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VALUE OF HUMAN AFFECTION FOR PET IN FILM HACHIKO A DOG'S TALE BY LASSE HALLSTROM

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ABSTRAK: Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan nilai dan tindakan kasih sayang manusia terhadap hewan peliharaannya dalam film *Hachiko a Dog's Tale* karya Lasse Hallstom guna terciptanya hubungan kelekatan antara manusia dan hewan peliharaan lewat tokoh utama Parker dan Cate. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif untuk mendeskripikan nilai kasih sayang manusia terhadap hewan peliharaan. Penelitian ini fokus pada film *Hachiko a Dog's Tale* sebagai objek analisis, dan sebagai subjek analisis fokus pada tokoh utama Parker dan Cate.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukan bahwa nilai kasih sayang manusia (Parker dan Cate) terhadap hewan peliharaan (Hachi) adalah cinta dan kasih sayang, kekeluargaan, kepedulian dan pengorbanan. Sedangkan tindakan kasih sayang adalah bermain bersama, berpelukan, memberi makan, merawat dan mencari. Memelihara kasih sayang terhadap hewan peliharaan dapat dijadikan sebagai sarana rekreasi dengan cara bermain bersama hewan peliharaan, mengisi waktu luang dengan memandikan atau mengajak berjalan-jalan hewan peliharaan.

Kata kunci: kasih sayang, manusia, hewan peliharaan, film

ABSTRACT: The purposes of this study were to describe the values and acts of human affection for their pets in the film *Hachiko a Dog's Tale* by Lasse Hallstom in order to create an attachment relationship between humans and pets through the main characters Parker and Cate. This study used a qualitative descriptive method to describe the value of human affection for pets. This study focused on the film *Hachiko a Dog's Tale* as the object of analysis, and as the subject of analysis focused on the main characters Parker and Cate.

The results of this study indicate that the value of human affection (Parker and Cate) for pets (Hachi) is love and affection, kinship, concern and sacrifice. Acts of affection are playing together, cuddling, feeding, caring for and searching. Maintaining affection for pets can be used as a means of recreation by playing with pets, filling free time by bathing or taking pets for walks.

Key Words: affection, human, pet, film

INTRODUCTION

Social values usually refer to individuals with other individuals in a society. Social values are more emphasized as directions for achieving community social goals. Social values cannot be separated from a truth in behavior. According to Zubaedy (2011:48), social value itself is a set of individual attitudes that are valued as a truth and used as a standard of behavior in order to obtain a democratic and harmonious society. According to Witting, (2001:264) if human lives alone, the psychological things they feel are loneliness, boredom, stress and even depression. One of the social values contained in human life is the value of affection.

Affection is the basic foundation of social life and the claimant of life in realizing togetherness (Maslow, 2011:47). Affection is an emotional reaction to a person, animal, or thing. It shows warm attention, and may





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manifest in physical According to Bowlby (1982:8), affection does not only occur in humans, but can also be seen in domestic animals. Since time immemorial, humans have kept animals, whether it's for livestock or just to play with. By choosing a pet, humans can entertain themselves, due to the nature of animals that are funny, fun when invited to play and can be friends with various affections (McConnel, *et al.* 2011:1250). Based on Zubaedy theory (2011:48), the value of affection consists of love and affection, kinship, concern and sacrifice Pet is animals whose life is partly or wholly dependent on humans for certain purposes and purposes. According to Chen, *et al.* (2012:129), pets are animals that are tamed and taken care of by their owners, and have an emotional bond between them. Emotional bonds will form a relationship between humans and animals (Green, *at al.* 2009:34). This relationship has been widely studied and proven to have positive benefits for owners in terms of physical, psychological, and social welfare, which makes pet will become an increasingly important necessity in modern households.

Film as a part of mass media is very complex in nature. Films that consist of audio and visual have the ability to affect the audience's emotions from the visual images presented. Films are able to describe existing reality with imaginary images that can provide entertainment, reflection, and reflection for the audience or the public who witness it through the main character (Dancyger, 2011:3). Besides that, film has great power from an aesthetic point of view because it juxtaposes dialogue, music, scenery and action together visually and narratively. Therefore, films have their own charm to be enjoyed by the public and films are considered the most effective media in conveying messages through the characters contained in them, both social, cultural, political, and other messages (Marcel, 2014:12).

