

**TEENAGER AND DRUG ADDICTION: A CASE STUDY OF NIC
SHEFF'S STRUGGLE WITH ADDICTION IN THE *BEAUTIFUL BOY*
MOVIE (2018)**

A FINAL PROJECT

Presented as Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement to Obtain the *Sarjana*

***Sastra* Degree in English Literature**



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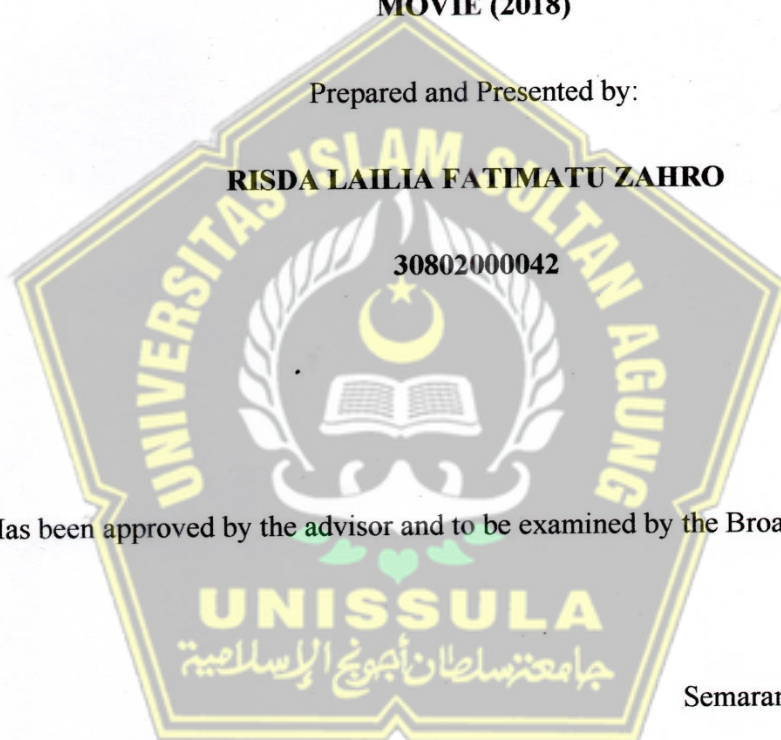
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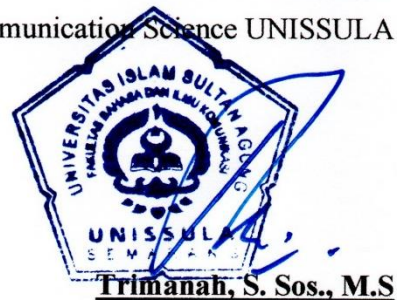

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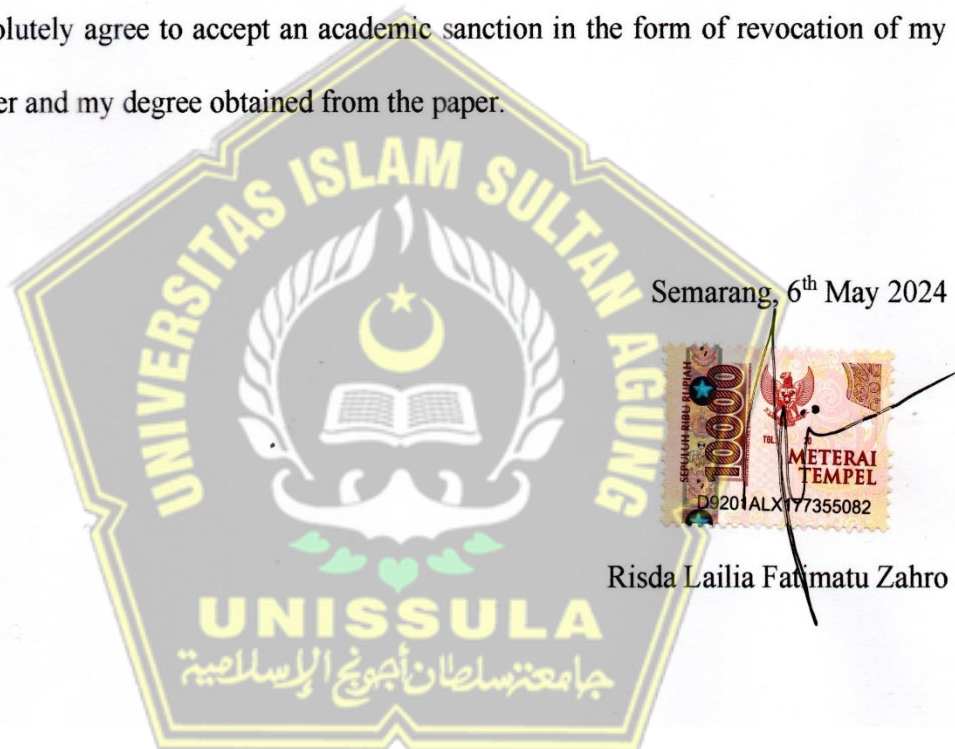
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STATEMENT OF WORK ORIGINALITY

Hereby, I honestly declare that the undergraduate thesis I wrote does not contain the work of other people, except those which were cited in the quotation 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 the paper.

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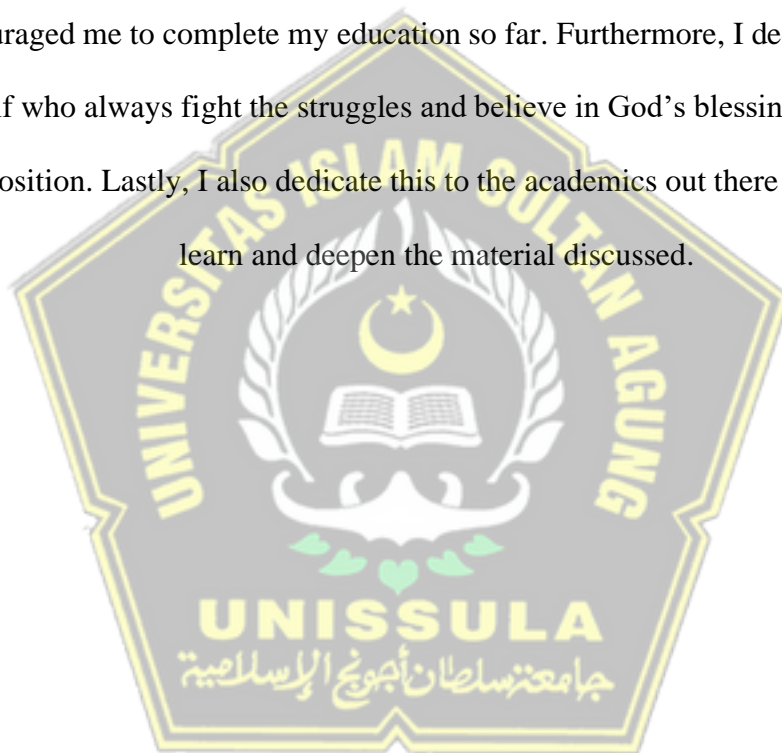
Risda Lailia Fatimatu Zahro

MOTTO

“God's blessing, parent’s pleasure, and never doubt yourself!”

DEDICATION

I dedicate this undergraduate thesis to my mother, and father, who have encouraged me to complete my education so far. Furthermore, I dedicate this to myself who always fight the struggles and believe in God’s blessing, then reach this position. Lastly, I also dedicate this to the academics out there who want to learn and deepen the material discussed.



ABSTRACT

Zahro, Risda Lailia Fatimatu, 30802000042. Teenager and Drug Addiction: A Case Study of Nic Sheff's Struggle with Addiction in The *Beautiful Boy* Movie (2018). Final Project for the English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Languages and Communication Sciences. Sultan Agung Islamic University, Semarang. Advisor: Riana Permatasari, MA., M.Pd.

This research discusses the analysis of teenager and addiction as depicted in the main character Nic Sheff or called Nic in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018). This movie is based on a true story that highlights the life of a teenager, his parents, and his environment that bring him trapped into a drug addict. The objectives of this research were to find out the factors that causing drug addiction and to find out rehabilitation and punishment to overcome Nic's drug addiction.

This research used a qualitative descriptive method to analyze movie supported by primary and secondary data. This primary data were taken from the movie and the movie scripts, while secondary data was taken from journals, books, articles, and sites related to research. The data obtained includes sentences in the form of monologues, dialogues, and cut scene derived from primary data sources the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018); which were explained through statements, quotations, descriptions, and figures.

The results of the entire research can be explained that Nic is a teenager who is addicted, especially to drugs, and he is struggling to get out of that addiction. This addiction was influenced by several supporting factors, such as psychological, biological, and environmental factors. Furthermore, Nic also experienced a situation where he received rehabilitation and punishment as a form and way to overcome his drug addiction. This phase is not easy being Nic going through this, however, here Nic continues to struggle and face what happened to him.

