Social Impacts of Industrial Revolution in Charles Dickens’s Oliver Twist

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ABSTRACT

Literature from across academic disciplines has demonstrated significant links between emotional valence and language. For example, Whissell’s Dictionary of Affect in Language defines three dimensions upon which the emotionality of words is describable, and Ekman’s Theories of Emotion include the perception and internalization of facial expressions. The present study seeks to expand upon these works by exploring whether holding facial expressions alters the fundamental speech properties of spoken language. Nineteen (19) participants were seated in a soundproof chamber and were asked to speak a series of pseudowords containing target phonemes. The participants spoke the pseudowords either holding no facial expression, smiling, or frowning, and the utterances recorded using a high-definition microphone and phonologically analyzed using PRAAT analysis software. Analyses revealed a pervasive gender differences in frequency variables, where males showed lower fundamental but higher formant frequencies compared to females. Significant main effects were found within the fundamental and formant frequencies, but no effects were discerned for the intensity variable. While intricate, these results are indicative of an interaction between the activity of facial musculature when reflecting emotional valence and the sound properties of speech uttered simultaneously.

1. Introduction

Literature was created when people exist on Earth. It has always been a part of human life for as long as writing is. Literature is a cultural expression. Literature evolves with human culture (Fathu Rahman, 2017). In this instance, life events of society can be recorded by an author through creativity and imagination as useful background for literary works. Literary work itself is used by the author to invite readers to join, look, and feel about the meaning of life like how he has felt (F Rahman, Amir, & Tammasse, 2019). Literary work also contains of the situation that occurred to the author. Some examples literary works which reflect the people’s life are the novels. The novel is the genre of fiction of the common life; it is also the form in which values are most diverse and conflicting. Eagleton (2005), said that “the novel is a sign of the modern human life; it is the original in the sense of the contemporary man or women are supposed to be the authors of their own to availability.” From this statement the novel like modern subjects, modern subject here like heroes of the novel. And tell about the condition of the author at the time because there some authors wrote the novel from their experience such Charles Dickens, Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte and etc.

In the middle eighteenth century until nineteenth century the industrial revolution very influential on Britain society at the time, this is caused by the impact of industrial revolution. The Industrial revolutions is change that occurred in the Britain in the eighteenth century. It is a change from agriculture and human power, to machinery or factories. McDonel et al (1985), said that “The industrial revolution is the change that the place in England from an agrarian to factory society and from home production to factory production”. Beside the impact of industrial revolution has many impacts to the society in England such as standards of living, working conditions, growth of population, child labor, women and children regardless of the workers and the new classes of industrial workers. Hoaglind (1960), said that “Industrial Revolution gave many impacts for society such as a time of high unemployment, urbanization and criminal action at that time. Industrial revolution has significantly changes the face of England.” It means the Industrial Revolution began in England in the middle seventeen century for changes England face because in England many refers to the greatly increased output of machine made good (Widowson, 2004).
Therefore the researcher is very interested to analyze the social impacts of industrial revolution in Charles dickens Oliver twist because many impact of industrial revolution and the influences itself, the research uses some aspects of sociological approach as proposed by Wellek and Warren, they are the sociology of the writer, the social contents of the works themselves, and the influences of literature on society with supported by sociological approach (Wellek & Warren, 1956). Sociological approach is used to know the problems related to social life. The background of the author’s life cannot be separated from society’s life in the nineteenth century which is at the time industrial revolution growth and many impact of the society. As Cragun (2006), said that “sociology is the study of human life, it means that sociology can be concluded with the relationship between human being and society”. Literature also have educational values and the information’s about the reality of the society and social change (Rahman, 2018).

Watt (2001), said that “sociology and literature have the same problems. As well as sociology, literature is also relation with human beings in society as human beings try to fit in an attempt to change society”. As Didelyte’ (2008), state that tried to look at the crime of Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens’ as a thief or a victimized: in the middle of the 19th century crime and poverty were an inseparable mixed matter and most of the youngsters who suffered prison sentences were the praise of poverty; unwanted by their family, church and state. Aminah (2015), focused on analyzing the Social injustice phenomena in Charles dickens’ Oliver Twist by using Lucien Goldman’s theory of genetic structuralism. Wulandari's (2014), focused about the problem of abuse of child. The research determined problem of the exploitation child is reflected in Charles Dickens’ Oliver Twist. Bruin (2011), focused on analyze about out to discover the novel and its many adaptations in Norway since then. Taking a comprehensive and inclusive view of how this texts produce meaning, and the survey of the Norwegian version of story Oliver Twist to examine both of external and internal features in the texts.

The similarity between this research and the previous studies can be seen from the object of the research. This research and some previous studies mentioned above similar focus on analyzing in Charles Dickens’ Oliver Twist. But the difference between this research and the previous researches can be seen from the objectives of the research. In this study, the researcher will focus on analyze the social impacts of industrial revolution in Charles Dickens’ Oliver Twist, while the other researchers were focused on analyzing on phenomena depicted in the novel. This study describes the social impacts of industrial revolution in 19th century and to portray how the condition people in life during the time. Meanwhile, the social impacts of industrial revolution in Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens’ and its relation to reality during the nineteenth century in England by using sociological approach.

