

**HIERARCHY OF HUMAN NEEDS ANALYSIS OF BARNUM, THE MAIN  
CHARACTER IN *THE GREATEST SHOWMAN* MOVIE (2017)**

**A FINAL PROJECT**

**Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements to Obtain the *Sarjana Sastra*  
Degree in English Literature**



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**PAGE OF APPROVAL**

A Final Project entitled

**HIERARCHY OF HUMAN NEEDS ANALYSIS OF BARNUM,  
THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *THE GREATEST SHOWMAN*  
MOVIE (2017)**

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Semarang, August 30<sup>th</sup> 2023



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**PAGE OF VALIDATION**

A Final Project on

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## STATEMENT OF WORK'S ORIGINALITY

Hereby, I honestly declare that the undergraduate thesis I wrote does not contain the works or part of the works of other people, except those which were cited in the quotations and the references, as a scientific paper should. If my statement is not valid in the future, I absolutely agree to accept an academic sanction in the form of revocation of my paper and my degree obtained from that paper.

Semarang, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023



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## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

"Every night I lie in bed, the brightest colours fill my head; a million dreams are keeping me awake."

*A Million Dreams ( The Greatest Showman)*

*Alhamdulillah*, thankful to Allah *Subhanallahu Wa Ta'ala* for easing everything for me to finish this final project. This final project is dedicated to my family, especially my parents who have worked hard in supporting my study without even complaining, and to those who have encouraged and accompanied me through these challenging times.

## ABSTRACT

**Choir, Ilzya Novia Maunathul. 30801900020.** “Hierarchy of Needs Analysis of Barnum, The Main Character in *The Greatest Showman* Movie (2017).” English Literature Study Program. Faculty of Languages and Communication Science. Sultan Agung Islamic University. Advisor: Destary Praptawati, S.S., M.Hum.

This study points out the kinds of human needs experienced by the main character and characteristics of self-actualization reflected by the main character, Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie. It is aimed to describe and explain Barnum’s basic needs and the criteria of self-actualization that appeared in him.

This study used the Hierarchy of Needs theory by Abraham Maslow and applied descriptively qualitative research to analyze the collected data from dialogues, monologues, and narratives in the movie script. In data collecting, the researcher used several steps, for instance watching the movie, reading the movie script identifying the data, classifying the data, and reducing the collected data from the movie.

The result of the study highlighted the kinds of human needs experienced by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie. Every single thing that belonged to him such as having food and water, a house, a wife, other people’s appreciation and still many more reflected the completion of his basic needs. This study also explained the characteristics of self-actualization reflected by Barnum such as the more efficient perception of reality, seeing objects or individuals objectively and accepting nature, other people and oneself, spontaneity, simplicity and naturalness in addition he also shows autonomy, continued freshness of appreciation, Gemeinschaftsgefühl or social interest, a democratic character structure, creativity and resistance to enculturation.

**Keyword:** *Hierarchy of needs theory, Abraham Maslow, The Greatest Showman*



## INTISARI

**Choir, Ilzya Novia Maunathul. 30801900020.** “Hierarchy of Needs Analysis of Barnum, The Main Character in *The Greatest Showman* Movie (2017).” Program Studi Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Ilmu Komunikasi. Universitas Islam Sultan Agung. Pembimbing: Destary Praptawati, S.S., M.Hum.

Penelitian ini menunjukkan macam-macam kebutuhan manusia yang dialami oleh tokoh utama dan karakteristik aktualisasi diri yang dicerminkan oleh tokoh utama, Barnum dalam film *The Greatest Showman*. Hal ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan dan menjelaskan kebutuhan dasar Barnum dan kriteria aktualisasi diri yang muncul dalam dirinya.

Penelitian ini menggunakan teori Hirarki Kebutuhan oleh Abraham Maslow dan menerapkan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif untuk menganalisis data yang dikumpulkan dari dialog, monolog, dan narasi dalam naskah film. Dalam pengumpulan data, peneliti menggunakan beberapa langkah, misalnya menonton film, membaca naskah film, mengidentifikasi data, mengklasifikasikan data, dan mereduksi data yang dikumpulkan dari film tersebut.

Hasil penelitian ini menyoroti macam-macam kebutuhan manusia yang dialami oleh Barnum dalam film *The Greatest Showman*. Segala sesuatu yang menjadi kebutuhannya seperti makanan dan air, rumah, istri, penghargaan dari orang lain dan masih banyak lagi mencerminkan terpenuhinya kebutuhan pokoknya. Penelitian ini juga menjelaskan ciri-ciri aktualisasi diri yang dicerminkan oleh Barnum seperti persepsi yang lebih efisien terhadap realitas, melihat suatu objek atau individu secara objektif dan menerima kodrat orang lain serta diri sendiri, spontanitas, kesederhanaan dan apa adanya selain itu ia juga menunjukkan otonomi, kesegaran apresiasi yang berkelanjutan, Gemeinschaftsgefühl atau kepentingan sosial, karakter demokratis, kreativitas dan perlawanan terhadap enkulturasi.

**Kata kunci:** *Teori hirarki kebutuhan, Abraham Maslow, The Greatest Showman*

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Finally, there are still lacks found in this final project that is far from perfect. However, the researcher hopes that this study can be useful and become a help for readers, especially for those working on their final project.

Semarang, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Ilzya Novia Maunathul Choir

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

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

Literature is a written work that represents and conveys human feelings and attitudes in literary works. Literature is the type of writing that continuously and provocatively engages with the strange aspects of thought, experience, and emotion (Bennett and Royle 35). When talking about Literature, It is a never-ending topic of subject to discussion. There are numerous important life lessons that can be learned.

Humans and literature are generally related. The two cannot be separated. Literature is the expression of life and man itself, and it is one of the most fundamental tools for understanding human nature.

Literature and psychology are two branches of science that study the human soul. Psychology researches human behaviors and their causes while literature depicts human behavior through fiction. These two branches of social science studying human behaviour are interrelated and mutually beneficial. (Emir 49)

Many things are said about humans in literature. One of the topics is human psychology. There are many theories that raise the problem of human psychology, one of which is the humanist theory by Abraham Maslow. It is known as the theory of motivation, the hierarchy of needs. Self-actualization,

the highest need in Maslow's hierarchy entails the full realization and fulfilment of our potential, skills, and abilities (Schultz and Schultz 253).

In this theory, Maslow wants to encourage people as humans to actualize themselves for experience an incredible synergy between the biological, social, and spiritual elements that make up their lives, as Maslow said "When people achieve self-actualization, they experience a wonderful synergy among the biological, social, and spiritual aspects of their lives." (Feist and Feist 306). Those who achieve self-actualization are going to become fully human beings. Maslow believed that all humans have the potential for self-actualization. Those that achieve self-actualization evolve into fully human, satisfying needs which other people only see in passing or never see at all (Feist and Feist 284).

Maslow's hierarchy of needs concept presumes that lower-level needs have to be fulfilled, or at least comparatively fulfilled before higher-level needs become motivators. When all of our lower-level needs are fulfilled, a new source of dissatisfaction frequently emerges (Burger 264). This hierarchy's five needs are conative in nature. It means they have a fighting or motivational nature. These needs, which Maslow referred to as basic needs, are able to be organized in a hierarchy or ladder. Physiological, safety, love and belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization were the needs that Maslow listed in that order.

Maslow argued that self-actualization occurs when four basic needs are met. One will find life's greatest joy when one becomes aware of oneself. This is not an easy feat because it cannot be denied that people live with various complex problems. People have to fight alone to overcome these problems and obstacles in life. From small problems to difficult problems, they have to solve them one by one. So they can complete it completely and successfully. Humans, therefore, must meet their hierarchical needs to achieve the ultimate goal of every person, achieve whatever they desire, and thrive.