One type of film that discusses the value of affection for pets is film "Hachiko: a dog's tale". The film Hachiko: a dog's tale is a film in which it tells the story of a Japanese Akita-inu dog who is very loyal to his master. In this film, the audience is presented with how loyal a dog is to humans who give love to the dog. The film entitled Hachiko: a dog's tale directed by Lasse Hallstrom was released on March 16, 2010. In this film production starring Richard Gere (Parker) and Joanne Allen (Cate). In Japan, the story of Hachiko itself was filmed in 1987 under the title Hachiko Monagatari. Mutualism symbiosis between humans and pets is seen in this film.

Based on the background described above, the writer wants to discuss affection in this study with the title "Value of Human Affection for Pet in the Film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* by Lasse Hallstrom".

METHODS

The design of this study was descriptive qualitative. According to Creswell (2009:1), research design is plan and procedures for research to detailed methods of data collection and analysis. In this study there is one methods commonly used. In this study, the writer used descriptive qualitative method using examines the value of human affection for pets in a literary film entitled *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* by Lasse Hallstrom. As well as an describe of the human act affection for pets.

ANALYSIS

- A. Value of Human Affection for Pets in Film *Hachiko A Dog'sTale*.
- 1. Love and Affection





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Love is an emotion of strong affection and personal attraction. Every human being has a sense of love and affection towards fellow living beings It indicates that humans are social beings. According to Maslow (2011:28), the need for love or affection includes the need to have and be owned, as well as the need to give and receive the attention of others. Meanwhile, according to Zubaedy (2011:48), love is an action or active activity carried out by humans against other objects, in the form attention and helping.

In this study, it is known that the main character Parker has love and affection for pets in the form of attention and help. This can be seen when Parker came home from work to find a small Akita dog that got lost on the train platform. The dog looked confused and Parker felt sorry for him. He tried to look around him to see if the dog's owner was still around. Apparently, the dog was indeed a lost dog. However, in this film, it depicts the human affection for pets. This is evidenced by Parker words at the time. This is evidenced by Parker words at the time.

Parker : "Hey, buddy. Are you lost? Here. Are you lost here, my friend?"

Parker : "So, if you want to keep him here. It's only temporary until they come."

Station Guard : "No, I can't. I can't, professor."

Parker : (leaving the station and bringing Hachi to home)...

Cate : We have an agreement. Did you forget? No more dogs.

Parker : No, I didn't forget. He's at the station. He's lost. I'm just helping him.

Based on the parker conversation above in; "He's lost. I'm just helping him", it shows that Parker's love and affection for Hachi is very large. When he saw a stray dog, Parker tried to help. This shows that humans give love and affection not only to their own pets but also to other people pets. The purpose of Parker actions to help the lost Hachi is that every human being must give love and affection in the form of protection for pets.

In this study also show that Parker love and affection for Hachi is when Parker adopts Hachi as a part of his life. According to Maslow (2011:28) that love and affection include the need to have and be owned. It is revealed that in one day, Parker explained to Ken Fujiyoshi, a fellow Professor who was Japanese that Hachi could not take the ball. Ken explained to Parker that Hachi, a dog type *akita*, can't pick up the ball. He wants a dog to pick up the ball and find another dog. Parker has already had Hachi and doesn't want to find another dog. Then Parker and Hachi became closer and took Hachi wherever he went. This can be proven in the following conversation.

Parker : I threw the ball, he brought it back. But he didn't.

Ken Fujiyoshi : Not with akita, Parker.

Parker : What, they don't like to take the ball?

Ken Fujiyoshi : No, if you want a dog that can pick up the ball, look for a collie or springer spaniel.

Parker : No, Hachi is enough for me, that's okay.

