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# MUTUAL RESPECT BEHAVIOR IN THE GREATEST SHOWMAN MOVIE DIRECTED BY MICHAEL GRACEY (2017) A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

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#### ABSTRACT

This study aims to identify how social behavior respects each other in the film The Greatest Showman directed by Michael Gracey and released in 2017. This research is qualitative research with a focus on analyzing the behavior and interactions of each character in respecting other characters and how the impact of mutual respect occurs in each character. The technique used in this research is descriptive analysis. From this research, several problem formulations were found. First, how the occurrence of mutual respect. Second, what is the impact of mutual respect between characters? Third, how is the comparison of mutual respect in movies and in everyday life. Mutual respect, Compassion, Love, and empathy are words that everyone agrees have a positive meaning. However, there are many theories about what respect means. Perhaps the reason it is so difficult to define is that it can mean different things to different people depending on whether it is used as a verb or as a noun depending on the cultural background and context in which it is discussed.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Literature is something that comes from the creativity of an individual as outlined in a written work, but not all written works can be called written work such as magazines, telephone books, and important documents. Literature can develop according to the

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development of human creativity itself and of course, will bring its benefits. The definition of literature itself is a result of human imagination and creativity that has been combined into an idea, creativity, and emotion as a human being (Nuranisah 2014). It can be concluded from the above definition that literature is something that allows humans to express their creativity and ideas. There are two types of literature, namely fiction and non-fiction. The type of fiction literature consists of works related to the imagination of the author such as poetry, movies, and novels. Non-fiction is a work that comes from facts and realities in the real world such as the results of research and biographies.

One of the most interesting pieces of literature is a movie. Unlike other literary works, movies are literary works that are made in such a way with elements that can be interesting and enjoyed by the audience. We can take a meaning and a lesson from understanding the story told in the movie. The sociology of literature is a special science that focuses on the relationship between social structures and literary works according to where they are created. The existence of literary works has an influence on social situations.

In this article, the author wants to describe the conflicts experienced by the main character in the movie The Greatest Showman. This movie tells a story based on the true story of the most legendary figure in the entertainment world named Phineas Taylor Barnum, played by Hugh Jackman, and Charity Barnum, played by Michelle Williams. The story focuses on the efforts made by Phineas Taylor Barnum and Charity Barnum in building the largest circus show in the United States in the 1860s. This movie, directed by Michael Gracey, genres music, biographies, and dramas with a duration of 105 minutes. This shows the efforts of the main character in building the biggest circus at that time, starting from finding talent for his circus to the various trials he got, both obstacles in building his circus to problems in his family.

This movie not only presents Barnum's struggles in building his circus show but also presents the relationship between each character very well, how each character has respect for other characters. Like the strange people who became the talent of Barnum's circus show. Even though they know they are being used as coffers by Barnum, they also feel the warmth of a new family in the circus where they previously felt like they were neglected in their previous family and community. Because it is felt that the respect that each character has in this film is interesting, the author of this article decided to study and understand it more deeply.

The first previous study was conducted by Anggaraini, Unpris Yastanti, and Astrida Khairani (2020) explained in their journal titled Verbal Bullying In The Greatest Showman Movie Directed By Michael Gracey. P.T. Barnum owns a circus filled with people with physical forms that are different from normal people and have a negative influence on the media and society in New York City. People judge them as shameless people, giving rise to verbal bullying. This causes a decrease in self-confidence and the assumption that they are different from other people.

The second previous study was written by Ardhi Sasongko, Henny Suharyati, and Sari Rejeki (2019) in a journal titled The Components of Speech Event and The Usage of Language Variations on The Central Character In The Film The Greatest Showman. They concluded that Mr. Barnum uses many variations of this language in the context of film so well, that he always does what he says consistently. That consistency led him to success in building a business that he could make a big circus stage company.

The third previous study was conducted by Alifia Nuralita Rezqiana, Siti Maemunah, and Endang Mulyaningsih (2020) make a journal titled Pembangunan Karakter Tokoh Utama Melalui Dialog Pada Film Musikal "The Greatest Showman". Their analysis explains that some of the dialogues in this film are presented in the form of songs and become one of the strong character-building media because it contains a unique and interesting soundtrack, structure, and dialogue style. The dialogue can also represent the main character's characteristics in various situations, such as when they struggle to build a business while enjoying glory until the main character is in a slump.

