

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, there are some points conveyed as follow: background of the study, limitation of the study, problem formulation, objective of the study, significance of the study, and outline of the study.

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Film is an art work of human. According to Joseph M. Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie that film is recognized as a unique and powerful art form on a par with painting, music, literature, and drama (3). Literature explained to us that there is a relationship between literature and film of the idea of the film. Allan and Gomery said that not only as art, film can reflected a history of particular people, or a particular form of society, specific group life or social condition (160).

The other thing that is strongly associated with the film is Hollywood. Hollywood produced many film genres such as drama, action, comedy, and many more. Many actresses and actors born on Hollywood screen. Along the progress, Hollywood is not only seen as an entertainment industry, but also as a commercial industry. According to Maisuwung that Hollywood influences the movie industries around the world, on other side, as well gains the benefits from its Hollywoodization (Alibbi 98).

There are many Hollywood movies that talk about the history or culture related to American dream, some depictions are telling about achievement among modern society. America as a country with diverse cultural background, Hollywood, often seeks to preserve the value of American Dreams through the

films, as national ethos of American society. American Dream through pioneered by historians named James Thruslow Adams. In the *Epic of America*, he said that American dreams is that everyone has a dream in which life should be better and richer (Cullen 7)

Discussion of the American dreams become such great power to make people believe in a better live if they come to the United States, especially immigrants. Immigrants bring hope that if they live in America, they will get a better life, richer and fuller according to their abilities. For some people the American dream like a myth and has been preserved for generations. But for others, the American dream becomes the fulfillment of their dreams and hopes.

According to W. A. Clark that “The unabashed focus on material well-being despite what we’ve heard about our nation’s decline...we still live better than anyone else is an evocation of the successes of living in America” (2) Thus, They are not ashamed to hard work to get the material welfare will get better life than those who do not want to hard work.

The move to a modern society is marked in education, health, public welfare services and advanced industry and technology (Hegeman 50). The achievement of the American dream has relevance to modern society. Thus, they can struggle through education, they get better live because there is guaranteed health. America also has public welfare service to help immigrants and through modern society, it has advanced industry and technology so that they can achieve that more easily.

On the basis of the premise, this study examines the film. *The Good Lie* as one of the Hollywood films that showing the values of American dream among

modern society. It is also based on true history film. The film was produced in 2014, directed by Philippe Falardeau, written by Margaret Nagle, filmed in Atlanta, Georgia and South Africa. It is produced by Alcon Entertainment, Black Label Media, Blue Sky Films (Kenya), Good Lie Productions, Imagine Entertainment, Reliance and Reliance Entertainment.

This film told about the journey of three main characters named Mamere, Paul, and Jeremiah in pursuit of happiness in the United States. America become a place where they want all dream to live and freedom to their own way of life. America become a place for them to get the pursuit of happiness to find a better life all their family members, after being a victim of the civil war in Sudan. When they arrived in America, administrative problems require Abital, Mamere's sister to live in Boston, while Mamere, Jeremiah, and Paul stayed Kansas City. This gives a new problem for them especially Paul who were very disappointed in the inability of Mamere, to preventing it. The journey continues with their meeting with Carry Davis, Pamela Lowi, and Jack Forrester, who will help them in America. In this study Mamere, Paul, Jeremiah as a Black Afro-America who want to achieve their dream and get a better life toward American Dream: Life, Liberty, and The Pursuit of Happiness.

## **B. Limitation of the study**

Related to the background of the study, this study concerns about Mamere, Paul, and Jeremiah toward American dream values among modern society as reflected in *The Good Lie* film.

## **C. Problem Formulation**

The purpose of this study is to answer the following problems:

1. What are the points of American Dream Values as reflected in *The Good Lie* film?
2. How are the struggles of the main characters in pursuing the American dream among modern society as reflected in *The Good Lie* film?

## **D. Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study on this paper are started as follows:

1. To describe the points of American Dream Values as reflected in *The Good Lie* film.
2. To analyze the struggles of three main characters in the American dream among modern society as reflected in *The Good Lie* film.

## **E. Significance of the Study**

There are three goals to be achieved by the author in this study, namely:

1. Obtain the results of the manifestation of the American Dream Value which was associated with three main characters's dream of the United States in *The Good Lie* film.
2. This study can be the source of information and further research related to American Dream Values.

3. The Writer also hopes after reading this study, the reader is able to be more critical in seeing a film like *The Good Lie*, especially the students of Faculty of Language and Communication Science Sultan Agung Islamic University Semarang who major in literature study.

#### **F. Outline of the Study**

This final project is divided into some chapters. Each chapter discusses different points as follows:

The chapter one consists of introduction which the study gives description of study and the reason of chosen the topic. Then Limitation of the Study, Problem Formulation, Objective of Study, significance of the Study, and outline of the Study. Chapter two consists of the Reviews of Related Literature that convers Synopsis and the discussion of the theory which is used in this study. Chapter three contains reasearch Method, which deals with Types of the Data, Data Organizing, and Analyzing the Data. Chapter fourth contains findings and discussion the point of American Dream Values as reflected in *The Good Lie* film and analyze the struggles of three main characters in the American dream among modern society as reflected in *The Good Lie* film. The last chapter provides conclusion and suggestions .