

## THE STEREOTYPE OF AFRO-AMERICAN FATHER IN FATHERHOOD (2021) MOVIE: COUNTER DISCOURSE

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### Abstract

This research explains about stereotypes of father roles in the movie “Fatherhood” by Paul Weitz using Charles Stangor's stereotype theory (2021) and Cohen and Garcia's stereotype denial theory (2005). It aims to identify father stereotypes in the Fatherhood movie. In society and the media, there have been stereotypes about Afro-American fathers. Studies reveal that Afro-American fathers are often absent in their children's lives. The researchers used descriptive qualitative method and stereotype theory, assisted by movie narrative in analyzing the data. Primary data are images, narratives, and dialog in the movie Fatherhood (2021). This research found seven issues that are considered as a counter-discourse to the stereotype of Afro-American fathers. They are responsible, attentive, financially concerned, health concerned, educating and encouraging to the Afro-American father figure. The paternal bound also exists in the figure.

**Keywords:** Afro-American, movie, stereotype, stereotype denial

### Abstrak

Penelitian ini menjelaskan tentang stereotipe peran ayah dalam film “Fatherhood” karya Paul Weitz dengan menggunakan teori stereotipe Charles Stangor (2021) dan teori penolakan stereotipe Cohen dan Garcia (2005). Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi stereotipe ayah dalam film tersebut. Di masyarakat dan media, terdapat stereotipe tentang ayah Afro-Amerika. Penelitian mengungkapkan bahwa ayah Afro-Amerika sering kali tidak hadir dalam kehidupan anak-anak mereka. Peneliti menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dan teori stereotipe, dibantu narasi film dalam menganalisis data. Data primer berupa gambar, narasi, dan dialog dalam film. Penelitian ini menemukan tujuh isu yang dianggap sebagai tantangan wacana stereotipe ayah Afro-Amerika. Mereka bertanggung jawab, penuh perhatian, peduli keuangan, peduli kesehatan, mendidik dan memberi semangat kepada sosok ayah Afro-Amerika. Ikatan kepatuhan juga ada pada gambar tersebut.

**Kata Kunci:** Afro-Amerika, film, stereotipe, penyangkalan stereotipe

### A. INTRODUCTION

A family is a group consisting of a father, mother and children living in one house who have a kinship or lineage relationship. According to Burgess and Locke in Manan (2015), Family is a group of people bound together by marriage, blood, or adoption; consists of a single household, interacting and communicating with each other in their social roles as husband and wife, mother and father, son and daughter, brothers and sisters form a common culture. Family is a genealogy that can trace lineage through history.

A complete family consists of a nuclear family, namely the father and mother, who are usually called parents. According to Monks (2002), A parent is someone who accompanies and guides a child's growth stage who cares for, protects, and directs the child's life at every stage of development. Families should also always support the activities that children do while it is a good thing to do. We need to know that children are unique individuals who have their own existence and soul, and have the right to grow and develop optimally according to their unique rhythm. Most of the child's life span is within the scope of the family such as father, mother, grandparents and grandmothers. Children who grow up in a good environment and receive a good education will become obedient

children. Unlike children who grow up in a bad environment or in an environment that is not in accordance with their development. Environment and education are very important for the growth and development of a child, so the environment and parental education determine and influence the personality and behavior of the child.

Family can also model literature learning. In the family has many values that can be an example that is raised into many films. According to Effendi in sugianto et al (2017) Film is defined as a product of culture and a tool artistic expression. Films also produce literary works that have many values that can be an example for many people and contain imaginative and reality that pour ideas from writers that aim to entertain and provide knowledge.

From many family problems, so many problems are raised into movies such as the fatherhood movie. The movie Fatherhood is about a father raising a child alone or being a single parent. In the movie Fatherhood, family and friends worry that Mattaw will not be able to raise his daughter alone without the woman who died after a caesarean section. Initially Mattaw is not trusted because he wants to educate the child. So there are stereotypes about the role of fathers in this movie.

Fathers are the leaders in a family and provide the rules in the home. The role of the father in the family is often

associated with earning a living, even though the role of the father is very important for the development of children. Which is where the presence of the father's role, children will be independent, brave, feel safe, awake, and protected by the presence of a father figure who is present in the midst of their development. Children who grow up without a father's role will grow up to be a figure who does not have confidence in himself. Society's judgment that a father cannot raise a child because he is busy working and raising a child is a mother's business.