The fourth previous study is by Cynthia Andiana Tjitra, Daniel Budiana, and Chory Angela Wijayanti (2022) explained in their journal titled Representasi Bullying Dalam Film The Greatest Showman. Bullying that appears in The Greatest Showman is physical bullying and verbal bullying. Physical bullying is when the perpetrator acts physically against the victim, such as hitting, spitting, punishing, and kicking, while verbal bullying is when the perpetrator uses insulting words and ridicules the victim with the aim of sacrificing the victim. The bullying that happens in this movie is a form of rebellion against freedom and unfulfilled freedom. In addition, capitalism also shows that social status or lineage in the 18th century is still a matter of concern.

The fifth previous is Roro Wahyu Auliya Dewi (2020) in a journal titled Children,s Response To The Greatest Showman (2017) Movie: Reader Response Analysis. There are four strategies applied by the reviewer's reader response theory. There are textual 103 | ISLLAC: Journal of Intensive Studies on Language, Literature, Art, and Culture

response strategies, experiential response strategies, psychological response strategies, and social response strategies. For the cultural response strategy, the current researcher did not find a response from reviewers that matched the response of this strategy. In the textual response strategy, the interaction between the reader and the text results in a process of interpreting the meaning of the text, the reviewer focuses on what the text displays. In the psychological response strategy, the reviewer actually performs the role in the text they read as the interpreter. In the experiential response strategy, the reviewer's experience can come or be obtained from anywhere, such as what readers face in real life, for example, and from what they read previously related to the text they read. In the social response strategy, each situation affects the way the reader argues through a social perspective, this strategy is caused by the diversity of the reader's meaning that focuses on social influence. readership or text transaction. At the same time, they all focus on the same process of how readers create meaning.

The sixth previous study is from Kadek Kenaka Aditya Sanjaya, Ni Made Verayanti Utami (2023) in a journal titled Respect Value Found in Turning Red Movie: This research centers on Meilin's sentiments regarding self-expression and her demonstration of reverence towards her ancestors and parents. The examination of the moral value of respect is based on Linda and Eyre's theory outlined in their book "Teaching Your Children Values" (1993). Utilizing the findings of this classification, the study scrutinizes dialogues in which moral values of respect are evident, as displayed by both antagonist and protagonist characters. Among these values, the most prominent one in the movie "Turning Red" is the emphasis on respecting one's ancestors and parents. The main character also effectively embodies moral principles that are easily comprehensible. The author believes that this research will serve as a valuable resource for future scholars interested in exploring moral values portrayed in films. "Turning Red" is one of those movies that effectively conveys valuable moral lessons.

The seventh previous study is from Mulfi Madia Hanum, Muhd. Al-Hafizh in a journal titled Preserving Respect In John Patrick Shanley's Movie Doubt (2008): The issue discussed in this analysis is about preserving respect. The characters in the movie are trying to maintain their dignity as the head of a Catholic school because they feel that the two new teachers are not following the school's rules. The purpose of this analysis is to find out to what extent the film "Doubt" shows the efforts made by the characters to uphold their authority in the school. Additionally, this analysis aims to determine how the

characters, conflicts, and setting support this interpretation, using the perspective of preserving respect. The results of the film analysis indicate that the characters are making a strong effort to remove the new priest from the school because of their dislike for his lifestyle and outlook, such as using a ballpoint pen, eating sugar, and his closeness to his students, which could threaten their image as the school's leaders.

The eighth previous study was written by Sofi Andini (2022) titled The Educational Values In The Ron Clark Story Movie directed By Randa Haines: The aim of this study is to discuss the educational principles depicted in the movie "The Ron Clark Story." The subject of this examination is the characters within the movie. This research follows a qualitative descriptive approach, with data derived from analyzing the movie's script and selecting dialogues that convey educational values. The research tools employed in this investigation include the researcher herself, the movie script, and the educational values framework as outlined by the Ministry of Education and Culture (KEMENDIKNAS). After analyzing the film, the researcher identified nine educational values portrayed in "The Ron Clark Story," which include honesty, discipline, sociability, creativity, hard work, hospitality, tolerance, democracy, and appreciation for achievement.

The ninth previous study was written by Nur Wahyu Puspitasari, Adip Arifin, and Ratri Harida (2021) The moral values in Aladdin (2019): The researchers use a descriptive qualitative method as the research approach for their study, with the research design tailored accordingly. The data source for this research comprised the dialogues among the characters in the movie "Aladdin." Data collection was carried out through the documentation technique. In addition to the researchers themselves, a documentation sheet served as another tool for data collection. The data were analyzed using a descriptive approach. The study's findings revealed the presence of several moral values in the film "Aladdin," which encompassed bravery, truthfulness, self-assurance and capability, assisting others, love and affection, respect, loyalty, justice, humanity, and kindness. These results also highlight that honesty emerges as the most prominent moral value depicted throughout various scenes in the film, appearing a total of fourteen times in different dialogues and actions.

