

**ECOCRITICAL SOLUTIONS TO PLASTIC POLLUTION IN
'A PLASTIC OCEAN' DOCUMENTARY FILM**

THESIS

By:
Muhammad Taufik Akbar
NIM 200302110082



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK
IBRAHIM MALANG**

2024

**ECOCRITICAL SOLUTIONS TO PLASTIC POLLUTION IN
'A PLASTIC OCEAN' DOCUMENTARY FILM**

THESIS

Presented to
Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.)

By:
Muhammad Taufik Akbar
NIM 200302110082

Advisor:
Dr. Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum.
NIP 196802262006042001



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK
IBRAHIM MALANG**

202

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled "**Ecocritical Solutions to Plastic Pollution in 'A Plastic Ocean' Documentary Film**" is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written by another person except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. If there is an objection or claim, I am the only person responsible for that.

Malang, 11 ~~OCTOBER~~ 2024

The Researcher,



Muhammad Taufik Akbar

Nim 200302110082

APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that Muhammad Taufik Akbar thesis entitled **“Ecocritical Solutions to Plastic Pollution in 'A Plastic Ocean' Documentary Film”** has been approved for thesis examination at the faculty of humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, as one of the requirements for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)*.

Malang, 11 October 2024

Approved by

Advisor,

Head of Department of English

Literature,



Dr. Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum.
NIP. 196802262006042001



Ribut Wahyudi, M.Ed., Ph.D.
NIP. 198112052011011007

Approved by

Dean of Faculty of Humanities,



LEGITIMATION SHEET

This is to certify that Muhammad Taufik Akbar thesis entitled "Ecocritical Solutions to Plastic Pollution in 'A Plastic Ocean' Documentary Film" has been approved for thesis examination at the faculty of humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, as one of the requirements for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.) in Department of English Literature.

Malang, 11 Oktober 2024

Board of Examiners

1. Dr. Hj. Istiadah, M. A.
NIP 196703131992032002
2. Dr. Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M. Hum.
NIP 196802262006042001
3. Whida Rositama, M.Hum.
NIP 198804222019032010

Signature



Approved by

Dean of Faculty of Humanities,



Dr. M. Ag.
NIP 12003121003

MOTTO

“We are glasses that have their own capacity, me and you are unique because we have different contents so that we can make peace with our shortcomings and strengths.”

- Whosbyy -

“Don't live just to live, if you live just to live then apes also live. live to benefit your fellow human beings. ”

- SH TERATE 1922 -

“The best of human beings are those who always help others selflessly and secretly.”

-KRH. H. Tarmadji Boedi Harsono, SE.-

DEDICATION

I dedicate my undergraduate thesis to:

My honourable parents, My great father ever and beloved mother

My beloved sister and My brother,

My big brotherhood of SH TERATE ,

My friend and best friend

My dear,

My self.

Thank you for your encouragement, support, and prayers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Bismillahirrohmanirrohim,

First of all, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Allah SWT for his mercy and grace so that I was given ease, enthusiasm, and smoothness in completing my thesis entitled “Ecocritical Solutions to Plastic Pollution in 'A Plastic Ocean' Documentary Film.” Secondly, sholawat and salam to our lord, the Prophet Muhammad saw., who has brought us from darkness to brightness. Based on my experience, there may be some internal factors that sometimes hinder me in completing this thesis. In addition to those who struggled and sacrificed for this thesis, there was the support and contribution of the people closest to me.

Therefore, as much as possible, I would like to thank my advisor, Mrs. Dr. Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum, who has provided advice and input that helped with many things related to my thesis. I want to thank my parents, especially my father, who has given me prayers, support and hope so that I can complete this thesis with enthusiasm and ambition to graduate on time to repay the services Mama has given me, amen. For some of my friends who have provided me motivation, information and assistance, I will always remember what you have done while working on my thesis. Last, for one of the women I love, thank you for encouraging, praying, and convincing me to continue to struggle to complete this thesis. I hope that some people who have given me encouragement, prayers, and input are always given health, ease, and smoothness in everything they want. Perhaps, without the support of the people I mentioned above, it would have been difficult if I had struggled

alone in working on this thesis. Thank you very much to my father, family, thesis advisor, girlfriend, and college friends. May you always be given health and ease in everything you dream of.

Malang, 2024

The Researcher,

Muhammad Taufik Akbar

ABSTRACT

Akbar, Muhammad Taufik (2024) *Ecocritical Solutions to Plastic Pollution in 'A Plastic Ocean' Documentary Film*. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor, Dr. Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M. Hum.

Keyword: Ecocriticism, Plastic Pollution, Documentary Film, Plastic Waste Management.

This research aims to examine environmental issues, especially the issue of plastic waste and waste management carried out by the government on the issue, as shown in the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean" by Adam Leipizig and directed by Craig Leelsoni. This research is cultural studies research with film objects, which is used to analyze several environmental issues, especially plastic waste and the impact of human activities on ecosystems that occur in several countries and the management of plastic waste carried out by several countries. This research is descriptive, this type of research is qualitative descriptive research. This research uses Ecocriticism theory according to Greg Garrad as the main theory and is supported by other theories. Based on the results of data analysis, this film contains findings about the problem of plastic waste that becomes environmental pollution that occurs on land and in the oceans that occur in Sri Lanka, France, and Philipinne. There are also some plastic waste management carried out by the government such as reducing the use of goods that have the potential to become waste such as plastic in the country of Hwanda and reprocessing plastic waste into something more valuable as done by the United Kingdom. Plastic waste itself has become a serious problem as environmental pollution in the world, so researchers analyze existing data on objects until results are found that can benefit others. Then, it is necessary to foster public awareness and empathy towards the use of plastic-based products, reduce the consumption of disposable plastics so as to participate in protecting the marine environment, replace all daily products with more environmentally friendly products such as paper and others, and not littering. Therefore, the researcher would like to invite the public to be more concerned about the use of plastic products to protect the ecology and avoid environmental crises in the future.

المخلص

أكبر، محمد توفيق (2024) الحلول البيئية للتلوث البلاستيكي في الفيلم الوثائقي "محيط بلاستيكي". أطروحة. قسم الأدب الإنجليزي، كلية العلوم الإنسانية، جامعة إسلام نيجيري مولانا مالك إبراهيم مالانج. المستشار، د. الحاج. موندي راهايو، م. هوم

الكلمة الرئيسية: النقد البيئي، التلوث البلاستيكي، التلوث البلاستيكي، فيلم وثائقي، إدارة النفايات البلاستيكية

يهدف هذا البحث إلى دراسة القضايا البيئية وخاصة قضية النفايات البلاستيكية وإدارة النفايات البلاستيكية من تأليف "محيط بلاستيكي" التي تقوم بها الحكومة بشأن هذه القضية، كما هو موضح في الفيلم الوثائقي آدم لبيزيغ وإخراج كراي ليسوني. هذا البحث هو عبارة عن بحث دراسات ثقافية ب مواد فيلمية، يستخدم لتحليل عدة قضايا بيئية وخاصة النفايات البلاستيكية وتأثير الأنشطة البشرية على النظم البيئية التي تحدث في عدة دول وإدارة النفايات البلاستيكية التي تقوم بها عدة دول. هذا البحث وصفي، وهذا النوع من البحوث هو بحث وصفي نوعي. ويستخدم هذا البحث نظرية النقد الإيكولوجي وفقاً لجريج جاراد كنظرية رئيسية مدعومة بنظريات أخرى. استناداً إلى نتائج تحليل البيانات، يحتوي هذا الفيلم على نتائج حول مشكلة النفايات البلاستيكية التي أصبحت تلوثاً للبيئة التي تحدث على الأرض وفي المحيطات. كما أن هناك بعض الإدارة الحكومية للنفايات البلاستيكية مثل تقليل الاستخدام وإعادة الاستخدام وإعادة معالجة النفايات البلاستيكية التي أصبحت مشكلة خطيرة كتلوث بيئي في العالم، لذا يقوم الباحثون بتحليل البيانات الموجودة عن الأشياء حتى يتم التوصل إلى نتائج يمكن أن تكون مفيدة للآخرين. ومن ثم، من الضروري تعزيز الوعي العام والتعاطف تجاه استخدام المنتجات البلاستيكية والتقليل من استهلاك المواد البلاستيكية التي تستخدم لمرة واحدة حتى نشارك في حماية البيئة البحرية، واستبدال جميع المنتجات اليومية بمنتجات أكثر صداقة للبيئة مثل الورق وغيره، وعدم رمي النفايات. لذلك، تود الباحثة أن تدعو الجمهور إلى الاهتمام أكثر باستخدام المنتجات البلاستيكية لحماية البيئة وتجنب الأزمات البيئية في المستقبل

ABSTRAK

Akbar, Muhammad Taufik (2024) Solusi Ekokritik Terhadap Pencemaran Plastik dalam Film Dokumenter 'A Plastic Ocean'. Skripsi. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Dosen Pembimbing, Dr. Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M. Hum.

