

MORAL VALUES AND THEIR GOOD IMPACTS IN *HACKSAW RIDGE* MOVIE BY MEL GIBSON

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ABSTRACT

This research analyzes about the moral values and their good impacts in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie by Mel Gibson. The goals of this research are to explain the moral values and the good impacts of moral values itself from this movie. In this research, the writer uses descriptive qualitative method, because it helps the writer to explain the data in the form of phrase and sentence. The data is analyzed through some ways: identify, classify, analyze, and conclusion. The writer describes and analyses sentences from conversation of characters in *Hacksaw Ridge Movie* that contain moral values within it.

There are two kinds result in this research, they are moral values and their good impacts. Moral values that the writer found from this movie are moral values of being, such as honesty, courage, peace ability, self-discipline, self reliance and potential, and moral values of giving, such as loyalty, respect, love, and unselfishness. The writer also found some good impacts of these moral values. First, moral value can improve someone's high self confidence. Second, moral value make someone has patience. And third, moral value can create someone's care.

Key words: *Good impact, Hacksaw ridge, Moral value.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Hacksaw Ridge which is released on September, 4th, 2016 is a story about an American army who refuses to use gun in the war because of his traumatic feeling when Desmond's brother is nearly die in a fight with Desmond in the past time. Another reason is about Desmond's belief that forbids to killing. This movie is adapted from the true story of an American army named Desmond Doss in World War II. Desmond Doss is a person who thinks that his belief is the one that he thinks it

is true. This is a war movie that marked Gibson's comeback after 10 years vacuum in the film industry. Gibson is formerly known as one of famous American actor, director, and also a producer. He is born in Peekskill, New York, on January, 3th, 1956. He is also directed some film that success and win the appreciation such as *Apocalypto* (2006), *Braveheart* (1995), *Passion of The Christ* (2004).

Since on the writer's view, this movie shows how moral values are. Desmond Doss looks like to show that morality is everything. Morality refers to

concern with what is good or right in people's relationship to each other. It can be seen how he defends his ideology to not use gun in the war. He becomes one of American army who has an important role in the winning of American against Japan in World War II. Desmond marked the new history of America as the one of American army who success to get supreme honorary "Medal of Honor" from American government after saves the heart of other 75 armies during the war in Okinawa.

Talk about moral values, it always relates to the element of human itself. In other word, moral value appears is caused by social problems in the society. Moral value is a value of human's prestige. The existence of this value reflects how the human's status as the supreme creature between other creatures. Someone who has high level of moral value wishes for society to have attitude and behavior as much as is proper of human itself. Ideally, human always hope that these values can be applied in the human's life aspects as the basic to keep human's life continuance and solve the morality problems. But, in real condition sometimes it is still far from expectation. These moral values are like easier to be discussed, but too difficult to be applied.

Sternberg (1994:938) states that moral value is a term in logic that a principle or action or character of human is true or false, right or wrong and good or bad view of the goodness or badness of human action or character. In other word, it can be concluded that moral value is about people belief on good and bad thing. It gives the example of good attitude and culture, which is inspired from society's behavior. In the movie, moral value is about the director's message to the movie viewer about good

and bad manner. It means that the director hopes the movie viewer can learn the message.

Based on the explanation above, the writer wants to analyze this movie to find moral values and their good impacts in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie. The writer thinks this movie is worth to be analyzes chooses moral value this movie to be analyzes because the research of moral values especially in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie is not done yet before it. Besides, this movie contains a lot of moral values that has good teaching to be applied in daily life and moral learning process in education and behavior.

II. METHOD OF THE RESEARCH

The writer uses descriptive qualitative method in this research. It is a method of research where the data is described in form of words rather than numbers. That is why this research is called as qualitative research. As what Bodgan and Biklen (1982:28) stated that qualitative research is descriptive; the collected data is in form of words as picture rather than numbers.

Furthermore, Ratna (2008:46) also states his opinion relates to the qualitative research as seen below:

“ Penelitian kualitatif adalah penelitian yang memberikan perhatian terhadap data alamiah, data dalam hubungannya dengan konteks keberadaannya dan memanfaatkan cara-cara penafsiran dengan menyajikannya dalam bentuk deskripsi”.

