

LEWIS COSER'S SOCIAL CONFLICT IN *DON QUIXOTE*

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Abstract

This study discusses the social conflict appeared in Miguel Cervantes's *Don Quixote*. The purpose of this study is to look for the forms of social conflict and to look for the implications of social conflict contained in the novel *Don Quixote*. The writer chose the novel *Don Quixote* as the object of research because this novel is the first modern novel. In addition, this novel is an interpretation of the social conflict itself. The writer uses a qualitative descriptive method and sociological approach with a synthesis model to connect social conflict and conflict literature. To analyze the social conflict in the novel, the writer uses Lewis Coser's social conflict theory. The writer found two forms of conflict, namely realistic and non-realistic. To get a realistic analysis of conflict the writers use four types of conflict literature: man against self (Alonso Quixano and Don Quixote), man against man (Don Quixote and Sancho), man against society (Don Quixote and the prisoner) and man against nature (Don Quixote and the lion). Non-realistic forms of social conflict in Don Quixote's novels such as *Landlord and the Carriers*. There are positive functions of Don Quixote's social conflict such as the expression by Samson Carrasco revenge, strengthening Don Quixote's identity, and strengthening the relationship between Sancho and Don Quixote.

Keywords: *Lewis A. Coser, Social Conflict, Function of social Conflict, Don Quixote.*

INTRODUCTION

Social life occurs when individuals depend on other individuals. Humans are a *zoon politicon*. It starts from animals, they have social and political interactions to survive. This strengthens the argument that humans will have more complex social interactions with various goals. (Gintis et al., 2015). In essence, humans are destined to establish a relationship with one another. In social life, there will always be a relationship between humans and one another. However, not all relationships between humans go well, there are always conflicts in human social life with other humans. There are several triggers that cause conflict to occur. This statement is based on several differences such as: differences in thinking patterns, principles, interests between humans, environmental conditions and so on. The more people who are related and in groups, the greater the possibility of conflict that arises. So, it is inevitable that humans will always have conflicts in their lives (Vallacher et al., 2013).

Social conflict is a reaction, it is caused by humans through friction or a difference that occurs in the social environment. According to Lewis Coser, he argues that social conflict is a struggle over values or claim to status, power, and scarce resources, in which the aims of the conflict group are not only to gain the desired values, but also to neutralize, injure, and eliminate rivals (Coser, 1965). The occurrence of protests, revolutions, resistance, demonstrations, racism, and war, anything can be done to achieve an individual or group interest. For example, ideological differences between groups can lead to war.

One of the theories of conflict is derived from Karl Marx. Conflict is taken through the central point of society with class differences that occur in the social life (Omer & Jabeen, 2016). The ruler or capitalist class, which is opposite to the working class or the proletariat, becomes an aspect of the impetus for chaos. The bourgeoisie take a position as a regulator in a system in the social order. Meanwhile, the proletariat becomes part of the workers who are governed by the capitalists. Resistance arises from a very significant class difference between the capitalist and proletariat classes. Lewis A Coser argues that social conflict occurs in society, where conflict can place and maintain boundaries between two or more groups (Adam et al., 2020). Thus, the conflict itself can have a positive impact on each group.

SOCIAL CONFLICT ANALYSIS

Social conflict in general has several meanings to be discussed. Conflict itself can be said as resistance or struggle. Conflict is a perception where there are differences between parties who are opposed to each other. On the other hand, a conflict is also used against parties from all sides (Pruitt, 2007). According to Aristotle, that is cited by Swingewood in *Journal of Sociology* "Sociology of Literature" (Swingewood & Escarpit, 2021), a case of sociological thought, the influence of literary developments affects social life through literary works as liars

and weakens intellectuals. Departing from the conceptual that the role of sociology that occurs in literary works becomes a medium of communication that can affect real life, especially in social conflicts. Interestingly, in the literary works that were tested and researched by the writer in this study, the application of Cervantes's Don Quixote novel depicts the world of knighthood as no longer being of interest, then Cervantes takes it as a form of conflict that is involved in developing the story (Krabbenhoft, 2000).

