SOCIAL IDENTITY FORMATION AND TRANSFORMATION OF SHOUYA ISHIDA IN *A SILENT VOICE* (2016) ANIMATED MOVIE

A Research Paper

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ABSTRACT

This research analyzes the social identity transformation of Shouya Ishida in the Japanese animated movie *A Silent Voice* (2016) directed by Naoko Yamada. This research aims to understand the impact of bullying, social exclusion, and forgiveness on social identity transformation. This research focuses on the social connection of the character with other people. Implementing Henry Tajfel and John Turner's social identity theory as the framework and examining the character's psychological and social journey by utilizing Bordwell and Thompson's (2008) formal system analysis to analyze the film's narrative and visual element, the findings reveal that Shouya's social identity is initially reinforced by peer approval and shared group norms, but his exclusion leads to significant emotional distress. However, through new, positive social interactions and personal redemption efforts, Shouya rebuilds his identity within a supportive group. This research emphasizes the dynamic of social identity and how it can transform through empathy and emotional support, contributing to understanding further the group dynamics and individual behavior in the social psychology of children and adolescents.

Keywords: adolescent; *A Silent Voice; bullying; social identity*

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