“ Qualitative research is a research which gives attention to the scientific data, the data on its relation with context of its existence and utilizes the interpretation ways by present it into descriptive form”.

From the definitions above, it can be concluded that qualitative research is a research which is formed by words as picture, rather than statistic and numbers which gives attention to the scientific data, the data on its relation with context of its existence and utilizes the interpretation ways by present it into descriptive form.

a. Source of the Data

The writer uses the primary and secondary data

1. Primary Data

The primary data is from *Hacksaw Ridge* movie directed by Mel Gibson.

2. Secondary Data

The secondary data is taken from books, and internet article.

b. Collecting the Data

The writer uses some steps to collect the data, they are:

1. The writer downloads this movie from www.rmcmv.us.

2. The writer watches *Hacksaw Ridge* movie in several times.

3. The writer tries to understand the whole story in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie until the writer finds the moral values and their good impacts in this movie.

4. The writer collects and writes the conversations and monologues from

characters in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie that contain moral values and their good impacts in this movie.

5. The writer finds out the theory from book which appropriates to this research.

c. Analyzing the Data

Data which is collected, for the next it would be analyzed. In analyzing the data, the writer uses some ways:

1. Identify

It is the first step that writer do to analyze the data in this research, where in this step the writer identifies the data that are collected before. It is aimed to make the final decision whether the data that the writer collected before contains moral values or not.

2. Classify

In this step, the writer tries to classify the data which is found in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie such as conversations in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie by correlates with the theory book which is used.

3. Analyze

After classify the data, the writer analyzes the conversations in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie which relates to the focus of the research.

4. Conclusion

This is the last step where the writer makes a conclusion all of data about the moral values and their good impacts in Mel Gibson's *Hacksaw Ridge* movie to make this research clearly.

III. RESULT

The data of in this research is presented in writing form. It is analyzed in the form of word based on the finding. The writer presents this research in

systematic writing form which is started by background, identification, and also goal of this research. In research method, the writer collects some data that the writer thinks they contain moral values in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie to be analyzed by using theory books which are appropriate to them.

IV. DISCUSSION

The writer explains the finding of research as found in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie by Mel Gibson. The writer also divides the finding and discusses them to clarify the data of moral values and the good impacts of moral values itself by using some books as the theory to analyze those data, which are mentioned by Lynda & Eyre (1993), Angelis (2003), Hurlock (1997), and Watson (1979).

1. Moral Values Found in *Hacksaw Ridge* Movie

Moral values are the result of process of comprehension implementing of God and humanity values in human's life. So, these values will guide human knowledge and creativity appropriately (Linda and Eyre, 1993:11). Moral value, in this case, actually appears by the long process through the emergence of any society in running social activity. In the society, the people interact to one another. That creates norm and value of the society; then from the norm and value, the moral value based on their agreement will seem by itself.

Based on Linda and Eyre's explanation, moral values can be divided

into two group, they are moral values of being and moral values of giving. The moral value of being is a value that is within evolved humans beings into the behavior and the way we treat others which includes: honesty, courage, peace ability, self-reliance and potential, self-discipline and moderation, fidelity and chastity. While the moral value of giving is that values need to be practiced or provided which would then be accepted as a given. Moral value of giving includes: loyalty and dependability, respect, love, unselfishness and sensitivity, kindness and friendliness, justice and mercy.

a. Courage

Linda and Eyre (1993:44) state that courage means doing the right thing when it is hard. It means that the best choice is the correct difficult options. People can take some of the choices in life and certainly has consequences that are comparable with the result that will be found. Therefore, people must boldly determine a correct choice even though it is very difficult.

[00:10:10 – 00:10:35]

Joshua : I'll phone an ambulance.

Desmond: **No, no time. Joshua's pickup. Quick!**

Joshua : Okay.

Desmond is a person who has courage to refuse an opinion that he thinks it is inappropriate in solving the problem. One day he helps a person named Gilbert who gets an accident when he repairs a car around the church area. He shows his courage to refuse Joshua's opinion. Desmond knows that Gilbert should be arrives in the hospital faster to get medical treatment. That conversation also shows that Joshua is a

person who is not calm in facing a problem.

b. Potential

Potential is trying to be one's best self and asking the best from oneself (Linda and Eyre, 1993:60). Desmond is a person who has big potential of what he believes to do something. It is seen in conversation between Desmond and his father, Thomas Doss below:

[00:25:47 – 00:26:02]

Thomas : Look, you gotta sit and think and pray about everything. I mean, look at you, you're doing it right now. You won't be able to live with yourself if you go.

