MORAL VALUES IN LADY GAGA'S SELECTED SONGS LYRIC

Yuni E. Alouw, Elizabeth Z. Oroh, Sanerita T. Olii

English Education Department Faculty of Language and Arts Universitas Negeri Manado, Tondano, Indonesia Email: yuniester28@gmail.com

Abstract

: The purpose of this study is to reveal the moral values found in Lady Gaga's selected songs. This research is a qualitative research since the data gathered are in the form of words rather than numbers. In analyze the data; the writer used objective approach because the data were taken only from the work itself, the study only focused on moral values found only in Lady Gaga's selected song lyrics. The result show that There are four songs that full contain moral values. Born This Way morally tells about originality that needs to be sustained by human. Til It Hapens To You is a song to express the pain of women who become the victims of violation and sexual assault, Grigio Girls is composed to describe the mental strenth of female friends who got cancer and how they keep sustaining their life and Angel Down is about abuse of teenager, comes from the experience when a teenager was shot by neighbour, implying there is no care and protection to teens in their period of growth to future maturity, *Til It Hapens To You* is mainly about social moral that women needs to appreciated and respected, Grigio Girls delivers individual moral that tells that each individual needs to be strong and brave to face even hardest phase in life in this case cancer as acute disease, and Angel Down conveys social moral value with its concern to teenangers that needs to be given special attention in family and society.

Keywords: Dynamic, Sisterhood Relationship, Moral Values, Literature.

1. INTRODUCTION

People have to improve and maintain their good moral. Moral value is a common word to say, but it is very difficult to imply in human's daily life. Since people were born, they have been taught about morality, however as the time goes by, the moral is decreasing. Moral is something that must be owned by human because without moral human will not be respected by other people. It will be easy for people to socialize with other and they

will be accepted in the community. Moral values can not only be obtained by discussion in formal situation or books, but also people can use songs to deliver the moral message of the songs. In this case, people will get bored when they get moral values from textbooks and the advice from their teachers or parents. Moral values can be well delivered by using music, because

many people use song to express their feeling at the moment. It can give enjoyment, fun, and pleasure in studying. As Ursery (2002:1) stated "moral values are the people beliefs about what is important in life".

Lyrics can be included in the genre of poetry in literary works. This can be indicated by the similarity of the elements between poem and song lyrics. Soedjiman (1986: 47) argues that the lyrics are poems in the form of the wording of a song; literary works that contain the outpouring of personal feelings that are prioritized are paintings of his feelings. The song is one of the poems that is justified by uniting the rhymes and rhythms of music. This is in accordance with the understanding of song lyrics according to Sayuti (1985: 106) which says that lyrics are short poems that express emotions. The form of emotive expression is manifested in sounds and words. The use of

the right language style accompanied by a beautiful rhythm will produce other works that can be enjoyed by the community, and the use of appropriate sentences will lead to social aspects that can be useful for the community.

Lady Gaga. She is a very popular female singer with her meaningful values of songs that aim to inspire and entertain people and send a message of life issues to the world. She has many popular songs and she also has popularized many albums till this year, Lady Gaga is a female singer whose popular songs are composed to deliver moral messages that cover many life issues. Inspiring stories become the root of making several songs of hers that contain thematic aspects related to moral.

From discussion above, it is very challenging or interesting to do a research about Moral Values in *Lady Gaga's* Selected Song Lyrics Therefore, the writer only takes four songs chosen to the study, entitled *Born This Way* (2011), *Til It Hapens To You* (2015), *Grigio Girls* (2016), and *Angel Down* (2007). Other songs of hers are no concerned so that this study is not too broad. Furthermore, the writer only focused on moral values, without intention to analyze other topics in those songs. The writer focused on the lyric analysis.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Moral Value

Moral comes from Latin word "Mores", it has meaning of custom and folkways. Moral behaviour means behaviour in conformity with the moral code of the social group. Moral development has both an intellectual and an impulsive aspect, people must learn what is right and wrong and given explanation of why this is right and wrong Hurlock (1985:386). Sternberg (1994:938) says that, Social relationship can be judged by standards such as efficiency or produce.

