

DOMINANCE POWER BY THE CAPITALIST IN ANNALEE NEWITZ'S AUTONOMOUS: A HEGEMONY STUDY

Muhammad Raffi Adani

English Literature Department, Universitas Ahmad Dahlan, Indonesia

Corresponding author: raffiadani20@gmail.com

Citation:

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received:

Accepted:

Keywords:

Capitalism

Dominance Power

Hegemony

ABSTRACT

In specific cultures, leaders of social collectives hold a significant position in establishing the norms that govern the existence of their citizens. The manipulation of these social norms by dominant group can lead to extensive anguish and inequality within the society. The exertion of dominance power in Annalee Newitz's *Autonomous* is carried out by capitalists (the dominant group) over subaltern groups for their interests and to regulate society's life. Researcher used a descriptive qualitative approach, gathering primary data from the *Autonomous* novel and secondary data from related research studies. Researcher collected data through reading and recording methods. To understand the dominant groups and class superstructure in the novel, the author applied Gramsci's theory of hegemony. The results of the research found that: (1) Three forms of hegemony were found (Ideology, State, and Dominance Power) which were visible from the class superstructure. (2) The impact of hegemony on people who experience negative impacts are believed to be violations of Human Rights (Slavery).

I. Introduction

Literature holds an inseparable connection with social life as it encompasses the personal expressions of individuals, which have the ability to elicit joy through the art of writing. The reader gains insight into the author's inner experience through literature (Damono, 1989). Literature encompasses a vast array of genres and can permeate virtually every facet of human existence. Moreover, it serves as a medium through which ideas about the world and sociological realities can be conveyed, transcending temporal boundaries and extending beyond mere social reflections. By delving into the realm of literary sociology, one can gain a deeper understanding of how literary works shed light on social conditions and various social elements within a given society. This research has theoretical and practical implications. Theoretically, this research will advance knowledge of Antonio Gramsci's hegemony theory. According to Swingewood (Wiyatmi, 2013), sociology is a scientific, unbiased study of people in society as well as the study of social organizations and processes. Sociology aims to provide answers to concerns regarding how society is created, how it functions, and why it endures.

Hegemony is a theory in literary sociology where the lower class adopts the lifestyle and mindset of the dominant elite group. According to Gramsci (in Zaenudin Ali, 2017), there are two key aspects to this concept. Firstly, Gramsci recognizes the presence of power and authority within a social order, with rulers and the ruled. Secondly, Gramsci argues that hegemony is achieved through consensus rather than oppression. This leads to the creation of two social classes: the bourgeoisie (political society) and the proletariat (civil society). The bourgeoisie includes governmental institutions and politicians, while the proletariat consists of rational and non-coercive individuals.

With a sociological perspective, literary work is seen from its relation to reality, the extent to which the literary work reflects reality. It is expected that readers will better comprehend the forms and impact of hegemony on society. The researcher aspires for this finding to contribute to the understanding of hegemonic structures. In practical terms, the researcher anticipates that this study will aid students, lecturers, and fellow researchers in comprehending the methodology of analyzing literary works, specifically novels, through the application of this theory. Furthermore, the researcher envisions this conclusion to serve as a valuable reference for readers seeking additional information.

In Annalee Newitz's *Autonomous*, the detrimental effects of capitalism are explored, highlighting its ability to transform everything into commodities or possessions. According to (Scott, 2006) capitalism is a form of governance where private individuals are granted the authority to own and control property for their personal gain, within a complex and constantly evolving political system. This economic system often assumes an ideological

role in hegemony, as it enables the dominant social class to exert moral and intellectual leadership over lower classes through oppressive or dominating means.

This research validates the findings by analyzing various sources on Antonio Gramsci's theory of hegemony. The first previous study by Pratama, Setiawan, and Pujiati (2017) explores hegemony in a dystopian society in Lauren Oliver's *Delirium*. The researcher finds that the operation of hegemony aligns with Gramsci's five stages, reflecting the hegemony exercised by the United States in domains like the economy, military, technology, and culture. Another study by Salamah and Fauziatus (2021) examines hegemony in Carol Lynch Williams' novel, *The Chosen One*. The dominant group in the novel uses coercive tactics in politics and fosters acceptance within civil society to exert control over subordinate groups, resulting in human rights violations. The last previous study is Fatma Imalia Arifa's research (2017) investigates hegemony in Roth's *Divergent*, revealing that residing in a factional society leads to division and discord. Three previous studies have effectively used the concept of hegemony, examining its manifestation in novels and its impact on society. However, it is important to note that these studies may not have specifically addressed the implications of a liberal economy or capitalism as hegemony.