Kata Kunci: Ekokritik, Pencemaran Plastik, Film Dokumenter, Pengelolaan Sampah Plastik.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji isu lingkungan khususnya isu sampah plastik dan pengelolaan sampah yang dilakukan oleh pemerintah terhadap isu tersebut, seperti yang ditampilkan dalam film dokumenter "A Plastic Ocean" karya Adam Leipizig dan disutradarai oleh Craigh Leeson. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian cultural studies dengan objek film, yang digunakan untuk menganalisis beberapa isu lingkungan khususnya sampah plastik dan dampak dari aktivitas manusia terhadap ekosistem yang terjadi di beberapa negara serta pengelolaan sampah plastik yang dilakukan oleh beberapa negara. Penelitian ini bersifat deskriptif, jenis penelitian ini adalah penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori Ekokritik menurut Greg Garrad sebagai teori utama dan didukung oleh teori-teori lainnya. Berdasarkan hasil analisis data, film ini berisi temuan mengenai permasalahan sampah plastik yang menjadi pencemaran lingkungan yang terjadi di daratan maupun di lautan yang terjadi di negara Sri Lanka, France, Philipinne. Terdapat juga beberapa pengelolaan sampah plastik yang dilakukan pemerintah seperti mengurangi penggunaan barang yang berpotensi menjadi limbah seperti plastik di negara Hwanda dan mengolah kembali sampah plastik menjadi sesuatu yang lebih bernilai tinggi seperti yang dilakukan oleh United Kingdom. Sampah plastik sendiri sudah menjadi masalah serius sebagai pencemaran lingkungan di dunia, sehingga peneliti menganalisa data-data yang ada pada objek hingga ditemukan hasil yang dapat bermanfaat bagi orang lain. Kemudian, perlu menumbuhkan kesadaran dan empati masyarakat terhadap penggunaan produk berbahan dasar plastik, mengurangi konsumsi plastik sekali pakai sehingga dapat ikut serta dalam menjaga lingkungan laut, mengganti semua produk sehari-hari dengan produk yang lebih ramah lingkungan seperti kertas dan lainnya, serta tidak membuang sampah sembarangan. Oleh karena itu, peneliti ingin mengajak masyarakat untuk lebih peduli terhadap penggunaan produk plastik untuk menjaga ekologi dan menghindari krisis lingkungan di masa depan.

TABLE OF CONTENT

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP	I
APPROVAL SHEET	II
LEGITIMATION SHEET	III
MOTTO	IV
DEDICATION	V
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	VI
ABSTRACT.....	VII
مستخلص البحث.....	VIII
ABSTRAK.....	IX
CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION.....	1
A. Background of the Study.....	1
B. Problem of the Study	7
C. Significance of the Study.....	7
D. Scope and Limitation.....	8
E. Definition of Key Terms	8
CHAPTER II : REVIEW ON RELATE LITERATURE	11
A. Documentary Film	11
B. Ecocriticism	12
1. Definition of Ecocriticism.....	12
2. History of Ecocriticism	13
3. Scope of Ecocriticism	15
CHAPTER III : RESEARCH METHOD	21
A. Research Design	21
B. Data Source	24
C. Data Collection	25
D Data Analysis.....	25
CHAPTER IV : FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION	26
A. The Phenomenon of Plastic Waste in The World in Documentary Film " A Plastic Ocean".....	26
1. SRI LANKA	27

2. FRANCE.....	30
3. PHILIPPINES	33
B. The Management of Plastic Waste Depicted In The Documentary Film A Plastic Ocean	36
1. GERMAN	37
2. RWANDA	39
3. UK	41
CHAPTER V : CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	45
A. Conclusion	45
B. Suggestion.....	46
REFERENCES.....	48
CURRICULUM VITAE	51

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

The environment is a place where living and non-living things exist, because the environment belongs to all living things, humans are the main actors in maintaining a healthy and productive environment (Sadiku, 2020). The ocean is part of the environment that covers more than 70% of the earth's surface, which holds 97% of the world's water (Landrigan, 2020). They are also critical to human health and well-being, providing food for billions of people and an important source of medicine (Landrigan, 2020). Despite their size, the oceans are under threat and human activities are increasing marine pollution (Landrigan, 2020).

Some previous research by Mundi Rahayu on natural damage that researcher cite, including the exploitation of nature in the case of mines in Trenggalek. The results of the study show that there is public awareness of the negative impacts of mining (Rahayu, 2023). Effects of the gold mine so that the people of Trenggalek create a discourse of resistance to the government related to the mine. The exploitation of nature that occurs in the tamblingan area, Bali become the next journal from Mundi Rahayu. Investors converted Tamblingan forest land into hotels and tourism to reap the benefits of nature tourism in unspoiled forests. The issue was then raised into a novel by raising the value of women's struggle in protecting the tamblingan forest by advocating for the surrounding community. Then in another study also written by Mundi Rahayu, it was said that one of the most important and widely discussed problems is environmental problems. This is

what makes one of the portals in Trenggalek provide education related to environmental problems (Rahayu, 2020).

Plastic waste is a serious problem worldwide today, as it is very difficult to decompose naturally (Jamieson, 2019). An estimated 322 million tons of plastic are produced each year, and there are already more than 5 billion tons of plastic pieces scattered in the environment, with another 250,000 tons floating on the ocean surface (Jamieson, 2019). The situation is of great concern because the current amount of waste has damaged marine ecosystems, endangered human health and also has a negative impact on the human economy because it is estimated that plastic waste in the sea takes 58 years to degrade (Krantzberg, 2023). "Despite concrete and coordinated preventive measures, the increase in plastic production over reliance on single-use plastics has led to a significant worsening of waste management. Pollution and its associated impacts resulting in unwanted wastes being released in the air, water and soil due to human activities are now increasingly recognized as threats to humans" (Bidashimwa, 2023).

Movies facilitate the delivery of messages through moving images, color and sound (Mansur, 2023). Watching a film involves an activity of following a story that contains a message intended by the director, a film is created when there is a story that contains a message to convey to the audience because the film covers everything from shooting, color, and sound so that the audience can easily capture the message of a film (Mansur, 2023). Basically, movies can be grouped into two basic parts, namely, fiction and documentaries. Fiction is a film that is created fictionally or unreal so that the film is only for commercial purposes only while

documentary films are documented or represent reality (Mansur, 2023). The focal point of documentary films is the facts or events that occur, which are different from news, which is why documentary films must contain something of value (Mansur, 2023). This means that whatever we record is based on existing facts so that our messages and goals can be conveyed (Mansur, 2023)

“A Plastic Ocean” is a documentary film produced by Adam Leipizig and directed by Craigh Leeson who is also an actor in the documentary. the documentary film is 1 hour 42 minutes released in 2016. The documentary explores the global alarming consequences of the widespread and irresponsible practice of plastic waste disposal. Craigh Leeson takes viewers on a journey around the world to investigate the various issues associated with the growing and uncontrolled problem of plastic waste. The film highlights the elements of waste management implemented by several countries and how waste can become a pollution to the environment. The documentary “A Plastic Ocean” reveals how plastic waste has polluted even the oceans. The documentary “A Plastic Ocean” depicts the use of plastic-based materials that then become waste and are not managed properly, the word “Ocean” describes the waste that has become so much that it has become an ocean of waste. The documentary not only describes plastic waste that has become pollution but the documentary also highlights the policies on waste management carried out in several countries.

The purpose of "A Plastic Ocean" is to both caution and encourage viewers to reevaluate their consumption habits and embrace more environmentally friendly behaviors. The necessity of proper waste management techniques is emphasized in

the movie in order to lessen negative effects on the environment and public health. The documentary places a strong emphasis on the necessity of group actions to address the interconnection of the world's environmental problems. To sum up, "A Plastic Ocean" is an educational and thought-provoking movie that seeks to increase public awareness of the negative effects of the way garbage is currently disposed of. The documentary motivates viewers to consider their place in the larger environmental tale and issues a call to action for improved waste management techniques globally through its compelling narrative and visual storytelling.

Based on the issues raised as topics in this research, this paper seeks to bring the theory of ecocriticism, which was born from ecological or environmental science in literary studies. Ecocriticism is a study of literature and the environment from an interdisciplinary perspective of all sciences that focuses on analyzing the environment and exchanging ideas about possible solutions to improve the environment (Siwi, 2022). Ecocriticism is an important step in raising awareness of the environmental issues facing the world today, but it will only succeed if more people study it (D. Das, 2020). Ecocriticism explores how we imagine and describe the relationship between humans and context in all areas of social outcomes (D. Das, 2020). Stating that literary ecocriticism can help determine, explore, and even be able to solve ecological problems in a broader sense (D. Das, 2020). Asserted that the usefulness of literary criticism is threefold, namely (a) useful for literary science, (b) useful for providing information to the public. (c) useful for research development (D. Das, 2020). Ecocriticism takes an earth-centered approach to the study of literature (Santoso et al., 2020). Both experts try to explain the concept of

back to nature in literary works by using earth-centered methods (Santoso et al., 2020). There are messages related to the environment through a literary work, such as pollution, forests, disasters, housing, animals and the earth (Garrard, 2004)

In this study, researcher found several studies on the analysis of ecocriticism in documentary films include a study by Yusri Fajar entitled *Environmental Exploitation in Sexy Killers: Narrative Analysis and Ecocriticism Perspectives*. The study found that mining damaged several environments in the area, such as vegetation loss due to mining, which caused water sources to decrease in quality, causing fatal losses to farmers (Fajar 2021). In addition, there is also another study by Viola Novitasari entitled *Ocean Advocacy in Discourse: Unpacking 'Seaspiracy' through an Eco-Critical Lens*. The result of the study is that aspects of language in the documentary affect the audience's awareness of the negative impacts of fish exploitation, plastic pollution, whaling, and unsustainable fish farming (Novitasari 2023). Then the next study by Gabby Mocata entitled "*Fact-based dreaming*" as *climate communication*. The result of the study is how modern communication strategies in documentary films can be important to raise public awareness about the environment where modern strategies include positivity, playfulness and storytelling that focuses on solutions to change (Mocatta, 2022).

