



Pollution as a Product of Human Greediness From Nature Over Exploitation in Two Contemporary Poems Warned by Sylvia Stults (2015), and Our Mother Earth by Joshua Isham (2008)

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Abstract

This research is an analysis of two contemporary poems, Warned (Stults, 2015), and Our Mother Earth (Isham, 2008). This analysis aims to reveal human greed which leads to the destruction of nature from nature overexploitation in two contemporary poems. This analysis aims to reveal the issue of human greed towards excessive exploitation of nature which leads to the destruction of nature in the three contemporary poems. This analysis looks at human greed which is shown through the point of view of poetry. This analysis mainly uses the eco-criticism concept proposed by Cheryl Glotfelty and is also supported by other eco-criticisms. The use of the concept is based on the interpretation of the text and the context of the poem. This analysis also uses many poetry fiction tools to help the writer analyze the text. The results show that human greed still dominates the results of the destruction of nature and the low awareness of mankind to realize that they need to help the world for a better future.

Keywords: *Nature, greediness, destruction, overexploitation*

A. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to expose the human greed that leads to the destruction of nature. People who use nature beyond its limits are the only problems that exist in the world right now. Nature is not infinite, as it has time to reproduce, grow, or replenish. The same is true of humans, who must first reproduce before gaining a population. The problem is that if this agenda continues, there won't be a supply for everyone. Another point that makes the properties more fragile and, in some cases, rare, is how people use them without recycling or recovery. People use too many natural ingredients.

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The possibility of a nonstop agenda in modern situations to awaken human sense to realize the destruction of the world because human greediness is the reason why the writer brought this problem back to the surface. The analysis is not only to complain about human behavior on earth but also a reflection of the writer so people can see the problem more seriously. The writer will see this problem in the eye of the poem's directory and the poem's way of view. Many poets have made this kind of poem a long time ago but don't get any recognition from many people. One of the factors that lead to this kind of behavior is neglected responsibility when they know what happened to the world. The writer wants people to realize that this kind of behavior has to stop or at least decrease.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

The design of this research is a qualitative method. Moleong (2017, p.6) defines the qualitative method as the research method that intends to understand the phenomena experienced by the subject in the form of behavior, perception, motivation, or action with the appearance of words and language in written form. It can be explained also as a method that can be collected from a very reliable source such as a book. The method does not focus on how many the source is but relies on the reliability of the source. The data used in this study are two contemporary poems that could be found on "familyfriendpoems.com". The source data will be in the form of quotations from each poem.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The analysis is using the interpretation of the text and context of the poems. Human greediness here is shown through the speaker's voice in the poems. Human and pollution refer to human action that makes pollution through many things such as human waste, industrial waste, and many more. The pollution that has been made will lead to natural destruction. This problem will be shown through the poems and will be explained later. The topic will also focus on human greediness that leads to human action to make pollution the world. Pollution is one of many problems that cause natural destruction. Many destruction cases that happen in the world basically happen because of human pollution. There are such examples as engine pollution, power plant pollution, oil pollution, or industrial pollution. From the quotation above it can be proved that the world will never be the same after the pollution has begun. This pollution is actually not only bringing destruction to nature but also to humans themselves.

**The sands of time have rendered fear
Blue skies on high no longer clear
Stars were bright whence they came
Now dimmed, obscured, pollution's haze**
(Sylvia Stults, Warned, 2015)

The quotation above stated that humans are the ones who try to kill themselves. Pollution, especially air pollution, is caused by human action based

on their own greediness to fulfill their needs more than they should be. One example is how humans try to reduce waste by burning it but it leads to air pollution because of the smoke itself. This is why many people try to speak out about this action because it is not only harmful to the world but also to humans. Air pollution contributes to 9% of deaths globally varies from 2% to 15% by country. Globally, air pollution contributed to 9% of deaths in 2017. This ranged from a low of 2% across high-income countries, to close to 15% across many countries in South and East Asia.

