

BAGUS WIJOSENO

121141028

ABSTRACT

This study aims to show the deconstruction readings of the Sam Harris' *The End of Faith*. Using Derridean deconstruction, this study is begun by firstly tracing and reproducing the operating binary oppositions produced within the text. Its logical consistencies in constructing the oppositions are therefore to be tested and verified. This study focuses only on the narrations produced within the text.

Using qualitative-descriptive method, this study is designed to understand the phenomena discussed in *The End of Faith* by descriptively discussing it through words and sentences. Data collection techniques used in this study consist of: (1) Taking notes; (2) Data reduction; (3) Presenting data; (4) Interpreting data; and (5) Concluding data. Data analysis techniques used in this study are: (a) data reconstruction, and (b) analysis.

The findings reveal some problems of consistency in the binary oppositions the author has produced within the text. There are inconsistencies in the author's world view in proposing Islamic fundamentalism, and its unique manifestation of its scriptural literalism method in interpreting The Quran, as the "default setting" in Islam. By deconstructing that scriptural literalism is a product of rational and moral failures, it is then concluded that "*Freedom of belief [in defining Islam through scriptural literalism] is a myth*". There are also inconsistencies in discussing minority vs. majority distributed in two different themes within the text; the relation between Islamic moderation type B (minority) vs. Islamic fundamentalism and Islamic moderation type A (majorities), and the relation between consensual truth (usually held by majority) vs. realistic/ factual truth (usually and initially held by minority). Based on the nature of realistic truth, the deconstructive reading reveals the author's unconscious and unintended support towards Islamic minority.

Keywords: *Deconstruction, binary oppositions, authorial intentions, and consistency.*