

MARXISM VALUES AS PORTRAYED IN STEVEN SODERBERGH'S "ERIN BROCKOVICH" MOVIE SCRIPT

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Abstract : The purpose of this study was find out Marxism values as portrayed in the Erin Brockovich movie script. This research discussed the value of Marxism in the movie Erin Brockovich, directed by Steven Soderbergh. This research used a qualitative method with the sociological approach. This research data was obtained from conflict problems between Erin Brockovich's character, the people of Hinkley who were victims, and the large company PG&E. The results of this research showed that the movie Erin Brockovich depicted Marxism values. Erin Brockovich, as the main character was a representative of the lower working class who fought against large companies that had polluted the drinking water of the people around the company. The conflict that occurred between them showed the results of research that illustrated Marxism Values, and two kinds of conflict that related to the application of Marxism Values in Erin Brockovich's Movie, such as Realistic Conflict and Non Realistic Conflict. After analyzing the data the writer found the result of the research, such as; 1) Materialism 2) Social Class 3) Exploitation 4) Struggle for Social Justice. The description of Marxism values in the film Erin Brockovich was obtained by referring to Marxism literary criticism perspective and social conflict theory by Lewis Coser.

Keywords: *Marxism, Conflict, Sociological, Erin Brockovich, Movie Script*

INTRODUCTION

Marxism was comprised of those who used ideas and understandings based on Karl Marx's views, which provided different interpretations of their ideas. Marxism was a social and economic theory that emphasized the issue of economic and social inequality in society, particularly about social class. Differences in the interpretation of individual ideas in the form of debates often occurred not only in ordinary discussions but could also take place in heated debates that gave rise to disputes, slander, and even persecution and murder. Revolutionary strategy, the role of the

state, gender inequality such as the oppression of women, and even political parties were just a few of the issues disputed in Marxism.

According to Mulya and Putri (2020), Marxism is a way of rejecting and criticizing the capitalist economic system that creates social class distinctions between the lower and upper classes. Marxists argue that the economic and social class within the capitalist class frequently results in a class that lacks adequate access to resources, opportunities, and a decent quality of life. Therefore, Marxist theory defines capitalism as a social and economic system that is not entirely independent of interpersonal relationships and social progress. According to Marxists, literature is both a reflection of the establishments of society from which it originates and a social establishment with specific intellectual functions.

Think about how the pursuit of wealth typically characterizes characters in literature and how materialism and class conflict are reflected in it. Marxists therefore typically view literature as "products" of the economic and ideological forces unique to that era rather than as works produced in accordance with eternal artistic standards (Suwardi, 2016).

Sociology involves the examination of social life, transformations, and the investigation of the factors influencing and resulting from human behavior (Larasati & Irmawati 2022). The sociological approach emerges as a popular theoretical framework for analyzing literary works.

According to Komanaung et al., 2021 People face a great deal of difficulties and problems on a daily basis, which can occasionally result in misery and depression. Because so many people's lives are practically intertwined, there are moments when they want to destroy one another for personal gain.

Conflict is one's group and "outsiders" are distinguished from one another. Conflicts between political parties, ethnic groups, nations, and classes fall under this category. When there is a great deal of mobility in a social structure, lower strata are drawn to each other, which breeds mutual hostility.

According to Coser, conflict is divided into two, namely realistic conflict and non-realistic conflict. Realistic conflict is a conflict that originates from individual or group disappointment. This disappointment stems from various demands or estimates of

benefits that occur in social relationships. Nonrealistic conflict is conflict that does not originate from conflicting rival goals. However, from the need to relieve tension, at least from one of the parties.

The realistic conflict seen in Erin Brockovich's film is in her relationship with Erin's legal struggle, providing evidence that the PG&E company is responsible for the pollution that pollutes the water of the surrounding Hinkley community, causing dangerous diseases. The conflict issue arose from the discovery of files in Erin's office and representing the affected Hinkley community who then wanted to obtain justice for the health losses suffered. This struggle is a rational effort to demand losses and responsibility from the company for their actions.

