# THE MYTH OF AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY AS A SAVIOR AND THE PARADOX OF HUMAN CLONING AS REFLECTED IN THE ISLAND A FILM BY MICHAEL BAY



# **THESIS**

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment for the Sarjana Sastra Degree at The English Department Faculty of Letters and Fine Arts Sebelas Maret University

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LETTERS AND FINE ARTS
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2006

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# **PRONOUNCEMENT**

I declared truthfully that the thesis entitled THE MYTH OF AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY AS A SAVIOR AND THE PARADOX OF HUMAN CLONING AS REFLECTED IN THE ISLAND A FILM BY MICHAEL BAY, is not plagiarism or anyone's piece of work. The terms belonging to others work are shown by quoting marks and showed in the bibliography.

If this statement is not true, I will be ready for the academic sanction comprising the cancellation of the thesis and the academic title obtained from the thesis.

Surakarta,.....2006

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# **MOTTO**

I can do all things through Christ who strengthen me.

(Philippians 4:3)

God makes everything happen to be wonderful at the right time. Yet no one of us can ever fully understand all he has done, he puts questions in our minds about the past and the future.

(Ecclesiastes 3:11)

Love is patient and kind. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. Love can transform the most common place into beauty world and splendor that will never demise.

(Anonymous)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Put all your faith in His power, and you can rest in confidence even through your darkest hour

(Anonymous)

# I gratefully dedicated this thesis to:

My beloved savior, Jesus Christ, for a light for every shadow, a plan for every tomorrow, a key for every problem, and a joy for every sorrow.

You are my everything and I really do love You

My beloved Mom and Dad

U're always doing a million things...

And a big hug to say thank you

My beloved brother and sister

Thanks for giving me support and pray

My beloved someone in my future

And myself

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### **ABSTRACT**

Rosaria Dewi Meitasari. C1304037. 2006. Title: THE MYTH OF AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY AS A SAVIOR AND THE PARADOX OF HUMAN CLONING AS REFLECTED IN *THE ISLAND*, A FILM, BY MICHAEL BAY. English Department Faculty of Letters and Fine Arts Sebelas Maret University.

This research focuses on the American myth of technology as a savior and its paradox in American technology. The researcher formulates two problem statements: How does the film *The Island* reflect the myth of American technology as a savior? And How does the film *The Island* reflect the paradox of human cloning in American technology?. The purposes of this research are to explain how *The Island* film reflects the myth of American technology as a savior and to explain how *The Island* reflects the paradox of human cloning in American technology. This research is a library research. The researcher answers the two problem statements by using semiotic film theory and sociological approach and supported by mythological to popular culture.

This research is conducted within the boundaries of American studies. The main source of data in this research is *The Island*, a film, by Michael Bay that was produced by A Parkes/MacDonald in 2005 and casted by Ewan McGregor and Scarlett Johansson. *The Island* VCD is distributed in Indonesia by Dreamworks Distribution LLC. The main data of this research are the dialogues, character's facial expression, characters' attitudes and beliefs, and cinematographic elements of *The Island* that are related to the problem statements in this research. The supporting data of this research are *The Island* film script, books, articles, and the Internet's sources that are related to the problem statements.

From the analysis, the researcher draws two conclusions. First, human cloning technology in *The Island* reflects the myth of American technology as a savior through its plot and cinematographic elements that emphasize the important role of cloning technology for human survival. And secondly, human cloning creates a paradox for American technology.

### **CHAPTER I**

# INTRODUCTION

### A. Research Background

Film is one of popular products and a good idea to introduce some new discoveries to the moviegoers. According to Nachbar and Lause, 'popular' refers to the products human work and thought which are (or have been) accepted and approved of by a large community or population (1992: 14). So, film as one of the product of American popular culture can be the evidence that is accepted or approved by large numbers of Americans. It is obvious that film is not just an entertainment. It is science too. New technologies are often introduced. The moviegoers, who have not known

something before, will get two benefits: entertainment and knowledge. The moviegoers can learn something beneficial from films and they can be expected to get more than an entertainment from the story. It means that the films can be used as a means of entertainment and advertising media to introduce new discoveries and technologies.

From the film, the moviegoers could see the great advances of technology in America, which is expressed in an interesting and entertaining story that shows American as a great and educated individual to the moviegoers through the whole world: "Movies can dramatize the goals and values of a city, a state, a country, or all civilization and still be entertaining" (O'Brien, et.all, 1957: 273).