Desmond: No, **I won't be able to live with myself if I don't. I'm going to be a medic.** That's going to be my way to serve.

The conversation above show how Desmond potential is. It happens between Desmond and his father, Thomas Doss, when they meet in the cemetery. Even though Desmond's father dislike if Desmond turns into war, but Desmond tries to make sure to his father that he wants to turn in the war as a medic.

c. Honesty

Honesty is the inner strength and confidence that is bred by exacting truthfulness, trustworthiness, and integrity (Linda and Eyre, 1993:29). Honesty is telling the truth. Everyone likes it. Telling the truth allows everyone to know what is exactly happened and help people feel safe and peaceful inside.

The conversation below shows how Desmond is an honest person.

[00:15:39 – 00:15:51]

Desmond: My blood. I need it back.

Dorothy : Well, it don't work like that, we can't just give it back to you.

Desmond: Well, you got to. **Ever since you stuck me with that needle, my heart's been beating real fast. Every time I think about you, it beats faster still.**

It describes conversation between Desmond and Dorothy in the hospital. Dorothy is a nurse that Desmond knows since he gave his blood after carries Gilbert to the hospital. The conversation above shows how the Desmond's honesty to say what his deepest feeling to Dorothy.

d. Unselfishness

Unselfishness is learning to feel with and for others. Empathy, tolerance, brotherhood (Linda and Eyre, 1993:118). Desmond's unselfishness can be seen in the conversation below. It happens in the military courthouse when Military Judge asks for Desmond's reason of refusing Colonel Sangston's request to uses the gun as the Desmond's requirement to get furlough.

[01:00:00 – 01: 00:18]

Desmond: I had a job in a defense plant and I could've taken a deferment, but that ain't right. **It isn't right that other men should fight and die, that I would**

just be sitting at home safe. I need to serve. I got the energy and the passion to serve as a medic.

Desmond's statements above show that Desmond is an unselfishness person. He would not just be sitting at home safe while the other men should fight and die in the war. That is the reason why he wants to turn in the war. Even though he only wants as a medic.

e. Love

Individual and personal caring that goes both beneath and beyond loyalty and respect. Love for friends, neighbors, even adversaries. And a prioritized, lifelong commitment of love for family (Linda and Eyre, 1993:110). People lives with their own problems, life is not easy. God never gives problem outside of human capability. God always give His love for the human and He also commands us to always give our love to the others.

[00:05:40 – 00:06:05]

Thomas : Block him with your right, Desmond.

Bertha : **Stop it! Do you hear me? What are they fighting about?**

Thomas : When'd they ever need a reason?

Bertha : Tom! Ugh!

Thomas : Why stop 'em? Saves me whipping them both. This way, I just whip the one that wins.

Bertha : **Tom! No! Oh, God. Tom! Wake up, can you hear me?**

It happens when the Desmond and his brother, Hal Doss fight to each other. When their father, Thomas Doss or Tom do not care about it is caused he drunk, their mother, Bertha Doss show her love to them through reactions above.

f. Loyalty

Loyalty to family, to employers, to country, church, schools, and other organizations and institutions to which commitments are made. Support, service, contribution. Reliability and consistency in doing what you say you will do (Linda and Eyre, 1993:96). The conversation below shows the Hal Doss' loyalty towards of his country, America. He signs up to struggle in World War II against Japan.

[00:19:00 – 00:19:16]

Bertha : Why didn't say nothing to us?

Hal Doss: 'Cause you would have tried and talked me out of it, and I know what I'm doing is right.

Bertha : And what about His Commandment?

Hal Doss: It's not killing in a war. It's protecting. Loads of boys from our church are going.

There is a war and they need men. And working in paper mill ain't going to save this country.

