

**MORAL PANIC IN THE NOVEL *FAHRENHEIT 451* BY RAY
BRADBURY (SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY)**



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THESIS

**Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of Requirement for the Bachelor Degree at
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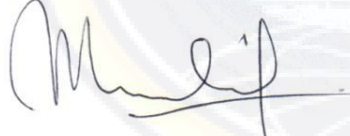
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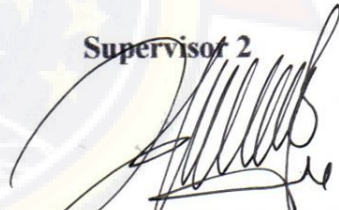
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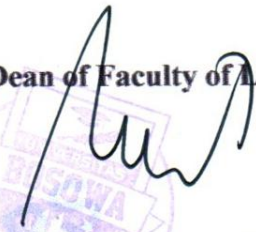
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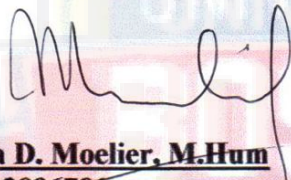
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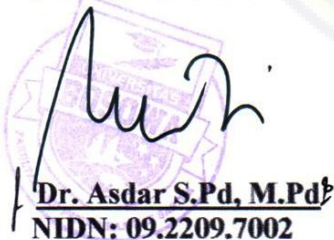
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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

The writer hereby declares that the content in this thesis **MORAL PANIC IN THE NOVEL FAHRENHEIT 451 BY RAY BRADBURY (SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY)** is the absolute work of the writer and has never been used in any institution or for any purpose before. The writer guarantees that the content of this thesis is the result of the writer's own thoughts. The guidance received in the preparation of writing this thesis and the resources used really exist and are recognized.

Makassar, October 2023

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ABSTRACT

Alberto Yulianto Seu Blagin, 2023. 45170510112. Moral Panic in the Novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. English Language and Literature Program, Faculty of Letters. Bosowa University. Supervised by Dahlia D. Moelier and Asyrafunnisa.

This research aimed to analyse the construction of moral panic as depicted in Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451* and the effects of moral panic on social conditions. The research used a qualitative descriptive research method through sociological studies. There were two sources of data, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data was taken from the novel "*Fahrenheit 451*". Secondary data was taken from journals, theses, and articles. The researcher found the construction of moral panic and the influence of moral panic on social conditions contained in the novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury.

The data findings showed that Ray Bradbury described the construct of moral panic through concern, consensus, hostility, disproportionality, and volatility. Moral panic had an impact on social conditions because of the widespread concern in society about a condition, person, or group that was considered dangerous and threatened people's lives, causing conflicts and social gaps.

Keywords: moral panic, sociological study, Ray Bradbury: *Fahrenheit 451*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background and reason for choosing the title, the scope and limitations of the research, the research question, the objective of the research, and the significance of the research.

A. Background

Literary work is the form and result of works of art whose object is humans and life, using language as the tool. According to Luxemburg et al (1984:23), literature is a written work created at a certain moment that is tied to norms and practices and also describes the culture that developed in the society, which then became a feature that was focused in the writing. Additionally to expressing problems and life experiences, the researcher also invites readers to solve problems through literary works, as literary works are created as a result of the author willingness to express his creativity in conveying ideas, mindsets, based on imagination and social reality using language as the main instrument.

According to Wellek and Warren (1956: 1), people have been attracted to and regard oral and written literature in a positive light. Literature has a great moral worth as an imaginative creation expressed through language. As a result, these ideals become a reflection of the community's social reality. Therefore it is clearly that literature is closely linked to society's social and cultural life.

Moral panic is an interesting social problem that is interesting to study in the literature. Moral panic is the widespread concern that crime will endanger people's lives. It is a disproportionate public response to the activities of persons or organizations accused of straying from existing social and cultural standards and norms, according to Stanley Cohen (1972:9) who introduced the theory of moral panic.

Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* is one of the novel that addresses moral panic. This dystopian novel explores the themes of censorship and societal identity to illustrate the problem of how limiting ideas will cause society to become more backward. *Fahrenheit 451* depicts the transformation of books into forbidden items. It is a serious crime to keep or read a book, and the person will be punished. The government assigns a fire agency dubbed as *Fahrenheit 451* (a temperature at which books are instantly scorched) to light fires if it detects a home has books. The fire agency watched and executed books to dust. This showed how easily people can be manipulated and controlled. Through this novel, researcher will focus more on analyzing the moral panic described in the novel specifically how the moral panic condition occurred.

B. Reason for Choosing the Title

Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, which is set in a dystopian future, has a social message that is very relevant to the problems facing society today. How horrible life is when everything is restricted and limited! This topic of moral panic is important to analyze, and then return to society as knowledge because it is a problem that occurs within society itself.

C. Problem of the Research

After reading the novel by Ray Bradbury, the researcher find the problem to be investigated, widespread fear in society because of the authorities efforts to increase social control or the efforts of certain parties to seek profit. the researcher decided to investigate the effects of moral panic and constructions of moral panic in the novel *Fahrenheit 451* to provide readers a better understanding of the social problems that arise.

D. Scope of the Research

As the scope of the problem in this research, the researcher focuses on moral panic in the novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. Based on the identification of the problems, researcher limited the scope of the research to the constructions of moral panic and the effects of moral panic on social conditions depicted in Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451*

E. Research Questions

The questions of the research are:

1. How are the constructions of moral panic depicted in Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451*?
2. How are the effects of moral panic on social condition depicted in Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451*?

F. Objective of the Research

The objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To explain the constructions of moral panic in Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451*
2. To describe the the effects of moral panic on social condition depicted in Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451*

G. Significance of the Research

The significance of the research divided into two categories, namely theoretical and practical benefits.

1. Theoretical benefit

Research will help reveal the problems of moral panic that is portrayed in literature that is relevant to sociological study, it can be a reference and knowledge for readers and students. In particular, students of English literature for the development of literary science.

2. Practical benefit

To improve the knowledge and interest of researcher in literature and moral panic, and also to make it simpler for readers to understand the content of the novel *Fahrenheit 451* and how it relates to sociological study. The results of this study can help readers to identify situations of moral panic that exist in society.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter presents previous studies, definitions of literature, novel, moral panic, and also explains the theoretical approach.

A. Previous Studies

Purba (2020), with the title *Social Panic Due to the Emergence of Covid-19*. The aim of writing this study was to find out the causes of moral panic and the processes that occur as a result of spreading news through the internet and television as well as knowing the right and fast way to conduct social counseling in reducing panic in the society. The method used was interview technique and participant observation. Participatory observation is a data collection method used observation and sensing to gather research data, where researcher was involved in the daily life of informants. In addition to observing the phenomenon brought on by Covid-19, the researcher here also experienced it.

Panic occurs because of the influence of digital media and news that is often broadcast news on television. The death rate, product scarcity, crime and the rejection of corpses were given more attention than positive news and building people's mentality. News that focuses more on negative things will certainly lead the minds of the people who were initially wary to turn into panic that results in various social deviations. This study explains that panic usually comes from the society itself. Using the internet and social media, they find out the causes and modes of transmission. However, the elite and the news media saw this as the

perfect chance to intensify the panic in the society by focusing more on the issues that had become fear in the society.