Researcher also found previous research on plastic pollution in documentary films. Study by Jennifer Males titled *Did the Blue Planet set the Agenda for Plastic Pollution? An Explorative Study on the Influence of a Documentary on the Public, Media and Political Agendas*. The results of the study showed that the documentary film had a public influence, with an increase in searches about ocean plastic on

Google and in the media or parliament there was an increase in articles about the issue of ocean plastic published and discussed in parliament (Males 2020). Furthermore, a study by Merdhi and Imanjaya entitled *Documentary Cinema, Plastic Waste Problem, and Environmental Sustainability: The Case of Pulau Plastik*. The study found that the use of plot in documentary films can increase the audience's emotions towards the issue of plastic pollution so that documentary films become the best tool as campaign media (Merdhi & Imanjaya, 2022). Then there is the study by Emily titled *Belly of the World: Toxicity, Innocence, and Indigestibility in Plastic China*. The result of the study is how humans have a role in the waste production cycle both in waste consumption and environmental responsibility (Emily, 2024). Further research by Dewi entitled *Environmental Crisis in Salman Rushdie's Haroun and The Sea of Stories*. The results of this study are the causes and effects of the environmental crisis in the novel and the resolution efforts made by the characters in the story (Dewi, 2020). Next is a study by Bredal Tomren entitled *Sami Ecotheology as a resource for the church of Norway: An Ecocritical Analysis of Two Sami Ecotheologians*. The results of this study are about the similarities and differences between Bintie and Johnsen's Ecotheology (Bredal, 2023). Next is a journal written by Mahdiyyah entitled *Ecocritical Analysis Of Wall-E: Criticizing Consumerism, Overconsumption, And Human Negative Impact On Nature*. The results of this journal are about the negative impacts caused by humans in the Wall-E film such as damaging the environment and consumerism which also has an impact on the environment (Mahdiyyah, 2023). The last is a journal written by Nahdhiyah entitled *Ecocritical study on relationships between*

humans, nature, and god in the novel the Alchemist. This study discusses the relationship between humans and nature in the novel *The Alchemist* (Nahdhiyah, 2023).

B. Problem of the Study

1. How does the documentary "A Plastic Ocean" show the phenomenon of plastic waste in Sri Lanka, France, and Philliphine?
2. How do Germany, Hwanda, and United Kingdom governments manage the plastic waste in the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean"?

C. Significance of the Study

Theoretically, this research contributes to expanding the ecocritical understanding of the problem of plastic pollution in the ocean, especially through the mapping of the phenomenon shown in the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean". By analyzing the phenomenon of plastic waste in the ocean in this film, the research can reveal the diverse ecological, social, and political perspectives associated with this environmental crisis. This not only enriches the ecocritical literature, but also strengthens our understanding of the urgency of the issue of plastic pollution in the ocean, which in turn can help formulate more effective solutions.

Practically, this research can provide valuable insights for policy makers, environmental activists and the general public in addressing the issue of plastic pollution in the ocean. Through analyzing the film "A Plastic Ocean"'s portrayal of plastic trash management, stakeholders can pinpoint shortcomings in current methodologies and investigate novel techniques aimed at mitigating its adverse

effects. This may result in better methods for managing plastic garbage and the creation of laws that better safeguard human health and marine environments.

D. Scope and Limitation

This study aims to investigate how the ecocritical method might be used to the examination of the movie "A Plastic Ocean" and its depictions. This study concentrate on how the film's linguistic and visual components might influence viewers' perceptions of environmental contamination and attempts to properly handle plastic waste. It is intended that this research provide a clearer knowledge of how the ecocriticism approach may be used to analyze how environmental concerns are represented in visual literary works like documentaries.

E. Definition of Key Term

1. Documentary Film

The discussion in this study prioritizes documentaries in a film categorization with the aim of focusing research on the genre in film, namely documentaries. Documentary films are a type of film that is included in the class of non-fiction films that document real-life stories. Documentary film is a condition of a certain time or place that is communicated through multidimensional language with the media intermediary. Throughout the history of film, documentary film making has been for people who are aware of behavior, chaos, mistakes, and shortcomings in social aspects. The goal of documentary filmmakers is not only to make viewers interested in the aesthetics in the film, but also the rhetoric and propaganda in it (Medhurst & Benson, 1981, p. 54).

2. Ecocriticism

According to Garrard (2004), ecocriticism explores the ways in which we imagine and describe the relationship between humans and the environment in all areas of cultural output. Ecocriticism is also defined as the critical stance of modern environmental movements. Greg Garrard traces the development of the movement and explores related concepts of ecocriticism, as follows: (a) pollution, (b) wilderness, (c) apocalypse, (d) dwelling, (e) animals, and (f) earth. Garrard (2004) further states that ecocriticism can help define, explore, and even solve ecological problems in a broader sense. In its function as a medium for representing people's attitudes, views and responses to the surrounding environment, literature has the potential to express ideas about the environment, including the values of environmental wisdom. This is very reasonable considering that literature grows, develops and is sourced from the community and natural environment.

3. Plastic Pollution

Pollution a global challenge with no boundaries, disrupts natural systems, as explained by researcher like Austine Ofondu and Suprakas Sinha from the Department of Chemical Sciences, University of Johannesburg. They emphasize that chemical reactions triggered by unnatural disturbances can transform materials, potentially altering the function of living and non-living components. Plastic emblematic of the Anthropocene era, poses a significant environmental hazard due to its resistance to degradation, as noted by Rakesh Kumar. Improper disposal leads to pollution, impacting both the environment and human health. Plastic pollution's adverse effects include carcinogenicity and developmental risks, particularly for

fetuses and infants, as highlighted by Christina Carrozzo Hellevik and Jakob Bonnevie Cyvin. Furthermore, plastic waste incurs economic losses and social costs, exacerbating the challenge of managing plastic pollution, a problem comparable to ozone layer depletion. However, addressing plastic pollution requires multifaceted approaches, including reducing material complexity, improving waste management, and promoting recycling and reuse initiatives. These actions, alongside community engagement, can mitigate plastic pollution's impact on the environment and human well-being

CHAPTER II

REVIEW ON RELATE LITERATURE

A. Documentary Film

A documentary film is a documentation of an event or event in the form of facts presented in the form of a film so that in a documentary film there are no fictional elements made to dramatize the storyline. Bill Nichols a famous film theorist who made an important contribution to our understanding of documentary films, according to him documentary films are not just a visual record of reality, but rather a constructive representation of reality. In his book "Introduction to Documentary" (2001), Nichols puts forward some key characteristics of documentary films. Documentary films have an attachment to reality and the facts that occurred in the event. While there may be elements of dramatization or editing, the point is to represent real events or facts. The documentary filmmaking process involves in-depth research and analysis of the subject. Directors often need to be well-versed in their topic in order to effectively convey it to the audience.

Nichols emphasizes that although documentaries aim to create an accurate representation of reality, there is still room for creativity and interpretation from the director. Editing decisions, the choice of point of view, and the use of artistic elements can give a special color and interpretation to the material presented. Documentary films not only present facts, but also seek to establish an emotional and intellectual connection with the audience. By actively engaging the audience, a documentary film can create a deeper understanding of its subject. Nichols states that documentaries are not bound to one particular narrative style. Various narrative

styles can be used depending on the purpose and message that the director wants to convey. Thus, according to Bill Nichols, a documentary film is not just a recording of documentation, but a form of creative representation of reality that involves artistic decisions and directorial interpretation (Nichols, 2001).

B. Ecocriticism

1. Definition of Ecocriticism

There is a close relationship between literature and the environment, as Glotfelty states that the environment can inspire a critique of the ways in which natural and cultural norms have contributed to environmental degradation through artistic and creative approaches like poetry and novels, a practice known as ecocriticism (Glotfelty, 1996). Ecocriticism is the study of how humans and non-humans have interacted throughout human civilization. It involves a critical examination of what it means to be a "human," grounded in ecological or environmental awareness (Garrard, 2004). Traditional literary techniques and ecological viewpoints are combined in ecocriticism. It refers to a piece of art where the landscape—which includes non-human components like land, trees, plants, locations, and rocks—becomes the main character; an example of this would be the relationship between a character and their environment or between an author and their setting (Garrard, 2004). Overall, ecocriticism allows us to understand the complex relationship between humans and the natural environment, and the complex relationship between humans and the natural environment, as well as how literature becomes a means to contemplate and critique the role of culture in safeguarding and caring for

our planet. our planet. It is a relevant and important approach in dealing with current environmental issues.

