A Literature Analysis Of Ambition Of Jordan Belfort In The Wolf Of Wall Street Movie Directed By Martin Scorsese

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Abstract - Movie as a set of motion pictures which is not only functioned as an approach to entertain people, but also a good way to enrich their lives by its implied messages. The objective of this research is to analyze the ambition of a main character in movie The Wolf of Wall Street, focused on how to achieve and negative effect of its ambitions and use qualitative exposure. As a result of the analysis, it can be seen that the ambition to get a lot of money, which is achieved by running an illegal business by the main character. The negative effect of ambition is shown by the failure to maintain the business and to loss of happiness. While some major moral messages contained in the film are thinking before acting to consider the consequences and be honest in running a business.

Keywords: Movie, Main Character, Ambition, Effect of Ambition

I. INTRODUCTION

Literature is a verbal or written works that have various characteristics such as originality, artistry, beauty in content and expression. In literature there are also descriptions of various events, the psychological picture, and the various dynamics of problem solving. It can be a source of ideas and inspiration for readers. Conflicts and tragedies depicted in literary works will bring awareness to the reader that it can happen in real life and experienced directly by the reader. There are many kinds of literature, such as poetry, novel, autobiography and many other fiction or nonfiction works. Another kind of literature is movie. Movie, also known as film, is a type of visual communication which use moving pictures and sound to tell stories. People in every part of the world watch movies as a type of entertainment, a way to have fun. For some people, fun movies can mean movies that make them laugh, while for others it can mean movies that make them cry, or feel afraid. Most movies are made so that they can be shown on big screens at cinemas or movie theatres. After movies are shown on movie screens for a period of time, movies are shown on pay television or cable television, and sold or rented on DVD disks or videocassette tapes, so that people can watch the movies at home. There are many genres of movie such as action, adventure, animated, comedies, horror, romantic, science fiction, fantasy, etc.

In the movie, there is a story played by actor and actress. The actor and actress can make the audience become interested, gets the feeling of the story, and can feel as though entered into the story and lost in the story, can cry when sad scene and laugh out loud when the scene is funny. It means that character in literary work can be described in several ways. At the end of the movie, the director usually has a message to be delivered to the audience related to the real life. It is intended to make the audience does not feel useless because of watching the movies.

Like, in The Wolf of Wall Street movie, there is a main character that has a very ambitious character. A positive ambition will give goodness, but negative ambition will give problem for someone. And in this movie, the main character has a negative ambition. An ambition makes him get many problems.

A. The Definition of Psychology

The behavior is the result of human mindset. The mindset will greatly affect the expectations and goals. In the modern era, thought patterns can be studied and modified. And the study of the human mind and behavior is psychology.

According to Johnston (2009:4), “Psychology is the science of human nature. It’s all about studying the human mind and behavior so that we can figure out why people think, feel, and do what they do. How do we fall in love, communicate with each other, solve problems, and learn new things.” It means, in this case, all human nature can be studied more deeply. A science can be studied in the human soul, mind, and its nature. A psychologist can find out about what is being thought up by someone and what they are feeling. A psychologist can describe or explain the contents of someone's mind, about his personality, about how to solve the problem. Human thinking it was very spacious and different, and ways of thinking that will determine the goal of human life. With more study it in, we can predict what, when and how we will do something and we can change the parts of human behavior that cause us pain.
Benson (2007:05) explained, “Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behavior of humans and animals.” In other word, psychology is the study of the way of thinking and behavior of humans and animals in depth. How to think someone can be known only by observing the facial expression. Animal behavior was also recognizable by humans; therefore man can love and treat animals as desired animals without communications. In addition, every behavior and character can also be read by a psychologist.

Cherry (2010:02) stated, “Psychology is a science, which means that scientific methods, experiments, and statistics are used to find objective evidence to back up its claim.” That means, in the psychology of the necessary scientific method, experiment and statistics, because the results must be accurate. Research in psychology can be carried out repeatedly and over a long period. It takes accurate results because the science of psychology must be substantiated. In his observations required precision and accuracy.

In addition, Cash (2010:08) stated, “Psychology is a branch of knowledge that focuses on people, either as individuals or in groups.” It means that, science devoted to learn not only about human behavior but also about the human mind and about his habit as well. In this case, which studied only focus on the way people thought individually or in a group.

