

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Choosing Subject

Juvenile delinquency is a severe problem faced by teenagers. Delinquency behavior is one of the everyday deeds that appear in the transition from childhood to adulthood. Still, sometimes, this will continue if the person needs guidance in their daily activities. Bourdieu stated that juvenile delinquency is behavioral regulation caused by ignorance of the norms and rules that exist in society (1984, p.193).

Committing delinquency, the act of engaging in illegal or antisocial behaviors during adolescence can have significant and lasting consequences on both the individual and society. These consequences encompass a range of adverse outcomes, including academic failure, limited employment opportunities, increased likelihood of substance abuse, mental health issues, and potential involvement in the criminal justice system, perpetuating a cycle of crime and disadvantage (Farrington & Welsh, 2007).

Adults' role in addressing juvenile delinquency is paramount, as their guidance, support, and mentorship play a crucial role in shaping the behavior and choices of young individuals. Positive adult influences like parents, teachers, community leaders, and mentors can provide a stable environment, emotional support, and guidance to steer adolescents away

from delinquent behaviors. This statement is supported by research indicating that strong familial and adult connections can serve as protective factors against delinquency (Hirschi, 1969).

Adolescence is the period from childhood to adulthood. The transition period often confronts the individual concerned with surprising situations. On the one hand, they are still a child, but they have to act like adults. Situations that cause conflict like this lead to strange, uncomfortable behaviors and, if not controlled, can become delinquency (Sarwono, 2012, p. 72).

The problem of juvenile delinquency is seen in *The Outsiders* by S.E Hinton. The novel is about the greasers against the gang called Socs. The greasers are people from the countryside. They defend their lives from being mercilessly hurt physically and mentally when they meet each other. The delinquency problem happened to them.

This novel is about the conflicts experienced by the main character, Ponyboy Curtis. This novel is about life problems encountered by Ponyboy, an American teenage boy who has lived in America since childhood. Ponyboy and his two brothers originally lived in America because they were born in America. The conflict began when the parents of Ponyboy passed away in a car accident. It makes the Ponyboy family lose their parents and leaders, and the three have to fight life's harshness.

They are friends with their peers, who are called greasers by other children. With the greasers, the Ponyboy family becomes a naughty boy.

In several incidents, they did inappropriate things, such as fighting, brawls, swearing, and smoking.

The researcher raises the topic of juvenile delinquency and examines it through one of the literary works. Literary works generally contain the problems that complement human life. Therefore, literary works have their world, which is the outcome of literary observations of the life that had created itself, reaped in the form of novels, poetry, and plays that are helpful to be understood, enjoyed, or utilized by the community. Literary works are born from a culture that lives in society, as in this novel that will be researched in this study, entitled *The Outsiders* by S.E Hinton. The researcher will use this novel as the object of study. It is not without reason that the researcher chose *The Outsiders* by S.E Hinton as the object of this study.

The researcher chose *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton as the subject of this study for several reasons. The first is that this novel is readable by people, both teenagers and adults. The second is that the main character in this novel is involved in juvenile delinquency in her life, which is suitable for the topic to be studied.

The approach used in this study refers to characterization using a psychological approach and social learning theory, which can be used to analyze problems the main character faces. This theory helped the researcher identify the reason for juvenile delinquency.

B. Problem Formulation

Based on the background of the study, the researcher would like to specify the

central problems in the following questions:

1. What are the forms of juvenile delinquency in *The Outsiders* novel?
2. What are the causes of juvenile delinquency by Albert Bandura's social learning theory in *The Outsiders* novel?

C. Objective of Study

Based on the statement of the problems above, this study will explain the main discussion about:

1. To understand the forms of juvenile delinquency committed by the teenagers in *The Outsiders* novel.
2. To illustrate the causes of juvenile delinquency by the character's behavior in *The Outsiders* novel.

D. Review of Related Studies

Baihaki, Y. (2019) has conducted research entitled "Juvenile Delinquency In The Novel Love Letters To The Dead By Ava Dellaira." This research examined the issue of juvenile delinquency in the novel *Love Letters to The Dead* by Ava Dellaira. The research aims to depict the forms of juvenile delinquency and analyze its influence on the main character's behaviors. The result of the research found that there were several forms of juvenile delinquency in the novel and its effect on the

main character's behavior. The difference between the research written by Baihaki and this research is the novel use of the research. Baihaki used the novel *Love Letters to the Dead* by Ava Dellaira, while this study used the novel *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton.

Anis Iryani (2011) researched "The Struggle of the Main Character to Find Out the Personality as Reflected in Elizabeth Gilbert *Eat Pray Love*: A Psychological Approach." This research examined the issue of the main character's struggle to find out the personality as reflected in Elizabeth Gilbert's *Eat Pray Love*. This research aims to psychologically explain the characterization of Elizabeth Gilbert in the novel *Eat Pray Love*, describe Elizabeth Gilbert's characterization, and examine Elizabeth's struggle to discover her personality. The results found that First, the characterizations of the main character are ambitious, religious, patient, friendly, adventurous, and anxious. Second, the struggle of the main character to find out the personality. The difference between the research written by Anis Iryani and this research is the novel of the research. Anis Iryani used *Eat Pray Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert, while this study used the novel *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton.

Esmeralda. (2019), in her research entitled "Social Stratification as Depicted in *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton, "Raises issues about social stratification. This study analyses the social class between the Greasers and the Socs. The results found that social stratification affects the development of Ponyboy and Johnny's characters and the cause of the

conflict that occurs in this novel. The difference between the research written by Esmeralda and this research is the topic and theory of the research. Esmeralda analyzed social stratification using Max Weber's social stratification theory, while this study analyzed the juvenile delinquency and character development depicted in the novel using Albert Bandura's social learning theory.

E. Method of Research

This research uses a qualitative research method. Qualitative research uses many books and references. It includes articles, journals, and websites to support the topic.

1. Data and Source of Data

This study used S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders* Novel as the primary data. The writer takes the novel as the object. So, this research also uses some written materials, such as books concerning the topic and some literature books, articles, and journals, as supporting data.

2. Method and Technique of Collecting Data

There are two sources of data, primary and secondary data. This research's primary data source is Susan Eloise Hinton's novel *The Outsiders*. The secondary data is taken from some critical works and books concerning the novel, the explanation of the psychological approach, and social learning theory by Albert Bandura.

3. Method of Analyzing Data

In analyzing data, the writer uses qualitative research. It is a research procedure that results in descriptive data, such as written or oral words from the object of research, that can be the evidence that supports the related topic (Bodgan and Taylor via Moleong, 1998:3). The data are collected in the form of words or pictures, rather than numbers, becomes the primary characteristic of qualitative research to get a descriptive focus.

F. Presentation

The paper consists of four chapters. The first chapter is the introduction. It discusses the background of the study, its objective, and a review of related studies. The second chapter is the theoretical approach and framework, which contains the theory used to analyze the misfortune in this study. The third chapter is the analysis of the problem. It served in two sub-chapters. First, the researcher presents the data from *The Outsiders* novel, and in the second sub-chapter, the researcher presents the discussion of the data written in the previous sub-chapter. The last chapter is the conclusion. This chapter serves as the outline of the analysis results in the previous chapter.