According to Barcalow (1994: 3), moral issues involve a way of behaving and having character, they are unavoidably coming in all shapes and sizes. Fundamentally, moral issues arise when the

choice that people take will affect the good attitude of other by increasing or decreasing. For example, when other people are watching news in program television about criminal, it is can be a source to be more careful and getting on the ball with criminal. The negative or decreasing attitude is when the other people make it to be the source of their criminal.

Edward (1967:151) says, there are three kinds of motives which lead men to act morally, that is, to obey the moral rules of their society, enlightened self-interest, respect for rules, and other regarding motives. Morals are the standards by which behaviours are evaluated for their morality—their rightness or wrongness. Morality is something that must be owned by human because without morality human will not be respected by other people. They will be easy to socialize with people around them and will be accepted in the community. Someone who has moral should have the ability to consider good and bad behaviour because no one can live without other person.

Moral values has been learned and taught since childhood. Behaviour is the way of behaving. Good behaviours is shown by how someone presented the politeness, for example speaks politely, dressed politely, and walks politely and etc. Ursery (2002:2) says, moral values are the people beliefs about what is important in life. Some values refer to how one should act such as become honest, altruistic, self discipline while other moral value to what one wants to accomplish or obtain in life. Moral values are quite or not specific about what should be done. It is general beliefs or attitudes about something the people desire or like.

Moral value is value that can't be separated with other values. Bertens (1997:142-147) says, every values will get quality if it has relation with other values, Moral values are characterized by:

Responsibility

Moral values related to the human person who is responsible. A moral value only is realized in actions that are fully the responsibility of the person concerned. Humans themselves become a source of moral values. For example, someone is considered irresponsible when he or she fails to do his or her responsibilities.

Conscience

Value always contains some sort of invitation or appeal. Moral value is that only raising the value of the voice of conscience that accused persons when underestimate or against moral values and praised us when realizing moral values. The example is when there is a mistake realized, it is good to admit and feel guilty.

Obligation

Moral values that is required for granted unconditionally. These values apply to humans as humans. Expected and even demanded that everyone uphold moral values and practice. Moral obligation does not come from the outside or institutions but is rooted in people's own humanity. In example, moral which is related to obligation appears when duty is running. It is immoral when the job is not executed.

• Religion

Religion also gives many contribution in moral values development. Someone who has religion, they should control their act and attitude. It can be understood that religion is a foundation of moral values. Moral is strongly connected to religion since it underlies each other. When people are active in their religiousity, they will always keep their moral good in their words and actions.

Formality

Moral value is not stand-alone without other value. Moral values did not separate with other values. Moral values are nothing without other values. It is form of formality. For instance, being formal is always considered with being standard or formal or in line with social norms.

Positive attitude usually gets a good reaction from others. According to Hurlock (1997: 323-324) the type of moral teaching itself can include problems, to be said, to be infinite. It can encompass the whole issue of

life, all issues concerning human dignity and prestige. Broadly speaking the problem of life and human life can be distinguished into the problems of human relationships with oneself, human relationships with other human beings in the social sphere including its relationship with the natural environment, and human relationships with God. Human life in society is inseparable from the order life in force in the society. The order of life it can be in the form of certain rules or restrictions that have been agreed upon together. So that order can live and continue from generation after generation, each individual must carry out and sustain. Efforts to preserve the order are expected to be appropriate with the dynamics of life in society.

Moral is in fact talking about true problemsor wrong, what needs to be done and abandoned for reasons certain results in the emergence of a "court" of the community regarding the actions taken by an individual. Moral consideration depends on the atmosphere or circumstancesshape the individual. For example, social systems, social classes, andbeliefs held. Morality in human beings is awareness about good and bad, about prohibition, about what to done, in every human action indirectly burdened by moral responsibility that must always be obeyed.

