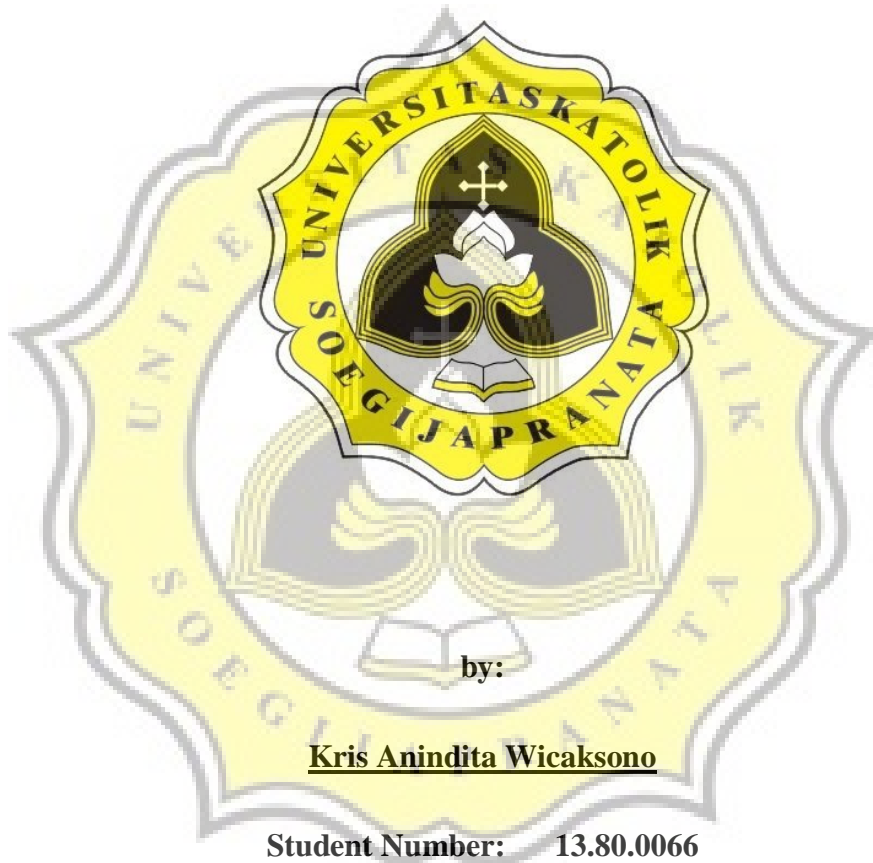


**SEXUAL ABUSE IN LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON'S *SPEAK* : A
FEMINIST PERSPECTIVE**

A Thesis



**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS
SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG**

2018

**LAMPIRAN: KEPUTUSAN REKTOR UNIVERSITAS KATHOLIK
SOEGIJAPRANATA**

Nomor : 0047 / SK. Rek / X / 2013

Tanggal: 07 Oktober 2013

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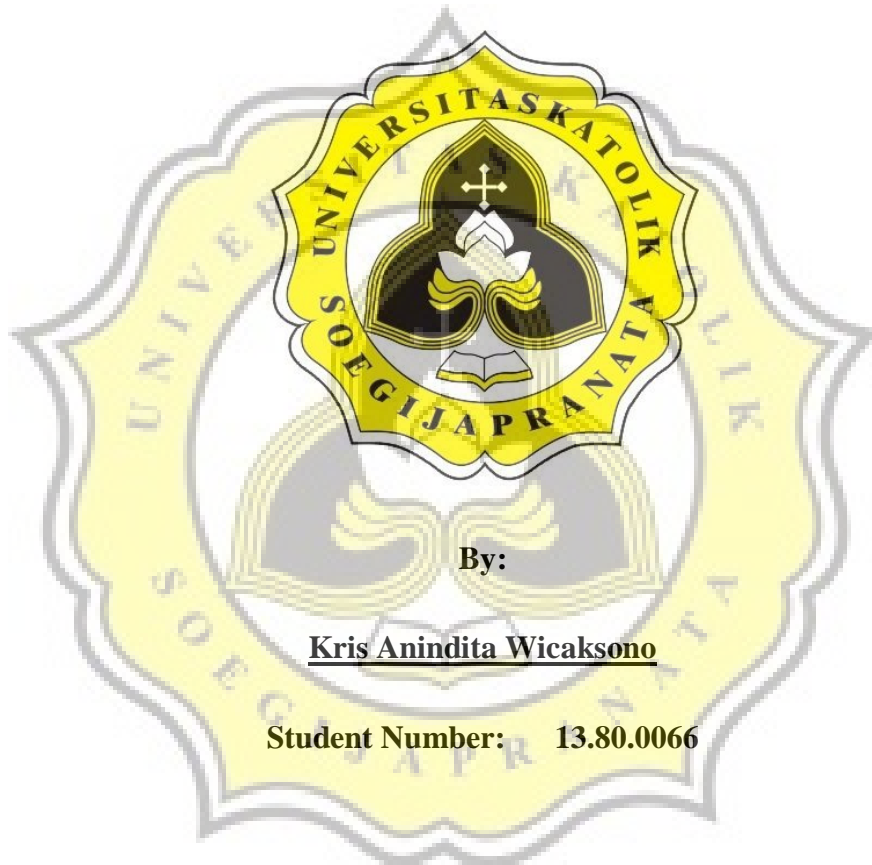


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SEMARANG**

2018

**SEXUAL ABUSE IN LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON'S *SPEAK* : A
FEMINIST PERSPECTIVE**

**A Thesis Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements to Obtain the
Sarjana Sastra Degree in the English Department**



By:

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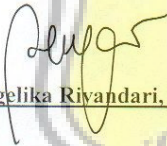
A THESIS ON
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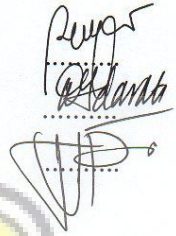
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DEDICATION

With all my heart, I dedicated this thesis to my mother and father, **Siti Rohmadani, S.E and Ir. Ruddy Witjaksono**



MOTTO

*Don't Compare Your Beginning to
Someone Else's Middle*

(Jon Acuff)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah, all praises to Allah SWT, the most beneficent and the most merciful. Without the blessing and love from Allah SWT, I could never finished my thesis. I hope that this thesis will benefit people in one way or another, Insya Allah.

