

## POSITIVE FUNCTION OF CONFLICT ON THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE MOVIE AMADEUS (1984)

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### ABSTRACT

The topic of this article is positive function of conflict on the main character in the movie *Amadeus (1984)*. Conflicts are part and parcel of life. Not only human, but all living beings experience conflict at one or other point in their lives. Conflict that is managed and expressed properly is called a positive function which influences the pragmatic conflict sociology, or multidisciplinary sociology, that was used to manage conflict in companies or other modern organizations. The study of the main character in this paper uses the conflict theory according to Coser which states that there are two types of conflict, namely realistic and non-realistic conflicts. It can be seen how Salieri, the main character, continues to struggle by trying to improve his composition skills. Despite being faced with absolute power, his love for music did not stop him from fighting. With Salieri's position as Mozart's superior, Mozart brought out all the talents he had in order to survive and go hand in hand with the circumstances at that time to be able to produce brilliant works from the two composers. This is a sign that conflict does not always have a negative function but can also be a positive function.

Keywords : Main Character; Conflict, positive; function

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### BACKGROUND

Conflicts are part and parcel of life. Not only human, but all living beings experience conflict at one or other point in their lives. According to Lewis Coser, conflict that is managed and expressed properly is called a positive function which influences the pragmatic conflict sociology, or multidisciplinary sociology, that was used to manage conflict in companies or other modern organizations

(Susan, 2009, 46). Social systems as functional and the conflict that it might have do not always bring a negative nature. It can also strengthen the relationship between individuals in a group.

A sentence expressed by Antonio Salieri as the main character in *Amadeus* (Forman, M) movie describes about Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart his rival.

Conflict theory according to Lewis A Coser views that having a rival does not mean to condone the superiority of the other party. Coser has classified social conflicts into two types, namely realistic and non-realistic conflicts. The realistic conflict is a conflict between an individual and a group where disappointment happen over various forms of problems in social relations. Meanwhile, non-realistic conflicts arise because there is a need to release a tension from one or two conflicting parties (Coser, 1957, 197-207).

Literature and film share many elements in common, although literature and film are different mediums, they can communicate many things in the same way. Trianton (2013: 1) defines film as the result of the creative process of film making who combine various elements such as ideas, value systems, views of life, beauty, norms, human behavior, and technological sophistication. Film is a product of art that has a useful value because it aims to provide entertainment

and satisfaction for the audience. The conflict that was brought up by Salieri towards Mozart's behavior was unrecognized by Mozart. Mozart had a way to approach things especially related to music arrangement. He had a casual manner to redo the composition of the welcoming piano rehearsal to greet Mozart in the court played by the King and which was prepared by Salieri. The King was pleased by Mozart's arrangement that made Salieri jealous. The jealousy was considered as negative function of a conflict.

The expertise that Mozart has shown attracted the King to appoint him to be a part of the Court music ensemble. There were other disapproval launched by Salieri and his associates who poured out more Italian school of music in the Court's entertainment, of which in the opposition, Mozart was into promoting the German school. Whatever Mozart did, such as his training in music and his growing up pretty smoothly supported by his father, a music

teacher, to Salieri was beyond his understanding. The process of nurturing a sense of disapproval in Salieri was a challenge because there was no way that he could oppose the King for liking Mozart. When Salieri was a child, he lost his father, of which this unfortunate situation hindered him for pursuing his love for music as he had to work to sustain his life. At the same time, Mozart was growing up easily compared to him. So Salieri had to submit to the King's choice to enhance Mozart playing his role for the King's favor. In this case, Salieri was following the rule of making the non-real conflict by educating himself to compromise with the Court.