Based on parker's words "No, Hachi is enough for me, it's okay", it \shows that Parker really loves Hachi. He can't replace other types of dogs. The reciprocal relationship between Parker and Hachi is so close that it creates a sense of belonging between both of them. Emotional attachment that is reciprocal can not only exist between humans but also between species, in this case is pet. By building good relationships with pets, pet





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owners feel comfortable and accept each other's shortcomings. At that time Cate to see Parker and *Hachi* playing, and at that moment Cate see Parker so happy playing with Hachi, Cate finally accepted Hachi in her life. This is evidenced by the following conversation

Kate : "Hello! The dog flyer, yes. Are you the owner? no one has taken it yet.

Unknown person : "we just want to make sure the dog has a proper place".

Cate : "(Watching parker and hachi playing) hello! Hey, son. The dog has already

taken it. Yes, I'm sorry."

Based on Cate conversation it shows that, every human being must have doubts about keeping pets. However, after humans build close relationships with pets, humans will realize that keeping pets has many benefits to one's psychology. Cate attention in accepting Hachi as her pet is a form of human love and affection for pets. Intimate relationships also occur in the process of interpersonal relationships between pets and humans which have components of emotional attachment, feelings of effectiveness and love, fulfillment of psychological needs from partners, such as sharing feelings, and feeling guaranteed security and interdependence between each to bring about a lasting and meaningful influence.

2. Kinship

Kinship is a feeling created by humans in order to strengthen the relationship between the two or groups so that a sense of affection or brotherhood arises. The value of affection in the form of kinship does not only occur between humans and humans but also with pets. By keeping pets, humans accept pets as part of their family and humans treat pets like humans.

The value of affection in the form of kinship is shown when Parkers considers his pet, *Hachi*, as one of his family member. It can be seen from Parker close calling to *Hachi*, namely "*child*". This shows the similarity of the behavior of parents towards their children. This can be seen from the words of Parker in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* is as follows.

Parker : "Be a good child. Stay there. Alright, you'll be fine"

Parker : "You're a punctual boy. Back home. Come on, son.

Based on the conversation above, it shows that Parker called Hachi as "child, boy and son", shows that Parker really feels that Hachi is very meaningful in his life. This shows that Parker really treats Hachi like a child.) In the 21st century, people see their dogs more as friends, even many owners who consider dogs as their children. The value of affection given by Parker shows that the relationship between humans and pets is very deep. This emotional bond will form a relationship between humans and pets so that it provides many positive benefits for owners both in terms of physical, psychological, and social welfare, where making pets will become an increasingly important need in modern households.

3. Concern

One of the values of human affection for pets is concern. Concern for pets is the responsibility of pet owners to their pets to ensure the welfare of pets. Concern for animals is not just keeping like animal farm owners must also pay attention to animal welfare (Rahmiati & Pribadi, 2014:54).





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In this study, human concern for pets which is depicted through the main character Parker in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* is known to have a seizure one night. Hachi was in his place which was outside the house. Therefore Parker went to meet Hachi and brought Hachi into the house to keep Hachi safe. This statement is evidenced by Parker words following:

Parker : "Hachi. Come here, man. Come on. Yes, you have to come in. It's not safe here. Let's go."

Based on Parker words "It's not safe here" above, it shows that Parker concern for Hachi is very large. Parker really cares about Hachi safety. When the wind was strong Parker came out and brought Hachi into the house. Parker actions show that by keeping pets, humans are not only feeding animals but also caring for pets from danger.

As for Parker concern for pets in this film, he is concerned about Hachi health, where Parker is massaging hachi while looking at the manual. This shows that humans have a concern for caring for pets and making sure pets stay in good health. This statement is proven by the following conversation below:

Parker daughter : "Dad, what are you doing?"

Parker : "I'm massaging the body. I'm following the instructions in the book."

Based in this study, Parker saying "I'm massaging the body. I'm following the instructions in the book.", it shows that Parker really concern about *Hachi's health*. Where did parker read the instructions in the book on how to massage. This shows that concern the health of pets is very important. Parker action shows that humans have a love for pets. Keeping animals is followed by demands in the form of an obligation to be responsible for the survival of their pets. Even pet owners must treat their animals humanely.

