

## **SOCIAL CLASS AND REBELLION IN GEORGE ORWELL'S 1984**

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### **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini menganalisa tentang penggambaran kelas sosial di novel George Orwell 1984. Diskusi akan berfokus pada bagaimana penggambaran kelas sosial dan kelas sosial sebagai pemicu pemberontakan yang dilakukan oleh Winston Smith sebagai tokoh utama di dalam novel. Winston Smith sebagai anggota partai yang bekerja untuk Big Brother ingin memberontak secara diam-diam. Winston tidak sendirian, dia bertemu dengan Julia yang memiliki keinginan yang sama seperti Winston. Merujuk pada masalah ini, tesis ini menguraikan dua masalah mengenai : (1) Penggambaran kelas sosial di novel 1984 dan (2) Kelas sosial memicu pemberontakan Winston. Artikel ini menggunakan teori pendukung Marxis oleh Karl Marx dan rebellion.

**Kata kunci** : Pemberontakan, Marxis oleh Karl Marx, kelas sosial

### **Abstract**

This study analyzes the depiction of social class in George Orwell's 1984 novel. The discussion will focus on how the depiction of social class and social class as a trigger for rebellion by Winston Smith as the main character in the novel. Winston Smith as a party member who works for Big Brother wants to rebel secretly. Winston is not alone; he meets Julia who has the same desire as Winston. Referring to the problem, this thesis explains two problems about: (1) The depiction of social class in the 1984 novel and (2) Social class triggers Winston's rebellion. This article uses the supporting theory of Marxism by Karl Marx and rebellion

**Key words**: Rebellion, Marxism by Karl Marx, social class

## **INTRODUCTION**

A social class is a lot of ideas in the sociologies and political hypothesis on models of social separation which happens in class society, in which individuals are gathered into a lot of various leveled social categories, the most well-known the upper, center and lower classes.

The highest social class is held by the upper class where it holds full power and has the authority to employ the lower class where workers are not paid well according to the labor they spend and the products they produced, then in the middle class, usually the middle class is the workers or the slum, and the last is the lowest class consisting of people who are not educated and not working. Marx divide the social type of ownership. This leads to the three massive lessons of current society based totally upon the capitalist mode of production" (Marx, 1865, p.885). These are the proprietors of labor-power (workers, or working class), proprietors of capital (capitalists) and proprietors of land. Their sources of earnings are wages, earnings and floor rent. It would appear from this that supply of earnings determines what social type an individual belongs to. However, there is a trouble of identifying sources of earnings with each

consistency and accuracy (Rikowski, 2001, pp.3-4). From this division of social classes there is an injustice which causes a rebellion both individually and in groups.

Rebellion itself is an act of refusing to be obedient to the orders of established authority. People start the rebellion because they feel that the political system and the government are not suited for them. The purpose of some rebellions is to replace the existing government with the new government, obviously with their ideal government.

Some novels adopt rebellion against the government and their political system as the theme. One of them is Nineteen Eighty-Four, often published as 1984 by George Orwell. It is a dystopian-theme novel published in 1949. The story was plotted in London, the capital city of Airstrip One, which is part of Oceania. Oceania is in war, against Eurasia, the other two great power blocks. Oceania's residents that dictated by a regime named English Socialism or "Ingsoc" in Newspeak. The Oceania is divided into three ruling class. They are Inner Party, the upper-class who controls the minority; Outer Party, the middle-class who works for Inner Party; and Proletariat, the lower class who is considered as uneducated and working class. The Oceania is under the control privileged

group, the group is Inner Party. It persecutes individualism and impartial thinking regarded as "thoughtcrimes" and is enforced by using the "Thought Police".

The authority is Big Brother, The Party chief who consistently force the individualism. The Party picks up the force for the wellbeing of their own and not inspired by the benefit of other people. Oceania has four services which are Ministry of Truth, Ministry of Love, Ministry of Peace, and Ministry of Plenty.

