

## ABSTRACT

Nowadays, the problem about identity has become a study which is mostly discussed in the scope of social science. However, the discussed problem is still rotating in race, ethnic, gender, homosexual (gay and lesbian), and religion. While the problem of handicapped people identity get less consideration if it is compared with the other problems which are mentioned before.

In the other problem, Erving Goffman is actually one of the “discoverer” in discussing the theories of Sociology, but the thoughts of Goffman are seldom discussed especially in Indonesia. Therefore, the rearch takes the topic of handicapped people identity by using the theory framework of Erving Goffman with his three concepts that are self, identity, and stigma.

The methodology which used in this research is Qualitative Research Methodology that has the paradigm of interpretive with the focus on Erving Goffman’s symbolic interactions that is the deeper study about self presentation, impression management, and dramaturgy. The subject of this research handicapped people with physical or body defect (tunadaksa) and vision defect (tunanetra) which are determined purposively and then interviewed using indepth interview, where the researcher not only doing the interview but also observation. After the interview has done, the next step is do the mapping toward the result of the data, that is the classification of data based on the concepts for the next misanalysis by using the theory framework just like mentioned before.

Based on the discovery and analysis of the data, we can conclude that the handicapped people try to free from the negative stigma which is labeled by the society to them. In order to be freed from the negative stigma, they use self presentation which contains a strategy to show themselves. It can be certain that the construction of handicapped people identity is their awareness of their disability but they try to show the other good and attractive things in theme besides their disability. Because they hope that the society can free the negative label from them.

Key words: Handicapped people, Goffman, Self, Identity, Stigma, Dramaturgy, Impression Management, Self Presentation.