

Family Problems in Budi Wahyono's Short Stories and Their Relevance to Real Life

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ABSTRACT

This research examines family disorganization in contemporary Indonesian society through the literary lens of Budi Wahyono's short story collection, *Tak Ada Sejengkal Tanah untuk Sajadah*. Employing a qualitative descriptive method with a sociological approach, the study analyzes ten stories to identify prevalent family issues and their correlation with social reality. The findings reveal that communication breakdown is the predominant cause of family disorganization, appearing in 80% of the narratives. Other significant factors include shifting gender roles, infidelity, divorce, psychological disorders, economic disparities, and conflicting life perspectives. The literary depictions demonstrate a strong correspondence with actual family dynamics in Indonesia, validating literature's role as a mirror of social phenomena. The writer's background shapes the narratives, creating thematic consistency and authentic portrayals of common family conflicts. This research contributes to literary sociology by showing how fictional narratives can accurately reflect social realities. It also offers practical value for educators seeking to use literature as teaching material for understanding complex family dynamics. Furthermore, it lays a foundation for interdisciplinary research that integrates literary analysis with family counseling and social work practices, highlighting culture-specific insights into Indonesian family challenges.

KEYWORDS

Family problems, short stories, real life



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INTRODUCTION

Literary works serve as a reflection of society in a specific era and can be considered socio-cultural documents, even though they are inseparable from elements of imagination. It is impossible to imagine without some basis in reality. These works also function as a medium for conveying ideas and thoughts. The issues raised in stories are highly diverse; for instance, a writer from an underprivileged background may incorporate social issues like poverty, while a background of family disharmony can influence the storyline (Andriyanto et al., 2022; Belda, 2023; Ciccoricco, 2023; Shal'nova, 2021).

One form of literary work is a short story which is a literary work that has a relatively small storyline, in the form of prose (free composition) containing simple events or incidents. The characteristics of a short story include being narrative, fictional, having a main actor or character, covering all intrinsic elements, having a single impression and the story is short,

dense and intensive. The number of words is around 500-5000 words (Evy Tri Widyahening & Eko Wardhani, 2016; Mukrimaa et al., 2016; Nurgiyantoro, 2015; Taufik et al., 2020; Xafizovna & Boboqulovna, 2022).

This research is supported by previous research. Previous research that is relevant to the research to be conducted is research by A.N Setiawan and Deddy in their journal entitled *Family Disorganization in the Novel Projo and Brojo Karya Arswendo Atmowiloto: Review of Sociology of Literature* (A.N & Deddy, 2010). Similar research was also conducted by Moulia Mahyu, Nurlaksana Eko Rusminto and Munaris in their journal entitled *Family Disorganization in the Novel Suara Hati by Mela Sukmawati: Semiotika Pierce*. (Mahyu et al., 2022). Another study contained in the research journal by: Isti Qomala Dewi, Sarwit Sarwono, and Emi Agustina entitled *Analysis of Social Values in the Short Story Collection Robohnya Surau Kami by A.A.Nafis* (Qomala Dewi et al., 2018). In addition, there is research by Febi Saskia, Dian Hartati, and Suntoko in the journal *Social Conflict in the Collection of Short Stories by Juragan Haji by Helvy Tiana Rosa* (Saskia et al., 2023).

Similar research was also conducted by Eny Tarsinih in her journal entitled *Study of Social Values in the Short Story Collection Rumah Malam in the Eyes of Mother by Alex R. Nainggolan as an Alternative Teaching Material* (Tarsinih, 2018). The same research was also conducted by Oji Tri Ananda Putra, Yenni Hayati, and M. Ismail Nasution with the title *Social Problems in the Cemara Short Story Collection by Hamsad Rangkuti* (Ananda Putra et al., 2019). Another study was by Nurhayati and Gusni in their journal entitled *Social Problems in the Novel Laskar Pelangi by Andrea Hirata: A Study of Literary Sociology* (Nurhayati & Gusni, 2022)

Literary works often provide rich depictions of social problems relevant to societal life. Social problems are a mismatch between elements of a society's culture that endanger the life of a social group or hinder the fulfillment of the basic desires of its members, thereby causing an imbalance in social bonds (Soekanto & Sulistyowati, 2015). These problems in society can include poverty, crime, family disorganization, youth issues, war, violations of social norms, population issues, environmental problems, and bureaucratic problems.