Maslow himself was interested in human potential for development, and until the end of his life, he devoted his life to the study of the human personality, which forced him to explore the dimensions of the human personality in a way that contradicts the position of psychology. People are not healthy. He then shifted the focus of the early development of psychology and focused his research on the best and highest ideals and potentials that humans are capable of.

According to Maslow, a healthy idealistic personality is called an actualized person. Maslow identified some traits that self-actualizing people have in common. People who have become self-actualized maintain their self-esteem despite the fact that they are ridiculed, shunned, or avoided by others. Self-actualized people are models of maturity and health, and they elevate themselves by making the best use of their abilities and qualities. People thrive for life, it's a process. Everyone changes and grows in life. As individuals, everyone has the right to achieve their life goals. It starts with realizing what

they want to achieve. If they have the opportunity and believe they can choose, they can choose what pleases them.

*The Greatest Showman* is the fifth highest-grossing musical drama movie of all time. It depicts P. T. Barnum, the main character who started his circus business from the ground up. A poor man who was abandoned by his parents, trying to survive alone and trying to change fate by marrying the child of a conglomerate and opening a museum business with borrowed money from a bank. This study uses the movie *The Greatest Showman* as the subject of the analysis because Barnum's life journey allows him to actualize himself.

This study analyzed the development of the main characters seen in Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. The hierarchy of needs is present not only in actual life but also in characters from literature. These literary works can be in the form of novels, short stories and films. This study will also explain the characteristics of self-actualization like what is found in the main character in this movie. The concentrates of this study is on the analysis of the main characters because in every movie is usually a main character who is meaningful for all the events in the whole movie. In the characterization of the main character, it seems that this movie presents the actions of the main character in the movie which is closely related to self-actualization. In this movie, the main character is a self-actualizing individual who continually develops himself as a human being.

In connection with the facts above, this study is interested in this movie to gain a better understanding of all that is related to P.T Barnum's basic needs and self-actualization in the film *The Greatest Showman*. This study also focuses on determining Maslow's basic needs in relation to the main character in the film *The Greatest Showman* and how he seeks self-actualization.

### **B. Problem Formulation**

Based on the background of the study, two problems will be explored in this study. The problems are as follows:

1. What kinds of human needs are experienced by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie?
2. What are the characteristics of a self-actualized person reflected by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie?

### **C. Limitation of the Study**

This study focuses on important aspects and limits the study subject to only the main character in *The Greatest Showman* movie, Phineas Taylor Barnum.

### **D. Objectives of the Study**

In connection with the problem formulation above, the purpose of this study is to provide an overview of:

1. To describe the kind of human needs experienced by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie.



2. To analyze the characteristics of a self-actualized person reflected by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie.

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

This study has special benefits for academic and practical purposes. Academically, this study counts toward the requirements for a bachelor's degree in the Faculty of Languages and Communication Science. Sultan Agung Islamic University, Semarang. Practically, this study is useful for anyone who wants to understand further about the Hierarchy of Human Needs with Abraham H. Maslow's theory, especially in *The Greatest Showman* movie.

#### **F. Organization of the Study**

This final project is divided into five chapters. Chapter I discusses the Background of the Study, Problem Formulations, Objectives of Study, and Significances of Study and Organization of Study. Chapter II explains the Review of Literature that includes the Synopsis of *The Greatest Showman* movie, the Hierarchy of Human Needs Theory and Characteristics of Self-Actualization. Chapter III explains the Research Method that involves the Type of Data, Data Collecting and Analyzing the Data. Chapter IV contains the Findings and Discussion. Chapter V is divided into two parts, they are Conclusion and Suggestion.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### A. Synopsis of The Greatest Showman

*The Greatest Showman* was a movie that was released in 2017. *The Greatest Showman* was a movie inspired by the true story of Phineas Taylor Barnum (P.T. Barnum), one of the founders of the American circus. *The Greatest Showman* movie told the story of a man named Barnum who had ambitions to make his dreams come true. Young Barnum (Ellis Rubin), was the son of a tailor who worked for his cruel master, Halletts. Barnum then met Charity, Halletts' daughter who was played by Skylar Dunn. But their friendship was strained when Charity was sent to school. However, the distance did not prevent them from communicating; both of them frequently sent letters until they were adults.

Barnum Adult, played by Hugh Jackman, gradually changed his life, working as an accountant in a shipping company and marrying an adult Charity, played by Michelle Williams. Despite their lack of material wealth, the two were always happy until they were blessed with two daughters, Caroline (Austyn Johnson) and Helen (Cameron Seely). Until Barnum was fired because the company where he worked would go bankrupt because the company's expedition ships sank due to a storm. Barnum also thought of borrowing money from the bank to buy a museum. Unfortunately, ticket sales were not high, especially since the museum was very empty of visitors. Suddenly Barnum's son had the idea of just displaying something alive in his

museum. He immediately thought of making a circus show by bringing up people with 'weird' physiques to be a part of it. Since then he started looking for players who had talent and were very unique. Having succeeded in building a circus, Barnum had finally fulfilled the childhood dream he promised his wife. He was capable of purchasing a magnificent house for his family as well as one of his daughters who desired ballet lessons.

At a party, Barnum met a playwright classmate, Philip Carlyle, played by Zac Efron, the two then became partners to build the P.T. Barnum circus increasingly famous. Even Carlyle brought the P.T. Barnum circus team to England to fulfil the invitation of the Queen of England. While at a party with guests the Queen of England, Barnum meets a popular singer from the plains of Europe, Jenny Lind (Rebecca Ferguson). Because of the popularity of her voice and beauty, Barnum saw an amazing business opportunity. Finally, Lind was brought to America for his first concert and reaped big hits which then went on his American tour with Barnum.

Unfortunately, the close success between Lind and Barnum immediately became a disaster. Before Barnum returned home, both of them were published in the mass media when Lind kissed Barnum on stage, not only that, the circus building was also burned by local thugs who did not like immigrants and the appearance of 'weird' people that Barnum brought. The photo of kissing in the mass media was finally seen by Barnum's wife, she felt hurt and chose to return to her parent's house. In addition, his luxury home was confiscated by the Bank for bankruptcy.

The story ends with the improving relationship between Barnum and his wife. Barnum's circus also experienced good development, and Barnum got his success back. Finally, Barnum decided to give the responsibility of being the owner of the circus to Philip Carlyle because Barnum wanted to enjoy his old age with his beloved family.

## **B. Hierarchy of Human Needs Theory**

The author uses Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory. Abraham Maslow is widely regarded as the "Father of Human Psychology". The basis of his theory is that humans are motivated to satisfy the needs that must be met. Once humans fulfil their basic needs, they are able to strive to achieve higher needs. This concept will result in a hierarchy. As previously stated, basic needs must be met before looking for higher needs.

Maslow classified needs into five categories: physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization needs. This is referred to as a "conative need" by him. As long as we are motivated to fulfil this need, we move towards self-actualization. Maslow's five-level hierarchy of needs plays an important role for humans.

### **B.1. Physiological Needs**

The most basic needs of everyone are physiological needs, which include hunger, thirst, air, sleep, and other things. Physiological needs are the most demanding because they frequently must be met before moving on to higher-level needs. Physiological needs, such as hunger, thirst, air,

and sleep, are the most demanding because they must be met before we can move on to higher-level needs. (Burger 263).

Hungry people have a desire to eat rather than make friends or improve their self-esteem. They see nothing but food, and until that need is met, their main motivation is to find something to eat. They only see food, and their main motivation is to find something to eat until that need is met. Indeed, physiological needs are the most basic needs.

## **B.2. Safety Needs**

The second need in the hierarchy of needs is security needs. These needs are higher than physiological needs.

When people have partially satisfied their physiological needs, they become motivated by safety needs, including physical security, stability, dependency, protection, and freedom from threatening forces such as war, terrorism, illness, fear, anxiety, danger, chaos, and natural disasters. The needs for law, order, and structure are also safety needs (Feist and Feist 281).