2. History of Ecocriticism

Within the Western Literature Association (WLA), a literary association devoted to Western American literature, ecocritical studies first appeared. ASLE (body for the Study of Literature and the Environment), a professional body with major sections in the UK and Japan, dominates ecocriticism in academia. In addition to holding regular conferences that combine environmental activism and education, ASLE produces a periodical with pieces of creative writing and literary analysis. Initially, love poetry and wilderness stories were among the literary elements that defined ecocriticism. But as time went on, ASLE changed to become a more comprehensive form of cultural ecocriticism that included studying popular culture, television, architecture, art, zoos, and shopping centers (Garrard, 2004).

In Glotfelty (1996) general, Literary theory looks at how the author, the text, and the larger world—society and social environment—interact to form an ecosphere. Ecosphere refers to the state of interconnectivity among all things. Ecocriticism therefore adopts a more expansive concept of the world. Ecocriticism encompasses all phenomena that are grounded in the ecosphere. As long as the works in the genre deal with environmental concerns, there are no restrictions.

The environmental issues discussed in the text are typically attributed to human activity. Glotfelty (1996) declares that people will face repercussions for their conduct if they harm the planet's essential life support system. For instance, dumping cigarette butts in woods that start fires during the dry season, illegally

felling trees that create flooding, and sewage spills into rivers that contaminate them. A new literary movement called ecocriticism aims to mend the wounds inflicted on the natural world and to raise awareness of the need of having a positive connection with the environment. Marland (2013) There are four waves in the ecocritical movement, which has evolved throughout time: the first, second, third, and fourth waves.

The first wave of ecocritical writing in the United States concentrated on using literary representations of the world to convey environmental issues. A portion of the ecocriticism from this initial wave is linked to prizes for nature-themed nonfiction writing. The first wave was associated in the UK with healing through non-human-focused writing that might foster environmental sensitivity, for example through poetry. Although it had fewer theoretical restrictions, the first wave offered healing. The second wave of ecocriticism consequently arose. According to Marland (2013), By retaining an awareness of nature's changing physical presence and balancing it with forms of environmental imagination, the second wave improved upon the first. Furthermore, in order to further comprehend the complexity of connections, the second wave offers a more practical method that can be used in conjunction with the natural, political, social, critical, and restructuring aspects of her research, such as nature writing, post-rural, and ecological poetics.

The third wave of ecocriticism, which Scott Slovic and Joni Adamson established in 2009, places a strong emphasis on examining the human experience from an environmental viewpoint and identifying the unique ethical and national

character that transcends national boundaries. The third wave also seeks to address the consequences of slow violence, which harms human and non-human bodies, degrades the environment, and fosters social inequality. The fourth wave of ecocriticism is discussed in light of the aforementioned ideas. The concomitant field of material ecocriticism is designated as the fourth wave. Three material ecocriticism-related issues were covered in the fourth wave. The first problem stems from the materiality hypothesis, which makes distinctions between humans and non-human entities and alters both the environment and humans from their original state. The idea that every material has agency is the second premise. The political and ethical issues raised by these materials' intricacy make up the last premise.

3. Scopes of Ecocriticism

Garrard (2004) divides the significance of ecocritical tropes into various categories. Namely pollution, position, wilderness, grazing, apocalypse, shelter, animals, and earth. The category that is relevant to the topic of this research is pollution, so the researcher chose the pollution category as a reference for Garrard's theory.

a. Pollution

The Latin word "pollution," which meaning "to pollute," is where the word "pollution" originates. The phrase has a strong connection to pollution in English. Because pollution is defined as an excessive amount of anything in the wrong area, it is an ecological concern (Garrard, 2004). There are many different facets of pollution on Earth. In particular, pollution is the overabundance of any hazardous

element—solid, gaseous, liquid, or energetic—that compromises the environment's and nature's stability. American researcher Rachel Carson said that organic pesticides used to get rid of insect pests, such as dieldrin, DDT, and aldrin, are among the primary sources of pollution. His claims have been shown by science to pose major risks to human health, including cancer, birth abnormalities, and genetic mutations. Additionally, they are toxic and detrimental to animals. Moreover, chemical pesticides are not the only source of contamination. Among the unseen pollutants include carbon dioxide, artificial light, noise, and radioactivity

b. Plastic Pollution

Several research from the Department of Chemical Sciences, University of Johannesburg, including Austine Ofondu and Suprakas Sinha explained that pollution is a global phenomenon and also a challenge that knows no boundaries. Pollution is also considered as an unnatural disturbance arising from the entry or exit of energy or material into the environment that results in the disruption or deterioration of the natural state of a system or environment, so that it can result in a system disorder that deviates from its initial state (original condition and original function). such as water contained in petroleum products such as gasoline can be considered a pollutant because it affects the original condition and function of these products in motor engines. From this explanation, Austine Ofondu and Suprakas Sinha concluded that chemical reactions occur due to unnatural disturbances that cause a transformation from one form to another, so pollution has the potential to change the function of the system in the natural characteristics of living and non-living components. But even so, according to Austine Ofondu and Suprakas Sinha,

a material that enters the environment or system cannot be said to be a form of pollution if it does not have a negative effect, thus fulfilling the condition where the material is considered "green" or "environmentally friendly" (Iroegbu, 2021).

Rakesh Kumar explained that plastic is an indicator of the Anthropocene era which has recently become an environmental hazard due to its resistance to environmental degradation. Plastic has indeed been a remarkable material in driving the growth of synthetic modernity, but irresponsible and unethical disposal of plastic waste in any habitat is considered plastic waste. Lack of discretion in the disposal of plastic waste can lead to environmental pollution which currently makes plastic pollution a global and media concern due to its negative impact on the environment as well as human health. Plastics become waste due to irrational production, improper disposal, and inadequate recycling management. Plastic pollution of the environment, including terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, is occurring at an unprecedented rate and poses a major challenge to plastic waste management, especially in regions that experience continuous population growth such as developing countries. In 1950, global plastic waste production was 1.5 million tons, which increased in 2019 to 370 million tons, with Asia being the largest contributor. These plastics have adverse health and social impacts; for example, toxic chemicals found in plastic manufacturing materials are carcinogenic and can also affect the nervous, reproductive and respiratory systems. Research by Christina Carrozzo Hellevik and Jakob Bonnevie Cyvin shows that fetuses and babies are more frequently exposed to microplastics and related pollutants ranging from the placenta, breast milk, to the air they breathe, as well as the dust they

swallow. Additionally, fetuses and infants may not have sufficiently developed coping mechanisms to eliminate these pathogens from their metabolism, as adults do. The effects are not well understood, but it has been reported that microplastics can cause local toxicity and trigger an immune response (Hellevik & Cyvin, 2023). In some parts of the developing world, plastic is burned for cooking and heating purposes, which can result in exposure of women and children to toxic emissions. In addition, plastic waste also causes visual discomfort in parks/areas, which indirectly leads to increased social costs due to plastic contamination and pollution. Plastic debris also causes economic losses to the tourism, fisheries and shipping sectors on a global scale. Therefore, the cost of remediating all plastics from various ecosystems in the future will become financially unfeasible and expensive (Kumar, 2021).

Plastic pollution is not the main environmental hazard; the true effect of persistent system failure is. The Montreal Protocol is a significant example of collective action's effectiveness in halting ozone layer degradation. We conclude that the body of research to date indicates that plastic is present everywhere in the world, in both the natural world and the immediate human surroundings. Local effects have been seen, and plausible theories suggest that they affect global biogeochemical cycles. This is quite concerning and should cause us to consider the objectives and motivations of our economic and political system, especially in light of forecasts of rising output and pollution. The severity and policy priority of marine plastic pollution should be comparable to those of ozone layer depletion (Hellevik & Cyvin, 2023). Since plastic is still around, there's a chance that prolonged

exposure to non-lethal amounts might result in bioaccumulation and long-term effects on people' health. Local cleanup efforts can be helpful in terms of public education, short-term pollution reduction, and, in certain situations, concurrent data collection on the kind and quantity of different trash categories. Huge scale cleanup efforts, such as those utilizing ship wheels or booms, may effectively remove substantial amounts of garbage from aquatic environments, even if using huge ships and equipment comes with financial and environmental drawbacks. None of these initiatives will, however, significantly lessen the amount of plastic pollution in the environment, despite the fact that they may have some advantages. Whenever feasible, actions should be taken to reduce material complexity (by utilizing fewer types of polymers and chemical additives), improve waste management, and prevent discharges into the environment. When these steps are taken together, plastic may be recycled and reused effectively, recovering valuable resources and lowering the demand for new materials and chemicals. Reusing commonplace goods like shopping bags and water bottles, together with recycling non-reusable products, are tiny yet impactful initiatives that community action takes to reduce plastic waste (Horton, 2022).

c. Plastic Waste Management

Waste management is the biggest problem for the world today as well as the future. Global metal waste alone stands at 1.3 billion tons and is expected to increase to 27 billion tons by 2050. According to a recent report, India generates 1.57 lakh tons of solid waste per day. Of this, only 20% of the waste is taken to the recycling line and the remaining 80% is dumped into landfills in an improper

manner. This 80% waste creates a huge impact and damages our environment. It provides suggestions to dispose the waste products properly without damaging the environment with the help of recycling concepts (David & Sankriti, 2019).

