

**ANALYSIS OF THE MEANING OF MOTIVATION IN THE LYRICS  
OF THE SONG "FIX YOU" BY COLDPLAY**

**THESIS**



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**ANALYSIS OF THE MEANING OF MOTIVATION IN THE  
LYRICS OF THE SONG "FIX YOU" BY COLDPLAY**

**THESIS**

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## LEGITIMATION SHEET

The thesis was approved by the Dean of Faculty of Language, Social and Sport Education at Education University of Muhammadiyah Sorong.

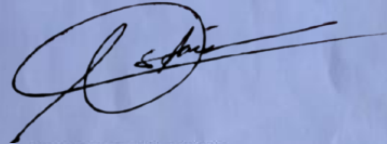
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I hereby declare that the thesis there is no work ever submitted for a degree in a college, and as long as my knowledge also does not have works of literature ever written or published by others, except as in writing referenced in this text is mentioned in the bibliography.

Sorong, November 23<sup>th</sup> 2024

My Sincelery



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## **MOTTO AND DEDICATION**

### **MOTTO:**

Success is not final; failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts.

-Winston Churchill

### **DEDICATION:**

I proudly dedicate this thesis especially for:

My beloved one in my life, they are: Mr.Maurits Djitmau & Mrs.Ribka Muabuay, As well as loved ones for their support, and My Almamater Unimuda Sorong

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First of all, the researcher gave thanks to God, for with his blessing the researcher could complete this thesis, with the title " Analysis of The Meaning of Motivation in The Lyrics of The Song 'Fix you' by Coldplay," which was submitted to fulfill the partial requirements for the degree of sarjana education. Because of that, the researcher said thank you to all individuals who helped in the process of writing this thesis. Hopefully, God replied to all the help and blessed everyone. The researcher realized that this thesis was still imperfect in arrangement and content. The researcher hoped that the criticism from the readers could help in perfecting the next thesis. Lastly, but not least, hopefully, this thesis could help readers to increase their knowledge about how to understand the meaning contained in a song lyric using Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic analysis. Therefore, the researcher would like to express appreciation to everyone, especially to:

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5. A big thank you to my beloved parents who always provide great inspiration and motivation to dare to dream.

Sorong, November 23<sup>th</sup> 2024

My Sincelery

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maya', written in a cursive style.

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## ABSTRACT

**Maya Aprilince Djitmau/148820320020, 2024.** Analysis of The Meaning of Motivation in The Lyrics of The Song 'Fix you' by Coldplay. **Thesis, English Education Department, Faculty of Education, Language, Social and Sport, Education university of Muhammadiyah Sorong. November 2024.**

This objective of this research to find out the motivational meaning contained in the lyrics of the song 'fix you' by coldplay. using Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic analysis. Data analysis in this research referred to the effort to find meaning in the signs contained in the lyrics of the song popularized by Coldplay, using Saussure's semiotic approach to understand the motivational meaning of the lyrics. Subsequently, data analysis was conducted by dividing the entire song lyrics into several stanzas. Using Saussure's semiotic theory, which focused on the way signs (in this case, words) relate to the research object, the theoretical model directed attention specifically to the sign itself. The author then discovered the actual meaning of the words by dividing the entire song lyrics into several stanzas. Each stanza of the song lyrics was analyzed using Saussure's semiotic theory, which included the elements of signifier and signified. These elements were separated, making it easier for the author to interpret the lyrics of the song popularized by Coldplay, which were then related to the social reality present at the time the creator composed the song. This research was conducted in Sorong, Southwest Papua, Indonesia This research concludes that the The motivational meaning in Coldplay's song "Fix You" was that we must learn to accept every challenge in life with sincerity and believe that God was always with us in any situation. God would replace every bad or sad problem in our lives with other good things, even better ones.

**Keywords: Motivational Meaning in the Lyrics, Semiotic ferdinand de Saussure**



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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Problem

Humans are social creatures who need communication to interact with fellow humans. Music is a medium that can be used to convey communication messages. The role of music as a medium for conveying messages is one of the reasons why there is so much music loved by various groups. According to KBBI A message is an order, request, advice, mandate or similar to be conveyed by to another individual. A song writer uses music as a means of communicating by telling a message or experience he has experienced, using word play and language creating a unique appeal and style to the song's lyrics. So that listeners can understand what the message of the song is, then the songwriter will adjust the vocals, word choice, and music melody for ease understood.

Music becomes a container or medium, while the lyrics contained in it play a role in expressing feelings to the listener. Therefore, lyrics are very important in a song, because someone can express what they have experienced and can motivate the listener. In this life we always motivate ourselves to be better than what we did before, not only in the world of work we have to be motivated to be better but in everyday life. Motivation has a strategic role in a person's activities. No one does activities without motivation. No motivation means no activity. In order for the role of motivation to be more optimal, the principles of motivation must not only be known but also must be applied in everyday life. In general, the definition or understanding of motivation can be interpreted as a goal or

encouragement, with the actual goal being the main driving force that comes from a person or from other people in trying to get or achieve what they want, whether positive or negative. Songs that contain motivational elements can help people who listen to it to be able to move forward in living your life. Song lyrics can provide inspiration, encouragement, advice, and help remind us of the goals we want to achieve. Song lyrics can also help in processing the emotions that are being felt. When we listen to songs that reflect our feelings, we can gain a better understanding of what we are experiencing, so we can find healthy ways to deal with what you are feeling

Through music, music creators (musicians) have the aim of being able to convey, entertain and share their experiences with other people (Prasanti, 2016). Music has become a place or means, while the lyrics in it function to express feelings towards it. Therefore, lyrics are very important in a song (Qusairi, 2017).

