

THE TYPES OF BULLYING AND THEIR IMPACTS IN *SPEAK* MOVIE BY JESSICA SHARZER

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ABSTRACT

Bullying is a type of aggression that involves an imbalance of power where the bully consciously and deliberately hurt another person physically or psychologically by hurting their body, feelings, self-esteem, reputation, and property. This research aimed to find out the types of bullying that happened in Speak movie and the impacts that the character Melinda Sordino suffered in Speak movie. This research used Sheri Bauman's theory in analyzing the types of bullying and used SEJIWA's theory to analyze the impacts of bullying in Speak's movie. The source of data was the Speak movie by Jessica Sharzer. In analyzing the data, the qualitative method was used. The data of this research were the scenes and dialogues in the movie that contained the types of bullying and the impacts of bullying. The results of this research showed that there were 9 data found based on the types of bullying, namely 3 data of physical bullying, 3 data of verbal bullying, and 3 data of indirect bullying. However, for the impacts of bullying, there were 12 data found, namely 2 data on academic impacts, 4 data on psychological impact, 3 data on physical impact, and 3 data on social impact.

Keywords: *Bullying, Types, Impacts, Speak, Movie*

INTRODUCTION

The majority of people in the world reads literary works. Literature, according to Welleck and Warren (1993), is a complete expression, emotion, and creative thought using language as a medium. Poems, novels, plays, movies, and other literary works can only be produced by humans using language. Literature is, in other words, the imaginative use of language.

Novels, songs, and movies are examples of literary works. One of the most widely known literary works is the movie. A movie, often known as a film or motion picture, is a narrative that is typically represented in a video with sound. One of the literary works that can be analyzed is the movie.

Bullying is one of the most frequently seen problems in the movie. Bullying is verbal or physical abuse, harassing, threatening, and assaulting a helpless victim. Bullying may take many

different forms, including striking, kicking, spreading rumors, mocking, and more. We can find some bullying in society, such as school bullying, workplace bullying, cyberbullying, political bullying, military bullying, and other places (Prasetyo, 2011).

Bullies typically possess greater physical strength, a social edge, or psychological dominance among their associates than the victims do. While the victims are typically quiet and submissive person. Because bullies frequently have an impact on their surroundings, the victims are powerless to fight back. When they see bullying occurring in their community, many individuals tend to remain silent and do nothing to stop it. The biggest issue with bullying is that it will never end if neither the victims nor the witnesses speak up. It would be better if society take it more seriously, and respond

when they encounter bullying incidents in their surroundings.

Bullying has a wide range of effects on the victims. The victims experience some consequences academically, socially, psychologically, and physically (Brank et al., 2012). Bullying has been linked to suicide through sadness, anxiety, and loneliness. Our responsibility as a society is to educate people against bullying. However, we seldom witnessed bullying instruction in schools, which is why parents and teachers play such a crucial role in educating children about bullying. Bullying is a cruel act that traumatizes the victim. The trauma can be physical, such as wounds and bruises, or psychological, such as anxiety, lack of confidence, and other emotions (Wahyuningsih, 2017). Society must know what is bullying, what are the types of bullying, and also what are the impacts on the victims. Therefore, it is needed to analyze some research topics on bullying.

Some research had been conducted based on the topic of bullying. It is important to have some references in conducting this research. Therefore, some references are taken from the previous research, first is Ita Setyo Wahyuningsih's research entitled *Bullying Reflected in Okky Madasari's "Bound" Novel, a Psychoanalytic Analysis*. Ita found that the main character was subjected to a variety of forms of bullying, including striking, kicking, and torture by a dark gang, ridicule from a neighbor, and sexual abuse from a customer while busking (Wahyuningsih, 2017). Another research comes from Saleh (2021), who analyzed the kinds of Bullying in Film *Wonder* by Stephen Chbosky. He found that the kinds of bullying that August Pullman as the main character, received the bullying include psychic bullying in the form of body language, refusing to

be friends, and eye glances. Verbal bullying in the form of humiliating, taunting, name joking, and physical bullying in the form of throwing, pushing, and cyberbullying which is electronic media humiliation. Another research is conducted by Nurtsani (2021). The title is *An Analysis of Bullying Appeared in IT Film by Andy Muschietti*. He found four forms of bullying including physical bullying, verbal bullying, sexual bullying, and relational bullying.

Based on the previous research above and the phenomena of bullying, this research is conducted because the previous researches only focus on the types of bullying, they didn't clearly state the impacts on the victims. Therefore, this research has the purpose not only to find the types of bullying but also the impacts on the victims.

