

**Cultural Factors Affecting the Development of Resilience in  
Bullying Victims Represented by Moon Dong-Eun in *The Glory***

**A Thesis Presented as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree  
of *Sarjana Sastra* in the English Study Program**



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**ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM**

**FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS**

**SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY**

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## ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the cultural factors that influence the development of resilience in bullying victims, as portrayed by the character Moon Dong-Eun in the series *The Glory*. The research uses Rigby's (2003) bullying theory, which explains the psychological impacts of bullying on victims, and Crenshaw et al. (2023) resilience theory, which emphasizes the importance of social support in the trauma recovery process. The results show that Moon Dong-Eun, the main character, experiences severe bullying that causes deep physical and psychological trauma, seen through flashbacks, feelings of worthlessness, and difficulties in forming healthy interpersonal relationships. Cultural factors, such as the collectivist pressure in Korean society that values group harmony and rigid social hierarchies, worsen Moon Dong-Eun's condition, reinforcing her feelings of powerlessness and isolation. However, supportive relationships, like the one she has with Joo Yeo-jeong, and her fight for justice by presenting evidence against her tormentors, show her development of resilience in facing trauma. This study finds that cultural factors leading to a lack of social support can worsen the effects of bullying, while safe interpersonal relationships and the pursuit of justice play an important role in restoring self-worth and building resilience in the face of trauma.

## ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis faktor budaya yang mempengaruhi perkembangan ketahanan diri pada korban perundungan yang digambarkan oleh karakter Moon Dong-Eun dalam serial *The Glory*. Dalam penelitian ini, digunakan teori perundungan dari Rigby (2003) yang menjelaskan dampak psikologis dari perundungan terhadap korban, serta teori ketahanan dari Crenshaw et al. (2023) yang menekankan pentingnya dukungan sosial dalam proses pemulihan trauma. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Moon Dong-Eun, sebagai karakter utama dalam serial ini, mengalami perundungan berat yang menyebabkan trauma fisik dan psikologis yang mendalam, yang terlihat dalam flashback, perasaan tidak berharga, serta kesulitan membangun hubungan interpersonal yang sehat. Faktor budaya, seperti tekanan kolektivitas dalam masyarakat Korea yang mengutamakan harmoni kelompok dan hierarki sosial yang kaku, turut memperburuk kondisi Dong-Eun, memperkuat rasa ketidakberdayaan dan isolasi. Meskipun demikian, hubungan yang mendukung, seperti yang ia miliki dengan Joo Yeo-jeong, serta perjuangannya untuk mencari keadilan melalui bukti yang memberatkan pelaku, memperlihatkan perkembangan ketahanan diri dalam menghadapi trauma. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa faktor budaya yang mengarah pada kekurangan dukungan sosial dapat memperburuk dampak perundungan, sementara hubungan interpersonal yang aman dan pencarian keadilan berperan penting dalam memulihkan rasa diri dan membangun ketahanan dalam menghadapi trauma.