Music can help motivate people by reducing stress and fatigue, stimulating the brain, and increasing physical activity such as listening to music while exercising, singing and dancing with other people, and can be a powerful motivator. The motivational impact of music can increase mood, changing the mindset and behavior of listeners.

In this research, researchers analyzed the meaning of motivation contained in the lyrics of the song by the music group Coldplay entitled 'Fix You' Coldplay was an alternative rock band from England, which was formed in London in 1997. Their members are Chris Martin (vocals, guitar, piano), Guy Berryman (bass), Jonny Buckland (lead guitar) and Will Champion (drums).

In this research, researchers used semiotic analysis Ferdinand de Saussure.

According to Ferdinand de Saussure , semiotic studies are more direct on the decomposition of sign systems related to linguistics. Semiotic analysis seeks to find the hidden meaning behind a sign (news, text, advertisement) because sign systems are contextual and depend on the use of signs. Song lyrics in music are a component that was able to spread messages to audiences where this message can be an outpouring of the heart or aspirations related to the background of the song writer.

The same thing was also said by Ullman (1972: 14) that the science that specifically studies sign systems is semiotics. Signs become a link for humans when communicating with each other. to understand the motivational meaning contained in the lyrics of the song "Fix you", the researchers uses semiotic analysis from Ferdinand de Saussure which explores sign systems and concepts. The signs contained in the lyrics of the song "fix you" will be analyzed using the aspects of signifier, signified, and meaning. Signifiers can be interpreted as meaningful sounds and images, while signified are defined as the concept or image of a signifier.

## **1.2 Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the research problem above, the researcher formulates the research question as follow:

What motivational message is in the song lyrics 'Fix you'?

## **1.3 Objective of the Research**

The objective of this research is to find out the meaning of motivation contained in the lyrics of the song "Fix You" by Coldplay

## **1.4 Significance of the Research**

The results of this research could give a contribution in further research so that it could be used as a development of scientific work, which could be used as literature or a reference source in relevant research, and could serve as a reference for those who wanted to get information about semiotics. It could also provide direction that offered motivation to a listener in understanding the meaning of a song.

## **1.5 Operational Definition**

For this research, the researcher limited the research by using two variables as follows: Semiotics and lyrics. Analytical semiotics was semiotics that analyzed the sign system. Pierce stated that the objectives of semiotics were signs and their analyzers, which could be divided into ideas, objects, and meanings. Ideas could be associated as symbols, while meaning was the burden contained in symbols that referred to other objects. The lyrics of the song were the subject of this research. Song lyrics in music were components that could spread messages to the public. This message could be in the form of an outpouring of the heart or aspirations regarding the songwriter's background.

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), a song was defined as a variety of rhythmic sounds. Since the advent of the song, many songwriters had used words that contained semiotic elements as metaphors or signs, which indicated that the lyrics of the song had broad meanings.

## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Motivation

Motivation was the inner drive or desire that compelled a person to take action or behave in a certain way to achieve a goal or fulfill a need. It was a psychological force that influenced what we did, why we did it, and how much effort we put into it. Motivation was also an inner drive or desire that forced a person to take certain actions or behaviors to achieve a goal or fulfill a need. These were psychological forces that influenced what we did, why we did it, and how much effort we put into it. Motivation played a crucial role in achieving personal, academic, and professional success. It could be influenced by factors like goals, emotions, environment, and individual values.

Motivation could stem from a variety of sources. People might have been motivated by external incentives, such as the motivation to work for compensation, or internal enjoyment, such as the motivation to create artwork in one's spare time. Other sources of motivation included curiosity, autonomy, validation of one's identity and beliefs, creating a positive self-image, and the desire to avoid potential losses. People often had multiple motives for engaging in any one behavior. Motivation might have been extrinsic, whereby a person was inspired by outside forces other people or rewards. Motivation could also have been intrinsic, whereby the inspiration came from within the desire to.

Two psychologists, Edward Deci and Richard Ryan, spent some time thinking about why we did the things we did. According to their theory called

Self-Determination Theory, they proposed that there were really only two motivations: extrinsic and intrinsic.

Intrinsic motivation came from within the self. People did things because they were interested for interest's sake, because at their authentic core they wanted to, or because they felt a higher calling toward an action.

Directly opposed to intrinsic motivation was extrinsic motivation. People did things because they wanted to get attention, fit in and be like everyone else, or achieve status and recognition. Most actions were motivated both intrinsically and extrinsically. Thus, there was a tug of war between extrinsic and intrinsic motivations. Some actions were motivated completely by the authentic core of a person, while other actions were motivated completely by the need to survive and fit in. Most actions, however, were a combination of the two. For example, the motivation to lose weight: on the intrinsic side, the motivation was to have fun exercising and experience a bit of an endorphin high. On the extrinsic side, the motivation was to get fit, receive compliments, and be more liked by others.

### **2.1.1 Types of Motivation**

#### **a). Intrinsic motivation**

was a drive that came purely from within; it was not due to any anticipated reward, deadline, or outside pressure. For example, people who were intrinsically motivated to run did so because they loved the feeling of running itself, and it was an important part of their identity. Extrinsic motivation could increase motivation in the short term, but over time it could wear down or even backfire. By contrast,



intrinsic motivation was powerful because it was integrated into identity and served as a continuous source of motivation.

Intrinsic motivation implied that a person was motivated from within, i.e., he wanted to achieve his goals or meet his ends because it gave him joy, satisfaction, and natural interest, rather than doing it for the sake of rewards or recognition, which was the case in extrinsic motivation.

People accomplished great things because they were intrinsically motivated, and it never faded, while extrinsically motivated people might have found it difficult to continue for so long and were more disposed to depression when they failed to achieve their goals.

The three main elements of intrinsic motivation were autonomy, purpose, and mastery. People were intrinsically motivated when they could act independently, felt that their efforts mattered, and gained satisfaction from becoming more skilled.