When people's physiological needs are met, they are motivated to fulfil their security needs. Physical security, dependence, stability, freedom and protection are examples of what people need to protect. This need explores the stability of people's lives.

### **B.3. Love and Belonging Needs**

Love and belonging needs must be met after safety needs. All humans have a love that they want to share with their wives, children, fathers, mothers and all their loved ones.

They become motivated by love and belongingness needs, such as the desire for friendship; the wish for a mate and children; and the need to belong to a family, a club, a neighbourhood, or a nation. Love and belongingness also include some aspects of sex and human contact as well as the need to both give and receive love. (Feist and Feist 281-282)

The love and belonging needs are not only about friends and people but also about getting married and starting a family. Giving and receiving love is a way to heal loneliness and rejection.

### **B.4. Esteem Needs**

A person can pursue esteem needs once all previous needs have been satisfied. When their needs are met, they gain confidence in themselves as capable and valuable. Maslow (1970) classified esteem needs into two categories: reputation and self-esteem (Feist and Feist 283). Reputation is the recognition of status, recognition, or authority that a person has in the view of others. The desire for power, accomplishment, fulfilment, mastery, and competence is known as self-esteem. When these esteem needs are



met, a person achieves self-actualization, the highest need acknowledged by Maslow.

### **B.5. Self-Actualization Needs**

Self-actualization needs are the last need to be met before it becomes the primary need in Maslow's hierarchy. When lower-level needs are met, people naturally progress to the next level. When esteem needs are fulfilled, people do not always progress to the level of self-actualization. Those who have achieved self-actualization become fully human and explore their nature as human beings. Self-actualization, the highest need in Maslow's hierarchy, entails the full realization and fulfilment of our potential, talents, and abilities. (Schultz and Schultz 253).

## **C. Characteristics of Self-Actualized Person**

The final stage of Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs is self-actualization. Before self-actualization needs can be met, physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, and esteem needs must be met. Maslow thought that everyone has the capacity for self-actualization. Maslow (1970) lists fifteen preliminary qualities that characterize self-actualizing people, they are:

### **C.1. More Efficient Perception of Reality**

One of the characteristics of self-actualized persons is an efficient perception of reality that allows them to see reality as it is. The reality is that self-actualized people see objects and individuals around them

objectively. They depend as it were on their judgments and perceptions. They are not influenced by people's suppositions or how anybody else sees them. Self-actualizing people are people who tend to see the world the way they want to.

Self-actualizing People are not deceived by appearances and are able to discern in others both positive and negative underlying traits that are not immediately apparent to the majority of people. They are less prejudiced and less likely to see the world as they would like it to be, and they have a clearer perception of ultimate values than other people. (Feist and Feist 291)

Self-actualized people have a sense of reality and acceptance. While people in general struggle with emotional and subjective thinking problems, self-actualized people are objective in solving their problems. They have a more advanced tolerance for ambiguity.

## **C.2. Acceptance of Self, Others, and Nature**

A self-actualized person achieves the general acceptance of nature, others and themselves by accepting themselves, their weaknesses and their strengths without any complaints or worries.

Self-actualizing people can acceptance of Self, Others, and Nature the way they are. They can tolerate weaknesses in others and are not threatened by others' strengths. They accept nature, including human

nature, as it is and do not expect perfection either in themselves or in others. (Feist and Feist 291)

They do not feel unwarranted anxiety or shame and are less critical of their flaws. Additionally, they are able to accept others, are unafraid of other people's strengths, and can accept every flaw in others. They do not demand perfection from themselves or others and accept nature, including human nature, as it is. They understand that people degenerate, get older, and pass away.

### **C.3. Spontaneity, Simplicity, and Naturalness**

The third trait of people who self-actualize is their spontaneity, simplicity, and naturalness. They also come down to earth and do not hesitate to express any strong emotions they are feeling, including joy, fear, sadness, anger, or joy.

Self-actualizing people are spontaneous, simple, and natural. They are unconventional but not compulsive. They ordinarily live simple lives in the sense that they do not need to erect a complex veneer designed to deceive the world. They are unpretentious and not afraid or ashamed to express joy, awe, elation, sorrow, anger, or other deeply felt emotions (Feist and Feist 291-292).

People who have actualized themselves share the spontaneous and natural behaviour of children and animals. They typically lead simple lives and do

not need to dress up in elaborate costumes to deceive people. They are natural and spontaneous.

#### **C.4. Problem-Centring**

Concern for things other than themselves is the fourth quality of self-actualized people. Contrary to self-actualizing people, those who are not fully self-actualized tend to be more egocentric. They were solution-focused, which meant that they saw life's challenges as problems that needed to be solved rather than as isolated problems that could be berated or ceded to. (Boeree 1986). They are task-oriented and preoccupied with issues that are not directly related to them. They view challenges as issues that require resolution rather than as things to be avoided, put off, or left to others.

#### **C.5. The Need for Privacy**

The ability to be detached enough to be alone without feeling lonely is the fifth quality of self-actualized people. Whether they are with others or alone, they feel at ease and at ease. Because they have met their need for love and belonging, they shouldn't despair when it comes to being with others.

Self-actualizing people may be seen as aloof or uninterested, but in fact, their disinterest is limited to minor matters. They have a global concern for the welfare of others without becoming entangled in minute and insignificant problems. Because they spend little energy

attempting to impress others or trying to gain love and acceptance, they have more ability to make responsible choices. They are self-movers, resisting society's attempts to make them adhere to the convention (Feist and Feist 292).

People always want their privacy, as evidenced by the different interpersonal styles of self-actualized people. They were at ease and enjoyed being by themselves. Self-actualized people are self-driven, they have the notion that life is not to impress others or try to gain love and acceptance from others.

#### **C.6. Autonomy**

The sixth characteristic of self-actualization is autonomy or the enjoyment of community life. Self-actualizing people are autonomous and dependent on themselves for improvement, but they are not completely independent because no one is born autonomous.

Self-actualizing people are autonomous and depend on themselves for growth even though at some time in their past they had to have received love and security from others. No one is born autonomous, and therefore no one is completely independent of people. (Feist and Feist 292).

They were just focused on their abilities and growth. They also rely on their potential and do not care about people's opinions, perceptions, or views. They also benefit from an inner peace and tranquillity that people

who live for other people's approval cannot experience because of their independence.

### **C.7. Continued Freshness of Appreciation**

Continued Freshness of Appreciation is the seventh self-actualization trait. Self-actualized people were able to appreciate things with a certain sense of newness and wonder, even when they were commonplace.

Self-actualizing people have the wonderful capacity to appreciate again and again, freshly and naively, the basic goods of life, with awe, pleasure, wonder, and even ecstasy. They are keenly aware of their good physical health, friends and loved ones, economic security, and political freedom. (Feist and Feist 293).

Self-actualizing individuals appreciate what they have and do not waste time lamenting an uninteresting life. They continue to value their experiences no matter how often, they value and continue to be grateful for what they have and can experience. In other words, they continue to feel lucky and grateful for what they have.

### **C.8. The Peak Experience**

The eighth characteristic of self-actualization is The peak experience. Self-actualized people are characterized by peaks or mystical experiences. People who reach the peak feel a loss of anxiety, fear, and conflict and develop into more loving, tolerant, and spontaneous people.



"Peak experiences" or mystical encounters marked by feelings of utter awe, reverence, bliss, and ecstasy were closely related to spirituality. (Bugental, Schneider and Pierson 682).

Maslow thinks that peak experiences lift us above our everyday awareness into a deeper plane of existence, provide us with glimpses of a transcendent reality, and enable us to access the unknown. Truth, goodness, beauty, and love are the ultimate values that Maslow refers to as "being-values." We get a sense of what it's like to live at the pinnacle of actualization through mystical experiences.

