

# CHARACTER EDUCATION IN THE COMMON PEOPLE NOVELS BY ANDREA HIRATA

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## ABSTRACT

Character education is a crucial aspect of all circles of society, especially for children. This study aims to describe the form and impact of character education, hard work, and social care in the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata. The research was studied using a literary sociology approach. The source of data in this study is the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata, paying attention to the unit of story, sentences, actions, thoughts, and narratives in the novel. The data found is processed through several steps: determining the source, collecting data, grouping data, and assigning a code number to the research instrument table. Data analysis techniques are carried out in several stages: simplification, data checking, data presentation, and conclusions. The results of this study show that various forms of character education were found. The forms of character education are hard work, practice seriously, full of confidence, passion, and never giving up. The form of social care character education is to assist others and respect others. This research shows that literary works can be a means of learning character education for readers. This is because literary works are a mirror of the reality of life.

**Keywords:** character education, hard work, social care, common people

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Character education can be integrated into the Indonesian language learning process through literature. Literary works always create fascinating creativity by providing a complete picture of human life and making something meaningful. The existence of literary works in society makes people have profound experiences about various problems that exist in society. The author sees multiple situations in life and then puts them through writing according to his point of view (Dewi & Balawa, 2017). Everyone needs to continue his education in life. Through education, humans can develop and improve their knowledge and abilities, significantly shaping their character. The strength of a person's character is a big commitment to their achievements or disappointments that determine whether a nation advances. The success and failure of a country is highly dependent on efforts to foster and develop the nation's character. Character education aims to strengthen and build life values considered essential and necessary to become a distinctive personality/possession as the values are developed, correcting behavior that is inconsistent with the values developed. Character education can be taught in several ways, one of which is through literary works because literary works can provide benefits for authors and readers alike. Nurgiyantoro (2013: 434) states that literature is an educational tool that should be utilized in education. Literature can be focused on the part of forming a child's personality/character building. It is clear from this that one can overcome adversity, panic, and even failure through literature.

Literature is a preferred medium for teachers to instill character education and integrate character into learning. The values contained in literary works are the values needed for the application of character education. Therefore, some teachers use various forms of literature to apply moral education so that higher education and the character of this nation's generation are more advanced, moral, and of good quality. The existence of literary works in the form of novels is a very good example of literary works. The novel is a complex literary work and can describe real social events. Novels can also act as entertainment aids and indirectly provide lessons for readers (Wardani et al., 2015: 32). Novels are not only used for reading material but also as teaching materials because novels contain various educational values. Nurhuda et al. (2017: 106) described the components of the novel, including narrative novels, plot, characters (characters), dialogue in stories, perspectives, and messages. The elements that make up a novel, including intrinsic and extrinsic elements, basically have fun and educational values that can be used for educational purposes (Asep, 2015: 147). The Ordinary People novel by Andrea Hirata, discusses the economic condition of underprivileged people and social criticism of an inadequate education system

in Indonesia. This novel tells about disappointment over the failure to fight for an underprivileged child who wants to achieve his dream of becoming a doctor. But this group of people is very determined to follow the dreams of their friend's children and do everything to achieve that goal. Aini is the child of one of the ordinary people in the village of Belantik. Aini is just a stupid girl who doesn't have a dream at first. However, with the effort and support from the surrounding environment, Aini is determined to achieve these goals.

The novel reminds the general public that education in Indonesia is still a luxury that some people cannot easily achieve, let alone continue to a higher level. Everyone with the desire and ability in all things waits for the opportunity to continue to a higher level, such as going to college. College is still a very expensive affair for the less fortunate. The high cost makes some people feel pessimistic and insecure. This has changed the perception that education is expensive, and parents tend to pay less attention to their children's education. But in the novel *Ordinary People*, Aini can prove that she can make her dreams come true through hard work and support from the environment. Based on this, the researcher is interested in studying the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata.

The research included the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata, which had previously been studied. First, Marwa & Kamalia (2019) focused on "Representation of Character Education in the Film *Dua Garis Biru* based on the Perspective of Thomas Lickona." The results of this study are wisdom, such as the ability to make reasonable decisions and distinguish what is important in life. Justice is like fairness, responsibility, honesty, and courtesy. Fortitude is like courage, patience, and self-confidence—self-control such as the ability to manage emotions, the ability to resist temptation, and sexual self-control. Love is like empathy, compassion, kindness, service, loyalty, and the ability to forgive.