The novel tells about Winston Smith's rebellion against Big Brother and The Party. Winston Smith is the main character and the protagonist one. He is a member of the Outer Party; he works for the Ministry of Truth. Winston's Job is to rewrite the past historical record, so in the present, those historical record support the Party's agenda. Winston is a diligent and skillful worker, but he secretly hates the Party and try to betray and rebel against Big Brother. The Party's methods are creating fear and maintaining fear. In effect, fear leads into hatred for Winston, and his rebellion is motivated by the hatred against The Party (Rissanen, 2014). His rebellion is companied by Julia, the dark-haired girl from the Fiction Department. Later, they fall in love to each other and start their allegiance against Big Brother and The Party. Winston and Julia confess to O'Brien, which is a member of the Inner Party and their rebellion friend. After Winston and Julia were captured in the room over the shop by the Thought Police. They were placed in the Ministry of Love where they are being tortured. O'Brien, far from Winston expectation, he becomes the main torturer for Winston, breaking him in body and spirit. He is arrested in Room 101 the room that can be called the worst thing in the world. He screams frantically, he thinks that Julia must be responsibility to take the punishment. (Coleman, 2005)

George Orwell is English novelist, He was born on June 25, 1903, in Motahari, India. Border with a real name Eric Arthur Blair. The Blair family lived a middle-class lifestyle, that back to England in 1907, when Eric was eight years old. He obsessed to be a writer since he was young. he studied diligently to enter his favorite college. Eric used to be no longer specially fascinated in exerting himself academically, until it was once towards a purpose he had chosen. To this end, he spent a great deal of his time studying the works of British authors, and much less time finishing the required academics. His work is marked by way of lucid prose, become the opposition to totalitarianism, Orwell wrote literary criticism, poetry, fiction, and polemical journalism. He is high-quality recognized for the allegorical novella *Animal Farm* (1945) and the dystopian novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949).

In this study, there are points which will be discussed the social class depiction and the trigger Winston smith start the rebellion because of social class. Because it deals with social class and rebellion, the theory that will be used is Marxism by Karl Marx.

## METHOD

The approach used is objective or textual data collection technique is close reading. The source of the study is *Nineteen Eighty Four* the novel. The data are taken from the quotation, and dialog in *Nineteen Eighty Four* novel. The steps to conduct this study are: 1) Reading, 2) Quoting, and 3) Classifying based on the proposed questions. The technique of data analysis is interpretation. The steps of data analysis are: 1) initiating and deciding the statement of problems, 2) giving quotations to prove the problem, 3) analyzing the problem in analysis that is reinforced with theoretical framework, and 4) concluding the result of the findings.

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The first previous study that will be used in this study is a thesis written by Kristoffer Rissanen entitled *Nineteen Eighty-Four and the Ideology of Hate* (2014). Kristoffer's essay is focused on ideology of hate. Hate is often born from fear. For some people hate is used to gain power and it allows to make an ideology. Hatred is not only the Party ideology, but also motivating Winston Smith rebellion. Winston is forced to join the two minutes hates and its triggers his hatred toward the big brother by triggers some feeling and his hates is changed from unconscious to conscious. (Rissanen, 2014)

The second previous study that will be used is an essay written by Dr. Julia Rochtchina entitled *Zamyatin and Orwell: A comparative analysis of WE and 1984*. In 1921, Yevgeny Zamyatin composed the world's first tragic sci-fi novel, *We*. A book of high acumen and analogy, "We" would end up being an enduring and all-inclusive novel that analyzed the generally new Bolshevik Revolution. Twenty after eight years another tragic novel showed up, this time composed by the English essayist George Orwell. 1984 would end up being the more renowned of the two, giving new jargon to a world reeling from the Second World War and panicked of the approaching "Red Threat." In both *We* and 1984, works of "anticipated political fiction," sex supposedly has innately progressive potential. The two books speak to guideline and constraint of sexual want as an essential piece of their particular extremist social orders. Free sexual articulation is contrary with the tyrant systems of the Benefactor and Big Brother. Both of these books are innately connected; one must recognize the obligation that Orwell owes to Zamyatin, if for only than the formation of tragic sci-fi as a kind. The two books share comparable topics and thought processes: both view the final product of dictator systems as fundamentally terrible to the quest for bliss, and both expect a disappointment with respect to the basic (Rochtchina, 2012)

## THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

### 1. Marxism by Karl Marx

Marxism By Karl Marx Was The Most significant studies of all communism. His life was committed to radical political movement. Marx asserts that the 'species-being' of Man comprises in labor, and that Man is distanced to the degree that work is performed by a division of work that is directed by the market. In social orders before the happening to communism, this involves the division of society into opposing classes. Classes are separated by what makes them capable or incapable. As a rule, to the degree that a class can fitting excess without paying for it is supposed to be a misusing class. Despite the fact that the misusing classes have unique access to the methods for viciousness, abuse isn't commonly a matter of the utilization of power. In free enterprise, for instance, abuse flows from the manner by which the methods for creation are possessed secretly and work is purchased and sold simply like some other ware. (Rosen, 1998)

For Marx, the significant attribute of capitalism is the detachment between proprietors of the methods for creation and non – proprietors. The trade among entrepreneur and specialist brings about the bartering of wages (Tamuno, 1999 and Harvey 1999). Work is the physical measure of work time consumed during creation. This is the theoretical work and is contrary to solid work which is work as a rule, disconnected from the type of the action.

This fact expresses merely that the object which labor produces, labor's product, confronts it as something, as an independent power of producer" (Marx 1968a: 512). Through the alienation of employees of their labor, the laborer generates an alien, objectified world for himself and turns into internally impoverished. In order to survive, the employee need to produce items thru the utilization of the property of others and therefore (Christ, 2015)

The exterior personality of labor is no longer section of human nature and not generate non secular and bodily energy. This kind of labor is intrinsically alien to the employee and is now not practiced or affirmed for the duration of entertainment periods. To the worker, it is "forced labor" (Marx 1968a: 514), "It is consequently no longer the delight of a need, it is basically a capability to fulfill desires exterior to it. "For Karl Marx, the human is a species-being. In distinction to animals, people act in their very own interests, however additionally in the direction of their personality. To Marx, the human is a social being, created as a representational human being. Labor and productive lifestyles - freely practiced - is for Marx no longer simply a capability of self-sufficiency however quintessential genus way of life (Thompson 1979: 24). The fourth dimension of alienation is a direct outcome of the different three dimensions of alienation, in precise the 1/3 structure of alienation: "In fact, the proposition that man's species-nature is estranged from

him ability that one man is estranged from the other, as every of them is from man's fundamental nature" (Marx 1968a: 514). Labor, human potential, and the genus way of life come to be the capability of self-preservation. Just as human interrelationship turns into a capability alternatively than a stop it itself, so are persons alienated from one another. As a end result of alienated labor, the relationship of human beings in the direction of products, production, and different people is self-reproducing (Marx 1968a: 514)

### 2. Rebellion

Rebellion is undertaken motion to change the authorities in a country or to secede from the kingdom to shape a new one. (Hashmi, 1998) Exploitation is the indispensable supply of classification combat and revolt in Marx's theory, no longer financial development. In Marx's terms, classification exploitation refers to the expropriation of surplus price from its producers. (Terry Boswell, 1993)

Rebellions are an imperative, not an adequate motive of a revolution's success. Rebellions are uncommon, however rebellions that overthrow the country and radically change the social shape are even rarer. More effective rebellions must be extra successful; however, the rise up is solely one factor of a revolution, the different element being resistance with the aid of the state. The vulnerability of the nation is affected by using its strength, interior divisions, and overseas entanglements, a concern that has been the focal point of current research (Terry Boswell, 1993)

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 1. The depiction of social class in *1984*

In this section, the analysis will focus on how social class is depicted in *1984*. In the novel, George Orwell stated that everything in Oceania is ruled by Big Brother, he was depicted as a forty-five-year-old male with a thick black mustache and a handsome man. Posters of his face are affixed to every corner of the city with slogans "BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU". With a sharp and intimidating look almost, everyone felt fear and pressure as if they were always being watched by big brother. Big brother holds the highest power among social classes, he is at the peak of power and rules everything. The society itself is divided into three social class which are Inner party, Outer party and the proles.