Annalee Newitz's *Autonomous* explores the realm of capitalist modernity, delving into the intricate notions of ownership, personality, and identity within a society that perceives individuals as mere commodities. In this futuristic world, the conventional form of government as we presently comprehend it has ceased to exist. Instead, economic zones have emerged across the globe, each governed by its own set of regulations. Within this framework, the International Property Coalition dispatches its agents to enforce patent laws, specifically those pertaining to a wide range of easily accessible pharmaceuticals capable of achieving remarkable feats, yet predominantly inaccessible to the impoverished segments of society.

Autonomous promotes the exploration of hegemony in research due to the apprehensions raised about the capitalist system's style that is intertwined with the theory of hegemony, particularly in terms of power dominance. According to (Green, 1993), the concept of "hegemony" encompasses the political, economic, and cultural aspects of modern capitalist society, making it a pervasive form of dominance. *Autonomous* deliberations on hegemony revolve around the examination of the strength-based domination of one social class over another.

II. Methodology

The research will employ a qualitative approach to analyze the data extracted from the novel, emphasizing the use of words or descriptive narratives rather than numerical

data. According to (Moleong, 2007), a qualitative method aims to understand the phenomena experienced by the research subjects. This method is particularly suitable for investigating matters related to the attitudes, motivations, perceptions, and actions of the subjects. In this research, qualitative methods are focused on describing and analyzing forms of hegemony in Annalee Newitz's *Autonomous* and the social impacts caused by the domination of power from dominant groups.

This study investigates the representation of hegemony in Annalee Newitz's *Autonomous* and the resulting societal impact stemming from the dominance of capitalism. The research delves into the diverse manifestations of hegemony portrayed in the novel and examines their profound impact on society. The author utilizes both primary and secondary data sources to gather information. Primary sources include dialogues, narrations, and literary descriptions that shed light on how influential institutions such as the government and large corporations exercise their hegemonic practices to attain control and exert influence over society. On the other hand, secondary data is derived from a range of sources, including books, journals, papers, and media outlets, particularly those that focus on the hegemonic structure depicted in the novel *Autonomous*.

The researcher employed the practice of note-taking and reading as the primary means of gathering data. To effectively analyze the collected data, various tools for data analysis were utilized (Sugiyono, 2012). The content analysis method was employed in this study to examine the data pertaining to the depiction of hegemony and its societal impacts in the novel *Autonomous*. To accomplish this, the following steps were undertaken: 1) Thoroughly reading the entire *Autonomous* book multiple times; 2) Categorizing the acquired data; 3) The researcher carefully reviewed the prepared data for analysis to gain further comprehensive insights; and 4) The author identified the key concepts and summarized the research findings on various aspects of hegemony.

A descriptive method was used in this research to assess the data. By describing the status of the study's subject or object, which might take the form of individuals, institutions, communities, or other entities that are currently based on obvious facts or what they are, this technique develops into a problem-solving procedure that is explored. The features of the population or phenomenon under study are revealed by the descriptive approach used to analyze the data. This research method's primary objectives up until this point have been to describe the subject of the study and determine what behaviors or phenomena occurred. The purpose of this research is to analyze and visualize the hegemony form of capitalism and the resistance of hegemony to capitalism itself. The scope of the method that characterizes the state of the subject and object is related to this problem.

III. Results and Discussion

The research findings will address the various manifestations of hegemony in *Autonomous* and their impact, in line with the research objectives. The novel *Autonomous*

depicts hegemony in three distinct forms: firstly, through the depiction of ideology; secondly, through the exploration of the role of the State, civil society, and political society; and thirdly, through the examination of power domination. The impact of hegemony in *Autonomous* is exemplified by the presence of slavery, which arises due to the authority wielded by the ruling class and large pharmaceutical corporations in controlling the lives of individuals.

