*Research Article*

# MORAL VALUES PORTRAYED IN "THE SOUND OF MUSIC" BY ROBERT WISE

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**Abstract:** This research aims to analyze the characters and moral values contained in the film "The Sound of Music" by Robert Wise. Based on the theories of character and moral values, there are four primary points to analyze:  1) There are three kinds of characters that appear in the characters in "The Sound of Music" by Robert Wise based on Russel, those are the Protagonist, the main protagonist played by Maria and the Von Trapp Family and the sisters in the monastery, the Antagonist, played by The Baroness and Herr Zeller, and Foil character played by Rolfe and Franz, 2) There are seven types of moral values that appear in "The Sound of Music" by Robert Wise based on Borba, they are respect, kindness, conscience, self-control, justice, empathy and tolerance.

**Keywords:** content analysis; moral values; movie

## Introduction

Since the film is invented, the film has continued to evolve into an innovation that is continuously being refined. Unlike the case with poetry or prose, the film is modern literature that presents the perfection of forms and can be enjoyed by everyone by involving their sensory functions, the sense of sight and the sense of hearing. Not only that, but the film has also become a primary need for modern humans at this time, people do not just think about their food needs, clothing, or homes. However, the film has also become a significant need for entertainment. Why can a film be regarded as modern literature by the researcher? Because in making a film, many involve the use of technology, such as the use of cameras, microphones, sound recorders, lighting, camera stabilizers, monopods or tripods, personal computers or laptops, video editing software, image editing software, music, video effect templates, and other tools that support in film making process.

The idea of the story, the dialogue script and the appearance of the characters and their characters are the essential parts of a literary work in the form of drama, the skill of the scriptwriter here is very taken into account how a literary work in the form of drama or film can be enjoyed. The researcher can also say that a film is a digital literary work because it integrates literature with the help of technology and produces a product called a film. Movies can present complete messages in the form of dialogue, images, sound, and motion. Unlike other literary works such as poetry, or prose whose aesthetic value only displays beautiful words but does not display a complete visual picture.

Interestingly, a film can also be said that this is influenced by several elements such as dialogue, sound effects, music, the use of audio in sleepy hollow, mood, genre, and effect of sound. The essence of a film is a dialogue. The use of dialogue in a movie develops the plot, creates an identity with the characters, and defines the backstory of the scene or story ("Overhearing film dialogue," 2000). Through the use of dialogue in a film, there have been many common lines that have been applied to the language that applies to a random situation because it has been accepted as the conventional truth.

Different from other literary works such as poetry and prose, drama that is packaged in a film does require a very high budget until the literary work is created into a full product. However, this does not become a significant obstacle for film producers, if they believe that the film, he will create will be in high demand by film connoisseurs. The making of a film begins with the choice of a story idea, it must be

packaged nicely by a director, and the selection of characters becomes very important because characterization is an essential instrument of how a film looks very interesting from the narrative dialogues of the characters. Another thing that must be considered also is the choice of setting or place, setting, or place of occurrence of an event in a story that must be adjusted to the course of the story. All the components in the drama that have been mentioned by researchers are collected and processed with the help of technology that results in the creation of a digital literary product that is in the form of a film or movie. Thus, a perfect choice of setting or place helps the story comes to real in the film industry (Bal, 2008). For example, when a movie tries to bring up a specific event, moment, or phenomenon in the past, it will need locations that represent such event, moment, or phenomenon. This location does not merely include some neighborhoods, but also other things such as costumes, properties like vehicles, or any other items related to the event. All of these elements will contribute to the naturalness and the likeness portraits of the pasts. Such likeness can be analyzed by comparing the collection of literature of such specific events in the past and compare the likeness to the events that occurred in the film. Harang, Engliana, & Supadi (2019) distinguish the likeness portrayed in the 'Butler' film into three prominent categories: political, social, and intellectual likeness of history on the Civil Rights Movement in the United States from the African-American point of views. Films often help people disconnect from real life for a few hours, and sometimes it can be a fun diversion from everything that's going on. Even if it is perfectly fine, taking some time out to enjoy something entirely unrelated to one's own life can help us to relax a little more for those who are experiencing problems and challenges. Loving films means that we have a lot in common with many other people, we will want to know more about how they are made and what goes into producing a film, and we will get more and more involved.