In addition, in the development of literary works, the theory of conflict is often used by writer to reconstruct literary works. The rationale for conflict theory began when the conflict was successfully developed by Karl Marx which later became a component diagram of the four paradigms in sociology, namely: Functionalism, Conflict Theory, Symbolic Interaction, Feminist perspective (Dunn, 2022). Marx saw the conflict when there was a disintegration between the capital (Upper class) and the workers (lower class) which was known as the class struggle. This rationale was further developed by other theorists such as: Max Weber, Georg Simmel, Lewis Coser, Ralph Dahrendorf. According to (Ifezue, 2021), Marx's conflict was refuted by the theorist Georg Simmel, who argued that conflict must exist within the social structure to maintain group harmony. Through this argument, which was later explored and supported by Lewis A Coser who believes that conflict does not always end in division (Centralization).

According to (Abebe Demewoz Mengesha, Samson Seid Yesuf, 2015), Lewis A Coser describes “conflict is a struggle over values or claim to status, power, and scarce resource, in which the aims of the conflict group are not only to gain the desired values, but also neutralize, injure, or eliminate rivals”. Coser mentions that in a conflict a domination is always the basis for the birth of a conflict. The struggle for the holder of the will over the control of social conflict will use all means to dominate the way, not to be separated from hurting to defeating the opponent. The premise of conflict theory by Lewis A Coser begins with the sociological philosopher Georg Simmel who says that conflict is a natural and necessary thing in the social sphere.

In his study Coser explains that far from being dysfunctional, a certain level of conflict is an important element in group formation and group survival and individual survival. In the book "*The Function of Social Conflict*" Lewis Coser supports Simmel's statement which says that "Conflict is a form of Socialization" that there is no harmonious group relationship without disharmony (conflict) itself, the two must be balanced (Coser, 1965). This statement is then explained by Coser that in a social conflict there are functions and dysfunctions (positive and negative impacts).

In this study, the writer uses Coser's view in his book which explains that conflict tends to look further within the individual by paying attention to the models of problems that arise and the decisions that individuals make. This then Coser divides the conflict into two forms as Realistic and non realistic. Realistic and non-realistic forms of conflict will then be explained through the following description:

a) Non-Realistic Conflict

“Non-realistic social conflict emphasizes solutions to avoid other conflicts from happening” (Coser, 1965). Coser explains non-realistic conflict arises not because of the presence of an antagonist but rather a need to relieve tension, at least on one side. In other words, in non-realistic conflicts, it is found that there is a *substitute object* in a conflict. Non-realistic conflicts do reduce conflicts between protagonists and antagonists but can open up opportunities for an individual or a certain group to give birth to new conflicts.

b) Realistic Conflict

“Conflict begins with frustration with certain demands in a relationship” (Coser, 1965). Coser explained that realistic conflict stems feeling disappointed with the demands and focuses more on real problems in society such as economic and legal problems. Furthermore, realistic conflicts occur when feeling arise that have a desire to get something. According to Bosch from *Conflict escalation* Individuals or groups belonging to a culture have agreed on the rules in the conflict. But on the other hand, realistic conflicts help individuals release tension and find solutions (Bösch, 2017). Coser also explained how Simmel failed to develop the concept of *hostile feelings* and *hostile behavior* in classifying a conflict (Islamia, 2022). according to him in a realistic conflict he can classify the type of conflict through hostile elements.

THE FUNCTION OF SOCIAL CONFLICT

Often, conflicts are misunderstood with the meaning of chaos over the goals of the parties in the conflict. Coser explained that the pattern of social conflict is not as simple as the encouragement of hostility accompanied by aggression. Conflict shows that there is a relationship and social interaction in society. Coser also explained that a conflict can also be seen through attachment. the more bound the individual with to another, the more liable the conflict will occur. However, this idea does not create an attachment will cause a conflict, there will be an attempt to avoid conflict in a relationship, one of the efforts is in the form of a Safety valve. Coser said *The Safety Valve allows the outburst of hostility to be channeled without destroying the entire structure, conflict ‘cleanses the atmosphere’ in a chaotic group*” (Coser, 1965). One form of conflict mentioned by Lewis Coser, Non realistic conflict results in an attempt to reduce the conflict that occurs to avoid divisions within the group. this is said to occur so that the group remains intact.

In a conflict, violence will most likely arise. but conflict also has the potential to strengthen and build unity. Coser also concluded that in a social order, the most stable individual or group is an organized thought and structure so that it can bring conflict to openness and avoid a chaos of conflict by focusing on the goals of interest..One of these functions is born since individuals feel a strong bond in the group, so they tend to avoid conflicts that will occurThe following is a conclusion

from the various functions of social conflict described by Coser "Introduction of conflict" (Dennen, 2005) based on Coser's view as follows :

- a). Conflict builds and maintains identity
- b). Expression of hostility in conflict
- c). Prolonging tension with antagonists
- d). Conflict can be an index of the stability of a relationship
- e). Safety-Valve.

