Representation of 21st Century Youth Disobedience and Spectacle of Resistance in Hunger Games Movie Trilogy

THESIS

Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of Requirement for the Sarjana Sastra Degree of Cultural Sciences Sebelas Maret University

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The researcher states that this thesis entitled **Representation of 21st Century Youth Disobedience and Spectacle of Resistance in Hunger Games Movie Trilogy** is neither plagiarism nor written by others. It is originally written by the researcher. All theories and materials taken from other sources are put in direct quotation and paraphrased citation. The researcher is responsible for the pronouncement and if this proven to be wrong, the researcher is willing to take responsible action given by the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Sebelas Maret University.

Surakarta, July 25th 2016
The Researcher

Cahya Ferry Kusuma
MOTTOS

“I heartily accept the motto, "That government is best which governs least"

~Henry David Thoreau

Civil disobedience becomes a sacred duty when the state becomes lawless or corrupt

~ Mahatma Gandhi

One has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws

~ Martin Luther King Jr.

Civil disobedience is an act of love

~Tim DeChristopher
DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to:

My Family
My Pals
American Studies Scholars
Idealists
And My Self
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillahirrabbil‘alamin...

My deepest gratitude to Allah SWT whose blessing never stops pouring down upon me so I can finish my research. My shalawat to Muhammad SAW whose teaching gives hope to the hopeless.

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ABSTRACT


This thesis is conducted based on research on dystopian film trilogy, Hunger Games, released from 2012-2015. It focuses on disobedience issue and aims at describing disobedience practices in the movie and investigating how the movie represents disobedience practices in 21st century of America. The research is descriptive qualitative. As the research falls under American Studies which stresses on interdisciplinary perspective, this thesis combines historical and socio-culture approach on civil disobedience phenomena and adopts theories of dystopia, media spectacles, and semiotic film. The source of data are Hunger Games (2012), Catching Fires (2013) and Mockingjay (2014 & 2015). The main data are scenes, dialogues, and figure behaviour in the movie trilogy. Based on textual and contextual analysis, disobedience practices in the movie have been implemented as conscientious measures to eliminate any dystopic control of Government. Its representation of America in 21st century can be seen from the youth political involvement and media utilization during disobedience movement. Representation of youth disobedience is marked by the crisis of Keystone XL Pipeline installation in America. The movement has been considered as the biggest youth disobedience in environmental issue. Representation of spectacle on disobedience can be seen in the case of Tim DeChristopher. Climate disobedience practiced by DeChristopher has inspired director and artist to make his political resistance into spectacles in form of movie adaption and music video. Both film and the cases have demonstrated two major phenomena. First, young people are considered as typical agent of change that will potentially lead to a better future. Second, in the spectacle era when media has infiltrated human everyday life, political agenda and events are transformed into cinematic terms as a new political strategy.

Keywords: youth, civil disobedience, dystopia, media, spectacle, movie, American thought, Hunger Games