In this study also found that Parker's concern for pets is not only seen from the activities of keeping pets but also caring for abandoned pets. Based on the results of the study, the form of concern for abandoned animals described by Parker in the film *Hachiko a dog's tele* is when Parker comes home from work he finds a lost dog at the train station. The film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* then shows the origins of Hachi before he met Parker. It turns out that Hachi came from a temple located in the middle of a remote mountain in Japan. Hachi will actually be sent to an address in the United States. However, on the way Hachi box fell and the shipping address listed on the basket was also removed, leaving Hachi abandoned on the Station Platform. To protect abandoned animals, Parker helps bring back Hachi by making leaflets about a lost dog. This can be proven in the following conversation.

Parker : Hey, any news?

Station guard : No, no one came, no one showed up, no one called.

Parker : None? Strange. Very weird. I made flyers. Can you fix it for me?

Station guard : Okay I'll put it on.

Based on the conversation above, it shows that Parker concern for abandoned animals is a form of affection. Parker goal in making flyers about lost dogs is to return Hachi to his owner. Parker concern for abandoned hachi is a form of human affection for pets to keep bad things from happening to pets. The high population of abandoned dogs increases the dog chance of contracting rabies and if it is fatal, the number of people who die from rabies will increase (Chritine *et al.*, 2016:45).





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In this study analysis of the value of affection in the form of concern for pets in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* are also described through main character Cate. After 10 years of Parker death, Cate returns to visit the old area where she used to live. There, he saw *Hachi* who was still faithfully waiting for Parker at the station. With her faithfulness for *Hachi* Cate met *Hachi* and hugged him while crying and wanted to wait with *Hachi*. This is evidenced by what Cate said at the time.

Cate: "Hachi? You're old, and you've been waiting all this time. It is okay. If possible, I will wait for the next train with you. Yes? Thank you Oh Hachi."

Based on Cate's words "I will wait for the next train with you", it shows that Cate really cares about Hachi. Cate wanted to spend a little time with Hachi. Human concern that is depicted through the main character Cate in the film Hachiko A Dog's Tale, shows that concern for pets when seeing pets in sadness. After Parker death Hachi was always faithfully waiting for the station. When she saw Hachi sad because his master left, Cate felt cared for Hachi and wanted to wait with him.

In this studys show's that Parker and Cate care for Hachi pets are not only in daily activities of maintaining Hachi such as feeding, caring for, and providing shelter, but are also concerned and feel sorry for seeing pets experiencing sadness in isolation. Human care for pets which is described through the main character in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale*, shows that every human being has compassion and gives welfare to pets. Human faithfulness for pets is not only seen from the activity of keeping pets to ensure welfare, but also feeling concerned for pets whose masters have died which is a very strong bond of loyalty, such as Parker and *Hachi*.

4. Sacrifice

Sacrifice is an act to give up something that is usually shown by someone in the form of help and does not expect anything in return. Because concern is a gift based on a purely sincere and sincere moral awareness. Human sacrifice for pets is an act of sacrificing a job to be with their pets.

In this study, it is known the value of human affection for pets in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* in the form of a sacrifice depicted through the main character, when Parker was going to work suddenly *Hachi* went to follow him. To accompany the pet, Parker ends up missing the first train. After that Parker brought *Hachi* to home and waited for the next train. This is stated in the following dialogue:

Parker : "Hachi! What are you doing here? You have to go home, got it? Come on. No, go

home. Go home, let's go. I have to take the train. Let's go."

Train guard : "Professor, you want me to hold the carriage? All right, let's go. Want me to call a

taxi?"

Parker : No, I will take him home. That's okay".

Cate : "You will be dirty. I'll hoard it. You take the next train."

Parker : "Okay, thanks."

In this study, known that Cate words "You take the next train", indicate that Parker sacrifice to Hachi is very large. Parker has to leave work to keep his pet Hachi safe. The sacrifice of a job that parkers do is a decision taken to give human affection to pets. Parker feels Hachi safety is more important than any job. Human affection towards pets is not seen from nurturing activities such as giving love and affection, but also faithfulness. A person





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can faithfulness a job to keep his pet safe. Caring for animals is followed by demands in the form of an obligation to be responsible for the survival of their pets (Rahmiati & Pribadi, 2014:54).