#### **C.9. Gemeinschaftsgefühl (social interest)**

The ninth characteristic of self-actualization is Gemeinschaftsgefühl or social interest. Self-actualized people are interested in interacting with others. Self-actualized people are human beings who despite occasional resentment, impatience, or mistrust, have a deep sense of identification, togetherness, and attention.

Self-actualizing people possess Gemeinschaftsgefühl, Adler's term for a social interest, community feeling, or a sense of oneness with all humanity. Maslow found that his self-actualizes had a kind of caring attitude toward other people. Self-actualizes nevertheless identify with all other people and have a genuine interest in helping others strangers as well as friends (Feist and Feist 294).

This means that self-actualized people care about human races in the world because they consider other humans as one family.

#### **C.10. Profound Interpersonal Relations**

The tenth characteristic of self-actualized people is profound interpersonal relationships. This unique trait of interpersonal relationships involves strong feelings for specific people.

Self-actualized have a nurturant feeling toward people in general, but their close friendships are limited to only a few. They have no frantic need to be friends with everyone, but the few important interpersonal relationships they do have are quite intense. (Feist and Feist 294).

It means they could choose their circles with others in relationships. Their close friendship is limited to a few people only.

#### **C.11. The Democratic Character Structure**

The eleventh characteristic of self-actualized people is the democratic character structure. Self-actualized people have democratic characteristics. Maslow discovered that all of his self-actualized shared democratic values. They could be friendly and considerate to others regardless of class, colour, age, or gender, and they appeared to be completely unaware of superficial differences between people. (Feist and Feist 294). Self-actualized people do not have certain limitations in building relationships with other people, such as social class, education level, political or religious affiliation, race, or skin colour.

### **C.12. Discrimination Between Means and Ends**

The twelfth characteristic of self-actualized people is discrimination between means and ends. Between Means and Ends Self-actualizing people have a clear sense of right and wrong conduct and have little conflict about basic values. Between Means and Ends Self-actualizing individuals have a distinct sense of what is right and wrong behaviour, and they rarely disagree on fundamental principles (Feist and Feist 294-295). Self-actualized people know if what they are doing is right or wrong. They always try to do their job in a good way.

### **C.13. Philosophical Sense of Humor**

The philosophical sense of humour is the thirteenth characteristic of self-actualized people. self-actualized people do not tell jokes that hurt other people's feelings, but can make fun of themselves, but not in a masochistic way.

They make fewer tries at humour than others, but their attempts serve a purpose beyond making people laugh. They amuse, inform, point out ambiguities, and provoke a smile rather than a guffaw. The humour of a self-actualizing person is intrinsic to the situation rather than contrived; it is spontaneous rather than planned. (Feist and Feist 295).

This means that self-actualizes do not laugh at hateful or superior jokes, but tend to amuse others by making impromptu jokes based on witty remarks or words.

#### **C.14. Creativeness**

The fourteenth characteristic of self-actualized people is their creativity. A self-actualized person can present their creativity. Although not always in the sense of producing a work of art, they are imaginative, creative, and original.

All self-actualizing people studied by Maslow were creative in some sense of the word. Maslow suggested that creativity and self-actualization may be the same. Not all self-actualizes are talented or creative in the arts, but all are creative in their way. (Feist and Feist 295)

Self-actualized people have an innate uniqueness that will delight others. Although they face many problems, they always find a solution with their creative mind.

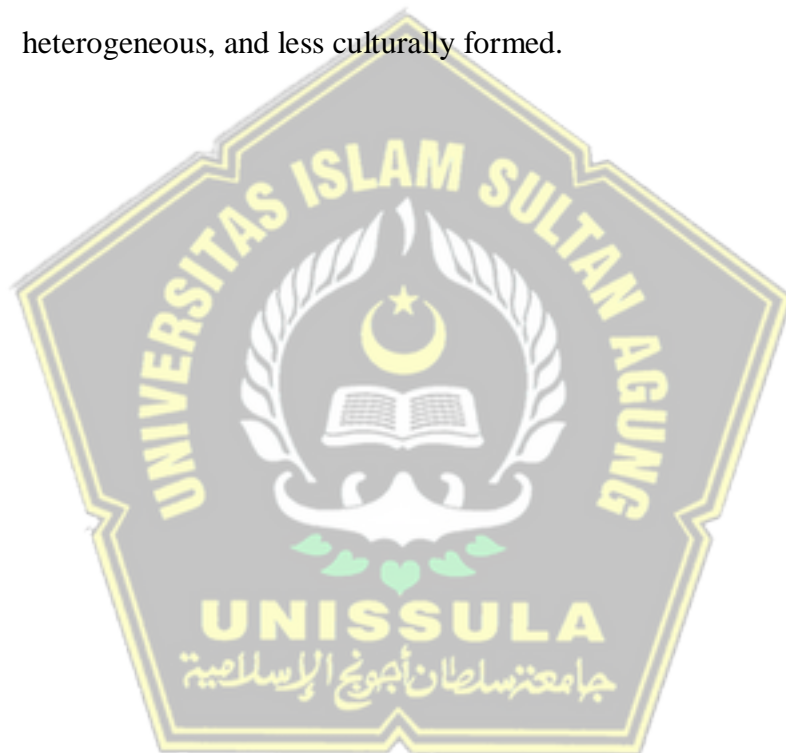
#### **C.15. Resistance to Enculturation**

Resistance to enculturation is the fifteenth characteristic of self-actualized people. They can resist social pressures to think or act in certain ways because they are self-actualized.

Self-actualizing people have a sense of detachment from their surroundings and can transcend a particular culture. They are neither

antisocial nor consciously non-conforming. Rather, they are autonomous, following their standards of conduct and not blindly obeying the rules of others. Self-actualizing people do not waste energy fighting against insignificant customs and regulations of society. (Feist and Feist 295-296)

As people achieve these goals, they become more unique, more heterogeneous, and less culturally formed.



## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

#### **A. Types of Research**

This study used qualitative research. Qualitative research is a scientific way of gathering non-numerical data through observation. Qualitative research uses text as the main data source. “Based on observation and interpretation, qualitative research is used to gain an in-depth understanding of human behaviour, experience, attitudes, intentions, and motivations.” (Ahmad, et al. 2829)

From the information above, it could be concluded that the qualitative method was used to get a deeper understanding of the data analysis. Therefore, Data was conveyed in the type of phrases, words, or sentences, dialogues, monologues, prologues, quotes, or paraphrases, rather than numerical analysis methods.

#### **B. Data Organizing**

##### **B.1. Data Collecting Method**

In the data collecting method, a data collecting process would be analyzed with information and several ways related to the research. The following were the steps for collecting data for the study:

##### **B.1.1. Identifying the Data**

After watching the movie many times, it was necessary to identify the data. The purpose of this step was to pay attention to



dialogues, descriptions, and expositions related to the problem formulations. To get the specific data, it would be done by underlining, giving codes, and highlighting some of the sentences. This stage aimed to separate the data and non-data. Only potential data related to both formulations of the problem would be considered in this process.

### **B.1.2. Watching the Movie and Reading the Movie Script**

The first stage of the data-collecting method was watching the movie and reading the movie script several times. This first stage of collecting data purpose to obtain an understanding of the plot, the characters, and the setting of the movie. Watching *The Greatest Showman* movie multiple times was the easiest way to get a deeper understanding of the story. After watching the movies several times, the next was to read the movie script of *The Greatest Showman* to present a more objective perspective.

### **B.1.3. Classifying the Data**

The third stage of the data-collecting method was classifying the data. The classification was arranging data in classes or groups based on the corresponding problem formulations. Once the data were arranged, the data would be listed in a table. Two problems would be solved in this study, so there would be two tables of classified data. This table was called an appendix which contains

columns of numbers, quotes from the movie script, pages, analysis type, data type, comments, and references.