Another previous study was conducted by Andrade et al., (2020) with the title *Millennials and Moral Panic in the United States and Beyond*. The aim of this research is to recognise the character of the young generation. While whites and nonwhites have similar rates of drug use, racial minorities are more likely to be targeted as drug dealers or users. This research is considered unusual because it discusses millennials and moral panic in different aspects, namely education and the transition to adulthood in South Korea. The negative effects that technology has had on millennials and Generation Z have been displayed by older generations. Academics are not protected from this "panic," as they usually share stories about students' inability to attend class without checking their phones and their continual need for entertainment. Earlier generations developed innovative technology that was later marketed to the younger generation, resulting in a significant cultural shift.

Millennials are increasingly competing for admission to top colleges and universities. In these circumstances, higher education at prestigious colleges is frequently regarded as the main way to increase social status. This has resulted in a contradiction between the workforce's human resources and job market demand. As a result, labour migration from a variety of Asian nations is occurring to fill jobs in manufacturing and agriculture. Higher levels of educational achievement, in connection with a fragile economic position, are having a significant impact on the marriage and raising of kids among Korean millennials. Society will continue

to develop, often in unexpected ways, and new generations will grow up in the future.

Another previous study was arranged by Molla (2021), with the title *Racial moral panic and African youth in Australia*. Focuses on the racialization of youth violence and the damage it sustains on refugee-background young Africans. This research to taking into account the integration impact of racial experience. This research extends knowledge on intercultural relations by using social representations theory to understand if and how recent racial moral panic has affected refugee-background African youth in Australia using narrative research as a methodological approach to document the experiences and perceptions of refugee youth about racial framing in public space.

The results of this research provide an understanding the racialized moral panic and its effect on refugee-background African youth in Australia. The term of 'crime gangs' positions African youth as a threat to the security and wellbeing of Australian society. Racial moral panic gives negative meaning to differences and promotes racist behavior in society towards black Africans. Racial stigma diminishes the refugee youth's sense of belonging, block their access to opportunities, and generate acculturative stress. Society should not allow the racial-moral panic to continue unaddressed. Therefore, it is timely and important to legally ban politicians and media commentators from racializing crime.

Benmetan and Setyowibowo (2021) with the title *Media and the creation of moral panic: critical analysis discussion of covid-19 pandemic news at tirto.id*. Analyzed the moral panic from the news of Covid-19 in Indonesia. society feel

fear, panic and paranoia. Therefore, pandemic gave strong characteristics as something unusual, dangerous, scary, and necessary taken seriously to prevent bad impact that will happen. This study emphasizes the focus on the formation of moral panic discourse through news construction and selection of issues in the news of pandemic. This research uses a qualitative approach with the formulation of problems related to the construction of the corona virus pandemic discourse in Indonesia in the tirto.id news. The method used in this research is critical discourse analysis.

The first finding from the research is that tirto.id used sensationalism as a way to project folk devils related to moral panic against the corona virus pandemic in Indonesia. The second finding in this research relates to the construction of moral panic against the corona virus pandemic in Indonesia which involves three central actors, namely the media, the government and the society. The third finding in this research relates to "power relations" which is an important focus in critical discourse analysis. Tirto.id news site successfully extrapolates the discourse of the coronavirus pandemic in Indonesia into a discursive society where the issue as a phenomenon that triggers moral panic in society, is responded inappropriately by the government, thus causing certain social problems such as chaos, economic decline, social problems, and humanitarian problems.

Another previous study was arranged by Kane and Huang (2021), with the title *The emotional psychology of moral panics: a cognitive neoassociationistic perspective*, analyse emotions and media influences on people in the moral panic literature and offer a psychological method for evaluating the topic of moral

panic. Through cognitive neoassociation theory, this research provides a theoretical framework for a psychological and emotional review of moral panic through analysing the special case of a business being forced to change its name from one that contains "Isis" in order to avoid aggressive reactions such as verbal attacks, vandalism, or other forms of harassment of the business, including fear reactions. Demonstrates interpretations of cognitive theory using quantitative and qualitative approaches.

Overall, this study exposes theoretical gaps in the literature on moral panics and emphasises the importance of studying psychology and sociology to properly understand moral panics. This research reveals, quantitatively, that as negative emotion grows, so does the potency of the incitement to the resulting action, verifying the key predictions of cognitive neoassociation theory. This study found that cognitive neoassociation theory gives a thorough theoretical explanation for the phenomenon of moral panic.

Based on previous studies, this study will analyse Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451*. Moral panic is an urgent problem to research since it is so closely tied to current societal problems. The objective of this research is different from previous studies in that it focuses on the development of moral panic and the effect of moral panic on the social conditions described in Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451*.

B. Literature

Literature is the expression of an author's thoughts and feelings in experiencing the events around them, whether it is their personal experiences or

those of other individuals or societal groups. Generally, the term "literature" has been used in English literary history since the 18th century to distinguish between written works that lack aesthetic value and those that possess aesthetic value, Abrams and Harpham (2014:198). Literary works are not empty writings or imagination that solely entertain readers. Through literary works, authors depict life values and introduce us to new experiences, meaning that literary works are a direct part of the active environment that portrays a particular era and social group. Therefore, literature cannot be separated from the literary environment.

Literature is a beautiful art form derived from human beings. Literature is a lovely art form that springs from human experience. Literary works are the product of the author's expression of feelings and imagination. Literature is simply another way for us to use our imagination to perceive the world around us. It represents literary works that are closely linked to life. The journey of life is frequently documented in literature. However, literature is more than just an image of life. Literary works are frequently an expression of a person's feelings that mirror the truth of life; literary works have a beauty that inspires a person to read and appreciate literature, Wicaksono (2017:80).

Literature is an expression of society, and the emergence of a literary work is closely related to the issues that arise at that time. This shows that social issues do have a strong influence on the form of literature. In other words, literature is an expression of society. This view proves that society plays an important role in shaping a literary works. This is supported by Eagleton and Boak (1985), with

statement that literary work is a mirror of human feelings and thoughts, supported by observation and experience.

Writers of literary works always pay attention to feelings and experiences because the purpose of literature is to represent valuable emotions and experiences. There are several types of literature, including prose, fiction, poetry, theatre, and novels. Good literature is a piece of literature that is able to leave a profound impression on its readers. It contains teachings in the form of values of life and noble messages that can increase human knowledge in understanding life realistically. These can be found when reading literary works, Nurgiyantoro (2018:23).

Based on the understanding above, it can be concluded that literature is a depiction of human life and the creation of someone's imagination. Literary works often contain moral values that can be used as lessons in social life and are the imaginative process of the author expressed through both oral and written expression. Literary works are a world of imagination whose reality or fact has been created in such a way by the author to be enjoyed, understood, and utilized by society.

C. Novel

The term "novel" comes from the Latin word "novella," which is formed from the word "novus" meaning "new." This word was then adapted into English as the term "novel." This new term is associated with the fact that the novel is a type of fiction story that emerged later compared to short stories and romances, Purwaningtyastuti et al (2000:2). A novel is capable of presenting the

development of a character, complex social situations, relationships that involve many or few characters, and various complex events that occur in more detail. Novels usually tell about human life in interaction with the environment and others. Furthermore, a novel is a literary work that is fictional in nature and depicts significant actions or processes. Its form can take the shape of tension, surprise, or curiosity, according to Brewer & Lichtenstein (1982:5-6).

Novels are a tool for educating people to educate and understand various life problems experienced by humans," Yenhariza (2012: 168). By reading the story, the reader will understand which excellent behaviours should be emulated and which should be avoided. A novel is composed of two elements, namely intrinsic and extrinsic, that affect the story and determine how it will be structured. The novel presents a more realistic depiction of social life. The scope of the novel allows for the portrayal of situations through events that are written by the author or through its characters.

