

## ABSTRACT

**Nur Syamsiyah, Alfi. 1175030022. The Symbolic Violence of the Main Child Character in Danny Devito's *Matilda* Film (1996). An Undergraduate Thesis, English Literature, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. Advisers: 1. Pepen Priyawan, S.S., M.Hum., 2. Hasbi Assiddiqi, S.S., M.A.**

Symbolic violence toward children in literary works became research core that worth to be analyzed because it involves symbolic, narrative and cinematic analysis at the same time. Symbolic violence not only identifiable through narration or dialogue but also be identified character's behaviour. In the term of film, identification of symbolic violence will be automatically supported by analysis of cinematic elements that provide a vivid visualization of certain symbols.

*Matilda* film (1996) itself was chosen as the object of research because it raised the issue of child violence due to authoritarian parents' behaviour and unsupportive environment. This study tries to explain how symbolic violence toward children as the main characters in the film formed in consequence of strict social reactions. The theory used is Pierre Bourdieu's critical theory of symbolic violence, which states that symbolic violence is latent violence, which occurs because of ignorance and recognition of the oppressed. The symbolic principle is in the form of language, lifestyle, way of thinking, way of acting, and ownership that is unique to certain groups based on characteristics of needs. As a result, *Matilda* as main child character in this film engage in symbolic violence by parents and her environment that supposed to provide comfort and acceptance like a child in general. The descriptive qualitative methodology uses to observe the data in depth.

**Keywords:** Symbolic Violence, Film, Social Relation, Cinematic Elements