The tenth previous study is from Esla Anga Rini (2017) titled Respectful Language Analysis (Keigo) in Movie Nazotoki Wa Dinner No Atode: Keigo is a form of language that is employed to show respect to individuals who are older or not very close to the speaker. It is used not only in everyday conversations but also in educational, professional, and

business contexts. This study is titled "Analysis of Polite Language (Keigo) in the Movie 'Nazotoki wa Dinner no Atode.'" The data source for this research is the movie "Nazotoki wa Dinner no Atode" by Tokuya Higashigawa. The research focuses on the use of Keigo in the dialogues within the movie. The study results indicate various forms of polite language (keigo), including sonkeigo (respectful language used to elevate the speaker), kenjougo (respectful language used to humble the other person), and teineigo. polite language used to soften words and show respect to the person being referred to.

The conclusion from the previous study above is that the film The Greatest Showman directed by Michael Gracey is a film that can be used as a research object to observe bullying behavior in this film, observing the language components and character development in it. This can also be observed through other films as research objects such as Turning Red, Doubt, The Ron Clark Story, Aladdin, and Nazotoki Wa Dinner No Atode. In this research, the author tries to explore The Greatest Showman Movie (2017) directed by Michael Gracey from the perspective of how the characters respect each other to gain recognition and appreciation from society.

## **METHOD**

In this chapter, the author explains the method used in this article. First, the type of research is discussed, followed by an exploration of the two objects to be studied, the third data, and their sources. The fourth section covers data collection techniques, and the last section delves into data analysis techniques. The author of this research uses qualitative research methods in this study so that the data collected is not in the form of numbers but dialogue not outcomes and then the data is analyzed inductively (Bogdan and Biken 1992:19). The opinion above explains that qualitative research is research whose data is in the form of words and not numbers.

Data utilized in this study encompass paragraphs, words, and dialogues. The study relies on two main data sources: primary and secondary. Primary data sources stem from the movie "The Greatest Showman" (2017), directed by Michael Gracey. Meanwhile, secondary data sources consist of various materials drawn from external sources relevant to the research at hand. These secondary data sources encompass academic journals, websites, dictionaries, and prior studies that align with and bolster the findings of this research.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

## **Findings**

# The Category of respect in The Greatest Showman movie

#### **Considerate Respect**

Considerate Respect involves treating others thoughtfully, taking into account their unique physical, social, and emotional needs. It encompasses acceptance, tolerance, empathy, support, and acknowledgment. Nasie (2022) explains Considerate respect includes three basic elements, the ability to notice and pay attention to the existence of others, recognize the needs of others, and address others' needs by a gesture that meets those needs. We can see an example of this category from the main character Phineas Taylor Barnum who wants to build entertainment for the people. He gathers people with unique characteristics. P.T. Barnum treats all members of his circus like his own family. As the story progresses, the circus members also respect and consider PT Barnum as someone who means something to them because he has made their lives better. He saw them not just as workers, but as individuals with unique talents who needed to be valued and respected. Barnum also fought to protect and defend his circus troupe members from the criticism and discrimination they faced from society at large. In addition, he provided moral and emotional support to them in overcoming various challenges that arose during their journey.



Picture 1. Scene 22:32

(In this scene, Barnum distributes posters to recruit unique people to start building his circus group.)

*Helen Barnum* : *Did you sell any more tickets today?* 

P.T Barnum : A few, Yah. Most everyone was rushing today, it's Friday, but we sold a

few.

Carolin Barnum : I thing you have too many dead things in your museum, daddy.

P.T Barnum : Do you?

Helen Barnum : She's right. You need something alive.

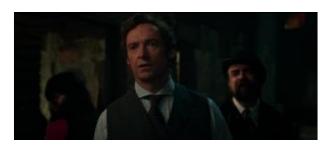
P.T Barnum : Go to sleep, both of you.

Helen Barnum : Something sensational.
P.T Barnum : That's a big word.
Helen Barnum : It's your word.

Carolin Barnum : Something that isn't stuffed.

Helen Barnum : Like a mermaid. Carolin Barnum : Or a unicorn.

In the picture above, Barnum, who felt that his museum business was not very good, received advice from his two daughters before going to bed who said that Barnum's museum should have something unique, lively, and sensational, like a mermaid or unicorn. After receiving advice from his two daughters, Barnum remained silent and reflected. The first person Barnum approached to join his museum was Charles Stratton, a man who was 25 inches tall. At first, he refused Barnum's invitation but after Barnum convinced him he was willing to join Barnum. Barnum then made a poster with the aim of attracting people who felt they were unique and different to join Barnum in creating a circus.