This societal opinion results in an imbalance in the value of a group called stereotyping. Barker (2000) defines stereotypes as overt but simplistic representations that reduce people to a set of exaggerated, and usually negative, character traits. In this case, stereotypes do perceive differences between groups that are striking. Although these differences are not necessarily true and correct according to what society thinks. Patterns often contain doubts and overreactions to information that creates or confirms the stereotype. Patterns and incorrect responses to information that contradict the stereotypes. The stereotypes will change if new information emerges that changes the most salient features of the group. Through the media, movies or literature. In society and the public,

there have been stereotypes about African-American fathers.

According to Baron et al (2008:188), stereotypes are beliefs about traits or characteristics of social groups that a person thinks they share. Franzoi (2008:199), stereotypes are beliefs about people who categorize them and do not allow personal change. These social beliefs are learned from others and are maintained by the rules of social interaction. Studies (Lopez, 2015) found that Afro-American fathers are often absent from their children's lives. This issue tends to lead to stereotypes of Afro-American fathers stereotypes of Afro-American fathers that have a long and complicated history in the US. Stereotypes that were initially just differences in skin color and accent. With that, these stereotypes escalate and even become inherent, turning into social constructs to legitimize the superiority of certain races.

## **B. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **1. Stereotyping**

Stereotypes are more problematic-there are dozens, even hundreds of definitions in the literature, though most are based on the general idea of stereotypes as knowledge structures that serve as mental "images" of the groups in question (Lippmann in

Stangor, 2009). With few exceptions, we generally agree that stereotypes represent traits that we see as characteristic of a social group, or individual members of that group, and in particular that distinguish that group from other groups. In short, stereotypes are traits that come to mind quickly when we think about a group. Stereotyping is an unbalanced judgment of a group of people. The assessment occurs because of the tendency to generalize without differentiation. De Jonge in Sindhunata (2000) says that it is not ratio but feelings and emotions that determine stereotypes. Barker (2004:415) defines stereotypes as overt but simplistic representations that reduce people to a set of exaggerated character traits, and are usually negative. It is in a person's representation of another person that is negative that a stereotype is created, even though the truth of a person's negative assumption is unknown.

Stereotypes are divided into two types, namely hetero stereotype and auto stereotype. Hetero stereotypes refer to stereotypes held in relation to other groups, while auto stereotypes are stereotypes associated with oneself (Triandis in Matsumoto: 2003). Hetero stereotyping is the most common and pervasive in society. Other patterns are often formed due to first impressions of people or groups and lack of knowledge and interaction with the person or group being judged. This

stereotype when referring to groups tends to encourage one to commit the logical fallacy of composition and division. The reason is that in this illusion, one relies on the assumption that what is true (applicable) for an individual or individuals of a particular group must also be true (applicable) for the group as a whole, and vice versa. Auto-stereotype, is a type of self-directed stereotype. It occurs when an individual conforms to the use of traits or characteristics common to a group (Forsyth, 2009). Auto stereotyping is usually done consciously and separately. A person will generally favour a positive stereotype of a group over accepting a negative stereotype of the group. But sometimes negative prejudice is also done if the person makes a mistake and wants to explain that the mistake is entirely the group's fault (Biernat in Stangor 2009).

These stereotypes are not always negative, but also sometimes contain positive images. These stereotypes can take the form of positive or negative views; they can be entirely true, but they can also be entirely false (Matsumoto, 2003: 69). Psychologically, the development of stereotypes is designed and built on various human psychological processes. on various human psychological processes, namely: - selective attention, appraisal, concept formation and categorization, attributions, emotion, and memory



(Matsumoto, 2003: 76). In this regard, the way a person chooses attention, perceives, perceives and categorizes other individuals plays a role in building stereotypes. Stereotypes arise from the existence of something that stands out from someone so that the presence of prejudice leads to negative things that are in the minds of others.