Subsequent research was conducted by Wael et al. (2021) with the title "Representation of Character Education Values in Islamic Da'wah on Social Media." The results of this study explain that Islamic da'wah on social media, especially Youtube, represents the values of character education in the form of honesty, tolerance, discipline, hard work, independence, love of the motherland, friendship, and responsibility. The next research is research conducted by Chaniago (2020) with the title "Representation of Character Education in Surau and Silek Films (Semiotic Analysis of Ferdinand De Saussure)". The results of this study explain that there is a representation of character education in surau and silek films, namely, silek teaches a balance between emotional intelligence, spiritual intelligence, intelligence, and heart intelligence. The films Surau and Silek contain a lot of moral messages and religious and cultural values so that they can change the perception of silat in Minang, which is not only an activity for village youths to fight, but also as character education from an Islamic perspective and Minang customs, namely practicing Islam. as teachings, and preserving surau and silat culture as Minang youth activities.

Based on the research mentioned, this study has similarities, namely, both discuss character education. Meanwhile, what distinguishes this research from several previous studies is the research focus used. Previous research focused more on the values of character education, but this research focuses more on the forms and impacts of hard work and social care character education in Andrea Hirata's *Ordinary People* novel.

The novel *Orang-Orang Ordinary* by Andrea Hirata has its charm for researchers because the novel tells of various forms of character education, but the most dominant is character education of hard work and social care. Forms of hard work character education include hard work, serious practice, full of confidence, enthusiasm, and respect for others. At the same time, social care character education is like assisting and respecting others. In the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata, there are two impacts, namely, the impact of the environment on the characters and the impact of the characters on the environment. In terms of the impact of the environment on the character's character, the findings that exist in the community, parents, and the community environment influence the character's character. Therefore, the researcher chose the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata as the object of study because it presents life problems and the conditions of underprivileged families who want their children to become successful people—coupled with a background only as a street vendor, an inadequate environment, far from education but able to realize his goals.

The previous research, the first focused on educational values in the form of wisdom, justice, and fortitude; the second research focused on character education in the form of honesty, tolerance, discipline, hard work, and independence and the third research focused on emotional intelligence, spiritual intelligence, intelligence, and heart intelligence. From the presentation of the research study, it is hoped that readers can know and understand the character education of hard work and social care in the novel *Orang-Orang Ordinary*. Economic factors greatly

affect the continuity of education and open up insights into the distribution of education, which aims to provide a new view to the community that children who drop out of school and do not continue their education can also get a very proper education for survival and improve living standards in the future.

This research will describe the form of character education in Andrea Hirata's novel *Orang-Orang Ordinary*. This research is expected to be useful in developing literature on the representation of society, especially in the field of education in the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata. It can also provide information and knowledge about describing real events in a life problem.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

The type of research used to examine and analyze the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata is the Sociology of Literature. Research conducted using descriptive qualitative. Qualitative research describes its findings based on narrative phenomena and is not obtained through statistical methods (counted) but through data collection and analysis, then interpreted (Setiawan & Anggito, 2018: 8-9).

The data source in this study was the novel *Orang-Orang Ordinary* by Andrea Hirata, published by Bentang Publishers in 2019, totaling 300 pages. The data were obtained from the Ordinary People Novel by paying attention to the story units, sentences, actions, thoughts, and narration in the novel. Research certainly requires data. Data can be interpreted as an object studied in a study that will produce a thought or other analysis results.

This research data collection technique uses four steps related to data collection. Determine data sources, collect data, classify data, and assign code numbers to research instrument tables. The data analysis technique in this study can be carried out based on data collection found in the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata. After that, the presentation of data is to make it easier for researchers to get a sketch of a study. The presentation of data is used in various ways, such as describing research results by utilizing tables. Then the grouped data is displayed in the research instrument table. Furthermore, conclusions are drawn from the analysis process related to the form and impact of character education in Andrea Hirata's Ordinary People novel.

