ABSTRACT

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This research analyzes moral destruction as part of the lost generation period that appeared in Ernest Hemingway’s novel The Sun Also Rises. Moral destruction is the behavior that has destroyed the principle of right and wrong behavior which happened in the end World War I. Moral destruction is interesting because that is not only a reflection of the lost generation period in America, but also a reflection of the condition at this time, in fact, in anytime, such as drinking, free sex, dishonestly, murdering, etc. That problem are formulated into four research questions; 1) what are the forms of moral destruction which are presented by Ernest Hemingway in The Sun Also Rises novel?, 2) what are the factors that cause moral destruction in The Sun Also Rises novel?, 3) what are the effects of moral destruction which are described in Ernest Hemingway’s novel The Sun Also Rises?, 4) what are the homologies between the story in the novel and the context of the lost generation?.

In analyzing the subject of material, this research uses the genetic structuralism method that focused on the origin of the author’s creation in creating the work. The data of the research are forms and substances that contain word, phrase, and sentences with the technique of collecting data by using library research, and the steps of data analysis include 1) identifying, 2) classifying, 3) interpreting and describing, and 4) making conclusion.

The result shows that, first, the forms of moral destruction which presented in Hemingway’s novel are divided into two forms: physical and psychological destruction. Physical destruction included drunken and physical violation, while, psychological destruction included religious discrimination of Catholic toward Jew in America, ethnical discrimination of British toward American, and dishonestly of sex. Second, those forms of moral destruction were caused by some factors; hegemony, the cruelty of World War I, the destructiveness of sex, and excessive drinking. Third, the forms of moral destruction also caused some effects; physical destruction causes death, injury, disease, disability of sex, and physical pain. While, psychological destruction causes loneliness, fear, aimlessness or hopelessness, despair, unhappiness, anxiety, sadness and depression. Fourth, the homologies between the story in the novel and the context of the lost generation can be seen in three aspects: theme, character and characterization, and setting. The theme of the novel is the lost generation. This was similar to the social condition when Hemingway wrote this novel. The character and characterization in The Sun Also Rises novel represented Hemingway and his friend’s real life story. Therefore, in this novel Paris became the major setting that Hemingway told in his novel.

As the final conclusion, in his novel, Hemingway portrays the people’s condition in the lost generation period who aimless. He also pours his experience as an American writer and veteran in the World War I in his novel, so that many researchers state that The Sun Also Rises is semi-autobiography of Hemingway. Besides, there is suggestion which can be offered, the readers should elaborated moral destruction as it widely spread right now in many aspects by watching the character’s behavior in the novel.