Intrinsic motivation could be contrasted with extrinsic motivation, which involved engaging in a behavior to earn external rewards or avoid punishment.

In psychology, intrinsic motivation distinguished between internal and external rewards. In *Introduction to Psychology: Gateways to Mind and Behavior With Concept Maps*, the authors offered a definition:

"Intrinsic motivation occurred when we acted without any obvious external rewards. We simply enjoyed an activity or saw it as an opportunity to explore, learn, and actualize our potentials."

Consider for a moment your motivation for reading that thesis. If you read it because you had an interest in psychology and simply wanted to know more about the topic of motivation, then you acted based upon intrinsic motivation.

But you might have read it because you had to learn the information for a class and wanted to avoid getting a bad grade. Then you acted based upon extrinsic motivation.

Intrinsic factors of motivation referred to the internal drives that encouraged individuals to engage in activities for their own sake, rather than for external rewards or pressures. These factors were rooted in personal satisfaction, interest, and the inherent enjoyment of the task itself. Key intrinsic factors included:

1. **Autonomy:** The desire to have control over one's own actions and decisions. When individuals felt they had the freedom to choose how to approach a task, their motivation increased.
2. **Mastery:** The drive to improve skills and achieve competence in a particular area. People were motivated by the challenge of learning and mastering new abilities.
3. **Purpose:** The sense that what one was doing had significance or contributed to a larger goal. When individuals saw their work as meaningful, they were more likely to be motivated.
4. **Interest:** A natural curiosity or fascination with a subject or activity. When individuals found a task enjoyable or engaging, they were more likely to pursue it.

5. Self-Determination: The need to feel that one was acting according to their own values and interests, rather than being controlled by external forces.

Intrinsic motivation was often linked to higher levels of creativity, persistence, and overall satisfaction in activities, whether in educational settings, workplaces, or personal pursuits.

b). Extrinsic motivation

External motivators were compliments, getting attention, awards, extra pay, certificates, passing tests, and being seen as powerful. These reasons for doing something weren't effective because they were dependent on the external world. As a rule, people had no control over others. Whether or not they received an award depended on someone else's opinion. They couldn't control whether or not their parents liked them, their date liked them, their boss liked them, or their co-workers liked them. When people were only motivated extrinsically, they were at the whim of someone else's opinion.

Narcissists were totally extrinsically motivated, so they needed to develop intrinsic motivation. Narcissists needed to know who they were at their core, authentically. Doing what they had to do to be liked by others, narcissists were motivated to put on a facade that others would like. By doing so, narcissists lost themselves in the pleasing of others. They had so many facades that they didn't know their own likes and dislikes; beliefs and disbeliefs; accomplishments and failures; qualities and limitations; and hopes and fears.

Contrary to narcissists were loners. Loners had developed their intrinsic motivations but lacked any desire to impress. They created great works of art that

they never shared. They had great ideas that were never written down. All loners were only motivated by intrinsic motivation. The learning was enough, the thinking was enough, the feeling was enough. All the same, this state of detachment was pathological. Loners denied the world their brilliance because they didn't need attention, awards, extra pay, or any form of external validation. Loners needed to embrace the joys of getting attention, receiving praise, and the fruits of external success.

In conclusion, motivation was the desire to take action. There were only two main motivations: the intrinsic and the extrinsic. Sometimes, if they weren't in balance, these two motivators could interfere with each other. Behaviorism had been the main theory for motivation, and behaviorists denied the internal world, which was probably why, as a culture, people were so focused on external rewards. If people were only motivated by external validation, then that motivation was pathological. Similarly, if they were only motivated by the internal, then that motivation was pathological.

Extrinsic motivation was any reason someone did work other than the joy of doing the work itself. Anything promised for completing the task or received as a result of completing the task were extrinsic motivators. An extrinsic motivator needed three elements to be successful, according to research by psychologist Victor Vroom: expectancy (believing that increased effort would lead to increased performance), instrumentality (believing that better performance would be noticed and rewarded), and valence (wanting the reward that was promised).

Extrinsic motivation referred to the behavior of individuals to perform tasks and learn new skills because of external rewards or the avoidance of

punishment. In this case, people engaged in behavior not because they enjoyed it or found it appealing or satisfying, but to obtain something of value in return or avoid something unpleasant.

## **2.2 Semiotic**

### **2.2.1 Definition of Semiotic**

Semiotics, or the science of semiotics, was the study of signs and symbols and their use and interpretation. Semiotics was a tool that was important to understand communication and the use of signs and symbols in communication. In everyday life, signs appeared in various forms, and communication occurred through signs. The basic of all communication was signs. The semiotic way of communication was widely used in various contexts to deliver a message, in which the meaning significantly depended on the interrelation between context and semiotics itself. The realization of semiotics was always found in the song lyrics, which functioned to describe the meaning contained in the song and could be continued with other lyrics. According to Ferdinand de Saussure, the semiotic study was more directed at the decomposition of sign systems related to linguistics. Semiotic analysis sought to find the hidden meaning behind a sign (news, text, advertisement) because the sign system was contextual and depended on the use of the sign.

Ferdinand de Saussure (1857-1913) was a linguist, semiotician, and Swiss philosopher who laid the foundation for many developments in linguistics and semiotics in the 20th century. Ferdinand de Saussure established his reputation by contributing to comparative linguistics with his work “*Mémoire sur le système primitif des voyelles dans les langues indo-européennes.*” In it, he explained that

the structure and rules of language could not be the sole determinant of meaning and value in any social system. The basic principle of Ferdinand de Saussure's theory stated that language was a sign system, and each sign consisted of two parts: the signifier and the signified. A sign was the unity of a form of signifier with an idea or concept.

