

## IDEAL CONSERVATIVE VALUE OF *FORREST GUMP* FILM

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### ABSTRACT

Hollywood values are defined as total liberalization to individuals for their own view to genders, races, and sexual relationships that widely accepted as main political messages in Hollywood film and television media, but the old values or conservative value still has strong presence in American society. The purposes of the study are to find how ideal conservative value portrayed by the characters and setting in *Forest Gump* and to find how conservatism as political philosophy presented through different era of setting of in *Forest Gump* film. The researcher applied theories of four parts of conservative value taken from John Kekes, those part are skepticism, pluralism traditionalism and pessimism. This research is qualitative research employed by observing scenes, dialogs between characters, how ideal form of conservative values portrayed by character behavior and the settings of *Forest Gump*. The results of these studies showed how the film portrays what are ideal conservative value, a form of value that follows tradition as supposed to be. The researcher found the film giving reflection on how values and people who follow it endures and prosper in changing era like the main character Forrest Gump and people who abandon the old values and lead astray in their life.

**Keywords:** conservative, conservatism, value, *Forrest Gump* film

### ABSTRAK

Nilai-nilai Hollywood didefinisikan sebagai total liberalisasi bagi individu untuk pandangan mereka sendiri terhadap gender, ras, dan hubungan seksual yang diterima secara luas sebagai pesan politik utama dalam film Hollywood dan media televisi, tetapi nilai-nilai lama atau nilai konservatif masih memiliki kehadiran yang kuat dalam masyarakat Amerika. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan bagaimana nilai konservatif ideal digambarkan oleh karakter dan latar di *Forest Gump* dan untuk menemukan bagaimana konservatisme sebagai filosofi politik yang disajikan melalui era pengaturan yang berbeda dalam film *Forest Gump*. Peneliti menerapkan teori empat bagian dari nilai konservatif yang diambil dari John Kekes, bagian itu adalah skeptisisme, tradisionalisme pluralisme dan pesimisme. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif yang dilakukan dengan mengamati adegan, dialog antar karakter, bagaimana bentuk ideal dari nilai-nilai konservatif yang digambarkan oleh perilaku karakter dan pengaturan *Forest Gump*. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bagaimana film ini menggambarkan apa yang merupakan nilai konservatif ideal, suatu bentuk nilai yang mengikuti tradisi sebagaimana mestinya. Peneliti menemukan film yang memberikan refleksi tentang bagaimana nilai-nilai dan orang-orang yang mengikutinya bertahan dan makmur di era yang berubah seperti tokoh utama *Forrest Gump* dan orang-orang yang meninggalkan nilai-nilai lama dan tersesat dalam hidup mereka.

**Kata kunci:** konservatif, konservatisme, nilai, film *Forrest Gump*

## A. INTRODUCTION

Values is a set of principles or standards of behavior; one's judgment of what is important in life. Values provide an internal reference for what is good, beneficial, important, useful, beautiful, desirable and constructive. Values are one of the factors that generate behavior (Milton 20). Understanding how values work is a need to human being functioning on a society. During our social interaction with societies around us we need to consider what is the right manner, gestures, speech, and behavior. But over time values lost its meaning and even viewed negatively. The worldview or political philosophy which sought to uphold the old value is called conservatism

In this thesis about *Forest Gump*, an Oscar award winning film with total six awards, conservatism presented as gentle ideal values as the main character narrates his journey through the four decades of American history to various strangers which happen to sit next to him in a Bus Stop. Conservatism appears as most prominent values reflected by lifestyle of the character. The researcher analyzed how conservatism presented as an ideal and gentle value

## B. RELATED LITERATURE

### 1. *Case of Conservatism by John Kekes*

The central concern of conservatism, Kekes explains, is with political arrangements that create the conditions for people to live good lives. Those conditions include, but are not limit to, civility, equality, freedom, a healthy environment, justice, order, peace, prosperity, rights, security, toleration, and welfare. Conservatives, unlike liberals or socialists, are sensitive to the fragility of political arrangements conducive to good lives and look to history for lessons on how to nourish and protect them (Kekes 31).