I would like to say apologize for being lost and confused for countless times during the process of finishing this thesis. I would like to thanks my greatest gratitude to Angelika Riyandari, Ph. D (Bu Ike). Her assistance will never be able to be paid back. I would like to extend my gratitude to my other academic consultant, Dra. Wuryani Hartanto, MA, who also gives me guides and supports since the very beginning of my academic year so I can finish my thesis. Many thanks also go to lecturers and staff of English Department of Soegijapranata Catholic University from whom the writer gets the knowledge. I also want to mention with gratitude the support and encouragement of my parents Bapak Rudi dan Ibu Dani, thanks for the endless love, guide, prayers, and support both physically and financially. I wish to thank my friends and family for never forget to ask me about the graduation day; indeed, it motivates me to finish this thesis.

I felt really grateful during my time in Soegijapranata Catholic University due to the many friends and groups that became a part of my life. I am delighted for time spent with friends and fellows, and for many other people and memories. My special thanks are extended to my friends who always be with me through good and bad times. I would also like to give my thanks to all of my friends, sastrawan sastrawati that make me believe I can finish my thesis and I will never be alone because of their support and acceptance. Most of all, I would like to thank Dr. Emiliya Ninik who

always ready to help me out with problems relating to research, despite of her time constraints. Also I would like to thank Pak Agus for his kind support.

I also would like to say heartfelt thanks to my grandmother, Yangti Supiyatun (late) who had been and always been an overwhelming encouragement for me. Finally I would like to say thanks to all who have been supportive and remembered me in their prayers, in this period of life.

Thank you.

January 2018,

Anindita



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ABSTRACT

This study aims to identify the impact of the traumatic experience of the main character in novel *Speak*, Melinda Sordino, and how she overcomes with her trauma from sexual abuse. Rape is an expression of a violent culture that uses gender stereotyping among other forms of oppression to justify the brutalization of the victim, mostly women. Rape Culture has become a popular term in which society blamed victims of sexual assault and normalized male sexual violence, as referred by *Speak*. This study is a qualitative research using the point of view of radical feminist, Kate Millett's, to analyze sexual abuse. In feminist perspective, women have been silenced, ashamed and threatened for becoming the victim of sexual harassment over the past years because they live in a patriarchal society where the world have always been dominated by the men. The researcher finds that Melinda is an example of the society misconceptions on how sexual violence should be treated. Melinda experienced both psychological and emotional trauma such as depression, anxiety, excessive self-consciousness, losing trust and self mutilation. Later, Melinda, as a survivor, finds that she can not keep being silent to overcome her trauma. She drastically changes how she sees herself and how others see her. She starts planning her future plan to be more independent and communicative with her surroundings.

Keywords: women's oppression, rape culture, victim blaming, PTSD, radical feminism



ABSTRAK

Thesis ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi dampak pengalaman traumatis yang dialami oleh karakter utama dalam novel *Speak*, Melinda Sordino, dan bagaimana dia mengatasi trauma akibat pelecehan seksual. Pemerkosaan adalah tindakan kekerasan yang menggunakan stereotip gender di antara bentuk penindasan lainnya untuk semakin menindas korban, kebanyakan wanita. Budaya pemerkosaan telah menjadi istilah populer, dimana kecenderungan masyarakat menyalahkan korban wanita atas tindak kekerasan seksual dan menganggap wajar kekerasan seksual pria. Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif dengan menggunakan teori dari buku *Sexual Politics* yang ditulis oleh Kate Millett untuk menganalisis kekerasan seksual. Dalam pandangan feminisme, wanita korban kekerasan seksual dipaksa untuk diam, diancam, dan juga dipermalukan untuk kasus yang sedang mereka alami selama ini karena wanita hidup di dunia dimana laki-laki lebih berdominasi. Peneliti menemukan bahwa Melinda dan korban kekerasan seksual lainnya menjadi kesalahpahaman masyarakat tentang bagaimana kekerasan seksual harus ditangani. Melinda mengalami gangguan psikologis dan emosional seperti depresi, tidak percaya diri, menyalahkan diri sendiri secara berlebihan, tidak mempercayai orang lain, dan menyakiti diri sendiri. Pada akhirnya, Melinda, sebagai seorang survivor, menyimpulkan bahwa dia tidak bisa hanya diam dan tidak mengatakan apapun untuk mengatasi masalah yang sedang dihadapi. Melinda mengalami perubahan secara drastis tentang bagaimana dia melihat dirinya sendiri dan bagaimana orang lain melihatnya. Dia mulai merencanakan rencana masa depannya untuk menjadi lebih mandiri dan berkomunikasi dengan lingkungannya.

Keywords: penindasan wanita, budaya pemerkosaan, mempermalukan korban, PTSD, feminisme radikal