### **2.2.2 Types of Semiotics**

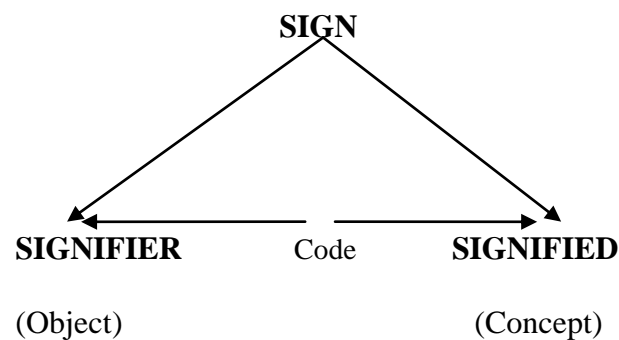
There are 4 semiotic concept theories according to Ferdinand de Saussure, namely: Signifier and Signified, Langue and Parole, Synchronic and Diachronic, Syntaxmatic and Paradimatic, there are four semiotic concept theories of Ferdinand de Saussure. and the one that will be used in this study is the first type, namely Signifier and Signified.

#### **a. Signifier and Signified**

For Saussure, language was a system of signs that consisted of two inseparable aspects. Saussure proposed the theory that every sign or linguistic sign was composed of two components: the signifier and the signified. The relationship between the signifier and the signified was very close, as they formed an inseparable unity. The signifier was the sound image or psychological impression of a sound that arose in our minds, while the signified was the concept or impression of meaning present in our minds. Therefore, a sign was a combination of a concept and an acoustic image (Hamzah, 2020). The signified referred to meaningful sounds or meaningful symbols. Thus, the signified was the material aspect of language: what was said or heard and what was written or read. On the

other hand, the signifier was the mental aspect of language. It was important to note that in concrete linguistic signs, these two elements could not be separated.

Ferdinand de Saussure (1857-1913) explained semiotics in *Course in General Linguistics* as 'the science that studied the role of signs as part of social life.' Implicit in this definition was a relationship, meaning that if signs were a part of social life, there was a sign system and a social system, both of which were interconnected. In this context, Saussure talked about the social conventions that regulated the social use of signs, including the selection, combination, and use of signs in a certain way, giving them meaning and social value (Sobur, 2016).



For example, when someone said the word 'dog' (signifier) with a cursing tone, it signified misfortune (signified). In Saussure's view, language was like a musical composition. To understand a symphony, one had to consider the entirety of the musical work and not focus on the individual performances of each musician. To understand language, it had to be viewed 'synchronously' as a network of connections between sound and meaning. One should not look at it atomistically or individually (Sobur, 2016: 44).

### **2.2.3 Components of Semiotics**

The explanation of the three semiotic components is as follows (Danesi, 2010:4):

- a. Signs are part of semiotics which marks something or something circumstances to explain or notify the object to the subject. In this case the sign always points to something real, for example, objects, events, writing, language, actions, events, and other forms of signs
- b, The symbol is a thing or situation that leads the understanding of the subject to object. The relationship between subject and object is hidden by understanding inclusion. A symbol is always associated with the signs that have been given cultural, situational, and conditional traits.
- c. Gesture is a thing or condition given by the subject to object. In this state the subject always does something to inform to the object signaled at that time. So, always temporal (time). When suspended use, the signal will turned into a sign or symbol. All three (signs, symbols, and gestures) there are nuances, namely very small differences regarding language, color and etc.

### **2.3 Song Lyric**

Song lyrics were a medium for conveying ideas or suggestions from a songwriter to listeners. Lyrics were literary works in the form of poetry that contained the outpouring of the heart, as a composition of a song (Moeiliono, 2007: 628). In expressing their emotions, songwriters used words and language that could create charm and characteristic to the lyrics they wrote. These were



then reinforced with a melody that had been synchronized with the lyrics. Through the song lyrics, the message conveyed could create various meanings.

Song lyrics had two meanings, explained in Moeliono (2007: 628). As follows, song lyrics as literary works in the form of poetry contained the outpouring of the heart, as a composition of a song. To use a lyric, a poet had to be clever in processing words. The word song had meanings as various kinds of rhythmic sounds (2007:624).

The song lyrics were the result of a combination of language arts and sound arts, as an involving sound art work that included the singer's voice color and melody. Music became a container or medium, while the lyrics contained in it played a role in expressing feelings for the listener. Therefore, lyrics were very important in a song, because someone could express what they had experienced and could provide motivation for the listener.

Songs that contained motivational elements could help people who listened to them to continue moving forward in life. Song lyrics could provide inspiration, encouragement, advice, and remind us of the goals we wanted to achieve. Lyrics had similarities with poems, but the difference was that in lyrics, there was also a unique specificity because the pouring of ideas through lyrics was strengthened by melodies and types of rhythms that were adjusted to the lyrics and the singer's voice color.

### **2.3.1 Types of Lyrics**

According to (Space Lawyer, 2022) lyrics generally fall into three types: Narratives, Lyrical, and Instrumentals

1. Narrative lyrics, kind of obviously, focus on a narrative. They tell a story. Usually, we see characters and a setting and some event or events unfold. A few good examples are Pancho and Lefty by Townes Van Zandt and The Blizzard by Harlan Howard (performed by Jim Reeves). Those are clear examples of a story in song form.
2. Lyrical lyrics, (I know, it sounds funny) focus on the conveying of an emotion. The narrative, if any, is secondary to the emotion conveyed. A few good examples are Spoon by Dave Matthews Band (you could argue that there is a narrative, but it really appears that the central idea of the song is silent contemplation) and Happy by Pharrell Williams (I know, that one is really obvious). The narrative (if any) of either song is not the primary focal point of the song. What matters is that the listener feels something.
3. Instrumental lyrics are lyrics where the voice is simply an additional instrument. Sometimes the words are utter nonsense, and sometimes they aren't words at all. Rubber Biscuit performed by The Chips (songwriter is iffy due to label). But basically, you have a few one line jokes and scat. Those jokes could really be replaced by almost anything else and the song remains about the same. Sarah Vaughan's Shulie-A-Bop is an example of straight scat. For one that uses real words, listen to almost any song by Phish, but Stash is a good example. The lyrics are straight nonsense but enhance the music.