#### a. Skepticism

Skepticism translated as questioning attitude or doubt towards knowledge or belief. Skepticism gives character in conservatism to cautious in accepting reasons, to want reasons to be concrete, tried, and true, attested to by experience, without pretending to a quixotic pose of the wholesale rejection of the effort to be as reasonable as possible." In a century torn by rationalist and irrationalism political experiments that exacted an incalculable toll in human suffering, a skeptical attitude toward political arrangements, any way is surely a reasonable one if we care at all about human wellbeing" (Kekes 31-33).

#### b. Pluralism

Pluralism is the second part of conservative political morality, Kekes referenced to Isaiah Berlin, the political philosopher who returned to the problem posed by the incommensurability of human goods. Berlin argued that a society cannot maximize all good things all at once: there are always trade "offs between, say, liberty and equality or privacy and public spirit and sees pluralism as a via media between Absolutism and Relativism (Kekes 35-36).

#### c. Traditionalism

Conservatives characteristically look to traditional political and cultural institutions to curb humans' base and destructive instincts. In Burke's words, people need "a sufficient restraint upon their passions," which it is the office of government "to bridle and subdue." Families, churches, and schools must teach the value of self-discipline, and those who fail to learn this lesson must have discipline imposed upon them by government and law. Without the restraining power of such institutions, conservatives believe, there can be no ethical behavior and no responsible use of liberty (Kekes 38). The traditions are keeping the political arrangement that individuals take part because the reason of society fostering good lives in terms of the beliefs, values, and practices depends of individual participation of the traditions which society believes.

#### d. Pessimism

The final part of conservative political morality, on Kekes' view, is pessimism. Pessimism leads conservatives to reject the "Enlightenment Faith" in human perfectibility shared by liberals and socialists. Evil and contingency stain all human affairs, as should be clear to anyone who looks out the window or in the mirror. Yet conservatives do not go to the opposite extreme of viewing human nature as irredeemably corrupt. Even thoroughly evil societies witness acts of decency, generosity, and sacrifice, as the Maximilian Kolbe and Aleksandr Solzhenitsyns of the twentieth century attest.

## 2. Previous Research

### a. A Struggle of Contending Stories: Race, Gender, and Political Memory in *Forrest Gump* by Jennifer Hyland Wang

Firstly, Jennifer Hyland Wang *A Struggle of Contending Stories': Race, Gender, and Political Memory in "Forrest Gump"* her essay point out the how obvious conservative the film is. The movie starts in a time before the civil rights movement with the introduction of Forrest's fore father, who was a knight of the Ku Klux Klan. Next, the movie is set in the South, a region known for traditional and conservative tendency.

Forrest seems to fit in perfectly since he embodies southern values such as sticking to the rules, honoring his family and being most happy at home. "Forrest's survival lends an air of inevitability to the traditional American values that, the essay points out, the negative portrayal of liberalism by using Jenny the main heroine, how liberal lifestyle leading to self-destructive life and how conservatism leads to good life.

### b. Film, History, and Cultural Memory: Cinematic Representations of Vietnam-Era America During the Culture Wars by John Burton

Next studies are by Communication arts Doctor at Salisbury University John Burton Ph.D. thesis entitled *Film, History, and Cultural Memory: Cinematic Representations of Vietnam-Era America During the Culture Wars*. The thesis mainly made various inquiry about the situation the setting and situation regarding the real-life event and political intrigued how the political situation of surrounding the socio-political climate at 1987- 1996 that criticizing sixties where during this time, filmmakers produced a significant number of historical films that inducing debates over the sixties and Vietnam war film like *Full Metal Jacket* or *Apocalypse Now*.

While the fourth chapter focusing on the influence of *Forrest Gump* and reaction of scholar and politician, upon its release in July 1994 republican party winning most US senate seats over democrat party and *Forrest Gump* quickly became an unexpected cultural and financial phenomenon and went on to become one of highest grossing film of all time.