#### **B.1.4. Reducing the Data**

The last stage of the data-collecting method was eliminating or selecting data. This stage aimed to finalize classified data through elimination and selection methods. This step was an effective way to decrease unnecessary data. The final data supporting each problem formulation were stored in the table of an appendix and would be used to support the analysis in Chapter IV.

#### **B.2. Type of Data**

This study's data was divided into two categories:

1. The primary data were collected from *The Greatest Showman* movie script.
2. The secondary data were collected from books, journals, and articles relevant to this study.

#### **C. Analyzing the data**

The final step of this study was analyzing the finalized data and reporting the data analysis. This study used a descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. This study also used Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Theory to analyze and record the data. The data were taken from the movie such as dialogue, narratives, and monologue. The analyzed data was then reported in Chapter IV: Findings and Discussion.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter is separated into two sub-chapters: the kind of human needs experienced by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie and self-actualization experienced as reflected in the movie and the characteristics of self-actualization reflected by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie.

#### **A. The Kinds of Human Needs Experienced by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* Movie.**

Humans are motivated to satisfy the needs that must be met. Once humans fulfil their basic needs, they are able to strive to achieve higher needs. This concept is called hierarchy. Maslow classified needs into five categories: physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization needs. As long as people are motivated to fulfil this need, people move towards self-actualization. In *The Greatest Showman* movie, Barnum fulfils his basic human needs and achieves self-actualization. The explanation of Barnum's basic needs is discussed below:

##### **A.1. Physiological Needs**

The bottom of Abraham Maslow's pyramid of needs are physiological needs. Physiological needs are the most demanding as they often need to be fulfilled before you are capable of moving to higher-level needs. The most important physiological needs such as those for food, water, air, and sleep must typically be met before we can turn our attention

to higher-level needs. (Burger 263). Barnum's physiological needs can be seen through the narrative below:

INT. BARNUM MANSION - BEDROOM - NIGHT **Charity moves in and out of the room, preparing for bed.** Barnum is slumped in a chair, sad and worried. (*The Greatest Showman* 00:35:01-00:35:04)

As the narrative above. Barnum has no trouble going to sleep because Barnum has a place to sleep. Therefore, Barnum also does not need to think about fulfilling his needs for sleep because his needs have been met. He did not have to think about where or how he could sleep.

Furthermore, another proof of the physiological needs experienced by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie can be seen in the narrative below:

**Barnum and Jenny are guests of honour at a huge dinner party in Chicago.** The Mayor raises a toast to Jenny. Jenny stands and bows graciously. Then she reaches for Barnum. He resists, but she coaxes him to his feet. Everyone applauds. (*The Greatest Showman* 00:55:01)

As the narrative above, Barnum is attending a big dinner party in Chicago. It shows that Barnum had no trouble getting food. Their needs for food have been met. He has passed the basic human need and fulfils this need. Therefore it is able to meet higher-level needs.

## A.2. Safety Needs

People are motivated to meet safety needs once their physiological needs have been met. Physical security, dependence, stability, freedom and protection are examples of what people need to protect. This need explores the stability of people's lives. Maslow (1970) in Feist and Feist states:

When people have partially satisfied their physiological needs, they become motivated by safety needs, including physical security, stability, dependency, protection, and freedom from threatening forces such as war, terrorism, illness, fear, anxiety, danger, chaos, and natural disasters. The needs for law, order, and structure are also safety needs (281).

This need explores the stability of people's live. One element of the need for safety is physical security. Humans need a sense of security or physical defense such as a house as a shelter from dangerous things. Making sure that life is safe and protected is crucial. The best defence against harmful threats to the body is to seek shelter from dangerous threats such as storms, rain and sunlight. The safety needs of Barnum can be seen in the dialogue and narrative below:

**In the gated backyard**, there is an actual GIRAFFE grazing!

CHARITY: “Oh, Phin. Can we afford this?”

BARNUM: “Of course. And even if we couldn’t, it’s an investment.

The land is the one thing they’re not making any more of (to Helen)

**I think there's something on the porch for you.”** (*The Greatest Showman* 00:32:08-00:32:11)

As described in the dialogue above, Barnum had a house for shelter and a place to hang out with his wife. Barnum can be saved or protected from any disaster in a house. It is a place where Barnum can feel safe and at home in a cozy home with his cherished family. Thus, it demonstrates that Barnum is able to meet his safety needs.

### **A.3. Belonging and Love Needs**

People will look for love and belongingness needs following their physiological needs, as well as their safety needs, are mostly satisfied. All humans have a love that they want to share with their wives, children, friends, fathers, mothers and all their loved ones.

They become motivated by love and belongingness needs, such as the desire for friendship; the wish for a mate and children; and the need to belong to a family, a club, a neighbourhood, or a nation. Love and belongingness also include some aspects of sex and human contact as well as the need to both give and receive love. (Feist and Feist 281-282)

The need for belonging and love must be met through human interactions with other people. The love and belonging needs are not only about friends and people but also about getting married and starting a family. Giving and receiving love is a way to heal loneliness and rejection. The need for



belonging and love of Barnum can be seen in the dialogue and narrative below:

BARNUM: "Isn't the life I promised you? I know that."

CHARITY: **"I have everything I want right here with you."**

BARNUM: "What about that house we were going to fill with magic and wonder?"

CHARITY: **"What do you call those two girls downstairs?"**

He looks at his wife and finally smiles. She's gotten through. Charity leans against his shoulder. (*The Greatest Showman* 00:13:22-00:13:30)

This conversation shows that Barnum is a person who is loved and cherished by his family (his wife and children). This conversation demonstrates that Barnum's wife, Charity, loves Barnum despite the fact that their life is not filled with wonders as Barnum promised. Barnum also gives affection to his family and loves Charity. Therefore, Barnum will have no trouble getting the love and affection of his family.

Furthermore, another proof of the belonging and love needs experienced by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* movie can be seen in the narrative below:

TOM THUMB (CONT'D): "That's right, Barnum. You're a freak.

A weirdo. You do not fit in. Welcome to the human race."



**The Oddities crowd around Barnum in a show of support and gratitude.** Tom leans in, heated. All joking ceases.

TOM: “My mother kept me locked in a back room for years ‘cause she was ashamed of me. It was like that for all of us. But you pushed us into the spotlight. **You told the world stories that made them love us. You made us into a family.** (beat) Your humbug gave us a home, Barnum. And we want it back.” (*The Greatest Showman* 01:23:08-01:23:12)

This narrative shows that Barnum is a person who is loved and cherished by the oddities, his talents, and his friends. This conversation shows that Barnum's friends love Barnum because Barnum gave them the opportunity to work, and showed people that all human beings are the same. Therefore, Barnum will have no trouble getting the love and affection of his friends.

#### **A.4. Esteem Needs**

A person can pursue esteem needs once all previous needs have been satisfied. When their needs are met, they gain confidence in themselves as capable and valuable. People are free to pursue esteem needs, which include self-respect, confidence, competence, and the knowledge that others hold them in high regard, to the extent that they satisfy their love and belongingness needs. (Feist and Feist 283). Barnum's esteem needs can be seen in the dialogue and narrative below:

MR. WINTHROP: **“Barnum. I confess I had my doubts. But this is a triumph. Well done, sir.”**

Barnum lights up and claps Winthrop on the back. It’s taken a lifetime to get here.

BARNUM: “Thank you very much, Mr Winthrop.” (*The Greatest Showman* 00:53:33)

Barnum is described as a circus owner who is liked by many people. The main character, Barnum, earns the respect of others. Many people admire Barnum for his "odd" circus as depicted in the conversation above. When people have found respect from others or they believe that others think well of them, they will then find that they are valuable and they will begin to feel an internal sense of self-esteem.

