

ABSTRACT

This research was conducted to find out the patterns of communication that used by lesbian community in Cilacap. The purpose of this research was conducted to find out motives that form the backdrop of lesbian community to understand the real life of lesbian community and to describe the patterns of communication that used by lesbian community to their self and to other people.

This research uses qualitative with a phenomenological approach in dramaturgy and symbolic interaction. Sampling technique used was Snowball-sampling, with the total number of six woman interviewees. The data was analyzed by Miles and Huberman models.

Based on the result of the research, five of six interviewees decide to be a lesbian because the family that not harmonious, while others become a lesbian just out of curiosity. Through the theory of dramaturgy and symbolic interaction used in this research, Lesbians have difficulty in portraying their identity as lesbians because of the negative view always given by the general public, so that they play a role to remain acceptable in the general environment.

The conclusion of this study is that the lesbian community keeps communicating with other people but still closes themselves to the identity of those who are considered deviant, but will be open when they are gathered with fellow lesbians. Effective communication will occur when they interact with other lesbians by using gestures, gazes and specific signals that only lesbians can understand.

Keywords : *Lesbian, motive, communication pattern, dramaturgy, symbolic interaction*