The non-realistic conflict that can be seen is the interaction between the characters, especially the interaction between the main character Erin and her superior who tries to prevent Erin from investigating this case because of different opinions in implementing strategies for handling the case. This conflict is not always based on a problem with a clear goal but arises only as a response to problems of differences of opinion.

According to Ali et al., 2023 Social class is the division of groups based on resources, status, and education, whereas discrimination is an act that causes harm to both individuals and groups. The existence of social class, where people categorize their social class—that is, the upper class and middle class is what gives rise to this class difference. In situations where the middle class is not welcomed into the upper classes. The power, wealth, and prestige that determine the status, way of life, customs, and conduct of the upper class and middle class are the key indicators of social class disparity, accounting for the large differences between the two groups. (Dewi & Fitriana, 2021).

The conflict that occurs in Erin Brockovich's movie between social classes is reflected in legal battles between powerful corporations and small communities affected by pollution. Erin, despite coming from a disadvantaged background, becomes a hero in fighting social and environmental injustice.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

The researcher used qualitative research method. A qualitative research focuses on data in the form of words rather than numbers. According to Ary (2010) Qualitative research is research that focuses on images and words rather than analyzing numerical data. In the context of this study, the researcher was collected data from quotations obtained from the movie script and other relevant sources to support and describe the research findings.

In analyzing the data, the writer followed the following steps: 1) Watch the movie Erin Brockovich to better understand the story and problems. 2) Reading Erin Brockovich's script. 3) Reading several books, data, and information to analyze and find related information. 4) Creating a summary and identifying the title, theme, issue, and theory of the movie 5) Take note of several important aspects from both primary and secondary data sources. 6) Investigate movie dialogue and take notes from scripts that are relevant to analysis such describes words that the conflict was seen and related to the existence of Marxism Values. The data collected was in the form of words and quotations, allowing for a detailed analysis and description of the research findings. This approach aligns with the objectives of the study, which aim to gain a deeper understanding of the Marxism Value portrayed in the movie with Marxist literary criticism perspective. This study as it aims to find out Marxism Values is most suitable to use qualitative research.

Data Collection

The data collection was carried out was taken from Erin Brockovich`s movie with the text scripts. As an addition and complement, namely collecting data from other sources in the form of the internet, books, and journals. Documentation techniques were used in this research to collect data where the writer collected the data by watching the movie several times, understanding it in depth and taking notes

from the movie script itself which is related to Marxism Value with Marxist criticism perspective as portrayed in Erin Brockovich movie.

Data Sources

The primary data source for this research study is the movie script of the movie "Erin Brockovich" itself. The script text served as the main textual material from which the analysis and interpretation of the movie's content and themes were conducted. The researcher closely examined the dialogues, scenes, and character interactions in the script to gain insight into the social conflict and portrayed of Marxism values in the movie Erin Brockovich.

To support and complement the primary data, secondary sources were also be utilized in this study. These secondary sources include books, journals, articles, websites, and previous research works that are relevant to the title of the research, which focuses on the analysis of Marxism Value with Marxist literary criticism perspective with sociology approach. These sources provided additional theoretical frameworks, scholarly insights, and contextual information that enrich the analysis and contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the movie's sociological implications.

Data Analysis

In analyzing the data in this research is taken from the "Erin Brockovich" Movie Script. There are two sources of data, primary data sources and secondary data sources. Primary data comes from the "Erin Brockovich" Movie Script. Secondary data is the data that supports and complements primary data sources in the form of books, articles, and the internet that are relevant to the research topic.