Moral prevailing in society is binding onevery individual in all walks of life. Every individualin behaving, behaving, and socializing in society must bepay attention to the existing order. Apart from doing what was assigned to him by social life and by his personal destiny.

Moral understanding in the literary work itself is no different with a general understanding of morals, which involves the value of good and badwhich is generally accepted and based on human values. Moral in literature is usually intended as a guide andpractical suggestions for readers in everyday life. In this case, the moral of the song lyric is usually intended as a related suggestion with certain moral teachings that are practical, which can be taken or interpreted through the story concerned with the reader. He is "Instructions" are deliberately given by the author about

various things related to social behavior and good manners. The moral of the lyric in songs is usually meant as a piece of rather practical moral advice that can be drawn from a story.

2.2 Literature

Literature is one of the greatest creative and universal meaning in communicating the emotional, spiritual or intellectual concerns of mankind. In this book, Understanding the Elements of Literature, Taylor (1981:1) says that "Literature is essentially an imaginative act, which is an act of the writer's imagination in selective ordering and interpreting life experience." literature is an art of living together communication language. Without language there would be no literature. Through language, it can manifest itself in the form of oral and written literature. Abrams (1981) (in Selidik, 2013:1) says "literature is seen as a means to convey a specific purpose, suchas values or teachings to the reader". The definition above, it means that literature is an art form both oral or written that contains values and other elements that are imaginative.

There are three major divisions of literature. They are prose, drama and poetry. Delisle (1971:147) defined poetry as "a form of literature deriving its particular effects from unusually specific words arranged in unusually precise language patterns. Poetry has its own uniqueness, different from other two divisions of literature". It is written in unusual words, and specifict diction that are arranged in unusual patterns. It is the shortest from among the three divisions, but conveys the message as well as other two. Poetry has two major types which are the narrative poem and lyric. Lyric is made by the author to offers his own direct response to some aspect of experience, different from narrative poem that is made to tell the story.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

The researcher used qualitative research in this study, according to Bogdan and Biklen (1982) qualitative research has the natural setting as the direct source of data, and researcher is the key instrument. Qualitative research is descriptive. The data collected is in the form of words of pictures rather than number and the meaning is of essential to the qualitative approach. Therefore, it means this research is categorized as descriptive.

3.2 Data Collection

The data collection is the most important step in the study. The main goal of the study is to get the data; there are two parts of the data, primary source and Secondary Source. Primary Source is the data in the four selected songs of sung by Lady Gaga entitled Born This Way (2011), Til It Hapens To You (2015), Grigio Girls (2016), and Angel Down (2007). The secondary sources are sources that do not directly provide data to data collectors, for example through others or through documents and internet browsing . (Sugiyono 2015: 193)

3.1 Data Analysis

Analysis means breaking something down into its components and discovering the relation among them that give unity coherence to the whole. By analysis the literary works, we can more understand and appreciate them. (Griffith 1986: 30).

This study used objective approach in analyzing data. Abrams states that :

"Objective approach is only focused on the literary work it elf without looking at the external aspects of the library works. The series of events happen in the drama because of the supporting from the elements of drama, plot, setting, theme, and character." (1979:26)

It means that the study only focused on moral values found only in Lady Gaga's selected song lyrics, not moral values in general point of view. The writer concerned with the song lyrics.

4. FINDINGS & DISCUSSTION

According to theoretical bases on Chapter II, the writer makes points on the kinds of moral values.

a. Individual Moral is the attitude of the human to him/herself, meaning that humans have the right to make their decisions and spirit to do something or actions.

b. Social Moral is the attitude of the humans to others. The personal freedom is limited to the social freedom so, the relationships between personal and social is very close because when a person takes actions usually followed by the reactions from the others. Finally, people should respect each other.

c. Religion Moral is the attitude of the human to God by daily activities, meaning that all the activity is connected with the worship to God.

The songwriter in conveying morals through lyrics is the process of imagination from the observation of people's lives. The phenomena that occur are observed by the author and subsequently with full accuracy the author will tell a life that observed in the form of literary works. Therefore, literary works are not an imitation or a copy of the universe.