A. The forms of Hegemony in *Autonomous*

Gramsci's concept of hegemony, as explained in Strinati (1995), refers to the cultural and ideological tactics utilized by the ruling group to uphold their power and authority. This is accomplished by obtaining voluntary consent from subordinate groups through a process of negotiation, where political and ideological agreements are formulated to incorporate the interests of the ruling class. The foundation of Gramsci's notion of hegemony lies in the existence of a class hierarchy, where the upper-class exercises power and influence over the lower class through a combination of force and persuasion (Simon, 2004). Within the framework of hegemony, power is defined as the ability of a group to assert dominance over others, utilizing coercion and control to ensure compliance. In the novel *Autonomous* by Annalee Newitz, the author delves into the extent of control exerted by the ruling group in shaping and governing human existence.

Autonomous raises the idea of power relations. Throughout the novel, the researcher explores how hegemony is established through the dominant influence exerted by artificial intelligence, major corporations, and other entities. The author highlights that this expression of hegemony in *Autonomous* gives rise to three distinct manifestations: 1) ideology, 2) state, and 3) dominance power.

1. Ideology

Gramsci's understanding of hegemony goes beyond the scope of politics and encompasses the realms of ideology and culture as well. According to Gramsci's political theory, ideas or ideology play a crucial role in exerting control, granting the dominant group the power to govern (Sugiono, 1999). Gramsci's theoretical framework elucidates the mechanisms through which one class, namely the dominant group, exercises control and authority over another class, the subordinate class, through political ideologies. As a result, this hegemonic control establishes the superiority of one class over all other classes.

Hegemony refers to the strategies and attitudes utilized by particular organizations or groups to effectively coordinate and attain control in wielding power (Kurniawan, 2012). This process aids in establishing communication between the "dominant" and the "subordinate". To attain a

position of leadership, it is crucial to propagate ideology, often achieved through educational institutions, instruction, or the influence of the prevailing societal faction.

a. Capitalism

Capitalism is the first form of ideology depicted in the novel *Autonomous*. Capitalism, an ideology that emphasizes individual freedom, emphasizes the importance of the unrestricted pursuit of personal wealth (Sirajuddin & Tamsir, 2015). According to Heilbroner (in Hasan & Mahyudi, 2020), wealth is seen as the driving force behind all human endeavors within the framework of capitalism. He further explains that capital acts as a catalyst for a continuous process of transforming "capital-as-money" into "capital-as-commodity," which eventually becomes "capital-as-money that multiplies." In the novel *Autonomous*, the concept of individual or private wealth ownership is exemplified through the portrayal of Zaxy, a pharmaceutical corporation solely focused on generating profits. This corporation produces zacity drugs without considering anything other than financial gains for the company. The provided quotation is found within this context.

"Zaxy had always placed profit over public health, but this went beyond the usual corporate negligence. International law stipulated that no cosmetic pharmaceuticals like productivity drugs or euphorics could contain addictive mechanisms, and even the big corps had to abide by IPC regulations." (Newitz, 2017:22)

The quotation above explains that Zaxy, a well-known pharmaceutical company, has unveiled a medication comprising an exceedingly elevated concentration of addictive substances, thereby blatantly violating the drug distribution guidelines stipulated by the IPC. However, despite being a prominent entity in the pharmaceutical sector, Zaxy continues to partake in such activities solely with the intention of maximizing their monetary profits.

This capitalist ideology is not only apparent in large pharmaceutical companies, but it also exists within the *Autonomous* world system, where both humans and biobots are regarded as commodities or slaves that can be purchased and

traded to fulfill the desires of powerful individuals or groups. The mentioned quote is found in the following context.

“At each stop, the tram disgorged more of its human contents, shoppers and gawkers alike, until Elias rode alone in the direction of Wynn Market.” (Newitz, 2017:199)

b. Authoritarianism

Authoritarianism is the second form of ideology depicted in the novel *Autonomous*. Authoritarianism is a belief system that gives utmost importance to power and authority. By having control over authority, whether it is held by a collective or an individual, they have the capability to influence the viewpoints, ideas, notions, and actions of others. As a result, authoritarianism encompasses a mindset or stance that values authority, power, and reverence, encompassing different facets of life and behavior. As stated by Mangunhardjana (in Pawestri, 2015), proponents of this viewpoint prioritize power as a fundamental principle for existence, utilizing authority as a basis for understanding.