From this, American film can be said 1 mm of media that reflects American's thoughts, American's ways of life and also the attitudes and beliefs of most Americans. Film is also an important scientific tool that has opened up new areas of knowledge. Therefore, it is expected that American films can be used to introduce and spread out American thoughts for their new discoveries on technological research that has spurred new product, such as cloning to the moviegoers.

Technological advancements in science have greatly increased the real and the potential impact of its implications when they are extrapolated to humans. One of such advancements is the technique of cloning. Cloning as a result of the power of technology can be a paradox in human life. The ability to clone animals, plants or even humans is not just a scientific issue, but it can be a social one. "Technological developments and the modifications in social structure that are necessary to support it has had important effects on the daily behavior of all people in urban societies, at least" (O'Brien, at.all, 1957: 137).

The science and technological development of cloning, certainly brings important effects on the American daily behavior and can be a paradox in their life. On one side, it gives advantages, such as solving human organ transplant shortages. "Cloning for medicine" would be helpful in research leading to the treatment of certain diseases, for example AIDS, Parkinson's, diabetes, ect. By manipulating the genetic composition of both plants and animals, it simply can be an alternate mode of reproduction and they were no longer threatened by extinction. On the other side, human are not mere animals that have evolved from biological slime. They are creatures specially fashioned by God; which means they are unique in their nature. Many feel cloning is morally wrong and goes against the laws of God. Others have taken a more scientific stance, arguing that cloning would be dangerous as it could potentially reduce the genetic diversity of the human species, and would result in the loss of human uniqueness and individuality or could be used to recreate an abomination of history such as Adolf Hitler for example. And with human limitation, technology will have a dark side, this new discovery can create world of murder, corruption and high-tech deception with misused of cloning.

Many still believe that cloning occurs only in science fiction. Real cloning, however, has been around for some time, approximately about 40 years. Frogs were first cloned from asexual tadpole cells in 1952. The ability to successfully clone an animal from an adult cell significantly enhances the chances of a bioethical future, such as the emergence of Dolly, a cloned obtained from the cell of an adult female sheep in 1997. But it created a great stir and controversy in

scientific circles and among the public in U.S. and in many other countries and becoming a public issue. Although a majority of Americans are interested in new developments in science and technology, they are also concerned about the ethical and moral implications of this advances. They prohibit such attempts, even opposes human cloning (http://www.prospek.Org/web/page.Ww?Section=root&name+viewweb&article:1 0078).

The word "clone" derives from the Greek term *klon*, meaning a "sprout" or "twig". It refers to a method of reproduction apart from the parental, sexual mating process that is characteristic of most organisms:

Cloning can be the intentional or accidental replication of an organism, so that what is produced is derived from an original cell and is genotypically (genetically and physically) identical to the parent organism, from the cell was obtained. Cloning also may mean that multiple offspring egg and has a genetic twin (http://en.wikimedia.org/wiki/cloning.shtml.)

The goal of cloning is to produce offspring that are essentially genetically identical to the individual creature, from which a cell nucleus has been obtained. The cell nucleus contains the genetic information or DNA (deoxyribo nucleic acid), which determines most of the features of the plants or animals.

One of American film that exposes about human cloning is *The Island*. This film introduces science and technology through cloning from the beginning until the end. This film was one of Warner Bros, Pictures and Dreamworks Pictures that was produced by A Parkes/MacDonald, with Lauric MacDonald as executive producer, with U.S. theatrical release date on July 22, 2005. The film was directed by Michael Bay. The film script was written by Caspian Tredwell-

Owen and Alex Kurtzmand and Roberto Orci. In Indonesia, it was distributed by Dreamworks Distribution LLC. And it was casted by Ewan McGregor, Scarlett Johansson, Djimon Honosou, Sean Bean, Ethan Phillips, Max Baker and Steve Buscemi.

The Island was a story of human clone who lives in a place-contained facility, it is set in the mid 21st century. All of the inhabitants of this carefully controlled environment and everything about their day-to-day lives were monitored. The only way out is the hope that they all were to be chosen to go to the island, reportedly the last uncontaminated and peaceful place in the world, which described such as Eden Garden. Lincoln Six-Echo was one of the products among the hundreds of cloned residents that were insuranced by rich and famous Americans, who are then killed for their organs when the clone is in need of a transplant, which aims want to prolong or immortalize their life in this world. Meanwhile, the clones were kept docile through mental manipulation and two myth; that the outside world was under quarantine and that someday each will be chosen to visit the paradisiacal world of "The Island". In fact, of course, going to "The Island" really means that is was the time to be butchered for their heart or liver. Through unexplained nightmares, Lincoln was restless and increasingly questioning the restrictions placed on his life. His growing curiosity leads to the terrible discovery for the truth that everything about his existence was a lie, that the island was a cruel hoax. With time running out, Lincoln and Jordan made a daring escaped to the outside world they've never known. With the forces of the institute relentlessly hunting them down, Lincoln and Jordan had mission to live and destroyed the institute.