Born This Way (2011)

This song is contextually about appreciation to the existence of human beings. People will appreciate you if you appreciated yourself. Everyone is born unique, equal and worth to be awesome. Therefore, the should be no discrimination and humiliation.

It doesn't matter if you love him, or capital H-I-M

Just put your paws up 'cause you were born this way, baby

My mama told me when I was young

We are all born superstars

It can be seen that the lyric put forward about social moral that guarantees the social life harmonious. People need to respect others. As a result, they will also be respected. The way someone treats other people will be the way people treat him or her in return.

There is no something from everyone's birth. Everyone comes to the world as creation of The Creator. In other words, everybody is the creature that needs to be appreciated and valued. Otherwise, social conflict will arise as the impact that leads to discrimination and hatred.

She rolled my hair and put my lipstick on

In the glass of her boudoir

"There's nothing wrong with loving who you are"

She said, "'Cause he made you perfect, babe"

The song writer gives concern to a must for self-loving or self appreciation. There must be a an awareness that loving the originality is much better than imitating others' way of life, or following trends and killing the real character of somebody. This is a voice of humanity that emphasizes uniqueness of everyone. In fact, The Creator has made His creatures and all were made in perfect way.

"So hold your head up girl and you'll go far,

Listen to me when I say"

I'm beautiful in my way

'Cause God makes no mistakes

Once again the song writer underlines the truth about creation that must be accepted. It is implied that judging other people's life is similarly refusing work of The Creator and concluding that the creation contains mistake or something unacceptable.

Since nowadays modernization has been extremely changing people's mindset, it is difficult to defend the originality. It is easy for people to imitate, and flown by impact of globalization era with all its hedonism. It is undoubtedly that people lost their mind and violate social norm just to be in line with latest era.

I'm on the right track, baby I was born this way

Don't hide yourself in regret

Just love yourself and you're set

I'm on the right track, baby

I was born this way (Born this way)

The lyric above reminds that there should be strong confidence of people to appear with real character and never thinking that other people's wants are the guidance. On the contrary, being original is with to be acted. It is like actors or actress in the movie, its is complicated to act and play role like others, living another people's life. It is much easier to be original or real and honest.

Oh there ain't no other way

Baby I was born this way

Baby I was born this way

Oh there ain't no other way

Baby I was born this way

Right...

Everyone uniqueness needs to be defended. This tends to be serious since there are many social bullying that become very frequent. People should be brave to show to the world their originality instead of forcing to meet what is desired by other people when it contradicts to sound of heart and social norm.

This song is dominantly a representation of originality that nowdays become rare since the results of globalization tremendously change people way of thinking and way of doing. People sometimes get lost in control and they often feel proud and happy when they follow all the trend and take all the negative impacts offered.

This song is mostly about social norm and Lady Gaga expresses her concern toward humiliation as a very problematic issue. Consequently, the song listeners got touched particularly regarding this issue. Every lyric of this song answers the voice of victims who have been humiliated and have no confidence to show originally themselves.

Til It Happens To You (2015)

The context of making this song is about songwriter's message that women are unable to be the victims of violation and sexual assault. This is about social moral that women needs to appreciated and respected. The songwriter through this song reminds people not to bully the victims but actually they need support and they should be treated equal as humansbecausethey are the victims.

You tell me it gets better, it gets better in time

You say I'll pull myself together, pull it together

You'll be fine

Lady Gaga sings this song to reach people and there is no end in life because of the occurrence of sexual assault and violation that take women as victims. This tells that women are needed to be treated fairly, not juts making them as instrument to achieve goal or satisfaction.

Tell me what the hell do you know
What do you know
Tell me how the hell could you know
How could you know
'Til it happens to you, you don't know
How it feels
How it feels
'Til it happens to you, you won't know

The lyric above sounds the feeling of being victimized is indescribable and complicated. Those who experience directly know exactly how it feels.

From year to year shows an increase in cases of violence. Ironically, this phenomenon is still lacking public response. But it has become a global issue that is often heard in the media, often even being discussed at the international level. This song

particularly put forward how painful being the victim is.

