

**THE ROLES OF EXTERNAL FACTORS
IN LIAM O'NEILL'S PURSUIT OF IDENTITY
AS A TRANSGENDER YOUTH
IN JULIE ANNE PETERS' *LUNA***

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

Aulia, Miky Zahratul. 2015. **The Roles of External Factors in Liam O'Neill's Pursuit of Identity as a Transgender Youth in Julie Anne Peters' *Luna***. Study Program of English, Department of Languages and Literatures, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Dyah Eko Hapsari; Co-supervisor: Aris Siswanti

Keywords: transgender, social psychology, interpersonal relationship, group dynamics

Transgender is the term that is used to describe someone with different gender behavior from their actual gender. Nowadays, there are some phenomena in which a transgender has come out in juvenile age that is called as transgender youth. A transgender usually tends to not reveal his identity due to the social opinion toward transgender as a social problem. This study focuses on the role of external factors toward transgender youth in *Luna* by Julie Anne Peters which shows the influence of society toward transgender in the process of coming out. The story depicts the life of a transgender youth, Liam who tries to come out in public with help from people around him. This study aims to reveal the role of people around Liam in helping him find his identity as a transgender youth. Social psychology approach is used to analyze the role of people around Liam that influence his thought and behavior with interpersonal relationship, group dynamics. In addition, Transgender Identity Affirmation and Mental Health theory by Nuttbrock, Rosen

blum and Blumenstein is used to support the analysis.

The study findings reveal that there are two external factors which influence Liam's behavior and thinking in the process of coming out. They are family and affiliation. They have significant influences to his behavior in making him confident in facing his life as a transgender.

Liam's process of coming out as a transgender is influenced by the acceptance from his surroundings. When the surroundings accept his come out process, it actually becomes the significant support for a transgender. In fact, that acceptance has a correlation with his mental health as shown in this study. For future research the writer suggests that the English Department students do research on transgender-themed literature by using Devor's Transgender Identity model that describes fourteen processes of transgender identity development. The writer hopes that doing this study can raise the awareness of the existence of transgender, particularly the young people's.

ABSTRAK

Aulia, Miky Zahratul. 2015. **Peranan Faktor Eksternal terhadap Liam O'Neill dalam Mencari Identitas Diri sebagai Transgender Remaja Dalam Novel Luna oleh Julie Anne Peters**. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing: (I) Dyah Eko Hapsari (II) Aris Siswanti

Kata Kunci: transgender, psikologi sosial, hubungan interpersonal, dinamika kelompok

Transgender merupakan istilah yang digunakan untuk mendeskripsikan seseorang dengan perilaku yang berbeda dari jenis kelamin yang seharusnya. Sekarang banyak fenomena seorang transgender telah mengungkapkan jati dirinya pada usia remaja, yang disebut transgender remaja. Transgender biasanya cenderung tidak mengungkapkan jati dirinya ke publik. Studi ini, penulis menganalisis tentang pengaruh faktor eksternal terhadap transgender remaja dalam proses mengungkapkan jati diri yang terdapat dalam novel *Luna* oleh Julie Anne Peters. Novel ini menceritakan transgender remaja yang berusaha mengungkapkan jati dirinya sebagai transgender dibantu oleh orang terdekatnya. Dalam studi ini penulis akan menungkapkan peranan orang disekitar Liam dalam membantunya mengungkapkan jati diri sebagai transgender. Studi ini menggunakan pendekatan psikologi sosial dengan teori hubungan interpersonal, dinamika kelompok. Teori Afirmasi Identitas Transgender dan Kesehatan Mental oleh Nuttbrock, Rosenblum dan Blumenstein digunakan sebagai teori pendukung untuk menganalisis peranan orang di sekitar Liam yang berpengaruh dalam pola pikir dan tingkah laku Liam dalam mengungkapkan jati dirinya sebagai transgender.

Hasil studi menunjukkan bahwa ada dua faktor eksternal yang mempengaruhi kepribadian dan pemikiran Liam dalam mengungkapkan jati dirinya sebagai transgender, yakni keluarga dan afiliasi. Dua faktor tersebut memiliki peranan besar dalam mempengaruhi kepribadian Liam untuk lebih percaya diri dalam menjalani hidupnya sebagai transgender.

Proses pengungkapan jati diri seorang transgender dipengaruhi oleh penerimaan dari orang sekitarnya. Ketika orang disekitarnya menerima proses pengungkapan jati diri tersebut, hal itu merupakan dukungan yang sangat penting bagi transgender. Penerimaan tersebut ternyata mempunyai hubungan yang sangat erat dengan kesehatan mental seorang transgender yang ditunjukkan dalam studi ini. Penulis menyarankan kepada mahasiswa jurusan Sastra Inggris untuk melakukan studi terhadap transgender dengan menggunakan teori identitas oleh Devor yang menjelaskan empat belas tahapan perkembangan seorang transgender. Penulis berharap studi ini dapat meningkatkan kesadaran masyarakat, terutama akan keberadaan transgender terutama bagi para remaja.

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