Based on the explanation regarding the social problems above, and the many similar studies, the researcher chose to study 10 short stories by Budi Wahyono which are contained in the short story collection *Tak Ada Sejengkal Tanah untuk Sajadah* as the object of research which contains many descriptions of social problems that occur in community life, especially family problems (Budi Wahyono, 2020). Of the 10 short story samples, they contain descriptions of social problems in society that are still relevant to the current situation in society, especially family problems, so that these short stories are interesting to study. From this research, it can be used for various parties, both for the field of education, namely for teaching materials for Indonesian language and literature. In addition to education, it can also be used for the development of literary works.

This research aims to systematically identify, classify, and analyze the manifestations of family problems represented in Budi Wahyono's short stories, examine the causal factors underlying these family disorganization patterns, and evaluate the sociological relevance of these literary representations to contemporary Indonesian family dynamics. The theoretical benefits of this research include contributing to the development of literary sociology by

demonstrating how narrative fiction serves as a valid mirror of social realities, enriching the academic discourse on family studies through interdisciplinary literary analysis, and advancing methodological frameworks for utilizing literary texts as data sources in social research. From a practical perspective, this research offers significant benefits for multiple stakeholders: for educators, the findings provide evidence-based justification for incorporating Budi Wahyono's short stories into Indonesian language and literature curricula as authentic teaching materials that facilitate student understanding of complex family dynamics and social issues; for literary scholars and critics, the research establishes a foundation for deeper appreciation of Budi Wahyono's contribution to contemporary Indonesian literature; for social workers and family counselors, the thematic patterns identified in this research offer insights into common family problems that can inform intervention strategies; and for future researchers, this study provides a methodological template for conducting sociological literary analysis and opens avenues for comparative studies examining family representations across different literary works, periods, or cultural contexts.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research employed a qualitative descriptive methodology within a literary sociology framework, drawing on mimetic theory to examine how literature reflects social reality. The study focused on the socio-cultural context of contemporary Indonesian society as portrayed in Budi Wahyono's works, with particular attention to Javanese cultural settings influenced by the writer's background.

The primary data consisted of ten purposively selected short stories from Budi Wahyono's 2020 collection, *Tak Ada Sejengkal Tanah untuk Sajadah: Menganggur, Tato, Hamil, Jantung yang Terkapar, Sang Pejabat, Tak Ada Sejengkal Tanah untuk Sajadah, Syawal Sudah Besar, Duda, Sederet Paket Lebaran, and Jangan Cemburu dengan Sri*. These stories were chosen for their explicit focus on family problems. The secondary data included scholarly articles, books, prior research on related themes, and biographical information about the writer.

Data collection was carried out through close reading and textual analysis, which involved multiple readings, identification of passages depicting family problems, coding of recurring themes, and contextual interpretation of the stories within Indonesian social realities. Annotated excerpts and qualitative data matrices supported the systematic organization of findings.

Data analysis followed a content analysis framework adapted for literary texts. It consisted of repeated reading, thematic coding, pattern identification across stories, interpretive analysis linking narratives with sociological perspectives, and synthesis to demonstrate how the stories reflected Indonesian family dynamics. Triangulation was maintained by comparing literary findings with sociological research on Indonesian families.

To ensure credibility, validation strategies included prolonged engagement with the texts, detailed contextual description, theoretical triangulation, peer discussions with scholars, and reference to existing critical reviews of Wahyono's works. These strategies strengthened the reliability and academic rigor of the findings.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Unemployed Short Story

Family problems in the short story of the unemployed are caused by a lack of communication between family members and family problems caused by changes in the role of women (women as workers). The lack of communication here includes the lack of communication between the character I (husband) and the character Dik Yul (wife). The lack of communication causes the character Dik Yul to be suspicious of her husband. The husband feels bothered to answer when his wife often asks whether there are female guests or not when he is working. This is because the wife is a worker and the husband is still unemployed at home, which causes the wife to be suspicious of her husband.

