

## THE RATIONALISM PERSPECTIVE TOWARD THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST AS SEEN IN SUZZANE COLLINS'S HUNGER GAME

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### Abstract

This study analyzes about the rationalism perspective toward the survival of the fittest which appeared in Suzanne Collin's Hunger Game; a novel tells about the main character who follow the death competition called as Hunger Game. The objective of the study in this research was revealing the rationalism perspective toward the survival of the fittest by main character. Since this analysis was related to the rationalism perspective. The theories that are used in this analysis are philosophical approach, rationalism and survival of the fittest. Meanwhile, descriptive qualitative method used in this research as the research design, and library research was a method to obtain the source and the data needed. The data source is the novel Hunger Game by Suzanne Collins and the main data is narration about rationalism perspective toward survival of the fittest by main character. After analyzing the data comprehensively, the conclusion is drawn. The result of this analysis shows that main character of the novel use rationalism perspective by using reasoning and logic toward survival of the fittest in hunger games.

**Key words:** game, rational perspective, survival.

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### INTRODUCTION

Naturally, world full of the competition is done especially for human in running their life. Everybody seems to be competing with someone at some level. Each week people spend time to play or to watch others battle in sporting activities all over the world (Mandasari & Aminatun, 2019), (Ayu, 2019), (Apriyanti & Ayu, 2020), (Zenissa et al., 2020). A person cannot help being impressed by the level of excellence that these people can achieve (Tsauri, 2021). Through the competition everybody must have strategy ((Simamora & Oktaviani, 2020), (Ahdan et al., 2017), (Aminatun et al., 2019), (Pratiwi & Ayu, 2020), (Ayu et al., 2017)) and own way to face the competition. Human must need a strategy ((Rusliyawati et al., 2020), (Kardiansyah & Salam, 2020c)) if they want to survive in running the life, one of the strategies is rationalism perspective ((Kuswoyo & Audina, 2020), (Lestari & Wahyudin, 2020), (Rido et al., 2015), (Tiono & Sylvia, 2004), (Mandasari & Oktaviani, 2018)). Meanwhile in life deals with the rationalism perspective there is a term from a phrase called as "Survival of the Fittest" is a phrase originating in evolutionary theory, as an alternative description of natural selection. Survival of the fittest is emphasized by the fact that while direct competition has been observed among

individuals, populations and species, there is little evidence that competition has been the driving force in the evolution of large groups.

The rationalism is very useful when people in forcing, people can move on and survive in their life by applying rationalism perspective as exemplified in the Hunger Games novel. The story of Hunger Games defines rationalism issue. The rationalism applied by the main character forced her to survive in that era (Amelia & Dintasi, 2019), (Mertania & Amelia, 2020). At the time the teenagers must face the death competition as called as Hunger Games (Eva Tuckyta et al., 2021), (Suryono & Subriadi, 2016), (Yuliandra & Fahrizqi, 2020). The researcher would reveal about the rationalism applied by the main character in the Hunger Games novel (Fitri & Qodriani, 2016), (Sasalia & Sari, 2020), (Kardiansyah, 2017), (Afrianto & Ma'rifah, 2020), (Kardiansyah & Salam, 2020c). The term of survival of the fittest deals with the nature selection when the strongest would be the winner.

Hunger Games is the novel tells about the death competition. In a dystopian future, the totalitarian nation of Panem is divided between 12 districts and the Capitol. Each year two young representatives from each district are selected by lottery to participate in The Hunger Games. Part entertainment (Juniansyah et al., 2020), part brutal retribution for a past rebellion, the televised games are broadcast throughout Panem. The 24 participants are forced to eliminate their competitors while the citizens of Panem are required to watch. When 16 year-old Katniss's young sister, Prim, is selected as District 12 is female representative, Katniss volunteers to take her position. She and her male counterpart Peeta, are pitted against bigger, stronger representatives, some of whom have trained for this their whole lives.