Picture 2. Scene 28:49
(Barnum tries to protect his circus members from people who don't like the existence of those who are considered different from society)

*Crowd* : That's right fat boy.

*Crowd* : You gonna protect that bearded lady?

P.T Barnum: Hey, That's enough!

Crowd : Freak.

P.T Barnum: Inside, all of you. Right now.

Crowd: We don't want your kind! Get out of here.

P.T Barnum: That's quite enough, sir.

After a successful first performance, many people in society expressed disapproval and even fear of diverse circus members, such as people with physical disabilities or different races. Barnum acted as a leader who protected his circus members from the disapproval and discrimination of the general public. He created an environment where circus members could feel safe and respected, and through these actions, he portrayed

the values of acceptance and human dignity.

## **Deserved/Normative Respect**

This category involves adhering to social norms and ensuring smooth interactions in daily life. Nasie (2022) gives state-appropriate respect that is in accordance with social norms and is regulated by external rules and norms that guide the behavior of the community. This respect is also linked to the ethical obligation to treat all people with respect. Circus member P.T. Barnum, like Lettie Lutz (Bearded Lady), Anne Wheeler, and others, also earned "deserved respect" from the audience for their outstanding performances in the show. They demonstrate that their uniqueness and talents deserve respect and recognition.



Picture 3. Scene 30.41 (The audience applauds and appreciates the circus performance which is stunning and can entertain them.)

After the circus performance ended, the circus members received enthusiastic appreciation and applause from the impressed audience. With loud cheers and thunderous applause, the audience expressed their appreciation for the hard work and extraordinary talent displayed by the circus artists. This applause is a form of recognition of their dedication and efforts in creating an amazing performance, which also reflects the positive support and involvement of the community. This is not just an expression of satisfaction and entertainment, but also a symbol of solidarity between the audience and the circus members, creating a strong bond between them and providing moral encouragement to the circus artists to continue to innovate and give their best in every future performance.

#### **Conditional Respect**

This category comprises two primary themes: demonstrating admiration for 109 | ISLLAC: Journal of Intensive Studies on Language, Literature, Art, and Culture

accomplishments, qualities, and actions, and mutual respect. All social interactions involve the reciprocal exchange of resources between people. The reciprocated resources may be equal, identical, or different in essence or value. Conditional respect is related to the norms of reciprocity and esteem for accomplishments (Nasie 2022). Phillip Carlyle's character development initially doubted P.T. Barnum's plans to build a circus troupe. Phillip eventually joined the circus group P.T. Barnum as a business partner. His presence brought a breath of fresh air into the show, helping turn the circus into an even bigger phenomenon. During their journey, both Phillip and Barnum learn to appreciate values that are more important than material success. They finally realize the importance of family and friendship.



**Picture 4.** Scene 01:34:15

(At the end of the movie, Barnum is seen handing over the hat he often uses when performing to Phillip. This scene could be interpreted as Barnum entrusting his circus to Phillip because he trusts him.)

P.T Barnum : (give his hat) This is for you.

*Phillip Carlyle* : (take the hat) What will you be doing?

*P.T Barnum* : Watching my girls grow up. The show must go on.

At the end of the film "The Greatest Showman," there is an emotional scene where P.T. Barnum, the circus founder, entrusted the circus he had worked so passionately to build to Phillip Carlyle. In this scene, Barnum expresses his confidence in Phillip's leadership abilities that he has observed throughout their journey together. This action reflects Barnum's change in character from an ambitious and slightly selfish leader to someone who is wiser and more caring towards the people around him. This also shows that he has learned the true meaning of family and friendship. This scene depicts the transformation of Barnum's character and the message about the importance of living life with deeper meaning and human values.

# **Avoiding Disrespect**

Avoiding disrespect is a societal norm but is distinguished from deserved/normative respect because it emphasizes behaviors that comply with societal norms that avoid harming others, and deserved/normative respect emphasizes behaviors that comply with societal norms by granting respect to others (Nasie 2022). This category involves topics that highlight strategies for preserving respect by steering clear of negative behaviors. When Barnum faced a situation where his circus performance was ridiculed by a famous theater critic. Although he faced very serious criticism, Barnum chose not to give himself or his colleagues in the circus a pass. Instead, he decided to face the insult with a cool head and tried to further improve their performance. He speaks to the members of his circus troupe, inspiring them, and raising their spirits to continue performing with passion and pride despite their disdain.