Its success had commentators look for an explanation as to why the film had struck a chord with audiences which is the character portrayal as average hardworking American who

do not really care about most political situation and carry their life. The essay answer why film without typical storytelling devices: like a villain, or ticking bomb had proved so successful, because it was a “morality play where decency, honor and fidelity triumph over the values of Hollywood.”

**c. Conservatism in American Crime Films by Timothy O. Lenz.**

Lastly studies are *Conservatism in American Crime Films* by Timothy O. Lenz. The paper is about portrayal of conservatism in Hollywood film, the paper primary focusing into *Dirty Harry Series* and *Death Wish* the former example *Dirty Harry* with iconic scene of Clint Eastwood as Harry Callahan pointing 44 magnum caliber revolver, the film viewed as critic to liberal law and portrays the need of old conservatism value to fixing the rampant criminals activities in city of San Francisco and portrays conservatism and use violence is necessary to bring back orders.

Harry Callahan needs to act outside the book to give justice to Scorpio the serial killer who terrorizing the city and cannot persecuted to justice because the rule and simply let it by the reason of civil liberty. Similarities between *Dirty Harry* and *Forrest Gump* are both films portray conservatism as common man values instead elitist one, but each film have different view how conservatism is with the former see it as hard enforcer of justice and the later a gentle and good way of life.

**C. RESEARCH METHOD**

This research applies a descriptive qualitative method: Paraphrased from Neumann. Descriptive qualitative method is a research method that investigates how experience, social process, and subculture portrayed in the research object. By using descriptive method, the researcher described, explained, and interpreted the phenomena and events that were happening in specific time and place, in this case this film about how conservative values portrayed by character behavior and the setting.

The data in this research were taken from a film titled *Forest Gump*, the primary data derived from the dialogs between characters and scenes of the movie which correlated with related theories and the secondary sources are based on various journal, books and reviews written by scholars or sources with confirmed competency for sake main purpose of the study about how ideal conservative value portrayed by the characters and setting in *Forest Gump*. The researcher himself is the research instrument of this research thesis. Researcher was watching and observing *Forest Gump* film also reading previous works or journal for references and validated arguments.

The data collection process took two steps, at first step the researcher watched and observed carefully the main source of data *Forrest Gump* film several times and focusing to socio political setting and characters for main point of research problem. Second step was collecting data about dialogue related to conservative value. The last step is sorting the data findings according its relevancy for research purposes of finding portrayal of ideal conservative value portrayal in the film. After the data collected, then data analysis process was begun and, researcher was sorted the collected data then continue to data analysis. The data analyzed by using descriptive qualitative method and took four steps, firstly the data were based on theory and limitation given on earlier chapter and taken from main research object, which was film titled *Forrest Gump* scenes, dialogs between characters and review journals. The next step was organizing previously identified data by their appearance in the film's duration and tabling them with figure of the scenes or dialogs. Third step main analysis phase where data thoroughly analyzed by researcher himself based on theory to draw a

conclusion. Lastly Researcher made conclusion based on previously explained theories from gathered and analyzed data (Brintten et al 104-114).

The researcher also used data triangulation and theory triangulation method (Haves 14-15). Data triangulation is method that is involves time, space, and person, then theory triangulation which is method that using more than one theoretical scheme in interpretation of data for confirming of data source to answer research questions. The data of this research is *Forrest Gump* film directed by Robert Zemeckis. Its first released was in 1994. In this research, the related theories are Burke's conservatism and four conservatism theories by John Kekes. In conclusions, the validation of research was based on valid data source and usage of theories. The Researcher then checked out the consistency of findings generated by different data collection methods.

## D. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Conservatism Value

Identifying ideal conservative values in literature needs certain parameter what measure as values of conservatism John Kekes tells conservative as political morality and arrangement which is based on four components: skepticism, pluralism, traditionalism, and pessimism researcher will use four components to conservatism portrayed in the film. This are presented data of researcher identifies as conservatism value in character and setting by their scene time and figures they referring to.