To answer the questions in the research questions in this study, in analyzing this story the writer uses sociological approach obtained by referring to Marxism literary criticism perspective and social conflict theory by Lewis Coser. Coser's theory concept includes conflict theory that talks about Realistic Conflict and Non-Realistic

Conflict which is related to the Marxist values contained in the movie Erin Brockovich using a Marxist perspective. From this research, the researcher obtained the results of the types of Marxist values contained in the Erin Brockovich film, namely Materialism, Social Class, Exploitation and Struggle for Social Justice.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Conflict related to the Emergence of Marxism Values in Erin Brockovich

According to Komanaung, et al., (2021) Being a human is never easy, there are countless obstacles and issues that arise daily basis, sometimes resulting in both misery and depression. Because so many people's lives are practically intertwined, there are moments when they want to destroy one another for personal gain.

In Erin Brockovich, the conflict that occurs is a problem between pollution victims, the majority of whom are people from lower economic backgrounds, and large companies such as PG&E, whose economic background is higher, which represents capitalist interests. The social class that is reflected is Erin a single mother from a low economic background who plays an important part in the dynamics of this problem.

Coser (1956) stated social conflict is a struggle for values or a claim to status, power, and limited resources, in which the conflict group's objectives are to neutralize, harm, and eliminate rivals in addition to obtaining the desired values.

Large companies take advantage of the shortcomings and weaknesses of the Hinkley residents who are affected by their company's activities to gain profits without caring about the negative impacts that cause major health problems on their health and the environment. This raises the problem of exploitation which is reflected in this story such as class exploitation by large corporate companies which only benefit financial gain without paying attention to the welfare of society.

Erin as the main character, who in real life is also an activist representing lower-class people to fight for justice against big companies who don't care about

environmental conditions, they try to defend the rights of small communities who are ignored and suffer from diseases due to the company's actions. The struggle carried out by Erin Brockovich reflects an effort to fight for individual rights and correct social injustice caused by exploitation and class domination.

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Erin says "Hi. Sorry. Would you mind if I investigated this a little further?" Ed says "Investigated what?" Erin replies back "This real estate thing with the Irvings. The pro bono case ..." (Grant, S, 2000, p.28). In this dialogue, it is very clear that Erin understands this case before entering into the conflicts that will occur and fighting for justice for the people affected by the disease caused by the PG&E company. Erin says "So that stuff – it kills people" Frankel says "Oh, yeah. Definetly. Highly toxic, highly carcinogenic. Bad, bad stuff." (Grant, S, p.35). This conversation is about Erin finding out what type of chromium is contained in Doctor Frankel and Erin is shocked by how dangerous the chromium is in the water consumed by Hinkley residents, which can even kill them. Erin looks for evidence to sue the PG&E company which then leads her into a battle between the PG&E company which is the representative for the residents of Hinkley, the conflict that occurs is a realistic conflict.

The non-realistic conflict shows when Ed says "Erin it's just a meeting. Look, you said you weren't feeling great. I thought you should rest." Erin says " Bullshit. You'd drag me off my deathbed if it suited you. How dare you take this away from me." Ed says "No one's taking anything, will you let me – " Then Erin says "Bullshit. You stuck me in Siberia dictating to some goddam steno clerk so you could finish this thing without me." (Grant, S, p.112-113).

This conversation shows Erin's dissatisfaction and disapproval of what Ed did to her, Erin feels that Ed does not pay attention to Erin's wishes and feels that Erin is being ignored in the ongoing legal process. Ed tried to explain that Erin should rest because she was sick, but Erin firmly rejected what Ed said and accused Ed of limiting his role in carrying out this case. In this conversation, it is clear that a non-realistic conflict has emerged that does not involve a legal conflict with the PG&E company. Their debate illustrates the interpersonal tension between the characters and personal differences that influence the dynamics between the characters' relationships but have no impact on the main plot of the film Erin Brockovich.

Kinds of Marxism Values from Perspective Marxist Literary Criticism in Erin Brockovich

Marxist literary criticism is not merely "literary sociology" which examines how novels are published and whether these novels mention the working class as stated by Eagleton (2002, p. 9). Marxist literary criticism aims to explain literary works as a whole and must it is understood that literary works are the product of a certain history. The distinctiveness of Marxist literary criticism lies not in its historical approach to literature, but rather in its revolutionary understanding of history. Marx and Engels in their book *The German Sociology* (1845) stated that in Marxist literary criticism "It is not consciousness that determines life: life determines consciousness. (Eagleton, 2002).