LITERATURE REVIEW

There are several previous study which the writer found and become the references as starter to write the research proposal. First study is "*Social Class Conflict in Kevin Kwan's Crazy Rich*" (Damayanti, 2020). Damayanti discusses the social conflicts that occur in the novel. The focus of this research is to find the causes and effects of social class conflict through 4 forms of conflict such as man vs man, man vs nature, man vs society. Damayanti focuses on a sociological approach, especially in social class conflict using Karl Marx theory. From the Crazy Rich novel, Damayanti found that there are three Class Conflict occurred in Crazy Rich novel such as lower class, upper class, and middle class.

Second research is "Don Quixote De La Mancha: A Study Of Social Conflict" (Ziddan, 2022). Ziddan uses Karl Marx's theory to support his research. So it was Ziddan discuss that there are three aspect of social conflict in the study, namely: (1) personal conflict, (2) class conflict, (3) cause of social conflict. It was concluded that Don Quixote made himself the Upper Class in his social life while the common people were made the Lowerclass. This research was also criticized by the author of a book entitled "De Warheid Over Don Quixote" Jettie H. van den Boom via direct email. Jettie criticized the history of Don Quixote written by Ziddan should have sulk at the original author of the Don Quixote script under the title *History of Don-Quixote of the mancha*, namely Cide Hamete Benengeli

The similarity of this research with previous research is social conflict which is the topic of discussion in the study and the research model. While the difference of the writer focuses on social conflicts that appear in the novel *Don Quixote* using the theory Lewis A Coser. In addition, this research using classic novel as an object to research. This research also continues the previous research entitled Don Quixote de: The Study of Social Conflict. The previous study discussed Don Quixote: The Study of Social Conflict only discusses the surface of the novel, by only raising the main point of conflict. The object of previous study is the Indonesian translation of the Don Quixote novel. Implementation has not been clearly described in the research, because the object of research is only in the form of a 208-page storyline with the title *The Adventures of Don Quixote*. So that the Writer aims to develop and describe more deeply related through this research through the object of the full version of the novel Don Quixote.

METHODOLOGY

This study uses sociological approach in order to analyse and understand the social conflict and source of the social conflict in the *Don Quixote* novel. Through the theoretical approach put forward by Lewis A Coser in his book "The Function of Conflict" (Coser, 1965), with a focus on the function of the conflict that occurs in the novel. Sociology is an approach that studies human behavior in its social order (Ahmed Alwaqaa, 2020). This approach also studies human social interactions, processes, and the structure of society. It is also concluded that human life and behavior are influenced by factors that build human character. Further, sociology and literature are one unit like a coin with different sides. Making sociology-literature a field of study whose main function is to show the interrelationships, interactions between literature and community activities. In this study the writer also tries to find points of connection between Social conflict and conflict literature. This is explained through the theory of sociology by Lewis A coser "The Function of Conflict" (Coser, 1965). Coser considers conflict to be a necessity in a group to unify and form an identity. To develop this research, the writer chose descriptive qualitative as a research design to understand and describe the social conflict that appears in the novel *Don Quixote*. Descriptive qualitative is an explanation with descriptive studies (Kumar, 2018). Furthermore, Kumar added that descriptive qualitative focuses on describing situations, problems, phenomena, and information.

RESULT

Social conflict by Lewis A. Coser is used as the main theory to analyze social conflict that appears in Cervantes' novel "Don Quixote de Lamancha" through forms of conflict such as realistic conflict and non-realistic conflict. In a realistic conflict, there are two necessary aspects, such as Hostile feeling and Hostile behavior in the main character. Analysis of the function of conflict in terms of the theory is developed by Lewis A Coser through the book *The Function of Social Conflict* in accordance with the social conflict that occurs in the novel. the writer analyzes two forms of social conflict such as realistic and non-realistic conflict. the writer classifies the realistic form of conflict using four types of conflict. To help read the classification of social conflict in the analysis, the writer present the findings through the table below with the abbreviation in the *Data number*.