Key words: drug addiction, factors, rehabilitation and punishment, *Beautiful Boy*.

INTISARI

Zahro, Risda Lailia Fatimatu, 30802000042. Remaja dan Kecanduan Narkoba: Studi Kasus Perjuangan Nic Sheff Melawan Kecanduan dalam Film *Beautiful Boy* (2018). Skripsi Program Studi Sastra Inggris Fakultas Bahasa dan Ilmu Komunikasi. Universitas Islam Sultan Agung, Semarang. Pembimbing: Riana Permatasari, MA., M.Pd.

Penelitian ini membahas tentang analisis remaja dan kecanduan yang digambarkan pada tokoh utama Nic Sheff yang biasa dipanggil Nic dalam film *Beautiful Boy* (2018). Film ini diangkat dari kisah nyata yang menyoroti kehidupan seorang remaja, orang tuanya, dan lingkungannya yang membawanya terjebak menjadi seorang pecandu narkoba. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui faktor-faktor penyebab kecanduan narkoba dan untuk mengetahui rehabilitasi dan hukuman untuk mengatasi kecanduan narkoba Nic.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif untuk menganalisis film yang didukung oleh data primer dan sekunder. Data primer diambil dari film dan naskah film, sedangkan data sekunder diambil dari jurnal, buku, artikel, dan situs yang berkaitan dengan penelitian. Data yang diperoleh meliputi kalimat-kalimat berbentuk monolog, dialog, dan potongan adegan yang berasal dari sumber data primer film *Beautiful Boy* (2018); yang dijelaskan melalui pernyataan, kutipan, uraian, dan gambar.

Hasil penelitian secara keseluruhan dapat dijelaskan bahwa Nic merupakan seorang remaja yang mengalami kecanduan khususnya narkoba dan sedang berjuang untuk keluar dari kecanduan tersebut. Kecanduan ini dipengaruhi oleh beberapa faktor pendukung, seperti faktor psikologis, biologis, dan lingkungan. Lebih lanjut, Nic juga mengalami situasi dimana ia mendapat rehabilitasi dan hukuman sebagai bentuk dan cara mengatasi kecanduan narkoba. Fase ini tidak mudah karena Nic melewatinya, namun di sini Nic terus berjuang dan menghadapi apa yang menimpanya.

Kata kunci: kecanduan narkoba, faktor-faktor, rehabilitasi dan hukuman, *Beautiful Boy*.

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In the name of Allah the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala, who eases every difficulty, mercy, and the blessing so that I could accomplish this final project. I realize that the final project could not be completed without getting support, advice, suggestions, and guidance from many people. Therefore, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the following people:

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I realize that this final project is still far from perfect. Therefore, this final project is open to receiving any suggestions and criticism for further research. Hopefully, despite existing imperfections, this study will be able to bring science in humanities to further development or at least be able to become reading material that brings benefits to readers.

Semarang, 6th May 2024

Risda Lailia Fatimatu Zahro

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Addiction occurs in human life but often escapes public attention. Starting among teenagers and even adults can experience addiction. According to the *National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)*, 19.7 million American adults with a substance use disorder struggle with alcohol also 38% of adults battled an illicit drug use disorder in 2017 (16). If it can be raised in comparison, based on the American Centres, there are 1 in 8 adults struggling with alcohol and drug disorders together. The latest survey data from *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) 2020, National Survey on Drug Use Health (NSDUH)* estimates that there are 25.9 million alcohol users and 10.9 million drug users (October-December 2020, survey) (1).

American Psychology Association (APA) said that addiction is a state of psychological or physical dependence both on alcohol and drug use (1). According to Hovart, addiction is an activity or substance that has a negative impact but there is a desire from oneself to do it repeatedly and even cost a lot (8). Based on this statement, addiction can have various types of consequences, ranging from substances and activities such as alcohol, drugs, gaming activities, shopping, and even sex.

The issue of drug addiction and how to overcome it can be seen through the character of Nic Sheff in the movie directed by Felix Van Groeningen and produced by Dede Gardner, Jeremy Kleiner, and Brad Pitt entitled *Beautiful Boy* (2018). This movie tells the story through the main character, Nic Sheff who struggles with a substance disorder where he is a drug addict teenager. Nic Sheff lives in a family where his parents' divorce and his father remarried and has other children.

As a teenager, Nic always wants to be noticed and heard by his parents. However, with a family that is not as intact as it used to be, Nic feels he is not heard by his parents. Moreover, his father wants Nic to go to college. The differences in principle and opinion appear between Nic and his father, Nic does not want to be a student and go to college.

From then on, Nic lives by following his heart without caring about his family. Nic tries to do drugs. Apparently, according to him, he is happier and calmer when using it. Then, Nic continues to consume drugs, until he becomes an addict. Do not stay silent, as a father, he certainly does not want his son to fall into this and even become an addict. Thus, from there his father began to do various rehabilitation and punishment. This movie highlights the factors that can cause a person to become addicted to drugs. In addition, rehabilitation and punishment are very prominent in implementation as two things that can overcome addiction. Even though rehabilitation is temporary, follow-up actions such as punishment can stop

a person from being drug-free, as depicted in Nic in the movie *Beautiful Boy* (2018).

Meanwhile, *Beautiful Boy* (2018) is very interesting for the researcher to make it as an object of research because it relates to the phenomenon of teenagers and adults nowadays. This is because there are indeed a lot of addiction phenomena that are very common among teenagers. In addition, the previous research has discussed addiction but did not use the object of study in the form of the movie *Beautiful Boy* (2018). If any, the previous studies have discussed the main character's style of language, the struggle or the journey of a father in helping his child recover from drug addiction, or the meaning of the main character from a semiotic point of view. Thus, there is a novelty in this study. Furthermore, this movie has won several awards such as Winner of Hollywood Film Awards (2018) in nominee "Breakthrough Directing and Supporting Actor of The Year, Winner of Young Entertainment Awards" (2019), etc. That is why it is very important to research the movie *Beautiful Boy* (2018).

In brief, this study is entitled *Teenager and Drug Addiction: A Case Study of Nic Sheff's Struggle with Addiction in the Beautiful Boy Movie* (2018) which focuses on the factors that causing drugs addiction and also rehabilitation and punishment to overcome the addiction.

B. Problem Formulation

Based on the background of the study above, this study formulates the statements of the problem as follows:

- a. What factors causing drugs addiction depicted in Nic Sheff in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018)?
- b. How rehabilitation and punishment can overcome Nic's addiction in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018)?

C. Limitation of the Study

This research focuses on the main character in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018). The researcher chose Nic because he is a teenager who is addicted to drugs thus, it can relate to the current phenomenon of teenagers who are addicted to drugs. However, this is often underestimated by the public. Furthermore, teenagers and parents who also lack of education about addiction. Therefore, this research focuses on the factors that caused Nic become addicted to drugs and how to overcome through punishment and rehabilitation.

D. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem formulation above, this study formulates the objectives as follows:

- a. To describe what the factors causing Nic Sheff to fall into drugs addiction as depicted in the movie.
- b. To analyse how rehabilitation and punishment can overcome addiction in Nic Sheff.

E. Significance of the Study

This research is useful to provide new insights into addiction among teenagers and adults. The discussion of addiction is not always taboo, and addicts will not always be addicted forever. Of course, if there are factors that influence it, there will be overcome in the form of rehabilitation and punishment that can suppress the rate, inhibit, or even stop the addiction. This research is also going to be significant for teenagers, adults, of course, students, parents, and the general public to understand and study more deeply about addiction. Once again, this research is conducted to raise awareness about addiction.

F. Organization of the Study

This final project is systematically organized into five chapters. Each chapter contains different matters to be discussed. Chapter one contains the introduction, which consists of the Background of the Study, Problem Formulation, Limitation of the Study, Objectives of the Study, Significance of the Study, and Organization of the Study. Chapter two

contains a synopsis and review of related. Chapter three contains a research method that consists of Types of Research, and Data Organization. Data organization provides a data-collecting method that consists of watching the movie, reading the movie script, identifying the data, classifying the data, and reducing the data. Chapter four contains finding and discussion. Chapter five includes conclusion and suggestion.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A. Synopsis of *Beautiful Boy* (2018)

Beautiful Boy (2018) is a movie based on the true story of Nicholas Sheff (Nic Sheff) and his father David Sheff. This movie tells that Nic Sheff is an 18-year-old drug user and addict. This handsome young man has many advantages, both academic and non-academic. However, it is very regrettable that he is trapped in a dark circle of drugs. Nic's father, David Sheff always feels that he cares most about Nic and knows everything about him. Therefore, after knowing that his son is a drug user, he tries various ways to help Nic get out of that circle.

After knowing that Nic is a drug addict, his father does not hesitate to go to a psychiatrist to find out the impact on his son after taking drugs and how to free him from these drugs. Further action from his father and mother is to bring him to the rehabilitation center to stop the supply of drugs. Of course, it is not easy because Nic does not want to enter this place. In the end, he stays to live in a rehabilitation center.