From all those previous statement, it can conclude that definition Psychology is scientific study of human and animal behavior and mental processes with the purpose to be achieve and can understanding, predicting, and how to control the behavior so as not to be bad either for ourselves, family and environment.

B. The Definition of Ambition

Everyone dreams about achieving goals and dreams in life that is nearly impossible to grasp due to certain circumstances. You may spend your whole life striving for a dream or goal that you have. You work so hard in getting what you think you really want, but when you actually achieved and accomplished you goal or dream. You realized that you’re not happy and lost certain things that are so much more important to you then your so called dream or goal.

Champy and Nohria (2008:233) stated, “Ambition is power stuff, capable of propelling a fast rise or a calamitous fall, and those propelled by it are wise to examine their ends as thoroughly as they make use of their means.” In other words, ambition can make a person to success if the right way. However, the person is destroyed, if achieved using a greedy manner.

Bridge (2010:04) stated, “Ambition is the desire to make the most of your potential to achieve something special, which would make a profound difference to your life and to those of others, whether that is through success, achievement or distinction.” It means that, everyone must have the desire to be achieved, the desire to be better in a certain field, for example in a career or studies. This desire can be realized with success or achievement. Success will make a person proud and complacent.

In addition, Bridge (2010:04) also stated, “Ambition spells the difference between those who are content to let random circumstance determine their journey through life, and those who would like to have a say in where they end up.” In other word, a person's right to determine the course of his life, there is someone who has a passion to build a better future with ambition owned. Ambition will encourage someone to keep thinking ahead. But otherwise, there is someone who does not have an ambition and let his life flowing with what it is, even messy.

According to the theories above, it can conclude that ambition is the best quality anyone can have, until we crossed the line of chasing a dream and just being obsessed. No one is born with the ambition that makes you obsessed with your goals and dreams in life. Certain incidents must occur to push this person to let ambition make you become obsessed with the goals and dreams in life. Although sometimes ambition is often interpreted negatively, but in fact there is not a negative ambition, just how to achieve that need to be repaired. Ambition will lead one to the final destination or the success, if achieved with sincerity. However, someone who is not good at managing ambition will be destroyed along with their dreams.

C. Types of Ambition

According to Levy (2010:7) explained that there are 3 types of ambition, such as:

1. **Substantive ambition**

   Where owner/managers have the highest level of personal ambition for business growth (ten out often on a Likert scale) and where they intend to grow their business to a point where it is significantly larger than its current size.

2. **Low ambition**

   Where owner/managers have a low level of personal business growth ambition (seven or lower on a Likert scale) and state they are not intending to grow their organization and view the ideal size of their business as being no higher than current size. Respondents were also included in the low ambition category if they scored themselves five or lower on a Likert scale regardless of their responses to the other questions.

3. **Moderate ambition**

   Where other owner/managers will fit into the substantive ambition category or the low ambition category is such individuals might
display high levels of ambition for growth but are not intending to act on that ambition, or they might be intending to grow their business but have low levels of ambition for growth.

It could be said that, there are three different types of ambition, the first person tried hard to realize his great ambition. Second, someone had enough for what he has owned no ambition for anything else. Third, someone has an ambition but unwilling hard to make it happen.

According to Judge (2010:19) explained that there are 5 types of ambition, such as:
1. Low Ambition
2. Very Limited Ambition
3. Moderately Ambitious
4. Very Ambitious
5. High Ambition

Ambition has several types and each human being has a different type. Different types of human ambition depend on the goals of each human being.

From all those previous statement above, it can conclude that ambition has many different types. Some people are very ambitious in realizing their dreams. But on the other hand, someone has the ambition but not excited to make it happen. It is important to have ambition because ambition which drives a person to achieve career goals. Without ambition, someone seems does not like to do anything. Typically, people who have ambition will try to make the results of their job according to certain standards, not carelessly completed, carelessly fast or carelessly chasing deadlines. However, you need to have restrictions on their ambitions, namely taking into account the environmental, moral values and norms around, ethics, and the condition of your own.