The essential thing in a film is a message conveyed by the audience through the dialogues that appear in the film itself. Both the message implied from the appearance of characterizations and messages taken from the entire contents of the story. The researcher chooses two variables to be analyzed, and they are character and moral value, why does the researcher choose these two variables? Researchers assume that in this day and age, people have lost many references in how to act and behave in life, technology is getting more sophisticated, but morals are increasingly damaged. Busyness and lack of a reference from parents in educating children can also make a child not recognize positive values in life. Researchers researching this film have high hopes for readers who want to watch this film by taking the values and messages conveyed.

Character is a self-labeling for someone, and one can do not measure how good the character he has because this assessment is only given by others who intensely interact with him. Character or characterization is the most important thing in a drama with the character of the audience to be able to distinguish the portion of the characters in the film, which characters display goodness dominantly, which characters dominate displaying crime with a dominant or character who has only a slight role in developing the content of the story. Character is the sum of those characteristics, behavior, and patterns that differentiate one from another. It is true that in many instances, heredity and education play their part in enhancing and perfecting the character of someone. A character in human beings should have moral courage in the real sense of the term. Without the character will not stand the wear and tear of life. The number of humans in this world is very many and countless, but between one human being with another human being must have different characters. Character is a distinguishing characteristic of humans from one another. Although someone is born from the same parents, they have different characters. Character is also often used in distinguishing a specific habit or behavior in a group of customs, ethnicity, race, or country. For example, the characters possessed by the Japanese, the Chinese, and Korean are certainly different even though they have almost the same physical appearance. Character is also often associated with the mental complexity of humans themselves, a migrant in an area tends to have a more robust mental character than the native population in the region.

Furthermore, Ritchhart (2004, p. 31) stated that "character is implying a consistent deployment of abilities so that patterns of behavior are established over time." There is an attitude that is usually consistent or unchanged from every human being from birth to the end of their lives. This attitude cannot be shaped or influenced by anyone to become a mark for them. Many people say that the environment can also influence human character, if the environment is pleasant, it will also influence in shaping a positive character in a person. However, if the character is bad, it can also harm shaping an evil character as well as

one's self. However, this refuted by Ritchhart because the character is consistent and cannot be influenced by any situation.

Moral values are the principles of good and evil that control the actions and choices of the person. The values of the person that derive from society and its government and may change as the laws and morals of society change. Moral values refer to a set of principles that direct a person on how to judge the right versus the wrong. People generally apply moral values to justify decisions, motives and acts, and they also describe the personal character of a person. A person with higher moral values is usually defined by dignity, bravery, loyalty, justice, honesty and compassion. Hartmann (2017, p. 21) stated that "moral value is first and foremost, a detailed and profound phenomenological description of values, and moral particular." It means that moral value is a primary value and if we want to make a description about if we have provided a particular, detailed, profound and extraordinary explanation, especially when we want to give and explanation or description of the moral values. Moral value is a value that must not be separated from other values. This statement means that every value will get quality if it has a relation with other values. For example, honestly is an example of moral values; this value has no meaning if it does not be applied with other values. For example, honestly is an example of moral values. Loyalty is a moral value, but it must be applied to other values. Humanity value for general can be found in the love of husband and wife. When the moral value is related to responsibility, it is related to human personality, but besides moral value, we also automatically can say values. Moral value makes people wrong not only because of his or her responsibility.