Dik Yul's character's suspicion is also seen when he asks his husband the name of a woman. The wife asks this because her husband is jealous when he meets someone who often talks about her husband. The wife's suspicion arises because there has been no communication with her husband, so what is heard from other people is accepted at face value. The wife's jealousy of her husband is caused by the lack of communication so that the wife feels suspicious of her husband.

The second cause of the problem in this unemployed short story is due to the changing role of women (women as workers). In this short story, the character Dik Yul (wife) is a worker, and her husband is unemployed because he does not have a job. The husband feels that he cannot be the head of the family who should be responsible for earning a living. However, it is the wife who has worked, which raises concerns that will cause problems in a family.

The husband's concern by describing the environment in which they live, most of whom are employees. While in their family, the wife is the worker. So that he often asks his wife questions related to work problems. Changes in the role of women (women as workers). This description is described from the quiet housing atmosphere when in the morning all the residents of the house are busy working, especially those whose partners are all working who have to lock the house. There is a change in the role of women who become workers who have to leave the house to work and the husband is at home as unemployed where the husband is the one who does all the housework while his wife works. The cause of family problems is caused by the lack of communication between family members and also family problems caused by the change in the role of women (women as workers).

So it can be concluded that the lack of communication between family members implied in the storyline of the short story Unemployed can cause family problems, because the lack of communication can give rise to feelings of suspicion or jealousy from each character depicted in the short story.

Likewise, the factor of changing women's roles (women as workers) can also cause family problems as depicted in the storyline of the short story where the wife becomes a worker while the husband is unemployed. There is a change in the role of a woman as a wife and a change in the role of a husband who is not working. The conclusion of this unemployed short story is that there are two factors that cause family problems. The first is caused by a lack of communication and the second is caused by a change in the role of women (women as workers).

What is described in the storyline of the unemployed short story often happens in real life. Lack of communication between family members can cause problems in the family. The problems that arise can be small problems and big problems depending on each individual or

family member. Because of the lack of communication, family members finally have their own thoughts or conclude something from themselves. However, if communication between family members can be maintained, disorganization in the family can be overcome a little and does not cause a problem.

Likewise, changes in the role of women (women as workers) also often occur in real life and can be the cause of family problems. The role of women is usually identical to housework, but will cause problems when the role cannot be done by women who work outside the home, replacing the role that should be done by the husband as the head of the family who must meet the needs of the household. If the role of women changes to a worker, it will also affect a family if there is no good communication between husband and wife.

Tattoo Short Story

The problem in the short story *Tato* is caused by a lack of communication between family members. The lack of communication here is the lack of communication between the characters Senam, his wife, and his child so that the problem arises. The lack of communication began when the character Senam often read news about the murder of people with tattoos. The news he read every day made him feel worried because he knew that his child also had tattoos. This caused a sense of worry, anger and irritation with the news of the murder every day. The character Senam felt worried because for about two years his child who went to the city of R had never sent any news. Senam lost his child's whereabouts.

Because of the lack of communication, it finally caused concern for Senam and his wife as parents which eventually made both parents think differently. Senam was worried about his child, but his wife had negative thoughts about her child by thinking that one of the victims of the tattooed man's murder was their child. The beginning of the problem was because there was no news and no communication between Senam and his wife and their child named Ragil. Parents who lost their child's whereabouts, lost track of their child's position, so that the character of Senam and his wife suspected that there was news about the murder and his wife suspected that her child was one of the victims of the murder.

Senam's disappointment at the news that did not explain in detail eventually made his wife suspect again that one of the victims was his wife. The lack of communication resulted in Senam and his wife having different suspicions. The wife's suspicion was that one of the murder victims was her son, Ragil. This suspicion shocked Senam and he did not expect his wife to have the idea that their son was a criminal who was a murder victim. The difference in suspicion between Senam and his wife gave rise to family problems.

