

## Abstract

The title of this thesis is A Structuralism Approach of *Child Physical Abuse* in the Movie *An American Crime*. This thesis is about child physical abuse done by a single parent- a mother. The study of this thesis focuses on the analysis of child physical abuse through the sequence of events in the life of Sylvia Likens, the character who experiences child physical abuse. The forms, causes and effects of child physical abuse will also be analyzed. The goal and function of this thesis is to know what makes Sylvia always being abused by looking for the forms, causes and effects of child physical abuse. The function is to give knowledge in analyzing a movie by using the theory of Structuralism by Tzvetan Todorov. The theory of Structuralism from Tzvetan Todorov is chosen by the writer in order to get the forms, causes and effects of child physical abuse. This thesis is using a qualitative research. In conclusion, the forms, causes and effects of child physical abuse which is experienced by Sylvia can be found by breaking down the chronological events that happens in the movie *An American Crime*.