This analysis studies about Philosophy and Rationalism perspective, Philosophy is the attempt to think rationally and critically about life's most important questions in order to obtain knowledge ((Adrian et al., n.d.), (Mulyanto et al., 2018), (Fernando et al., 2016), (Gazali & Yusmaita, 2018)) and wisdom about them. For the state of philosophy's meaning is Love of Wisdom. Philosophy is attempted to think rationally and critically about life's most important questions in order to obtain knowledge and wisdom about them. Philosophical theory presents in the literary analysis because philosophy is the science and mostly discuss about human's thought including the way of human thinking

(Kardiansyah & Salam, 2020a), (Kuswoyo, n.d.), (Kardiansyah & Salam, 2021), (Suprayogi Suprayogi & Novanti, 2021), (Kardiansyah & Salam, 2020b). The philosophy studies more than the other sciences done, it studies about everything that is related with human's problem. Philosophy often called the queen of science, the mother of science, the science of science. Philosophy can fit all together without limitation, then can find solution of human's problem in their life that could not be done by other field study.

The researcher also uses rationalism perspective as theory. Rationalism is from Latin word ratio meaning reason. Rationalism is a theory that holds that reason alone, unaided by experience, can arrive at basic truth regarding the world. Rationalism is a method which consists in showing that sensations and feelings can only give the materials of knowledge and that such materials do not constitute knowledge unless they are interpreted by reason. Hence, according to this method of thinking, knowledge is a product, not of experience alone, but of reason interpreting experience. Thus, this form of thinking gives a prominent place to reason and a subordinate one to sensations and feelings in the structure of knowledge.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Rationalism**

Rationalism is from the Latin word ratio means reason. Rationalism, like most of western philosophy, is rooted in Ancient Greece dating back to Plato and Zeno. However, it lays pretty dormant until the 17th and 18th centuries, when it is brought back to the forefront by Descartes, amongst others. Rationalists, sometimes called as the „armchair philosophers“, seem to give philosophy a bit of a bad rep in modern society. People are much more concerned with science (empiricism) nowadays and the idea of thinking through problems rather than inductively working them out through experimentation seems a little alien to the plebs. Meanwhile in life deals to the rationalism perspective (Wahyudin, 2018), (Amelia, 2021), (Putri & Sari, 2020), (S Suprayogi & Pranoto, 2020), (Pustika, 2020) there is a term from a phrase called as "Survival of the fittest" is a phrase originating in evolutionary theory, as an alternative description of natural selection. The phrase is today commonly used in contexts that are incompatible with the original meaning as intended by its first two proponents: British polymath philosopher Herbert Spencer (who coined the term) and Charles Darwin.

## **Reasoning**

As human, being rational is an important, this is to distinguish between human and animal. It will conduct for some people who can accept the particular event, while some others will do kind of refusal whenever there are things that not acceptable by their mind. This consideration eventually leads us to the term of understanding that rationalism as the thought that put reason on the top spot of thinking.

## **Logic**

In the previous explanation that discovered that the core meaning of rationalism involved ratio or reason as the principle engine in considering the way to split-up the problems of life around us. It is utilize as the way to guide human in observing, analyzing, and evaluating the self-belief or action. This method of thinking could be cleverly conceptualized as logical thinking.

## **Rationalism and Survival of the Fittest**

Survival of the Fittest is a phrase originating in evolutionary theory, as an alternative description of natural selection. The phrase is commonly used in contexts that are incompatible with the original meaning as intended by its first two proponents: British polymath philosopher Herbert Spencer (who coined the term) and Charles Darwin. Survival of the fittest is emphasized by the fact that while direct competition has been observed between individuals, populations and species, there is little evidence that competition has been the driving force in the evolution of large groups.