## **2. 4 Coldplay**

Coldplay was a British rock band formed in London in 1996. They consisted of vocalist and pianist Chris Martin, guitarist Jonny Buckland, bassist

Guy Berryman, drummer Will Champion, and creative director Phil Harvey. They met at University College London and began playing music together from 1996 to 1998, first calling themselves Pectoralz and then Starfish.

Quoted from IMDb Mini Biography, after independently releasing an extended play, *Safety* (1998), the band signed with Parlophone in 1999. Their debut album, *Parachutes* (2000), included their breakthrough single "Yellow" and received a Brit Award for British Album of the Year, a Grammy Award for Best Alternative Music Album, and a Mercury Prize nomination. Their second album, *A Rush of Blood to the Head* (2002), won the same accolades and included the singles "The Scientist" and "Clocks," with the latter winning a Grammy Award for Record of the Year. The troubled production of the band's third album, *X&Y* (2005), saw them explore new musical territory with their fourth album, *Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends* (2008); both were the best-selling albums of the year worldwide in 2005 and 2008, respectively, topping the charts in over 30 countries. *Viva la Vida* also won a Grammy Award for Best Rock Album and the band's first Album of the Year nomination, while its title track became the first single by a British group to top the charts in both the United Kingdom and United States in the 21st century.

In more than two decades of their career, Coldplay has left an indelible mark on the landscape of popular music. They have created an extraordinary catalog of songs, filled with unforgettable melodies, poetic lyrics, and defining musical moments of generations. From humble beginnings as a college band to becoming a global phenomenon, Coldplay has demonstrated resilience, evolution, and continuous relevance.

One of the most striking aspects of Coldplay's legacy is their remarkable commercial success. They have sold over 100 million albums worldwide, making them one of the best-selling recording artists of all time. Their albums consistently top the charts in various countries, showcasing the universal appeal of their music. Their songs have become staples on the radio, digital playlists, and live events, transcending genre and demographic boundaries. However, Coldplay's legacy is more than just sales figures and commercial achievements. Their music has had a profound emotional impact on millions of people around the world. Songs like "Yellow," "Fix You," and "Viva la Vida" have become defining moments in the lives of many, providing solace, comfort, and inspiration in times of greatest need. Coldplay's ability to connect emotionally with their listeners is a true testament to the power of their music.

In addition to their dedication to music, Coldplay is also known for their strong commitment to activism and philanthropy. Throughout their career, they have used their platform and influence to raise awareness about various social and environmental issues, as well as to fundraise for charitable causes. One of the most prominent examples of Coldplay's activism is their support for fair trade. They have long been vocal advocates of the Make Trade Fair movement, which aims to promote ethical and sustainable trading practices. Coldplay has collaborated with organizations like Oxfam to raise awareness about injustices in the global trading system and encourage policy changes.

Coldplay has also used their music to highlight important social issues. Their songs often touch on themes such as poverty, inequality, and human rights. For example, the song "Trouble" from their debut album "Parachutes" speaks about the struggles and hardships faced by marginalized people. Meanwhile, the

song "Orphans" from the album "Everyday Life" (2019) tells the stories of refugees and migrants facing difficulties. In addition to activism through their music, Coldplay has also been directly involved in various charitable initiatives. They have supported organizations such as the Red Cross, Amnesty International, and Global Citizen, using their concerts and performances to raise funds and awareness. In 2006, Coldplay headlined the charity concert "Teenage Cancer Trust" at the Royal Albert Hall in London, raising funds to support teenagers suffering from cancer.

In recent years, Coldplay has increasingly focused on environmental issues and climate change. They have worked to reduce the carbon footprint of their tours, implementing sustainable practices such as using renewable energy, greening concert venues, and encouraging the use of public transport. In 2019, Coldplay announced that they would postpone their tour for the album "Everyday Life" until they could find ways to make their tour as environmentally friendly as possible. Coldplay will continue to evolve. They are a band that is always seeking new challenges, constantly pushing themselves to grow and develop. Whether through bold collaborations, musical experiments, or technological breakthroughs in their live performances, Coldplay will remain at the forefront of innovation in popular music.

➤ Here are the members of Coldplay:

**Chris Martin:**

Full Name	: Christopher Anthony John Martin
Date of Birth	: March 2, 1977
Position	: Vocalist, Pianist
Involvement	: Lyric writing and song creation

