

# **The power relations between adults and children portrayed in Judy Blume's *Blubber*, *Superfudge*, and *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret*,**

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## ABSTRACT

This study aims to 1). uncover the power relations of adults – children in Judy Blume's 3 novels entitled *Blubber*, *Superfudge*, and *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret*, and 2). identify how these power relations are developed in those three novels.

This study uses a qualitative content analysis method by paying careful attention to the expressions used in the three novels relating to the topic of power relations of adults-children. Peer debriefing techniques are applied in this study in order to achieve the validity of the research results.

The result shows that: 1). the power relations between adults and children portrays in Judy Blume's novels appear in adult domination toward children, in the form of control over the children and in the form of oppression toward the children. Those children are abused by the adults in three ways, namely verbally, physically and psychologically. Psychological oppression itself is in the form of neglect, rejection, exclusion and rejection toward children's opinion. Another form of power relations between adults – children is in egalitarian form. In this form of relations, the position of adults – children tends to be parallel. Children begin to be trusted because they are considered to be able to know what is the best for them, they are also believed to have been able to find solutions in solving problems, and children are considered cooperative. 2). Regarding the way Blume describing power relations in her three novels, researchers find out that the issues of power relations are depicted through the characters' action and speech. In other words, character is an intrinsic element which dominates the delivery of realities of power issues between adults and children.

Kata Kunci: *children's literature, power relations, adults, children.*