The main idea of *The Island* is to introduce the thoughts and the myth of American technology that can be a savior, and also that human cloning that can be a paradox in American society life as well as giving the moviegoers entertainment and knowledge. The main message to be conveyed here is that Americans are always a step forward in science and technology through cloning. The researcher is attracted to analyze *The Island* because many dialogues, characters' facial expressions, characters' attitudes and beliefs, and cinematographic elements of this film that represent the myth of American technology as a savior and reveal the paradox of human cloning in American Society. Furthermore, the researcher is attracted to analyze *The Island* in order to know how *The Island* reflects the American myth of technology as a savior as well as the paradox of human cloning as advanced by technology. The presentation of American technology as a savior in this film show how it has change the American beliefs and thought about humanity and that film has an important role in society since it exposes many issues in daily life.

### **B.** Problem Statements

Based on the phenomenon and description above, the researcher wants to state the problems that will be analyzed into two. The problem statements are presented as follows:

1. How does the film *The Island* reflect the myth of American technology as a savior?

2. How does the film *The Island* reflect the paradox of human cloning in American technology?

# C. Scope of the Study

To achieve the aim of this research, it is necessary to limit this study in order to avoid deviation and rambling analysis. This research is focused on the dialogues, characters' facial expressions, characters' attitudes and beliefs, cinematographic elements of this film, *The Island*, that are related to the problem statements of this research.

# D. Objectives the Study

Since this research is done under the scope of American studies, the major purpose of this research is to see and to understand the point of view of American society on technology and their thoughts. The research has some purposes, presented as follows:

To describe how *The Island* film reflects the myth of American technology as a savior.

To describe how *the Island* reflects the paradox of human cloning in American technology.

# **Significance Of The Study**

In accordance with the explanation above, in this research, the researcher hopes that the result will give some significances to the readers in understanding American culture and society. There are some aims that are expected by the researcher:

- To give a deeper comprehension and better understanding about American popular culture, society, thoughts and American myth, beliefs, and values, and its experience.
- **2.** To give additional information that can be used by the next researchers, especially American study researchers of Sebelas Maret University.

# **Theoretical Approach**

This research is conducted within the boundaries of American studies. It means that interdisciplinary approach is applied in the research. The approaches that will be applied in this research are semiotic and sociological approach. Semiotic film theory is applied to dig out some information and inside meaning of the film. In the analysis, semiotic approach is to study how this movie reflects the myth, belief, and values of Americans, especially in technology. The function of sociological approach is to study how far this movie reflects the American experience and to get the picture of American society's social experience by the time the movie was made.

One of the theories that are used in this research is semiotic film theory. Semiotic film theory has sought to explain how meaning is embodied in a film and how that meaning is communicated to an audience (Allen and Gomery, 1985: 77). Semiotic film theory is applied because this film, *The Island*, contains many signs and hidden messages of the myth of American technology in the story of human cloning in American society. It means that *The Island* moviegoers are demanded not only to watch the elements of this film in the scope of denotative meaning and just to entertain themselves, but they are also demanded to understand those as a system of signs in deeper meaning in order to understand the hidden meaning and message of this film.

Sociological approach is an approach of work-art that catches the realty of life to its entire problem including the writer. Sociological approach is applied to find the social background of the society. This approach is also an approach that always considers social aspects. It is a critical approach that combines sociological perspectives and art in analyzing an object study. The study of work-art from sociological point of view can show us the condition of society through the media of language. Based on explanation above, the researcher uses this approach in order to understand the social condition of American society, because of film has inseparable relation to the social life and phenomena that happen in society.

Myth in the study of popular culture says that belief or value is significant and long lasting, vital to the mindset of the culture, which holds it and that is widely accepted as a being true (Nachbar&Lause, 1992: 84). Many beliefs

have been a part of the American mindset for hundreds of years. Since this research is worked in one product of popular culture, the definition of myth that is used in this study is based on the popular culture understanding. Mythological approach to popular culture is applied to find out how this film reflects the myth, beliefs, and values of American. This can show us how American myth on technology as a savior protects and save Americans, and to know the way they struggle their right to choose their own destinies pursue their dream.

# **Research Methodology**

This research is a library research for most of activities is done through library works. As a form of library research, this research uses books, articles, essays, criticism and other written materials that support the subject matter of this research.