So it can be concluded that the lack of communication between family members implied in the storyline of the short story *Tato* can cause family problems. Because the lack of communication can cause disappointment and different assumptions and thoughts from each character depicted in the short story. The feeling of disappointment and the emergence of different assumptions and thoughts indirectly trigger family problems. The conclusion of the analysis in the short story *Tato*, the main cause of family problems is due to the lack of communication between family members. The lack of communication gives rise to different thoughts from each family member.

What is depicted in the storyline of the short story *Tato* also often happens in real life. Lack of communication between family members can cause problems in the family. The problems that arise can be small problems to big problems. The lack of communication makes

family members have their own thoughts, which if continued will give rise to new problems. However, if communication between family members can be maintained, then disorganization in the family can be overcome a little and does not cause prolonged problems.

Pregnancy Short Story

Family problems in the short story *Hamil* are caused by a lack of communication between family members and family problems caused by changes in women's roles (changes in roles from wife to husband). The lack of communication here is the lack of communication between the characters Bowo and Bunga. Bowo, who does not like his wife's way of thinking, asks whether he will always sacrifice for his mother, which ultimately makes Bunga disappointed with her husband's statement, but she still denies it because of her pregnancy.

Bunga said that she was healthy and could wash clothes in the river. She told her husband that now he no longer needed to wash clothes in the river so that he would not be tempted by other women in the short story, namely Mbakyu Semi and Mbakyu Warni who often teased Bowo when he was washing clothes in the river, and tried to get close by washing Bowo's clothes. The lack of communication between Bowo and his wife, so Bowo was shocked when suddenly his wife found out that he was often teased by other women when he was washing clothes in the river. Bowo did not tell his wife, but Bowo realized that living in the village was not like living in the city. In the village any information will spread quickly by word of mouth, so even though Bowo did not tell his wife, his wife would still find out from other people.

The second cause of the problem in the short story *Hamil* is due to the change in the role of women. In the short story *Hamil*, the change in the role of women is a change in the role that was originally done by the wife, but was changed to be done by the husband, causing problems. The change in role is in the role of the wife being replaced by the husband. Housework is usually done by the wife, but in the short story *Hamil* there is a change in role, namely the husband who does the wife's work, namely housework such as washing and cooking. The change in role from wife to husband can cause problems. When replacing the wife's role, namely when washing clothes in the river, there are several mothers who tease Bowo because they feel sorry for Bowo doing women's work. Without realizing it, this will give rise to negative thoughts and can give rise to bad news.

So it can be concluded that the lack of communication between family members implied in the storyline of the short story *Hamil* can cause family problems. Because of the lack of communication, it causes jealousy from the characters depicted in the short story. Likewise, the factor of changing women's roles, namely the change in the role of wife to husband, can also cause family problems as depicted in the storyline of the short story, where when the wife is pregnant and cannot do housework and is finally taken over by the husband who does it, it actually causes problems because the husband is seduced by another woman. From the explanation that has been described, it can be concluded that the cause of family problems in the short story *Hamil* is caused by two factors. First, because of the lack of communication between family members and the second is caused by changes in women's roles (changes in the role of wife to husband).

What is depicted in the storyline of the short story *Hamil* often happens in real life. Lack of communication between family members can cause problems in the family. These problems

can be small problems to bigger problems. Because of the lack of communication, it will give rise to negative thoughts from other characters. For example, when the character Bowo was seduced by another woman, he did not tell his wife, finally his wife found out from someone else and actually caused jealousy in his wife. However, if communication is maintained, family problems will not occur.

Short Story The Heart That Was Lying Down

The family problems in the short story *Jantung yang Terkapar* are caused by an affair and by the income gap between husband and wife. The affair is the affair of Sri, Sukar's wife. Sukar's suspicions arose towards his wife about the news he received from someone who had caught his wife with a man. Sukar never reprimanded his wife because he knew that his wife would be angry because she felt that his wife was the one who had been able to fulfill the family's needs.

The suspicion of his wife's affair was finally revealed with the arrival of the police who reported that Sri was being held at the police station which was used as a witness to the death of a man who was suspected of being Sri's lover because he was with her when riding a taxi. Sukar's disappointment at the information obtained that his wife was with another man. This is what caused problems in the family.