## 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This study systematically describes the results of data analysis using a data source, namely the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata. Data analysis was done by formulating the problem in the previous chapter. Research findings by the research focus include (1) Forms of hard work and social care character education, (2) The impact of hard work and social care character education. The results and discussion are described in detail as follows.

### Forms of Character Education

#### Hard work

Hard work is the ability to devote or mobilize all effort and sincerity, the potential that is owned until the end of the term of an affair until the goal is achieved. The Ministry of National Education (2010: 23) explains that hard work is a behavior that shows a serious self-effort in facing and overcoming various learning obstacles, assignments, or others seriously and never giving up. Agree with the Ministry of National Education (Abdullah et al., 2019: 37), explaining that hard work is a behavior that shows genuine effort in overcoming various obstacles to complete tasks as well as possible. The forms of hard work in Andrea Hirata's Ordinary People novel consist of trying hard, practicing hard, being passionate, and never giving up. It will be discussed in more detail as follows.

#### Vigorous Effort

Based on the results of the author's search for the content of *the Common people novels* by Andrea Hirata, one of the hard-work character education contained in this novel is hard work. In the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata, enterprising characters try to be depicted in the following quote:

*Salud now works odd jobs. It's really just selling manpower. He used to do waste work that others would not want or could not do, such as draining septic tanks and all digging work, such as ditches, wells, or grave holes. (BPK/KK/GB/AH/2019/36)*

The above quote illustrates how the figure of Salud has shortcomings in terms of education. He is just an odd worker among ordinary people. Salud's education was also low, and he did not graduate from high school.

But with his hard work, Salud wants to work anything, even though other people don't necessarily want to do work like him.

### **With that, Salud tried to survive.**

Basically, a person works to make ends meet. One person's desires for another person are different; thus, human behavior at work tends to vary. This is in accordance with Arwina's statement (2018: 11) stating that everyone has a diverse life. They will be busy with their respective routines to maintain their survival. The high needs of life

force them to always be active in their work. Work is one of the important means to survive. With life's challenges getting tougher, job vacancies limited, low levels of education, and lack of skills, some try to maintain their lives in various ways. Based on these quotes, it can be concluded that a person will be active in effort and do various ways to survive.

According to Sulastris (2014: 52), the classical or single-need motivation theory was put forward. The theory is that humans are willing to work hard to meet one of their needs, such as physical needs, in the form of money or work goods. The basic concept of this theory is that people work hard when they receive material rewards related to their tasks and fulfill their desires. From these quotes, it can be concluded that some people are actively doing business and taking various ways to survive.

The condition experienced by a person can encourage him to try more regardless of the environment and the opinions of others. Thanks to this encouragement, Aini made a hard effort and only focused on what she was doing, as illustrated in the following quote.

*He sat reading in that corner, among piles of merchandise. Whatever passed in front of him, his mother, sister, chicken, cat, lizard ignored him. Dinah had never seen Aini like this before. He barely moved, he read and took notes long into the night. Often his mother found him falling asleep with a book face down over his face. (BPK/KK/GB/AH/2019/40)*

The quote above illustrates how Aini's character does not look at anything around her, she still studies hard until late at night. Aini's mother was very happy with the change in Aini's attitude, which was getting more and more diligent in studying, but on the one hand, Aini's mother did not expect Aini's attitude to change. He is proud of Aini, who continues striving to achieve his wish. Aini knows no time and place; wherever she has time, she will continue to study late into the night.

This is in accordance with Olivia's explanation (2010: 105) that concentration in learning can make full concentration and awareness on the subject matter being studied and exclude all things completely unrelated to the activity. Concentration concentrates the mind to the exclusion of all others unrelated to the learning activity. Children are said to concentrate on lessons when they can focus on what they are learning. Aini's active efforts in learning are also illustrated in the following quote.

*Stunned, Dinah to see that Aini is now very diligent in studying because she knows that children who do not go to class tend to be more lazy to study, Aini on the contrary she learns as if there is no tomorrow. Aini herself has been studying harder since seeing one of her younger siblings showing symptoms like her late father. (BPK/KK/AH/2019/41)*

The quote above illustrates how Aini has reasons and motivations for being more active than before. Aini has a desire to realize her dream of becoming a doctor. With her continuous efforts to study, Aini strongly desires to become a doctor because, seeing her younger brother who is sick like her father, she does not want to lose a loved one again. Aini also wants to discover the cause of her father's death and heal her sister.