**Jonny Buckland:**

Full Name : Jonathan Mark Buckland

Date of Birth : September 11, 1977

Position: Guitarist

**Guy Berryman:**

Full Name : Guy Rupert Berryman

Date of Birth : April 12, 1978

Position: Bassist

**Will Champion:**

Full Name : William Champion

Date of Birth : July 31, 1978

Position : Drummer, Multi-Instrumentalist

## 5.1 Relevant Study

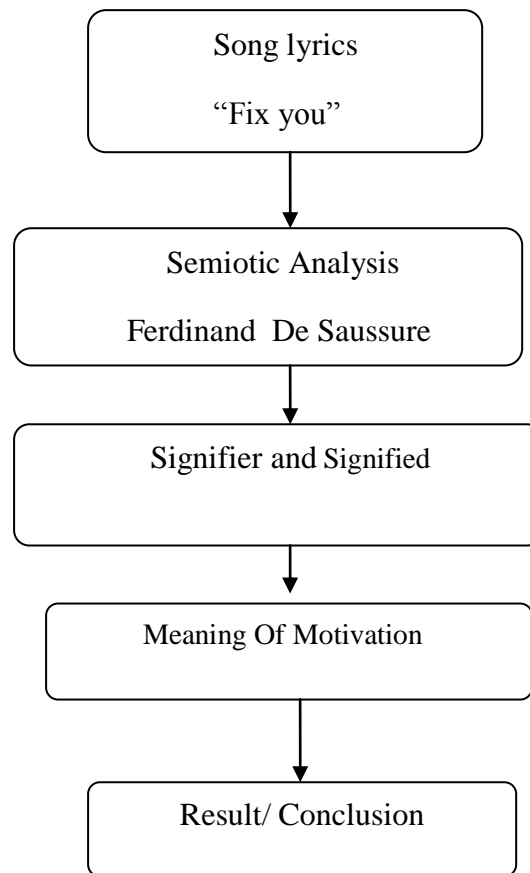
There are some relevant studies that relate to this research. The first is thesis entitled

Mayyasa Melawati (2023) *Analysis of the Motivational Meaning of the Lyrics of Yura Yunita's Song "Tutur Batin" (Semiotic Study)*. With the aim of describing the semiotic signs contained in the lyrics of the song *Tutur Batin* in order to understand the motivational meaning contained in the lyrics of the song, the author used semiotic analysis from Ferdinand de Saussure.

The second thesis, entitled "Semiotics of Lyrics and Meaning of Motivation from NCT DREAM with the title *Life Still Going On*," interpreted song lyrics and showed differences between the message conveyed by the songwriter and the listener. According to Umberto Eco, a sign is a lie because there is something hidden behind the sign (Wibowo, 2013). Ferdinand De Saussure's Semiotic Approach, which focused on Linguistic Semiotics, viewed language as a complete and harmonious system. One of Saussure's perspectives was the signifier and the signified. The signifier and the signified were arbitrary in nature. It could be expressed that there were elements in which meaning was the relationship between language and the external world. Language was also an agreement by a user to become a sign, and this was later used to convey information so that it could be understood (Fitri, 2017).

The similarity of this research with previous studies was that it also used semiotic studies by Ferdinand De Saussure, namely research that discussed signs in social life and the laws that governed them. This meant that signs were bound to the laws that existed in society. Saussure emphasized that signs had meaning because they were influenced by the role of language.

## 2.6 Conceptual Framework



The research mindset started from the lyrics of the song *Fix You* by Coldplay, which was analyzed using Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic theory. This analysis produced a relationship between the signifier and the signified. In this case, the signifier was the lyrics of *Fix You*, and the signified was the interpretation of those lyrics, resulting in the meaning of motivation in the lyrics of *Fix You*. The researcher analyzed it to draw conclusions or results.



## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Research Design

The focus of this research was to analyze the meaning of motivation in the lyrics of the song *Fix You* using Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotic theory, which consists of the signifier and the signified. Thus, in this study, the signifier was the song lyrics, and the signified was the meaning of those lyrics.

In conducting this research, the author employed a qualitative descriptive research design. Qualitative research methods were often labeled as naturalistic research methods due to their implementation in real-world settings. This approach examined natural phenomena as they occurred, without intervention from the researcher, ensuring that the author's presence did not sway the dynamics of the phenomenon. The primary objective of qualitative research was to comprehend the experiences of the subjects involved, focusing on aspects such as behaviors, perceptions, motivations, and actions, which were articulated through words and language.

#### 3.2 Research Subject

This research was conducted on the lyrics of the song *Fix You*, popularized by Coldplay, and the author was directly involved in the research to interpret the meanings within the song's lyrics. Since this research was semiotic in nature, the research location was not like that of field research. Semiotic analysis is a

qualitative data analysis technique aimed at finding or systematically analyzing symbols or signs in a text, while also investigating the relationship between the signifier and the signified in the lyrics. This research was conducted in Sorong district.

### **3.3 Source of the Data**

#### **a. Primary Data**

Primary data was a source of research data obtained directly from the original source. Primary data is considered accurate because it is obtained directly from the source and is reliable due to its guaranteed authenticity. Primary data is usually available in raw form and needs to be processed further. Researchers can adjust the selection of informants to obtain the necessary data.

The data for this research was sourced from primary data, specifically by selecting one of the songs popularized by Coldplay, titled *Fix You*. This song was first released in June 2005. The British rock band Coldplay has released 9 studio albums, 6 live albums, 12 compilation albums, 18 extended plays, 42 singles, 13 promotional singles, and 5 charity singles. The author focused on interpreting the lyrics of *Fix You*, popularized by Coldplay.

#### **b. Secondary data**

Secondary data is the supporting of this research. The data source is subject where data is found. The secondary data of this research is the

previous research from other researcher, to make the validity of this research.

### **3.4 Techniques of Collecting Data**

In collecting data, the techniques used the author is as follows:

#### **1. Literature study**

Literature study is an activity to collect relevant information with the topic or problem that is the topic of research. Literature review is an analysis based on reference books aims to strengthen the discussion material as well as basis for using certain formulas in analyzing and designing a structure. Literature study can be used for obtaining data based on conceptual and theoretical facts, not based on the researcher's perception.

The literature study aims to obtain information about similar research or research related to the one being conducted. A literature study is an activity that cannot be separated from research, as it helps the researcher acquire the theories that underlie the problem being studied. In relation to this, data collection will be carried out using techniques focused on gathering data and information through various documents, including written documents, photos, images, writings, as well as audio or video recordings that can strengthen the writing process. The data collection will be conducted through the following steps:

- a. Selecting the song lyrics that the author will present in the fourth chapter.
- b. And conducting the analysis that the author will explain in the fifth chapter.