Prejudice is an integral part of initial conceptualization, as done by Allport in Stangor (2009), including inaccuracy, negativity, and overgeneralization. Initial prejudice is striking so that the core of a problem is seen and produces a negative opinion of someone. something that has been captured negatively will still have a negative element even after being examined and proven to have positive results. like Bima people in general are rude, after being examined and looked at more deeply. all of that is just the perception of others that he saw so that people think it is true without being examined first.

The focus of this study is stereotypes in fatherhood movie. Thus, we can see every action taken according to our stereotyping which is negative or will turn positive after being researched.

## 2. Counter Discourse

The term "discourse" is widely used in conversations, debates, or scientific texts. However, the use of the term "discourse" is not balanced with a clear

meaning. As a result, the concept of discourse becomes biased. Its meaning becomes blurred and the use of its meaning becomes different in different contexts (Jorgensen and Philips, 2010). Meanwhile, Roger Fowler, as cited by Eriyanto (2001:2), argues that discourse is oral or written communication seen from the point of view of beliefs, values, and categories that are included in it. In this case, beliefs represent a worldview; an organization or representation of experience. The word "discourse" is used by many circles ranging from language studies, psychology, sociology, politics, communication, literature, and so on. The use of this term is often followed by various terms and definitions. Not only do disciplinary taps have their own terms, many experts provide different definitions and limitations regarding discourse. 4 Until now, there has been no clear consensus on the definition of discourse and the standard method for analyzing it. These different perspectives offer different suggestions, and sometimes compete with each other to give their own definition of the term "discourse" (Jorgensen and Philips, 2010).

Discourse as a social practice/vocabulary, a way of representing the world, and so on; this kind of description is a more contemporary way of using discourse according to writers in the field of

discourse analysis and critical discourse analysis. Within this tradition the counter-discourse, influenced by Foucault, also shows the opposite side/version, yet is more nuanced as many outline the relationship between the argumentative position and why their study is relevant. Specifically they argue that society is structured with discourse; it consists of 'ways of speaking' (to coin Foucault's phrase) that make sense of things but often do so in ways that dominate, oppress and limit the capabilities of others. According to Van Dijk, the counter discourse consists of oppressed voices such as women, immigrants, and black people, while the dominant discourse consists of white elite males, who must then be studied to break down the "maintenance of inequality" (p.251).

So in summary, counter discourse can be described as counter-arguments, but more theoretically, as arguments placed in a socio-cultural context that address certain issues that are considered by researchers as a problem. The counter-discourse here uses the theory of Cohen and Gracia (2005) to refute Stangor's (2009) stereotype theory. According to Cohen and Gracia, people have many motives for maintaining a positive social identity, including collective interests and personal interests. Collective threat in some circumstances and for some people can lead to lower achievement.

And with avoidance for minorities who are less racially identified and lead to lower self-efficacy. A consequence of collective threat is the dissociation of group members potentially reinforcing negative stereotypes about the group for example by sitting further away from the person. Collective threat elicits one of the strategies involving downplaying the relevance of one's social identity to the situation at hand. To do so, people distance themselves from stereotypical images of their group (pronin et al, 2004) and may even mentally suppress those stereotypes (iserman et al, 2004).

When one belongs to a group that is negatively stereotyped, the realization that how one is personally defined will be determined in part by how one's group is defined. As a result people are not only concerned that their own behavior may be used to lend credence to negative stereotypes about their group (Stteele et al, 2002). Racial stereotypes are widely recognized and because they are universally valued traits, it can be difficult for many people, even most ethnic minorities, to feel that their personal reputation is not entirely independent of their racial reputation. For better or worse, our stake in our social identity makes the fate of our fellow group members inextricably linked to our own (Cohen and Garcia 2005).

### **C. METHODS**

The method used in study is a qualitative descriptive method. According to Creswell (2014), qualitative research is a means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social human problem. Qualitative descriptive method serves to view and describe the data contained in the fatherhood movie. According to Indriantoro and Supomo (2012: 26) defining descriptive research is research on problems in the form of current facts from a popularization. The data source of this data are primary data and secondary data. Primary data is the main data as the object of research. The primary data is the Fatherhood movie directed by Paul Weitz. The secondary data Includes journals and some references relating to primary data and others that support the analysis.

## **D. RESULTS**

### **1. Stereotyping**

#### **a. Father who Lack Knowledge about Infant Car**

Matt: Alright maddy, alright. You win. Tell me why, are you hungry? Want another diaper change? Well wait a minute.

