

DILEMMA IN BERNARD SHAW'S THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA

A THESIS

As Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Sarjana
Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching Faculty



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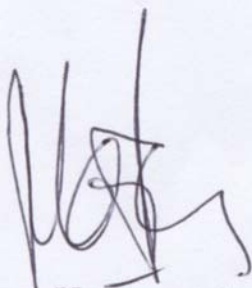
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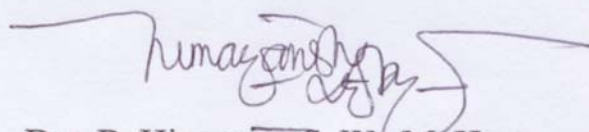
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The Writer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL SHEET (1)	i
APPROVAL SHEET (2)	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
ABSTRACT	ix
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	5
1.3 Objective of the study	6
1.4 Significance of the Study	6
1.5 Scope and Limitation	7
1.6 Theoretical Framework	7
1.7 Definition of Key Terms	7
1.8 Organization of the Study	9
CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE	10
II.1 Theoretical Framework	10
II.1.1 The Nature of Drama	10
II.1.2 Character	12
II.1.3 Plot	16

II.1.4 Setting	18
II.1.5 Conflict	19
II.1.6 Dilemma	20
II.2 Related Study...	21
CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHOD	22
III.1 Research Design	22
III.2 The Procedure of Data Collection	24
III.3 The Source of Data	25
III.4 The Procedure of Data Analysis	25
III.5 Instrument of the Study	26
CHAPTER IV: ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS.....	27
IV.1 Character	27
IV.1.1 Major Characters	27
IV.1.1.1 Sir Colenso Ridgeon	27
IV.1.1.2 Louis Dubedat	28
IV.1.1.3 Dr. Blenkinsop	29
IV.1.2 Minor Characters	30
IV.1.2.1 Dr. Shoemaker	30
IV.1.2.2 Sir Patrick Cullen	30
IV.1.2.3 Cutler Walpole	31
IV.1.2.4 Sir Ralph Bloomfield Bonington	32

IV.1.2.5 Mrs. Jennifer Dubedat	32
IV.1.2.6 Redpenny	33
IV.1.2.7 Emmy	33
IV.2 Plot	33
IV.2.1 Exposition	33
IV.2.2 Conflict	34
IV.2.3 Suspense	36
IV.2.4 Climax	37
IV.2.5 Resolution	38
IV.3 Setting	38
IV.4 Dilemma	41
IV.4.1 Ridgeon's Dilemma	41
IV.4.2 Why should Ridgeon choose to save the nice, kind, poor doctor?.....	43
IV.4.3 Why should Ridgeon choose to save the charming, talented but dishonest artist?.....	45
IV.4.4 Final Decision of Ridgeon's mind	48
CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	51
V.1 Conclusion	51
V.2 Suggestions	53
BIBLIOGRAPHY	55
APPENDICES	58

APPENDIX 1: SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY	58
APPENDIX 2: THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	60

ABSTRACT

Kurniawati, Helen. 2006. Dilemma in Bernard Shaw's The Doctor's Dilemma. Thesis. Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa. Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pengetahuan Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya. Advisors: Drs. Antonius Gurito and Drs. B. Himawan. S. W., M. Hum.

Key words: Dilemma, drama, character, doctor

Literature is broadly defined as any written or spoken material, but the term most often refers to creative works (Gale: 2001). Literature includes poetry, drama, fiction, and many kinds of non-fictional writing. Drama is a literary composition, usually in dialogue form, that centers on the actions of characters (Vtheatre.net: 2005).

The writer chooses one of Bernard Shaw's plays because of Shaw's reputation as a great playwright. His plays are related to real life situations and through the writing of his plays he brings up subjects that are normally taboo and he causes people to have discussions about them. Examples are prostitution in Mrs. Warren's Profession and religious intolerance in The Devil's Disciple. His views, which are expressed through his plays, have influenced many people throughout the world.

In conducting this thesis, the writer uses literary analysis to support and clarify her analysis and findings. The writer analyses the descriptions, actions and dialogues of the characters, the location and time of the setting of the play and the conflicts that shape the play. These conflicts are either external conflicts, conflicts between characters, or internal conflicts, conflicts between a character with his/ her feelings or beliefs. The external conflicts are specific to the play, and relate to the views and personalities of the characters. The internal conflicts are not too specific to the play, but relate to doctors in general. The writer looks at the internal conflicts of Ridgeon and how they relate to doctors in general and sources of these conflicts, such as the Hippocratic Oath which is a guide for ethics in the medical profession that is taken by all doctors.

The writer concludes that the dilemma in "The Doctor's Dilemma" is the decision that Ridgeon was forced to make, as to which of the two patients, Blenkinsop and Dubedat he should treat. His decision of saving Blenkinsop reveals his egoism that he is in love with Louis Dubedat's wife, Jennifer. In the conclusion the writer also relates to the world today and gives views on what must be done about it. The writer has learnt about the role of the doctor in society and that it is more than just the job of healing people. The writer has also learnt more about human nature, such as how people handle conflicts, how people interact with people with different views from their own and how they deal with their own feelings.