The Pfand system, widely implemented in Germany, presents an intriguing model for sustainable waste management. In Germany, consumers pay a deposit when purchasing glass or plastic bottles, which can be reclaimed upon returning the empty bottles. The deposit can be as high as €0.25 (approximately \$0.29) for reusable bottles, while a fixed deposit applies to single-use bottles. Reusable bottles are sent to wholesalers for sanitization and refilling, whereas single-use bottles are processed into new materials. This system has achieved a remarkable return rate of up to 98% in Germany, significantly reducing raw material usage, energy consumption, and carbon emissions. The Pfand system demonstrates greater effectiveness compared to traditional recycling methods, which often suffer from contamination when bottles are mixed with other recyclable materials. By focusing specifically on bottles, the Pfand system streamlines the recycling process, enhancing overall efficiency. The success of this system in Germany underscores its potential to foster broader sustainable practices, raising awareness of the importance of recycling and waste reduction (Josephine, 2023).

Rwanda implemented a ban on plastic bags in 2008 by adopting a predominantly repressive approach, which included law enforcement measures such as inspections and penalties, including fines and imprisonment for offenders. A range of policy instruments was employed, including informational campaigns aimed at raising public awareness regarding the detrimental effects of plastic bags. The government

emerged as the primary actor in the enforcement of this ban, while the local industry, although significant, had limited influence due to its pre-existing weaknesses at the time of the ban's introduction. Alternatives such as collection, recycling, and taxation on plastics were considered but ultimately rejected due to a lack of technical and financial resources, as well as insufficient environmental awareness among the populace. Contextual factors, including the urgent need to address plastic waste that posed risks to human health and the environment, played a crucial role in the selection of this stringent approach. Through these measures, Rwanda successfully reduced plastic waste significantly; however, this approach raises questions about the applicability and desirability of similar methods in other countries (Danielsson, 2017)

The UK government, in collaboration with Unilever, is supporting an innovative chemical recycling initiative developed by Recycling Technologies aimed at addressing the challenges of recycling low-quality flexible and soft plastics. This innovative process involves heating fossil fuel-based plastics until their long-chain molecules break down into short-chain hydrocarbons, which are then separated to eliminate contaminants. The resulting vapor is cooled to produce a solid oil substance known as Plaxx, which can be utilized in the manufacturing of new plastic products. The grant funding will facilitate testing at a new chemical recycling facility in Perthshire, Scotland, where Neste will utilize the produced Plaxx to create new items, while Unilever will provide materials experts to assist in implementing this process for films, sachets, and bags (Edie, 2020).

The concepts such as recover, reduce, recycle, and reuse are the options related to plastic waste management. Recover is the recovery of waste materials back at the end of the cycle. This provides monetary benefits to the company by limiting the product of the product. It is considered one of the best ways to avoid landfill and reduce the environmental impact on our planet. Reduce is the reduction in the use of natural resources that are damaging to the environment. There are many advantages in reducing the use of new resources and reusing recovered goods. First of all, it helps to avoid the use of new products and conserve natural resources. Secondly, it facilitates the repeated use of recovered components or parts. Thirdly, it reduces procurement costs by reducing new resources. Fourth and most important is that it avoids unwanted waste, avoids landfilling and also lowers pollution levels. Lastly, it helps build a sustainable future a sustainable future through the environment, economy and society (David & Sankriti, 2019).

Recycle is the process of converting unused materials/components/goods/parts into new ones, for the same or another purpose. In other words, recycling means, “making products that can be reprocessed and converted into raw materials for use in another or the same product”. Recyclable materials/components/goods/parts are plastics, paper, glass, electronics, batteries, textiles, and other waste. By using recycled components, we can reduce new products. Recycled items financially save costs, and environmentally avoid unwanted pollution. Reuse is the reuse of items that can still be used. For example, one ton of reused paper can save up to 4100kWh of electricity, 17 trees, 2.5 barrels of oil, and 31,780 liters of water. Likewise, one ton of scrap steel can save 287 liters of fuel oil, 1.2 tons of iron ore, 0.5 tons of

limestone, 0.7 tons of coal, 2.3 cubic meters of landfill (Gan, et. al., 2018) and also reduce water consumption by 40% and reduce 58% of CO₂ emissions. Therefore, each component has its own advantages and benefits in terms of environment, economy, and society (David & Sankriti, 2019).

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Research Design

The research method that used to examine the documentary film “A Plastic Ocean” is qualitative research. According Jacobs (2010) qualitative is an approach related to research results presented in the form of words, and not data or numbers. Thus, the final result obtained from this qualitative research is a description. A qualitative approach is a process of research and understanding based on a methodology that investigates social phenomena and human problems. The author decided to choose the documentary film “A Plastic Ocean” because the film is one of the films that contains the discourse of ecocriticism. This reason, selection of the documentary film “A Plastic Ocean” is the primary data to be studied in more depth. Furthermore, the film is studied using ecocriticism by exploring a criticism of the film to find the phenomenon of plastic waste in Sri Lanka, France, and Phillipin then find how the government management in Germany, Hwanda, and United Kingdom.

B. Data Source

The data source for this study is the documentary film “A Plastic Ocean” by Craig Lesson as a director and actor in the documentary. A Plastic Ocean was first aired in 2016 on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yog7qmGZIIQ>) with a duration of 102 minutes. All relevant evidence in the documentary related to environmental issues and plastic pollution is counted as data to be analyzed.

C. Data Collection

The researcher collected data in the form of pictures, words, phrases, and sentences from the documentary. In collecting data, the researcher took several steps:

- a. Watching the documentary film for several time to understand the objek.
- b. Reading and understanding everything related to the topic in the documentary.
- c. Selecting some shots as data by doing screenshots. The data must be related to plastic pollution.
- d. Classify the pollution found in the documentary through one of several related issues.

D. Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the researcher perform step by step including:

- a. The first step is to identify the relationship between humans and nature and the concept of pollution through data related to the problem and supporting evidence from documentaries and supporting evidence from other sources.
- b. Second, classify and explain the data into several aspects in the documentary or related research.
- c. Finally, drawing conclusions from the research problem, analysis, and giving suggestions.

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Plastic is a modern tool that facilitates our daily activities, of course when carrying something where plastic has a light weight but is very strong when used to carry something and is also waterproof of course. With these advantages, almost everyone in the world uses plastic as a medium or tool to carry an item such as shopping bags, drinking bottles, food wrappers etc. However, because it is more practical and efficient, the use of plastic by the global community has exploded out of control where plastic which was once a tool that facilitates human life has now become a very sad pollution, where pollution caused by plastic has become a problem in every ecosystem, finally plastic has become a global problem that we must prevent and be aware of. As a result of these factors, the researcher found two questions *1. How does the documentary "A Plastic Ocean" show the phenomenon of plastic waste in Sri Lanka, France, and Philliphine and 2 How do Germany, Hwanda, and United Kingdom governments manage the plastic waste in the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean"*

A. The Phenomenon of Plastic Waste in The World in Documentary Film

“A Plastic Ocean”

Movies are one of the media in conveying messages, one of which is the documentary "A Plastic Ocean". Of course, it becomes very interesting if a global issue can be presented into a documentary film because everything will be based on facts that occur in that place. The existence of plastic as a global

issue and documentary film as a medium is certainly the right thing to explore a global issue. In the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean" several things become highligh, including how actors describe plastic waste which becomes a pollution that damages the environment and find out how the community is handled by the government.

According to Garrard, pollution itself is a logical case that occurs excessively and in the wrong location, this is in line with the object of this research because the waste that occurs is very excessive and out of place such as in the ocean or on the shoreline. In the documentary "A Plastic Ocean" describes several important things such as plastic waste that has polluted the environment and damaged ecosystems in several countries in the world so that researcher find how the phenomenon is depicted in the documentary. The following is the data presented by researcher on the object of the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean":

1. SRI LANKA

Datum 1



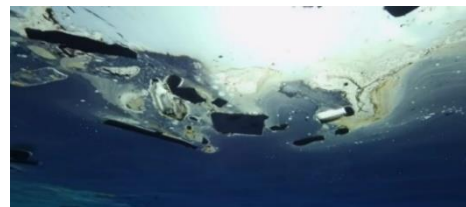
Picture 1.



Picture 2.



Picture 3.