Bride (2010:09) stated, “By taking the time now to think hard about what your ambition looks like, you can dramatically improve your chances of success before you even start.” Before start to achieve the ambition, identify the ambition to be achieved. What steps should be taken and when to start. All must be setup with clear thinking.

According to Bride (2010:09), gives statement about six essential ingredients to achieve the ambition, such as:
1. Your ambition should be big
2. Your ambition should be measurable
3. Your ambition should be personal
4. Your ambition should make a difference
5. Your ambition should be achievable
6. Your ambition should be something you really, really want to do

Before start to achieve the ambition make sure that the ambition is measurable. Make sure that the ambition is something you love, because achieve something which is loved will be easier and more enjoyable.

As cited from Gregory (2009), who gives statement about How to Achieve the Ambition on http://www.sitepoint.com/tips-to-help-you-achieve-goals/ 10 ways to achieve the ambition, such as:

1. **Make a Commitment**
   - Goals require commitment and dedication. There’s no other way around it. If you are struggling with committing to a specific goal, go back and start the process over. You may not have identified the goal just right, or you may be lacking the necessary motivation to see it through.

2. **Keep Track of Your Progress**
   - Just as it’s important to put all of your goals down on paper, it’s equally important to track your progress. You can do this with a goal tracking worksheet, a goal management tool or a method of your own. The key is to regularly check-in on your goal progress and take note of where you are and where you need to go before your next check-in.

3. **Break It Down**
   - It’s good to have big and very ambitious goals, but many times, you can make them more attainable and realistic by breaking them down. A set of five smaller goals that will get you to your ambitious goal can be a lot more manageable and a lot less overwhelming.

4. **Get Help**
   - You may need external support to accomplish your goals, or maybe you are struggling with the commitment factor and need someone to hold you accountable. While your goals may be personal to you, that doesn’t mean you have to do it alone. If you need help, support or just a cheerleader, ask someone your trust.

5. **Be Willing to Revisit and Revise**
   - Your regular goal check-in process is the perfect time to consider if the path you’re taking to accomplish your goals is valid. You may find that you have more clarity after you’ve outlined your goal. It’s okay to make changes and modifications, as long as they support what you set out to do.

6. **Keep Your Eye on the Prize**
   - Thinking about the big picture is important, especially with long-term goals. While there will be times when you’ll be so focused on working to move forward that you may not consider the end result, it’s necessary to take time to think about where you’re going. Envisioning your success can help keep you motivated.

7. **Be Consistent**
   - Consistency and routine can play an important role in reaching your goals. Be consistent when
you have progress check-ins, how you track your advancement, and how and when you focus on your goals. The more routine you can make the process; the easier it will be to keep going.

8. Let Your Goals Grow Up
Life changes and so will your goals. You may have a few long-term goals that span the next few years, but if you consider them set in stone, you may miss out on modifying your plan to fit current business, lifestyle and societal changes. In order to keep your goals relevant and realistic, let them change and grow as you do the same.

9. Focus on Positive Thinking
As cliché as it may be positive thinking can empower you to reach success. If you consistently think negatively, you may be sabotaging your entire goal process. Positive thinking and self-affirming mantras really can get you through the most challenging parts of reaching your goals.

10. Celebrate Every Success
You can’t expect yourself to work steadily toward a goal without any type of reward along the way. Not only is that bad for your morale, but it can diminish the power of the entire process. Take time to celebrate every success for every goal, no matter how big or small. It will build your confidence and commitment and make it easier to keep pushing to reach those large-scale future goals.

When achieving the ambition, the important thing is make commitment with you. In order to keep the focus on the original purpose, and does not easily give up when faced with obstacles. From all the preceded theories, it can be concluded that to achieve an ambition make sure that these ambitions make sense. Confident in every step, do not give up when faced with failure and remain focused on the goal. Always think positive, confident that ambition can be achieved. When ambition is achieved, celebrate successes to reward hard work.

D. The Effect of Ambition
Being successful is a great pride for everyone in this competitive world. Presently, being ambitious is supposed to be necessary in order to accomplish success by some proportion of people.

According to Harvey (2010:140) stated, “With ambition comes failure. Small ambitions can lead to small failures, like the new recipe resulted in a culinary disaster. Large ambitions open the door to bigger disasters.” In other words, the ambition is closely connected with disaster. An ambition that cannot be achieved will bring disaster. The strength of disaster is as strong as the strength in achieving the ambition.