There are some types of bullying and also the impacts of bullying on the victims that we have to know. The phenomena of school bullying still occur nowadays. This issue becomes the reason why this research is conducted. Through the *Speak* movie, this research will reveal the types of bullying and the impacts on the victims that occurred at school (school bullying). The *Speak* movie is chosen because this movie shows that there are several representations of bullying and its effects which happened at school. This movie is acclaimed in the 1999 novel of the same title, *Speak* is a 2004 American independent coming-of-age teen drama movie directed by Jessica Sharzer.

Bullying takes many different types, and this is now well-recognized. Pushing, striking, shoving, and other physical aggression are instances of bullying. According to Sheri Bauman (2008), there are several types of bullying, namely Physical bullying that is bullying that involves physical contact with victims in an effort to

physically harm or humiliate them. For instance: pushing, hitting, shoving, kicking, punching, etc. Verbal bullying that is bullying that involves purposely insulting or demeaning the victims verbally. Examples of verbal bullying are name-calling, threatening, malicious teasing, etc. Indirect bullying or relational aggression causes harm by threatening the victim's relationships. Relational bullying, for instance, social exclusion, spreading rumors or gossiping, harsh letters, slam books, silent treatment, and threats to break up with friends. Indirect bullying is incorrectly seen as less harmful than overt types of bullying, indirect bullying is sometimes written off as typical female behavior.

Bullying victims may have negative impacts. Both the long and short terms are involved. The negative impacts are hazardous and can hurt the victims in many different ways. According to SEJIWA (2008), bullying has a number of negative impacts, including Academic impacts that affect the victims' academic performance and achievements, such as poor learning outcomes, difficulties in focusing on studying, skipping class, and even school fear. Next is Psychological impacts, which refer to the consequences or the effect on the victims' mental circumstances, such as sadness, hopelessness, the desire to run away, and even suicidal thoughts. The term physical impacts refer to the poor physical health of the victims of bullying, such as being sick, having frequent panic attacks, appearing sick, avoiding eye contact, and having a lack of confidence in body language. The last is Social impacts, which refer to the social impacts that the victims suffer through bullying. Examples of social impacts are being shy, timid, isolated, passive, insecure, and difficult to get along with.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a qualitative method to analyze the types of bullying and how they affect the main character in the *Speak* movie. According to Bogdan, Taylor, and DeVault (2016), the qualitative method is a type of method that produces descriptive data from written or spoken words and observable behavior. In the meantime, according to Kutha (2007), the qualitative method begins with a description of the facts and is subsequently followed by analysis. Etymologically, to describe and to analyze means to elaborate. The qualitative approach offers adequate understanding and explanation.

The *Speak* movie, which is directed by Jessica Sharzer and was released on January 20, 2004, is the source of the data used in this research. It is a 92-minute teen-drama movie based on the same-titled, award-winning novel from 1999. The conversations of the characters in the movie that contains bullying serve as the source of data.

The data collection procedures in conducting this research are as follows, first, watch the *Speak* movie by Jessica Sharzer to find out the story plot and look for types of bullying and impacts in the movie, secondly, screen-shooting all the scenes that contain types of bullying and impacts of bullying in the movie to make it easier to analyze the types and impacts of bullying, and then, collecting the scene and dialogues that contain types of bullying and impacts of bullying in the movie, lastly, classifying the data based on the types of bullying and the impacts of bullying based on Sheri Bauman and SEJIWA theory.

The steps for gathering data or data collection procedures are as follows: first, watch the Jessica Sharzer movie *Speak* to learn about the plot and search for the types of bullying and

their impacts; second, screen record every bullying action and its impacts in the movie so that it will be simpler to analyze; and third, take note the dialogues that demonstrate bullying on the main character and classified them based on the types and the impacts of bullying.

After collecting all the data needed for this research, the researcher continues to analyze the data by using several techniques such as Presenting the data in the form of scenes and dialogues that contained types of bullying, then analyzing the presented data that have been collected and classified based on the theory that the researcher used, lastly, drawing the conclusion based on the analysis on the data.

After collecting all the data required for this research, the data are analyzed by using some techniques. First, choose the good data that relate to bullying and delete the remains, second, present the data information in the form of dialogues and also give the context of the situation so it will be easier for the reader to understand the analysis. Third, analyze the data that had been gathered and categorized in accordance with the theory, and finally, make a conclusion based on the analysis of the data.

RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH AND DISCUSSIONS

The result of this research shows that there are 9 total data found that show the types of bullying based on Bauman's (2008) theory, 3 data of physical bullying, 3 data of verbal bullying, and 3 data of indirect bullying. However, there are 12 data found on the impacts of bullying based on SEJIWA's (2008) theory, the impacts are 2 data of academic impact, 4 data of psychological impact, 3 data of physical impact, and 3 data of social impact.