**Picture 5.** Scene 28:23 (After receiving criticism from a critic, Barnum faced the criticism by continuing to encourage his circus members.)

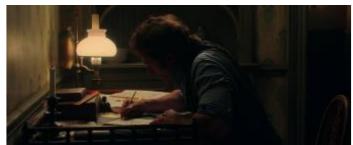
At the end of the film "The Greatest Showman," there is an emotional scene in which Barnum, the circus founder, entrusts the circus he has worked so passionately to build to Phillip Carlyle. In this scene, Barnum expresses his confidence in Phillip's leadership abilities that he has observed throughout their journey together. This action reflects Barnum's change in character from an ambitious and slightly selfish leader to someone who is wiser and more caring towards the people around him. This also shows that he has learned the true meaning of family and friendship. This scene depicts the transformation of Barnum's character and the message about the importance of living life with deeper meaning and human values.

## The Emergence of Respect

## **Need Help From Other People**

The Greatest Showman is set in the 1800s, when the circus was a popular and common form of entertainment in many parts of the world, including the United States and Europe. Circuses at that time usually involved performances of various attractions, such as acrobatics, animal tricks, magic shows, and many more. This was a very popular entertainment among the people of that time, and many circuses traveled from city to city to perform their acts.

Durkheim (1893) argued that in modern society, the characteristics of work have increased greatly, and this has led to interdependence between individuals. In this context, he stated that humans need the help of other humans to achieve their goals and maintain social stability. P.T. Barnum initially worked for a company, he then planned to create a museum but it didn't go well. P.T. intention Barnum in building a circus group by recruiting people with unique characteristics is an act that reflects tolerance by accepting and respecting their rights as fellow human beings. Barnum did various things to attract people to come to his circus. He uses the uniqueness of animals and even the abnormal physical conditions of humans. As a result of this method, Barnum managed to get many visitors.



Picture 6. Scene 22:25

(To start his circus, Barnum looked for a variety of acts and people with special talents, including acrobats, musicians, dancers, and people with unique physical characteristics. By offering them jobs and gathering them as a group, Barnum formed the nucleus of what would become his circus troupe. He also hires a circus manager named Phillip Carlyle to help manage the show.)

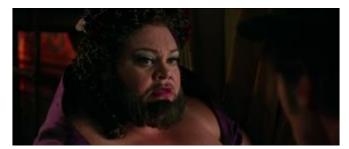
The scene where Barnum begins to build his circus that requires many people begins when he makes posters that he will distribute to attract the interest of people who feel that his recording is unique and this is a moment full of enthusiasm and inspiration. In the midst of despair and deprivation, Barnum gathered a group of people considered strange by society, including Anne Wheeler and her colleagues, to form a unique and 112 | ISLLAC: Journal of Intensive Studies on Language, Literature, Art, and Culture

diverse circus. In a dark setting, they began a simple performance in a simple cloth tent, which soon developed into a stunning spectacle. In this scene, we see Barnum's fighting spirit, determination, and big dreams to create a place where everyone, regardless of their background or appearance, can feel accepted and appreciated.

#### **Feel Appreciated**

P.T. Barnum and Circus Members: P.T. Barnum, in his struggle to build his circus, sought to provide opportunities for members of his circus who had physical or social uniqueness. He saw their potential and dignity as worthy individuals and gave them a platform to shine. This reflects respect for human dignity regardless of differences.

P.T. Barnum formed a circus troupe of people of varying talents and appearances. P.T. Barnum initially recruited Phillip Carlyle as a business partner but because Phillip's talent for singing and dancing made him a major performer in the circus, Anne Wheeler was a highly skilled acrobat and trapeze artist, Lettie Lutz also known as the "Bearded Lady," had a unique physical appearance. makes it different from others. Lettie became one of the main vocalists, Tom Thumb is an artist who is discouraged and has a unique physique in the form of a very short height. The Tattooed Man nicknamed The man with tattoos all over his body is one of the standout circus performers. Dog Boy is a member of Barnum who has a unique physique with larger, protruding ears like a dog's. This quirk has earned him the nickname "Dog Boy." Maslow (1943) proposed that humans have a series of needs that are arranged hierarchically, starting from basic physical needs to higher psychological needs. At the top of the hierarchy, there is a need for recognition, achievement, and feeling valued.



Picture 7. Scene 26:46

(In the picture above the circus members feel insecure at their first performance. Barnum then convinces them to be confident and the audience will accept and like them.)