This is in accordance with Rahmat's statement (2018: 10) that many factors influence active learning, including motivation, attitude, interest, study habits, and self-concept. According to Stanford in the book, Mangkunegara (2017: 93) said that "*motivation is an energizing condition of the organism that services to direct that organism toward the goal of a certain class*" (*motivation as a condition that moves humans towards a certain goal*). Motivation can be said to be the driving force from within and within the subject to carry out certain activities to achieve a goal (Sardiman, 2018: 73). It can be concluded that Aini studied hard because she had not previously moved up in class and her sister showed the same symptoms as her late father.

**Practice Earnestly**

The Common people novels by Andrea Hirata have a character education of hard work practiced seriously, illustrated in the following quote.

*Recess, her friends play around, Aini stays in class to read and take notes. In the past, he was more silent and looked down when asked by the teacher so that the teachers were lazy to ask him. (BPK/KK/BSS/AH/2019/41)*

The quote above illustrates how Aini, during recess, does not join her friends to play, but she still tries to learn and record lessons that are not understood. When the lesson started, and Aini got a question from her teacher, she could only be silent and not answer anything. Every teacher who taught in class, Aini, was never involved in answering questions. Although he is often underestimated and silent a lot, he desires to keep studying hard. Aini's sincerity is also illustrated in the following quote.

*At her house, until far into the night, Aini repeats the lesson from Desi's mother over and over again, she is wrong, she keeps repeating everything while clutching her aching stomach. Her mother and sister have slept, the night is silent and even all the creatures in the city of Belantik have slept, Aini is still learning. She shed tears because she hated herself not being able to solve math problems, because her stomach hurt and because she missed her father. (BPK/KK/BSS/AH/2019/44)*

*Every afternoon Aini diligently studied from Mrs. Desi, then that afternoon they had time to chat, Mrs. Desi was amazed, "Ha! So you are Mardinah's son?! "Yes, ma'am." (BPK/KK/BSS/AH/2019/44)*

Data quote (6) illustrates that Aini strives to study wherever she is, at school and at home. Aini also does not stop studying until late at night. Even though Aini's stomach is sick, she is still strong enough to continue studying intensively. As the family fell into a deep sleep late at night, he suddenly pondered and thought that he felt hatred for himself, unable to solve the lesson he thought was difficult to understand. He also longs for his father, who has passed away. Even with such circumstances, Aini still has determination and diligent learning by practicing earnestly to be successful.

Data (7) illustrates that Aini is diligent and diligent; with her sincerity, she studies every afternoon with Mrs. Desi. Although Mrs. Desi initially did not want to teach Aini, Mrs. Desi eventually helped her. Desi's mother was surprised by Aini's statement that she had been the son of a street vendor whose parents had also been taught by Desi's mother.

**Full of Confidence**

One of the character education in the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata is full of confidence. Full confidence is hard work behavior. In the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata, the spirited character is depicted in the following quote:

*Aini didn't care and Aini was unabashed. He asked whatever he wanted to ask, whatever was stuck in his head, to be more precise. (BPK/KK/PAH/2019/41)*

The quote above illustrates that Aini is confident and does not care what her friends say, even though she is not ashamed of questions that her friends think are normal, but according to Aini, it is very difficult to understand. Aini has various well-arranged questions, which are often underestimated and considered unqualified. Aini's confidence is also illustrated in the following quote.

*Aini immediately pointed her hand to ask, there was no pause. He was very active and dominated two hours of maths lessons, with his stupidity scorned by his peers from behind: it's only natural that he didn't make the grade! Aini pretends not to hear because in reality, the more Desi's mother vilifies the more Aini doesn't understand. (BPK/KK/PAH/2019/42)*

In the quote, it can be seen that Aini's character confidently continues to ask questions without pause about what she thinks is poorly understood. Although her friends often belittle her with unpleasant sneers, Aini never replies to what her friends say. He thinks the sneer from his friend can motivate him to keep going and trying. Motivating yourself to do things is also very important.