Time flies quickly and at the time of evaluation, it turns out that Nic is getting better. Nic can slowly control himself from the methamphetamine he consumes. However, the relapse phase appears, and it is normal among addicts. Nic escapes from the rehabilitation center and again his father never gives up trying to find and persuade Nic to come back.

Upon his return, his father asks him why all this happens and why Nic chooses drugs. According to Nic, he wants to live in peace, relax, and be able to rest from his entire daily life which he thinks is very useless. Nic also says that he likes drugs, drugs make him feel better than before. Thus, he decides to always consume and eventually becomes an addict. Finally, he adds that he keeps it a secret and lies about this because he is pressured by his father, whom Nic thinks hates him because he does not want to go to college.

Nic spends his days in the rehabilitation center and halfway house to do activities and work there. Nic's progress is still the same when he feels happy everything is fine, but if he feels sad, he relapses and returns to drugs. Thus, it gets to a point where he determines to go to college with the excuse of developing his writing skills. Finally, he goes to college, and gets friends, even lovers. In the early week, he can adapt to the campus environment as well as students in general. However, sadness comes and he returns to drugs and his girlfriend knows if he takes back to the drug, then they argue until Nic feels lowkey.

At this lowest point, Nic returns to drugs. Nic lives in the town where he studies and relies on money sent by his father. Nic uses the only money from his father to buy drugs and hold a drug party with his new friends. That is where Nic finds pleasure, he feels like he gets medicine and 'comfort' after he consumes it. Knowing this, his father no longer cares and lets Nic does

not get any money. David is very disappointed and broke up at that time with Nic.

Then, he does everything possible to earn money to buy drugs. Finally, Nic comes home, and he takes his sister's money. Not just once, Nic sneaks' home with his new girlfriend to pick up things in his house and leaves with the dream of living the way he chooses and being with his girlfriend. Again, the new problem comes after a drug binge with her girlfriend, and then her girlfriend overdoses. Nic panics and calls his father again but his father completely gives up on his attitude.

Nic is desperate to go home and tries to apologize to his family, then he asks to be put back in a rehabilitation center so he can recover. David Sheff does not care anymore and hands Nic over to his biological mother to try to live with him, maybe if Nic is with his mother, he will be more obedient. However, unfortunately, this does not apply to Nic, he still relapses and again Nic is put into rehab by his father, and he receives support from his parents. At the end of the movie, Nic Sheff can get through this and recover from drug addiction.

B. Related Literature

In this section, there are two points to discuss related to the theory used in this study. The purpose of this first discussion is to define theory, research reports, and review drug addiction as the main topic. Therefore, the

discussion is more focused on: factors of drug addiction, ways to overcome addiction with rehabilitation, and punishment. Lastly, the review of related literature also includes previous studies.

B.1. Drugs Addiction

Using drugs is very dangerous both physically and mentally.

The physically harmful effects of drugs are an asset to the body in the long term for teenagers who continue to abuse drugs into adulthood. This is as stated by R. Blum that will cause one-third to one-half of lung cancer so that, later it can cause coronary heart disease in adults (64). Likewise, research from the *National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)* that addiction will interfere with the physical or bodily functions starting from the heart and even the nerves in the brain, this will be fatal and can cause death if there is no treatment (4).

Not only affecting physics but using drugs also affects the mental health of the drug users. The mental health effects of using drugs must be very present in everyone who consumes them, whether they are addicts or are still at the beginning. According to a survey from the *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)*, the mental health of drug users will include disturbances in the form of moods and thoughts that change easily, even followed by behavior that seems unusual (1). Of course, this disturbance does not only affect the user himself but again the other people and their environment. Therefore,

according to Adams, Blaken, Ferguson, and Kopstein, drug use especially for adolescents, both legal and illegal, remains a very serious public health problem (64).

According to the *National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)*, people who use drugs for the first time will feel more comfortable and better than before (2). According to users, this will feel like a positive effect for them, so that in the end they cannot control their use because they constantly feel comfortable and they think consuming drugs is a normal thing. Therefore, not a few of them need more levels of drugs from the first consumption until they are not aware that it will harm themselves and even other people around them. This is a sign that someone is addicted to drugs (2).

A survey from the National Drug in 2018 states that almost every year 70,000 Americans die, some of whom experience overdoses of alcohol and there are also drug addicts (3). The *World Health Organization (WHO)* defines drugs are any substance that can be incorporated into living organisms and their functions can be modified according to the actions of these organisms (13). Hence, as the *American Psychology Association (APA)* said addiction is a state of psychological or physical dependence or both on alcohol and drug use (1). Thus, according to the *National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)*, drug addiction is a chronic brain disease that can recur (1). The signs are that an organism concerned will compulsively seek and consume drugs,

without thinking about what consequences it will receive later and that is very dangerous. If allowed to continue taking this drug will make an organization experience addiction, lasting a lifetime, if this is not treated it will even result in death (5).

B.1.1 Factors Causing Drugs Addiction

The development of drug addiction as a disease disorder has been conceptualized since the last 200 years, this has been credited by Benjamin Rush (6). According to Mayer, Rush has conceptualized drug addiction as a central nervous stimulant disorder that can make the user lose control of their self (6). As for drug addiction, it is certainly motivated by the factors that cause drug addiction itself. Here are some of the risk factors that cause a person to become a drug addict, according to the *National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)*:

a. Psychological factors

Teenagers and people with mental disorders are at greater risk of using drugs than those without. According to Kessler and Wang mental disorders are common, usually occurring in teenagers where it is the peak occurrence of mental disorders that a person can experience (115). Kessler emphasized once again that the main disorders are social anxiety and cannabis or drug use disorders that often appear in teenagers (115).

Furthermore, the *National Institute of Drug Addiction (NIDA)* also has a statement that mental disorders such as anxiety, depression, or schizophrenia may come before addiction (21). Abuse of these drugs can lead to worsening of the user's mental condition, especially for those whose mental resilience is at a certain level. Apart from a certain level of vulnerability, this also carries the risk of addiction and can make it worse mentally in the long term. Therefore, both existing mental disorders and addictions must be addressed and treated simultaneously.

Based on findings from the *National Institutes of Health (NIH)*, Department of Health and Human Services states that addiction will cause a dangerous sensory cycle in the body due to the addict's excessive emotional level (2). The emotions felt in the form of stress, anxiety if not using drugs or alcohol. If someone addicted are at this stage, the addict will more often use drugs and alcohol to calm the excessive emotions they feel and the bad feelings they feel about themselves. Thus, excessive use is not due to a pleasurable effect. Another statement *National Institute of Health (NIH)* mental health problem will makes people more get to addicted in drug. Anyone with untreated mental health problem like ADHD are more likely get into drug addicted. They use drug try to feel better (1).

b. Biological Factors

In the decades that have passed, there has been research on the biological factors that can cause drug addiction. According to the *National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)*, scientists have estimated that epigenetic genes have a 40 percent – 60 percent risk of addiction in a person. In addition, biological factors besides genes, developmental stages, gender, even ethnicity are also included as triggering factors (8).

According to Ripple and Luthar, in terms of gender, men will easily depend on drugs based on their biological genetic predisposition. This is inversely proportional to women who can be more dependent on drugs due to psychological factors, not biological factors (17). Furthermore, according to Koob, addiction tends to occur and is passed down in families, there is a gene that is linked to various forms and types of addiction. On the other hand, not all family members are vulnerable to addiction (1).

Apart from gender, there are many who do not know that racial or ethnic differences in the general population are a factor in drug use among adolescents, according to Gillmore, Catalano, Morrison, Wells, Iritani, and Hawkins (18). Gillmore et al, 1990; Peterson, Hawkins, Abbott, and Catalano, in most studies, alcohol and drug use is more common among white people than among African-American, Hispanic, or Asian-American adolescents. However, this is not the case: heroin use

among whites is found to be more unequal in data than in African-American and Hispanic ethnic populations. For the ethnic Indiana-American population, the use of all drugs except heroin is high. However, for Asian-Americans, they tend to be low in overall alcohol and drug use (18).

c. Environment Factors

In this environmental factor, family and home can greatly influence a person in drug abuse. Childhood and parental background are also important factors in this. According to Barnes, Reifinan, Farrell, and Dintcheff family function is very important in their environment (9). Families that rarely or even do not care for and monitor their children intensively will tend to be teenagers who grow up with several problems such as drug and alcohol abuse. However, this is not the case with children who are raised and cared for in a supportive manner by their environment and family (9). They will tend to become teenagers who grow according to the direction of their parents (16). This is in connection with the explanation from Bumrind where parents are authoritative where they are the type of parents who combine limits and children's understanding, so they will produce good behavior that their children will apply when they grow into teenagers (16).

The smallest scope, namely the family, is a very important thing to pay attention to, especially at a young age. As written in the *National*

Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) that older family members, especially parents who use drugs, are facts that can increase the risk of drugs in the future. This will mainly happen to younger family members and even the closest people, namely their children (6).