It won't be real
No it won't be real
Won't know how it feels
You tell me hold your head up
Hold your head up and be strong
'Cause when you fall, you gotta get up
You gotta get up and move on

Violence against women needs to be a concern and different from other violence, especially because this violence is a violation of gender-based human rights. Violence occurs because of unequal power relations and is directed at someone because of their gender. In this case, violence occurs more against women and girls compared to men.

Tell me, how the hell could you talk How could you talk? 'Cause until you walk where I walk It's just all talk

Violence against women and girls is the most common violation of human rights and discrimination. It is considered that this violence as normal with the consequences of violence which is continuing. Others consider it taboo to be revealed so that the victims and those around them choose to remain silent. This is the root of the songwriter wants to remind people not to be passive.

'Til it happens to you, you don't know How it feels How it feels 'Til it happens to you, you won't know It won't be real (how could you know?) No...

If violence has affected women as a chronic (long-standing) wound, the result

will be stress, depression, anxiety, phobias, and many other negative effects. All in all, this song brings the voice of misused women to be heard by people, and also stregthening the mental of the victims so that they feel being given attention.

Grigio Girls (2016)

The context of this song is telling people about a teenager who had a cancer. Lady Gaga specially presented this song about her best friend with that disease. This is how Lady learns a valuable lesson of life through the story of her good friend. This song delivers individual moral tells that each individual needs to be strong and brave to face even hardest phase in life, in this case cancer as a cute disease.

I was twenty-three

She was thirty-five

I was spiralling out

And she was so alive

A Texas girl real strong

Taught me this strong song

So when I start to bawl

She says, "let your teardrops fall"

The lyrics tells that crying does not mean weakness but to let all the burdens come out. They need support. The sincere motivation and support will give big difference in their life. The cancer woman teaches about strong mental and proves that life is worth to go on though the cancer should be fought.

All the Pinot, Pinot Grigio girls

Pour your heart out

Watch your blues turn gold

All the Pinot, Pinot Grigio girls

Keep it real cold

'Cause it's a fired-up world

Oh, oh, make it all make sense

Oh, oh, does it all make sense?

Oh, oh, make it all make sense

The song inferred that even in the chronic disease, spirit must go on. Cancer can instantly take someone's life span that should be filled with joyful, full activities. Lying in the house or hospital for treatment, and chemotherapy they must undergo, leaving relatives. Fighting against cancer is not something easy. Besides having to endure pain due to treatment measures, the cost of cancer treatment is not cheap. In fact, Many people die faster because they do not have enough money to undergo treatment. It takes a strong and sincere heart to the situation.

Sisters never pack up

We always run back, love

Seven years ago

I said you'd make it so

Sonja was Joanne's friend

Tough girls on the mend

So when I'm feeling small

I toss that cork and call

Tough girls means that the life is made tough by the cancer. Patients with cancer not only feel pain in their body but also mental health can be disrupted. They may experience severe stress, depression, emotions that can not be controlled, and are more sensitive. Therefore, it takes its own way to treat or deal with people who have cancer.

All the Pinot, Pinot Grigio girls

Pour your heart out

Watch your blues turn gold

All the Pinot, Pinot Grigio girls

Keep it real cold

'Cause...

The song implies cancer is nonsense to make the mental down. The focused should be directed to future and the present themselves. It needs strong heart, and it also needs attention from other people to behave appropriately. People should be who they are and treat them as usual. It is good to think that nothing has changed from relationships with friends / relatives of cancer sufferers, so he does not feel distinguished from the others.

Angel Down (2007)

This song is intentionally composed to tell a story about a teenager who was shot by his neighbour. Such a tragic death happened to someone when he actually will have bright future. This is a deep song sung by Lady Gaga that is meaningful. This song conveys social moral value with its concern to teenagers that needs to be given special attention in family and society.