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The quote above illustrates that Aini, when entering, saw the announcement that her friends were in second grade, and she saw that she alone did not advance to the first grade. He felt sad and disappointed with himself, who was considered very stupid. But Aini did not just surrender and dissolve in sadness. She instilled confidence in herself that Aini could resist the stupidity. When he came home from school, he instilled a new habit of always reading books in his spare time. Because if he stays lazy, it will not change a more advanced mindset. With high spirits, Aini did not let go of the book she had in her hand to continue reading. Aini's spirit is reflected in the following quote.

*The next day he woke up at dawn, he read before and after morning prayers. He read sambal walking to school. He kept him reading while helping his mother trade children's toys, even while serving buyers. (BPK/KK/B/AH/2019/40)*

*After the math lesson, Aini was still curious about the math teacher chasing to the teacher's room, "Mom wants to rest too, Aini! you think only DPRD members want to rest (BPK/KK/B/AH/2019/42)*

Data quotes (11) illustrate that Aini is passionate about learning. She studies in the morning and even while walking and doing other activities. Aini is very eager to learn, no matter under any circumstances. He took the time to get up at dawn to read lessons that were not understood. On the way to school, he did not stop reading books with gusto. Even when helping his mother trade, books were always in his hands.

Data (12) describes when at school, even though the lesson was over, with her courage Aini approached the math teacher who wanted to rest. Aini felt that she didn't understand what had been explained in the previous class. With her enthusiasm, Aini didn't care about being scolded by the teacher. She wanted to understand the math lesson the teacher had explained. Aini's perseverance here is diligent learning despite many obstacles. Being given the value of perseverance will indirectly train children's patience and dare to try new things. So it can be concluded that Aini has a passion for learning.

This is in accordance with Hariyanti's statement (2015: 50) that enthusiasm is a willingness to feel that allows someone to work to produce more work. Meanwhile, according to Muhammad (2018: 137), enthusiasm is the desire and sincerity of someone to do their job well and be disciplined to achieve maximum work performance, while the spirit of learning is an effort to obtain several knowledge that will later change one's behavior. Human life is actually a vehicle and learning process, where all activities carried out by humans are tools to measure their learning outcomes.

This is the same as Ety & Marisa's statement (2021: 5) that students who are eager to receive lessons can be seen from the behavior of diligent attention to the material, perseverance in learning, interest in learning, meticulousness and earnestness every time they carry out tasks. When children experience mistakes in their tasks, they are willing to correct and correct the task. It can be concluded that Aini is highly enthusiastic about continuing learning no matter how things are.

### **Never Give Up**

One of the hard-working character education contained in the Common people novelsby Andrea Hirata is never giving up. Never giving up is a hard-working behavior. In the Common people novelsby Andrea Hirata, the unyielding character is depicted in the following quote:

*That afternoon was the first time Mrs. Desi would accept Aini and learn mathematics from her. It was a less conscientious action from Aini because Desi's mother was strict. The other students tended to avoid her, Aini instead approached the flames. So Aini was scolded by Mrs. Desi for not being able to calculate even simple. (BPK/KK/PM/AH/2019/43)*

*The next day Aini was standing again under the jackfruit tree, holding books and clutching her stomach. Desi's mother was angry but opened the door. They learn math again, and Mrs. Desi's tension rises again. After Aini was accompanied. However, the harder Desi's mother scolded her, the stronger Aini's will to be able to Mathematics. (BPK/KK/PM/AH/2019/43)*

The data above illustrates that Aini is not afraid of Desi's mother, who is considered harsh. When the other friends were scared, Aini approached Desi's mother. Desi's mother is even more cursed him for not being good at doing simple math problems. However, this makes Aini have a very strong determination to learn mathematics. The more Desi's mother cursed him, the more he never gave up. Even though Desi's mother often scolded him for not being able to do mathematics, he still wanted to study mathematics at Desi's mother's house. The harshness of Desi's mother further spurred Aini to be able to do mathematics. This can make Aini stronger in any case. He is less and less easily discouraged and always trying. So based on this quote, Aini never gave up on conditions that even others avoided. Aini's unyielding character makes her willing to work odd jobs to realize her dreams, illustrated in the following quote.