There are also many kinds of factors in the family environment. As Koob said, the possibility of addiction will occur if someone grows up with addicts in their family, is abused as a child, even because of extraordinary pressure and stress. These factors can contribute to a person's risk of abusing drugs and becoming addicted to drugs. Koob further stated that drugs or alcohol consumed by someone under age or a teenager is likely to become increasingly addicted in later life (2).

Ripple and Luthar stated that the family greatly influences the etiologic of drug use and abuse (14). This statement can be proven by genetic transmissive results as well as from the family environment itself. The evidence from the study conducted by Ripple and Luthar is the result of investigations of family history and interviews. Regarding the familial transmission of drug abuse, Ripple and Luthar can conclude the results of their study that there is specific transmission of the substances used. This is in the sense that if the parents are drug addicts then their offspring will not be far from it and even tend to use it (14).

Apart from family and home factors, the next environmental factors that influence a person's addiction to drugs are peer and school. During

teenagers' feelings and thoughts will fluctuate, as well as friendships that can have a strong influence on teenagers as they grow and develop. According to *the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)* Teenagers who have poor social skills will try to struggle at school and they will be at risk of drug addiction (6). Those who do drug abuse can be affected even those who have absolutely no risk factors will try it for the first time. In teenagers, friendships are highly developed and occupy a major role in their interpersonal communication. Teenagers also begin to feel comfortable outside the scope of their families, namely with their peers and also at school and live a social life. Ellinwood, argues that changes in social values as a consequence of modernization are also a factor causing drug abuse (7).

B.1.2 Ways to Overcome Drug Addiction

Drug abuse is not something that can be cured in a short time. They are drug addicts who need healing both physically and psychologically. Therefore, it needs some ways to overcome the addiction first through a gradual rehabilitation process. Second, apart from that there are also other ways to overcome the addiction, namely by giving punishment. Those ways are needed as a solution for addicts to stop using and become drug addicts.

There are two types of rehabilitation based on law, namely social rehabilitation and medical rehabilitation. Social rehabilitation according to Article 1 Point 17 of Law No. 35 of 2009 Concerning Drugs is the process

of drug recovery through integrated activities, both physical and mental activities. It is hoped that after leaving the rehabilitation center addicts will be able to return to normal coexistence with themselves, their families and the surrounding community (7). Meanwhile, medical rehabilitation is the process of recovering drug addicts with medical treatment so that addicts can be free from this dependence, in accordance with Article 1 Point 16 of Law No. 35 of 2009 Concerning Drugs (7).

According to Skinner punishment is a procedure in which the response is followed by removing negative reinforcement and assisting with negative reinforcement as a stimulus removal. This procedure exists and is carried out with the intention of being able to reduce the tendency to behave in a certain way (182). The word 'punishment' is synonymous with the connotation of being deliberately set by others, it is intended that the result will strengthen them. Whereas when someone uses punishment, he does things such as criticizing, mocking, blaming, refusing, or physically attacking someone, with the aim of suppressing unwanted behaviour, Skinner (5).

Thus, rehabilitation and punishment are the two most frequently used ways to overcome addiction. Rehabilitation can be done in two ways, namely by means of social rehabilitation or rehabilitation using medical. As for punishment itself, it is in accordance with Skinner's opinion that this method will reduce the rate of unwanted behaviour, that is, it can overcome the addiction.

B.2 Previous Studies

In the research area related to analysing drug addiction in literary works, the researcher found some previous studies. They exist in the form of thesis. From the existence of these several things, it shows that this kind of research is applicable in literature field.

Based on the explanation above, this research has similarities with the previous study which discussed about the movie itself which is *Beautiful Boy* (2018). First is the thesis entitled "*The Depression Symptoms Of The Character Nic Sheff In The Film Beautiful Boy By Felix Van Groeningen*" by Aziz, Nazwa Aliya, from Muhammadiyah University Sukabumi. This thesis is analyzed about Nic Sheff's depression symptoms through 6 aspects. The 6 aspects in question are emotional aspects, cognitive aspects, motivational aspects, physical aspects, delusions and hallucinations.

Second, is the thesis entitled "*Drug Addiction Portrayed in Hubert Selby Jr's Requiem for a Dream and Irvine Welsh's Trainspotting: A Comparative Literature Analysis*" by Andary, Cindy Dwi from *Universitas Sumatera Utara (USU)*. This thesis is about a comparison of literary analysis using two literary works from two different countries with the same motive, namely about drug addiction. Thus, the findings from this comparative analysis are that the two literary

works can show the similarities and differences experienced by the characters of the two literary works when experiencing drug addiction.

Hence, from the previous theses above, there are some similarities with this research. The similarities in which start from the focus of the object of the study namely *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018), drug addiction study, and literature analysis. On the other hand, this research has differences from the previous study above. In the first previous study, they chose depression symptoms of the main character, through 6 aspects based Beck dan Alford . Moreover, in this research chose the *National Institute on Drug Abuse* (NIDA) the main source of the theory used in this study and analyze about teenager and drug addiction. Moreover, in the second study, they used book as the object of study in the literature analysis, while in this research using movie as the object of the study and analysing psychology in literature.

As a result, this research has the differences with the previous studies. Those similarities in the previous studies will be used as the references for this research to build the analysis. On the other hand, the previous studies can be a reminder for the researcher that it has already been researched.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter discusses the method of this final project. This chapter includes Object of The Study, Type of Research, Data Organizing, and Analyzing the Data.

A. Types of the Research

This study used qualitative research as a method. Based on Adedoyin, qualitative research deals with gathering and interpreting non-numerical data to understand human and social life (1). Qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on the distinct methodological tradition inquiry that explore by the social human problem (225). Next, from Synder defines qualitative research have been established to measure the quality and strength findings or conclusions (335). On the other hand, Adedoyin said that, qualitative research deals with gathering and interpreting non-numerical (1).

B. Data Organizing

The data collecting method and types of data are the two elements in this final project that are used to organize the data.

B.1 Data Collecting Method

B.1.1 Watching the Movie

The movie entitled *Beautiful Boy* (2018) was closely watched several times to achieve a better understanding of the movie and get the elements needed in the analysis.

B.1.2 Reading the Movie Script

In addition to watch the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018), data collection was also taken through reading the movie script. The purpose of this step was to obtain the primary data for this research.

B.1.3 Identifying the Data

After watching the movie and reading the movie script several times, identification was conducted to find parts of the movie that were going to be analyzed. The data were identified in the form of dialogues and monologues of the movie script.

B.1.4 Classifying the Data

Classifying means listing all identified data and putting them on the table. The table consists of columns of numbers, quotations from the movie, types of analysis, where the data is found, the form of the data, references, and comments. The table of inventoried data is called the Appendix. There are seven columns in the appendix including number, quotes in the movie, time, type of analysis, type of data, references, and comments.

Table 3. 1 Classified Data (Appendix)

No.	Quotes in the Movie	Time	Type of Analysis	Type of Data	References	Comment
1.						

B.2 Types of the Data

There are two types of data: primary and secondary. According to Ajayi, primary data is referred to as the original and unique data, meanwhile, secondary data is the analysis and interpretation of the primary data (1).

B.2.1 Primary Data

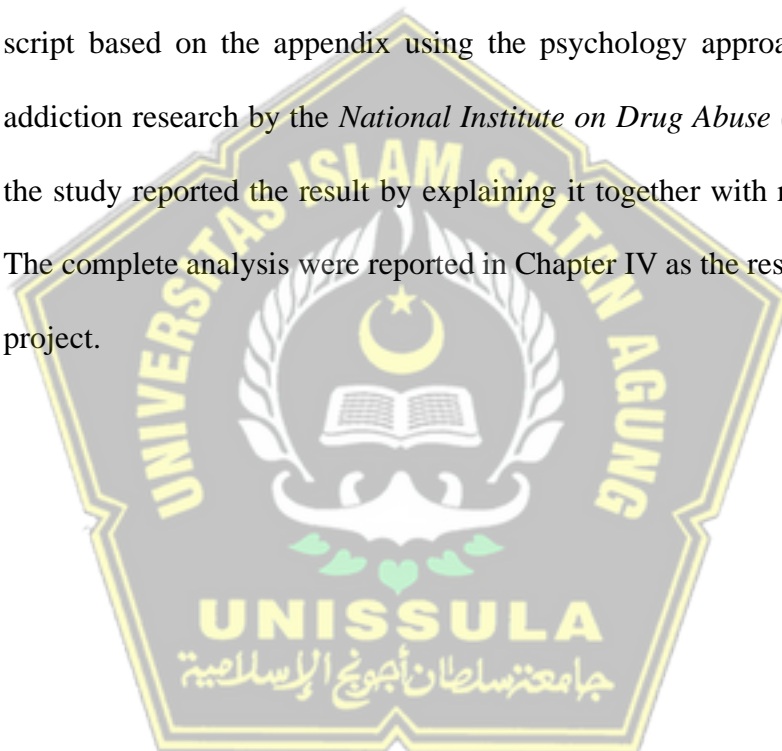
The primary or original data from this research was the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018) and also related to the movie script of *Beautiful Boy* (2018) which consists of 96 pages. The movie was directed by Felix Van Groeningen and published in 2018. The duration of this movie are 120 minutes. The movie describes how Nic's struggle with addiction.

