

THE HUMAN ISSUES ON ARTHUR MILLER'S "THE CRUCIBLE"

A THESIS



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UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA

FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN

JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SENI

PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS

OKTOBER, 1995

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**In Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for
the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in
English Language Teaching**

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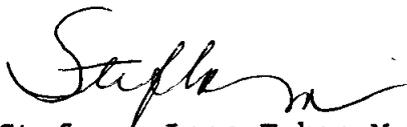
APPROVAL SHEET

(1)

This thesis entitled

THE HUMAN ISSUES ON ARTHUR MILLER'S THE CRUCIBLE

and prepared and submitted by HALIDA MARGONO has been approved and accepted as partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisers:



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Abstract

Literature is an art which illuminates some aspects of human's life or behaviour. Through this art, the students try to learn ways of life and human issues such as the struggle of life, emotions, feelings and dreams. In addition, by studying literature, the students would explore the best in writing, and, in doing so, learn to think, speak and write more effectively.

Being aware of those above facts, the writer is interested in studying a literary work, that is drama. Drama, one of literary genres, is a peculiar literary form which describes human characters in action. Unlike a novel, drama is not too long. So it does not take much time to read, besides the language is communicative.

Studying human issues and the roles of characters in a literary work is always useful and important since it includes studying the human personalities, their thought, problems, and conflicts. In this thesis the writer studies the human issues and characters' roles in creating those issues in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, a tragic drama which deals with some of the most important human problems in our life.

The interesting thing about this play is that it tells a common man's courageous, and never-ending fight against mass pressure to make him bow down in conformity. The common man who realizes that he can not gratify his enemies by betraying his principle and at the end chooses to be executed. This study can be considered as an example of human issues study. It is expected that the student will have the ability to understand the contents of a literary work they analyze, and to develop their awareness of human characters with their problems.

In analyzing this play the writer uses Carney's and Barelson's Content Analysis. The study of human issues and the roles of characters are done by examining the communication content. This communication content is represented by the characters' speeches about themselves or about other characters and above all the description about

the characters given by the author.

From analyzing *The Crucible*, the writer finds out some important human issues i.e. witchery, resentment, adultery, authority, anger, and pity. John Proctor as a church member besides a farmer, plays important roles as the protagonist. First, he has wrong philosophy of life that is an individual he has to work only for his own individual ends and desires only to live an uninvolved life. This philosophy makes him be accused of being a witch. However, at the end, when he insisted to lie, he has his own principles that is abiding need for men to adhere firmly to their principles in the face of oppression. This principle makes his life free from lies and he dies by his own honesty.

This is the lesson of human life in *The Crucible*. The relationship of human being in the society and the community problems are crises which concern each and every human being. Knowing those human issues well one must become part of all humanity, must be committed to the complete society of mankind.