ABSTRACT

This research paper is entitled "Portrayal of a Transgendered Character in Andy Stevenio's Novel *Beri Aku Dunia: Banci Juga Manusia*. This study focuses on the main character in the text and uses queer theory as the framework of the study. The aims of this study are to examine the portrayal of the main character as a transgendered character and to disclose possible meaning potentials from the portrayals.

The data was gained by identifying parts of text which identify the main character's characteristics as a transgendered character. The data were later classified based on categorization which relates to the personalities, social relationships with others, and social and self identification as a transgendered character

The study reveals that there are three main portrayals of the main character as a transgendered character. First, the main character is assigned with stereotyped of feminine qualities such as described as weepy, behaving in a tender manner, and being sensitive and emotional. Second, the main character is portrayed as attracted to the same sex and as a cross-dresser. Third, the main character has problematic social relationships which involve relationship with parents, boy and girl friends, children, and other transgendered character.

These portrayal carries several possible meaning: (1) gender is a performative act which means that gender is determined by what gender the person decided to act on, (2) sex is given and gender is a social construction, (3) performative acts or person's decision to perform what he wants determine person's identity, (4) the transgendered phenomenon happens across cultures and social classes, (5) becoming a transgendered person does not relate to one's childhood background, (6) text can accommodate anything, including transgenderism. Therefore, through these meanings the book has presented a different perspective on this phenomenon and posed question on the stance that readers might need to take in facing this kind of problematic issue in their daily life.