B.2.2 Secondary Data

The secondary data were taken by other sources that related to the primary data that support the analysis such as several journals, literary books, articles that are related to this research, and other relevant sources.

C. Data Analyzing

The last step used the technique of analyzing data which consists of analyzing and reporting the data. The collected data were analyzed with descriptive analysis by giving statements, descriptions, explanations, and quotations from the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018). Moreover, by giving descriptive analysis, this research tried to take interpretation from the movie script based on the appendix using the psychology approach; the drugs addiction research by the *National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)*. Thus, the study reported the result by explaining it together with related quotes. The complete analysis were reported in Chapter IV as the result of the final project.



CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter contains the findings and the discussion of the character's struggle with addiction in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018) to answer the problem formulation raised in chapter one. This chapter is divided into two sub-chapters that focus on explaining the factors causing addiction, rehabilitation, and punishment to overcome addiction which is reflected by Nic Sheff as the main character in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018).

A. The Factors Causing Nic Sheff's Drug Addiction

This part consists of the findings to answer the first problem formulation which shows the factors causing drugs addiction experienced by the main character, Nic Sheff in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018). According to *National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)*, the process factor causing drugs addiction can be categorized into three types: psychological, biological, and environmental factor. The following are the details for each factor:

A1. Psychological Factor

According to the *National Institute of Drug Addiction (NIDA)*, psychology is one of the factors that causes a person to become addicted to consuming drugs (1). Furthermore, still based on the *National Institute of Drug Addiction (NIDA)*, drugs can worsen the mental condition of users, especially for those whose mental resilience is at a certain level (4). This

problem exactly also carries the risk of addiction and can worsen mental health in the long term. Therefore, Nic's drug consumption is partly due to the psychological factors behind it and it is at a certain level that he feels. On the other hand, Nic still feels ignorant and uncertain about what condition he is in, but he still consumes drugs as a supply for him.

As support and to clarify that Nic is in a certain mental condition, that he is experiencing depression because he feels pressured by his father's disappointment, Nic uses drugs to relieve mental symptoms (2). However, drug abuse will worsen their mental disorders in the long term, and increase the risk of developing addiction (2). Next and this is proven by the quote below:

DAVID: I was worried that you were smoking too much pot meanwhile you're out doing every drug on the planet?

DAVID: And hiding it and lying. And why? Tell me.

NIC: I don't know.

DAVID: Why? Tell me why!

KAREN: Ease up.

NIC: I don't know!

DAVID: I thought we were close. Closer than most fathers and sons.

(Beautiful Boy, 23)

The narration above is in the form of dialogue describing the moment when Nic and also his parent at the same time in Nic's rehabilitation particularly in Nic's room. They sit then David tries to ask Nic, what happens to this situation David feels like Nic hides everything from David. Thus, Nic cannot answer then even does not know the exact thing why he does that way. Moreover, it is proven by the quote **'I don't know'** twice by Nic. Enhance, it means that Nic is blind about what situation happens to him. The situation becomes more emotional when David continues to ask Nic. Then, Karen Nic's mother stopped them. David feels disappointed with Nic and why he hides this from his father, and David thinks they are close like most father and son.

NIC: I feel like you're just always disappointed in me. You're disappointed I don't go to college, you're...

DAVID: Well can you blame me? Not too long ago you were reading and you were writing and you were on the water polo team. And look at us now! This isn't us. This is not who we are! (*Beautiful Boy*, 24)

Nic expresses a different feeling that he feels his father has disappointed him because Nic does not want to go to college. As in the dialogue that quoted **'I feel like you're just always disappointed in me. You're disappointed I don't go to college, you're...'**. This quotation indicates that he feels depressed and pressured by his father's desire for him to continue studying in college, and he always thinks that his father is

disappointed in him. This is the background of the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018) where the character Nic consumes drugs due to one of the factors, called the psychological factor. The following quote also shows what it is called for someone in a certain level of mental condition and he got depressed, thus he used drugs to relieve something uncomfortable on him.

A2. Biological Factor

On biological factors, Gillmore et al, 1990; Peterson, Hawkins, Abbott, and Catalano stated that most studies show both alcohol and drug consumption are more prevalent among 'whites' than among African-American, Hispanic, or Asian-American teenagers. Apart from that, racial or ethnic differences are generally also a biological factor in drug use among teenagers, according to Gillmore, Catalano, Morrison, Wells, Iritani, and Hawkins (18).

VINCE: So, we feel he's made great progress. Right Nic?

NIC: Yes.

DAVID: That's great.

KAREN: That's great, Nic. (*Beautiful Boy*, 13)

VINCE: So, we should maybe talk about the coming weeks. Nic?

NIC: Yes.

David is surprised: where is this leading to? Nic takes a moment, then turns to David and Karen.

NIC (CONT'D): I think I need a little bit more time in rehab. I was wondering if I could stay in the halfway house here.

David and Karen look to Vince. (*Beautiful Boy, 14*)



Figure 4.1 Vince, Nic, Karen, David

(Source. Prime Video)



Figure 4.2 Karen, David (Nic Parents)

(Source. Prime Video)



Figure 4.3 Nic Sheff

(Source. Prime Video)

Throughout the movie, it can be seen from the quotes and pictures above, that Nic does come from an American family and they are white. Furthermore, it is also seen in the background setting of the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018) and Nic's appearance as well as his family. This makes one of the biological factors that a person becomes a drug addict based on race or ethnicity, as stated by Gillmore et al, 1990; Peterson, Hawkins, Abbott, and Catalano. Then, it is confirmed in most studies which state that alcohol and drug consumption are more prevalent among 'whites' than in African-American, Hispanic, or Asian-American teenagers.

The second part about the biological factors in Nic's character is related to gender. According to Ripple and Luthar, from a gender perspective, men's instincts are to easily depend on drugs based on their biological genetic tendencies (17). From this study, it will be the same as what happened to the character Nic in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018). As we know, Nic is a teenage boy who is very close to his father. Now, Nic is in the position of a teenager who is addicted to drugs. Thus, the gender apart by biological factors in Nic is proven in the quotes below:

Nic: Hey dad, do you want to smoke this?

Nic takes out a joint.

David: Hey! Woah, wait. What? Stop.

David nervously laughs.

David (CONT'D): Put that away.

In this cut scene, the situation is when Nic and David are on their way to the college where Nic will register as a student there. That is when the son and father talked and joked a little, like a man who consuming cigarettes, Nic offered his father a cigarette. However, David disagreed with Nic's invitation by laughing and then refusing.

Nic: I think that we should smoke this together.

Nic keep eyeing David.

David: This is crazy. No.

Nic: I know you smoke.

David: Yeah... No, no...

Nic: You know what? You're right, I'll just light in there alone.

Nic doesn't get a yes or n, as David is too surprised, so Nic puts it to his lips and takes out a lighter,

David: Don't! Stop it. Occasionally from time to time I will have a hit or two at party but it has been for a while...

Nic: Just have a celebratory joint with your son,

They laugh and David starts the car, backs up.

David: Oh, God Come on. (Beautiful Boy, 19)

Furthermore, still in this dialogue scene, Nic is still persuading his father by offering cigarettes containing drugs to be smoked with '**we should**

smoke this together'. Again, and again it turns out that David is still in principle refusing his son's invitation firmly according to his statement if in this situation it is a crazy thing. Nic keeps persuading his father and gives the impression of insisting and then forcing him by putting the cigarette away and preparing a lighter for his father to smoke the cigarette.

David strongly opposes what Nic did to him **'Don't! Stop it.'** David then tried to give Nic an understanding by explaining that it was true that in the past, David had indeed consumed drugs but on a not very high scale, even only once or twice at parties. As if he felt it was true that Nic's father was a drug user, Nic increasingly persuaded his father with the words **'Just have a celebratory joint with your son'**.

Nic thinks that smoking cigarettes containing drugs is part of a celebration between father and son when he finally enters college as a student. Finally, the instinct to be a man emerged and as stated by researchers, Ripple and Luthar, actually in terms of gender, men will easily depend on drugs based on their biological genetic predisposition. This statement is what happened in the Nic and David scene as explained above. Finally, David says **'Oh, God Come on'**, which means David cannot longer to resist Nic's persuasion to smoke cigarettes which containing drugs together.