*Dinah's smart daughter, Aini eventually became a coolie coffee shop waiter. He works from morning to evening. Every Wednesday is like a labor wage system. Bang nduk always asks, "How much is your savings now, Aini?" Seventy-Five Thousand bang". "What is your money for?". "To study at the Faculty of Medicine" (BPK/KK/PM/AH/2019/122)*

*"Ever worked in a coffee shop?". No bang. "Why are you working here?". No other job, bang. "What do you work for" Make savings, for college "what college?" Medical College bang, I want to be a doctor. (BPK/KK/PM/AH/2019/ 105)*

The data above illustrates that Aini has a character that never gives up. Aini tried to work as a coffee shop waitress to help her parents so she could save money to enter Medical School. He realized that his parents would not be able to afford that much. Although the wages she received were not much, Aini did not give up hope and continued to work.

This is in accordance with Kusrina et al.'s (2021: 156) opinion that never giving up combines hard work with strong motivation to succeed. Never give up in the form of a passionate attitude without despair, despite obstacles and obstacles faced with full sacrifice to achieve the expected goals. Never give up the first steps to running a business life so that the business being run can survive. Never give up on running his business for himself, his family, and the community. Never giving up includes an attitude that is not easily discouraged in the face of various obstacles, always trying to achieve goals, and assuming that obstacles or obstacles will always be present in every activity faced.

### **Social Care**

Social care plays an important role in forming socially sensitive individuals with attitudes and actions who always want to help others in need. In addition, without the character value of social care, solidarity between people does not run well. The forms of social care present in Andrea Hirata's Common people novels consist of giving help to others and respecting others. Further will be discussed in more detail as follows.

### **Providing help to others**

One of the social care character education contained in the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata is to provide help to others. In the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata, the character of giving help to others is a behavior depicted in the following quote:

*Hit! Hit! Bastardin shouted, simultaneously Jamin, Tarib, Boron and Bandar attacked Salud, then beat him barrage. Debut rolled up his sleeves, ready to box to save Salud. But what happened then was Salud who was busy saving Debut. (BPK/PS/AH/2019/19)*

*The brutality of Bastardin and Boron who likes to oppress Salud. Debut does not accept seeing injustice on this earth. "Don't worry, Tap. From now on Bastardin and Boron will no longer dare to punch you in the face because I will defend you fiercely!" Thank you, But" (BPK/PS/AH/2019/19)*

*Yes, we should have been compact long ago, Boi! So that we don't become Bastardin and Boron monthly. "There are a lot of us, strong compact! Batardin and Boron will no longer dare to be with us!" Even if I don't take a step back, watch them this time. "Resist or resist!" (BPK/PS/AH/2019/18)*

Data quotes (17) illustrate that a Debut character is very concerned about his friend. He will fight with Jamin, Tarib, Baron, and Bandar to save Salud. He is not afraid of anything that happens as long as his friend survives the hordes of Jamin, Tarib, Boron, and Bandar. Debut became the front line to protect Salud.

The data (18 and 19) illustrate that debut characters do not accept the injustice on this earth because he considers that low people are always oppressed. With that, debut and his friends always protect and help each other. Because humans also cannot live alone without the help of others. The behavior of giving help to others is also illustrated in the following quote:

*Aini prepared herself to quit school first to care for her beloved father. He was faithful 24 hours beside his father, with the hope that arose from sinking..." (BPK/PS/AH/2019/32)*

*Now Aini takes care of all her father's needs. When he was just waiting for him, his father had time to ask. "Why not Aini's school?". "Oh, I'm off first, Dad. Mom has to sell to buy rice. Worry can be overcome. Dad, just get well soon" (BPK/PS/AH/2019/33)*

The quote above illustrates that Aini was willing to quit school first because she had to care for her sick father. She didn't want to leave her father, and reluctantly left school. Aini also didn't want to see her father continue to lie sick in the hospital. He sacrificed his school for the sake of his father's recovery. With Aini's character, it is very visible that having a sense of concern for others, she is willing to sacrifice education for the sake of her loved ones. He chose to quit school to help care for his ailing father. Aini also takes care of all her father's needs during her illness, while her mother goes to sell for the necessities of life. From this quote, it can be concluded that Aini's character has the behavior of providing help to others. The behavior of giving help to others is also illustrated in the following quote:

*Her mother and father try to return Aini to school, but she is determined to take care of her. "Don't worry, Dad, the school can be postponed, I'm here for you, you won't get better soon" (BPK/PS/AH/2019/30)*