#### **A.5. Self-actualization**

The last need that must be satisfied and becomes the main need in Maslow's hierarchy is self-actualization. When lower-level needs are met, people naturally progress to the next level. When esteem needs are met, people do not always progress to the level of self-actualization. People who have achieved self-actualization become fully human and explore their human nature. Self-actualization, the highest need in Maslow's hierarchy, entails the full realization and fulfilment of our potential, talents, and abilities (Schultz and Schultz 253). Barnum’s self-actualization can be shown in the dialogue below:

PHILLIP: “You know it’s not enough to buy a new building...”

BARNUM: **"Oh, we do not need a building! I can get land down by the docks for nothing! What we really need is a tent! A big one! Colourful and festive! That will make you stop and want to see what’s inside...!"**

Phillip grins. As they walk off, Barnum puts his arm around him, spinning his latest vision.

BARNUM: **“...The great thing about a tent is when you’re done with it, you take it down, pack it up, take it on the road! Do not you see? With a tent we can go anywhere! Why, the world itself becomes our home!”** (*The Greatest Showman* 01:32:36-01:32:47)

In this conversation, Barnum reaches maximum realization and fulfilment of his potential, talents, and abilities. Barnum is an artist whose goal is to create a circus and make his wife and children happy. In this conversation, Barnum has lost his circus building, but he makes full use of his potential and continues to continue his circus without a building. Barnum has successfully run his circus in a tent and created a travelling circus. All these achievements that Barnum had accomplished can be an indicator of self-actualizing for Barnum.

## **B. The Characteristics of Self-actualization Reflected by Barnum in *The Greatest Showman* Movie**

Self-actualization is the final stage of Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Barnum fulfils all the needs in the hierarchy and becomes a self-actualized person. Maslow believed that everyone has the capacity for self-actualization. According to Maslow, self-actualized people have a number of distinguishing characteristics that set them apart from others. There are fifteen possible characteristics of self-actualizing people, and Barnum has nine of the fifteen characteristics that have already been mentioned.

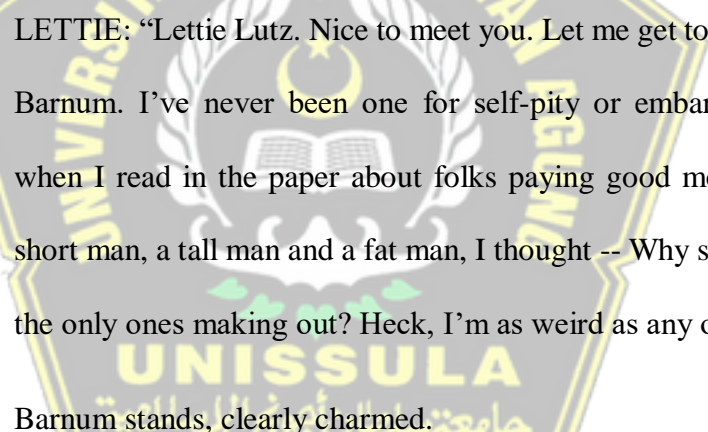
### **B.1. More Efficient Perception of Reality**

An efficient perception of reality, which allows them to see reality as it is, is one of the characteristics of a self-actualized person. Based on Maslow (1970) in Feist and Feist, a self-actualized person can distinguish others' falsity or dishonesty. They are not influenced by people's suppositions or how anybody else sees them. People that actualizing are people who have a tendency to view the world through their own eyes. They also know others' positive and negative traits that most people do not easily notice. They are not influenced by people's suppositions or how anybody else sees them. Self-actualizing people are people who tend to see the world the way they want to.

Self-actualizing people are not fooled by facades and can see both positive and negative underlying traits in others that are not readily apparent to most people. They perceive ultimate values more clearly

than other people do and are less prejudiced and less likely to see the world as they wish it to be (Feist and Feist 291).

People who actualize themselves have a sense of reality and acceptance. While people in general struggle with emotional and subjective thinking problems, self-actualizing people are objective in solving their problems. They have a more advanced tolerance for ambiguity. A self-actualized person perceives the world in the sense of realism, they always see the world logically and rationally. Barnum's characteristic of a more efficient perception of reality is portrayed in the dialogue below:



LETTIE: "Lettie Lutz. Nice to meet you. Let me get to the point, Mr Barnum. I've never been one for self-pity or embarrassment. So when I read in the paper about folks paying good money to see a short man, a tall man and a fat man, I thought -- Why should they be the only ones making out? Heck, I'm as weird as any of 'em"

Barnum stands, clearly charmed.

BARNUM: "Weird isn't the word I'd use, Miss Lutz.

**More like rare, blessed... Beautiful."**

Lettie beams, no one has ever spoken to her like this. (*The Greatest Showman* 00:23:16-00:23:25)

As an actualized person, Barnum has this characteristic of seeing objects or individuals objectively. He was not impacted by others. As we can see

in this conversation, Barnum said that Lettie was a blessing, rare and beautiful. Lettie has a very beautiful voice. While many people thought that Lettie was weird because of her appearance, Barnum saw her objectively for what she was, regardless of Lettie's appearance and other people's opinions of Lettie. Barnum is also looking objectively at all of his talents. Barnum recognizes the talents of his talents regardless of the opinions of others who think his talents are strange.

## **B.2. Acceptance of Self, Others, and Nature**

By accepting themselves, their flaws and their strengths, people who actualize themselves achieve the general acceptance of nature, others, and themselves without any complaints or concerns.

Self-actualizing individuals can accept themselves, others, and nature as they are. They can tolerate others' flaws but are not threatened by others' strengths. They accept nature as it is, including human nature, and do not expect perfection from themselves or others. (Feist and Feist 291)

They do not feel unwarranted anxiety or shame and are less critical of their flaws. Additionally, they are able to accept others and unafraid of other people's strengths and accept every flaw in others. They do not demand perfection from themselves or others and accept nature, including human nature. They understood that people degenerate, age, and pass away.



Barnum's characteristic of an acceptance of self, others, and nature is portrayed in the narrative below:

**In front of the box office, a crowd of protesters are gathered behind a banner, "LEAGUE OF DECENCY".** They hold up signs -- "Close the Circus!" and "Protect Our Children!" A man with a bullhorn is shouting.

A man with a bullhorn: **"Immoral! Indecent! Not fit for polite society! An insult to family values!"** (*The Greatest Showman* 00:41:45-00:41:47)

As a self-actualizing person, Barnum accepts nature, other people, and oneself. It is said in the movie that some people do not like Barnum who opens a freak circus by recruiting oddities. Barnum's relationship with many strange people was considered disturbing by society, Barnum accepted strange people who were considered immoral, and not in accordance with society, and who were not liked by the people in his environment. Barnum's acceptance of other people who are considered to deviate from the habits of society shows that Barnum accepts other people as they are. Barnum can tolerate other people's weaknesses. He accepts nature as it is, including human nature, and does not expect others to be perfect.

Another proof of this characteristic can also be seen in the dialogue below:



**BARNUM: "I was, Mrs Stratton. For a long time. I was poor, and I was laughed at. I've been called a fool many times..."**

**BARNUM: "...But I do not care about that anymore. Because we all have just one life, Mr Stratton. One can wallow in self-pity..."**

*(The Greatest Showman 00:21:54)*

As a self-actualizing person, Barnum also accepts his poor self, ridiculed by people for being a fool but he accepts himself as he is. By admitting to himself that he has flaws it shows that Barnum accepts himself as he is. He accepts nature as it is, including human nature, and does not expect perfection from himself.

### **B.3. Spontaneity, Simplicity, and Naturalness**

The third trait of self-actualizing individuals is their spontaneity, simplicity, and naturalness. They also come down to earth and do not hesitate to express any strong emotions they are feeling, including joy, fear, sadness, anger, or joy.