Matt: What are you doing?

Marion: I may never sleep again. What's that on the baby's butt?

Matt: It's a diaper.

Marion: It's like a ballon. Is it upside down?

Matt: The diaper's fine. Just went down to give him some milk.

In this scene, Matt can't do small things like changing diapers properly. He still needs to learn a lot about other simple things. With Matt's lack of understanding of small things, Marion thinks of taking Matt back to his hometown so that he can take care of Maddy.

#### **b. Doubts Coming from the Work Environment**

Matt: You don't think I can do it?

Howard: It's not like I think you can't....

Matt: Because I'm a man?

Howard: No!

Matt: What do women have that men don't?

Howard: Patience. Emotional vulnerability....

Howard advised Matt that it's not easy to take care of a baby, you have to have a lot of patience and emotional stability. When you can't have a lot of patience, there will be many things that can't be done properly, especially when the baby is a small creature that must be cared for and paid attention to every time, it tests your patience and energy which can't be left for too long or have to give milk and change diapers regularly every time. The existence of doubts from the surrounding environment can believe that the stereotype of fathers who cannot take

care of children has been embedded for a long time in society.

### **c. Having no Sense of Patience**

Matt: It's not...

Mother: Grab the bottom and press the lever.

Matt: Already, it's broken

Mother: You're always so impatient

Matt: This stop has nothing to do with patience. I'm trying to do it... I can't mom. Mother. I can't do anything. I can't do it without Liz.

Mother: You just have to do your best for her that's all you have to do for the rest of your life. I'm sure you can do it.

Matt began to have a sense of insecurity about taking care of his son without a wife, unable to regulate his emotions and lacking patience so that easy things seemed difficult for him to do later alone. This lack of confidence proves that Matt is beginning to doubt his desire to take care of Maddy. Patience will take care and how to deal with the wishes of a baby who is not yet able to do anything so patience is needed in this situation where all things must be done properly and correctly. With patience all things will be done well when emotions do not interfere with the mind and prioritize patience.

### **d. A Father's Carelessness**

Carelessness is often done by everyone but not leaving a baby in the hot sun when finished shopping at the

supermarket. Carelessness leaving a child can be fatal. Many things will happen, it could be that the child will be kidnapped or the child will be harmed on the spot when there are dangerous things around. Matt's carelessness should not be emulated, it can strengthen people's opinions about fathers who cannot take care of children properly.

### **e. Forgetting to Regular Health Checks Schedule**

Marion: Hi

Matt: Hey

Marion: Where's my grandson?

Matt: What are you...

Marion: Is she presentable?

Matt: What are you doing here Marion?

Marion: Going to the doctor.

Matt: Shit! Is it Thursday already? Shit!

Marion: Yeah, You didn't forget the doctor's visit did you?

Matt: I didn't forget. You came at the exact moment we were about to go for a bath.

Marion: You left it in the bathtub?

Matt had so much on his mind that he forgot about Maddy's scheduled check-up every Thursday, so Marion assumed that Matt couldn't do this properly. Marion's concerns about her grandson were heightened by the messy state of the house and Matt's forgetting Maddy's scheduled check-up.

### **f. Lack of Supervision on what to Watch**

Matt: Dead



Madyy: Dad, they're going to wrestle  
Matt: I knew it. It's a bit....It's too violent for you to watch.

In this scene, Matt is seen watching Maddy watching cartoons, but when it comes to scenes that are not suitable for early childhood, Matt immediately turns off the TV. Matt is aware of the lack of attention to what movies Maddy will watch so that adult cardboard movies can be watched by Maddy every day so Matt forbids Maddy to watch it again because it is not suitable for his age.

### **g. Showing Poor Character**

Suster kathleen: We have a rule here that all girls wear skirts

Maddy: A rule? We don't need no rules, that's what my father says

Suster kathleen: Okay. Your father signed the documents when you were admitted to this school, and he agreed to follow the rules.

Guru: Sister Kathleen wants you to follow the rules and wear this skirt from today.

Living with a father made Maddy more inclined to be brave about everything and fearless. The courage that is not in the right place makes Maddy show a bad character so that the hard character shown towards how parents educate her. With this perspective, it shows that Maddy is not educated on how to behave towards elders.