## 2. Data Validity

Based on this research, the author uses the development of data triangulation validity. Triangulation is a method for verifying the accuracy of data that is most commonly used. This method involves utilizing sources other than the data itself for verification or as a means of expanding the existing data. The author can obtain data from different sources such as interviews, observations, and documentation.

Data triangulation can provide assurance to the author about the validity of the data, thereby eliminating doubts in drawing conclusions from the research conducted. In data triangulation, the author uses source triangulation. Source triangulation is done by obtaining information from various different sources using the same technique. Source triangulation can be carried out using data sources such as documents, interview results, or observation results.

### **3.5 Technique of Data Analysis**

Data analysis in this research referred to the effort to find meaning in the signs contained in the lyrics of the song popularized by Coldplay, using Saussure's semiotic approach to understand the motivational meaning of the lyrics. Subsequently, data analysis was conducted by dividing the entire song lyrics into several stanzas.

Using Saussure's semiotic theory, which focused on the way signs (in this case, words) relate to the research object, the theoretical model directed attention specifically to the sign itself. The author then discovered the actual meaning of the words by dividing the entire song lyrics into several stanzas. Each stanza of the song lyrics was analyzed using Saussure's semiotic theory, which included the elements of signifier and signified. These elements were separated, making it easier for the author to interpret the lyrics of the song popularized by Coldplay, which were then related to the social reality present at the time the creator composed the song.

## CHAPTER IV

### FINDING AND DISCUSSIONS

This research used a semiotic approach. The semiotic approach in this study was applied because the researcher aimed to uncover the motivational meaning contained in the lyrics of the song "Fix You" by Coldplay. The method used was Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotic approach. Saussure placed signs within the context of human communication by distinguishing between what was called the signifier, the signified, and signification.

This research used primary data sources, namely the lyrics of the song "Fix You," which was popularized by Coldplay in 2005. The lyrics were then analyzed to understand the meanings of the signs contained within them. Subsequently, the researcher interpreted the lyrics by dividing them into several stanzas, and each stanza was analyzed using Saussure's semiotic theory. In analyzing a text according to Saussure's theory, there were several stages that could be used to interpret the lyrics of the song "Fix You" by Coldplay. These stages were:

#### a) Signifier

The material aspect of language includes what is spoken, heard, and read. The signifier can also be described as sounds or writings that have meaning. In this study, the signifier is the lyrics of the song 'Fix You' by Coldplay

#### b) Signified

The depiction of the concept of something from the signifier is a stage of meaning-making regarding the text that is the object of the study. In this research, it is an interpretation of the song that has not yet been linked to social reality.

## **4.1 Overview of the Research Object**

### **4.4.1 Lyrics of the song "Fix you"**

In this research, the researcher aims to uncover the meaning of motivation contained in the lyrics of the song "Fix You" by Coldplay, using Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotics method. Saussure places signs in the context of human communication by distinguishing between what is called the signifier, the signified, and signification.

This research uses primary data sources, namely the lyrics of the song 'Fix You' popularized by Coldplay.

"Here are the lyrics to the song "Fix you" by Coldplay;

*When you try your best, but you don't succeed*

*When you get what you want, but not what you need*

*When you feel so tired, but you can't sleep*

*Stuck in reverse*

*And the tears come streaming down your face*

*When you lose something you can't replace*

*When you love someone, but it goes to waste*

*Could it be worse?*

*Lights will guide you home*

*And ignite your bones*

*And I will try to fix you*

*And high up above, or down below*

*When you're too in love to let it go*

*But if you never try, you'll never know*

*Just what you're worth*

*Lights will guide you home*

*And ignite your bones*

*And I will try to fix you*

*Tears stream down your face*

*When you lose something you cannot replace*

*Tears stream down your face, and I*

*Tears stream down your face*

*I promise you I will learn from my mistakes*

*Tears stream down your face, and I*

*Lights will guide you home*

*And ignite your bones*



*And I will try to fix you.*

## 4.2 Findings

. The researcher focused this study on signs analyzed through Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotics in the lyrics of the song "Fix You" by Coldplay. The text analysis was conducted by dividing the entire song's lyrics into several stanzas, as shown in Table 1 below and the following tables.

**Table 1. Analysis of Stanza 1 "Fix You"**

<b>Signifier</b>	<b>Signified</b>
When you try your best, but you don't succeed	these lines expressed a sense of struggle, helplessness, and yearning for relief or change during difficult times. They resonated deeply with anyone who had experienced setbacks or felt trapped in challenging circumstances.
When you get what you want, but not what you need	
When you feel so tired, but you can't sleep	
Stuck in reverse	

Based on stanza 1,

### **When you try your best, but you don't succeed"**

- Reflects the pain of putting in maximum effort toward something important, only to face failure or an unsatisfying outcome.

### **"When you get what you want, but not what you need"**

- Highlights a situation where material or superficial desires are fulfilled, but deeper emotional or spiritual needs remain unmet, leaving a sense of emptiness.

**"When you feel so tired, but you can't sleep"**

- Captures the exhaustion of body and mind, often caused by stress or emotional turmoil, where even rest becomes elusive.

**"Stuck in reverse"**

- Symbolizes feeling stuck in life, unable to move forward or make progress, as though life is pulling you backward.

Table 2. Analysis of Stanza 2 "Fix You"

Signifier	Signified
<p>And the tears come streaming down your face When you lose something you can't replace When you love someone, but it goes to waste Could it be worse?</p>	<p>These lines conveyed a deep emotional struggle, focusing on loss, unfulfilled love, and the difficulty of coping with life's painful realities</p>

Based on stanza 2,

**"And the tears come streaming down your face"**

Describes the overwhelming sadness that leads to uncontrollable crying, a natural response to deep emotional hurt.

