love you too". (while running and hugging his father before entering the school).

The sentences spoken by Auggie's parents and older siblings show that their family's attitude towards him gave Auggie a comfortable reaction on the first day of school. With Auggie's facial deformities. Auggie's family continues to provide support to Auggie so that he is always enthusiastic about learning in his first school.

In this scene, the level of representation that shows family communication behavior in the film "Wonder" through the first scene shooting is Medium Close-up.



Fig. 2.

At duration 24.11-26.18, Auggie's mother provides a motivation for Auggie not to be hurt by the words spoken by his schoolmates.

The level of reality that shows the existence of family communication behavior in the film "Wonder" When everyone returns home and is about to have dinner together. Auggie did not open his helmet because he felt insecure due to the taunts uttered by his friends at school this morning. Then, Auggie's mother tried to care about his situation by asking about Auggie's condition at school earlier. However, Auggie tried to cover it up. And finally his father forced Auggie to reveal what really happened on his first day of school. Then, Auggie was a little offended and finally headed to his bedroom feeling angry. Then shortly his mother followed and asked about his situation in a friendly and patient manner. Until finally auggiepun told the incident at school this morning.

The dialog that shows family communication in the scene is:

Auggie: "Why do I have to be so ugly?" (Auggie speaks in tears)

Mom: "You're not ugly, Auggie"

Auggie: "Mom said that because you're my mom."

Mom: "Because I'm your mom, it means a lot that I know you so well".

Mother: "You're not ugly and everyone who cares about you will see that" (Said in an emphasized tone to make Auggie feel more confident in her current state).

Mom: "Honey, listen. Look mom, we all have marks on our faces. I have these wrinkles from your first surgery. And I have these wrinkles from your last surgery. But it never means it's ugly".

Auggie: "What about your gray hair?"

Mom: It's just a compliment from your father" (Said with laughter and auggiepun also laughed after listening to his mother's words. Then Auggie hugged his mom).

The words spoken were so that Auggie felt calm after being teased by his friends at school this morning. And the communication between the two made Auggie open with his mother about the problems he was experiencing.

In this scene, the level of representation that displays a form or behavior of family communication in the film "Wonder" in terms of camera, shooting using the Closeup technique.



Fig. 3.

At duration 48.10-49.10, Via (Auggie's older sister) tries to ask how her sister is doing.

The level of reality that shows family communication behavior in the film "Wonder". When Via wants to invite Auggie to go to the Halloween party. Auggie tends not to come out of his room, until finally Via goes into Auggie's room and asks how he is. However, Auggie did not respond well to his brother. Because he felt upset with Jackwill (Auggie's best friend) because he felt betrayed. However, via still ensures that Auggie's emotions subside again after the incident at school earlier. And after a little argument said by Auggie. Finally, auggie wants to be invited to a halloween party with his brother.

Conversations that show family communication in the movie "Wonder" are as follows:

Via: "Did someone say something?"

Auggie: "Someone's always saying something" (spoken with a high or angry intonation).

Via: "Auggie, sorry, but you're not the only one having a bad day".

Auggie: "Bad day? Do people avoid touching you? When people accidentally touch you. Do they call you a "plague"?"

Via: "No"

Auggie: "Jackwill is my only friend, so don't compare your bad day at school to mine, okay?"

And after via and auggie talked, finally via as a sister persuaded auggie to come to the halloween party.

Via: "I'll let you eat all my Halloween candy"

Auggie: (smiles).

The words spoken with high intonation make via as an older brother must be able to control his emotions. By communicating face to face with Auggie. Finally, Auggie let out all his complaints when it happened at school earlier. And finally via persuaded Auggie to keep feeling calm and comfortable. And forget the problems he just experienced.

In this scene, the level of representation that shows family communication in the movie "Wonder" in terms of camera, the shooting technique in the scene uses Medium Close-up.



Fig. 4.

At duration 01.23.21-01.23.48, all Auggie's family members attend Via's art performance event.