Besides air pollution, one of the factors is water pollution because of human waste also. Water pollution can be classified as surface water pollution (for example lakes, streams, estuaries, and parts of the ocean in marine pollution) or groundwater pollution. Sources of water pollution are either point sources or nonpoint sources. Point sources have one identifiable cause, such as a storm drain, a wastewater treatment plant, or an oil spill. Non-point sources are more diffuse, such as agricultural runoff. Pollution is the result of the cumulative effect over time.

**Crystal clear our waters gleamed
Fish abundant, rivers streamed
Ocean floors sandy white
Now littered, brown, pollution's plight**
(Sylvia Stults, Warned, 2015)

The quotation above also explains pollution that leads to nature destruction. This pollution not only ruins the water itself but also every life who needs it. The pollution often comes from nonpoint sources such as agricultural runoff, wind-blown debris, and dust. These nonpoint sources are largely due to runoff that enters the ocean through rivers, but wind-blown debris and dust can also play a role, as these pollutants can settle into waterways and oceans. Pathways of pollution include direct discharge, land runoff, ship pollution, atmospheric pollution, and, potentially, deep-sea mining. The problems also affect the way humans control the water subjection as the marine habitat will become reduced and affect the way life of nature.

The quotation above explains human acts that turn against nature and become the parasite itself. The speaker stated how there is a time when everything does not turn into things like this. This statement shows how humans are becoming too greedy and sacrificing nature for their own needs. The contamination started when humans made something with an objective to facilitate human activities. One example is the use of plastic in many activities. Plastic is very useful for human activities such as containing food, bag alternatives, and many more. This kind of problem eventually becomes uncontrollable and becomes a massive issue for the future.

**Her air we fill
With smoke and death;
Ourselves we kill,
For lack of breath;**
(Joshua Isham, Our Mother Earth, 2008)

The quotation above states that humans are the ones who try to kill themselves. Pollution, especially air pollution, is caused by human action based on their own greediness to fulfill their needs more than they should be. Glotfelty (1996, p19) explains that human lack of awareness of ecocriticism also become a big factor in the way how humans do to nature now. Many actions are caused by human greediness and lack of human awareness. Pollution is one of many examples of how humans take care of the environment. One example is how humans try to reduce waste by burning it but it leads to air pollution because of the smoke itself. This is why many people try to speak out about this action because it is not only harmful to the world but also to humans.

**The sea once clean,
Now choked with waste;
To drink, we fear,
Will death make haste;**
(Joshua Isham, *Our Mother Earth*, 2008)

The quotation above explains human acts that turn against nature and become the parasite itself. The speaker stated about how there is a time when everything does not turn into things like this. This statement shows how humans are becoming too greedy and sacrificing nature for their own needs. The contamination started when humans made something with an objective to facilitate human activities. One example is the use of plastic in many activities. Plastic is very useful for human activities such as containing food, bag alternatives, and many more.

In conclusion, human pollution is a problem that really affects the world, especially nature. Most of nature's destruction is caused by the greediness of humans in taking any action involving nature. Starting from water pollution, air pollution, and soil pollution that causes many problems for wildlife, nature, and human themselves. This action also will be comprehended to establish human life in the present and in the future.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The analysis is done through the contextual-based interpretation of the poems. The analysis is supported by Cheryll Glotfelty's concept of Ecocriticism theory in her book *The Ecocriticism Reader: Landmarks in Literary Ecology* published in 1996. In this analysis, human greediness refers to the act of humans taking control of the environment that negatively caused nature destruction. Human greediness is exposed through the point of view of three contemporary poems that have been analyzed with the concept of ecocriticism. The issue is exposed by looking at the contextual and implied meaning of the poems with the help of the theory.

In this analysis, the issue is brought back as it's already a long-term problem that hasn't been solved even though there is a lot of campaign to prevent human action, especially human greediness toward the environment. Humans

need to realize that the problem cannot be solved if there is only a small group doing the job. This action needs to be done by every part of the world to save the world and rebuild it for a better future. Not only through the cooperation of everyone, but by becoming an example for the future generations also will help the world. Present generations mostly do not care anymore about the future because they think they have not lived long enough to see it. This mindset needs to change and rebuild in future generations so later on, they are willing to save the world from human greediness. In conclusion, humans still need to realize their responsibility because they are taking part in every action that leads to natural destruction and starts saving the world.

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