In ancient Greece, art was known as *teckne* (handicraft) which had two important elements, namely knowledge and skills. Preferred knowledge is the correct size and correct proportion. Also knowledge of the materials used in the art. This knowledge will produce a beautiful work (Djelantik, 2001: 86). Plato said that

art is an expression of the soul that shows itself from ideas. Plato's Theory of Art says that works of art are imitations of mimesis (Gie, 2004: 21) or imitation (Sahman, 1993: 83) of actual reality. Plato said that singing must meet three conditions, namely: word, mode and rhythm. These three conditions must be interrelated and balanced with all the rules (Susantina, 2004: 24-25). Plato said in his book *Symposium*, that the origin of all beauty is love. Furthermore, Plato said, we feel something as beautiful because we put love for it so we want to enjoy it again. All beauty is seen as a reflection of the true idea of beauty, the Greeks called him the God of Beauty. Reflection is the result of a special ability in the soul of the artist who with his talent can participate with the God of Beauty (Djelantik, 2001: 89). It appears in Plato's thought that in Love there is wisdom as well as virtue. Love, refers to the balance of taste, mind and strength which is a balanced harmony of harmony.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Some people may have experience conflict that Salieri and Mozart had. Salieri, on one hand disliked the way Mozart ushered himself in the Court's environment, which seemed cool, whereas Mozart had to bear the seniority of Salieri's position for being older and was familiar with the Court's protocol. In music, conflict was less favorable because it didn't relate to the society at-large, where you were positioned in a less demand work and then usually you became part of other employees. Musicians like Salieri and Mozart, eventually were more scrutinized and received criticism from the King personally. Conflict in the area of music was not simple because in music, the arrangement was not easily completed. The musician had to pour out his sense of sensitivity in finishing his piece. Music is the product of particular composition of wide-ranging sound and tone in which rhythm was created synchronously and a musician had a distinctive skill to make his

piece unique. Koentjaraningrat suggests that music is part of the cultural aspirations (1986 : 203-204). Jamalus (1988: 1-2) says that music is the artistic product of sound in songs and composition which express the mind and feeling of the creator. The medium of which is the elements, rhythm, melody, harmony, and form or structure, which finally expressed as a unity. Soeharto in "Kamus Musik", a dictionary of music (1992 : 86) mentioned that music is an expression through sound of which the basis are melody, rhythm, and harmony as embodiment of an idea, a characteristic and the color of sound: the accord of which has the mayor and minor sound. Mayor sound reflects "1-3-5" of the tuts whereas minor sound, "1-21/2-5".

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's real name was Johannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Gottlieb Mozart was a genius composer. He started to write a piano concert when he was four years old. When he was seven, he wrote a symphony, at fourteen, composed an opera

of a great scale, “*Mitridate, re di Ponto (Mithridates, King of Pontus)*”. He has written seven hundred compositions consists of symphony, opera and concerts, choir including church hymnal. Salim (2007:138) stated that Mozart’s music structure went along with his brain cells, therefore they expressed variable sounds that resulted numerous soft tunes to hard, from slow to rapid. Physiologically, music is related to the sense of hearing, but psychologically it is related to various human psychic functions such as perception, abstraction, mood and various other psychological functions. Differences in the tempo of a song, for example, can affect the perception of auditory stimuli that measure different meanings. The interpretation of a fast tempo song is defined as something that inspires enthusiasm compared to a slow tempo song. The choice of high-pitched songs tends to be perceived as something that contains stronger emotions than low ones. According to Campbell, (2001:17),

rhythm, melody, and high frequencies in classical music by composer Mozart is able to awaken and energize creative and motivational areas in the brain.

Classical music has been believed to strengthen the mind and emotions so that it makes people more creative. Music can have a positive influence and energy for humans, including playing a very important role in supporting intellectual and social development, as well as maintaining a balance between the soul and the physical (Musbikin, 2009: 149). Based on the description above, it can be concluded that classical music is an arrangement, a collection of tones that become a meaningful sound originating and developing in western countries (Europe) in the Middle Ages after Christ to calm and inspire many people. Classical music is not easily forgotten and even remains to this day, with a perfect and amazing appearance. In addition, he also said that listening to classical music will stimulate the right side of the brain. The

theory of right brain function and left brain function has been popular since 1960. The right brain functions in terms of feeling, imagination, creativity, form and space, emotion, music, and color. Right brain memory is long term. Classical music itself has high complexity, mathematical, structured, harmonious, creative, and increases spatial intelligence. Gregorian who has spiritual values, peace and tranquility.