**"When you lose something you can't replace"**

Refers to the grief and emptiness of losing something or someone invaluable, like a loved one, a cherished relationship, or a significant part of one's life, with no way to restore it.

**"When you love someone, but it goes to waste"**

Highlights the pain of unreciprocated or unfulfilled love, where your feelings, efforts, or devotion are not acknowledged, valued, or returned.

**"Could it be worse?"**

Expresses the despair and hopelessness of the situation, questioning if things could possibly feel more painful than they already do.

Table 3. Analysis of Stanza 3 "Fix You"

<b>Signifier</b>	<b>Signified</b>
Lights will guide you home And ignite your bones And I will try to fix you	These lines conveyed a deep emotional struggle, focusing on loss, unfulfilled love, and the difficulty of coping with life's painful realities.

Based on stanza 3,

**"Lights will guide you home"**

This symbolizes hope, guidance, and finding a way back to a place of safety, comfort, or emotional peace during difficult times. The "lights" could represent love, support, or clarity that helps someone navigate through struggles.

**"And ignite your bones":**

This can mean rekindling energy, passion, or strength within a person. It reflects a desire to help someone regain their vitality and resilience after feeling broken or lost.

**"And I will try to fix you":**

This is a promise of unconditional support and care. It expresses the speaker's commitment to helping someone heal emotionally, mentally, or even physically, despite challenges.

Table 4. Analysis of Stanza 4 “Fix You”

Signifier	Signified
<p>And high up above, or down below            When you're too in love to let it go            But if you never try, you'll never know            Just what you're worth</p>	<p>Overall, these lines inspired courage to embrace vulnerability, take risks for love and self-discovery, and find one's worth through life's experiences, even when the path seemed uncertain.</p>

Based on stanza 4,

**"And high up above, or down below"**

Suggests that love and emotions can transcend circumstances, whether you're feeling uplifted and joyful ("high up above") or deeply sorrowful and struggling ("down below"). Love remains powerful and present regardless of life's highs and lows.

**"When you're too in love to let it go"**

Reflects the difficulty of letting go of someone or something you deeply love, even when it might be necessary or painful. It highlights the emotional grip of intense attachment.

**"But if you never try, you'll never know"**

Encourages taking risks and stepping out of your comfort zone, especially when it comes to love or personal growth. Without trying, you won't discover the potential outcomes or understand your true capabilities and value.

**"Just what you're worth"**

Implies that through taking chances, facing fears, and navigating love or challenges, you come to realize your own value and potential.

### 4.3 Discussion

The lyrics of the song "Fix You" by Coldplay contained a relationship between the signified and the signifier. The text of the song's lyrics represented a unity of content among a collection of words, where each word was interconnected with others, and this gave rise to a unique meaning for each interpretation; one person's interpretation might have differed from another's. This song told the reality of our problems as humans, where there were always challenges in life. Some people got trapped in a dark past, consumed by sadness due to the loss of a loved one, failure in an interview, or failure in relationships. These problems sometimes made us lose spirit and become afraid to rise from that downfall, afraid to try again, unable to move on from sadness and trauma. All of this made us feel lonely and like the most miserable person in the world.

The motivational meaning in Coldplay's song "Fix You" was that we must learn to accept every challenge in life with sincerity and believe that God was always with us in any situation. God would replace every bad or sad problem in our lives with other good things, even better ones. Always remember that we were not the only ones experiencing these trials; many others out there were going through them as well. So, we must learn to accept them because life's challenges would always exist as long as we were still breathing. Think of them like passing winds. Life went on, so did the things we'd never tried before. We shouldn't have been afraid of failure, because good things would surely come to us afterward. In this study, the author used Ferdinand de Saussure's theory. In Ferdinand de Saussure's theory, he explained semiotics in *Course in General Linguistics* as "the science that studies the role of signs as part of social life." Implicit in this definition was a relationship, suggesting that if these signs were part of prevailing

social life, then there existed a system of signs and a social system, both of which were interconnected. In this context, Saussure spoke about social conventions that governed the social use of signs, namely the selection, combination, and usage of signs in specific ways to have meaning and social value (Alex Sobur, 2016:7).

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 5.1 CONCLUSION

Music was one of the media that could be used to convey communication messages. By using music, the creators aimed to share, entertain, and narrate experiences they had gone through to others. Songs that contained motivational elements could help listeners continue to move forward in their lives. In seeking the meaning of the lyrics of "Fix You" by Coldplay, Ferdinand de Saussure divided signs into two parts: the signifier and the signified. The process of transitioning from the song "Fix You" to its meaning was based on Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotics, where the lyrics were divided into several stanzas. The author then interpreted the lyrics of the song and discovered its motivational meaning. After conducting a thesis research on "Analysis of Motivational Meaning in the Lyrics of Coldplay's "Fix You" (A Semiotic Study of Ferdinand de Saussure), the researcher found that the motivational meanings contained in the lyrics of "Fix You" aimed to convey and motivate listeners to learn to accept every challenge in life with sincerity and believe that God was always with us in any situation. God would replace every bad or sad problem in our lives with other good things, even better ones. Always remember that we were not the only ones experiencing these trials; many others out there were going through them as well. Therefore, we had to learn to accept them because life's challenges would always exist as long as we were still breathing. Think of them like passing winds. Life



went on, so did the things we'd never tried before. We shouldn't have been afraid of failure, because good things would surely come to us afterward.

## **5.2 SUGGESTION**

The results of this study were expected to contribute to the literature in qualitative research within the English Education Study Program at UNIMUDA Sorong, specifically regarding the analysis of song lyrics, and to provide a positive contribution to future research in further developing this topic. It was hoped that researchers conducting subsequent studies on similar themes would seek and read more references so that their future research results would improve and gain new knowledge through different analytical techniques.

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