#### a. Skepticism

Skepticism in conservatism simply explained as an attitude of doubt or a disposition either in general or toward something in this case the progress and change society. Skepticism has role to protect society by wanting political arrangement deeply rooted to the experience of the society who are subject the political arrangement but do not deny change by inducing reasons, but good reasons should be absolute and eternal (Kekes 31). For conservative change is necessary but need to be done as careful as possible as Edmund Burke believes a nation or society as whole is a contract between man and God "those who are living, those who are dead, and those who will be born" (Burke 359). The important aspect of Burke's conservatism theory is the suspicion of change. Burke's point of view change should only occur if necessary, to avoid a greater evil.

*Forrest Gump* was not only about Forrest misadventures but also a story about how American society changes through four decades from fifties to early nineties people react with various response with all new technologies and social movements to improve life people regardless their race and gender. For better or worse, most people accept it and move on with their life with new attitude and law on norm, gender and races even sexual orientation or reject it simply because it did not suit their earlier simpler way of life or for religious reason.

#### (1) Skepticism in Character

01:29:36 Jenny was inhaling heroin at a party, after becoming hippie in sixties, she drowned herself in life style of Drugs abuse and free sex

But Jenny the main Heroine life is straight up cautionary tales if someone against the norms and values in society and embracing new but uncertain radical change, her story serves as a foil to Forrest's story she has rough childhood because her abusive father. But her situation compared to Forrest who needs brace for his legs and his mental disability problem

but blessed with loving family member, unlike Forrest who live on his life, she took a step to divertive direction after she dropped out to college and joining political movement without any solid reason expect for a company that she could stick by, and let her life to astray as she is becoming a drug addict and fall to deep depression even try to commit suicides.

## (2) Skepticism in Setting

48:33 Forrest: Jenny...which must be out west somewhere, 'cause she made it all the way to California.

Other young people simply dropped out from college and separated themselves from mainstream culture through their appearance and lifestyle as Hippie. Jenny was one of many youths following hippie counterculture life style after she dropped out college and working as stripper.

### b. Pluralism

Pluralism is the second part in John Kekes theory of conservatism, in short, it is a compromise between relativism and Absolutism that believe each culture has similarities between each other value to make compromise to judge what is good or bad thing to make political arrangement that applied in societies. Pluralism characterized in conservatism as something that bind common values between traditions in society. (Keke 60)

### (1) Pluralism in Character

To associate pluralism to Forrest character we must be looking to the three of important peoples in Forrest's life are a black man and two white women. He does not see them as different in ethnic or social terms but provides them with the unconditional love and care only a could come up with.

32:45 *Bubba introduces himself to Forrest*

BUBBA: You ever been on a real shrimp boat?

FORREST: No, but I been on a real big boat.

BUBBA: I'm talkin' about a shrimp catchin' boat. I've been workin' on shrimp boats all my life. I started out my uncle's boat, that's my mother's brother, when I was about maybe nine. I was just lookin' into buyin' a boat of my own and got drafted. My given name is Benjamin Buford.

His most notable encounter and relation with people from another race begun with fellow Alabama residence that becoming his best Friend and brother from different parent Benjamin Blueford "Bubba" Blue. Bubba introduces himself after he lets him sit next to him and gives one long speech about shrimping and what we could use shrimp in various foods.

The watchers then see how they become best friend that endure harsh training and harsher battlefield together and dreaming how they will have their shrimping boat and raise their own shrimping company, something that the one who invoke the idea will never ever life to see the success. Regardless that Forrest still honoring his promise by naming his newly founded shrimping company "GUMP and BUBBA co" and give his family a lot of fortunes, so they do not need to live their live from servitude to the other who richer than them.