In the novel *Autonomous*, the author effectively depicts an authoritarian ideology by showing the actions of the prominent pharmaceutical corporation, Zaxy. This powerful entity has the authority to launch Zacity drugs that are not in accordance with general drug distribution (illegal). However, Zaxy, a large pharmaceutical industry company, received no punishment or further action regarding the published Zacity. The provided quotation appears in the following.

“Zaxy didn’t make data from their clinical trials available, so there was no way to find out about possible side effects.”
(Newitz, 2017:10)

“Her discovery meant that Zacity was completely illegal. But nobody would figure that out, because Zaxy was rolling it out slowly to the corps” (Newitz, 2017:22)

“Zaxy owns half the reps in the Zone, and probably in every other economic coalition, too.” (Newitz, 2017:72)

The quotation above explains the extent of Zaxy's jurisdiction and capability to introduce the Zacity medication without adhering to drug distribution regulations. Zaxy gradually introduced the drug without disclosing the results of extensive trials. These long-term trials are

imperative in order to ascertain the presence of any potential side effects associated with each drug that is released. Consequently, the drug Zacuity can be deemed illicit and poses a threat to society. Nevertheless, owing to Zaxy's influential status as a pharmaceutical company, numerous other influential entities are subservient to Zaxy, thereby exempting Zaxy from any form of punishment or subsequent actions for the drugs that have been launched. Furthermore, this ideology is also exemplified by Eliaz and Paladin, Federation military combatants who have been recruited by the IPC to serve as agents tasked with apprehending Jack Chen. The provided quotation appears in the following.

"The self-piloting vehicle was easy to commandeer with their IPC credentials." (Newitz, 2017:81)

The quotation above highlights the researcheritarian nature of Paladin and Eliaz, who served as IPC military agents. Their primary objective is to gather intelligence regarding the whereabouts of Jack Chen. During on their journeys, they possess IPC credentials that grant them the ability to acquire information, seize control of vehicles, and effortlessly traverse any location.

c. Socialism

Socialism is the final form of ideology depicted in the novel *Autonomous*. Socialism, a political ideology, seeks to enhance the overall welfare of society by encouraging selfless acts and fostering collaboration among individuals (Nugroho, 2000). The novel *Autonomous* explores the idea of socialism through the character Jack Chen, who endeavors to halt the epidemic resulting from her distribution of counterfeit Zacuity in order to achieve global harmony. In her pursuit of peace, Jack forges alliances with diverse individuals. The given quote is featured in the following context.

"Jack and Med interrupted each other with details about the Zacuity side effects, supplemented with several hastily designed simulations of brain activity that hovered over the table's projector." (Newitz, 2017:91)

"...But yeah. I'm going to help out with Med's project and then lie low for a while." (Newitz, 2017:94)

Krish paused, fingers still drumming. “We can handle the publicity, too.” (Newitz, 2017:94)

The aforementioned quotation provides an illustration of how socialism manifests itself among the characters Jack, Med, and Krish. Despite their diverse backgrounds, these individuals share a common goal of achieving global harmony in order to combat the prevailing epidemic. Throughout her journey, Jack encounters Med, a skilled scientist specializing in biobot technology, who assists him in putting a stop to the rampant epidemic by formulating an antidote called Retcon. Once the Retcon project is successfully completed, Jack's former colleague, Krish, lends his support by helping to publish Retcon as the antidote while simultaneously exposing Zaxy, the manufacturer of Zacity, for their negligence in disregarding the adverse effects of the drug.

2. State

The state encompasses the realm of control, bestowing honor upon the dominant group and serving as a tangible symbol of the historical unity within that group, which is a result of the intricate relationship between the state or political society and civil society. Political society can be defined as a sphere where those in power utilize violence, coercion, and intervention. On the other hand, civil society represents a sphere where consent and free will are paramount, as officials in positions of hegemony endeavor to secure the support of the governed individuals within their specific areas of authority (Faruk, 2010).

a. Civil Society

The novel *Autonomous* presents a unique perspective on the role of civil society. In this literary work, civil society is depicted as a collection of diverse entities including activist groups, individuals, and non-governmental organizations. The author skillfully portrays two distinct forms of civil society in *Autonomous*: the first being Activism and Dynamics of Human Rights, and the second being Resistance to Capitalism and Corporations. These entities actively participate in human rights struggles and passionately champion the rights of individuals who courageously express their dissent against the exploitation carried out by influential corporate entities.