P.T Barnum: Lettie! Lettie! They're waiting!

Lettie Lutz : For what? P.T Barnum : For you. Lettie Lutz : No.

*P.T Barnum*: They don't know it yet, but they gonna love you. Trust me.

Barnum leads the nervous circus members to the center of the arena before their first performance. Charismatic and passionate, Barnum assured them that they were extraordinary in their uniqueness and that the audience would appreciate them. He encouraged them to have confidence in themselves and explained that their uniqueness is something that will fascinate the audience. In these inspiring words, Barnum provides emotional encouragement to the members of the circus, reminding them that they are a family and together they will achieve great success. This scene reflects a strong message about the importance of respecting yourself and diversity, as well as the importance of support and belief in achieving your dreams.

# **The Impact of Respect**

# **Solidarity and Unity**

Circus members form a mutually supportive family. They understood Barnum's vision and felt part of a larger group. Their solidarity is reflected in their desire to put on the best show possible, overcome obstacles together, and support each other in difficult moments. Durkheim (1893) explained that Solidarity is an important factor in maintaining social unity in society. It is a social bond that connects individuals within a larger whole. Society is a belief system that exists among individuals who interact with each other. Without trust, there would be no society.



Picture 8. Scene 57:30

(in the picture above, Barnum is in a room gathered with important people, and Barnum asks not to enter on the grounds that he cannot handle the members of his circus. They are shocked by Barnum's words but still uphold their pride and solidarity.)

The scene in the film "The Greatest Showman" where the members of the circus show their solidarity when Barnum blocks them from entering a meeting of the elite, this moment shows the strength and unity among the diverse members of the circus. Despite the discriminatory treatment and rejection they experienced, the circus members refused to allow themselves to be divided or humiliated. They are united and together, showing their support for each other with passion. This scene illustrates how strong the social bonds are between them and their desire to stay together as a solid circus family, despite being faced with social inequality. This is an emotional moment in a film that illustrates a strong message of unity, courage, and solidarity in the face of social injustice.

#### **Emergence of Trust**

Despite Barnum's challenges and changes in plans, the members of the circus had strong faith in his vision and in Barnum himself. They see him as a leader they can trust to lead them in a better direction and give them the recognition they seek. Kant (1797) emphasized that trust is the assumption that another person will act in accordance with moral laws, either with or without any doubt. Act in such a way that you treat humanity, whether in yourself or in others, not only as a means to an end but always at the same time as an end. This places more emphasis on the unique value of human life as deserving of our ultimate moral respect and thus proposes a more personal view of morality.



**Picture 9.** Scene 01:24:05

(After the circus building burned down, Barnum was no longer able to pay his circus members, he also gave them up if they wanted to leave the circus. But the circus members felt they had found a family and a home when Barnum gathered them. They wanted Barnum to lead them and start the circus again from the beginning.

P.T Barnum : Folks, if you've come to get paid, the money is gone. All of it. Nothing left to give you.

Lettie Lutz : Shut up, Barnum. You just don't get it. Our mothers were ashamed of

us. Hid us our whole lives. Then you pull us out of the shadows. And now you're giving up on us too. Maybe you are a fraud. Maybe it was just about making a buck. But you gave us a real family.

W.D Wheeler : And the circus... that was our home. We want our home back.

When Barnum returns after leaving his circus members, it is a moment full of deep trust between Barnum and his circus members. When Barnum returns, having previously pursued personal ambitions that separated him from the circus, he confronts circus members who feel betrayed and abandoned. However, at that moment, Barnum sincerely apologized and stated that the circus was his family. The circus became a symbol of unity, diversity, and acceptance. As the members of the circus begin to accept Barnum back, the moment shows how strong their relationship is, built on deep trust, friendship, and loyalty. This belief not only connected Barnum to his circus members but also united them as a strong, united family.

#### **Willingness to Move Forward**

Maslow (1943) explained that the motivation to change and achieve self-actualization is a very strong drive that arises when lower basic needs have been met. Motivation for change often involves creative exploration and a higher level of problem-solving ability. Individuals seek ways to overcome more abstract obstacles and challenges circus members are willing to face the risks and challenges of building Barnum's business. They feel that their efforts to achieve success and recognition are worthy and important things to do.



**Picture 10.** Scene 01:32:16 (After the fire incident they rebuilt the circus by changing from a building to using a tent)

Phillip Carlyle : The only thing is, I don't know how we're gonna afford a building.

P.T Barnum : Right. Building. We don't need a building. Real estate in Manhattan is

a terrible investment. Why, I can get land down by the docks for almost nothing! All we need is a tent.