Moral values do not have a shape like an object or material that looks tangible and can be touched. Moral values can only be seen in a person's actions in a social community. Moral values are also often associated with positive actions of a person, which causes other people to feel happy for their actions. There are a lot of moral values found in social interactions such as kindness, honesty, and fairness. Someone will be precious if they have those values, especially as today it is complicated to find people who are honest and fair in various actions, especially inside, such as in a government because of the many cases of corruption, bribery, and setting a decision by vanity. Honesty is also fundamental in living a life activity and impacting the culture of a nation. A nation whose majority of the population can apply the values of honesty well whatever the value of goods lost in public places will return to their owners and vice versa.

## Method

To conclude the method of the research, the research that the researcher conducts is descriptive qualitative research, which makes use words, pictures, images, dialogues as the object of analysis (Creswell, 2009; Sugiyono, 2009). The researcher also used content analysis to interpret recent studies in the surrounding area. The analysis covers the primary documents, such as the English subtitle and the script/characters' dialogue and setting. While the film itself acts as the visual confirmation to the characters' dialogues (Minderop, 2011). The moral virtues were recorded while watching the movie and reading the script interchangeably, and the enlisted virtues were divided into seven categories. The moral virtues from the film (Wise, 1965) are bound to the definitions and category of seven fundamentals of moral intelligence (Borba, 2002), namely respect, kindness, conscience, self-control, justice, empathy, and tolerance.

## Results and Discussion

From the dialogues that have been collected, the researcher can present the percentage of character in the table and diagram below:

**Table 1**
The Characters

| No | Kinds of Character | Times of Show Up | Percentage |
|----|-------------------|------------------|------------|
| 1 | Protagonist | 22 | 55 % |
| 2 | Antagonist | 10 | 25 % |
| 3 | Foil | 8 | 20 % |
| | | 40 | |

### A. Characters Appeared in the Film

After analyzing the data found in the film "The Sound of Music," the writer concludes that the character which emerges in the film "The Sound of Music," the Protagonist character is 55 %, Antagonist character is 25 %, and the Foil is 20 %. Based on the result of the analyzing process, The protagonist character shows the highest presentation which is 45 percent because this film is shown for all people, especially for a family, examples of how to educate a child, and how one exemplifies his loyalty to the country despite the various offers he received. Even though there were many conflicts between Captain Von Trapp and Herr Zeller and his followers, there is no sadism scene in this film. In other words, even though the Nazis and Captain von Trapp were hostile to each other and hated each other, they did not kill each other in this film.

Antagonist characters are shown around 25 % in this film, The Baroness and Herr Zeller are the cast of the antagonist in supporting the course of the story. The Baroness is a person who has a significant role in playing the antagonist because she hates Maria as the central protagonist. At the same time, Herr Zeller is the person who plays an essential role in bringing up the role of the antagonist because he always crossed the ideology of Captain Von Trapp, who wanted to defend his country from Nazi influence. Antagonist characters only appear 25 % of all dialogue that appears, and this is the ideal number of percentages because it is far below the percentage of protagonists.

Foil characters show the lowest percentage, which is 20 %. Rolfe (Liesl's boyfriend) and Franz (the housekeeper of Von Trapp's family) are the people who have the most significant share in generating foil characters, Rolfe and Franz are people who are well known to the Von Trapp family, but Franz secretly allies with the Nazis to spy on the Von Trapp family with Rolfe. Rolfe always shows the right attitude when delivering telegrams, and secretly establishes a relationship with Liesl (the eldest daughter of Captain von Trapp). The fox's attitude changes when he, as the Nazis strengthened in Austria, Captain Von Trapp patiently persuaded Rolfe not to follow the Nazis, but he does not obey. The percentage of 20 % is the ideal percentage in the making of a film because this number does not exceed the percentage of protagonists.