A3. Environmental Factor

The last factor that influences Nic's drug addiction is environmental factors. The cause relating to family; childhood; parental background; and even the community environment; peers, and school are part of environmental factors. Still, regarding Nic's characterization in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018) who is addicted to drugs, he also has environmental factors that cause him to become an addict, and can be shown through cut scenes in the movie as follows:

Nic (CONT'D): Thank you, this is nice... thing to do. **You did a lot of drugs, right?**

David: **I did my share. Sure. I experimented with different kinds of drugs. And had fun sometimes. I did.**

David Chuckles. I

David (COUNT'D): But not harmless, had a friend that...

Nic: Is this the lecture part?

It makes David smile,

Nic (COUNT'D); You worry too much. Everyone does it.

David: Yeah, well... Just be careful. (*Beautiful Boy*, 21)

The situation still when they on the road by the car, Nic wants to know more about his father, who was a drug user when he was young. **'You**

did a lot of drugs, right?' This question refers to Nic's curiosity about his father. Again, his father shares the story about while he was young, he consumed drugs. When David was young, he tried several different types of drugs and he enjoyed those moments, which is proven by the quote that reads **'I experimented with different kinds of drugs. And had fun sometimes. I did.'** by David.

Therefore, the quotes depicted in this movie can be realized through research conducted by Ripple and Luthar. Based on investigative research and interviews with several respondents, Ripple and Luthar concluded that the family can greatly influence the etiology of drug use and treatment (14). In this case, Nic used drugs because his father was also a drug user and addict. Then, the research that Ripple and Luthar conducts and emphasizes again with the conclusion that this research was specific. In the transmission of substances used, if the parents are drug addicts, the offspring will not be far from them and will even tend to use them (14). That is what happened to David and Nic.

However, at the end of the dialogue in the quote, Nic seems to feel relieved because his father was also a drug user. Nic tries to lighten the mood so that Dad does not worry too much about **'You worry too much. Everyone does it.'** Then, David also chimes in by warning Nic by **saying 'Be careful.'**

There is another cutscene that presents Nic's character experiencing drug addiction with a background based on environmental factors. Peers and school are also part of the environmental factors that can influence someone to consume drugs. Nic, not only gets environmental factors from his family, like Nic's father who was a drug user while he was a teenager, Nic also gets them from peers and school. At that time, Nic's peer and school environment was very free, he met and mingled with his friends who were also drug users and even drug dealers. They were Lauren and Dealer who Nic knew when he was about to enter college. Peers and school which are part of the environmental factors in Nic's drug consumption, are proven through this scene:

Lauren: Nic Sheff!

Nic: Hi... Lauren...! (*Beautiful Boy*, 73)

Lauren: God it's been a long time. What are you doing?

Nick: Well...

Nic is thinking. Should he tell the truth?

Lauren: What?

Nic: I've been sober for a while, but I'm seriously looking to party right now.

Dealer: I got what you need!

The dealer shakes two baggies. Nic reaches for both.

In the quotes above, it is depicted that Nic goes back to visit the place where he and his college friends used to meet and deal drugs. Many people are drug addicts in that place to buy and consume drugs. By accident, Nic met his friend again while waiting for his drug order to arrive from the dealer. Her friend is Lauren, who used to party drugs with Nic. Nic and Lauren greet each other. Then, Nic expresses what he feels at that time to Lauren, Nic is sober from addiction and is gradually recovering, but he only wants to do a drug party this time. This is proven to Nic by **'sober'** and **'I'm seriously looking to party right now.'** Not long after, the Dealer comes and says **'I got what you need!'** which means that the drugs Nic ordered by Nic. Nic and Lauren rush to Lauren's house to have a drugs party.

Nic: Can you get me a cup of water and spoon?

Lauren: Mmmmmhmm.

She exits. Nic sits and looks around the room, fiddling with a baggie in his hand. She returns. He smiles.

Lauren: Here you go (*Beautiful Boy, 74*)

She hands him the water and puts the spoon on the table.

Nic: Goddamn... Goddamn.

Now Nic shoots up Lauren.

Nic (CONT'D): There it is. That's it.

She coughs too. A lot. Hard breathing.

Lauren: Wow.

Nic smiles at her.

Nic: You see? I told ya.

They sit there staring at each other. Not saying a word. He starts kissing her. She kisses him back. He kisses her harder. (*Beautiful Boy*, 75)

Arriving at Lauren's house, Nic and Lauren launch their action to party with drugs. '**cup of water and spoon?**' From this quote, it is a tool used to consume drugs that Nic asked Lauren for. Not long after, Lauren gives it to Nic '**Here you go**'. Nic also injected drugs into himself and he felt the sensation by saying '**Goddamn... Goddamn.**' Then Nic did the same thing to Lauren '**There it is. That's it.**' Lauren can only react 'Wow' as they occasionally look at each other and smile even though they get short of breath situation.

Through the evidence depicted in this scene, it can be said that based on the *National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)*, environmental factors that can influence a person's addiction to drugs are peers and school. Nic hangs out with his peer, the Dealer, and his peer and schoolmate, Lauren, where in this movie they are mutually interested and influenced by one thing, namely drugs. This is emphasized again by a statement from the *National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)* that when teenagers are teenagers, their feelings and thoughts will change, as well as friendships which can have a

strong influence on teenagers in their growth and development. Teenagers also begin to feel comfortable outside the family circle, namely with their peers and also at school and living a social life. Moreover, Nic, from the start, wants to live independently, with the consequence that he would be responsible for himself because he does not want to be ordered by his father to go to college.

B. Rehabilitation and Punishment can Overcome Nic Sheff's Addiction

This part consists of the findings to answer the second problem formulation which focuses on explaining the way of rehabilitation dan punishment in Nic can overcome drug addiction in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018). According to Mahi M. Hikmat, rehabilitation such the healing of a person who is exposed to psychotropic hazards (2). Furthermore, here the researcher found two types of rehabilitation based on the Law in Article 1 Point 16 and 17 of Law No. 35 of 2009 Concerning Drugs is the process of drug recovery through activities both physical and mental, which mean social rehabilitation (7). Moreover, the second is called medical rehabilitation which means the process of drug recovery by medical treatment (7). Enhance, after the rehabilitation the way to overcome drug addiction is punishment. According to B.F Skinner, punishment is eliminating beneficial consequences to reduce undesirable behavior or what is usually called punishment, which is a consequence that reduces the possibility of an addict continuing to experience addiction, especially for drug addiction in the context of this analysis (1).

B1. Rehabilitation

According to the *National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)*, rehabilitation is part of the treatment to overcome addiction in cases of drug addiction. The treatment process that goes through will be able to help addicts overcome their dependence on drugs and overcome their addiction. Thus, rehabilitation can include physical and psychological aspects of the individual. Likewise, rehabilitation is also regulated in law which is in Article 1 Number 16 and 17 of Law Number 35 of 2009 Concerning Drugs is the process of recovering drug users process. Thus, based on the law, there are two kinds of rehabilitation including social and medical rehabilitation.

According to Article 1 Point 17 of Law No. 35 of 2009 Concerning Drugs, social rehabilitation is the process of drug recovery through integrated activities, both physical and mental activities (7). This social rehabilitation has a purpose and hope that after leaving the rehabilitation center, the addicts will be able to return to normal coexistence with themselves, their families, and the surrounding community. In this *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018), social rehabilitation is carried out as a way to overcome drug addiction in the main character Nic, and will be explained through two data. The first is described in the following quote:

VINCE: So, we feel he's made great progress. Right Nic?

NIC: Yes.

DAVID: That's great.

KAREN: That's great, Nic. (*Beautiful Boy, 13*)

VINCE: So, we should maybe talk about the coming weeks. Nic?

NIC: Yes.

The situation in the dialogue above is while Nic's parents are visiting Nic's rehabilitation center. In the room, there are Nic, his parents, also Vince who is the head of the rehabilitation center and handled Nic in this case. Vince reports Nic's progress to his parents that according to the rehabilitation and monitoring center, Nic has made greater progress as Vince says **'we feel he's made great progress'**. Nic agrees and feels that he made great progress then he proven with **'Yes'** like the dialogue above.

David is surprised, where is this leading to?

Nic takes a moment, then turns to David and Karen.

NIC (CONT'D): I think I need a little bit more time in rehab. I was wondering if I could stay in the halfway house here.

David and Karen look to Vince.

VINCE: The halfway house is an open living facility, with follow-up every night. And we would help him find a job.

A beat. David is trying to figure out what this means... He looks at Nic.

NIC: I don't want to go to college right now, dad.

David didn't see this one coming, doesn't understand. Takes his time to let it sink in.

DAVID: Oh. OK. And do what?

NIC: (takes his time, soft) I think I need to be independent. Dad, I'm telling you this is... it's going to be good. (*Beautiful Boy, 14*)

Continuing based on the dialogue scene above, Nic, as the main character, who is a drug addict wants to stay a little longer at this rehabilitation center. Nic asks his parents about his decision and says '**I need a little bit more time in rehab**'. Next, Nic emphasizes his questions and requests to his parents with '**I was wondering if I could stay in the halfway house here.**' where the halfway house that Nic means is part of the rehabilitation center managed by Vince.