Based on several opinions above, it can be concluded that a novel is a new type of literary work that is quite long and imaginative, depicting complex problems with a more extensive and detailed approach to its elements. The novel contemplates and depicts the reality that is observed and felt with certain influences related to the achievement of human desires.

D. Sociological Study

Literary works are multidimensional in that there are various dimensions of life, so many approaches are used to analyse literary works by focusing attention on certain aspects of literary works, for instance, with reference to aesthetic,

moral, and social problems, along with more specific limitations. In this research, the researcher uses a sociological approach to interpretation a novel through certain social conditions depicted in literary works.

Sociology and literature have usually been closely related to society. Sociology itself seeks to reveal a process of change that occurs in society and has an impact on social structure. while literature is a reflection of social culture, history, or a reflection of life. There is a reciprocal relationship between literary phenomena and social structure. The study of the sociology of literature proves to be very useful for understanding the economic situation, social system, morality, politics, perspectives of the writers' creativity, and cultural construction that are the determining factors of a literary work, Meiliana (2019:64).

Talking about the sociology of literature, in general it is able to be defined as the study of the relationship between literary works and society. according Goldmann and Boelhower (1980:42), Sociology studies human beings in society objectively and considerably in social existence, also to answer their characteristics, how they adapt to survive in a particular society. Sociology and literature share the same problems. The novel, as one of the main genres in literature, can be considered as an attempt to reflect back on the social world, the relationship between people and their environment, politics, the country and itself.

Literature reveals the way humans understand society with feelings that are the result of someone's thoughts, experiences, imaginations which are expressed in the beautiful form of words or using language as a medium to reflect on social structure. Novelists have works that are different from one another because of

their diverse imaginations in response to society, environment, nature, and their circumstances. While sociology analyzes society that is supported by scientific research. Sociologists will come up with findings after conducting research on phenomena that occur in a community group.

The sociological approach intends to explain that a literary work (novel) is essentially a social fact that does not only reflect the social reality that occurs in the society where the work was born, but also is the author's response to this social reality. This proves that the sociology of literature is a sociological study of a literary work, Semi (1989:52). The purpose of the study or study of Sociology in literature is to get an overview of the correlation between authors, literary works, and society.

The sociology of literature approach implies that research in the sociology of literature can create a relationship of mutual impact between sociology and literature. Both of which will influence each other in certain matters that attract the attention of researchers. Wellek and Warren present three forms of sociology of literature in *Theory of Literature* (1956: 90-91), including the sociology of writers, the sociology of literary works, the sociology of readers, and the social effect of literary works. The following is a description of the three forms of sociology literature, according to Wellek and Warren:

1. The sociology of the author focuses on social status, social ideology, and the attention of the author as a producer of literary works. In the sociology of the author, the author is regarded as an element of society whose life is bound by his

- reputation in society, the ideology he adopts, his position in society, and the interaction between the author and the reader.
2. The sociology of Literary work analyses the content of literary works, aims, and various other matters implicit in the works related to issues in society. The sociology of literary work examines literary works relation to social problems that exist in society based on the idea that what is implied in literary works is a reflection or re-imagining of reality in society.
 3. The sociology of readers examines the relationship between literary works and readers. Its scope includes the issues of readers and the societal impact of literary works on social change, as well as the social function of literature and how literary values are related to societal values.

The various classifications of sociology of literature. The researcher will use one of the concepts of the sociology of literature approach from Wellek and Warren, which focuses on the sociology of literary works, namely an approach that examines the things implied in literary works related to social problems. This concept is taken into consideration when researching *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. Literature and sociology are interrelated in building literary works. Literature, like sociology, critically examines the human life depicted in the novel.

E. Moral Panic

Moral panic is a condition where there is a kind of mass hysteria, pros and cons in the name of morals. Someone or something was seen as a threat to good values and the interests of society as a whole, causing panic, anxiety, or fear and the perception of a national threat, leading to the creation of regulations or laws to

address it. Sociologist Stanley Cohen popularized the concept of "moral panic" in the 1970s through his study of the "brutality" of young motorcycle gangs in UK which was published in a book entitled *Folk Devils and Moral Panics*. The media exaggerates occurrences or things that have an impact on creating risks to public safety, thus spreading fear in society through the use of sensationalized titles and dramatic language.

Cohen used the term specifically to explain how crime is portrayed in the media and how society responds to it in the UK. Cohen (1972 :1) says that moral panic happens when "a situation, period, individual, or group of people appears to be defined as a danger to the values and interests of society; this definition is communicated in style and stereotyped by the mass media" and echoed by politicians and experts. Cohen argued that the development of moral panics always follows a certain pattern. Cohen classified moral panic into four stages, which are as follows:

1. **Warning.** It is indicated by signs denoting groups, persons, or actions. At this point, the majority begins to realise the negative impact of certain groups' behaviour on society.
2. **Impact.** This step is an attack, a disorganised reaction to action, either by an individual or group. At this point, specific groups or behaviours are identified as enemies that must be fought (folk devils).
3. **Inventory.** This stage of the format is a (poor) systematic report on a group or individual and their repercussions. The media plays an important role in

exaggerating and distorting certain occurrences or behaviours to create social panic.

4. Reaction. There is a formal response to the act's negative consequences. For instance, the creation of regulations against organisations, individuals, or something deemed a cause of social deviance.

In the phenomenon of moral panic, there will always be scapegoats or parties who bear social sins. Stanley Cohen called those who are stigmatized like the demon "folk devils". Cohen emphasizes that the notion of a moral panic does not necessarily imply that there is a problem or not, but rather that the news has been exaggerated or informed by the ideological orientations of those in power. The objects of moral panic are labeled with derogatory stereotypes. A society that has been morally stigmatized is susceptible to manipulation for specific objectives, such as politics, Allifiansyah (2015:4).

In the process of moral panic, the media generally presents a number of claims when highlighting an issue. The issue must seem like a novel and dramatic story, be accurate or profitable, and also stand out, Critcher (2017). specifically in reporting on minority groups, which historically have often been blamed, and the media has an important role in constructing "social reality". In the process of moral panic, the media generally presents a number of claims when highlighting an issue. It is critical to underline that moral panics frequently touch on serious social problems. However, rather than providing the people with a more informed grasp of the issues that arise, the media, politicians, and government agents try to generate hostility towards individuals or groups that are not favoured.

The concept of moral panic is not easy. According to Fahs et al., (2013), this needs several limitations, but when morality is used to measure a deviant group or object, it will point out the simple difference between good and bad, particularly with relation to morality, namely problems in society that are regarded as "wrong" or "deviant." The term "moral" in moral panic is thought to be more "neutral" than the others, making it simple to relate to a variety of other social science issues and approaches, not just sociology. The concept of morality is one that is considered easily accepted by society and can be related to a variety of issues with various problems, with various approaches centered on things like religion, class, status, and other things that are deemed "sensitive" in society, David et al, (2011). According to Minanga et al., (2022) Morality is a value system that can be a benchmark for life. The value system is made up of guidance, laws, rules, and instructions passed down via faiths and civilizations about how humans should live. However, moral systems have been widely abused as political tools for controlling society.

Moral panic endangers not only society as a whole, but also the economy. The political system thrives on racial and economic inequity. Another point to make is that moral panics never happen automatically. Moral panic can be developed and even deliberately generated for certain interests. Despite the fact that Cohen's process model is the first moral panic model, researchers will investigate this phenomenon using Goode and Ben-Yahuda's attribution model, which is more appropriate for this research. Through this point of view. Goode and Ben-Yehuda

(2010:51) suggest three models of moral panic: the grassroots model, the elite-engineered model, and the interest-group model.