**Table 2.**
Moral Values Presented in the Film

| No | Kinds of Moral Value | Time of Show Up | Percentage |
|----|----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1 | Respect | 10 | 25 % |
| 2 | Kindness | 8 | 20 % |
| 3 | Conscience | 8 | 20 % |
| 4 | Empathy | 5 | 12.5 % |
| 5 | Self-Control | 4 | 10 % |
| 6 | Fairness | 3 | 7.5 % |
| 7 | Tolerance | 2 | 5 % |
| | | 40 | |

### Moral Values

After analyzing the data found in "The Sound of Music" by Robert Wise, the writer can conclude that moral value which emerges in the film "The Sound of Music" are respect 25 %, kindness is 20 %, empathy is 12.5%, self-control is 10 %, conscience is 20 %, fairness is 7.50 %, and tolerance is 5 %. After various types of moral values, according to Borba analyzed, respect shows the highest percentage among other types of moral value is 25 % because the beginning of this film, the children of Von Trapp, cannot show respect for others. With hard work, Maria teaches them how to respect others. Not only that, but Maria also teaches children how he gives respect to their God, who has given blessings in life. Because Maria often teaches Von Trapp's children about respect, so this section gets the highest percentage compared to other moral values.

Conscience and Kindness virtues show the same percentage rate after analysis, which is 20 %. Maria, the Sisters, and the life of the monastery itself are the leading figures in creating this situation. Maria sometimes faces confusion when she decides crucial things in her life, the sisters at the monastery always advise her not to be provoked against people who do not like her, but she has to follow her heart. Whereas Kindness is also very dominating in the whole dialogue in the film, Maria as the protagonist always shows how she always do good to everyone; Maria likes to give good things to others like her clothes that are

worth wearing and she does not want to give something inappropriately, even though the person who receives it is unfortunate. The sisters at the monastery are also figures who always show kindness like what Reverend Mother has done to the Von Trapp Family, who provided a hiding place even though she knows that she would face considerable risk from the Nazi government, from these points the figure of 20 % can be obtained.

Empathy occupies the third percentage of the most significant number, which is 12.5 %. These figures are mostly obtained from the dialogue uttered by Maria because she often explores and understands the feelings of others. Apart from Maria, empathy is also obtained from Gretel, who tries not to be provoked by the mischief of her brothers and sisters. Self-control ranks fourth in the number of dialogues that emerge, which is around 10 %. Moral values of this type are mostly done by Maria, who can always control herself in dealing with various kinds of circumstances. Maria can also control herself when facing Von Trapp's children who try to trick her with various tricks and delinquency without feeling angry and show her emotional nature. Fairness and Tolerance get the smallest proportion of the moral values that arise, which is 7.5 % and 5 % only. The dialogues that give rise to these two types of moral values are indeed few. Fairness is presented by Maria several times when she teaches the children to be fair to others, fairness is also implied by Maria when she dares to correct Captain von Trapp about the use of whistles for humans, and fairness was also presented by Captain Von Trapp when he states that he wants to leave Baroness. At the same time, tolerance is only 5 % the smallest percentage of dialogue that arises because the story is not too focused on the issue of tolerance.

## Conclusions

The analysis has two objectives. The first objective is to analyze the characters which the movie brings, and the second is to analyze the moral values the movie wants to convey to the audience. Therefore, this section concludes the objectives:

There are three types of characters in the film "The Sound of Music" by Robert Wise. They are the Protagonist, Antagonist, and Foil. The protagonist is the most dominant character in the movie with a percentage of 55 %, the Antagonist is 25 %, and the Foil character is 20 %. Moral Value in "The Sound of Music" by Robert Wise. The protagonist's character shows the highest rate of 55% because even though the protagonist and antagonist are hostile to each other, there is no use of weapons in the film, and they do not kill each other. There are seven moral values in the film "The Sound of Music" by Robert Wise, they are: respect 25 %, kindness is 20 %, conscience is 20 %, empathy is 12.5%, self-control is 10 %, fairness is 7.50 %, and tolerance is 5 %. Respect shows the highest percentage of all moral values that arise in the film because, in the beginning, Von Trapp's children could not respect the others, so many times, Maria taught them how to respect others. Because of these reasons, the percentage of respect that appears the highest number compared to the percentage of other moral values.

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