Self-actualizing people are spontaneous, simple, and natural. They are unconventional but not compulsive. They ordinarily live simple lives in the sense that they do not need to erect a complex veneer designed to deceive the world. They are unpretentious and not afraid or ashamed to express joy, awe, elation, sorrow, anger, or other deeply felt emotions (Feist and Feist 291-292).

People who have actualized themselves share the spontaneous and natural behaviour of children and animals. They typically lead simple lives and do not need to dress up in elaborate costumes to deceive people. They are genuine and unplanned. Barnum's characteristic of spontaneity, simplicity, and naturalness is portrayed in the dialogue below:

**BARNUM: "Jenny, please. You can't leave. I risked everything on this tour. "**

JENNY: "As did I, Phineas. It seems we both lost. There is terrible sadness in her eyes. She turns to go."

**BARNUM: "Jenny. Do not. I'll lose the circus. I'll lose my home. You will ruin me." (The Greatest Showman 01:13:00-01:13:21)**

As a self-actualizing person, Barnum behaved openly and directly, without pretence. He is not afraid to express his emotions. In the dialogue that has been described above Barnum spontaneously shows his concern about losing his circus. Without any pretence, Barnum showed his concern to Jenny. This is proof that Barnum is a person who spontaneously expresses his emotions.

#### **B.4. Autonomy**

Barnum's fourth self-actualization feature is autonomy or the enjoyment of social life. Self-actualizing people are autonomous and dependent on themselves for improvement, but they are not completely independent because no one is born autonomous.

Self-actualizing people are autonomous and depend on themselves for growth even though at some time in their past they had to have received love and security from others. No one is born autonomous, and therefore no one is completely independent of people. (Feist and Feist 292).

Self-actualizing people were just focused on their abilities and growth. Additionally, they are self-reliant and unconcerned with other people's perceptions, opinions, or points of view. They also benefit from an inner peace and tranquillity that people who live for other people's approval cannot experience because of their independence. Barnum's characteristic of autonomy is portrayed in the narrative below:

**EXT. CHURCH CEMETERY - BETHEL - DAY 12**

**Philo Barnum's funeral in a run-down cemetery.** Just the PRIEST and Barnum's Mother and four Young Siblings. Barnum gazes at the family that's dependent on him now wishing there were some way to take their misery away. (*The Greatest Showman* 00:07:12-00:07:15)

As seen in the narrative above, Barnum is characterized as an independent man. To get his happiness he does not depend on others so he can make his own decisions. Barnum is independent because his parents have left him since childhood, Barnum is forced to be independent by

circumstances, and because of this, he does not depend on other people to get what he wants. Without his parents, Barnum can achieved his success.

Another proof of this characteristic can also be seen in the dialogue below:

BARNUM: "I know. I just came from the bank."

She starts to cry. Barnum is stricken to see her so hurt.

CHARITY: **"Why didn't you tell me? Why didn't you talk to me? Before risking everything?"**

BARNUM: "Charity, I will get the house back.." (*The Greatest Showman* 01:21:53-01:22:00)

As in the dialogue that has been shown above, Barnum decided to borrow money from the bank without discussing his decision with Charity. Barnum did not rely on Charity to decide whether borrowing money from the bank was the right decision or not. This shows that Barnum is not dependent on others.

### **B.5. Continued Freshness of Appreciation**

The fifth trait of Barnum's self-actualization is continued freshness of appreciation. Self-actualized people had a certain freshness of appreciation, a capacity to view things, even the most mundane, with awe.

Self-actualizing people have the wonderful capacity to appreciate again and again, freshly and naively, the basic goods of life, with

awe, pleasure, wonder, and even ecstasy. They are keenly aware of their good physical health, friends and loved ones, economic security, and political freedom. (Feist and Feist 293).

Self-actualizing People are quick to express gratitude for what they have and quick to lament an uninteresting life. No matter how often he values and expresses gratitude for what he has and can experience, they continue to value his experiences. In other words, they continue to feel lucky and grateful for what they have. Barnum's characteristic of the continued freshness of appreciation is portrayed in the dialogue below:

MUSIC starts under. He keeps his eyes averted, downcast.

**BARNUM: "If you have no warmth in your heart for me, say the word and I will never trouble you again. But if the case is otherwise, then you should know...(looks at her) That I am yours, body and soul. It is your smile, your laughter, that has been my guiding star. Without it, the rest is dust and ashes... I know that now."**

Her eyes fill with tears. He looks at her with yearning.

Charity reaches for his face and lifts it to face hers.

CHARITY: "I never wanted anything but you. The man I fell in love with." (*The Greatest Showman* 01:29:33)

The dialogue above shows that Barnum as a self-actualized person can continue to value his experiences no matter how frequent they are, he appreciates and continues to be grateful for what he has experienced. His appreciation for the freshness of his experience can be seen in the dialogue that has been shown. Barnum shows his regret for leaving Charity and finally, Barnum is grateful to have Charity and two beautiful daughters who did not leave when his life was going through difficult times.

#### **B.6. Gemeinschaftsgefühl (social interest)**

The sixth characteristic of Barnum's self-actualization is *Gemeinschaftsgefühl* or social interest. Self-actualized people are interested in interacting with others. Self-actualized people are human beings who despite occasional resentment, impatience, or mistrust, have a deep sense of identification, togetherness, and attention.

Self-actualizing people possess *Gemeinschaftsgefühl*, Adler's term for a social interest, community feeling, or a sense of oneness with all humanity. Maslow found that his self-actualizes had a kind of caring attitude toward other people. Self-actualizes nevertheless identify with all other people and have a genuine interest in helping others strangers as well as friends (Feist and Feist 294).

As a result, self-actualized individuals are concerned about all human races because they see all people as members of the same family. Barnum's characteristic of social interest is portrayed in the dialogue below:



ANNE: "Where's Phillip?"

BARNUM: "You didn't see him?"

Anne looks back in panic. She starts to run toward the building but Barnum grabs her. He hands her off to W.D.

BARNUM: "Keep her here!"

Anne struggles in W.D.'s arms, then collapses into his chest. Charity, Caroline, and Helen watch in horror and disbelief as **Barnum turns and runs back toward the burning building.** (*The Greatest Showman* 01:17:12)

As a self-actualizing person, Barnum cares about other people. The scene above shows that Barnum is willing to enter a burning building to save Phillip, this illustrates that Barnum cares and has a genuine interest in helping others. Additionally, the following dialogue provides further evidence of this trait:

BARNUM: "No one ever made a difference in this world by being like everyone else. You can come with me now, and live your dreams. Or stay here with your self-pity and your mother."

The door opens fully. Stratton stands, unguarded and vulnerable -- it's like Barnum has looked into his soul.

BARNUM (CONT'D): "What do you say, Tom?"



STRATTON: "My name's Charles." (*The Greatest Showman*  
00:22:03-00:22:05)

As a self-actualizing person, Barnum has strong feelings, deep empathy and compassion for all humans, he also has a desire to help humanity. Barnum helps odd people get jobs and also convinces weirdos to be proud of themselves and accept themselves.

### **B.7. The Democratic Character Structure**

The seventh characteristic of Barnum as a self-actualized person is a democratic character structure. Self-actualized people have democratic characteristics. Maslow discovered that all of his self-actualize shared democratic values. They could be friendly and considerate to others regardless of class, colour, age, or gender, and they appeared to be completely unaware of superficial differences between people (Feist and Feist 294). Self-actualized people do not have certain limitations in building relationships with other people, such as level of education, social class, race, skin colour, or political or religious affiliation. Barnum's personality accurately captures this democratic character structure. It is corroborated by the narrative and dialogue below:

The Oddities crowd around Barnum in a show of support and gratitude. Tom leans in, heated. All joking ceases.