NO	DATA	REALISTIC	NON REALISTIC	PAGE
1.	a. Sancho First madness advanture <i>“friend Sancho Panza, where thirty or more monstrous giants present themselves, all of whom I mean to engage in battle and slay”</i>	✓		132
	b. Sancho confused <i>“Look, your worship,” said Sancho; “what we see there are not giants but windmills</i>	✓		132
2.	a. Don Quixote madness to priest <i>“for those black bodies we see there must be, and doubtless are, magicians who are carrying off some stolen princess in that coach”</i>	✓		138
	b. Don Quixote Action <i>“Devilish and unnatural beings, release instantly the highborn princesses whom you are carrying off by force in this coach”</i>			139
3.	a. Rocinante beaten by Tanguesans. <i>seeing the violence he was offering to their mares, came running</i>			195

	<p><i>up armed with stakes, and so belaboured him that they brought him sorely battered to the ground</i></p> <p>b. Don Quixote stop they came to a halt in a glade covered with tender grass, beside which ran a pleasant cool stream that invited and compelled them to pass there the hours of the noontide heat</p>	✓		200
4.	<p>a. The maid who tapped the book. <i>"Here, your worship, senor licentiate, sprinkle this room; don't leave any magician of the many there are in these books to bewitch us in revenge for our design of banishing them from the world."</i></p> <p>b. Nicholas anger. <i>"there is no reason for showing mercy to any of them; they have every one of them done mischief; better fling them out of the window</i></p>		✓	115
			✓	116
5.	<p>a. Don Quixote with the carriers team. <i>were in began from a distance to shower stones on Don Quixote</i></p>		✓	98
6.	<p>a. A.Sancho Find a peasant as DulcienaTo</p>			

	<p><i>be brief, the instant Sancho saw the peasant girls, he returned full speed to seek his master, and found him sighing and uttering a thousand passionate lamentations.</i></p>		✓	786
	<p><i>b. Don Quixote with enchanters "How now, Sancho? thou seest how I am hated by enchanters! And see to what a length the malice and spite they bear me go, when they seek to deprive me of the happiness it would give me to see my lady in her own proper form."</i></p>		✓	788

The **data number 1** is Don Quixote's journey with Sancho when they go in one of the vast hilly areas, Don Quixote swiftly prepares himself to immediately fight an imaginary giant [1.a]. Sancho dismissed his master's vision, he thought that what his master saw is actually a windmill. However, Don Quixote bravely tried to attack the windmill and left the sancho[1.b]. Don Quixote ends up getting stuck in the propeller of a spinning windmill. This madness satisfied Don Quixote in his battle which he considered a great victory against the giant. This conflict is included as conflict between Realistic conflict appeared where Don Quixote fights his heart by saying that the windmill is a giant.

Next, **data number 2** Don Quixote meets a party of priests escorting a woman on a journey. Back to Don Quixote's imagination, he acted by saying that it is a group of witches who captured the royal princess [2.a]. Sancho believed this vision of his master, silently listening to his master's madness. Deftly Don Quixote returned to action by riding the "Rocinante" with confidence to stop the group of priests. Don

Quixote starts threatening the driver of the wagon train to free the passengers with his characteristic chivalrous sneer [2.b]. This immediately stopped the cart group and they came to a halt. From this case Don Quixote tried to convince himself that what he saw was a group of criminals. As a knight fighting evil, Don Quixote creates a new conflict by stopping the cart. Of this case is very clearly classified as man against self between Don Quixote and his heart.

In the **data number 3** After the incident, Rocinante fell and was beaten by hordes of Yanguesans. This was done by Don Quixote solely as a form of revenge for the treatment his horse received [3.a]. Don Quixote, who considered himself a brave knight, returned to following his wild instincts by challenging the group of 20 Yanguesans by beating them one by one. This caused the resistance of the Yanguesans to gang up on Don Quixote and Sancho mercilessly [3.b]. Don Quixote's desire to appear brave made his fantasy of defeating the entire Yanguesan group. Realistically the main character is just an old man who is accompanied by his lazy neighbor so that revenge is not possible. So that this conflict can be categorized as man against self.

The Man against Man conflict in this chapter explains how the forms of conflict are presented in Cervantes' novel Don Quixote where in several cases major social conflicts present Don Quixote's conflicts with the people he meets. This inter-individual conflict is a real conflict over an individual's demands or goals. In the case above, most of it is taken from the point of view of the main character, namely Don Quixote when he meets other individuals.