The Inner party is the elite member below big brother who rules minority. They are more educated and the number of the members is only two percent of the population. Inner party have a privilege to ignore the rules such as turning off the telescreen and directly commanding the outer party. Quiet opposite to the inner party, the outer

party live in the dark places apartment and they were ceilings and must work till night to fulfill the inner party desire. The last one is the proles; they are very different. The inner party call them animals and almost half of the Oceania populations are the proles. They don't need to be watched all the time because they only think about how to fulfill their needs. As subordinates to the Inner Party members, the Outer Party are assigned to the 4 ministries, the place they have to work day and night time at what is pretty the contrary to what the titles of their ministries suggest. "The Ministry of Peace worries itself with war, the Ministry of Truth with lies, the Ministry of love with torture, and the Ministry of Plenty with hunger (Orwell, 1949, p.7).

Below Big Brother is the Inner Party. Its less than 2 per cent population in Oceania. Under the Inner Party is the Outer Party. The Inner Party is described as the brain. Under both Inner and Outer are the proles which is 85 per cent of the population. In the terms of our earlier classification, the proles are the Low, for the slave population of the equatorial lands who pass constantly from conqueror to conqueror, are not a permanent or necessary part of the structure. In principle, membership of these three groups. (Orwell, 1949, p.263).

All logistical needs of party members are provided by "BIG BROTHER" but there is no guarantee of appropriate food and drink. Party members are also prohibited from going to stores to buy equipment that is not obtained from the party. To go to the shop, he had to be vigilant and look around that he was safe to enter the shop, even it is dangerous Winston still doing it because some of these things were important enough to him, like a razor blade and shoelaces.

He crossed the room into the tiny kitchen. By leaving the Ministry at this time of day he had sacrificed his lunch in the canteen, and he was aware that there was no food in the kitchen except a hunk of dark-colored bread which had got to be saved for tomorrow's breakfast. He took down from the shelf a bottle of colorless liquid with a plain white label marked VICTORY GIN. It gave off a sickly, oily smell, as of Chinese rice-spirit. Winston poured out nearly a teacupful, nerved himself for a shock, and gulped it down like a dose of medicine. Instantly (Orwell, 1949, p.7)

The same things happened with Mrs. Person, The wife of neighbor in the same floor. She is the wife from Winston friend's Mr. Parson. Every day Winston was asked to help fixing the blocked drains, as usual the smell of boiled cabbage was fragrant every time Winston entered his residence and like other families that was all they could get. They live in old buildings that every building seems to want to collapse. She had two children's that always act like police thoughts who always interrogate every person. Winston imagined how horrified "With those children, he thought, that wretched woman must lead a life of terror.

Another year, two years, and they would be watching her night and day for symptoms of unorthodoxy. Nearly all children nowadays were horrible" (Orwell, 1949, p. 31). She live with two young children but possessing very dangerous thoughts, maybe someday they could accuse his mother of double think and report it to the police thought, no wonder they could be as scary as that, because every week there was always a show of hanging people in the city hall, that seen by child into adult.