The following is a description of the three models of moral panic according to Goode and Ben-Yahuda:

1. Grassroots model. This model demonstrates that moral panic is frequent in life and may be widely felt. Even if this is incorrect, there is a sense that society's values are under assault. Various expressions of concern exist in a more organized or specialized manner in certain sectors (media, politicians, law enforcement).
2. Elite-engineered model. That is, the ruling elite is the one who produces, designs, or creates a moral panic. Members of the richest and strongest political groups actively spread public worry, fear, and panic through various strategies.
3. Interest-group model. This model demonstrates that some interest groups create moral panic over a certain topic. In this scenario, the right reason is society's interest. However, this is not the case for the ruling class. The concern posed by interest groups in the moral panic is linked to who will profit. If a particular issue spreads to cause panic in society.

Developing a critical understanding in the construction of moral panic, Goode and Ben-Yehuda (1994: 33) provides a crucial perspective to understanding moral panic, including *concern, consensus, hostility, disproportionality, and volatility*. The description of the important aspects as a conceptual guide for analyzing moral panics is as follows:

1. Concern is increased concern about Moral panic is considered to alter the order of people's lives through actions or occurrences that are the subject of moral panic. Concern, according to sociologists, must be verified against something that can be observed and measured.
2. Consensus. Moral panics require some consensus among members of society in order to become observable. By ignoring the possibility that the agreement must be universal or even representative of the majority. However, there must be a general perception that the problem is real, that it poses a danger to society, and that preventative measures are in place. Moral panics are frequently fueled by social institutions, particularly the media, law enforcement systems, and political parties. Consensus requires that it be widely recognized and owned by at least a certain portion of society, although not necessarily the majority.
3. Hostility. Moral panic triggers considerable antipathy against identifiable groups or categories of persons who are vilified as scapegoats; this hostility is reinforced by a dichotomization process in which folk devils are separated from folk heroes in the morality game of good versus evil. Stereotypes that emerge as a result of moral panic because the argument is focused on a sector of society that is no longer liked and distrusted. Hostility is antipathy towards groups identified as being responsible for situations of moral panic. Demonization can then reinforce the dichotomy between the deviant group and the rest of society.

4. **Disproportionality.** Another important aspect of moral panic is disproportionality, which means that the perceived damage surpasses the possible harm. When the concept of a moral panic develops in sociological and literary criminology, it reminds us that a moral panic, while conjuring up images of societal chaos, also constitutes a challenge to the current political economy. Disproportionality refers to an unreasonable fear of the real extent of the threat, which is frequently accompanied by a misleading impression of the true scale of the threat.
5. **Volatility.** Within this context, the aspect of volatility implies that moral fear abruptly diminishes. Indeed, some moral panic events could be linked to changes in legislation, enforcement practises, and sentencing systems, though the public's concern is disappearing. However, there is a certain type of panic, it can become "routine" and repeat itself periodically.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents and explains type of the research, source of data, procedures of data collection, and method of analyzing

A. Type of the Research

In this research, a descriptive qualitative research type will be used in concert with a sociological approach. With the help of current methods, the descriptive qualitative method aims to understand phenomena in order to provide data that can be described. Descriptive qualitative research, according to Siswanto (2005: 56), explains the facts and relationships of the objects or subjects researched in a methodical, factual, and accurate way using words, not numbers. The sociology of literature approach is used to analyze literary works by considering societal aspects to identify the meaning contained in a literary work. It also seeks to find a connection between the author, readers, and socio-cultural contexts of literary works.

Nugrahani & Hum (2014:8) argues that qualitative researchers emphasise the socially created nature of reality as well as the researcher's personal relationships with the object examined and the events that influence the research. Qualitative descriptive research tries to expose a range of qualitative information through researched and detailed descriptions of an object or phenomenon, and it is not limited to collecting data but also includes analysis and interpretation.

B. Sources of Data

This research will use two types of data: primary and secondary.

1. Primary data is the primary information collected from the research's main sources. The novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury will be the primary source for this research. Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451* released in 1953. This dystopian novel set in the United States features the story of Guy Montag, a fireman assigned to burn and destroy books.
2. Secondary data is data that will be used to support the primary data analysis. In support of primary data related to the analysis of the issue, secondary data provided context and additional data. This research will use books, reports, journal articles, and other sources of secondary data.

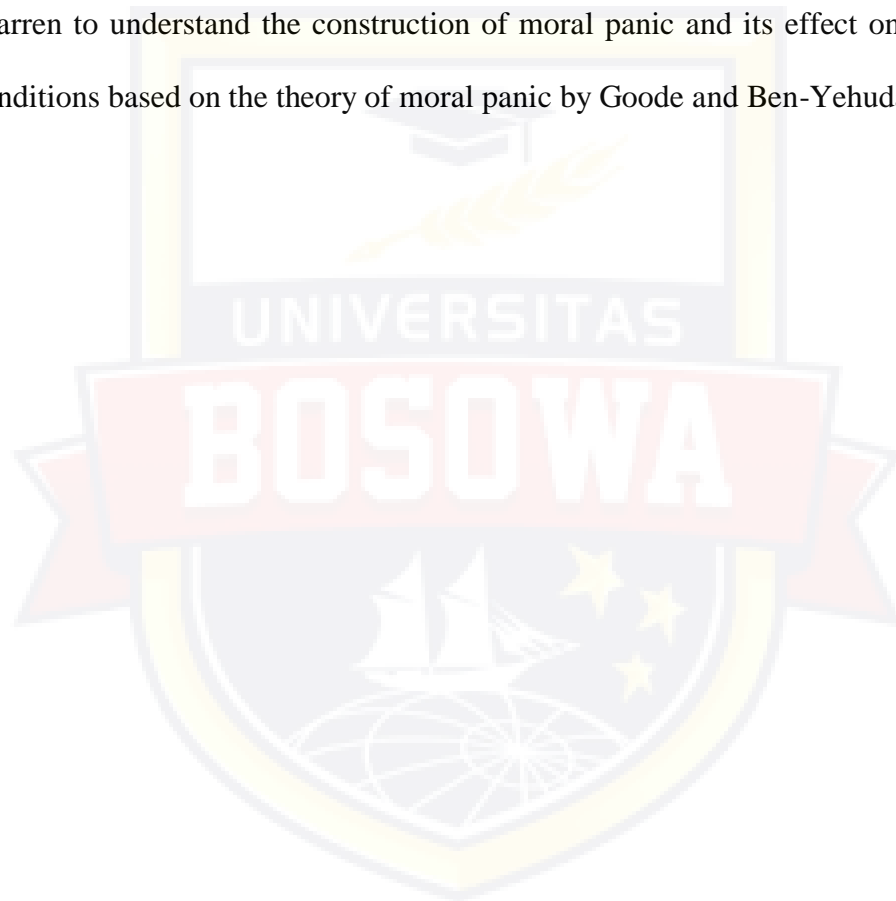
C. Procedures of Collecting Data

Literature study with various steps will be employed as the data collection method in this research as follows:

1. The researcher will read the novel to get the essence of the research; therefore, it will make it easier to analyse everything related to moral panic.
2. Noting and quoting. In this method, researcher will note and quote every sentence and statement that supports to identify moral panics.
3. The data will be analysed and processed according to the theory used.

D. Method of Data Analysis

The data will be analyzed using a qualitative descriptive method. Qualitative research tries to understand and describe it with words or sentences. Therefore, the present research will analyse moral panic in the novel *Fahrenheit 451* by applying the literary sociology approach of Wellek and Warren to understand the construction of moral panic and its effect on social conditions based on the theory of moral panic by Goode and Ben-Yehuda.



CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Based on the classification, the research found 21 quotations from the novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, with 158 pages, use the theory of moral panic by Goode & Ben-Yehuda by paying attention to each indicator of moral panic, namely concern, consensus, hostility, disproportionality, and volatility, as guidelines in the construction of moral panic. All the quotations would be shown as follows:

A. Finding

1. Constructions of moral panic depicted in Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451*.

a. Concern

Table 1

Table below showed the data finding based on concern:

No	Pages	Concern
1	5	Data 1 "Do you ever read any of the books you burn?" He laughed. "That's against the law!"
2	27	Data 2: Do you notice how people hurt each other nowadays? Sometimes I'm ancient. I'm afraid of children my own age. They kill each other. Did it always used to be that way? My uncle says no. Six of my friends have been shot in the last year alone. Ten of them died in car wrecks.

3	31	<p>Data 3: Beatty blinked slowly.</p> <p>"No." Montag gazed beyond them to the wall with the typed lists of a million forbidden books. Their names leapt in fire, burning down the years under his axe and his hose which sprayed not water but kerosene.</p>
4	55	<p>Data 4: Books, so the damned snobbish critics said, were dishwater. No wonder books stopped selling, the critics said. But the public, knowing what it wanted, spinning happily, let the comic- books survive. And the three-dimensional sex-magazines, of course.</p>
5	63	<p>Data 5: Mildred backed away as if she were suddenly confronted by a pack of mice that had come up out of the floor. He could hear her breathing rapidly and her face was paled out and her eyes were fastened wide. She said his name over, twice, three times. Then moaning, she ran forward, seized a book and ran toward the kitchen incinerator.</p>
6	145	<p>Data 6: "It is," replied Granger, smiling. "We're book-burners, too. We read the books and burnt them, afraid they'd be found. Micro-filming didn't pay off; we were always travelling, we didn't want to bury the film and come back later. Always the chance of discovery. Better to keep it in the old heads, where no one can see it or suspect it.</p>

From the table above, there were 6 data. Below showed the data analysis of concern:

Data 1:

Data 1 show concern, the sentence **"Do you ever read any of the books you bum?" He laughed. "That's against the law!"** This can be classified as concern. The dialogue between Clarisse McClellan's and Montag showed that the consequence of read books was unlawful, so books became a source of fear for society and people who were reading or keeping books became targets for the fire department to destroy. So many people were afraid of the firemen.

Data 2:

Data 2 describes concern with the sentence **"Do you notice how people hurt each other nowadays? Sometimes I'm ancient. I'm afraid of children my own age. They kill each other. Did it always used to be that way? My uncle says no. Six of my friends have been shot in the last year alone. Ten of them died in car wrecks."** The data explains the concerns expressed by Clarisse about the situation around her. The social threat that arose was how easy it was for people to hurt each other. Teenage violence and crime connoted something dangerous that had not previously occurred, so it affected the order of life and could be verified to have led to moral panic.

Data 3:

Data 3 show concern; the sentence **"Montag gazed beyond them to the wall with the typed lists of a million forbidden books. Their names leapt in fire, burning down the years under his axe and his hose which sprayed not water but kerosene."** In the theory of moral panic, the concern had to be verifiable and observable. Books were claimed by the authorities as forbidden items; this caused moral panic, which usually manifested in the making of laws to combat the alleged problem. This was illustrated by the millions of books banned and the many that were burned.

Data 4:

Data 4 categorised as concern, the sentence **"Books, so the damned snobbish critics said, were dishwater. No wonder books stopped selling, the critics said. But the public, knowing what it wanted, spinning happily, let the comic-books survive."** Concerns about books provide a volume of attention to books as a social threat. Statements and sentences from critics lead people to avoid books, making books a popular lexicon to be criminalized for the benefit of the authorities in controlling society.

Data 5:

Data 5 represented concern, the sentence **"He could hear her breathing rapidly and her face was paled out and her eyes were fastened wide. She said his name over, twice, three times. Then moaning, she ran forward, seized a book and ran toward the kitchen incinerator."** The sentence explained the concern portrayed through Mildred's response to the existence of the book secretly

kept by her husband, Montag. Books were considered dangerous, so anyone who owned or kept a book was considered to be breaking the law, and there were consequences for such actions. This depicted a concern for objects that posed a social threat.

Data 6:

Data 6 categorized as concern; the sentence **"It is, "replied Granger, smiling. "We're book-burners, too. We read the books and burnt them, afraid they'd be found. Micro-filming didn't pay off; we were always travelling, we didn't want to bury the film and come back later. Always the chance of discovery.** Widespread concern existed in society about the dangers of being caught reading books. Books were illegal, so whoever possessed them had to deal with law enforcement. They were classified as criminals, fugitives from justice who had to be arrested and punished.

b. Hostility

Table 2

The table below showed the data finding based on hostility:

No	Pages	Hostility
1	31	<p>Data 1: Montag looked at the cards in his own hands. "I've been thinking.</p> <p>About the fire last week. About the man whose library we fixed. What happened to him?"</p> <p>"They took him screaming off to the asylum" "He. wasn't insane."</p> <p>Beatty arranged his cards quietly. "Any man's insane who thinks he can fool the Government and us."</p>
2	33	<p>Data 2: They crashed the front door and grabbed at a woman, though she was not running, she was not trying to escape. She was only standing, weaving from side to side, her eyes fixed upon a nothingness in the wall as if they had struck her a terrible blow upon the head.</p>
3	56	<p>Data 3: So! A book is a loaded gun in the house next door. Burn it. Take the shot from the weapon. Breach man's mind. Who knows who might be the target of the well read man? Me? I won't stomach them for a minute. And so when houses were finally fireproofed completely, all over the world (you were correct in your</p>

		<p>assumption the other night) there was no longer need of firemen for the old purposes. They were given the new job, as custodians of our peace of mind, the focus of our understandable and rightful dread of being inferior; official censors, judges, and executors. That's you, Montag, and that's me."</p>
4	57	<p>Data 4: "There was a girl next door," he said, slowly. "She's gone now, I think, dead. I can't even remember her face. But she was different. How? How did she happen?"</p> <p>Beatty smiled. "Here or there, that's bound to occur. Clarisse McClellan? We've a record on her family. We've watched them carefully. Heredity and environment are funny things. You can't rid yourselves of all the odd ducks in just a few years.</p>
5	57	<p>Data 5: We had some false alarms on the McClellans, when they lived in Chicago. Never found a book. Uncle had a mixed record; antisocial. The girl? She was a time bomb. The family had been feeding her subconscious, I'm sure, from what I saw of her school record.</p>
6	59	<p>Data 5: Beatty got up. "I must be going. Lecture's over. I hope I've clarified things. The important thing for you to remember, Montag, is we're the Happiness Boys, the</p>

		<p>Dixie Duo, you and I and the others. We stand against the small tide of those who want to make everyone unhappy with conflicting theory and thought. We have our fingers in the dyke.</p> <p>Hold steady. Don't let the torrent of melancholy and drear philosophy drown our world. We depend on you.</p> <p>I don't think you realize how important you are, we are, to our happy world as it stands now."</p>
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Based on the table above, there were 6 data. Below showed the data

analysis of hostility:

Data 1:

Data 1 represented hostility, the sentence **"They took him screaming off to the asylum" "He. wasn't insane."**

Beatty arranged his cards quietly. "Any man's insane who thinks he can fool the Government and us." The data explained how moral panic gave rise to strong hostility towards people categorised as "folk devils." In this case, among people who kept books, stereotypes emerged to distinguish "folk devils" and heroes, the firemen in charge of burning books, as a game of good versus evil.