Again, Vince tries explain to Nic's parents and says '**The halfway house is an open living facility, with follow-up every night. And we would help him find a job.**' this way will make parents of addicts do not misunderstand and worry about why their child wants to stay a little longer in the rehabilitation center. This is what means by the kind of social rehabilitation where addicts can get recovery process through activities carried out at the rehabilitation center with physical and mental activities. In this movie scene, through the halfway house addicts will be given facilities and supporting activities and even get a job.

At the end of the conversation in the room, Nic says '**I think I need to be independent. Dad, I'm telling you this is... it's going to be good.**' from that way Nic tries to convince his parents, especially his father, to allow him to stay in the rehabilitation center. Nic gives some reasons that he as an addict wants himself to be in better condition, in Nic's case, he wants to be more disciplined and it will be better. This reason is also part of the aim of social rehabilitation where they hope that after leaving the rehabilitation center, they will return to normal coexistence with themselves, their families, and the surrounding community.

The second is described with related Nic's positive recovery progress in terms of social rehabilitation. Here, Nic also feels that he will be free from drug addiction. The following quote shows below, while Nic in a good and sober situation:

NIC: **One day I tried methamphetamine** and I thought, this is what's been missing. **I felt complete.** And I've been chasing that high ever since. No matter how much meth or whatever else I can find to shoot up into my body, I knew it's never enough. I went to a couple of rehabs and a detox; we would talk about the disease. Sure. But it never clicked. Until one day I woke up in a hospital and someone asked me, what's your problem? I said I'm an alcoholic and an addict and he said no that's how you've been treating your problem. (*Beautiful Boy*, 62)

NIC (CONT'D): I know now I need to find a way to fill this big black hole in me. Anyway. I'm 14 months clean. I have a job at a rehab, and it's fulfilling to help other people get sober. I have a sponsor, Spencer, he shows me how great my life can be sober. I still have a family. My mom has been amazing. My dad has been amazing too... I want them to be proud of me. (Beautiful Boy, 63)

From the quotation above, the situation that occurs at that time is where Nic is giving a motivational speech to fellow drug addicts in the rehabilitation center. Everyone attends the event, including parents of addicts, also David and Karen, as well all administrators of the rehabilitation center. Nic tells his story of how he became a drug user and became an addict. **'One day I tried methamphetamine'** there, Nic tells the story of where he consumes a type of drug and he feels there is the effect on him and he says **'I felt complete'** which means with drugs, all his anxiety and burdens disappears and he feels that drugs is the cure for everything.

At this event, Nic not only talks about the chronology of Nic becoming a drug addict. On that day he stood as a person who has been struggling with overcoming drug addiction for 14 months, which he proved by **'I'm 14 months clean.'** Next, he also talks about the effects after he entered and took part in social activities that could improve his physical and mental health at the rehabilitation center. The manifestation of the effects of recovery from overcoming addiction through rehabilitation is as explained

by Nic, that he finally has a job, can help his friends at a rehabilitation center to be sober, and he is also happy and grateful to have a sponsor and friend like Spencer.

From all the explanations story by Nic above, this is an important point in social rehabilitation. Social rehabilitation that prioritizes physical and mental activity, while in Nic case he gets a job, helps his friend, then he can feel and reflect that he able to recover. Otherwise, Nic realize that effort from his parents is amazing and Nic will make them happy. Like he says **'I still have a family. My mom has been amazing. My dad has been amazing too... I want them to be proud of me.'** that means same with the purpose of social rehabilitation to make the addicts can realize and live together with the people around them.

The third discussion is the medical rehabilitation of Nic's character in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018) as a way to overcome drug addiction. Medical rehabilitation according to Article 1 Point 16 of Law No. 35 of 2009 Concerning Drugs is a way of recovering drug addicts with medical treatment, thus addicts can be free from this dependence (7). The medical rehabilitation process is carried out in a hospital using certain adapted tools, medicine, and a special medical team.

Relapse is something that naturally happens to an addict. Furthermore, the social rehabilitation that Nic has done in his case, is not a cure for his addiction. Therefore, the last way for Nic and his family is to

undergo medical rehabilitation. This happens because Nic has overdosed on drugs and the best way is they take him through a hospital and medical help, which can be shown in the following quote below:

DAVID: Hey.

VICKI: Hi

DAVID: How is he doing?

VICKI: The doctor is with him, right now.

VICKI (CONT'D): He said it's close to a miracle that Nic survived, with all the drugs in his body. (*Beautiful Boy, 95*)

The situation above, it is showing that Nic is still treating by a doctor in a hospital room. At that time, who took and waited for Nic at the hospital were Nic's biological parents, David and Viki. Nic is already in a serious condition, even in the previous scene, Nic overdosed on drugs after partying with Lauren. There is not much that Nic's parents hope for, they can only surrender so that the doctors can treat Nic well and he can soon wake up and gradually recover and be free from drug addiction.

Sometimes, David asks Viki about Nic's condition. Viki can only reply with '**The doctor is with him**' which means that the doctor is still treating Nic, who of course uses the medical equipment and methods, thus it is called medical rehabilitation. Apart from that, Viki continues the message from the doctor that '**it's close to a miracle that Nic survived,**

with all the drugs in his body.' The point is that doctor's treatment through medical rehabilitation is not always easy, especially with Nic's condition, which has experienced a drug overdose and still going through a critical period.

B2. Punishment

The second way to overcome addiction after rehabilitation is giving punishment. According to B.F Skinner, punishment is a way of eliminating beneficial consequences to reduce undesirable behavior, which consequently reduces the possibility of addicts experiencing addiction, especially drug addiction (1). Another statement from Skinner is that punishment is a person's treatment of an individual in the form of things such as criticizing, mocking, blaming, refusing, or even physically attacking, to suppress unwanted behavior (5).

Discussing criticizing, mocking, and blaming as part of punishment can be depicted clearly in this movie when Nic relapses and cannot handle himself. In this situation can be seen Nic also arguing with his parents, like in the quotation below:

David (CONT'D): Listen it was a gamble to send you to college. Everybody supported it. I'm glad that you went. Relapse is a part of recovery. So— (*Beautiful Boy*, 37)

Nic: I'd better leave.

David: Hey, just... where are you going to go? You can't just leave. This is ridiculous. Come on.

Karen: Can you talk to us? We just want to talk you.

She takes a step towards him.

David: Please, try to help us understand.

Karen: Or just let us help you.

This makes Nic freak out.

In the quote above, it happens when Nic's parents are talking to Nic in the morning at breakfast time. David and Karen already know about Nic's relapse. They try to talk to Nic and criticize him to help him realize in punishment terms, thus it is aimed to eliminate beneficial consequences to reduce Nic's undesirable behavior. As proof, David tries to criticize Nic then David says '**Listen, sending you to college is a gamble.**' '**Relapse is a part of recovery. So—**'. This means that persuading Nic to go to college is very difficult, especially since he is in an addict condition and does not want to go to college. Then when he relapses and brings up about college, according to David, this is very natural because Nic is still in the recovery period.

'You can't just leave. This is ridiculous. Come on.' Other than criticizing, David shouts at Nic for mocking him. This means that Nic wants to leave home in a relapse condition. Thus, David cannot imagine Nic's wants and actions, and as a result, David mocks Nic. Then, another

criticizing action from David says **'Please, try to help us understand.'** again do that so that Nic would explain what he feels, so that his parents can go to understand him. Same with David, Karen also added **'Or just let us help you.'** again as a parent she criticizes him and aims can provide understanding and handle Nic.

Nic (screaming): I don't want your fucking help. Don't you understand that? No, you don't? Jesus Christ what the fuck is wrong with you then, huh? What the hell is wrong with you people?
(*Beautiful Boy*, 38)

Very aggressively he pushes David away.

Nic (CONT'D): You people suffocate me!! You fucking suffocate me!!

And now David loses it. He not only panics, but becomes furious.

David: Oh, it's us? We're the problem? No!!

Nic runs out.

David chases out after him.

David: You are the one who is doing it!!! You're the one causing it and you're the only one who can stop it and FUCKING solve it!!! (*Beautiful Boy*, 39)

The situation is more chaotic like in the quotation above. Then, Nic is getting more difficult to receive criticism and even mocking from his

parents because he is out of control. Thus, David is up and shows his punishment for Nic in terms of blaming. This way because Nic underestimates his parents and he also thinks he no longer needs help from his parents. Hearing and knowing that, David is getting so angry and says **'Oh, it's us? Are we the problem? NO!!'** David asks again to Nic is it right that David and Karen are the problem, thus David blames Nic.

They do not stop there and David also still seriously blames Nic by saying **'You are the one who is doing it!!! You're the one causing it and you're the only one who can stop it and FUCKING solve it!!!'** this quotation means that the roots of the problem start from Nic. Nic cannot handle and stop his addiction, however, he only needs to realize and resolve his addiction without blaming his parents who have patiently helped him. Therefore, the punishment in terms of blaming is implemented by David to suppress unwanted behavior and reduce the rate of use of supporting supplies for Nic, which is drugs.