According to Judge (2010:31) stated, “Ambition is like a gulf, everything is swallowed up in it and buried; beside the dangerous consequences of it” It means that, Ambition can make a person just focus to achieve it. So, when a person fails to achieve these ambitions, all hope would be gone. The consequence is a person will feel lost all hope and feel does not have anything.

According to the theories above, it can be concluded that ambition can lead to disaster for someone. Also may have a negative impact on a person. In life, when the ambition cannot be achieved, they will feel lost all hope.

E. Definition of Character
A movie has a wide range of characters that complement each other so that it can give a conflict, plot, as well as the development of the story as desired story maker, although, the development of many movies displays only one or two characters throughout the duration.

According to Farmer, et all (2007:59), “Character is the combination of qualities and attributes (traits) that make one person different from others.” Someone who has a different character with others seen from a variety of behavior that make a person look very different from those around. In the movie, each character has a different character from the others. The difference makes a story interesting.

Stanford (2006:34) stated that character-whose lives unfold before us. To stay interested in a movie, a novel, a short story, or a play. We must find the characters interesting in some way. Sometimes characters may capture our mind and hearts because they are people we can relate to. They may face circumstances similar to our own or may act in way that make us feel as though we are looking in a mirror.

It can be said that a story in the movie would not be interesting if played by a character that is not appropriate. The audience will be carried in the movie, if the character's success played a role. A character is assigned to convey a story with a full appreciation. So the story in the movie can steal the attention of the audience.

According to Baldick (2008:37) stated, “Character is a personage in a narrative or dramatic work, also of sketch briefly describing some recognizable type of person.” In other word, a character has the task to describe a behavior and habits of each missing figures. Dramatize a feeling of deep, sad, happy, angry that make the audience emotionally drained.

From all the theories above, it can be concluded that character is someone who is different from the real world and able to liven up the story in a literary work. Acting with the heart, will let the audience feel cheated his emotions. A character in a literary work is a key element of the success story and it can lead the audience to join into the story. The character is one thing that everyone has in their daily lives. Character
in the movie is very influential on the good or bad of a literary work.

F. Types of Character

Basically a story will have two types of characters. The protagonist and antagonist or plain language is as same with hero and villain. But with so many various kinds of characters featured in a film presentation, the more types of the role are played by each character. According to Notgrass (2010:3) stated that there are some types of character, such as:

1. **Protagonist** is the main character of the story.
2. **Antagonist** is the character who works against the protagonist and provides some degree conflict.
3. **Confidant** is someone to whom a character reveals his thoughts and motives.
4. **Foil** is a minor character who by being a contrast illuminates another character (for instance, the slick operator who serves to highlight the integrity of the protagonist).
5. **Round Character** is a three-dimensional, one whose personality is well-developed and who has some internal struggles expressed. In other words, he is believable and realistic.
6. **Stock Character** portrays a stereotypical role.
7. **Flat Character** is not developed in the story.
8. **Dynamic Character** changes during the story.

In a literary work, especially a movie, a character is the most important element. To make an interesting movie, a director presents several different types of characters. More the type used, more interesting movie created. In addition, Lethbridge and Jarmila (2008:113) also stated that there are two types of character:

1. **Mayor Character** usually has a lot of to say and appear frequently throughout the play.
2. **Minor Character** has less presence or appears only marginally.

There are two types of characters in a movie, which is the major character who always appears in every scene. Major character play an important role in the story and the scene is always in the spotlight. Unlike the minor characters, minor characters only support scenes or the acting of the major characters.

From all the theories above, it can conclude that basically a movie has two types of characters; the protagonist and antagonist. But with so many various kinds of characters featured in a movie, story in a movie would be more interesting.

II. METHOD OF THE RESEARCH

Descriptive Qualitative Method was used in this paper. Descriptive Qualitative Method means to identify in detail the cases is in this movie as what the writer did. Identified existing scenes in the movie and explained the problem and the moral messages, then took notes on the method to be discussed are poured into this paper.