Mrs. Parsons, the wife of a neighbor on the same building that Winston stay. She was a woman of about thirty, but looks older than she is. One had the impression that there was dust in the creases of her face. Winston followed her down the passage. These amateur repair jobs were an almost daily irritation. Victory Mansions were old flats, built in 1930 or thereabouts, and were falling. (Orwell, 1949, p. 26)

The last depiction is about the proles. They are low social class who live in poor conditions and uneducated. The party claim that they were saved from bondage which made them starved and flogged, women had been forced to work in the coal mines, children had been sold into the factories at the age of six. But Winston doubt it because everything seems blurry no one knows about the past and what happened to them before. This situation make Winston think about rebellion, how if they just realized if they treated like an animal.

There is a hope that could be the proles can do it. The proles were dominated the population in Oceania, they just unconscious that they were fooled by the Big Brother (Orwell, 1949, p.89).

## **2.Social class trigger Winston smith rebellion**

This section will focus on how social class triggers Winston smith rebellion. There is some triggers that makes Winston start to rebel, First is two minutes hates that always held in the morning, The desire to fulfill his lust and the depiction of the proles live that unfair and the last thing is he meet Julia who have same vision to rebel the party.

Every morning before the work start the outer party always gathered and forced to watch the telescreen that shows the face of Emma Goldstein who depicted as Eurasian soldier. "It was nearly eleven hundred, and in the Records Department, where Winston worked, they were dragging the chairs out of the cubicles and grouping them in the center of the hall opposite the big telescreen" (Orwell, 1949, p.13). Accompanied by Big brother's voice and screaming in the background the event is more dramatic and every people in the room start to hysteric and cussing Emma Goldstein as a traitor every time his face is flashing in the screen. this activity called "*Two minutes hates*".

Unconsciously Winston act like the others in the room, he starts to scream and shout at Emma Goldstein. Winston can't avoid this section but he realizes this section was held by inner party through the thought police. Everything seems blurry for Winston, which one is right because the only thing Winston knew about Goldstein was a commander of shadowy army and he sentenced to death by Big brother, he wrote the book of his rebellion and Big brother command all the party member to avoid his book that called "*THE BOOK*". At the end of two minutes hates, suddenly the undirected emotional to Goldstein turn into Big brother.

" Thus, at one moment Winston's hatred was not turned against Goldstein at all, but, on the contrary, against Big Brother, the Party, and the Thought Police; and at such moments his heart went out to the lonely, derided heretic on the screen, sole guardian of truth and sanity in a world of lies" (Orwell, 1949, p.19).

The passage above explain that Big brother try to brain washed the outer party by using the figure of Goldstein as their biggest enemy without them knowing whether or not. But they don't realize one of the party members Winston, succeeded changing his anger towards Goldstein. Hate is born from fear, and this fear can be manipulating someone doing something that out of his mind. Fear and hatred have played their role in the of history, The Party's methods of maintaining fear will be examined, as well as how fear leads to hatred (Kristoffer rissanen, 2014). he transferred his anger at girl who he saw was very beautiful and never touched. Because the party's rules also forbid sex between fellow outer parties and there is also an anti-sex league.

Since that incident Winston always watched the girl without realizing that the girl also enthroned Winston. Every time two minutes hate was held, they were gazed each other until one day the girl gave a piece of paper that contained "I know that your name is Winston" Winston was surprised how he could know his name. Every time Winston went to a shop to look for something the girl always followed him, Winston thought he was police thought. Winston had a plan to kill him on a quiet street but he did not have the guts until when she entered the shop and greeted him. How shocked Winston, the girl came in and told her that this shop you visited often had rooms above and that was my hideout and my name was Julia. Since that time, they often met in stores and they were in a secret relationship. They spend time together in the upper room of the shop Mr. Charrington. Julia also has the same interests as Winton to rebel, Julia is not happy with all the rules that exist in the party. Sexuality makes a center point for a wide range of connection among them and then make the chance of rebel against the severe idea of the middle which in such manner is the gathering. It needs to wreck "The sex sense" that is opening up the chance of revolutionaries like Winston and Julia. The personality of Julia is an example of the hypocrisy which orders the