The Types of Bullying That were Found in *Speak* Movie

Physical Bullying

Physical bullying is bullying that involves physical contact with victims in an effort to physically harm or humiliate them. For instance: pushing, hitting, shoving, kicking, punching, etc.

The scene showed physical bullying in minutes 00:07:49 to 00:07:56) where after the English class, Melinda Sordino as the main character went to the cafeteria to get food for a break. After she collects the food, she searches for a table to sit at whilst someone suddenly throws some mashed potato at her. According to Bauman (2008), Physical bullying includes physical action to hurt and humiliate the victim. Examples of physical bullying are pushing, hitting, shoving, etc. The scene above shows us that Melinda Sordino is getting thrown at and humiliated physically which can be categorized as "physical bullying".

Melinda Sordino went to the cafeteria to buy some food for a break after her English session. She gets the food, looks for a spot to sit, and then someone out of nowhere throws some mashed potatoes at her. Bauman (2008) defined physical bullying as behavior intended to harm and degrade the victim. Physical bullying examples include pushing, punching, shoving, and more. Physically it humiliates Melinda Sordino, many people looked at her in the cafeteria, and some of them laughed at her. This action can be included in the category of "physical bullying." Because the bullies throw something at the victim, and it degrades the victim.

Verbal Bullying

Verbal bullying is bullying that involves purposely insulting or demeaning the victims verbally. Examples of verbal bullying are name-

calling, threatening, malicious teasing, etc.

Andy: “Yo, fresh meat.”

Andy: “What? Can’t I say hello?”

(Minutes 00:20:50 – 00:21:00)

In this situation, Melinda Sordino is walking through the school hallway. There, she accidentally crossed paths with Andy, a guy who once raped her at the party. He was there with his friends as well. Andy called Melinda “Yo, fresh meat”. Feeling scared and traumatized by him, Melinda then run through the hallway. According to Bauman (2008), examples of verbal bullying are name-calling, threatening, malicious teasing, etc. This dialogue clearly shows that “fresh meat” is a name-calling that can be categorized as “verbal bullying”.

Indirect Bullying

Indirect bullying involves relational aggression, in which the harm is inflicted by damaging the victim’s relationships.

Rachel : “It’s Melinda Sordino”.

Girls : “Called the cops. You know, and busted everyone...”

Girls : “You know, my buddy? You know Jeff, his brother?”

(Minutes 00:13:19 – 00:13:37)

Before high school, Melinda called the police to come to a house party during the previous summer. Her reason for calling 9-1-1 was to tell the police that she had been raped by a senior student at the party, Andy Evans, but her trauma prevented her from reporting the rape over the telephone or to the police when they arrived. Because of that, she has a reputation for being a squealer, a person who informs someone to the police. In this scene, Melinda sitting alone on the school bus, and everyone on the bus is staring at her and spreading rumors about what happened the last summer. According to Bauman (2008), indirect bullying involves social exclusion, spreading rumors, and

demanding compliance as a condition of friendships. These dialogues show us that the girls in the school bus were spreading rumors about Melinda to others, that Melinda is a squealer, she was the person who had called the police to ruin the house party. The action of spreading rumors is categorized as “indirect bullying”.

The Impacts of Bullying That Were Found in The *Speak* Movie

Academic Impacts

The academic impact is the impact of bullying that affect the victims’ academic performance and achievements, such as poor learning outcomes, difficulties in focusing on studying, skipping class, and even school fear.

Melinda’s mom : “Rise and shine, Melinda.”

Melinda’s dad : “Your report card came this morning. I’m only going to say this once. You gotta get those grades up. Way up.”

Melinda’s mom : “I’ll handle this, alright? Honey, we just want you to do your best, and we know that your best is a lot better than this, okay?”

Melinda’s dad : “What happened with social studies? This Mr. Neck gave you a “D”.

Melinda’s mom : “We want you to ask Neck how you can raise your grade. This is not gonna look good on your college application, sweetie. I had to go to state.”

Melinda’s dad : “She knows. You’ll go today, won’t you, honey?”

(Minutes 00:53:57 – 00:54:32)

The academic impacts are shown in the dialogue. The report card came that morning to Melinda’s house. After checking the report card, Melinda’s dad and mom woke Melinda to tell her that her grades are dropping drastically, and Mr. Neck from social

studies, gave her a D. Her dad then asked her to go to see Mr. Neck so that he can give her a remedial. According to SEJIWA, an example of academic impact is poor learning achievement. The dialogue shows us that Melinda dropped her grades drastically after she got bullied, and she got a D in social studies. This shows that Melinda has poor achievements in her academics. Therefore, this can be categorized into “academic impacts”.