According to Mulya and Putri (2020), Marxism is a way of rejecting and criticizing the capitalist economic system that creates social class distinctions between the lower and upper classes.

Conflicts between different social classes become a source of ideological conflicts as capitalist society develops. Eagleton (2002: xvi) discloses that Marx persisted in denouncing all manifestations of subjugation. This way of thinking is crucial to comprehending Marxist perspectives, including how they affect literary criticism. There were 3 kinds of Marxism that related in this research are Materialism, Social Class, Exploitation, and Struggle for Social Justice.

The literature claims that materialism and a range of consumer behaviors are related. According to Turk and Ercis (2017), they said that the concept of Materialism is the belief that material possessions are the ultimate source of happiness and that acquiring them is the core of an individual's life.

Materialism is defined as a viewpoint that emphasizes the value of money and material possessions for both societal advancement and individual happiness.

This concept of materialism can be seen in this dialog, Baum suddenly realizes he's made a mistake admitting the company's wealth. Ed leaves the conference room and Erin follows him. Erin says "At least they made an offer". Ed replies "That wasn't an offer a million would've been an offer. When they send the god damn mail clerk down to jerk me off, waste my time, it's a fuck you." Erin says "I don't get why they'd do that." Ed then says "Because they can. You heard that kid – they have twenty-eight billion dollars at their disposal. They can afford to waste all time in the world!" (Grant, S, 2002 p.58-59)

In this dialog, materialism is clearly evident in the context of the power between the small law firm owned by Ed and Erin and the giant, PG&E. Baum revealed his mistake in disclosing the company's assets. As such, materialistic considerations, dissemination of negotiations and perceptions of power, are atoned for by financial

resources. The frustration and dissatisfaction that Ed feels stems from the PG&E policy that supports the unstable situation. Even though Baum acknowledges the company's financial situation, PG&E's claims are inconsistent with what Ed has said. According to Ed, "a million would be a bargain" refers to materialist theory, wherein the primary measure of money's worth is its value and sentiment. Ed's explain that PG&E can afford to squander time and resources described the materialistic mindset of large, financially supported corporations. Due to their enormous financial resources, the company is able to control negotiations, squander time, and dominate smaller players like Ed's legal practice.

This explanation emphasizes how materialism, as manifested through material wealth and power, shapes the dynamics of power and negotiation within the framework of corporate litigation. It emphasizes the resources that individuals or smaller entities have compared to corporate giants, as well as the difficulties that arise when seeking justice in such unbalanced situations.

According to Grant J. Andrew (as cited in Supit et al.,2023), social class is a collection of ideas in the social sciences and political theory that are based on models of social stratification that exist in class societies and are typically divided into three hierarchical classes: the upper class, middle class, and lower class.

In terms of Marxism Values, the social class in Erin Brockovich is described by the social status of Erin Brockovich as the main character and the Hinkley community in the lower class category with the large corporation PG&E which is a giant company. According to Dewi & Fitriyah, 2021 they stated that there are 2 kinds of social class which are upper class and middle class. In "Erin Brockovich" movie script the social class at play is very important in the dynamics of character roles and plot. Erin Brockovich the main character is a housewife who works in Ed's law firm to make ends meet and her three children work as legal assistants in Ed's lawyer's law firm which brings Erin into dealing with the big company PG&E with an environmental

pollution case which has an impact on health problems for the Hinkley community who live around the company.

In this context it can be seen in this dialog, Baum says "Mr. Masry, before you go off on some crusade, you might want to remember who it is you're dealing with here. PG&E is a twenty eight billion dollar corporation." Ed smiles and acting excited/greedy and says "Twenty eight billion dollars! I didn't know it was THAT much! WOW!" Then Baum as PG&E's employe realizes he is making a mistake admitting company's wealth. (Grant, S, 2002 p.58).