In the **data number 4**, Non-realistic conflicts classify various forms of reactions in a conflict through individual responses in resolving a conflict. Steps to reduce anger require a "substitute object". In the novel Don Quixote, non-realistic conflicts can be proven when Don Quixote goes through several aspects. Non-realistic conflict is explained when the maid and priest Nichole burn a book which causes the main character to go mad. This case occurred when Don Quixote returned home to the village covered in wounds after being showered with stones by the Traders. The maid who saw Don Quixote's condition was so badly injured that she blamed Don Quixote's books which were arranged in the room. The tension from the servant should be addressed to the main character who causes a lot of social conflict. However, this was not conveyed because the waiter could not release his tension on the main character who was filled with crazy thoughts about the era of chivalry. From here the maid channeled the tension towards the main character through the books kept in Don Quixote's room. The maid cursed the terrible book Don Quixote like a book about magic and witches [4.a]. Agreed with Reverend Nicholas who helped collect and sort inappropriate books in Don Quixote's room. Pastor Nicholas is also unable to channel the tension that occurs in the main character because Don Quixote has been influenced by chivalrous books [4.b]. Pastor Nicholas considers all the books

in Don Quixote's room to be the cause of all Don Quixote's madness. In this conflict Priest Nicholas and Servant consider the book as one of the causes. Here the book can be categorized as a third party that functions as a means of releasing tension rather than releasing tension on the crazy Don Quixote. This is evidence of the non realistic conflict that appears in Don Quixote's novel.

In the **data number 5** cases to strengthen the existence of non realistic is the case when Don Quixote is a conflict that occurred between Don Quixote against the Carriers at the inn. when the Carrier group came and began to take revenge on someone who was beaten up by Don Quixote because Don Quixote was considered a madman [5.a]. when the conflict occurs, the Landlord asks the Carrier to stop his attacks. this is an individual way of preventing tension between the two parties. The tension begins to cool when the Landlord explains that Don Quixote is a madman and they needn't worry about him. here the Landlord uses Don Quixote as a scapegoat by calling him a madman. with this the Carriers stop the attack on Don Quixote. although the tension continues, at least stop the conflict so that it is not sustainable and takes casualties. from the case above there is a conflict between the landlord and the carriers indirectly because the conflict occurred at the landlord's inn. the landlord reduces the tension between the conflicts by declaring Don Quixote to be a madman. so that this effort becomes a reinforcement that this conflict is classified as a non-realistic conflict.

The **data number 6** non-realistic conflict is shown in the case when Don Quixote starts his journey again while recovering and being cared for in his own home. Don Quixote still wants to continue his adventures as a knight. Once upon a time, Don Quixote, who missed his girlfriend, ordered Sancho to look for Dulciana de Toboso because Sancho had been sent to deliver a letter before. Sancho, who sent the letter, panicked because Sancho didn't want his master to know that he didn't deliver the letter. So he looked for a way so he could be free from Don Quixote's anger. Sancho decided to go and find three peasant women riding horses [6.a]. This immediately made Sancho think of tricking that he had found Dulciana de Toboso. A moment after Don Quixote's doubts about the fake Dulciana. Sancho concocted and accused the witch of having turned Dulciana's face into that of an ugly peasant [6.b]. In this conflict Sancho tricks Don Quixote by saying that the woman he met is Dulciana who was cursed by a witch. This aims to save himself from the anger of Don Quixote. In analyzing the conflict that happened to Sancho, Sancho uses a peasant woman and a witch as to appease Don Quixote. Both of these objects are an attempt to avoid tension in the conflict. So that this case can be classified into non-reality conflict.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the social conflict that occurred in Don Quixote. The writer succeeded in classifying realistic and non-realistic social conflicts according to Lewis A Coser's view. Realistic conflict analysis is assisted by the existence of four types of conflict in literature, namely man against self, man against man, man against society, and man against nature. In the conflict between man against Self, it is mostly found that the main character is controlled by fantasy as a knight so that what he sees is an imaginative subject such as a windmill as a giant or an inn as a castle. Data Man against Man is found when the main character is dealing with other individuals or antagonists such as Samson Carrasco or Pasamonte. In the Man against Society data, the main character faces groups that oppose the main character, such as the Yanguesan army or groups of criminals. Whereas Man against Nature is found when conflicts occur between the main character and natural events such as pebbles and lions. So that the writer can determine the realistic conflict in the story. Whereas non-realistic conflict is obtained based on how the main character suppresses a tension in a conflict such as the conflict that occurs between landlords and carriers. So that from the findings of the first problem formulation of the conflict that occurs in the Don Quixote novel, realistic conflict is more dominant than non-realistic conflict.

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