Picture 4.

Picture 1-4: Lots of Plastic Rubbish on the sea surface Sri Lanka (7:24).

The first data found by researcher on the documentary A Plastic Ocean is the phenomenon of plastic waste that occurs in the country of Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is a developing country located on the Asian continent, precisely in South Asia adjacent to the Indian Ocean, the Jambeck Research Group released the results of their research on the facts of plastic waste in the sea in a journal entitled *Plastic Waste Inputs From Land Into The Ocean* and Sri Lanka ranked 5th as the largest contributor to marine debris, as much as 14.6 tons of waste contributed by Sri Lanka to the sea, which became the beginning of Craigh Leeson's journey in the documentary "A Plastic Ocean". Craigh Leeson initially only wanted to see Blue Whales in the Sri Lankan ocean and it turned out that there were several things that surprised him when Craigh and his team searched the Sri Lankan ocean.

Craig Leeson is an award-winning filmmaker, journalist, television presenter, and entrepreneur. He is the CEO of Leeson Media International and Ocean Vista Films and founder of I Shot Hong Kong Film Festival. In 2016, Craig released his first feature-length documentary, A Plastic Ocean. Watched around the world and ranked number one on iTunes in the United States, United Kingdom and Canada, the film helped launch a global push for change to save our oceans from plastic pollution.

Craight Leeson and his team found stagnant plastic waste as can be seen in Figure 1-4 which explains that there is plastic waste in the outer ocean which surprised him. Seen plastic waste that stagnates in the middle of the open ocean of course this is really a surprising thing for Craigh Leeson about how plastic

waste can get to the middle of the ocean The incident was recorded accidentally by Dough Dallon who is an underwater cameraman, he said *“Floating on the surface the meter below was jus this horrible crappy emulsified mess of oil and bits of you know its horrible and looking trough it you can see that the tendrils of the net hanging down, that was certainly one of the most unpleasant dives i’ve ever done.”* He was shocked as well as frightened by what happened as he saw how the nets were stagnant in the middle of the sea which of course made him feel that his dive was the worst of his career. The rubbish shocked Craigh and his entire team and it is still unknown where it came from.

Datum 2



Picture 5



Picture 6



Picture 7

Picture 5-7: Plastic Waste Found by Craigh Leeson in The Ocean (laut apa?) (8:13).

Craigh Leeson also found a box floating in the middle of the sea and tried to pick it up and collect other plastic waste stagnant in the middle of the sea with

his team “Okay it’s a hole in it this is all some of the rubbish that we found in the floating gentleman flotsam in the ocean, even pack of unopened biscuits and you can see it’s been there for some time with the mullets that are growing off it... its a crabs in there (slipper) so quite extraordinary.” Craig Leeson and his team found some mostly plastic-based debris such as sandals and some chemical bottles, and he even found an unwrapped biscuit. The plastic waste has become part of life for the marine ecosystem itself, with the discovery of freshwater crabs inside the sandals providing evidence that the waste originated in the rivers surrounding the sea.

2. FRANCE

Datum 3



Picture 8



Picture 9



Picture 10



Picture 11

Picture 8-11: Plastic Waste Found by Tasya and Mike deGruy at The Bottom of The French Sea While Diving Using a Submarine (23:45)

In the second data that researcher found on the object of research, namely waste in France, according to information that researcher got from the WWF France website, France was ranked 5th for domestic plastic waste recycling in 2016 (22% of plastic was recycled). The rest, a total of 3.4 million tons of plastic waste, was incinerated (1.8 million tons) or buried (1.6 million tons). The 80,000 tons of uncollected plastic waste risks leaking into nature and the ocean. Every year, 11,200 tons of plastic are dumped by France in the Mediterranean. It is estimated that this plastic pollution costs the French economy around 73 million euros per year, affecting the tourism, maritime trade and fisheries sectors. This is a factor in the discovery of French marine litter.

In the documentary, Craigh Leeson and his team found some mostly plastic-based debris such as sandals and some chemical bottles, and he even found an unwrapped biscuit. The plastic waste has become part of life by the marine ecosystem itself where the discovery of freshwater crabs in the sandals can be evidence that the waste originated in Western Europe, the European continent of the French Republic. Tasya, a British freediver, met Mike deGruy, a marine biologist and experienced submarine pilot. They try to dive into the oceans in France to try to find plastic on the seabed.

Mike deGruy dived using a submarine to a depth of 367 meters, he found plastic waste at the bottom of the sea such as plastic bottles, a motorcycle tire and plastic sacks. Mike told Tasya about the situation at the bottom of the sea. *“We’re now starting to see more and more plastic, more and more tires and pieces of metal and just absolutely disregard for the bottom really it’s just junk*

everywhere.”. It turns out that on the seabed there is also plastic waste that has an impact on the marine ecosystem, which is the reason why plastic is something that needs to be given special attention. After Mike dived using a submarine, Tasya wanted to find out more about what was at the bottom of the trough in the ocean by using a remote control to go to a depth of 1600 meters.

Datum 4



Picture 12



Picture 13

Picture 12-13: Plastic Waste in The Form Of Bottles Also Found by Tasya and Mike deGruy On The Seabed (25:10).

After reaching the bottom of the trough Tasya was surprised to find many plastic bottles collected in one area. She said *“Here where the daylight never reaches the eddies and current have collected scores of plastic bottles, this plastic could remain here forever.”* plastic waste or plastic bottles have reached the bottom of the trough which is difficult for humans to reach and also the amount is not small so according to Tasya the plastic waste will forever be there, mike was also a little surprised when diving at a depth of 365 meters all he saw was plastic *“You go down, you know 365meter hit bottom start moving around and immediately start seeing trash plastic. So where in the world can you go anymore and not found plastic.”*

PHILIPPINES

Datum 5



Picture 14



Picture 15

Picture 14-15: The landfill in Philippines had existed for 40 years before it was closed in 1995 where the tip of the landfill emitted methane gas that burned itself out (59:00).

The next data found by researcher is in the form of plastic waste in the Philippines, according to Our World Data quoted from the National Geographic website, Asia dominates the contribution of plastic to the sea, with 81% of the total global input. This matches previous research that showed similar figures in 2010. The Philippines, with its many islands and population living near the coast, is responsible for more than a third (36%) of the plastic input. This is surprising as previously China and India were considered the main contributors. However, the Philippines dominates, with India contributing 13% and China 7%.

Craight Lesson and his team headed to the center of the Smokey Mountain landfill in Manila, Philippines. Craight says *“This garbage tip contains so much methane which was produce by the garbage within it that when it reaches a certain temperature it catches fire that creates this smoke that comes out of the top of the pile and filter city of manila.”* from this statement, the garbage in Smokey Mountain landfill has polluted the city of Manila with the amount of

garbage that is there, seen in the picture where the garbage has merged with the soil with a depth that exceeds human height.

Plastic in the form of packaging or bottles is a major element in this Smokey Mountain landfill, as evidenced when Craight asked one of the local residents about the work they do. Craight asked “*You worked here as a 12 year old? And what would you collect up here?*” the resident said “*yeah to earn money to support my family, i do recycle like bottle and plastic.*” So it can be concluded that recycling plastic or bottles by some residents around the landfill indicates that the amount of plastic in the landfill counts a lot so that it can become a livelihood for some residents.

Datum 6



Picture 16



Picture 17

Picture 16-17: Plastic Waste in Philippine Landfills Accumulated and Merged With The Oil (59:14- 59:23).

Plastics in the landfill are not well managed so that the plastics accumulate along the road. It is unfortunate if the landfill is not managed properly because it can be a major factor, especially related to diseases that will plague the environment around the community. Of course, on the other hand, it benefits some people in terms of livelihoods because the surrounding community can

collect bottles for them to recycle and then sell. it looks very much trash that is in the landfill until it penetrates into the ground.

Datum 7



Picture 18



Picture 19



Picture 20



Picture 21

Picture 18-21: The accumulated ocean of plastic waste has become a play area for children who live around the landfill (01:00:43-01:01:57).

As a result of Manila's accumulation of waste, several diseases have arisen from the landfills. When Craight asked what diseases were common in Manila, one interviewee said that lung diseases such as Tuberculosis and even the interviewee's parents died from Emphysema.

B. The Management of Plastic Waste Depicted In The Documentary Film A

Plastic Ocean

We cannot close our eyes and minds anymore, especially about plastic waste that has become waste as well as the main cause of damage to several ecosystems. In the previous data where a lot of plastic waste is wasted and not managed properly. As explained by Garrard's concept where something that is excessive and out of place will cause environmental damage. This is relevant to some of the ecosystem damage that occurs where many animals are contaminated by microplastic to various diseases that attack humans due to an environment that is no longer healthy.