## (2) Pluralism in Setting

The film taking place in the southern part of United States at beginning of the film even the setting switches and expand to warzone in Northern Vietnam to a sport stadium in Beijing and various part of united states, the film gives some focuses on such issues on desegregation of races in the 1960s and depicts black people position in two different ways.

There is the way that the movie portrayed black people in recent time, and the way that it portrayed the race in history at darker long time before the civil rights and a little snippet at slavery time where black people always demonetized by white people and treated as second class citizen by using segregation of public facilities,

04:26 Forrest (Tom Hank) starts a conversation with a black lady at bus stop and starts his life story.

FORREST: Those must be comfortable shoes. I'll bet you could walk all day with shoes like that and not feel a thing. I wish I had shoes like that.

BLACK WOMAN: "My feet hurt.

FORREST: Momma always says there's an awful lot you could tell about a person by their shoes. Where they're going. Where they've been. I've worn lots of shoes. I bet if I think about it real hard, I could remember my first pair of shoes, Momma said they'd take my anywhere

The very first person that Forrest talks to is a black nurse, she depicted as any regular person waiting for a bus, no matter what race she is. Her annoyed reactions to a stranger talking to her as she tries to read a magazine on a bus stop bench is justified as any person who suddenly hear a stranger blabbering his life story and she disappear in later scene because her bus has arrived.

## c. Traditionalism

Traditionalism is part of conservatism that gives conservatism main characteristic to stick into traditions. According John Kekes the conservative must uphold tradition because they carry knowledge, various excellences, wisdom, and resources for building meaningful and productive lives. Where the well of tradition runs dry, human impoverishment inexorably follows; a strong society will harbor many traditions. A social world thick with traditions, Kekes believes, is better than a liberal one devoted to individual autonomy, since autonomy by itself leaves us sad and empty.

As film set in America the type conservatism is American brand of conservatism that included respect for American traditions, support of Judeo-Christian values, advocacy of American exceptionalism and a defense of their view of Western civilization also start and ended in the South, a region known for a traditional and conservative attitude.

## (1) Traditionalism in Character

Forrest seems to fit in perfectly to represent traditionalist since he embodies southern values such as sticking to the rules, honoring his family and being most happy at home. "Forrest's survival lends an air of inevitability to the traditional American values that he "naturally upholds". Nevertheless, Forrest becoming what American man should be by playing American football in college, joining military, being a successful entrepreneur, marrying his childhood friend and keeping his faith to God and his beloved mama words. Forrest achievement which neither he aware or realized, he achieves it by following old American values of hard work. (Wang 101)

01:27:07 *Forrest was visiting Bubba's family to declare his will to follow bubba's dream*

MRS. Blue: Are you crazy, or just plain stupid?

Forrest: Stupid is as stupid does, Mrs. Blue

MRS. Blue: I guess.

Those words which becomes his life motto every time people question his intelligent or capability in making decision for himself. Forrest single minded goal to honoring Bubba dream is his sole reason to keep him forward to achieving their mutual dream to be successful shrimper, also an unknown coincidence a Hurricane making his ship the only ship that sea worthy because he and Lt Dan was on the sea that moment. Short story their catch gets better then Forrest and Lt Dan expanded their company from a small old boat to a fleet of shrimping ships and guaranteed their faces on Forbes magazine as recognition.

## (2) Traditionalism in Setting

02:06:54 Forrest and jenny finally get married at their home town.

Traditionalism was mainly represented by the main charactre in this film as Forrest by himself giving main example how an American man should be. Traditionalism here subtly represented by values of family and religions, we see tradition at the setting mainly at Forrest stay at Bubbas tradition laden hometown Bayou la batre where entire townfolks still attending church when they are not sailing, the watchers of this film given a couple example a community or society still held ceremony according tradition and religious belief.

The Marriage ceremony between Forrest and Jenny is another one of such example an the event served as anticlimax of the film after all journeys of our titular character. The marriage itself can interpret as the consolidation between conservatism and liberalism or the triumph of conservatism over liberalism where Jenny leaving her self-destructive life and settle down, but she died shortly afterward from a disease and leaving Forrest with their son.