The information and description on about movie that include in kind of literature as a content of this paper are describe to some readers through several steps. The steps used to do the research were watched the movie several times to understand more about the data used, and then collected the data related to the topic. After that, identified the data into some parts were done in the research, and next analyzed the data with the theory from some sources. Finally, the results of the research were concluded as the conclusions.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. The Analysis of Ambition of Jordan Belfort

1. **Ambition to get a lot of money**

According to Bridge (2010:04) stated, “Ambition is the desire to make the most of your potential to achieve something special, which would make a profound difference to your life and to those of others, whether that be through success, achievement or distinction.” The desire will encourage a potential for realizing a goal. Potential can be realized by achieving something desirable like success, success will bring a lot of money. There is no doubt that many people have the ambition to get a lot of money. This statement is closely related with Jordan Belfort in the movie The Wolf of Wall Street.

In Jordan Belfort case, he takes a job at a boiler room brokerage firm on Long Island that specializes in penny stocks. He is very excited with an offer from Dwayne in Investor Center. Dwayne offers a profit easily, by offering stock to public.

2. **Ambition to build a company**

Champy and Nohria (2008:233) said, “Ambition is power stuff, capable of propelling a fast rise or a calamitous fall, and those propelled by it are wise to examine their ends as thoroughly as they make use of their means.” It means that someone who has the ambition will be increasingly compelled to achieve the goal. An ambition will take a person to develop their plans to be larger.

Working as stockbroker on Long Island makes him success to get what he wanted. He gets $70,000 every months and he can buy a luxury cars. Finally, he and his neighbor, Donnie Azoff, decided to build their own penny stock firm, so they are recruit some people who have experience in selling, they are Sea Otter, Nicky Koskoff, Chester, Robbie and Brad.

B. The Effect of Ambition

1. **Divorce with his wife**

Ambition has led him to become rich. He has a lot of money, and he can do anything with the money. Money is closely related to women, this happens in Jordan. He has an affair with a woman named Naomi. When his wife, Teresa, finds out they are divorce.
2. **Loosing Steve Madden’s stock**

Harvey (2010:140) stated, “With ambition comes failure. Small ambitions can lead to small failures, like the new recipe that result in a culinary disaster. Large ambitions open the door to bigger disasters.” A big ambition will bring a bigger disaster to ambitious people. Disaster created by the failed ambition to achieve. The FBI began to suspect illegal businesses run by Jordan, so the FBI began to oversee Jordan’s brokerage firms strictly. This makes Steve Madden afraid to lose, so he sold his company including 85% Jordan’s stock named as Steve Madden, without asking Jordan.

3. **Arrested by FBI**

As a result of actions taken by Jordan to achieve his ambition by illegal ways, finally Jordan Belfort arrested by the FBI on charges of securities fraud and money laundering. Jordan required paying $ 10 million as bail suspension of detention. According to Harvey (2010:140) stated, “With ambition comes failure. Small ambitions can lead to small failures, like the new recipe that result in a culinary disaster. Large ambitions open the door to bigger disasters.” Ambition achieved in the wrong way, will bring big disaster for him.

After the suspension, Jordan re-interrogated by the FBI. Jordan is punishable by 20 years in prison for money laundering. But Jordan also offered a remission if Jordan agreed to cooperate with the FBI. Jordan asked to identify a list of people associated with the business. Jordan approved the offer and agreed to wear a wire to go to the office. After that, FBI received a list of people associated with Jordan. The next day, Jordan arrested by FBI.

**IV. CONCLUSIONS**

As we know ambition is a desire for someone to reach the goal. Ambition is needed in determining the purpose of life. Someone with has no ambition, like life without direction and purpose. Some people assume that ambition is always closely associated with negative things. In fact, the ambition is not always negative. Positive and negative depend on the way in which the person to achieve it. Referring to the previous analysis, the main character has a big ambition. But, he chose the wrong way to achieve his ambition.

There are some effect found faced by the main character. A big ambition also has a big effect. Ambition achieved in the wrong way, it will harm for them. Even the wrong way to make someone feel lost everything, including his hopefulness.

Through *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie, people can take some moral message about hope, trust and honesty. But the most important moral message of the movie are think before acting to predict the consequences to be faced and act honesty, because honesty is the key of trust.

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