In this dialog it can be seen that the PG&E company and even its employees are people from the upper class who threatened Ed as an interviewer in this case. Ed, acting shocked, said WOW, with a cynical impression, took action against arrogant PG&E employees by threatening them with using their company's wealth but did not fulfill their responsibility to provide proper responsibility to Hinkley residents who were affected by disease due to their company's activities. When Erin wins the case she explains to Donna as a victim the amount of money they got. Erin says : "He's making them pay the maximum." Tears of vindication spring to Donna eyes. Donna says " Oh, my God." Erin continue " And he's making the give five million of it to you all." Donna was shock and says "Five million dollars?" Erin says "Five million dollars." She reels. After a breathless beat and Donna says "I don't even know how much money that is." Erin explain "It's enough, for whatever you need, for whatever your girls need. It'll be enough" Donna wipes the tears off her face, then watches flickering off her girls playing in the surf." (Grant, S, 2002 p.137-138).

In this dialog, Erin told to Donna, who was a victim of the PG&E company, telling Donna that their lawyer had succeeded in winning the case and getting compensation of five million dollars for them. It can be seen from Donna's shocked reaction that even she didn't know how much this amount was, they were surprised that the amount was more than they had previously thought and expected. Erin explained that this amount was enough to meet their needs and even be able to send their

children to school and meet their daily needs. This illustrates that Donna was not used to this amount of money so she was very surprised. This shows that they are from a lower economic background or are said to be "Upper Class"

According to Oxford Dictionary, Exploitation is the action of treating someone unfairly and the action of making use of and benefiting from resources.

One of the traits of humanity that are frequently observed in daily life is selfishness. Selfishness is prioritizing oneself over others and showing indifference to their suffering (Runtu, et al., 2022). Because this selfishness often encourages individuals or groups to take advantage of other people in various ways and also utilize natural resources without paying attention to the impact on the surrounding community. This context is very related to the problems that occurred with Erin Brockovich. The exploitation that occurs in the film Erin Brockovich can be seen regarding environmental pollution and hiding information.

The kind of exploitation that occurs in the film Erin Brockovich can be seen regarding environmental pollution and hiding information.

It seen the hiding of information in this conversation. (Grant, S, p.64-65) Pete says: "There's something about this whole thing I don't know quite understand, Mr. Marsy. If PG&E messed with our water, why would they bother saying anything about it to us? Why not just keep quit it?" Ed replied " To establish a statute of limitations. See, in a case like this, you only have a year from the time you first learn about the problem to file suit. So PG&E figures, we'll let the cat out of the bag -- tell the people the water's not perfect; if we can ride out the year with no one suing, we'll be in the clear forever.

A concerning pattern of exploitation is shown in the conversation between Ed Masry and Erin when Ed explains the operations of the PG&E firm. The people of Hinkley, naive and ignorant, become ensnared in a web of lies spun by PG&E, which takes advantage of their ignorance of the company's operations. The citizens of

Hinkley, who are unaware of the facts and acts that have been committed against them, are used by the firm. The contamination of the air, a consequence of PG&E's mining activities, leads to the emergence of different ailments among the population of Hinkley. Remarkably, the impacted parties do not receive a comprehensive justification for the company's involvement in these health problems. The scenario is confusing because of the company's unexpected candor regarding air pollution, which begs the question of why they would make such an admission. Ed Masry's remark, which discloses that the corporation consciously decides not to hide the fact that the air is polluted, suggests a well-thought-out plan. There is a reason to this calculated maneuver, but it is hidden by the company's hidden agenda. Residents of Hinkley, who have endured the effects of contaminated water, are awarded compensation, which only serves to compound the exploitation.