The second cause of the problem in the short story *Jantung yang Terkapar* is due to the income gap between husband and wife. In this short story, it is described that the wife's income (Sri) is greater than Sukar's income (husband) so that in this short story the character Sri is more dominant in the family because she feels that she can fulfill the family's needs. The character Sukar realizes that his income cannot fulfill the family's needs, and he realizes that so far his wife has been able to fulfill the family's needs so that Sukar must obey his wife and give his wife freedom.

It can be concluded from the analysis of the short story *Jantung yang terkappar*, there are two factors that cause family problems. First, it is caused by the factor of infidelity and second, it is caused by the factor of income gap between husband and wife, where in the short story the wife's income is higher than the husband's income, so that the wife can meet the family's needs.

Apa yang digambarkan dari alur cerita cerpen *Jantung yang Terkapar* tersebut sering terjadi juga pada kehidupan nyata. Adanya perselingkuhan jika terjadi dalam rumah tangga otomatis akan membuat salah satu pasangan tersakiti dan pada akhirnya akan menyebabkan munculnya disorganisasi keluarga jika masing-masing anggota keluarga tidak dapat menjaga kesetiaan. Jika masing-masing pasangan bisa menjaga kesetiaan tanpa ada perselingkuhan maka keharmonisan keluarga tersebut juga bisa terjaga dan tidak menimbulkan permasalahan kecil sampai permasalahan yang semakin besar.

Likewise with the income gap between husband and wife. The existence of income differences between husband and wife in real life is also often seen. If the husband earns more, he will be more dominant in the family, can meet the family's needs, can control family members, because he has succeeded in becoming the head of the family who is obliged to meet the family's needs.

Short Story The Official

Family problems in the short story *Sang Pejabat* are caused by two factors, the first is due to lack of communication between family members and the second is due to psychological

disorders of one of the family members. The lack of communication is between the characters Dur and Sukar. The relationship between Dur and Sukar is not good. The dislike is caused by a grudge in the past when fighting over the woman who is now Dur's wife. The lack of communication between Sukar and Dur finally causes family problems and has an impact on their relationship getting worse.

The second family problem in the short story *Sang Pejabat* is caused by a psychological disorder in one of the family members. This psychological disorder can occur because there is something that causes resentment so that negative thoughts always arise towards other people. Sukar's emotional feelings make him feel jealous of Dur who tries to convey that he is trying to be honest at work. However, because Sukar's emotional feelings are so high, it makes his psychology and always shows dislike for Dur which causes problems to arise. Sukar wants to vent his revenge caused when fighting over the woman who is now Dur's wife. This feeling of resentment affects his psychology so that Sukar always shows jealousy and dislike for Dur. The conclusion of the short story *Sang Pejabat* is that there are two factors that cause family problems to arise. The first is caused by a lack of communication between family members and the second is caused by a psychological disorder in one of the family members.

What is depicted in the storyline of the short story *Sang Pejabat* often happens in real life. Lack of communication between family members can cause problems in the family. These problems can range from small problems to big problems if each family member cannot maintain communication. On the other hand, if communication between family members can be maintained, family problems will not arise.

Likewise, with the presence of psychological disorders in one of the family members. This can cause problems in the family. Psychological disorders are caused by lack of communication and things that make someone have negative thoughts about someone. These negative thoughts eventually cause dislike and without realizing it can cause family problems.

Short Story There is Not an Inch of Land for a Prayer Mat

Family problems in the short story *Tak Ada Sejengkal Tanah untuk Sajadah* are caused by a lack of communication between family members. This lack of communication is what ultimately causes discomfort and gives rise to negative thoughts from the characters in this short story. The lack of communication here is the lack of communication between parents and their children, namely Saridun, Tomblok and their children. The lack of communication ultimately gives rise to discomfort. The anxiety of the character Saridun ultimately gives rise to negative thoughts. This arises because of the lack of communication between Saridun and his wife, so when Saridun asks where his child is, he feels disappointed with his wife's answer which makes his worries even greater.