B. Human Act Affection for Pets in Film Hachiko A Dog's Tale

1. Play together

Playing together is a human act of giving love to pets to always be cheerful. Based on the results of the analysis the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* is known to be an act of human affection for pets in the form of playing together as seen from the main character Parker inviting *Hachi* to play ball. This can be proven by Parker words as follows.

Parker : "Oh, this must be fun. All right, Hachi, this is what we're going to do. This is a ball.

Ball, throw. You go get it, you bring it here, got it. Understand? Are you ready?

Let's get the ball."

Based on the results of this study, which was shown in Parker speech, it showed that the form of expression of Parker affection for Hachi. In his spare time parker spends time playing with Hachi. Playing with Hachi is one of Parker acts of affection for pets. Parker act of affection in the form of playing together is an action taken to build a very close relationship with pets. Playing with pets shown by Parker actions in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* shows that playing with pets can replace other activities in spare time to increase boredom during work. According to Nepps *et al* (2011:137), playing together with pets can provide a substitute for meaningful activities.

Playing together is a human activity in caring for their pets. By playing with someone can overcome boredom and stress. In the picture, Parker spends his free time playing with *Hachi* in a park. This is done by Parker to overcome boredom during work. And playing with pets can also help restore one's health. This agrees with Setianingrum (2012:18) by carrying out animal raising activities, one can get three benefits, namely helping to restore health by implementing a healthy lifestyle such as taking walks or playing, helping to deal with stress by considering animals as entertainment and playmates.

2. Cuddling

Cuddling is an act of human affection for pets to maintain loyalty and affection for pets. Based on the results of this study, it was found that the actions taken by Parker main store were in the form of cuddling seen from when Parker left and came home from work. It is known that Parker longing for his pet *Hachi* is very strong. When going to work Parker said goodbye to his pet in the form of a hug. This can be proven by Parker's words.

Parker : "Okay, come here, come here, come here. Come on, come on. Okay. It doesn't matter. I'll meet you at 5:00, got it (while hugging Hachi)?"

This statement shows that Parker said goodbye to his pet Hachi when he went to work with one of the actions, namely hugging. Parker affection for Hachi by showing the act of hugging is a form of loyalty bond. The act of cuddling also aims to maintain loyalty to pets. Based on the results of the analysis of the main character's affectionate actions in the form of hugging in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale*, it can be seen in picture 4.12.

As for the cuddling act that Cate main shop gave to her pet *Hachi*. Where after Cate met with *Hachi* who had been separated for 10 years. To show affection for pets, Cate immediately hugged *Hachi* to treat the longing that had been separated for a long time.





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The act of cuddling Parker and Cate shows a form of human affection for pets. The act of cuddling a pet shows a bond of loyalty built by pet owners to maintain the loyalty of pets. The act of affection in the form of cuddling, indicates a form of farewell made by the pet owner when traveling or returning from a place. In this film, it shows that when Parker goes to work and comes home from work, he always cuddling for Hachi. This shows Parker affection for Hachi to build a bond of loyalty between both of them. While the act of cuddling that Cate did to Hachi was a form of longing for a pet that had been separated for 10 years. At that time Cate saw Hachi at the train station waiting for Parker who had died. To show her affection for her pet, Cate immediately cuddling Hachi at the train station.

Human affection in the form of cuddling their pets is a basic human need to love and be loved. The act of cuddling that Parker and Cate gave their pet *Hachi* was physical contact with pets to share affection with each other. This is in line with the physical contact aspect of the attachment assessment criteria, which states that bonded individuals must have intimate physical relationships such as staring at each other, hugging, kissing and physical contact (Yuniarti, 2008:9).

3. Feeding

Feeding, means humans provide proper food to their pets. The way that pet owners do to familiarize themselves with their pets is to feed them regularly (Arief, 2020:71). In this study, the act of human affection in the form of feeding which is described through the main characters Parker and Cate in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* can be seen from the words of the main characters Parker and Cate brought in.

Parker : "Okay here's your drink"

Cate : "Here eat it"

Human actions in the form of feeding their pets are a form of human responsibility in maintaining pets. Pets are an object of additional burden for humans. One of the burdens in question is a material burden. The material costs incurred by Parker and Cate are additional costs for feed, cages, health and other needs. According to Wolf *et al.*, (2008:410), there is a habit that occurs in the United States in the form of having pets willing to spend a lot of their money on the health of their pets.