In the dramatic scene following the tragedy of the fire that hit the circus performance building, the circus members show their extraordinary strength and solidarity. Even though buildings have been destroyed and they face heavy losses, they band together to overcome a desperate situation. In their cheers and joint actions, they proved that they are not just a performance group, but a family that supports each other. In that moment, they showed their determination to continue their show and prove that they are more than the misfortune that befell them. It is an emotionally charged scene that depicts human resilience and the power of unity amidst the disasters that test them.

#### Discussion

After studying the movie The Greatest Showman using several theories from several sources. Kant (1785) argued that individuals should be valued as ends in themselves, not as means to other ends. This is known as the principle of individual "personal honor". In other words, we must respect the rights and dignity of every individual universally and unconditionally, even if such actions conflict with our own interests. This is the basis for the concept of "moral obligation" in Kant's thought, where we have an obligation to act in accordance with universalizable moral principles and respect human rights and dignity. The author concludes that the mutual respect depicted in the film "The Greatest Showman" can be the basis for several discussions. Here are some aspects that can be discussed:

The first is acceptance in Society: This film highlights the importance of acceptance and inclusion of different individuals, especially in the context of a circus troupe. "Acceptance is the key to creating a better world. When we accept each other with love and understanding, we build bridges that connect hearts and tear down walls of separation." Deborah Day (2010). Discussing how mutual respect among individuals can help build an inclusive society, where every individual is accepted regardless of their differences. The attitude of acceptance depicted in this film is one of the elements that highlight what it would be like for humans to respect each other's uniqueness. This attitude creates a sense of solidarity and a feeling of blending in with other people. The attitude of acceptance depicted in this movie is one of the elements that is highlighted and

shows how humans should respect each other's uniqueness. This film also shows that we should not judge other people by using differences as a reference. "Acceptance is a call to explore and understand differences, not to judge or categorize people based on them." Shain M. Neumeier (2023). Acceptance in society is a social process in which individuals or groups of individuals accept, appreciate, and embrace differences, whether in terms of identity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, or physical and mental conditions. It involves an inclusive attitude that opens the door to diversity, respects every individual's right to be accepted without discrimination, and promotes equitable social integration. Acceptance is not only about tolerance but also about understanding, empathy, and respect for human rights. By creating an environment of acceptance, society promotes social justice, enables better individual development, and builds the foundation for harmonious relationships among all its members.

Second, the effect of Societal Perceptions on Identity: This film shows how societal perceptions of different individuals can influence their respect and recognition in society. Discuss the effect of stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination on different individuals, and the impact they have on their lives. Erving Goffman (1956) in his book "The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life" explains how individuals play different roles in various social situations in response to social expectations. Goffman suggested that individuals often form their identities based on how they want to be seen by others. The influence of societal perceptions on identity is a complex and powerful phenomenon in individual lives. A person's identity is often formed and reshaped through social mirrors that reflect society's views, norms, and expectations of them. Individuals tend to view themselves through the lens of others' views, and this can lead to a self-concept that is heavily influenced by social perceptions. Negative views or stereotypes from society can harm self-esteem and identity development, while support, appreciation, and acceptance can strengthen a positive sense of identity. In the context of gender identity, race, religion, or sexual orientation, biased or discriminatory social perceptions can influence the recognition and acceptance of those identities, often with significant psychological consequences. Therefore, a better understanding of the role that society's perceptions play on identity is important to promote inclusion, equality, and better understanding in society. Judith Butler (1999) emphasizes that gender identity is not only internal but also social. He proposed the idea that gender identity is formed through actions that are recognized and accepted by society, so that gender identity is greatly influenced by social perceptions of what is considered "normal" or "reasonable." The influence of gender on society's perception of identity illustrates the complexity of how culture and social norms can shape the way individuals see themselves in relation to gender. This also reflects the importance of education to create a more inclusive society that supports all gender identities.

Third, the relationship between Identity and Awards: This film illustrates how appreciation for talent, uniqueness, and individual struggles can affect the construction of their identities. Discuss how individuals who are accepted, valued, and gain recognition in society tend to have higher self-esteem and are more able to fulfill their potential. Awards can be a manifestation or expression of a person's identity. In this case, awards may reflect values, goals, or achievements that are important to the individual. The book "Identity in Question" by Anthony Elliott (2009) discusses the relationship between identity and appreciation in a broader social context. Awards are often used as markers or symbols that reflect individual identity. Awards, such as academic degrees, employment awards, or recognition in the arts, can be external ways of declaring or recognizing an individual's identity and accomplishments. For many people, achieving certain awards becomes an important part of their identity project. This may include professional career development or accomplishments in areas of hobbies or personal interests. There is also the opinion that identity should not depend entirely on external awards or recognition. Erving Goffman (1956) Healthy identity must be rooted in a deep self-understanding and the individual's internal values.