### d. Pessimism

Last part of conservatism according John Kekes the conservative has pessimistic attitude to reject the "Enlightenment Faith" in human perfectibility or innocence as Roseau. The Pessimism side of conservatism in this film given as subtle message in narrative and implication to viewer who have knowledge on about how the past events in the film eventually concluded. As the film covering four decades American society moving through four Presidents administration, a major war, a civil rights movement and two superstars.

## (1) Pessimism in characters

01:14:45 After his roles at ping pong diplomacy Forrest becomes a celebrity and invited as guest at the DICK CAVETT Show in New York with John Lennon who he dubs as nice young man from England. Dave Cavett asked him to tell what was china like?

Dick Cavett: Forrest Gump, John Lennon.

John Lennon: Welcome home.

Dick Cavett: You had quite a trip. Can you, uh, tell us, uh, what was China like

Forrest: Well, in the land of China, people hardly got nothing at all.

JOHN LENNON: No possessions?

Forresst: And in China, they never go to church.



John Lennon: No religion, too?  
Dick Cavett: Oh. Hard to imagine.  
John Lennon: Well, it's easy if you try, Dic  
Forrest looks oddly at John Lennon.  
FORREST (V.O.) Some years later, that nice young man from England was on his way home to see his little boy and was signing some autographs. For no particular reason at all, somebody shot him.

Forrest involvement to various historical event made him meet the figures behind the history itself including ultra conservative individual or hard left groups. The individuals or Groups of people he met through his adventure ranges from politician to musicians, from Elvis to John Lennon and from Kennedy to Nixon. His appearance to many pivotal moment histories becomes paradoxical and noted in real world people whose appears in many moments nicknamed as the Gump. We saw him as a boy who inspired Elvis Presley dances moves and good Samaritan who acts polite to black lady or a man who ran around United States twice, also probably inspired John Lennon to write his hit song "Imagine", which turn out a misinterpreted Forrest innocent remarks on poor and oppressed Chinese people under Mao Zedong regimes.

Also, Forrest was interacting with many people from diverse political believes. His interactions to certain individual or group with racist or radical believe always colored with humor or apathy from Forrest, his behavior to them as direct reference how they have misdirected and overly idealist cause will bring digression from right path of life. But his innocent heart and politeness on those people never bring him to plainly look down them even sympathizing for them in occasions like assassination attempt of governor Wallace and shooting of John Lennon.

## (2) Pessimism in Setting

The views of pessimism viewed with straight example by narrative and side characters to the watchers of after effect every "wrong" behavior leads to and what right behavior rewards. There are no much examples anymore to covered as the entire films could be interprets as caution of living perverted ways for reason like freedom of oneself and flees from realities. Also, the film never mentions directly how radical Groups like KKK or Black panther end into obscurity but left to the watcher of this film self knowledges on how groups like them unable to keep theirs zealous and misdirected ideals then fallen apart by itself.

## 2. Discussion

*Forrest Gump* is a film with unique characters and vast setting an epic to unlikely man adventures and a story about how society change for better and for worse. *Forrest Gump* brought us stories about peoples who living like normal people who never actually bother what happened around them, people who losing their faith and flees from reality, and a man just follows his mother words going through bitter sweet of life without losing optimism and faiths.

*Forrest Gump* gives an example how ideally conservative value should be like, the film itself did not portray the elements of conservatism like skepticism, pluralism, traditionalism, and pessimism as overly positive but as cautionary self-reflection for oneself and rather fairy tales like approach to project value strike why film without typical storytelling devices: like a villain, or ticking bomb had proved so successful, because it was a "morality play where decency, honor and fidelity triumph over the values of Hollywood." (Burton 227.)