## **2. Counter Discourse**

### **a. Being a Responsible Parent**

Matt's mom: Matt, we've talked and....

Marion: You should go back to Minnesota. It's more economical there. You can get a job there. Your mom and I can help raise Maddy.

Matt's mom: We'll be with the church, your supporters. You're on your own here.

Matt: Not my job here. There are no tech jobs out there. My friends are here.

Matt's mom: Your friends are kind of weird.

Matt: Well that's true but they're my friends, mom. Liz is here. Every place I see here, makes me think of her, mom always talks about meeting people from back home in other states.

Marion: God? I have a plan. Liz was going to go to school and then come home, work and live. That was her plan before she met you. Now you don't want to move, go ahead. But Maddy is coming with us.

Matt's mom: Mario.

Marion: It's what's best for her. Whether you believe me or not, I care about you too. You either can or can't. Raising a child is endless work.

Matt: I understand and I'll... I'll think about it.

Marion: Good.

Matt: I've thought about it. Yes, I've just thought about it. You're right. No

Mario, you're right. I can't do it, but you know what? I'll do it. I'll raise Maddy because I'm her father. Because I love her.

In this scene clearly shows how stereotypes against fathers to look after children. The parents argue to bring them back to their hometown because they think how can a father raise his child alone without a wife by his side but matt will still raise his child alone and will prove that he is capable of it because he is his father. The parents who initially disagreed with the decision had to be forced to return to Mascou because they could no longer persuade Matt to return to Mascou.

In this scene, the counter-discourse on stereotype (a) which depicts fathers who cannot take good care of children as said by society against those who do not want to raise children alone, can be counter-discourse by this scene which shows that fathers want to be responsible for children and want to raise them alone without the help of others. Counter discourse scene a (stereotype).

## **b. Matt's Care for his Daughter**

Matt : Excuse me.

New moms 1 : Sorry, alcohol therapy is at the end of the hallway on the right.

Matt : No, I'm not here for alcohol therapy. She just went to bed, but she cried for hours. I mean hours until I'm exhausted and my face hurts, I'm dizzy.

I know how to open the stroller, I know how to fold it.

New moms 2 : well, sorry, but this is a group for new moms.

Matt : You're lying because it says "parents". I'm a parent, and I'm confused. I don't have anyone else to talk to. Btw, there's something coming out of her ass. Like a fire hose, I don't know if it's the kind of shit that pours out. It's when it all comes together and it's kind of solid, and it just hits or squirts, it sprays out this fast. I need help, I want her to stop crying. How do I get him to stop crying?

New moms 2: okay, my firstborn had colic in the first few months.

Matt : what is colic?

New moms 2: It's when a baby keeps crying for hours on end for no reason until you think your eyes are going to fall out.

Matt: I'm passing on colic.

New moms 2: That's not how colic works.

Matt : I don't wash my hands and touch my baby like that and the baby gets colic.

New moms 1: You're not passing on colic, that baby has digestive issues.

Matt : Thank goodness.

New moms 2: I successfully used white noise.

Matt : "white noise"?

In a special room for young mothers, young mothers gather to discuss their children's development and talk about the obstacles they experience during young motherhood. As soon as Matt walked in, he thought he was in the wrong room so he was taken to the alcohol therapy room. But Matt said he went to the right room because he wanted to know if there was something wrong with his son. From the conversation above, Matthew kept trying to explain to the group of young mothers why Maddy couldn't sleep through the night and one of the young mothers suggested using white noise.

The dialog between Matt and the new mothers implies that they are worried about their babies. This shows that Matt, a man, continues to follow the mothers' association to find solutions or ways to prevent his child from experiencing unknown causes. "I need help, I want him to stop crying. How can I make him stop crying?" The dialogue above shows that Matt cares about his son and is willing to try to find a solution to his son's problem that he cannot do. Know the cause to be able to achieve it.

