

**THE ROLES OF TELESCREEN AND THOUGHT POLICE
AS THE SURVEILLANCE MEDIA
TO SUSTAIN TOTALITARIAN POWER
IN GEORGE ORWELL'S *NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR***

THESIS

**BY
TRIAN SULAEMAN
NIM 0911110269**



**STUDY PROGRAM OF ENGLISH
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
FACULTY OF CULTURAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITAS BRAWIJAYA
2014**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, all praises are raised to Allah SWT for His blessings during the completion of this study. Special appreciation goes to the supervisor, Dyah Eko Hapsari M.Hum., for her supervision and support. Her invaluable help and guidance throughout the research and writing process have contributed to the success of this thesis. Appreciation is also expressed to the co-supervisor, Arcci Tusita, S.S, M. Hum., for her support during the research. Also, I would like to express my gratitude to the academic advisor of mine, Ni Wayan Swardhani M.A and the examiner M. Andhy Nurmansyah, M.Hum. And also thank to the Faculty of Cultural Studies including all lectures, employees, and friends in the class of 2009 of Study Program of English.

I would like to thank my parents, Doddy Setya Rusmayadi and Entin Kartini for their endless support. And also, to my siblings, Reza Wibisana, Restu Prayogi, and Devi Agustini Rahayu who always support me to finish this research.

Finally yet importantly, I would love to thank to Virda Andini Putri Diponegoro, Yuna Prajipta, Annisa Anindita, Vania Delicia, Ading Pradani, Adeline, Ayub Tobing, Fikri Haikal, Ahmad Haikal who directly and indirectly contributed in this research, your kindness means a lot to me.

Malang, January 06, 2014

The Writer

ABSTRACT

Sulaeman, Trian. 2014, *The Role of Telescreen and Thought Police as the Surveillance Media to Sustain Totalitarian Power in George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four*, Study Program of English, Department of Languages and Literature, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Dyah Eko Hapsari, Co-Supervisor: Arcci Tusita.

Key Word: literature, totalitarian, surveillance, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.

Surveillance becomes a major feature in panopticon prison which is promoted by Jeremy Bentham in eighteenth century. The word surveillance is derived from French language, *surveiller*, which means observing. Inside the prison, each individual is constantly monitored as a way of disciplined approach them to follow the rules. The thesis discusses about the surveillance is used by totalitarian governments to maintain power. George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* depicts the government and state oppression over its population. In which, every individual in the society is observed constantly as the effort to maintain the status quo.

The writer specifically analyzes how the government maintaining its power by means of telescreen and Thought Police in *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. The writer combines Foucault's panopticism and Hannah Arendt's totalitarianism theories to approach the work because those theories can help the writer to explore of how the totalitarian government maintain the status quo using the surveillance medium.

The result of this research shows several functions from telescreen and Thought Police in surveillance medium as a means to maintain the totalitarian power. Telescreen functions as a surveillance practice can be divided into two major levels, societal and individual levels. While the Thought Police functions as a secret agent organization, which responsible to operate surveillance system. Both are the government's instruments which have important roles in maintaining the status quo of totalitarian regime.

The writer's suggestion for the further research's *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, novel can be analyzed by using psychological approach because it depicts the psychological condition of individual and society whenever oppressed by the surveillance activities done by the government

ABSTRAK

Sulaeman, Trian. 2014, *The Role of Telescreen and Thought Police as the Surveillance Media to Sustain Totalitarian Power in George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four*, Study Program of English, Department of Languages and Literature, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Dyah Eko Hapsari, Co-Supervisor: Arcci Tusita.

Key Word: literature, totalitarian, surveillance, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.

Surveillance telah menjadi fitur utama dalam sebuah sistem pengawasan penjara panopticon yang dikemukakan oleh Jeremy Bentham pada abad ke-18. Kata *surveillance* berasal dari Bahasa Perancis, *surveiller*, yang berarti mengawasi. Di dalam penjara tersebut, setiap individu diawasi secara konstan, yang mengharuskannya patuh dengan peraturan-peraturan. Skripsi ini sendiri membahas bagaimana *surveillance* dimanfaatkan oleh pemerintah totalitarian untuk mempertahankan kekuasaannya. Novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* karya George Orwell menceritakan tentang penindasan yang dilakukan oleh pemerintah terhadap masyarakatnya. Di mana setiap individu di masyarakat tersebut selalu diawasi secara konstan, sebagai upaya mempertahankan status quo

