ABSTRACT

THE POLITICS OF SELF PRESENTATION

(Study of Dramaturgical Political Marketing)

The strength of political marketing dramaturgy is on the self, not the role of an actor. There is an actor who plays the role enchantingly, however when the role is played by another actor, suddenly the enchantment is lost. Therefore, the real strength of dramaturgy belongs to the actors, not the roles. Roles may be replaceable, because the most important one is not the role, but the actors’ performance, self-presentation by the actors to play the role.

This dissertation finds that the positioning of front stage and back stage has an opposite relation, indeed, the back stage of actors might turns into the front stage, this turning or changing process is not continually done by internal actors or team mates, however the changing or turning process is done by external actors or audiences, out of the team work.

The existance of new stage called quasi stage, stage belongs to the actors and audiences who have no roles on dramaturgical event, however in a certain time this stage creates its own role which is able to turn over the prepared “plot”. This quasi stage is different from the outer stage, which is viewed on dramaturgical theory.

Displacement of impression management objectives is also found, formerly aimed to create a good impression to the audiences, but eventually a bad impression comes, therefore an unclarity happens between self-presentation of real and imitation actors.

The presentation of self becomes a tool for actors to bring political objectives into reality, intensively, the presentation of self is done symbolically to mobilize the
support from society. Self reinforcement of an actor is done by creating self impression. The presentation of self begins from identity-based and interest-based.

The existence of political marketing brings out serious implications to the growth of democracy. There are two assumptions about it. Firstly, the assumption comes from people who are scornful to the political marketing practice. Secondly, the assumption comes from people who practice and implement political marketing, their argument is to fulfill what society wants, so that they contribute to increase the quality of general election.

*Keywords*: presentation of self, dramaturgy, political marketing.