By explaining Maddy's condition to the new mom, it shows that Matt knows that Maddy is experiencing something unusual. Through the conversation above, we can see that Matt is not a stupid person. Maddy was having trouble sleeping and was consulted by Matt to find out the cause. Contrary to

what is written in American history, many African-Americans, especially men, are considered stupid (Oliver, 2003). Through the damage done to American society, it placed enslaved African-American males in an inferior position, indoctrinating African males as uneducated and uneducated, having no knowledge and ability to say or do anything. But Matt can break that mold. This is seen when Matt realizes there is a problem with Maddy. Matt's presence might be one way to show the invalidity of the African-American fatherhood doctrine. But it is different with Matt who realizes things are not going well so he leaves Maddy in the care of his parents. Matt began to reject stereotypes about his community.

When communities or individuals are faced with stereotype threats to their integrity, expressed through the stereotypes they believe apply to them, one of the simplest coping strategies is to deny those stereotypes (Cohen and Garcia, 2005). This can be seen from how Matt always tries to tell his son's condition in order to find out what causes Maddy's problems.

This can be said to be a counter discourse to scene (c) that fathers cannot have the patience to raise a child like a mother who has a lot of patience. But this scene shows Matthew who wants to be present in the middle of young mothers who are discussing their children's problems while Matthew himself wants to ask about the

problems that occur with Maddy.  
Counter discourse scene c (stereotype).

c. Matt's Sense of Responsibility  
Towards Children and the Family  
Economy

Matt : this is the vacuum cleaner here.  
Hi Mady.

Howard : What's going on? What  
are you doing?

Oscar : He's vacuuming.

Matt : I'm carrying him.

Howard : vacuum cleaner?

Matt : he likes the sound of the  
vacuum cleaner.

Entrepreneur : maybe this can help, it's  
a white noise app. It helps me sleep.

Matt : thank you.

Miss : My baby is always calm when  
it comes in contact with skin. Now he  
is 25 years old.

Howard opens the presentation. In  
photos A and B, Matt is seen carrying  
Maddy to work. In this episode, Matt is  
presenting to some clients in his office.  
When he hears his baby crying, he  
immediately runs over to Maddy and  
keeps trying to comfort Maddy who  
keeps crying. After a few tries, the  
client arrived and the client  
immediately saw the suggestion to use  
a white noise app. After trying it,  
Maddy calmed down and Matt finally  
continued his presentation while  
holding Maddy in front of his clients in  
the office.

In the office conference room, we see  
someone giving a presentation that has  
to be paused because Maddy's baby is  
crying. "I brought her" The  
conversation above shows that Matt's  
actions are evidence that an African-  
American father can present himself as  
a financially responsible father to his  
family. Stereotypes about absent  
fathers certainly affect their  
responsibility to provide for their  
children or their financial needs. In  
addition, irresponsible fathers are also  
known as African-American fathers in  
the United States (Stublety, Rojas, and  
McCroy, 2015).

However, the scenes in this movie  
speak differently from a father's  
perspective. The movie also attempts to  
debunk the stereotype that African-  
American fathers exist and are  
financially responsible fathers (Taylor,  
Guy-Walls, Wilkerson, and Addae,  
2019). Matt even takes his work home  
unless it's important and he can't stay at  
home so he has to stay at the office as  
in scene 2.

Scene (c) shows doubts from the work  
environment how a father is able to  
raise a child alone with the help of a  
baby sister. But this scene can show a  
father who is able to balance between  
taking care of children and taking care  
of work to complete the needs of his  
child and the economic needs of his  
own family. Counter discourse scene  
b (stereotype).



#### **d. A father's Attention to Child Health**

Nurse Denise : How's the eating going?

Matt : I'd say pretty good, he's... I guess most of the time, sometimes. If he sleeps, I let him sleep another hour.

Nurse Denise : You? What about your situation?

Matt : It's not about me, it's about...

Marion : How's Maddy doing? Is she okay?

Matt : I know, I'm not perfect. I know, realistically, there's nothing I can do. I'm a joke. Matt: Listen.

Nurse Denise : Mat. You're not kidding, Maddy is fine. Her weight has reached the 60th percentile and her height is 70. You can start feeding her when she's hungry. I hope you don't mind me saying this, but your wife will be proud of you.

In this scene, Matt and Marion have a routine check-up on Maddy's development and tell the doctor that Maddy is having trouble sleeping which makes her worried about the baby's development. But the doctor assures her that Maddy has a well-developed body and there is nothing to worry about.