Fourth, the influence of Leaders in Building a Respectful Environment: The Character of P.T. Barnum in this film plays an important role as a leader who builds a respectful and inclusive environment. Discuss the influence of leaders in shaping mutual respect and how inclusive leadership can create an environment that supports individual growth and development. Edgar Schein (2018) According to him, leaders who are humble and prioritize relationships, honesty, and trust can create a work environment full of respect. A good leader must have a humble attitude and prioritize relationships, openness, and trust in interacting with his team members. Schein argues that humble leaders accept the fact that they do not always have all the answers or solutions, and they are willing to learn from others. They create an environment where team members feel valued and heard, so they share their ideas and experiences without fear of criticism or punishment. A good leader's attitude is one that encourages the development of an

organizational culture full of respect and collaboration, where every individual feels they have a meaningful contribution. Thus, Schein emphasizes the importance of leaders who prioritize quality relationships and openness to create an environment that enables innovation, learning, and continued organizational growth. Amy C. Edmondson (2018) highlights the importance of leaders in creating "psychological safety" in the workplace. Leaders who promote open communication and encourage admitting mistakes can create an environment filled with respect. In her book entitled "The Fearless Organization: Creating Psychological Safety in the Workplace for Learning, Innovation, and Growth," Amy C. Edmondson highlights the importance of good leadership attitudes in creating a work environment that promotes "psychological safety." According to Edmondson, good leaders are those who understand that in a successful work environment, people must feel safe to speak up, share ideas, and ask questions without fear of punishment or negative judgment. Such leaders should support open communication, encourage honest discussions, and provide recognition of mistakes as opportunities to learn. Good leadership attitudes also include a willingness to listen, be empathetic, and provide support to team members in achieving their full potential. Thus, good leaders, according to Edmondson, are those who create an atmosphere where individuals feel accepted, appreciated, and encouraged to contribute optimally.

Fifth, the role of art in facilitating awards and recognition: Performing arts in this film is a means of expressing individual talent and uniqueness, as well as receiving appreciation from the audience. Discuss the role of art in helping to change society's perception of different individuals and how art can be a tool to promote mutual respect in society. Ellen Winner (2018), a psychologist and art researcher, emphasizes that art can play an important role in the development of individual creativity and problemsolving. He presents evidence that engaging in the arts, such as painting, playing music, or writing, can enhance a person's creative abilities and help them feel more empowered in various aspects of life. The arts give individuals the opportunity to think creatively, explore new ideas, and express themselves in unique ways. In the process, a person can develop critical and analytical skills necessary in various aspects of life. Winner highlights that engaging in the arts, such as painting, playing music, or writing, not only improves artistic skills, but also hones creative abilities, lateral thinking, and adapting to change. In this way, art is not only about the work produced but also about the process of learning and personal growth which can elevate a person's level in terms of thinking, creativity,

and problem-solving. Engaging in the arts teaches individuals to value effort, experience, and perseverance, even if the end result may not always be perfect. This contributes to the development of an individual's self-confidence and independence, which in turn can help in raising a person's stature in various aspects of life, including in career, interpersonal relationships, and the exploration of overall personal potential.

#### **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

Character's relationship with other characters is also one of the highlights of this film. By exploring how each character interacts, we can find out how they can respect one another. From the perspective of Kantianism principles, the relationship between P.T. Barnum and his circus members in the film "The Greatest Showman" must be explained through the lens of Immanuel Kant's ethics. PT Barnum was expected to treat its circus members with moral obligation and provide fair treatment, reflecting important Kantian principles. This includes providing fair wages, avoiding degrading treatment, and respecting the rights and dignity of each individual as an end in itself. The principle of universality also emerged, demanding that managerial actions and policies be applied fairly and equally to all circus members. Despite the film's dramatic nature, Kantian highlights the importance of viewing managerial relationships as moral responsibilities that include obligations, analysis of fair treatment, and respect for human dignity. Thus, the relationship between P.T. Barnum and his circus members was supposed to reflect underlying Kantian moral principles. Moreover, it means that each partner in the relationship acknowledges and accepts the other's unique qualities and individuality and treats each other with dignity and consideration. Respecting your partner is important because it creates a foundation of trust and understanding that allows your relationship to grow and flourish (Frei, Shaver 2002).

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