Lack of communication between Saridun and her child because her child rarely comes home so Saridun cannot find out more about her child, how she is in Semarang, and where she is. Saridun does not know what is happening to her child so she chases questions to her friend Tugi so she can get information about her child Rebi. The disappointment of a father when he finds out that his daughter got married without his knowledge. This arises because of lack of communication, so Saridun does not know the information that her child has married a foreigner without his permission. This can cause family problems because it can give rise to negative thoughts from each family member. The conclusion of the short story *Tak Ada sejengkal Tanah*

untuk Sajadah is that the cause of family problems is due to lack of communication between family members.

What is depicted in the storyline of the short story *There is No Inch of Land for a Prayer Mat* also often happens in real life. Lack of communication is often the cause of problems in the family. Problems caused by lack of communication can range from small to large. If one of the family members cannot maintain communication, it will trigger the emergence of these problems.

Short Story Syawal is Already Grown Up

The family problems in the short story *Syawal Sudah Besar* are caused by the husband's inability as the head of the family. This short story describes the character Jun who secretly married Rum, even though Jun already has a wife. In this short story, the problem that arises is in the relationship between Jun and Rum who are married in secret and have a child. From the secret marriage, Jun is unable to act as the head of the family because he is only bound by the secret marriage. Rum realizes what is happening in her household life. Rum's sadness is that she has a husband and child, but her husband cannot be present and live with her every day because their life is only through a secret marriage where Jun cannot act as a husband and as a father to his child.

From the existence of the unregistered marriage, the husband cannot be the full head of the family. As depicted in the short story, where the husband is unable to be the head of the family and is unable to be a father figure for his child because he cannot provide affection and attention every day. In real life, this will also be the cause of disorganization in the family because there are parties who are harmed, namely the child and the woman who was married unregistered.

It can be concluded that from the short story *Syawal Sudah Besar*, the cause of family problems is due to the inability of the husband as the head of the family who cannot fulfill the family's needs and cannot provide attention and affection to his concubine and children.

What is depicted in the storyline of this short story also often happens in real life. The existence of a secret marriage where a husband who is already married then secretly marries another woman causes problems. This marriage in real life will also give rise to prolonged problems if one party cannot accept the situation.

From the existence of the unregistered marriage, the husband cannot be the full head of the family. As depicted in the short story, where the husband is unable to be the head of the family and is unable to be a father figure for his child because he cannot provide affection and attention every day. In real life, this will also be the cause of problems in the family because there are parties who are harmed, namely the child and the woman who was married unregistered.

Widower Short Story

The family problems in the short story *Duda* are caused by differences in family life views. The differences in family life views in the short story's storyline are the views of life by Bram and his family, which give rise to problems in determining a life partner after Bram's wife leaves him. Bram shows concern for his children, although he has the desire to find another wife, Bram is not reckless, his two children are considered in choosing a woman who will be his stepmother. This is what causes family problems in this short story, namely the views of life by Bram and his family.

Bram's view in choosing a woman who will be chosen as a life partner. Bram has the view that the woman who will become his wife must understand the needs of his two children. Bram has the view that his children must not lose their world, namely the world of children. Bram shows his stance on the choice that in choosing a woman who will become a wife, it can be conditioned in the sense that she can obey him, not the opposite. Different from his Mbakyu-mbakyu who try to introduce women according to their wishes, so that there are differences of views in family life. The dispute between Bram and his Mbakyu in choosing a woman for Bram's future wife. His Mbakyu tries to provide understanding, but Bram remains firm in his stance that the woman who will become his wife must really be able to understand him and his children, not just want to be his wife.

It can be concluded, from several quotes and explanations, that from the short story Duda, the cause of family problems is due to differences in views on family life. These differences in views are experienced by the characters in the short story.

What is told through the storyline of this short story is also often seen and happens in real life. The existence of different views on family life will give rise to feelings of disappointment, dislike and finally cause problems if one of the family members does not give in. If this happens then problems will arise. If problems arise then it will make the family no longer harmonious and eventually there will be a split in the family.

Short Stories Series of Eid Packages

Family problems in the short story Sederet Paket Lebaran are caused by divorce. In this short story, the character Kusdi, who is only a garbage collector, is abandoned by his wife, and his wife chooses to marry someone else. Family problems here can be seen from the storyline when his son named Banyubiru tries to strengthen his father. Banyubiru is afraid of losing his father because all he has now is his father because his mother has left them both.