Data 2

Data 2 showed hostility, the sentence **"They crashed the front door and grabbed at a woman, though she was not running, she was not trying to escape. She was only standing, weaving from side to side, her eyes fixed upon a nothingness in the wall as if they had struck her a terrible blow upon the**

head.” The sentence discussed the actions of firemen against a woman suspected of keeping books inside her house. Stereotypes were prominent in the formation of moral panic, given the hostility directed towards people who were classified as bookkeepers as dangerous parties claimed as criminal suspects, which had a bad impact on the way suspects were processed by the authorities.

Data 3

Data 3 categorized hostility, these sentences **“A book is a loaded gun in the house next door. Burn it. Take the shot from the weapon. Breach man's mind. Who knows who might be the target of the well read man? Me? I won't stomach them for a minute. And so when houses were finally fireproofed completely, all over the world (you were correct in your assumption the other night) there was no longer need of firemen for the old purposes. They were given the new job, as custodians of our peace of mind, the focus of our understandable and rightful dread of being inferior; official censors, judges, and executors. That's you, Montag, and that's me.”** These sentences discussed the hatred of books because they were considered dangerous and violations of the human mind. Anyone who had them was considered an enemy of the firemen, who were believed to be heroes, keepers of peace of mind, judges, and also executioners. The hostility that occurred as a form of moral panic was indicated in the form of good versus evil, so there were superior parties and there were parties who were made scapegoats because they were considered common enemies.

Data 4

Data 4 contained hostility, the sentence **"There was a girl next door," he said, slowly. "She's gone now, I think, dead. I can't even remember her face. But she was different.**

How? How did she happen?"

Beatty smiled. "Here or there, that's bound to occur. Clarisse McClellan? We've a record on her family. We've watched them carefully". By definition, moral panics generated intense hostility towards groups or categories of people who were identified as social outcasts. Clarisse McClellan was considered dangerous and vilified, so attempts to kill her were inevitable, and the authorities who did so were considered heroes on the grounds of keeping **the peace.**

Data 5

Data 5 showed hostility, the sentence **We had some false alarms on the McClellans, when they lived in Chicago. Never found a book. Uncle had a mixed record; antisocial. The girl? She was a time bomb. The family had been feeding her subconscious, I'm sure, from what I saw of her school record.** This data showed that there was strong hostility towards the McClellan family, who were identified as anti-social and vilified with hateful or distrusted stereotypes, referring to criminal suspects whose characteristics were qualified by stereotypes: age, alleged social status, physique, and location.

Data 6

Based on data above, the sentence **The important thing for you to remember, Montag, is we're the Happiness Boys, the Dixie Duo, you and I and the others. We stand against the small tide of those who want to make everyone unhappy with conflicting theory and thought. We have our fingers in the dyke.**

Hold steady. Don't let the torrent of melancholy and drear philosophy drown our world. We depend on you. I don't think you realize how important you are, we are, to our happy world as it stands now." In the construction of moral panic, hostility created pleasure between groups that were considered deviant and institutions or justice institutions as saviours to prevent threats that occurred in society. Captain Beatty explained to Montag his identity and pride as a firefighter whose job it was to burn books and oppose disliked groups in order to maintain happiness in society.

c. **Consensus**

Table 3

The table below showed the data finding based on consensus

No	Pages	Consensus
1	6	Data 1: "It's fine work. Monday burn Millay, Wednesday Whitman, Friday Faulkner, burn 'em to ashes, then bum the ashes. That's our official slogan."
2	32	<p>Data 2:</p> <p>"Established, 1790, to burn English-influenced books in the Colonies. First Fireman: Benjamin Franklin."</p> <p>RULE 1. Answer the alarm swiftly.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Start the fire swiftly. 3. Burn everything. 4. Report back to firehouse immediately. 5. Stand alert for other alarms.
3	33	<p>Data 3:</p> <p>"Have reason to suspect attic; 11 No. Elm, City. --- E. B." "That would be Mrs. Blake, my neighbor;" said the woman,</p> <p>reading the initials.</p> <p>"All right, men, let's get 'em!"</p>
4	55	Data 4: There you have it, Montag. There was no dictum, no declaration, no censorship, to start with, no!

		<p>Technology, mass exploitation, and minority pressure carried the trick, thank God. Today, thanks to them, you can stay happy all the time, you are allowed to read comics, the good old confessions, or trade journals."</p>
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Based on the table above, there were 4 data. Below showed the data analysis of consensus

Data 1

Data 1 represented consensus based on the sentence **"It's fine work. Monday burn Millay, Wednesday Whitman, Friday Faulkner, burn 'em to ashes, then bum the ashes. That's our official slogan."** The data explained the consensus that to be a recognisable phenomenon of moral panic, it required a level of consensus that the problem at hand was a threat to society and that there were actions to prevent it. As explained by Montag, the slogan of the fire department was to burn books by great poets because they were considered dangerous if these books were spread in society.

Data 2

Data 2 categorized consensus, the sentence **"Established, 1790, to burn English- influenced books in the Colonies. First Fireman: Benjamin Franklin."**

RULE 1. Answer the alarm swiftly.

2. Start the fire swiftly.

3. Burn everything.

4. Report back to firehouse immediately.

5. Stand alert for other alarms. The data explained the contribution of the fireman to the consensus so that the rules were created to overcome the problem, as in the history of the founding of the fireman, whose job was to burn books because they were considered a threat to society, so they had to be destroyed. This was in line with the theory that consensus produced laws and harsh punishments against those who broke the rules.

Data 3

Data 3 represented consensus, based on the sentence **"Have reason to suspect attic; 11 No. Elm, City. --- E. B." "That would be Mrs. Blake, my neighbor;" said the woman, reading the initials.**

"All right, men, let's get 'em!" This describes an old woman who was reported by her own neighbor, Mrs. Blake, for suspicion of keeping books in her attic, which was eventually burned down by firefighters. This demonstrates that people consider books to be a serious issue and a threat to society, and that something has to be done to address this.

Data 4

Data 4 showed consensus, the sentence **"There you have it, Montag. There was no dictum, no declaration, no censorship, to start with, no! Technology, mass exploitation, and minority pressure carried the trick, thank God. Today, thanks to them, you can stay happy all the time, you are allowed to read comics, the good old confessions, or trade journals."** The

formation of moral panic required consensus among members of society, and it did not require that the agreement be universal or representative of the majority. However, there had to be conviction in society on an issue and action taken to correct it. Social institutions, the judiciary, political parties, and their lobbyists usually participate in the formation of moral panic. This data showed that there were demands from the public against the circulation of books because they were considered dangerous, implying that there was a general public belief about the dangers that had to be faced with certain crime control measures carried out by the firefighters.

d. Disprpportionality

Table 4

The table below showed the data finding based on

No	Pages	Disproportionality
1	56	<p>Data 1: "You must understand that our civilization is so vast that we can't have our minorities upset and stirred. Ask yourself, what do we want in this country, above all? People want to be happy, isn't that right?</p> <p>Haven't you heard it all your life? I want to be happy, people say. Well, aren't they? Don't we keep them moving, don't we give them fun?</p> <p>That's all we live for, isn't it? For pleasure, for titillation? And you must admit our culture provides plenty of these."</p>

2	57	Data 2: "Colored people don't like Little Black Sambo. Burn it. White people don't feel good about Uncle Tom's Cabin. Burn it. Someone's written a book on tobacco and cancer of the lungs? The cigarette people are weeping? Bum the book.
3	132	Data 3: "Police suggest entire population in the Elm Terrace area do as follows: Everyone in every house in every street open a front or rear door or look from the windows. The fugitive cannot escape if everyone in the next minute looks from his house. Ready! "

Based on the table above, there were 3 data. Below showed the data analysis of disproportionality

Data 1:

Data 1 represented disproportionality, these sentences **"You must understand that our civilization is so vast that we can't have our minorities upset and stirred. Ask yourself, what do we want in this country, above all? People want to be happy, isn't that right?**

Haven't you heard it all your life? I want to be happy, people say. Well, aren't they? Don't we keep them moving, don't we give them fun?