Human activities in feeding pets are an action to maintain the survival of pets. Parker and Cate act of feeding Hachi is a form of affection for pets. This form of affection provides an illustration that the basic needs of pets such as food must be considered. In this study, it was found that the activities of Parker and Cate in feeding hachi can foster a sense of loyalty of pets to their masters. There is a sense that is more meaningful in Parker and Cate life because they can share food with their pet Hachi, which is a close relationship to happiness. All actions taken by humans are driven by the meaning of life that is in them (Jusmiati, 2017:16).

Feeding pets is an activity that must be carried out by pet owners to maintain the survival of pets. Pets are an object of additional burden for humans. One of the expenses is material in the form of additional costs for feed. Based on the results of the study, it was found that one day Parker went to work with Hachi. On the way Parker buys food for Hachi. Inside the train parker feeding for Hachi. This can be proven by the following conversation.

Jasjeet (hot dog seller) : Good morning, Mr. Professor.
Parker : 1 sugar, 2 cream, ready.





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Based on the conversation above shows that, Parker is buying food for Hachi. This shows that the additional burden in the form of material must be removed to meet the needs of Hachi feed. This is what Parker did because of the very close bond he had with Hachi. This parking act shows a form of affection for pets.

4. Caring for

Caring for is about making sure your pet is in good health. This can be achieved, for example, bathing, giving medicine when sick, cleaning the cage and so on. Based on the results of this study, it is known that the act of human affection in the form of caring for pets depicted through the main characters Parker and Cate in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* is bathing, massaging, and providing a proper place. This can be seen in the pictures below.

Caring for animals is not just keeping like animal farm, animal owners must also pay attention to the welfare of animals. There are many things that must be met by animal owners to ensure their pets are happy. Keeping pets is followed by demands in the form of an obligation to be responsible for the survival of their pets. It is the place to spend a lot of money to ensure the welfare of pets.

The activity of caring for pets carried out by Parker and Cate is a form of human responsibility in caring for pets. In this study it was found that Parker and Cate took care of Hachi by providing a proper cage, bathing and massaging. This is to keep Hachi healthy. In keeping pets, of course, it is not easy to have cohesion in maintaining the survival of pets, including cleaning the cage, bathing and situations where the pet is sick. However, keeping a pet Hachi is a form of Parker and Cate responsibility so that they are patient with it.

5. Searching

Searching is an attempt to get (find, get) something. In this study, it is known that the affectionate act of looking for a pet that the main character Parker does in the *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* movie is that when Parker comes home from work, he does not find Hachi at the train station where Hachi is always waiting for him. This can be proven by the following conversation.

Parker: "Hachi. Cate did you see Hachi? He's not at the station.

Based on the conversation above, it shows that the Parker care and concern for his pet is very large. Parker commitment to nurturing Hachi will of course form an emotional bond that lasts between the two of them. Parker concern about Hachi who doesn't appear at the station as usual, makes him feel anxious and looks for Hachi. According to Sugita (2005:43), pets can fulfill human needs for attachment, opportunities for development, social integration, and other emotional needs. Pets act as attachment figures for humans. This is evident from the anxious and sad behavior when the owner separates or loses his pet.

The act of searching for a pet depicted through the main character Parker shows that, in maintaining a pet, humans must feel sad if the pet leaves or is lost. Therefore a form of human concern he will go and look for his pet. One of the actions of humans looking for pets shows a form of affection for pets for fear of losing them. According to Yuniarti (2008:12), the attachment relationship between humans and pets can be seen from crying and searching behavior, when the individual is separated from the attached figure.





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CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis of the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* related to the value of human affection for pets depicted through the main characters Parker and Cate, it can be concluded as follows:

- 1. Value of human affection for pet depicted through the main character Parker and Cate in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* is love and affection, kinship, concern, and sacrifice.
- 2. Act of human affection for pet depicted through the main character in the film *Hachiko A Dog's Tale* is play together, cuddling, feeding, caring for and searching.

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