## **METHOD**

In this research applied library research by the researchers which all of the data taken from written books and articles which have correlation with the analysis tell about the Rationalism Perspective toward the Survival of the Fittest related with the novel *Hunger Game* by Suzanne collins. In this research tends to collect descriptive information by giving detail description and explanation of the phenomenon studied rather than providing and analyzing statistic. Therefore, this research uses descriptive qualitative method. The data sources are taken from a novel entitled *Hunger Game* by Suzanne Collin's which is published in 2008. Moreover, the data are narrations, and dialogues related to the rationalism perspective toward the survival of the Fittest inside *Hunger Game* by Suzanne Collin.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **The Rationalism Perspective toward Survival of The Fittest of Main Character Focus on Reasoning**

The data is found when main character have perspective about something to help her through the game, it happened when main character stayed in forest to start the death competition and kill each other to became the winner of the game.

The bow and arrow is my weapon. But I've spent a fair amount of time throwing knives as well. Sometimes, if I've wounded an animal with an arrow, it's better to get a knife into it, too, before I approach it. I realize that if I want Haymitch's attention, this is my moment to make an impression. I yank the knife out of the table, get a grip on the blade, and then throw it into the wall across the room. (Collin, 2008:79)

The quotation above means that Katniss Everdeen as main character in this novel is an experienced hunter, through the reason of Katniss Everdeen to follow the games “died competition” she needs something as the strength one as the tool for her own skill and basically before Katniss Everdeen follow the game, she has skill to wounded an animal with an arrow and she hunt the animal, so she chooses the bow and arrow as her weapon, and those weapon are able to use if there is a rival in this game make Katniss threatened and that weapon also become one of the strength to survive in the dead competition. Because of that reasoning, Katniss puts the reason on the top spot of thinking how she is able to through the game until the end, she needs something to help her through every challenge held by the government of North America as make rules of this game. Bow and arrow as choice of Katniss because she thinks that by using those weapon are good way because those weapon are able to quickly work and it can make Katniss save if she choose that weapon. Related to the previous chapter, rationalism is a method which consists in showing that sensations and feelings can only give the materials of knowledge and that such materials do not constitute knowledge unless they are interpreted by reason. Here, the thought of main character reveal that she uses rationalism toward survival of the fittest, she uses reason to find what strategy (use weapon) can make her save and finally that strategy is able to bring the main character becomes survive and will be strong in the game itself.

### **The Rationalism Perspective toward Survival of The Fittest Focuses on Logic**

The weapons give me an entirely new perspective on the Games. I know I have tough opponents left to face. But I am no longer merely prey that runs and hides or takes desperate measures. If Cato broke through the trees right now, I wouldn't flee, I'd shoot. I find I'm actually anticipating the moment with pleasure. (Collin,2008:275)

The data above means that the main characters uses the logic as a perspective to face the problem in hunger game, the main character knows that she is in dangerous place, where in the game many formidable competitors she must face, but the main character does not despair about that, she thinks with logic for solving this problem. Indeed, logic goes to the very core of what we mean by human intelligence, it means that the main character uses logic is the basis of ability to think and analyze the something. The main character knows they must think with Logic if she wants to become survival of the fittest. With the Logic itself she must think rationalism and use ability of think and analyze about the problem itself. Her rival is great and formidable if she does not think with logic to solve this problem she will lose and does not exist more in this game, and with Logic she decides that she must have a way to exist in the Hunger Game, and with logic she thinks that weapon can help her to survive in this game and she find she actually anticipating the moment with pleasure, and why the main character choose the weapon as one of strategy in order she can survive and exist in the game, the main character also uses analysis because she has skill and ability to hunting in forest and also shoot the animal so she thinks with this strategy she will be success in this game to face the competitors in this game.

## CONCLUSION

Since the scope of the study focuses on the rationalism perspective by main characters toward Survival of the Fittest, this analysis deals to the strategy by main character for using rationalism perspective toward the survival of the fittest, the main character used reasoning and logic to solve her problem in order she is able to solve the entire problem that she gets. For the reasoning, in this analysis the main character used explanation and justification as basis of her thinking and for logic the main character used ability to think, analyze, and argue as basis of thinking.

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