That's all we live for, isn't it? For pleasure, for titillation? And you must admit our culture provides plenty of these." Disproportionality was an overconcern with the true scale of the threat, accompanied by misperception.

Disproportionality was an overconcern with the true scale of the threat,

accompanied by misperception. Disproportionality in moral panic was inherently subjective because everyone did not hold the same ideas. This was depicted in Captain Beatty's statement to Montag by accentuating the image of the majority group to gain reputation.

Data 2:

Data 2: showed disproportionality, the sentence "**Colored people don't like Little Black Sambo. Burn it. White people don't feel good about Uncle Tom's Cabin. Burn it. Someone's written a book on tobacco and cancer of the lungs? The cigarette people are weeping? Bum the book.**" This data was in line with a key element of moral panic, disproportionality, whose manifestations depended on hyperbole to conjure up ideas of social chaos and threats to people's happiness, so the intensity of concern about threats continued to increase.

Data 3:

Data 3 categorized disproportionality, the sentence "**Police suggest entire population in the Elm Terrace area do as follows: Everyone in every house in every street open a front or rear door or look from the windows. The fugitive cannot escape if everyone in the next minute looks from his house. Ready!**" The police appealed to the whole community with dramatic effect to keep an eye out for fugitives, namely Montag, and showed disproportionality while manipulating public attention that exceeded the potential danger to the community.

Volatility

Table 5

The table below showed the data finding based on volatility

No	Pages	Volatility
1	83	Data 1: Remember, the firemen are rarely necessary. The public itself stopped reading of its own accord. You firemen provide a circus now and then at which buildings are set off and crowds gather for the pretty blaze, but it's a small sideshow indeed, and hardly necessary to keep things inline.
2	146	Data 2: Right now we have a horrible job; we're waiting for the war to begin and, as quickly, end. It's not pleasant, but then we're not in control, we're the odd minority crying in the wilderness. When the war's over, perhaps we can be of some use in the world."

From the table above, there were 2 data. Below showed the data analysis of volatility:

Data 1

Data 1 categorized volatility, the sentence **“Remember, the firemen are rarely necessary. The public itself stopped reading of its own accord. You firemen provide a circus now and then at which buildings are set off and crowds gather for the pretty blaze, but it's a small sideshow indeed, and hardly necessary to keep things in line.”** The data showed that the volatility of

the moral panic that erupted suddenly subsided. People's concern about the threatening phenomenon that was books diminishing over time. However, certain moral panics might have occurred regularly or periodically. Moral panics were often fueled by institutions influenced by the powerful to be used as political tools.

Data 2

Data 2 represented volatility, **the sentence “Right now we have a horrible job; we're waiting for the war to begin and, as quickly, end. It's not pleasant, but then we're not in control, we're the odd minority crying in the wilderness. When the war's over, perhaps we can be of some use in the world.** This data indicated that volatility occurred as a result of hysteria over a social threat, then quickly subsided due to the reduced amount of attention a particular phenomenon had received in public discourse.

B. Discussion

The data shows moral panic, according to Goode and Ben Yehuda's theories.

1. The Construction of Moral Panic

The increased concern about books as a source of moral panic that was believed to affect the fabric of society fulfilled the requirement that the concern should be verifiable or observable. The emerging social threat of censorship and book burning quickly positions books and those who keep or read them as criminals. There are 6 data from 6 sentences describing the worries that occur in the novel.

Hostility towards groups or categories of people who were identified as social outcasts was perceived as unlawful and disruptive of happiness, laden with stereotypes of good versus evil. This process led to the emergence of "folk devils," which refer to outcasts and heroes as claims for groups deemed instrumental in preventive action. influenced by racial background, presumed social status, physicality, and location. Hostility towards book-related people resulted in cruel treatment.

Consensus is a requirement for a phenomenon to be categorised as a moral panic. There must be a widespread belief that the problem at hand is a threat to society and that there are actions to address it. producing laws to create harsh punishments for offenders. Criminal justice agencies and the media usually participate in the formation of moral panics. By directing great attention to books, the firemen contribute to the growing intensity of the consensus that was a problem and a threat to society's happiness.

Disproportionality referred to the existence of fears that exceeded the actual threat. The use of hyperbole to describe the blamed group enhanced the reputation of the perceived hero.. Disproportionality is an imbalance that results in moral decay in society. The government's supporting institutions manipulate the public's fear of crime to create social control.

Volatility referred to the lessening of public concern over the object of moral panic. In the conceptual framework, volatility describes the lack of intensity of media reporting and public attention to a particular phenomenon. Even as public concern faded, moral panic could have

referred to changes in laws, punishment methods, and law enforcement practices. However, certain types of moral panics can occur periodically.

2. The Effects of Moral Panic On Social Condition

Sociology studies society objectively and significantly in its social existence, and literature is a reflection of socio-culture, history, or a reflection of life. Therefore that many approaches were used to analyse literary works by focusing on certain aspects of literary works, for example, by referring to aesthetic, moral, and social issues, as well as more specific issues. sociological approach to examine certain social conditions depicted in literary works as an effort to reflect back on the social world and the relationship between humans and the environment.

The data showed that moral panic affected the social conditions of the society. There was widespread concern about something or a group that was considered dangerous, which gave rise to feelings of hostility and fear related to this phenomenon or object, namely books and the people who owned them. Firemen were perceived as upholders of justice or guardians of happiness, contributing to creating moral panic and cornering the party that was considered dangerous, leading public opinion to oppose one party that was disliked or distrusted. This causes disproportionality in people's lives, which is basically the government's way of encouraging the media and law enforcement agencies to create moral panic in an attempt to control society by making laws that suppress freedom. In the end, moral panic subsides, but changes in laws and punishments continue.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this chapter, conclusions were presented, and the researcher concluded the research findings and provided suggestions for further research.

A. Conclusion

The novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury displayed a picture of moral panic, namely concern, hostility, consensus, disproportionality, and volatility. From *Fahrenheit 451*, it could be concluded that moral panic was a phenomenon that appeared in people's lives. From the data findings, there were 6 instances of concern, 6 of hostility, 4 of consensus, 3 of disproportionality, and 1 of volatility. Moral panic affected the social conditions of the society depicted in *Fahrenheit 451*. Concerns about the dangers of books had an impact on the conditions of society that were hostile to each other, disproportionate, and there were claims of hatred against a group. Moral panic produced parties who were considered heroes and parties who were suspected of being enemies of society, with rules and punishments to overcome those who were considered dangerous.

B. Suggestions

This This writing was still not perfect, so the writer hoped that students could continue and study more deeply, especially English literature students and, in general, those who were interested in studying literature. The writer applied Wellek and Warren's literary sociology approach to understand the construction of moral panic and its influence on social conditions based on Goode and Ben-Yehuda's moral panic theory. The writer suggested that further research on the

novel Fahrenheit 451 could be improved by using different theories, such as humanism and psychoanalysis, of the main character in the novel Fahrenheit 451.