The level of reality that shows that there is family communication in the movie "Wonder" is when Via finished performing from the art performance event as a lead actor (princess). Both his parents and Auggie are very proud of the achievements made by via. Seen from the gesture of his father and mother who suddenly hugged via tightly. Then, auggie endlessly praised via on his art performance.

Conversations that show family communication in the movie "Wonder" are as follows:

Father: "Via, oh my God. That was amazing". (while hugging via)

Via: "It's just an art performance"

Auggie: "You're amazing!".

Father: "You're very good, Via!"

Auggie: "Amazing".

At duration 01.23.36-01.23.48 the music becomes slow and sad. Because, in that scene. Via's mother was so proud that she was speechless and hugged Via with a dramatic and sad atmosphere.

When he finished performing, his parents and Auggie were very proud of via's performance as the main character in the art performance held at his school. Proven by the conversation above. And via's parents and auggie also attended the art performance wearing formal clothes.

In this scene, the level of representation of family communication in the movie "Wonder" in terms of camera. The shooting in the scene was done by means of Medium Close-up.



Fig. 5.

At duration 1.41.01-01.41.25, Auggie's parents are present at Auggie's graduation ceremony.

The level of reality that shows family communication in the movie "Wonder" is when auggie starts whispering to his mother, and thanks her for being willing to send him to school until graduation. Auggie really didn't expect that he would attend his graduation ceremony. Because, from the beginning auggie was not confident with the abnormal conditions on his face. But both auggie's parents and his brother always gave him support. And both auggie's parents attended auggie's graduation ceremony wearing quite formal clothes.

Conversations that show family communication in the movie "Wonder" are:

Auggie: "Mom?" (spoken in a whisper)

Mom: "Yes?"

Auggie: "Thank you."

Mom: "What for?"

Auggie: "For making me go to school. I get mad at mom sometimes. But I'm very happy to be here"

Mom: "You are a miracle auggie. You are a miracle."

In this scene, the level of representation of family communication in the movie "Wonder" from the camera is done by means of Medium Close-up.

3.1 Ideology Level

The ideological level of family communication behavior found in Wonder, including patriarchal ideology. Patriarchal culture is a social system that focuses on men as the main authority figure in social organizations, both in the family, and in the public sphere, such as the economy. So, this system places men superior to women in all aspects. Women are only described as symbols of gentleness, elegance. In the movie Wonder, the level of ideology displayed is patriarchy. Because, indirectly. There is a scene that shows Auggie's mother also has to work to help the family economy.

3.2 Discussion

From the data analysis by the researcher, there are several scenes that show the existence of family communication in Wonder movie. Family communication in this movie is shown

through good communication between parents and children so that children can be motivated to be better. Given full support by his family. And so that children can feel a sense of security and comfort if they are in a good family environment. In addition to this, family communication in this film is conveyed through symbols such as gesture, dialog, shooting and scenes in this film.

4 Conclusion

The conclusion of this research based on all the discussions that have been explained about how John Fiske's analysis of family communication in the movie Wonder is as follows:

1. From the level of reality that describes the form of family communication in the movie Wonder is from the gesture of each player. So the reality here is about the existence of a family communication between father, mother, and child. Then, from the dialog also displays how the representation of a sentence containing family communication in the film Wonder.
2. The Representation Level shows the shooting of each scene that contains scenes of family communication to display various expressions of each condition clearly. In this movie, the shots that contain family communication are Medium Close up and Close up.
3. At the Ideology level, the movie Wonder shows the ideology of patriarchy. Patriarchal culture itself is a social system that focuses on men as the main authority figure in social organizations, both in the family, and in the public sphere, such as the economy. So, this system places men superior to women in all aspects. Women are only illustrated as symbols of gentleness, elegance.
4. The family communication shown in the movie Wonder is quite good. Because, judging from the data that researchers obtained. The data is enough to make a significant data presentation.

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