In the doctor's office, we see Matt and Marion seriously listening to Maddy's progress as she does her examination. "Matt. You're not kidding, Maddy is fine. Her weight has reached the 60th percentile and her height is 70. You can

start feeding her when she's hungry. "I hope you don't mind me saying this, but your wife must be proud of you." From the above conversation, it is evident that this study debunks stereotypes by using data from the literature that reflects society's view of African-American fathers as capable fathers. (khan, benca and stagnaro, 2012). This study shows that there are negative doctrines or beliefs about African-American fathers in American society. Furthermore, the context of the movie above also refutes the negative view of African-American fathers not participating in their children's development. People judge based on how much of a crisis Matt has about what happens to his son during his development. The concern is also evident from the look on Matt's face when talking to Sister Nadine. Contrary to society's view that African-American fathers are fathers who are attached to their children.

Matthew, who is considered incompetent in taking care of children, will definitely not be able to take care of his child's health and growth while being cared for by Matthew, while in this scene the counter discourse shows that Maddy's development is very good about the growth and health patterns that exist in Maddy. Counter discourse scene e (stereotype).

#### **e. Attention to his Child's Education**

Matt : Maddy, do you like school here?

Maddy : Mom wants me here. I like it.

Matt : That's all I need to hear.

Okay, go on. I love you.

Maddy : I love you too.

Matt : Two kisses on the forehead already.

Maddy : Bye dad

Matt : Goodbye

In scene 6, Matt is seen in the car taking the time to drive his daughter to school and encouraging her to be excited by the idea of going to school. Matt asks his daughter what she thinks about her school, whether she likes it or not. "That's all I need to hear. All right, go ahead. I love you," Matt asks about Maddy's comfort at school and the support given to his son to get him excited about school. Through Matt's actions, he shows that he is a supportive African-American parent. Despite his busy schedule and insufficient savings, Matt continues to provide for his children. Not only that, Matt also took the time before leaving for work to tie Maddy's hair before leaving for school. This shows that it helps Maddy to always look presentable when going to school like other students. This may disprove the stereotype that African fathers do not support child development. As the literature data itself reflects the societal view that African fathers are unsupportive parents (Smith, Krohn. Chu and Best, 2005). However, the African-American father in this movie

supports his son's wishes. Matthew always asks how his son's school is comfortable and not it shows how Matthew always pays attention to his son's education. The society that assumes that men will not be able to take good care of children can be countered in the scene of how Matthew always asks about his son's comfort with the school that is the place to pursue education. Counter discourse scene g (stereotype).

#### **f. Making time for amusement parks**

Matt: Let's hold my hand baby. It's an amazing day, isn't it? It's the best day that nothing can mess up a day like this.

Maddy: It's so perfect

Matt: Yes, it's very exciting.

It was a beautiful day, and Matt and Maddy were on vacation at the theme park. They visited many places and tried out all the rides in the park.

a sunny day with the beauty of the playground Matthew and Maddy take the time to walk and play a lot of rides in the playground becomes a counter discourse to scene (f) which shows that in the midst of his busy life he can take the time to play with Maddy in the playground. Counter discourse scene f (stereotype).

#### **g. Believing in something**

Matt: Look at me, you're so strong. Strong little girl huh? I'm proud. Guess who else is proud? Mom must be proud now, we're going to sew it up, right?

At the hospital, Matt convinced Maddy to stitch his wound because he fell at school. So that Maddy, who initially did not want to do treatment for his wound, wanted to change and stitch his head that was injured because he fell at school.

Maddy, who was injured, was convinced by Matthew to have her wound treated, which broke the carelessness of a father who could not take care of his child, let alone convince him that something would be done. Counter discourse scene d (stereotype).

### **E. DISCUSSION**

The researchers discussed the data that have been found previously, in the discussion section the researchers discussed in more depth related to the subject matter in this study. The role of father has been neglected for too long in the social science literature, especially in the field of family studies. The dynamics of fatherhood in all ethnic groups, especially among African Americans, have changed significantly over the years. the existence of literature helps many people broaden their horizons and understanding of the world around them. Literary works often present images and views that are different from everyday life and open up new

perspectives on problems or issues. Literature often also serves as a means to teach good morals and values to its readers. These values can be religious, social, and humanitarian.

