

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

**CHALLENGING STIGMATIZATION OF TEEN MOTHERS: A
CRITICAL LOOK ON *MTV TEEN MOM***



BY

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
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**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Sarjana
Degree of English Departement, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas
Airlangga**

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2022

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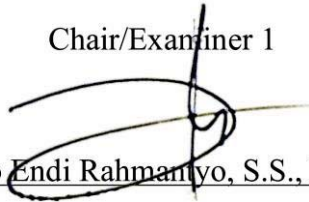


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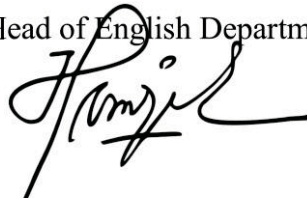
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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated
To The Almighty God, Allah.
to my beloved Uma and my late father, Buya,
to the person who put in the most time and effort on this work.

This is for you

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Surabaya, 07 July 2022

Chodijatus Zakiah

**“Don’t try to live up to other people’s expectations. I want you to live
by your own values and take your own small steps forward, one at a
time”**

-Kwon Soon Young, Seventeen.

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ABSTRACT

Teen mothers are still stigmatized nowadays. They are vulnerable to being stigmatized, especially because of their gender and age backgrounds. For that reason, MTV has produced the reality show "*MTV Teen Mom*," in which they attempt to counter the stigmatization of teen mothers. The media platform that *MTV Teen Mom* uses to promote their show is a big platform. The aim of the study is to discover how *MTV Teen Mom* challenges the stigmatization of teen mothers. Therefore, Erving Goffman's theory of Stigma was applied in this study. The primary data for this study is derived from the screenshots of video scenes that were taken from the videos that were uploaded on YouTube under the name "*MTV's Teen Mom*". The data is then classified based on three stigma categories: Social, Personal, and Future Life. The results indicate incorrect stigma given to teen mothers. As a teen mom, Chelsea shows that she got support from her family and friends, is responsible for her life and child, finished her education, and has successes in her career which erase the negative stigma of teen mothers. Instead of showing the negative side of teen mothers and creating a negative stigma about teen mothers, the writer found that *MTV Teen Mom* showed the positive side of teen mothers and successfully challenged the stigma of teen mothers in Social, Personal, and Future Life stigma.

Keywords: *Mothers, MTV Teen Mom, Reality show, Stigma*

ABSTRAK

Ibu remaja masih di stigmatisasi hingga saat ini. Ibu remaja rentan di stigmatisasi, terutama karena latar belakang gender dan usia mereka. Oleh karena itu, MTV memproduksi reality show "*MTV Teen Mom*", di mana mereka berusaha untuk melawan stigmatisasi ibu remaja. Media yang digunakan *MTV Teen Mom* untuk mempromosikan acara mereka juga merupakan sebuah platform besar. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan bagaimana *MTV Teen Mom* menantang stigmatisasi ibu remaja. Oleh karena itu, teori Stigma dari Erving Goffman diterapkan dalam penelitian ini. Data primer penelitian ini diperoleh dari cuplikan adegan video yang diambil dari video-video yang mereka unggah di YouTube dengan nama "*MTV's Teen Mom*". Data tersebut kemudian diklasifikasikan berdasarkan tiga kategori stigma: Sosial, Pribadi, dan Kehidupan Masa Depan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan stigma yang salah diberikan kepada ibu remaja. Sebagai ibu remaja, Chelsea menunjukkan bahwa ia mendapat dukungan dari keluarga dan teman-temannya, bertanggung jawab atas hidup dan anaknya, menyelesaikan pendidikannya, dan kesuksesan dalam karirnya yang menghapus stigma negatif ibu remaja. Alih-alih menampilkan sisi negatif ibu remaja dan menciptakan stigma negatif tentang ibu remaja, penulis menemukan bahwa *MTV Teen Mom* menunjukkan sisi positif ibu remaja dan berhasil menantang stigma ibu remaja pada stigma tentang Sosial, Pribadi, Kehidupan Masa Depan.

Kata Kunci: *Acara realita, Ibu remaja, MTV Teen Mom, Stigma*