Psychological Impacts

Psychological impacts refer to the consequences or the effect on the victims' mental circumstances, such as sadness, hopelessness, depression, the desire to run away, and even suicidal thoughts.

The scene shows psychological impact in minutes 00:06:58 – 00:07:01, where Melinda Sordino was struggling in her first year of high school. She doesn't have any friends to hang out with. She is seen as an awkward and weird person at school. In these minutes, Melinda Sordino attends English class. While the teacher is speaking, Melinda draws herself on her book with the words “I'm weird”. According to SEJIWA, examples of psychological impacts are sadness, hopelessness, depression, the desire to run away, and even suicidal thoughts. At that moment, Melinda looks so gloomy, she is depressed and hopeless by drawing herself with the word “I'm weird”. This action can be categorized into “psychological impacts”.

Physical Impacts

Physical impacts refer to the poor physical health of the victims of bullying, such as being sick, having frequent panic attacks, appearing sick, avoiding eye contact, and having a lack of confidence in body language.

Dave : “Are you sure you want to do it? Do you want me to do?”

Melinda : “No, um, I got it.”

Dave : “It's one clean line down the middle. Like a zipper.”

Melinda : (Passed out)

(Minutes 00:47:47 – 00:48:55)

One of the few students whom Melinda had a positive experience with, is her lab partner, Dave Petrakis. At that time, both of them paired up at the science lab to dissect the frog's body. Melinda grabbed the knife and tried to cut the frog's body, but she just stood there anxiously, and then she passed out. According to SEJIWA, one of the examples of physical impacts is getting anxious easily. When Melinda wanted to cut the frog's body, she felt very anxious until she passed out. This can be categorized into “physical impacts”.

Social Impacts

This refers to the social impacts that the victims suffer through bullying. Examples of social impacts are being shy, timid, isolated, passive, insecure, and difficult to get along with.

Melinda : (talking to herself) “There is no point talking to my ex-friends. Our clan “The plain Janes” has been absorbed by rival groups. Nicole hangs out with the Jocks, and Rachel went all “Euro”. Ivy straddles two crowds, The Goths and “The Marthas”. And then there's me... I'm clanless.”
(Minutes 00:23:20 – 00:23:59)

Melinda Sordino struggles when she begins her first year of high school. She doesn't have any friends or someone to hang out with. It is because that last summer she called the police at the party and ruined the party for everyone. All of her friends dumped her ever since. In this data, in minutes (00:23:20 – 00:23:59) Melinda is walking alone and talking to herself since she can't talk to her friends again

because they already have their own group of friends. According to SEJIWA, the examples of social impacts that the victim of bullying suffers are shy, isolating, passive, insecure, and difficult to get along with. This part shows that Melinda is talking to herself, she is being insecure that she can't talk to her ex-friends again, and it's really difficult to get along with her friends again. This part can be categorized into "social impacts", because insecure and difficult to get along with friends are examples of social impacts that experienced by bullying victims.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The research aims to find out the types of bullying and the impacts of bullying that the main character Melinda Sordino receives in the *Speak* movie. The types of bullying are analyzed by using Sheri Bauman's theory and the impacts of bullying are analyzed based on SEJIWA's theory. A qualitative method is used in this research. The result of the research can be seen that there are 9 data found that show the types of bullying, namely: 3 data are classified as physical bullying in the form of humiliating the victim physically, 3 data are classified as verbal bullying in the form of humiliating the victim verbally, and 3 data are classified as indirect bullying in the form of relational aggression in which the harm is inflicted by damaging the victim's relationships. However, the researcher found a total of 12 data on the impacts of bullying based on SEJIWA's theory, namely: 2 data are classified as academic impacts which affect the victim's academic activities and achievements, and 4 data are classified as psychological impacts which affect the victim's mental condition, 3 data are classified as physical impacts which affect the victim's physical condition, and 2 data

are classified as social impacts such as being shy, insecure, and isolating.

It is aware that this research is far from being perfect, however, this research hopefully could increase everyone's understanding of different types of bullying and their impacts, raise awareness of its risks, and help us stop it from happening to our loved ones or other people in general. This is a serious issue that requires our collective serious attention. The trauma that they have experienced as a result of this problem affects many children and adults, and some of them choose to end their lives. So let's take a moment to examine our surroundings. Show them love and attention and let them know that you care about them and are ready to assist them.

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