Scientists are working on various ways to manage plastic so that humans can control the use of plastic for the safety of living things. In the journal *Recover, Recycle and Reuse: An Efficient Way to Reduce the Waste* written by Arokiaraj David and Ramanarayan Sankriti regarding some things that can be recycled are paper, cans, organic waste, plastic, glass, and metal. So that researchers found some data that is relevant to the concept of reduce, reuse, recycle in the object of the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean" including what is done by developed countries where the country has a high policy and discipline regarding waste, especially plastic waste and some of these countries are:

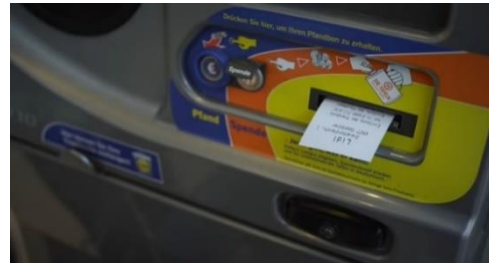
GERMANY

Datum 1

In 1991, Germany became the first country in the world to pass a packaging law that forced plastic manufacturers to take responsibility for the recycling of all forms of packaging they sell. Plastic waste, especially plastic bottles that have been unused, will be collected and then reprocessed so that it can reduce excessive plastic production which certainly has a bad long-term impact.



Picture 22



Picture 23



Picture 24

Picture 22-24: Bottle collection machine in Germany supermarket as an innovation in waste management (1:26:16)

From the picture above, we can see one of the efforts made by the Germany State in overcoming a waste problem, especially plastic bottles, by using a bottle swap device. Craight said *“Here Germany, they’ve reinstated it you can take your plastic bottles to almost any supermarket and put them in machine and what it does is it reads a barcode which tells the kind of plastic that it’s recyclable*

and which retailer it comes from so consumer get a 25 cent deposit off every bottle the retailer gets the plastic which they can sell to recyclers for lucrative amount of money and on the streets of Germany you very rarely see these things anymore because everybody recycles it.” So the bottle exchange tool itself is very effective because we only need to bring plastic bottles that we have not used and then put them into the machine and we also get benefits in the form of money from each bottle we enter so that it can increase the level of public enthusiasm to care about this plastic bottle problem.

The tool reads or scans the bottle so that we can find out the type of plastic bottle and where the plastic bottle comes from, then after that the tool will give us money and a piece of paper related to all that information. The effectiveness of this bottle collection machine is very effective in addition to the machine that has been located in each supermarket so that it can be ascertained that the community has no difficulty in collecting plastic bottles, this machine also has a positive impact on the environment such as reducing plastic bottle waste on the streets, in the text statement. *“On the streets of Germany you very rarely see these things anymore because everybody recycles It.”* It becomes clear that on the streets of Germany it is almost very rare to find plastic bottles in trash cans because everyone recycles bottles in the machine and gets 25 cents for each bottle they recycle. Based on Arokiaraj David and Ramanarayan Sankriti concept of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle this plastic bottle collection machine meets the

criteria of the concept so that this machine is included in an effective tool in tackling the problem of waste, especially plastic waste.

The machine reduces the use of plastic bottles because plastic bottle production certainly does not increase production because all plastic bottle waste will be reused. This machine also reuses plastic bottle waste so that it can be reused even though it is in a different form. This machine certainly recycles plastic bottles into something like other tools that use plastic base materials such as forks, spoons and soon.

HWANDA

Datum 2



Picture 25



Picture 26



Picture 27

Picture 25-27: Hwanda's paperboard bag-making factory and Rose Mukankomeje director general of Hwanda environmental management's response (1:27:49)

In the second data found by researcher is what happened by the country of Hwanda, Hwanda itself is a country located in Central Africa, and borders the

Democratic Republic of Congo. This country is one of the countries that realizes the dangers of disposable plastic such as plastic bottles scattered in supermarkets so that the use of plastic in this country is strictly prohibited. Hwanda realizes that plastic is very unfriendly to the environment so they replace it with paper or cardboard as shopping bags for use in their daily lives.

Rose Mukankomeje director general of Hwanda environmental management said *“Hwanda being an agricultural Country, where by we don’t have a lot of industries we have tried to assess the impact of plastic bags on our soil specifically and on our animals specifically livestock the after the assessment we have decided why do we keep this when we know very well the negative impact of it.”* From the text said by Rose Mukankomeje, the researcher concluded that Hwanda as an agricultural country whose livelihoods mostly depend on nature because there are very few industries in Hwanda.

They then conducted research on plastic bags on their land and they also conducted research on animals as well, especially livestock, so after the assessment they did they got the result of banning the use of plastic bags because they knew very well how bad the impact was obtained after the research they did.

UNITED KINGDOM

Datum 3



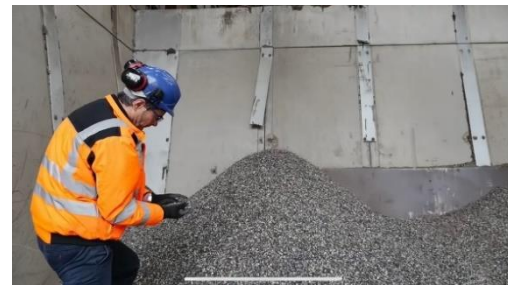
Picture 28



Picture 29



Picture 30



Picture 31

Picture 28-31: Roger's interview and some documentation of the recycling process where plastic is processed into seeds and then transformed according to the needs of the industry in Manchester, United Kingdom. (1:27:43)

The third data is in one of the countries in the United Kingdom (UK), namely England with a population of around 67 million, of course, the waste produced is quite a lot. Waste management in the UK is quite good, policies on waste management are very disciplined here. The Craight Leeson team asked about how waste management occurs in the UK, especially in the capital city of Manchester to a director of Axion Polymers, Roger Morton. Roger Morton said *“I think its shocking waste of valuable resource that these materials are being put in the landfill, there're so much valuable if we put them in the landfill the cost in Europe its around about a 100 dollar or 150 dollar but as a usefull plastic*

it could be worth 1200 dollar until 1500 dollar a ton huge difference in value. We actually have the answers now to recycling most plastic and the challenge really is to get everyone on board with those ideas and also to get the collection infrastructure going right so that we get big volume coming concentrated in one place so that people can then have confidence to invest in the recovery technology.” It can be concluded that what Roger wants to convey is how the value of this plastic waste if it is recycled which if it is just disposed of in Landfill then the value will be very small compared to if it is recycled which has a value 10x greater it is certainly a very large assessment.

The challenge that must be faced at this time is after knowing how much value is generated by plastic waste that has been recycled then how to get everyone involved by it and also find a place with a very large volume so that everything can be concentrated in one place and it will make investors more confident. That is the problem of all waste activists where they always have a good idea or good awareness towards waste management but there is always a problem with how to "get everyone" on board.



Picture 32



Picture 33

Picture 32-33: Some pictures of the results of recycling that was turned into a BMW car spare part in Manchester, United Kingdom. (1:28:10)

Roger continued his statement *“As recyclers we think government could do more to encourage development of circular supply chains. Lot of recycled plastic*

can be used back as we say in closed loop back in the same product and that's happening a lot with bottle and pots tubs and trays from the packaging stream, but there are plenty of other outlets where a short life item like a piece of packaging can go into a long life application for example in construction products in automotive and in making cars and trains and airplanes and things like. Where you can get performance of the recycle polymer just as good as virgin material that's come out of the ground." From Roger's statement above about how roger's expectations as a recycler of the government will encourage or support the development of this alternative, because the potential for recycling is very varied, some are only used for short periods of time such as bottles and pots. *"Lot of recycled plastic can be used back as we say in closed loop back in the same product and that's happening a lot with bottle and pots tubs and trays from the packaging stream."*

However, we can also turn it into long-term use such as making automotive spare parts for cars, trains, and even aircraft spare parts. Of course, focusing on long-term use can reduce production costs and reduce short-term production that is less effective. Based on the third data found by researcher from the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean" with the concept of 3R Arokiaraj David and Ramanarayan Sankriti, there is a relevance between the data and the concept theory, namely recycle where basic materials derived from plastic waste will be recycled to produce something more valuable such as car, train, and airplane spare parts so that it will become an effective alternative waste management.

Based on the data that has been found by researcher, it is concluded that the existence of excessive waste is due to the lack of policies implemented by the government to regulate plastic production and also the management of waste generated by plastic so that plastic can be controlled properly. The resulting impact is also very dangerous starting from the impact on society and also the impact on the ecosystem as happened in some of the world's oceans.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

The documentary film "A Plastic Ocean" is a movie directed by Craig Leeson which shows the reality that so much plastic waste has entered the ocean which of course damages all marine ecosystems from breaking the food chain to causing the death of animals in the sea. Starting from a journalist named Craig Leeson who wanted to find blue whales that were so difficult to find but not only blue whales that Craig Leeson found but also plastic waste floating in the middle of the sea and this became the starting point for Craig Lesson to explore the world to find the cause of so much plastic waste that ended up in the ocean.

Based on the findings and discussion. The phenomenon depicted in the documentary film "A Plastic Ocean" is by highlighting the plastic waste in the ocean from floating to the bottom of the sea, to the landfill in several countries that contribute the most plastic waste in the world. Starting from the discovery of plastic waste in Sri Lanka when Craig Leeson hunted whales and then in France when Craig Leeson and the Tanya freediving team dived to the bottom of the French sea until the discovery of plastic waste on the seabed. Then to the Philippines where the plastic waste that has accumulated there is so much that it has damaged the surrounding settlements and some landfills have exceeded the waste storage capacity so that the plastic waste enters the shoreline and of course some plastic waste is carried by the current to the middle of the sea.