lifestyles of these residents who no longer absolutely brainwashed by means of the propaganda, have discovered religious refuge in the back of the masks of social conformity. Pretending to be a fanatically loyal adherent of the Party line, Julia harbors an excessive internal hatred of the total Oceanic system, mainly of its puritanical sexual morality. Through the control of relationships and sexual needs, the gathering goes about as a moderate strict association that promises to make reproduction as an a ware which can be purchased by endorsed proportion cards and the gathering claims that in any point in future, they will "annul the climax" (Orwell, 1949, p. 228). All together not to wake the association between hot sex and purity that makes personal sympathetic relationship and the political rebellion which the gathering thinks from its universal practice the harsh model of conventionality has been present in Oceania (Orwell, 1949, p. 119). To the gathering sex is a demonstration of defiant punishment for the inside. The Big Brother as a picture fills in as inverse of sex really taking shape of an upstanding country brimming with willing non-sexual members. For Winston the revolt or the voices inside him are not really defiant yet in addition, they are others conscious in light of the fact that he needs to feel the human experience both as a natural and political substance. Michele Foucault remarks on the freedom of sexual practices in the wake of the as the "time direct signals, indecent talk, and open offenses. it was a period when "bodies made showcase of themselves.

The untreated proletarian scene Winston used to see when he walked down the street, he felt sorry until one day he saw a crowd of mothers who screamed for a good pan, they were jealous because they did not get a stockpile of pan in good condition. Because good frying pans are only accepted Some of them and others get dented pans, the housewife's screams and beating their pans to the ground protesting the unfair distribution of pans. Winston thinks that how if people began to realize to rebel with the number of them which is very much, they can bully a few inner party members.

When he reached the spot, he sees a mob of two or three hundred women crowding round the stalls of a street market, just for a moment, the frightening power had sounded from only a few hundred throats! Why was it that they could never shout like that about anything that mattered? (Orwell, 1949, p. 90)

The passage above shows how the proletariat unconsciously rebelled against the big brother, only their sense of hatred was small and trivial. They need a figure to lead their hatred to be big and directed. Marxism perspective social class and imbalance develops on the grounds that the social structure depends on struggle and logical inconsistencies. Logical inconsistencies in interests and strife over rare assets between bunches is the establishment of social society, as per the social clash hypothesis (Engels and Marx, 1848).

## CONCLUSION

1984 by George Orwell has become something that has a special place in reader's heart especially for oppressed people. It is a story about braveness, hope, and proof from those who are oppressed. They proved to the world that among the harshest there were light at the end of the long and dark tunnel. They believed that their hard work and talent could take them out of sorrow and brought them to victory. There are two statements of problems dealing with the novel. The first point is the depiction of social class in 1984. The second point is Social class trigger Winston smith rebellion. Based on the findings and data analysis, there are two points as the conclusion in this study.

The first point focuses on analyzing the social class depiction in 1984. Winston Smith as the outer party member of the big brother getting an unfair treatment even though he joined the party he did not get his rights as a worker. He is required to fulfill the inner party's wishes. He was forced to work in a dark cell until late at night. To get decent food is very difficult. In fact, the Prole is more suffering, they only live for their children, fulfill their daily needs and to get cooking utensils they have to scramble. The prole doesn't even know how the logistic really are, they were given false logistic data.

The second point focuses on analyzing social class trigger Winston smith rebellion. The things that start Winston rebellion is two minutes hates that held in every morning before the work start. The party always using Emma Goldstein as a traitor figure, and he switch his anger toward the girl he saw beautiful and untouched. From that moment the girl is paying attention and start to watch Winston and they are meet in the store that belong to the girl, the girl name is Julia. They share their feelings together and share their desire about rebel the party.

## SUGGESTION

At last, hopefully there are more researches and studies that discuss 1984 as data sources. 1984 is a novel that rich of topic discussion based on the Winston smith lives that oppressed by Big brother. There are more issues such as woman role as the rebellion complement that can be discussed for the future researchers

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