This quote below will discuss punishment in terms of criticizing and refusing. There is an action that is seen in this movie as criticizing and refusing terms done by David as a father to punish Nic who is a drug addict. Likewise, David punished Nic when Nic quit his college and instead wants to be responsible for his own life, which is illustrated in the following quote:

DAVID: What does that mean?

NIC: Being responsible for myself. I've quit on my own. I've got five days now. (pause) I feel like I'm doing well but I just need a few hundred bucks though.

DAVID: Nic, I can't give you any money.

NIC: It's just a few hundred bucks. I just need to get some shit together. I want to go to New York.

DAVID: New York?

NIC: I need to get out of San Francisco, too many bad vibes here. (beat) I just need a few hundred bucks. (*Beautiful Boy*, 47)

In this situation, David criticizes Nic by saying '**What does that mean?**', thus he can be more open with David and give a logical reason for what happens to him, able to prevent unwanted behavior. Thus, Nic admits to his father that he had stopped studying in college and gives reasons that he wants to be responsible for himself. Then, he tries to ask and persuade his father like '**I feel like I'm doing well but I just need a few hundred bucks though.**' Nic aims David to give him money to live on his own.

However, his father also gives Nic more punishment by refusing Nic's requests. David does not want to give him money and says '**Nic, I can't give you any money**'. David already knows that if he gives Nic any more money, Nic will not spend the money on the necessities of life, but on buying any kind of drug. Thus, this is David's attempt to provide punishment

in terms of criticizing and refusing which aims to suppress Nic's drug use and slowly recover from his addiction.



CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Chapter five is the last chapter of this study. This chapter consists of a brief explanation of chapter four which conveys a conclusion and suggestions for any person who is interested in this study in the future.

A. Conclusion

Based on the findings discussed in the fourth chapter, there are two conclusions. The first concerns the factor causing drug addiction depicted by Nic Sheff in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018). The second represents the rehabilitation and punishment effects of overcoming addiction depicted by Nic Sheff in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018).

From the discussion, it can be concluded that this study presents the factors that cause drug addiction experienced by the character itself which is Nic, in the *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018). The factors experienced by Nic such as psychological, biological, and environmental factors. The psychological factor depicted in this movie is when Nic gets mentally unstable. This happened because he felt that his father was disappointed and blamed Nic, due to he did not follow his advice to go to college. As for result, Nic was depressed then he chose to consume drugs and became an addict.

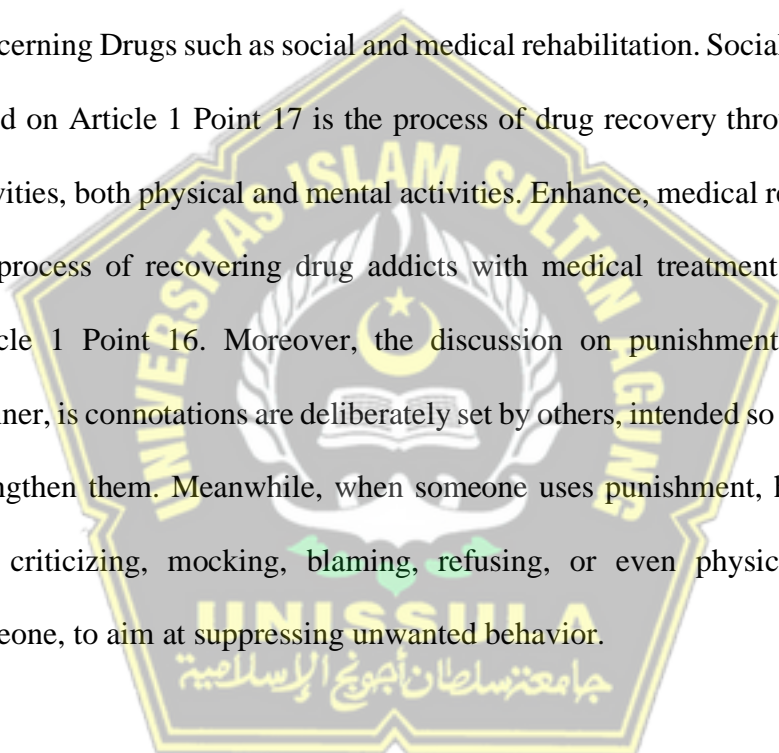
The biological factor belongs to racial or ethnic and gender terms. Racial or ethnic can be explained through statements from research conducted

by Gillmore et al, 1990; Peterson, Hawkins, Abbott, and Catalano, in most studies, alcohol and drug use are more common among white people than among African-American, Hispanic, or Asian-American adolescents. This is depicted in this movie by the main character, who is a white person which is visible from his appearance and also from his parents. Next is gender, Nic who is a man tends to use drugs is aligned to what Ripple and Luthar said that men will easily depend on drugs based on biological genetic predisposition.

The last factor depicted in this movie is the environmental factor was collected by Ripple and Luthar from the investigations and interviews. The results state that the family is a factor that greatly influences the etiology of drug use which can be transmitted through genetics or from the family environment itself. Thus, the conclusion is that if the parents are drug addicts then the offspring will not be too far away and will tend to do the same thing. This is like what happened between David and Nic, where Nic's father was a drug user when he was young. Now, in his teenage years, Nic is also a drug addict. Another environmental factor is peers and school terms based on the *National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)* Teenagers will feel more comfortable and freer if they are outside of their family environment. They will be freer if they are with their peers and at school by living a social life. During that time, teenagers can change their thinking and feelings. This can also influence who they make friends with and how friendships impact the growth and development of teenagers. As experienced in Nic, he has school friends and a circle of peers who consume,

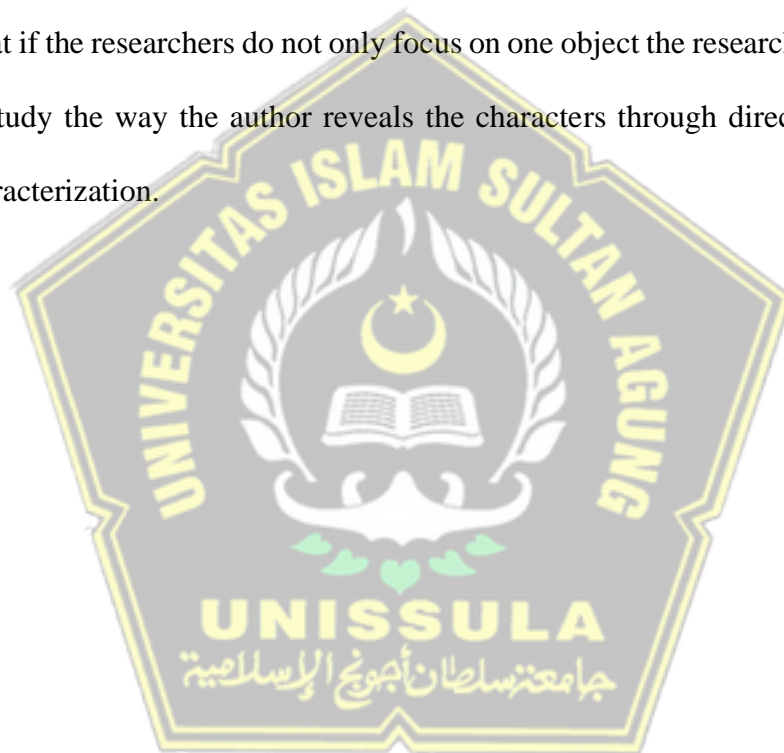
distribute, and are drug addicts. Therefore, Nic was influenced by consuming, buying, and becoming a drug addict.

The next discussion, of this study is regarding rehabilitation and punishment as ways to overcome drug Nic's addiction in this movie. These ways are what Nic's parents did to cure and get him out of his serious drug addiction. In this study, rehabilitation has two types based on law No.35 of 2009 Concerning Drugs such as social and medical rehabilitation. Social rehabilitation based on Article 1 Point 17 is the process of drug recovery through integrated activities, both physical and mental activities. Enhance, medical rehabilitation is the process of recovering drug addicts with medical treatment, according to Article 1 Point 16. Moreover, the discussion on punishment according to Skinner, is connotations are deliberately set by others, intended so that the results strengthen them. Meanwhile, when someone uses punishment, he does things like criticizing, mocking, blaming, refusing, or even physically attacking someone, to aim at suppressing unwanted behavior.



B. Suggestion

This study suggests that future researchers can analyze *Beautiful Boy* movie (2018) using the sociology theory of Nic Sheff's character. This study also suggests that other research can analyze someone's struggles with drug addiction in the *Good Person* movie (2023). Enhance, the researcher hopes that the other researchers can use other objects besides the movie because it will be great if the researchers do not only focus on one object the researchers who want to study the way the author reveals the characters through direct and indirect characterization.



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