Even though in the conversation above Hal Doss' mother seems like disagree if He turns in the war. But, Hal Doss is on his conviction to turn in the war against Japan.

g. Peace ability

Peace ability is the ability to understanding and control ourself before

do something to create peace. It does not mean the elimination or ignoring of emotions. Rather, it means to *control* them and to prevent their causing hurt to other people (Linda and Eyre, 1993:52).

Desmond's peace ability can be seen in conversation between Sergeant Howell and him after Desmond gets bad treatment by Smitty and his friends when Desmond is sleeping in military camp room. They hit Desmond until he gets some of bruised.

[00:47:35 – 00:48:08]

S. Howell: Private Doss, can you identify the men that beat you?

Desmond: No, Sarge.

S. Howell: Are you saying that you don't know who attacked you?

Desmond: **I never said I was attacked**, Sarge.

S. Howell: Well, what the hell are you saying, Doss? You bruised your body sleeping?

Desmond: I... **I sleep pretty hard**.

S. Howell: Alright.

Conversation above shows that Desmond is a peace ability person. Even though he must be lie for it. It can be seen when Sergeant Howell ask him who doer is, Desmond answers that he never be attacked by anyone. Even though actually he knows who attacked him was. That conversation also shows that Desmond is lie for a kindness.

h. Self-Discipline

Self-discipline can be meant being able to motivate (Linda and Eyre, 1993:71). It can be reflected by enthusiasm. It is a big spirit in facing all the things. Desmond as the main character has big spirit. He always tried hard to achieve something. He never felt

down. It can be seen when he helps some of American Armies who got hurt and still alive individually.

[01:13:53 – 01:14:02]

Desmond: Put your hand right here. Put your hand on there, Jack. Come

on, come on.

Come on, we're going to get you under cover. Come

on, come with me. Come with me, Jack.

The scene illustrates Desmond's enthusiasm to help Jack, one of American Army who got hurt. Desmond also motivates him to make him always believes that he will be safe. This can be an example for us that everything is possible as long we are sure and believe it.

i. Self-Reliance

Self-Reliance is accepting the responsibility for and the consequences of one's own actions and performance, rather than blaming luck or circumstances or someone else (Linda and Eyre, 1993:60). In other word, it can be defined as someone's conviction to do something and accepting the responsibility for and its consequences. It is the first thing that can rise up the courage. Desmond is a person who has big self-reliance.

[01:50:32 – 01:51:50]

Desmond: **Please, Lord, help me get one more.** Help me get one more. Please help me get one more. One more. Help me get one more. One more.

Help me get one more.
One more.

**are not going to go up
there without you.**

That monologue shows how Desmond's self-reliance to his action and accepting the responsibility for and its consequences. He believes that The Lord will help him to help the other victims more than it again.

j. Respect

Respect means really caring about how people feel. The importance of and basic necessity for respect are self-evident. Respect is the basis and foundation (and often the motivation) for several of the other basic values of life (Linda and Eyre, 1993:103). It can be seen in conversation below:

[02:01:03 – 02:02:11]

Capt. J. Glover: All I saw was a skinny kid. I didn't know how you were. **You've done more than any other man could have done in the service of his country.** And I have never been more wrong about someone in my life. I hope one day you can forgive me. We have to go back up tomorrow. I realize that tomorrow is your Sabbath. Most of these men don't believe the same way you do. But **they believe so much in how much you believe.** And what you did on that ridge, it's nothing short of a miracle, and they want a piece of it. And **they**

Captain J. Glover is a respectful person. It can be seen in the monolog above when he meets Desmond is reading his Bible around the military camp. His statements above show his respect towards of what Desmond has done to the American country.

2. The Good Impacts of Moral Values Found in *Hacksaw Ridge* Movie

Moral value is a value of human's prestige. The existence of this value reflects how the human's status as the supreme creature between other creatures. Someone who has high level of moral value wishes for society to have attitude and behavior as much as is proper of human itself. Ideally, human always hope that these values can be applied in the human's life aspects as the basic to keep human's life continuance and solve the morality problems.