The waste management shown in the documentary "A Plastic Ocean" itself is quite interesting starting from the Germany State, namely with a special machine that aims to exchange used plastic bottles for money, it becomes very effective because of course people will prefer to exchange their bottle waste with money rather than just throwing it in the trash, and what is quite impressive is that the machine has been located in every supermarket so that it reaches all corners of the community who want to exchange their bottle waste. Hwana is an interesting country because they have completely banned the use of plastic waste and replaced it with paperboard, of course they provide policies after going through research and research on basic plastic materials. The UK is one of the countries that has a fairly good waste management, they recycle the waste into more valuable items such as spare parts for BMW cars, they do it starting with burning the waste into small grains and then printing them.

B. Suggestion

Based on the findings and discussion in this study, there are several suggestions that can be considered for further research. First, there is a need to conduct further research on the impacts caused by poor waste management more specifically and find solutions that can be applied to waste management in Indonesia. Second, there is a need to conduct more in-depth research related to the causes of the plastic waste can reach the ocean and find solutions so that the plastic wastes does not reach the ocean.

Finally, from a policy perspective, research on the role of government and regulation in addressing the marine environment is essential. This aims to identify

what policies and actions are needed to increase responsibility for managing plastic waste in order to reduce the impacts caused. Research on public awareness of plastic waste issues is also important to develop public insight into the dangers of using plastic as a base material for packaging. With these suggestions, it is hoped that future research can provide deeper insights and solutions to overcome the problem of plastic waste in the world.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Ary, Donal, Lucy Cheser Jacobs, C. S. And A. Razavieh. (2010). Introduction to research in education (UK (Ed.); 8th Editio. Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. <Http://Repository.Unmas.Ac.Id/Medias/Journal/EBK-00124.Pdf>
- Bidashimwa, D., Hoke, T., Huynh, T. B., Narkpitaks, N., Priyonugroho, K., Ha, T. T., Burns, A., & Weissman, A. (2023). Plastic pollution: how can the global health community fight the growing problem? *Bmj global health*, 8, 1–7.
- Bredal-Tomren, T. S. (2023). Sámi ecotheology as a resource for the church of norway: an ecocritical analysis of two sámi ecotheologians. *Studia theologica -nordic journal of theology*, 77(2), 231–250.
- Danielsson, M. (2017). *The Plastic Bag Ban in Rwanda: Local Procedures and Successful Outcomes* (Thesis, Uppsala University).
- Das, D. (2020). Ecocriticism and its perspective: an analytical study. *Journal of multidisciplinary educational* 514(12), 160–162.
- David, A., Thangavel, Y. D., & Sankriti, R. (2019). Recover, recycle and reuse: An efficient way to reduce the waste.
- Dewi, S. (2020). Environmental crisis in salman rushdie’s haroun and the sea of stories. In *Ethesis Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang*.
- Emily. (2024). Belly of the world: toxicity, innocence, and indigestibility in plastic china. January 2018, 33–50.
- Fajar, Y., & Ryan, J. (2021). Environmental exploitation in sexy killers: narrative analysis and ecocriticism perspectives. June.
- Garrard, G. (2004). *Ecocriticism: new critical idiom*. In london and new york: rouledge journal taylor & francis e-library. (First Edit). London And New York: Routledge Journal Taylor & Francis E-Library.
- George, S. (2020). Unilever and UK Government back chemical plastic recycling innovation. Retrieved 08 October 2024 from <https://www.edie.net/unilever-and-uk-government-back-chemical-plastic-recycling-innovation/?amp=true>
- Glotfelty, C. And H. F. (1996). *The ecocriticism reader: landmark in leterary ecology*. In the university of georgia press. The University Of Georgia Press.
- Hawley, E., & Mocatta, G. (2022). “Fact-based dreaming” as climate communication. *Popular communication*, 20(2), 91–104.
- Hellevik, C. C., & Cyvin, J. B. (2023). Plastic pollution: about time to unify research methods and demand systemic changes. *Frontiers in environmental science*, 11(July), 1–6.
- Horton, A. A. (2022). Plastic pollution: when do we know enough? *Journal of hazardous materials*, 422(July 2021).
- Iroegbu, A. O. C., Ray, S. S., Mbarane, V., Bordado, J. C., & Sardinha, J. P. (2021). Plastic pollution: a perspective on matters arising: challenges and opportunities. *Acs omega*, 6(30), 19343–19355.
- Jamieson, A. J., Brooks, L. S. R., Reid, W. D. K., Piertney, S. B., Narayanaswamy, B. E., & Linley, T. D. (2019). Microplastics and synthetic particles ingested by deep-sea amphipods in six of the deepest marine ecosystems on earth. *Royal Society Open Science*, 6(2).
- Josephine (2023). German Pfand System. Retrieved October 08, 2024 from

<https://blogs.dickinson.edu/german-environments/2023/05/07/german-pfand-system/>

- Krantzberg, G., Jetoo, S., Grover, V. I., & Babel, S. (2023). Plastic pollution. In plastic pollution.
- Kumar, R., Verma, A., Shome, A., Sinha, R., Sinha, S., Jha, P. K., Kumar, R., Kumar, P., Shubham, Das, S., Sharma, P., & Prasad, P. V. V. (2021). Impacts of plastic pollution on ecosystem services, sustainable development goals, and need to focus on circular economy and policy interventions. *Sustainability (Switzerland)*, 13(17), 1–40.
- Landrigan, P., Stegeman, J., Fleming, L., Allemand, D., Backer, L., Brucker-Davis, F., Chevalier, N., Czerucka, D. (2020). Human health and ocean pollution to cite this version : hal id : hal-03054268 human health and ocean pollution.
- Mahdiyyah, A. F., Putri, F. A., Effendy, A. D., Ardesti, A. Z., & Mustika, N. (2023, June 15). Ecocritical analysis of wall-e: criticizing consumerism, overconsumption, and the negative human impact on the natural world.
- Males, J., & Van Aelst, P. (2020). Did the blue planet set the agenda for plastic pollution? An explorative study on the influence of a documentary on the public, media and political agendas. *Environmental communication*, 0(0), 1–15.
- Mansur, S., Saragih, N., & Mijan, R. B. (2023). The impacts of “a plastic ocean” film on the environmental care attitudes of senior high school students in tangerang. *Jurnal ASPIKOM*, 8(1), 169.
- Marland, P. (2013). Ecocriticism. *Literature compass*, 10(11), 846–868.
- Merdhi, A., & Imanjaya, E. (2022). Documentary cinema, plastic waste problem, and environmental sustainability: the case of pulau plastik. *Iop conference series: earth and environmental science*, 998(1), 1–8.
- Rahayu. M (2020). Environmental literacy discourse represented in local portal "nggalek.co". *IOP Conferences Science: Earth And Enviromental Science*. IOP Publishing Ltd.
- Rahayu. M & Mediyansyah (2023). The discourse of resistance against gold mining in trenggalek. *Iop converences science: earth and enviromental science*.
- Nahdhiyah, Rahman, F., Abas, H., & Pattu, M. A. (2023). Ecocritical study on relationships between humans, nature, and god in the novel the alchemist. *Cogentarts&Humanities*,10(1).
- Nichols, B. (2001). Introduction to documentary (full book). In introduction to documentary.
- Novitasari, P. V., & Rohmah, G. N. (2023). Ocean advocacy in discourse: unpacking “seaspiracy” through an eco-critical lens. *Jurnal Al-Azhar Indonesia Seri Humaniora*, 8(3), 246. <https://doi.org/10.36722/Sh.V8i3.2567>
- Sadiku, M. N. O., Ashaolu, T. J., Ajayi-Majebi, A., & Musa, S. M. (2020). Environmental studies: an introduction. *International journal of scientific advances*, 1(3).
- Santoso, T., Atfalusoleh, S., Kusmanto, H., Hasjim, N., & Al-Ma’ruf, A. I. (2020). The relationship between humans and natural environment in luka perempuan asap novel by nafi’ah al-ma’rab: literature ecocritics review. *International Journal Of Scientific And Technology Research*, 9(1), 25–30.

Siwi, P., Arafah, B., Wulan, S., Purwarno, P., Ekalestari, S., & Arafah, A. N. B. (2022). Treatment of nature: an ecocriticism approach in 'komat kamit' of tejo and kamba's tuhan maha asik. *Theory And Practice In Language Studies*, 12(7), 1278–1285.

CURRICULUM VITAE



Muhammad Taufik Akbar was born in nganjuk in 8 october 2000. He graduated 2018 from SMAN 1 BERBEK. After that he continued his education at the State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang in 2020 and became part of the English Literature students and graduated in 2024. During his studies at the university, he worked as a tour guide to continue to hone his English skills and also train his mentality.