The obvious exploitation in this exchange is highlighted by PG&E's decision to put its own evil interests ahead of the welfare of the Hinkley community. The company's efforts have resulted in diseases spreading, water pollution, and negative effects on the local population. But PG&E prefers to keep these acts under wraps, maintaining a story that absolves them of accountability for the harm done to the neighborhood. The citizens of Hinkley would have continued to live in ignorance in the absence of Erin and Ed's brave acts, highlighting the heinousness of the company's ongoing exploitation.

Life is not always filled with only happy things, we will have problems that make things difficult. We as humans cannot avoid this. So we have to fight to overcome our problems to find our life target (Ibrahim, et al., 2021).

According to Turil, 2016 in his article about Struggles for Equal Rights and Social Justice as Unpresented and Represented in Psychological Research, Turil stated that Struggle and Equal Rights and Treatment are still being fought for in organized movements as well as in day-to-day interactions. History and language both demonstrate the intimate relationship between justice and equality. The

demand for equal rights has been at the heart of many historical struggles for social justice, including those against economic exploitation, political absolutism, slavery, and the denial of voting rights to the lower and middle classes.

When George is playing on the floor with the kids. Erin is behind them on the couch, laboriously reading a book labeled, simply, CHROMIUM and the phone RINGS. Erin picks it up and says "Hello?" A male voice replays and says " Is this the Erin Pattee Brockovich that's been snooping around the water board?" His voice is flat, and creepy. Not friendly. ERIN says "Yes. Who's this?" The male said "You should watch your step. A young lady like yourself with three young children." ERIN (overlapping) "Who is this?" then he said "Do you understand what I'm saying?" then he disconnected the calls. *George watches Erin double-check the locks on the door.* ERIN says "I'm not gonna quit 'cause of one creepy phone call, George." "Come on, Erin. A job's supposed to pay your bills, not put you in danger " said George. But Erin just says "I'm not in danger. I mean, the phones might be tapped- " When Erin hadn't finished speaking and George immediately overlapped and said "What?" Erin explain "But that's usual. And we have a deadbolt. It's not a big deal. She goes to the living room, double-checks the window locks in there. George follows." Gorge trying to explain "Look, don't you think you might be out of your league here?" Erin says "No, see -- that's exactly what those arrogant PG&E fucks want me to think -- But you know what? They're wrong." (Grant, S, p.78).

The dialog above seem that Erin was at home with her kids and her partner when she got a call out of the blue from someone she didn't know. This individual was threatening to make Erin stop searching around the PG&E corporation for evidence to help defend the victims, who were Hinkley locals. Erin, a single mother of three children, was in danger of having her name exposed by the call. The call ended abruptly, leaving no trace of the caller. Erin's boyfriend, George, was supporting her in this situation by watching over her three kids, as Erin was preoccupied with concerns for her safety as she was taking on a large corporation,

which naturally would attract opposition from parties looking to undermine her in any way. Erin had a difficulty in her quest for justice on behalf of the victims of the Hinkley community, who had threatened their families, when the PG&E business prevented them from finding proof. Erin's boyfriend George attempted to dissuade her from continuing her fight for justice for the Hinkley community despite the fact that this case had put her and her children in danger.

It is not an easy task to fight for justice when facing large corporations or affluent individuals. Even though her family was touched by the difficulties, Erin's enthusiasm was unaffected by her feelings of compassion for the victims of the affected Hinkley neighbors. This component is crucial to the high degree of social consciousness and empathy for other people.

The topic of the Struggle for justice is brilliantly illustrated in this gripping sequence from "Erin Brockovich," which also provides a deep look at Erin's steadfast resolve and the difficulties she faces in her unflinching pursuit of the truth and accountability.

The mysterious call marks a turning point in the fight for justice when it becomes personal and menacing. The unidentified caller attempts to take advantage of Erin's weaknesses, especially her status as a single mother of three small children, by posing as a representative of an invisible but potent force. Erin is being intimidated by the hints about possible threats and hazards, which are intended to plant doubt and anxiety in her mind and eventually discourage her from continuing her research into the tainted water.