According to Stangor, the stereotype of fathers who are still considered as the backbone of the family and cannot take care of children can be refuted by the theory of Cohen and Gracia who found many stereotypes of fathers that can be refuted from the stereotypical view of fathers from society. Regarding the answer to the problem formulation, there are several results from research that show men and women have an important role for children. From the findings above, it can be seen that Matt has a responsible, diligent, patient caring character and can give a positive attitude towards Maddy. Stangor's opinion always assumes that a father who only works for the child's economic needs cannot take care of the child. But Stangor's opinion can be broken by Cohen and Gracia. With this father's stereotype being debunked, it can be seen that the father's influence is very large on the growth of his child, such as forming a brave, independent and polite character. With positive characters formed, it shows a good personality from this upbringing.

A fatherhood movie that tells how a father raises his child after his wife dies during a cesarean section performed at the hospital. The family initially wanted Matthew to return to his

hometown so they could raise Maddy together. But Matthew did not want to return, still wanted to raise his son alone without the help of anyone and Matthew was able to prove all his words that Mathew was able to raise his own son well even though initially Mathew had to adjust himself to taking care of Maddy and divide his time also with work to meet the needs of his daily life. While Mathew was taking care of Maddy, Mathew learned many things about how to manage between work and time to see the development of his son until Maddy grew up, making the family proud of Mathew who was able to educate Maddy well so that he became a cheerful child and there was no sign of lack of affection that Mathew gave to Maddy. The ending of the movie shows where Mathew, who is about to go on a business trip, feels unable to part with Maddy so Mathew leaves the business trip entirely to Oscar. When he arrived at Maddy's grandmother's house, mathew immediately found maddy and hugged her tightly and promised that wherever mathew went, he would bring maddy.

The story of this fatherhood movie is the real life of Mathew Logelin himself, which is an adaptation of the book "Two Kisses for Maddy" by Mathew Logelin, which is written on his own blog so that it raises people's sympathy for him who is able to raise his son alone and there is also a true story from the movie. Marcelino

Lefrandt has been playing the role of a single father for almost 7 years. During that time, this 48 year old man raised his two children alone, Mother. Since divorcing from Dewi Rezer, Marcel has had custody of his children. Since then, her focus has only been on taking care of her children and working. Marcel never thought about looking for a partner again after the divorce.

"Since I separated from Dewi, I went through a period where I focused on my children and work. It became a kind of fortress that I didn't plan for, but it turned out like that," said Marcel, quoted from YouTube curhat bang Denny Sumargo, not yet a long time ago.

"I don't have any time to think about myself or who my companion is," he continued.

Before finally dating Violenzia Jeanette, Marcel didn't spend much time with his friends. This Manado-born man is only busy working, picking up and picking up children from school, and exercising at the gym to spend his me time.

"So I just work, take care of the kids, and I go to the gym. Going to the gym is my me time," he said.

It is not without reason that Marcel chose to take care of his two children himself. Marcel admits that he has



become overprotective of his children since the divorce.

Marcel feels he has to take responsibility for taking care of his own child. Moreover, when they divorced, their two children were still relatively small, Mother.

"When I was divorced, I was a bit overprotective of the children. So I picked them up, I didn't want a driver, I had to see for myself, I had to hold the children. Moreover, at that time my youngest child, a boy, was still very small, still 3-4 years," he said.

"I'm still taking care of him directly, making sure he doesn't get sick and so on."

On this occasion, Marcel also revealed about his habits of taking care of children after divorce. One of them is the activity of waking up early to prepare the children for school.

## F. CONCLUSION

The movie depicts the rejection of stereotypes about Afro-American fathers in the United States. But according to Hollywood's needs, American movies are made to meet the needs of Americans. The concept of Americanism began to be recognized around the world as global superpowers tried to make cinema a new political tactic used in world politics. That Americans should look

good, even though African Americans retain their original identity. Although Hollywood produces films about black people, there is still color discrimination in American society, whether against children, parents, students, and others. The same applies to this movie, based on the story of a black man and played by a black man. Of course, this is not a coincidence but something that is conveyed about the absence of voice, privilege or truth through literature.

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