

The Glimpses of Identity Crisis in *Goli Soda*

Shanthi L., M.A., M.Phil.
Masilamani C., M.A., B.Ed., M.Phil., Ph.D. Candidate



Abstract

The concept of 'identity' is central to contemporary sociology, reflecting a crisis that manifests itself in two ways. Firstly, there is a view that identity is both vital and problematic in this period of high modernity. Secondly, while this awareness is reflected in sociology, its accounts of identity are inconsistent, under-theorized and incapable of bearing the analytical load required. This paper suggests that one's identity is a part of the universe and that individual identity is its entity. Identity achievement is the resolution of many identity crises. This article also emphasises that it is natural that everyone thinks of their own identity to grow themselves with self respect

Key Words: *Goli Soda* movie, Identity Crisis, Self-Identity, Self-Respect, High Modernity

Introduction

Rapid developments in the fields of trade, market, commerce and telecommunication technologies, together with cultural confrontations at the global level, are creating a paradigmatic shift in people's understanding of selfhood and identity. The concept of 'identity' is central to contemporary sociology, reflecting a crisis that manifests itself in two ways. Firstly, there is a view that identity is both vital and problematic in this period of high modernity. Secondly, while this awareness is reflected in sociology, its accounts of identity are inconsistent, under-theorized and incapable of bearing the analytical load required. Sometimes individuals face obstacles that may prevent the development of a strong identity. This sort of unresolved crisis leaves individuals struggling to "find themselves". They often seem to have no idea who or what they are, where they belong or where they want to go.



Courtesy: <http://www.sify.com/movies/goli-soda-review-tamil-pcmbiSeeaifjb.html>

The identity crisis is the major suffering of the many people in the present day world. It is quite natural that everyone thinks of their own identity to grow themselves with self respect. Baumister has derived the term 'Self Identity Crisis' advocated by Erik Erickson in the theory of 'Psychosocial Development' (1950/1980). Based on the theory, this problem has basically been developed in the stage of adolescence. (453)

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Shanthy L., M.A., M.Phil. and Masilamani C. M.A., B.Ed., M.Phil., Ph.D. Candidate
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The Theme of Identity Crisis in the Movie *Goli Soda*

The Tamil movie *Goli Soda*, has emphasised on how identity is important and worth fighting for it. It reflects how the characters in this movie strive for their identity and reveals how the characters suffer from the identity crisis. The movie also finds solutions to resolve the problem of the crisis. It discusses one's identity is a part of the universe and that individual identity is its entity.

Aachi's Advice and Follow up Action

The movie is set against the backdrop of the most happening in the Koyambedu market, Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The film revolves around the lives of four young boys: Puli (Kishore), Saetu (Sree Raam), Sitthappa (Pandi) and Kuttimani (Kuttimani). They work as coolies, and earn their bread by working as lifters. They lift and transport vegetable stocks to various shops. One such shop is owned by Aachi (Sujatha Sivakumar), who treats the boys like her sons. The boys are carefree and do not worry about their future, and have fun by teasing and looking at schoolgirls who pass by.

One day Aachi tells the boys that, they do not have an identity and how long will they live like this? She advises them to do something that will give them an identity and let them earn some respect. They decide to start a mess in the market, where so many people will have access. Aachi helps them to get an old godown from Naidu (Madhusudhan Rao), a rich Dada, who controls the market. Naidu lets them have the place for free for now, and says will collect the rent later. The boys start the mess and it becomes an instant hit, earning them money and respect. The boys feel that they have now got an identity as the owners of Aachi mess.

Vioent Turn because They Want to Maintain Morals

Things take a turn, when Mayil, the cousin of Naidu, starts using the mess for his own recreational purpose during the night. The boys allow him first due to their respect for Naidu, but later on Mayil uses the mess for wrong purposes. One night Mayil rapes a woman in the mess, and Sitthappa, one of the boys, is upset with this, and he orders Mayil to get out of the mess

immediately. Infuriated, Mayil beats him, and sends him back. The other boys come to know about this, and the next day, they come to the mess and find it still locked. Mayil is still in the mess with hangover and has made a complete mess of the place. The boys get angry and ask him to go out. But as Mayil refuses and attacks them, the boys retaliate and Mayil is pushed down. Mayil starts to attack the boys, and the boys overpower Mayil, and beat him. Angry and humiliated, Mayil leaves the place. Naidu comes to know about this and is extremely angry.

Aachi goes to meet Naidu to apologise for the boys, but Naidu doesn't accept and keeps her hostage, till the boys get punished back. So he plans and attacks the boys once again, makes them unconscious and separates them by sending them to different parts of the country.

Attempt to Take Revenge

The boys reunite after some struggle with the help of Vanmathi, and decide to exact revenge on Naidu, for making them lose their identity. The boys decide to avenge their feelings by making Naidu lose the fear people have on him, and oppose him in the market elections. Naidu fears losing the election and he decides to kill the boys and sends all his men to search for them. The boys hide and since Naidu has sent all his men away, they come to know that Naidu must be alone and they take on him. They see Naidu sleeping and they cut off his hair and paste a coin his head, symbolising that he is dead.

The next morning, Naidu sees this and is angered to the core. He directly goes himself to the mess and locks it from inside to kill the boys. The boys overpower him and tie him to a post and strip him naked. They threaten to open the door, thus making his respect turn into shame. Naidu begs them not to do so, and pleads them to kill him instead of showing him naked to the outside world. The boys then tell Naidu that how the identity of a man is more important.

Conclusion

Identity achievement is the resolution of many identity crises. Identity achievement occurs when the adolescent has explored and committed to important aspects of their identity.

Thus, one's identity is a part of the universe and our identity has its entity in the universe and the universe is the reflection of our identity.

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Shanthi L. M.A., M.Phil.
Assistant Professor of English,
Karpagam Academy of Higher Education (Deemed to be University)
Coimbatore 641 021
Tamil Nadu
India
shanthiriona@gmail.com

Masilamani, C. M.A., B.Ed., M.Phil (Ph.D.)
Assistant Professor of English
Karunya Institute of Technology and Sciences (Deemed to be University)
Coimbatore 641114
Tamil Nadu
India
masilaa7@gmail.com