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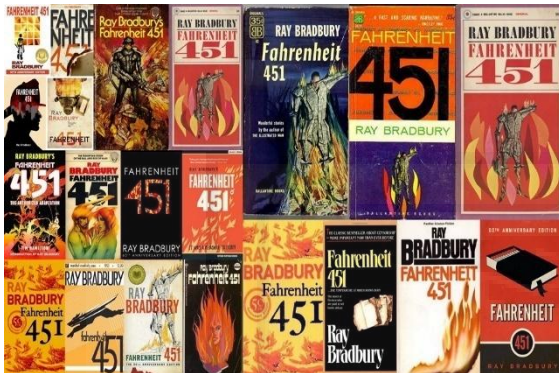
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APPENDICES 1

SYNOPSIS OF *FAHRENHEIT 451*

Fahrenheit 451 was written by Ray Bradbury and published in 1953. Bright Phoenix, 1948; The Pedestrian, 1951; and The Fireman, 1951 were all developed into this novel. Bradbury used "*Fahrenheit*

451" to express his dissatisfaction with the political and social situation in the United States at the time. This dystopian novel set in the United States depicts the journey of a firefighter identified as Guy Montag, who is assigned to burn and destroy books. The novel is divided into three chapters: The Heart and the Salamander, The Sieve and the Sand, and "Burning Bright." The city government prohibits residents from reading or having books. Firefighters will burn anyone who reads and keeps books.

The firefighters' mission at the time was not to put out fires but to set fire to the home where the books were housed. Anyone in possession of a book is an enemy of the media and the state. According to the government, the books would merely lull people into fantasies, disrupt their minds, and make them unhappy. Firefighters work hard to keep everyone safe. Instead, each residence receives a smart-screen 'box' that displays a wealth of entertainment and information, the contents of which are, of course, decided by the government. People don't have to

think. They only had to follow the rules established by the Constitution and be 'happy'.

The story begins when Montag is on duty. He dressed in a black uniform and a helmet with the number 451 drawn on it. The symbol for 451°Fahrenheit is the number 451. It is the temperature that may burn and scorch book paper. Montag really enjoys burning books since he has worked for 10 years, until one night when he meets Clarisse. Montag is no longer able to enjoy burning books when the girl tells him stories about people from the past. He became more unhappy with his employment and reconsidered it. He even stuffed a book into his uniform when the company called. It had been going on for quite some time until Montag was caught by his wife. When Montag arrives home from work, he discovers his wife, Mildred, fainting from a drug overdose. After a time, a plumber emerges in the narrative and serves as a doctor, curing him. The next day, it's as if nothing occurred, and he has no recollection of it. Guy Montag began to question whether what they were doing was normal and if there was nothing more to life than what the government was instructing them.

When he was arraigned for being reported by his wife for having books and Captain Beatty was ordering Montag to set fire to his own house, he decided to turn a flamethrower on his boss and start burning him to ashes. Montag thrashed two firefighters until they fainted. Montag then hurried away with a few books kept in his backyard. while the alarm for his pursuit is activated. He visits Professor Faber's house, who has the same thoughts, and realises that The Mechanical Hound (a robot in the shape of a dog that is used to track down and

punish people who disobey the law by having books in their homes that are deemed unfit for society) is following him.

The whole city watches the chase on television, but Montag escapes and disguises himself in Faber clothing to conceal the smell. Because they could not catch him, the authorities assassinated other people at random. He then went on to seek out academics to learn the truth about what had occurred. The city was on the edge of collapse when enemy jets bombarded it. This is the end of an amazing science-fiction novel that depicts a futuristic world in which social control of its population is a part of the protagonists' daily lives. And where the dread of breaking free from the constrained way of life might lead to damage or death.

United States went through a period known as the McCarthy era from 1950 to 1956. Joseph McCarthy is a senator from the Republican Party in the United States. Several works, like novels, magazines, films, drama, and several other forms of information media, were highly censored during the McCarthy era. In fact, the authorities arrested a number of writers and artists on suspicion of having influence to promote communism and disobeying the government. This rationale was eventually shown to be an inflated concern about the effects of the Cold War with Russia. *Fahrenheit 451* depicts Bradbury's vision of the future when society is limited and freedom is taken away by the government. Wood (2008).

APPENDICES 2

BIOGRAPHY OF RAY BRADBURY

Ray Bradbury, an American novelist, short story writer, essayist, dramatist, screenwriter, and poet, was born on August 22, 1920, in Waukegan, Illinois, the third son of Leonard Spaulding Bradbury and Esther Marie Moberg Bradbury. Bradbury is widely regarded as America's greatest

science fiction writer, while he has also won accolades for his poetry, theatre, and screenplay work. Bradbury's childhood life has always revolved around magicians, circuses, and other similar fancies. Bradbury desired to be the best magician in the world when he was eleven years old due to his love of magic. All stories with fantastic characters and settings were a dramatic influence on Bradbury's later life.

Bradbury began writing at the age of eleven, in 1931. Bradbury's formal education ended with his graduation from high school in Los Angeles in 1938. He began spending his evenings in the library and writing on his typewriter during the day. Bradbury's first professional work was the short tale *Pendulum*, which he co-wrote with Henry Hasse and was published in *Super Science Stories* in August 1941, on his twenty-first birthday. His short story *The Big Black and White Game* was honoured as the Best American Short Story in 1945.

In 1947, Bradbury married Marguerite McClure, and that same year, he gathered many inspirations and published them as *Dark Carnival*, his first

collection of short stories. Bradbury's fantasy pieces have since been published in periodicals around the country. As stated by Bradbury, he learned to write by recalling his own experiences. Ray Bradbury's works appeared in the collections Best American Short Stories (1946, 1948, and 1952). In 1954, he was awarded the Benjamin Franklin Award, the O. Henry Memorial Award, the Aviation-Space Writers' Association Award for best space article in the American language, the Magazine in 1967, the World Fantasy Award for living voyages, and the Grand Master Award of Science Fiction Writers America. Many of Bradbury's books and hundreds of short stories have been adapted into films, including *The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *The Illustrated Man*, and *Something Wicked This Way Comes*. Bradbury has also written for television, radio, and theatre. *Fahrenheit 451* was a mirror of the sociopolitical conditions in the United States at the time as well as an indication of the possibility of global social crises in society. Zipes (2008).

Ray Bradbury's work pertains to themes like racism, censorship, technology, nuclear war, humanistic values, and the necessity of creativity. He is often regarded as the most important figure in the development of science fiction as a literary genre. He really transforms into a magician, holding his pen like a magic wand to transport his readers into amazing scenarios, Hiner, (2011:2-4).

APPENDICES 3

THE WRITER'S BIOGRAPHY

Alberto Yulianto Seu Blagin was born on July 8, 1998, in Maumere, and he also grew up there. His father's name is Blasius Blagin, S.T., and his mother is named Henny Isnawati. He is the eldest of five siblings in his family. He completed his elementary education at SDK Watublapi from 2004 to 2010. Afterward, he continued his education at SMPK Hewerbura Watublapi from 2010 to 2013. Subsequently, he attended SMA Seminari Maria Bunda Segala Bangsa Maumere from 2013 to 2017. In 2017, he made the decision to further his studies at Bosowa University, majoring in English literature. This choice was motivated by his desire to improve his English language skills and to gain a deeper understanding of literature. During his time as a student at Bosowa University, he became a member of the faculty's internal organisation known as the Student Executive Board (BEM), specifically in the Secretariat division.