All individuals possess inherent entitlements to life, freedom, and possessions that are exclusive to them and cannot be confiscated by any entity, including the government (John Locke, 1964). Nevertheless, in reality, human beings is constrained by the rules and regulations prevailing in their surroundings, and it is also restricted by the rights of freedom possessed by others. The notions of human rights and hegemony are intertwined with cultural constructs, where the hegemony of a particular lifestyle is associated with social dynamics (Faruk, 2010).

The rise of civil society is linked to activism and human rights dynamics. In *Autonomous*, human rights activism is shown as crucial to civil society. The novel depicts a society controlled by powerful pharmaceutical conglomerates and other dominant factions, leaving marginalized communities vulnerable. In response, a collective emerges to fight for individual rights and challenge the immense power of these corporate giants. The provided quotation appears in the following.

“... It wasn’t just the scientists and engineers who were angry—the public cared, too. Medicines were too expensive” (Newitz, 2017:67)

The Pills The provided quotation appears in the following.began to chant. “What do we want? Patent reform! When do we want it? NOW!” (Newitz, 2017:68)

The aforementioned quotation sheds light on a specific type of activism that champions the availability of medicines as an essential human entitlement and stands against patent regulations. The quotations emphasize the endeavors of human rights advocates who voice their dissatisfaction with the exorbitant costs of medications. This has sparked a global outcry regarding the flaws of the current patent system. Nevertheless, the activists' highly confrontational method of protest has led to unfavorable consequences, including the apprehension and incarceration of numerous individuals implicated in the movement.

Furthermore, the Resistance to Capitalism and Corporations emerged as the secondary manifestation of civil society. Within the framework of hegemony theory, Gramsci provides solutions to counteract hegemonic control. Gramsci argues that consciousness plays a crucial role in initiating resistance against the dominant ruling class (Patria and Arif, 2009). In order to spark a revolution, individuals must actively engage and possess a thorough comprehension of their circumstances within the existing system they face.

Civil society is crucial in hegemony and consensus, where dominant factions exert influence. In patent law, this often benefits pharmaceutical corporations, leading to opposition from intellectuals or groups. This suggests that dominant groups prioritize their own interests, sparking resistance from intellectuals or collectives. The provided quotation appears in the following.

“...until Jack could finally quit her lab job to work full-time on anti-patent organizing. That’s when she and Krish decided it was time to stage a major protest. Something that would broadcast to the world how broken the patent system really was.” (Newitz, 2017:67)

The quotation above presents proof of the depiction of opposition towards patent law and capitalist corporations. The quote showcases the evolution of Jack from a simple researcher at Franklin to a devoted activist against patents. Jack's unwavering dedication is demonstrated by his choice to fully immerse himself in activism and orchestrate a substantial protest. It is important to highlight that radical anti-patent activists advocate for modifications in patent laws that predominantly benefit prominent pharmaceutical companies.

b. Political Society

The interconnection between civil society and political society is indissoluble. The novel *Autonomous* delves into the depiction of political society, which encompasses both the official government and corporations. In *Autonomous*, political society assumes two discernible forms. The first is Corporations and Political Power, and the second is Government and Policy Global. Corporations have political power involved in policy formation and governments have a role in global political decisions.

Corporations and Political Power represent the primary form of political society. In the novel *Autonomous*, the concept of hegemony is examined, highlighting the initial manifestation of political society through the exercise of political power. This exploration reveals that corporations hold substantial political sway and actively participate in the intricate interplay between official governmental institutions and business entities. The provided quotation appears in the following.

“...If the Halifax Pharma Eight were found guilty of conspiracy, that meant potential jail time. Given that Halifax got most of its wealth from pharma, the jurors might be in the mood to make an example of anti-patent radicals who destroyed private property.” (Newitz, 2017:87)

The quote shows how pharmaceutical corporations have significant political influence. Jack and seven others, known as the Pills, were arrested by the Halifax Pharma Eight for theft and property damage. The arrest happened because the trade Zone failed to stop the transportation of illegal drugs carried by drones, organized by Jack's group, The Bilious Pills, who are anti-patent activists. Jack smuggled drugs to save the lives of hundreds of thousands of people due to the high cost of medicines in the African Federation. She became known as the "Robin Hood of the anti-patent movement." However, despite her good intentions, the court ruled against Jack and her colleagues because of Halifax's political power and wealth.