The abrupt termination of the conversation heightens the sense of danger and suspense, making Erin and the viewer uneasy. This encounter highlights the dangers Erin faces in her quest for justice and shows that people in positions of authority and interest have not ignored or supported her activities.

In the face of intimidation, Erin's tenacity is evident. Erin is unwavering in her resolve despite the apparent danger to her safety and her family's well-being. The mysterious caller tries to inspire terror, but she is determined to get the truth and is not deterred. This instance demonstrates Erin's bravery, inner strength, and refusal to give in to outside pressure.

George's words of worry highlight how serious things are and give voice to everyone's fears for Erin's wellbeing. His doubts about her involvement's prudence highlight the real risks involved in taking on strong organizations. Erin's callous reply, in which she normalizes the possible risks as a typical aspect of the research environment, reveals her acceptance of the risks and highlights her commitment to the cause.

Erin's moving words, "That's what those fucks at PG&E want me to think." But they're mistaken," embodies the heart of her character. In addition to rejecting the effort at intimidation, Erin's angry declaration reveals her comprehension of the power dynamics at work. She adamantly states that she will not be tricked into thinking she is out of her league and defies PG&E's psychological warfare.

Tension-filled and defiant, this exchange is a microcosm of the larger story in "Erin Brockovich." It shows how Erin, an unexpected hero, rises to become a strong force in her pursuit of justice against a major organization. The topic of Erin's fight for justice extends beyond court cases and into her personal life, where she encounters threats, intimidation, and attempts to weaken her determination. Her unshakeable faith in her ability to change things highlights the resilient character at the foundation of this engrossing story.

CONCLUSION

Analysis of the film "Erin Brockovich" through Marxist literary criticism provides insight into the depiction of Marxism values in the movie which concerns the issue of conflict in the movie which then depicts several aspects of Marxism in the form of

social class, exploitation and the struggle for justice, which are the themes -themes included in Marxist theory.

Materialism portrayed in this movie is how wealth or material objects are important in life, even in determining social decisions or in the success of other people. In this movie, the character Ed shows how the PG&E company's wealth is a company that has everything or the company's wealth is everything and their actions and decisions illustrate enormous financial power.

Social Class explains that this movie depicts social class between the lower class residents of Hinkley, represented by Erin Brockovich, and the upper-class corporate entity, PG&E. Erin as the main role, who is a single mother from a low economic background, highlights the struggles faced by the lower class community which represents the victims of Hinkley community water pollution when dealing with powerful companies.

Exploitation explains that the actions taken by PG&E in polluting the environment and hiding correct information from the public are part of examples of exploitation. These companies exploit the ignorance and vulnerability of residents to maximize profits, ignoring the health and well-being of communities impacted by their company's activities that pollute the Hinkley community's water.

Struggle for Social Justice depicts Erin's constant struggle and efforts to achieve justice for the people of Hinkley showing the struggle against exploitation and class domination. Even though Erin faces intimidation and threats, Erin remains steadfast in fighting for the rights of victims, emphasizing the importance of social relations in fighting systemic injustice.

This research analysis reveals how the movie "Erin Brockovich" functions as a critique of capitalist exploitation and inequality that shows how individuals or people defend themselves in the face of oppressive organizational structures in society.

Through Marxist literary criticism, this film offers an illustration to examine the power dynamics of society and support social change.

The movie *Erin Brockovich* is based on the true story of Erin Brockovich, just like the title of the movie, she was a legal assistant who played an important role in uncovering a major environmental conflict scandal. This is a great film because it conveys a strong social and environmental message. This movie invites viewers to reflect on the impact of corporate actions on society and the environment, as well as the strength of individuals in fighting injustice. The researcher suggests that other researchers can analyze this movie using other theories related to different thoughts and points of view. The primary focus of this research is delimited to the using of Marxist theory within a sociological approach. It is crucial to remember that there are still opportunities for investigation and growth. For this reason, the researcher suggests some possible paths for future research, such as looking at the topic from different perspective like feminism, psychology, or other theoretical frameworks.

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