I confess I am lost

In the age of the social

On our knees, take a test

To be lovin' and grateful

The songwriter describes that by this tragedy, the victim has lost everything. In other words, he does not deserve that. People nowadays do not care about teenagers. They only think about their own sake. Sometimes people are selfish in a very excessive level. Teenagers are in their period of learning by failure and mistakes. They are being introduced to world realities with their social life. They need to be loved not ignored.

Shots were fired on the street

By the church where we used to meet

Angel down, angel down

But the people just stood around

The song implies a regret. The most beautiful period is adolescence, the period that always wants to be remembered is adolescence, and the period that determines the nation's future is adolescence. Adolescence is a period full of shocks, the time when we start looking for identity and is the most difficult period. Talking about adolescence, we also talk about the future of the nation, because youth is an important role in determining the progress of a nation. Teenagers are a milestone in the hope of a country. in fact, nobody is touched to help.

This song wants to describe how a life of teenager is full of challenges while they are not in maturity yet. They are still unable to make decision, controlling for the is still difficult, they are often controlled. This means that their social life is risky and they tend to bring themselves to conflict or negative issues.

I'm a believer, it's a trial

Foolish and weaker, oh, oh, oh

I'd rather save an angel now

I'm a believer, it's chaos

Where are our leaders?

Based on the lyrics above, it is shown that the era of teenagers is urgent for saving them very soon. They need to be accompanied and given control. There should be control from parents, government, brother or sisters so that they will be having brighter future. The fact nowadays is they are not in the right track.

Getting to know teenager from an early age becomes something important in the process of educating children. Being close to them is one of the conditions for them to be open to their parents, to talk about what they have experienced and felt without having an awkward feeling to their mother and father as parents.

Oh, oh, oh

I'd rather save an angel down

Doesn't everyone belong

In the arms of the sacred

Why do we pretend we're wrong?

Has our young courage faded?

Because it is not uncommon for teenagers to keep their distance, especially their privacy about daily activities that they consider important, but actually have a big impact on their future. As parents, sometimes they do not always know what their son or daughter want and do in their relationships. Especially as an early teenager (adolescence) who has many desires. But we don't need to worry about that, establishing two-way communication is the best solution to find out most of them.

Shots were fired on the street

By the church where we used to meet

Angel down, angel down

Why do people just stand around?

The lyric above is the songwriter's way to sound a voice about a need to save teenagers. An angel's presence is desired, seeming like there is no other solution, but actually because the problem is already very massive.

I'm a believer, it's a trial

Foolish and weaker, oh, oh, oh

I'd rather save an angel down

I'm a believer, it's chaos

Where are our leaders?

Oh,...

The writer of the song explicitly call the leaders, who can be government, parents or those people who get touched to change the situation become better.

5. CONCLUSION

Having researched about moral values in Lady Gaga's Selected Songs, the writer wants to conclude several points: There are four songs that full contain moral values. Those song lyrics entitled *Born This Way*

(2011) morally tells about originality that needs to be sustained by human, that everyone has born in their own uniqueness. There is no need to kill the real own self model only to please the world and follow the trends coming. Til It Hapens To You (2015) is a song sung by Lady Gaga to express he pain of women who become the victims of violation and sexual assault, that reminding that the same fact will no happen to those who bully and discriminate those women, *Grigio Girls* (2016) is composed to describe the mental strength of female friends who got cancer and how they keep sustaining their life without giving up on the chronic disease they suffer. And Angel Down (2007) is about abuse of teenager, comes from the experience when a teenager was shot by neighbour, implying there is no care and protection to teens in their period of growth to future maturity.

The moral values contained in the four songs of Lady Gaga are value of social moral, individual moral and religious moral. Born This Way (2011) mainly gives religious moral about God's creation is unable to be changed, Til It Happens To You (2015) is mainly about social moral that women needs to appreciated and respected, Grigio Girls (2016) delivers individual moral that tells that each individual needs to be strong and brave to face even hardest phase in life in this case cancer as acute disease, and Angel Down (2007) conveys social moral value with its concern to teenagers that needs to be given special attention in family and society.

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