Furthermore, the *Autonomous* Novel introduces the concept of Government and Policy Global as the second form of political society. In this context, the governance and global political institutions play a crucial role in overseeing the regulation of drugs and technology. The provided quotation appears in the following.

“Krish compared the patent system to the indenture system, which Jack thought was kind of a stretch. But she had to admit that the patent system did seem to be at the root of a lot of social problems.” (Newitz, 2017:43)

“The African Federation was still young, and the government worried very little about enforcing intellectual property laws, as long as the economy was expanding.” (Newitz, 2017:164)

The quotations above discuss global governance and policy, specifically focusing on the role of governments in regulating drugs, technology, and bots. Krish compares the patent system to the indenture system and argues that the government's implementation of the patent system in drug policies is the main cause of social issues. This is because only wealthy individuals can benefit from new treatments, leaving the less privileged without access to similar resources and resulting in shorter lifespans for them. The government also enforces intellectual property laws, requiring privately owned laboratories to align with specific economic alliances. If a laboratory operates outside these laws, the Intellectual Property Coalition (IPC) will seize the facility and terminate its employees. Additionally, the government extends its policy-making to include technology and bots.

3. Dominance Power

Hegemony is an area of study that delves into the notion that the establishment of complete authority and the exercise of power domination are not inherent, but rather constructed. The interconnection between those in positions of power and the subordinate class within society is deeply rooted in the dynamics of domination and subordination, commonly referred to as Class Supremacy. On one hand, a specific social group exerts its dominance over another by exerting control and suppressing it, sometimes resorting to sheer force. Domination based on class supremacy involves the endorsement of lower groups, including the working class, through a political and ideological consensus between the dominant group and the subaltern group (Strinati, 1995). Essentially, the dominant groups in society maintain their authority by obtaining the "spontaneous consent" of subordinate groups. The novel *Autonomous* explores the concept of power domination, with a specific focus on the significant role played by capitalist pharmaceutical companies, IPC, the Military, the Federation, and various state institutions. This group, based on class supremacy, represents the construction of absolute authority aimed at controlling subaltern groups, which are a direct result of domination.

The economic power in the novel *Autonomous* is significantly influenced by the overwhelming control of major pharmaceutical corporations. These influential entities hold extensive power in manipulating and overseeing information, resources, and even the fate of individuals. As a result, their substantial economic strength establishes a dominant presence

within the domains of trade and industry. The provided quotation appears in the following.

“When Zacity came out of beta, the drug would be so expensive that only people with excellent medical care would ever take it. If they got addicted, it would be dealt with quietly, at a beautiful recovery facility somewhere in the Eurozone.” (Newitz, 2017:22)

The quote highlights Zaxy's dominance in business and industry. They have introduced a drug called Zacity tailored for workers. However, it is important to note that the drug contains euphoria-inducing elements and addictive mechanisms that violate international regulations. Zaxy has covertly introduced the drug within their corporation to bypass regulations set by the IPC. The main goal of launching Zacity is to cater to affluent consumers with access to superior healthcare. This ensures that if any adverse reactions occur, these privileged individuals can conveniently undergo rehabilitation.

Zaxy not only asserts his dominance in business and industry within his company, but he also exhibits his control over information, effectively maintaining his position of dominance. The provided quotation appears in the following.

“Mr. Hernandez was said “Luckily, it was very quickly contained, and hasn't become an international property incident. But it's going to be hard for me to keep this little problem with drug hooligans under wraps if you keep blowing up solar farms.” (Newitz, 2017:96)

The quote highlights how Mr. Hernandez the vice president of Zaxy hid the problem caused by IPC military agents hired by Zaxy in the search for Jack Chen in Iqaluit. Elias and Paladin encountered anti-patent pirates, leading to the destruction of the solar quiet power plant. This incident showcases Zaxy's power and media influence.

Furthermore, Zaxy maintains dominance with spontaneous consensus towards the subordinate group. The provided quotation appears in the following.