The skepticism parts of the film was given balanced view between good and bad in the film, in one side skepticism protected us from wrong doing from new idea and the other as hurdle to reach improvement and betterment in life by John Kekes theory by wanting political arrangement deeply rooted to the experience of the society who are subject the political arrangement but do not deny change by inducing reasons, but good reasons for the change itself should be absolute and eternal (Kekes 31).

The skepticism examples come largely from Jenny point of view whenever she was on screen she always in progress of self-ruination after she left for her own way, she was dropping her studies to become singer only to become a stripper, she then joined the hippies and later became a drug addicts causing her lives at shambles because she was carelessly following what deemed as trendy for simple companionship and a selfish notion of freedom.

When we see from Forrest point of view, Forrest portrayed as he is increasingly being successful individual by following his mama words gaining success after success by pure hard works and dumb luck also getting recognition by various people including a couple of US presidents even only for his achievement left to be forgotten by mass media few days later.

Forrest is opposite of skepticism as he was always being an optimistic person who never cares for any situations, he found himself in as he just keeps merely running for achieving his purpose with faith within his heart, he always does what he sees as good to do like being nice to everyone. The messages of Forrest character are do what should be right thing and right thing is a universally good thing for the other.

While in the setting implied skepticism should be not at odds with pluralism as something petty like racism would only impeding the society reaching its full potentials by incorporating each other values to complete each other. The film portrays the change in American society in relation between races from people reaction to Forrest politeness to people from another race seen as unbelievable, to peoples casually interact with each other and working together regardless their races.

The film shows society comes together with pluralism as ideal conservatism must supported by compatibles values of different cultures. The pluralism in the film portrayed as a bridge that bounds society together which integrated every people regardless their race or culture to betterment in life as culture which held similar universal values about morality and religions at the core of their tradition. Those elements serve as political and societal arrangement that manages the society from within as such component needed to attain and maintain conservatism in the ideal forms.

Traditionalism overall is the center theme of the film, American tradition of self-reliance and gaining success through hard works, a one and only path an American man to reach his dream as Forrest of a man that was born with limitation but overcoming it by hard works and faith.

We have seen him given chance to live as normal person by sacrifices of his mother and sheer of luck or God's graces and use it well, his limited intelligent serves as some kind of boon to him as he was never questioning what was told him by his mother and single minded thought push him to do what he told to perfection. But he did not do what he did without strong moral compass proven by Forrest never consider doing something considered amoral, tradition shown as bastion and keeper of a civilization and at the end film the tradition triumphs over liberalism as Forrest success and Jenny's salvation.

Lastly pessimism part of film, pessimism might be inappropriate interpretation element as the protagonist is mascot of innocent and optimism. Pessimism rejected the "Enlightenment Faith" in human perfectibility. But never go to the opposite extreme of viewing human nature as irredeemably corrupt, viewers given clear example in film how people could change for better or worse like real life George Wallace who apologizing to

black community for his past behavior and how Hippies reduced to obscurity. Pessimism in the film serves as reminder to the watcher about radicalism and baseless idealism of the characters and society will lead into self-harm to oneself.

The whole point what should be ideal value of conservatism in *Forrest Gump* is doing right thing and right thing is never change regardless the change of era or society as faith and hard work will reward in the end, straying from the right path only left ones hollow and empty, quest for abstract concept of freedom will end up with unhappy end while sticking to traditions giving us purpose and path for happiness.

## E. CONCLUSION

Based on the data analysis in the findings in the previous chapter, researcher concluded research the ideal conservative values in *Forrest Gump* and answered first question of research which is, how ideal conservative value portrayed by the main characters and setting in Forest Gum and second question how conservatism as political philosophy portrayed through era researcher find how conservatism stand as political philosophy in four decades of American history which the film sets and its effect to the characters.

Researcher concluded the films successfully created a narrative showing the how old value able triumph against new ideologies and shifting era as traditions and old values virtues behind it remain unchanged. Changes needed to improving human life and moral reasons, but we must thoughtful and careful facing change and as ideal for having good life and happiness remain unchanged no matter the era.

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