**TOM: "My mother kept me locked in a back room for years 'cause she was ashamed of me. It was like that for all of us. But**

**you pushed us into the spotlight. You told the world stories that made them love us. You made us into a family. (beat) Your humbug gave us a home, Barnum. And we want it back.”** (*The Greatest Showman* 01:23:12)

A self-actualized person has a democratic character structure. In the movie, Barnum who has actualized himself does not have certain limitations in building relationships with people, such as level of education, social class, race, skin colour, political or religious affiliation. Barnum accepts people regardless of their social status or social class which can be able to see from the way he treats his freak friend indiscriminately. Barnum even thought of the freaks as his friends. Barnum accepts everyone to join his circus regardless of social class, education level, race, or skin colour.

#### **B.8. Creativeness**

A self-actualized person can present their creativity. They are creative, imaginative, and genuine though not always in the sense of creating a work of art.

All self-actualizing people studied by Maslow were creative in some sense of the word. Maslow suggested that creativity and self-actualization may be the same. Not all self-actualizes are talented or creative in the arts, but all are creative in their way. (Feist and Feist 295)

Self-actualized people have an innate uniqueness that will delight others. Although they face many problems, they always find a solution with their creative mind. The dialogue below shows that Barnum possesses this quality:

**BARNUM: “I’m putting together a show. And I want you to star in it.”**

A snort from Mrs Stratton. Stratton looks up accusingly. A lifetime of alienation and ridicule has made him scrappy.

STRATTON: “Why? So people can laugh at me?”

BARNUM: “They’re laughing anyway, kid. You might as well get paid.” (*The Greatest Showman* 00:21:39-00:21:41)

A self-actualized person can present their creativity. They are creative, imaginative, and genuine though not always in the sense of creating a work of art. In the movie *The Greatest Showman*, Barnum is described as a man who dares to make decisions. With his attitude like this, Barnum has no limits on expressing his creativity when the museum that Barnum manages is empty of visitors, Barnum has the idea to turn his museum into a circus and recruit Stratton the odd person to become his talent. He innovates to keep his museum on the verge of bankruptcy. This unique idea proves that Barnum has unique creativity and innovation.

### B.9. Resistance to Enculturation

Resistance to enculturation is the final Barnum characteristic of a self-actualized person. He can resist social pressures to think or act in his own way because he is self-actualized.

Self-actualizing people have a sense of detachment from their surroundings and can transcend a particular culture. They are neither antisocial nor consciously non-conforming. Rather, they are autonomous, following their standards of conduct and not blindly obeying the rules of others. Self-actualizing people do not waste energy fighting against insignificant customs and regulations of society. (Feist and Feist 295-296)

As people achieve these goals, they become more unique, more heterogeneous, and less culturally formed. As evidenced by the dialogue below demonstrates, Barnum possesses this quality:

PROTESTER #2: “You’re all freaks!”

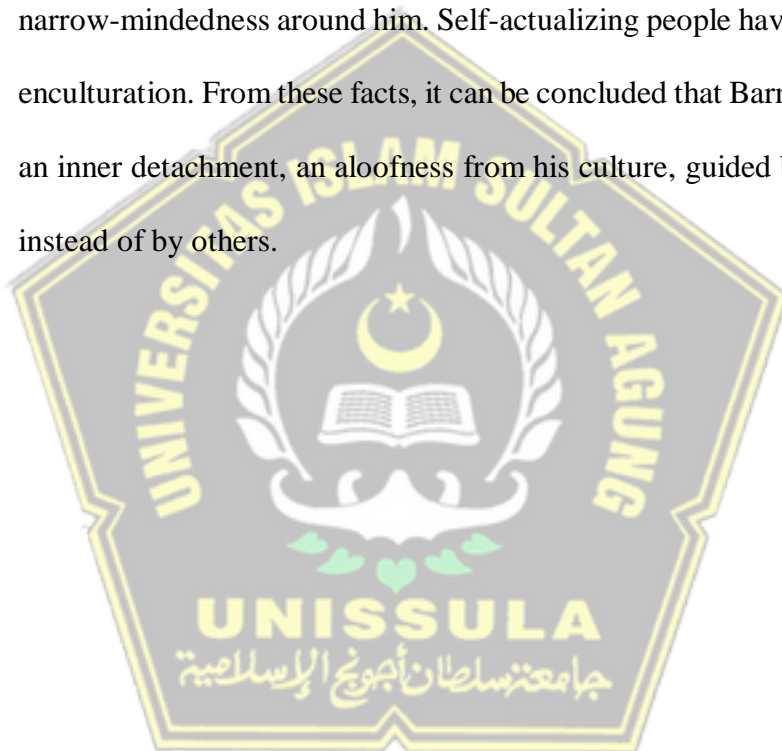
PROTESTER #3: “We do not want your freak show here! “

PROTESTER #4: “Go back where you belong! On stage, the troupe stops.”

**Protesters SHOUT in unison:**

PROTESTERS: “Shut it down! Shut it down!” (*The Greatest Showman* 01:15:11-01:15:18)

Barnum had resistance to enculturation. Barnum can resist social pressures to think or act in certain ways because he is self-actualized. Barnum's neighbourhood balked at a circus of freaks. The oddities are considered immoral, indecent, unsuitable for polite society, and an insult to family values. As a self-actualizing person, Barnum is able to resist social pressures. Barnum was unaffected by culture. He refuses to act like a narrow-mindedness around him. Self-actualizing people have resistance to enculturation. From these facts, it can be concluded that Barnum maintains an inner detachment, an aloofness from his culture, guided by themselves instead of by others.



## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### A. Conclusion

The analysis in chapter four forms the basis for the conclusions of the research regarding the formulation of the problem. The main character of *The Greatest Showman*, Barnum, has achieved self-actualization after completing all five needs in Maslow's hierarchy.

Barnum as the main character fulfills all his basic needs. Barnum fulfills physiological needs, Barnum has no trouble going to sleep because Barnum has a place to sleep. Barnum also fulfills safety needs because he has a house for shelter and a place to hang out. Barnum is a person who is loved and cherished by his family so Barnum's love and belonging needs are fulfilled. Barnum also fulfills esteem needs, in the movie Barnum earns the respect of others and finally, Barnum can achieve self-actualization. Barnum's self-actualization is achieved when he truly understands and finds his life's purpose and develops the potential that exists within him properly. All of Barnum's dreams of having a happy circus and family have been fulfilled.

As a self-actualized person, Barnum has nine characteristics out of fifteen characteristics. Barnum's characteristics as a self-actualized person are the more efficient perception of reality, Barnum has this characteristic of seeing objects or individuals objectively. Barnum also accepts nature, other people, and oneself. Another characteristic is spontaneity, simplicity, and naturalness.



As a self-actualizing person, Barnum behaved openly and directly, without pretence. The next characteristic is Autonomy, to get happiness he does not depend on others so he can make his own decisions. The next characteristic is continued freshness of appreciation, Barnum can continue to value his experiences no matter how frequent they are, he appreciates and continues to be grateful for what he has experienced. Gemeinschaftsgefühl or social interest, as a self-actualizing person, Barnum cares about other people. Barnum also has a democratic character structure. In the movie, Barnum who has actualized himself does not have certain limitations in building relationships with other people, such as level of education, social class, race, skin colour, political or religious affiliation. Barnum also has no limits on expressing his creativity and the last one is resistance to enculturation, as a self-actualized person, Barnum is able to resist social pressures to think or act in certain ways.

## **B. Suggestion**

The analysis of this study creates several suggestions for future studies that can be conducted by applying the hierarchy of needs theory to the different subjects. First, another writer can use Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory to analyze other movies like *Home* (2015). Second, another writer can analyze *The Greatest Showman* movie using additional theories like the analysis of the American dream. Last, The self-actualization of Phillip, a character who plays a significant role in *The Greatest Showman*, can also be examined by another writer as an object of analysis.



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