“The dean agreed to take down Med's paper on reverse engineering Zacity and issue an official retraction unless it survived a rigorous peer review process at a prominent Seviert journal.” (Newitz, 2017:237)

“Roger and the IPC reps left with hearty handshakes. Med couldn't believe this was happening. “Zaxy owns a majority stake in Seviert.” (Newitz, 2017:237)

The given quotes pertain to the abrupt resolution of the Zacuity case. Roger noticed a deficiency wherein the University lacked the financial capability to engage in a legal dispute with Zaxy, a pharmaceutical company. As a result, during the subsequent meeting, Med was compelled to remove any reference to Zaxy and Zacuity from the retcon project documentation and public forums. Despite Med's dissatisfaction with the outcomes, she agrees with the decision due to the limited resources available to both herself and the university to confront Zaxy. This serves as an illustration of Zaxy's control over the subordinate class by employing "spontaneous consensus" to maintain their authority.

B. The Impact of Hegemony in *Autonomous*

The subjugation of a society by a dominant group has undeniable effects on the oppressed classes. As explained in the second chapter, this dominance often leads to negative outcomes such as discrimination and violent acts. These incidents have the power to disrupt the existing unity within the social structure.

The impact of this phenomenon gives rise to societal consequences, which in turn result in the perception of unfairness, ultimately leading to the erosion of ethical values and societal norms. If the struggle for power continues, it can have harmful effects on society, including the deprivation of property rights, suppression, and forced displacement. Kornblum (in Faruk, 2010) suggests that the interaction between dominant and subordinate groups can give rise to a range of possible outcomes, one of which is the existence of slavery.

The subaltern class and society as a whole are subjected to the power and control of the dominant group in the novel *Autonomous*. This control is predominantly wielded by the pharmaceutical companies, IPC, and the advanced robotic technology that permeates the narrative. The impact of the dominant group's influence on the *Autonomous* society portrayed in the book is far-reaching, with the most conspicuous outcome being the prevalence of slavery.

"Everywhere, on the moving sidewalks and hologram-infested streets, there were human resources for sale." (Newitz, 2017:199)

"The indentured with high levels of education were expensive, hidden from the crowds, stocked in display rooms with the tools of their trades." (Newitz, 2017:199)

The quotations above provided showing how Vegas serves as a place where people actively promote themselves. According to Elias, Vegas has various market hubs that focus on specific trades, such as gardening, housekeeping, secretarial work, engineering, and bookkeeping. As the tram makes its stops, more and more individuals, including both buyers and sellers, disembark. This trend can be

attributed to the government's adoption of an indentured system after granting robots the same rights as humans. As a result, humans now possess contracts, similar to robots, which has led to this phenomenon. Initially, under IPC legislation, organizations could keep ownership of robots for up to ten years to cover development costs. However, once robots reached human-level intelligence and were granted human rights, governments and economic alliances quickly enacted the Human Rights indentured Laws. After a decade of legal disputes, these laws also recognized individuals' rights to willingly become contracted robots.

The Impacts of slavery posed a considerable challenge to the social structure of society. The exercise of power by the dominant group in a discriminatory manner had a profound influence on the social fabric, resulting in the fragmentation of unity within the society. As Faruk (2010) emphasizes, slavery involved the deliberate deprivation or destruction of the rights held by certain individuals or communities, rendering them powerless to oppose the actions imposed upon them by their oppressors.

IV. Conclusions

Upon conducting extensive research and analysis, the researcher has successfully identified a pair of concerns within this particular study. In order to address the initial issue, the researcher has uncovered three distinct instances of hegemony in Analee Newitz's *Autonomous*. The first instance of hegemony observed in *Autonomous* pertains to ideology, whereby the researcher identifies three specific ideologies that are prevalent in the narrative: Capitalism, Authoritarianism, and Socialism. The second manifestation of hegemony in *Autonomous* is manifested through the State (region), which is further divided into two components, namely civil society and political society. Lastly, the third manifestation of hegemony in *Autonomous* revolves around Dominance Power, where the Dominant group exhibits control over power.

Capitalism emerged in the *Autonomous* world, with pharmaceutical corporations treating humans as commodities and selling expensive patented medications. Authoritarianism also arises as a second form of ideology within dominant factions like Zaxy, IPC, and military agents Eliaz and Paladdin, who use their power for their own interests. However, characters Jack, Med, and Krish represent socialism and unite to fight the epidemic. Hegemony manifests in the state as civil society and political society. In civil society, officials exercise power through agreements and voluntary compliance, seen in Human Rights Activism and Resistance to Capitalism and Corporations. Political society, on the other hand, relies on domination and violence for social control, evident in Political Power and Government and Global Policy. Dominance power is the last form of hegemony, with large pharmaceutical companies, the military, and state institutions exerting control. Social inequality further demonstrates domination, as dominant groups monopolize resources and enjoy economic advantages over subaltern groups.