Penelitian ini membahas cara pemerintah mempertahankan kekuasaannya melalui medium telescreen dan Thought Police sebagai alat *surveillance*. Maka dari itu, penulis menggabungkan teori panoptisisme dari Foucault dan totalitarianism dari Hannah Arendt untuk menganalisa novel. Pasalnya, dua kajian tersebut dapat membantu untuk menjelaskan bagaimana pemerintah totalitarian memanfaatkan alat *surveillance* untuk memiliki status quo.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan beberapa fungsi dari telecreen dan Thought Police sebagai alat *surveillance* untuk mempertahankan kekuasaan totalitarian. Fungsi telescreen dalam praktik *surveillance* dapat dibedakan dalam dua garis besar, yaitu level masyarakat dan level individual. Sedangkan fungsi Thought Police yaitu sebagai organisasi agen rahasia, yang bertanggung jawab dengan sistem *surveillance* yang ada. Dengan demikian, kedua instrumen pemerintah ini memiliki peran yang penting dalam upaya mempertahankan status quo rezim totalitarian.

Penulis menyarankan, novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* dapat dianalisa dengan menggunakan pendekatan psikologi, pasalnya beberapa bagian novel menggambarkan kondisi psikologis individu dan masyarakat ketika mendapat teror dari praktik *surveillance* yang dilakukan pemerintah.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	i
DECLARATION OF AUTHORSHIP	ii
SUPERVISORS APPROVAL	iii
BOARD EXAMINERS CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL	iv
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	v
ABSTRACT	vi
ABSTRAK.....	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	viii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	
1.1. Background of Study	1
1.2. Problem of Study	6
1.3. Objective of Study	6
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND RESEARCH METHOD	
2.1. Panopticism Approach.....	7
2.1.1 Foucault’s Panopticism.....	10
2.1.2 Category of Surveillance Activities	13
2.2. Totalitarianism	14
2.3. Previous Study.....	16
2.4. Research Method.....	17
CHAPTER III FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION	
3.1. Surveillance in <i>Nineteen Eighty-Four</i>	20
3.2. The Function of Telescreen and Thought Police as Surveillance Media	25
3.2.1. The Function of the Telescreen for Individual Surveillance....	25
3.2.1.1 Telescreen Provides the Constant Surveillance.....	27
3.2.1.2 Telescreen Controls and Directs the Individual.....	31
3.2.1.3 Telescreen Assaults on Individual Privacy	35
3.2.1.4 Telescreen Works on Creating Terror.....	39
3.2.2. The Function of Telescreen for Societal Surveillance.....	44
3.2.3. The Roles of Thought Police as Secret Service	49
CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	
4.1. Conclusion	57
4.2. Suggestion.....	58

BIBLIOGRAPHY	59
APPENDIX	60

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Arendt, Hannah. 1976. *The Origins of Totalitarianism*. A Harvest Books, Harcourt Brace and Company.
- Baehr, Peter. 2000. *The Portable Hannah Arendt*. New York: Penguin
- Baldick, Chris. 2001. *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Berger and Luckmann. 1966. *The Social Constructions of Reality*. London: Penguin.
- Bentham, Jeremy. 1995. *Jeremy Bentham: Panopticon Writings* (Edited and Introduced by Miran Bonzovic) London: Verso.
- Chomsky, N. and Foucault, M. 2006. *The Chomsky-Foucault Debate: On Human Nature*. New York: The New Press.
- Foucault, Jean Michel. 1995. *Discipline and Punish*. Vintage Books: Penguin.
- Golomb, Jacob. 1995. *In Search of Authenticity: From Kierkegaard to Camus*. London: Routledge.
- Gutting, Gary. 2005. *Foucault: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Ingle, Stephen. 2006. *The Social and Political Thought of Orwell*. New York: Routledge.
- Innes, Martin. 2003. *Understanding Social Control: Deviance, Crime and Social Order*. Berkshire: Open University Press.
- Lynch, M. 2008. *Catholicism, History, and Culture: A Dawsonia Synthesis*. Australian Catholic University.
- Orwell, George. 1992. *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. New York: Everyman's Library.
- Petersen, Julie K. 2001. *Understanding Surveillance Technologies: Spy Devices, Their Origins and Applications*. New York: CRC Press.
- Posner, Richard A. 2000. *Orwell Versus Huxley: Economics, Tecnology, Privacy and Satire*. In *Philosophy and Literature*, 24 (1): p. 1-33. The John Hopkins University Press.
- Wellek, R. and Warren, A. 1949. *Theory of Literature*. New York: Harcourt Brace and Company.
- Yar, Majid. 2003. *Panoptic Power and Pathologisation of Vision: Critical Reflection on the Foucauldian*. *Surveillance & Society* 1(3): 254-271.