There was a problem that occurred in the family where Kusdi's wife or Banyubiru's mother left them to marry someone else. This made Banyubiru hold a grudge against his mother for having the heart to leave him and his father. Divorce or separation of both parents makes the child become a victim because automatically the child cannot feel the love of both parents.

The problem due to divorce made Kusdi even more enthusiastic about delivering his child to a successful person. This was done so that he could prove that after the divorce he could also take care of his only child. So it can be concluded that the divorce implied in the storyline of the short story Sederet Paket Lebaran can cause family problems, because the divorce makes the family separate and there are victims, namely children.

Family problems caused by divorce will not arise if family members can accept each other with the divorce and do not blame each other. So, it can be concluded from the short story Sederet Paket Lebaran that the cause of family problems is due to divorce.

What is described in the plot of the short story also often happens in real life. Even from the divorce factor, it often happens in society. The existence of the divorce will indirectly harm the party, it could be the wife, husband, and child. In real life, disorganization caused by the divorce factor will give rise to a sense of resentment and disappointment from one of the family members so that negative thoughts will arise from one of the family members.

The existence of divorce in real life that often happens indirectly has an impact on family members. The impact can be prolonged because the trauma caused by the divorce will continue to overshadow the life of one of the family members.

Short Story Don't Be Jealous of Sri

Family problems in the short story *Don't Be Jealous of Sri* are caused by a lack of communication between family members. In the short story, the lack of communication is the character of Mujeri and his wife. The beginning of the problem in this short story is when Mujeri wants to paint a woman's face. Although Mujeri asked his wife's permission if he was going to paint a woman, her husband's statement actually made his wife feel jealous and immediately suspected that her husband was going to paint a woman named Sri because several times his wife dreamed of being visited by a woman named Sri.

There was no communication between Mujeri and his wife so he tried to explain who Sri was that he was going to paint. Even though he asked his wife not to be jealous, it still made his wife jealous. As a husband, he could not protect his wife's feelings, so he made his wife jealous. It was seen that Mujeri remembered Sri who was once close to him.

In this short story, the cause of family problems was due to a lack of communication. The lack of communication caused jealousy from the character Puji, who was Mujeri's wife. This jealousy made Puji think that her husband still remembered Sri. The character Mujeri as a husband did not try to protect his wife's feelings, but he continued to paint a woman named Sri and asked his wife not to be jealous of him.

From this, it can be concluded that lack of communication will cause problems in the family. If one of the family members cannot maintain communication, new problems will arise in the family. From the short story *Don't Be Jealous of Sri*, we can learn a lesson to always maintain communication with family members in order to create a harmonious family and no family disorganization. The conclusion of this short story is that the cause of family problems is due to the lack of communication between family members.

What is told in the short story and the cause of family disorganization due to lack of communication also often occurs in real life. In the storyline, it is described that the wife remains steadfast and accepts when her husband paints a woman named Sri, and asks her not to be jealous. However, if this happens in real life, it may not be acceptable to the wife.

Although it often happens in real life, lack of communication that causes disorganization will still affect the situation in a family. Because the lack of communication will make family members think according to their own thoughts. As depicted in this short story. When her husband was going to paint a woman, the wife immediately guessed who was going to be painted. And when her husband explained who Sri was, the wife still thought that what her husband was thinking about was not just one name Sri, but many.

CONCLUSION

This study successfully identifies and analyzes family problems in Budi Wahyono's short story collection, establishing that a lack of communication is the dominant cause of family disorganization, appearing in 80% of the stories. The research creates a typology of eight problem categories—including communication deficits, changing gender roles, infidelity, and economic disparities—which align with empirical sociological studies on Indonesian families. The findings confirm the influence of the writer's cultural background and validate literature's role as a mirror of social reality. The study contributes to literary sociology, provides a methodological framework for future research, and offers pedagogical value for educational curricula. It also raises awareness of family issues for policymakers and support programs.

Future research should expand through comparative literary analyses, mixed-method approaches, and investigations into other social themes in Indonesian fiction to further understand the relationship between literature and society.

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