*She wants to continue to take care of her father until she recovers. "I'm going to quit school, Dad! Just take the equation exam later to get a high school diploma, as long as Dad is cured!" (BPK/PS/AH/2019/34)*

The quote describes Aini's character, who cares about her father. He chose to postpone school to help care for his ailing father. Aini also takes care of all her father's needs during his illness. She is not willing if her father is left alone. Aini's affection for her father is so great that she is willing to sacrifice for anything. She also quit school to continue to look after and care for her father. Because according to Aini, her father's recovery is most important than anything. He can take the equation exam when his father is cured. The behavior of giving help to others in other characters is also illustrated in the following quote:

*Sobri now works as a septic tank driver, occasionally helping Dinah sell merchandise on the sidewalk, using her loud voice like people talking using TOA mouthpieces. (BPK/PS/AH/2019/37)*

The quote above illustrates that Sobri's character, who is only a septic tank driver, empathizes with Dinah (Ibu Aini) to help sell her wares. Taking advantage of his loud voice, Sobri sold Dinah's merchandise. Sobri, who works as a driver, helps Dinah in selling. From this quote, it can be concluded that Sobri's character has the behavior of providing help to others.

This is in accordance with Tabi'in's opinion (2017: 43) that providing help to others is a voluntary helping behavior with the motivation to meet the needs and welfare of others. This behavior is often influenced by sympathy responses and consistent internalization of principles or norms to help others. Similar to Zuchdi's statement (2011: 170), social care is an attitude and behavior of always wanting to help those in need. It is important to be socially aware when discussing social issues. Social awareness is the ability to understand the meaning of social situations. It depends on how empathetic you are to others—helping behavior as an action carried out by someone that aims to provide help to others without any benefit to the helper.



## Respect for Others

One of the social care character education contained in the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata is respecting others. Respecting others is a socially caring behavior. In the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata, the character of respecting others is depicted in the following quote:

*Debut offered himself a serious and formal offer so that he used his full name according to his ID card so that it was clear and there were no regrets in the future. "Come along!" Debut replied himself. "I'm proud of your kid Dinah. Register my name number one, But! I want to join in robbing that bank! (BPK/PS/AH/2019/40)*

Data quotes (25) illustrate that Debut has a character that respects others. He will still enroll Aini in the Faculty of Medicine even though nothing will be done so that Aini can achieve her goals. He plans to rob a bank to meet the cost of medical admission. Although his name was on the list of robbers, he didn't care. He appreciates Dinah as his friend and will still help. From this quote, it can be concluded that the character of Debut has the behavior of respecting others.

This is in accordance with Hariyanto & Samani (2012: 200) opinion that respecting a caring and civilized attitude towards oneself or others or the environment, treating others as a desire to be cared for, civilized, polite, not harassing and insulting others, not judging others badly before knowing well.

*After coffee, the inspector paid for the coffee. Aini reached into her pocket to get change. Together with the banknotes are carried away folds of other papers. The inspector looked at it and knew the folds of the paper were university brochures. "Take the change Aini, for you to save so that later you can join the course". "Thank you sir" (BPK/PS/AH/2019/45)*

The data quote (26) describes an inspector who saw Aini's persistence and worked as a coffee waiter. He saw that Aini had very high aspirations, so when he bought coffee, he did not ask for change because he knew that Aini also needed money. He also realized that in Aini's pocket kept the University brochure that Aini had dreamed of. He appreciates Aini for not asking for change.

This is similar to the statement of Elfindri et al. (2012: 101) that the character of a person who can appreciate others is awakened from a nature that is willing to think about the interests of others without selfishness. Environmental factors are very important in developing the spirit of social care. The immediate environment, such as family, friends, and the community we grew up and socialized greatly influences how socially conscious we are. Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that respecting opinions is an action of someone who respects a thought or desire of others without prioritizing his selfishness (own interests).

## 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research that has been done on the Common people novels by Andrea Hirata. Researchers found that character education consists of hard work, practicing seriously, being full of confidence, passion, and never giving up. At the same time, social care character education consists of giving help to others and respecting others. This research shows that literary works can be a means of learning character education for readers. This is because literary works are a mirror of the reality of life.

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