Antonio Salieri, who was also a court composer of the Austrian Empire as part of Holy Roman Empire at the time, felt completely defeated by Mozart's prowess. Salieri admired Mozart brilliant works and surpassed Salieri's, so he said God made Mozart his instrument. Salieri regretted why God didn't make him as great as Mozart, even though from the start his goal was to serve God through music. So he said that he was a mediocrity or a person of mediocre ability which meant he was a number two person who would not be able to become a number one.

Awareness of his condition of not being able to compete with Mozart (even though he was actually a great composer) and his falling self-esteem due to feeling defeated makes Salieri have an attitude that is not in line with Mozart. Hate but amazed, Salieri was trying to improve his compositional writing skills, but he was also constantly trying to get in the way and bring down Mozart.

In this case, we can see how the main character continues to struggle by trying to improve his composition skills. Despite being faced with absolute power, his love for music did not stop him from fighting. This can also be evidence that the conflict experienced by Salieri can have a positive impact on his life. In 1788, he was appointed Kapellmeister (one in charge of music in a chapel) at the court of Joseph II and it was a mark of the highest evaluation of his composer's achievement and talent. He managed to stay at the Habsburg court until the next two kings. Salieri ended his court career in 1824, when his health no

longer allowed him to fulfill his duties. During his lifetime the composer wrote 40 operas such as *Axur, Red d'Ormus* (1788), *Palmira, Regina di Persia* (1795), and *Falstaff* (1799).

Salieri devoted a great deal of energy and resources to preserving and promoting his generous creative heritage, although the competition between Mozart and Salieri's was very tight. Salieri can be someone who deserves to be a rival to the maestro Mozart. Even when they met in the kingdom, Mozart could see each other as friends or colleagues, and supported each other's work. For example, when he was installed Kapellmeister, he revived *Figaro* (by Mozart), and when he went to the coronation celebration for Leopold II in 1790. Salieri carried three times of Mozart's creations, "*Masses*". Salieri and Mozart even put together a cantata for voice and piano together, called the *Per la ricuperata salute di Ofelia*, which celebrates the return of Nancy Storace's, a british opera singer, to the singing scene.

The work, although it had been printed by Artaria (a music publishing company in the late 18th and 19th centuries founded in Vienna) in 1785, was considered lost until 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2016. The Schwäbische Zeitung reported the discovery, from copies of its texts and music while conducting research on Antonio Salieri in the collection of the Czech Music Museum.

## CONCLUSION

*The Requiem in D minor K. 626* became the last work of Salieri and Mozart's collaboration. At that time, Mozart's financial situation was deteriorating and Mozart received an order with the promise of large funds. The demands of composition from *Requiem in D minor* and an opera "*The Magic Flute*" drove Mozart to the point of exhaustion when he had to work continuously until finally Constanze, Mozart's wife, left and took his son with him. Mozart's health worsened and he collapsed during the

premiere of *"The Magic Flute"*. Salieri carried Mozart home and convinced him to keep working on his Requiem. Mozart dictated note after note, while Salieri transcribed it throughout the night. When Constanze returned in the morning, he asked Salieri to go and keep the transcription of Mozart's sheet music. then by the time Constanze wanted to wake her husband, Mozart was dead. The remaining Requiem had not been completed, and Salieri felt helpless when Mozart's body was transported out of Vienna for burial in the mass grave of the poor.

Amadeus comes from the Latin word "ama" imperative from the words "amare" (to love) and "deus" (god) which can also be interpreted as 'Love of God'. In other words, the person is loved by God. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart became one of the most famous bearer of the name. True to his name, God bestowed Mozart with a miracle of love that touch many people. That the main points that made Salieri jealous, annoyed and angry at

Mozart. With Salieri's position as his superior, Mozart brought out all the talents he had in order to survive and go hand in hand with the circumstances at that time to be able to produce brilliant works from the two composers. This is a sign that conflict does not always have a negative impact but can also be a positive impact. The music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart brings today a life history.

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