Moral values itself have their impacts to people. The impacts here can be good or bad impact. It depends on good moral values or bad moral values too. It means that good moral values will have good impacts and bad moral values will have bad impacts. But, in this research it is only focused on moral values and the good impacts in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie. After the writer analyzes all data of this research, the writer concludes that there are some of good impacts of moral values in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie generally. The writer will only include some of data that can represent each of the good impacts of moral values in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie below.

a. Moral Value Can Improve Someone's High Self Confidence

Self-confidence is an attitude or belief in self-ability so that in his actions not too anxious, feel free to do things according to desire and responsibility for his actions, polite in interacting with others, have a boost of achievement and can recognize the advantages and disadvantages themselves. Angelis (2003:10) states that self-confidence starts from self-determination, to do everything we want and need in life. Confidence is constructed from self-belief, so we can face the challenges of life by doing something. Confidence can be interpreted as a self-belief owned by everyone in his life and how the person views himself as a whole with reference to the concept of self. Someone's high self confidence can be appeared by moral value itself. It can be found also in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie by Mel Gibson. As seen in conversation:

[00:25:47 – 00:26:02]

Thomas : Look, you gotta sit and think and pray about everything. I mean, look at you, you're doing it right now. You won't be able to live with yourself if you go.

Desmond: No, **I won't be able to live with myself if I don't. I'm going to be a medic.** That's going to be my way to serve.

Based on that statement, it can be seen that Desmond becomes a person who has a high self confident to say and making sure his father that he wants turn into the war as a medic. It means that moral value can helps someone to face a problem as the obstacle of someone's desires.

b. Moral Value Make Someone Has Patience

Patience is one of the most important parts in shaping of someone's morality. Patience consists of two things, namely emotional and desire control. In terms of emotional control, patience can be practiced in shape is not irritable, restraint, and can curb feelings. While in the sense of desire control, patience practiced in the form of self ability in refraining from the temptation of the favor of the world. Some experts have their own opinion relate to patience itself. One of them is Hurlock (1997:35) who states that patience is how the individual controls emotion and encouragement on himself.

[00:47:35 – 00:48:08]

S. Howell: Private Doss, can you identify the men that beat you?

Desmond: No, Sarge.

S. Howell: Are you saying that you don't know who attacked you?

Desmond: **I never said I was attacked,** Sarge.

S. Howell: Well, what the hell are you saying, Doss? You bruised your body sleeping?

Desmond: I... **I sleep pretty hard.**

S. Howell: Alright.

From that data, it can be concluded that Desmond's peace ability makes he becomes a person who has big calmness and patience to control his anger. It gives a meaning that the anger is not a solution to solve a problem.

c. Moral Value Can Create Someone's Care

Watson (1979:69) states that human's care consists of efforts to protect, enhance, and maintain or devote humanity by helping others seek meaning in pain, suffering and being and helping others to increase knowledge and self control. Another opinion also states that care is a feeling directed toward others, and that is what motivates and gives the power to act, and influence life constructively and positively by increasing closeness and self actualization with each other.

[01:00:00 – 01: 00:18]

Desmond: I had a job in a defense plant and I could've taken a deferment, but that ain't right. **It isn't right that other men should fight and die, that I would just be sitting at home safe.** I need to serve. I got the energy and the passion to serve as a medic.

From that statement, it can be seen that Desmond has big care to other people who struggle to defend their country, America. Desmond wants to turn into war to be a medic as his care for it.

IV. CONCLUSION

After analyzing *Hacksaw Ridge* as discussed in previous chapter, the writer thinks that someone's strong conviction of thing that he or she believe, it can break what other people think it impossible to be done. The

writer concludes that there are some moral values of being such as honesty, courage, peace ability, self reliance, potential, and self-discipline. While other moral values which include in moral values of giving such as loyalty, respect, love, and unselfishness. Moral values of honesty and loyalty are the most dominant values that the writer found in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie by Mel Gibson based on data above. These moral values are the messages from Mel Gibson as the director of *Hacksaw Ridge* movie for his movie viewer. Some kinds of moral values that the writer found in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie are presented through some conversations among the characters and monologues by main character, Desmond Doss and another character, Captain J. Glover.

All of moral values that the writer found in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie have good impacts. The writer concludes that there are four kinds of good impacts of moral values in *Hacksaw Ridge* movie. First, moral value can improve someone's high self confidence. Second, moral value make someone has patience. And the third, moral value can create someone's care.

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