Furthermore, the exertion of dominance often leads to unfavorable outcomes, such as discrimination and acts of violence. As a result, society faces an unjust consequence, which ultimately leads to the erosion of moral values and societal norms. In the novel *Autonomous*, the consequences faced by society take the form of slavery. This situation arises due to the implementation of contract laws by the government, which treats individuals as mere commodities, bound by contractual obligations. The resulting impact is undoubtedly discriminatory and accelerates the breakdown of social unity.

REFERENCES

- [1] Damono, S. D. (1989). *Sosiologi Sastra: Sebuah Pengantar Ringkas*.
- [2] Faruk. (2010). *Pengantar Sosiologi Sastra: dari Strukturalisme Genetik sampai Post-modernisme*. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.
- [3] Fatma Imalia Arifa, (2017) *Science and Knowledge as Tools of Hegemony in Dystopian Society Reflected in Roth's Divergent*. Under Graduates thesis, Universitas Negeri Semarang.
- [4] Green, C. (1993). *ADVANCED CAPITALIST HEGEMONY AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF GRAMSCI'S INSIGHTS: A RESTATEMENT*. 42
- [5] Hasan, & Mahyudi. (2020). *Analisis terhadap Pemikiran Ekonomi Kapitalisme Adam Smith*.
- [6] Kurniawan, Heru. (2012). *Teori, Metode, dan Aplikasi Sosiologi Sastra*. Yogyakarta: Graha Ilmu.
- [7] Locke, John. (1964). *Two Treatises of Civil Government*. New York: Oxford.
- [8] Moleong, L. J. (2007). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. PT Remaja Rosdakarya.
- [9] Newitz, Analee. (2017). *Autonomous*. Tom Doherty Associates.
- [10] Nugroho. (2000). "Tinjauan Kritis Liberalisme dan Sosialisme". *Jurnal Ilmiah Bestari*.
- [11] Patria, Nezar dan Arief, Andi. (2009). *Antonio Gramsci Negara & Hegemoni*. Yogyakarta : Pustaka Pelajar.
- [12] Pawestri, Shalikhatin. (2015). *Hegemoni Kekuasaan dalam Novel Bibir Merah Karya Achmad Munif*. Skripsi. Yogyakarta: Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta.
- [13] Pratama, B., Setiawan, I., & Pujiati, H. (2017). *THE OPERATION OF HEGEMONY IN A DYSTOPIAN SOCIETY IN LAUREN OLIVER'S DELIRIUM*. *Publika Budaya*, 5(2), 53-62. doi:10.19184/pb.v5i2.6152
- [14] Salamah, Fauziatus (2021) *Hegemony in Carol Lynch Williams' The Chosen One*. Undergraduate thesis, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim.
- [15] Scott, B. R. (2006). *The Political Economy of Capitalism*. Harvard Business School, 07-037.
- [16] Simon, Roger. (2004). *Gagasan-Gagasan Politik Gramsci*. Yogyakarta: INSIST.
- [17] Sirajuddin, S., & Tamsir, T. (1). *Rekonstruksi Konseptual Kepemilikan Harta Perspektif Ekonomi Islam (Studi Kritis Kepemilikan Harta Sistem Ekonomi Kapitalisme)*. *LAA MAISYIR : Jurnal Ekonomi Islam*, 6(2), 211-225.
- [18] Strinati, Dominic. (1995). *An Introduction to Theories of Popular Culture*. London: Routledge.
- [19] Sugiono, Muhadi. (1999). *Kritik Antonio Gramsci Terhadap Pembangunan Dunia Ketiga*. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.
- [20] Sugiyono. (2012). *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif Kualitatif dan R&D*. Bandung. Alfabeta.
- [21] Wiyatmi. (2013). *Sosiologi Sastra*. Kanwa Publisher.
- [22] Zaenudin Ali, Z. (2017). *PEMIKIRAN HEGEMONI ANTONIO GRAMSCI (1891-1937) DI ITALIA*. In YAQZHAN (Vol. 3, Issue 2).