2. Method

To analyze this study by qualitative descriptive method. Qualitative descriptive research is one of the types of research included in the type of qualitative research. The purpose of this research is to reveal events or facts, circumstances, phenomena, and circumstances that occurred during the research by presenting what actually happened, and the data taken from Oliver Twist Charles Dickens’ novel.

The researcher reads the novel and also determines the discussion of this research used primary and secondary data. Primary data is collected from the novel Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens. The researcher reads the novel and quoted some important factors related to the topic. The supporting data are from library, article journals and online sources. The researcher combines with the obtainable data to see how they are all supporting the later analysis.

The data of this study taken from novel Oliver Twist have some steps: The researcher collecting the data, first reading the novel, second taking the notes from the novel of some important, third to separate related the stories, forth Combining the obtainable data to suit the research questions, and fifth Analyze the data with Rene Wellek and Austen Warren theories. In analyze the data; the researcher applies the data some steps as follow: 1) complete the data, 2) then, classifying the data into the kinds of social impacts of industrial revolution, 3) analyze the data through sociological approach initiated by Rene Wellek and Austen Warren

3. Result and Discussion

Based on some readings, basically, industrial revolution is tell us about the study of history which is becoming an apprehension to the cultures and civilizations, together with analysis of important ideas, values of social and culture, beliefs, and also traditions. Furthermore, this study explains about human conditions, including the connections and interactions between people across time and space. This study also examines people view in different ways for the some event or issues. The result of this research, the research focuses on analyzing the social impacts of industrial revolution in Charles Dickens’ Oliver Twist. In Oliver Twist, Dickens reflects the standards living of poverty in London, England and this situation is impact of the industrial revolution.
3.1 Standard of Living

Standard of Living is one of economic, social and political growth that involves the expansion of the flow of goods and services produced in the economy and changes in its composition. Therefore, one way of achieving the industrial revolution is to measure its consequences in terms of their impact on living standards.

The members of this board were very sage, deep, philosophical men; and when they came to turn their attention to the workhouse, they found out at once, what ordinary folks would never have discovered—the poor people liked it! It was a regular place of public entertainment for the poorer classes; a tavern where there was nothing to pay; a public breakfast, dinner, tea, and supper all the year round; a brick and mortar Elysium, where it was all play and no work. (Dickens, 2003: 17)

3.2 Growth of Population

Growth of population same like population increase because increase in the number of people that reside in a country, or city. Population increase is the change in population over time, and can be calculated as the change in the number of individuals in a population.

Oliver breathed, sneezed, and proceeded to advertise to the inmates of the workhouse the fact of a new burden having been imposed upon the parish, by setting up as loud a cry as could reasonably have been expected from a male infant who had not been possessed of that very useful appendage, a voice, for a much longer space of time than three minutes and a quarter. (Dickens, 2003: 3)

3.3 Labor Condition

Labor Condition is the condition many people have been working for companies under terrible conditions, lack of freedom to negotiate conditions and lack of chances.

In the case of the hunger that occurs of industrial revolution, Dickens explained this condition in his novel as image of people who live in hunger with extreme worst condition about starvation dying. As we now, that the hunger due to death it was bad response. The example from the novel to illustrate as Oliver orphan and their parents could not support them any longer.

Thus, the writer finds out that Dickens describes that people have anything can live in the workhouse because workhouse is many poor children in the Victorian era and they live in slum house. Oliver Twist as the main character in the novel, and he’s one of those poor children who has live in workhouse. Dicken’s bring out to his readers in the world of troubled by poverty since the poor are in the worst condition of poverty. One factors are over population in cities caused by the urbanization. It is because their villages became the victims of industrialization. With the little hope of finding works in big factories they exiled to big cities.

The data scientist indicates that, since the 19th century in England, the country has dealt with the issue of child labour rather than caring for infants. But at the same time, there was growing use of child labour in hitting new extremes. Unfortunately, many of the kids who worked in factories were in danger due to the unsafe working conditions and could only find small amounts of cash.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concluded that all the kinds of social impacts of industrial revolution, in terms of standards of living, population of growth and labor condition. Portrayed in Oliver Twist are actually to describe what the actually happened on that time during the Nineteenth Century in England.

In relation to sociology of literature approach, it can be said that Charles Dickens’ Oliver Twist is a kind of the reality during that’s time which records the social condition on during the Nineteenth Century in England.

4. Conclusions

Based on the research result, the writer may conclude that all has the found four kinds of social impacts of industrial revolution depicted in the novel, such as factory system, standards of living, population of growth and labor condition, but the researcher uses just three such as standards of living, population of growth and labor condition. From the result, it can be show that Charles Dickens’ Oliver Twist to obviously the socio-cultural conditions to illustrated during the Industrial
Revolution. Dickens describes about the social conditions related to the problems of standards of living such as housing, hunger, and clothing, but actually describes the orphan who lives in workhouse. He describes all the condition of the poor at the time very awful. In this case, the researcher suggests to the next researcher who has interested to analyze the novel Oliver Twist for taken other social problems, because this novel has so many other some problems and very interesting to analyze, such as the purity in a corrupt city, the treatment of children, criminality, abuse in the family relationships, abuse in the mistaken identities, abuse in powerlessness of women and children on society as portrayed in the novel. The next researchers can carry out further research based on those points.

References