The main source of data in this research use *The Island* VCD, that was produced by A Parkes/MacDonald in 2005 and it is distributed in Indonesia by Dreamworks Distribution LLC. The main data of this research are the dialogues,, characters' facial expressions, characters' attitudes and beliefs, cinematographic elements of this film, that a related by problem statements in this research. The supporting data of this research will use *The Island* script, books, articles about cloning, articles about the American society point of view on technology toward cloning and also Internet's sources that are related to the problem statements.

In doing this research, the researcher applies a research procedure. The first step is collecting data and watching *The Island* repeatedly in order to understand the theme and the message that want to be conveyed to the moviegoers. The second step is reading secondary source to understand the definition, the myth, beliefs, and value of American technology as a savior in American society and the basis of cloning that can be a paradox in American social life. The third step is close reading of data. The fourth step is analyzing the myth of American technology as a savior, and the paradox of human cloning in American technology in the American society that are reflected in this film. And the fifth step is revising and concluding this research.

# **Thesis Organization**

The thesis consists of four chapters and each of them is subdivided into subsequent divisions. The thesis is arranged as follows:

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION. It consists of research background, problem statements, scope of the study, objective of the study, benefits of the study, theoretical approach, and research methodology.

CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW. It consists of semiotic film theory, the

American myth, beliefs, and values of technology as a savior, and
human cloning as a reflection of the power of technology and the
social views on cloning

CHAPTER III: ANALYSIS. It consists of the myth of American technology as a

savior as reflected in *The Island*, and the paradox of human cloning

in American technology.

CHAPTER IV: Conclusion and Recommendation

**BIBLIOGHAPHY** 

**APPENDICES** 

**CHAPTER II** 

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Semiotic Film Theory

Semiotics is a term that comes from the Greek word semeion meaning

'sign'. It is a science that studies the life of signs within society. This term was

used for the first time in the end of 19<sup>th</sup> century by Charles Sanders Pierce, an

American philosopher. Semiotics is often called Semiology. Both are sciences that

study the life of signs within society.

Semiotics can be said as the continuation of Saussure's Structuralism. In

1916, Ferdinand de Saussure introduced Course in General Linguistics, the study

of language that gives much contribution to the contemporary film theory. He

established the basic foundation of Structuralism. Saussure divided the study of

language into diachronic and synchronic. He also introduced the distinctions

between langue and parole, between signifier and signified. Signifier is made up

from the sounds used by particular language and signified consists of the concept

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or meanings assigned to any organization of signifiers. The combination of the signifier and the signified is sign. The process when the signified of a sign is understood is called signification.

Film is a series of motionless images projected onto a screen so fast as to create in the mind of anyone watching the screen an impression of continuous motion, such images being projected by a light shining through to a corresponding of flexible material (McAnany and series of images arranged on continuo Williams, 1965: 45). A film consists isand images that are recorded on celluloid tape. A film consists of thousand images in order to create "movement illusion", illusion that causes the images of the film that are projected onto a screen seem to move. It, the movement illusion, happens since films consist of 24 images for a second. It means that for a minute film need 1440 images. These images, images that are a little bit different to each other, are arranged according to the plot of the film. The arranged images are projected onto a screen by projector. The combination between the light of projector that produces images and the photoelectric cells of projector that produce sounds cause "Persistence of vision", the cooperation between human being's eyes and the brain that see film images as moving images. Therefore, film images seem to move as real images. The better one reads an image, the more one understand it. People who are highly experienced in film see more and hear more than people who seldom go to the movies (Monaco, 2000: 152). Everybody can see a film and understand its plot. However, visual images and hidden meanings in film can be understood better by people who often watch films. People who often watch films can understand the

meaning of visual images in films well. They will regard visual images in films that form a story as images that are easy to understand. Therefore, they will not get difficulties in understanding the plot of films. Moreover, people who often watch films can guess the plot of film easily. On the contrary, people who seldom go to the movies and people who seldom watch a film need more time to understand films. They tend to get difficulties in understanding the plot of films since visual images in films can be understood well if those are watched repeatedly. Therefore, people who often watch films can understand films better than people who seldom watch films.

Film is not a language, but it is like a language, and since it is like a language, some of the methods that are used to study language might profitably be applied to a study of film (Monaco, 2000: 157). Film is not a language since the relation between the signifier and signified in language is arbitrary while the relation between signifier and signified in film is almost identical; a low-angle shot of a rose conveys a sense that the flower is dominant while an overhead shot of a rose conveys a sense that the rose will diminish its importance. Therefore, the signs of cinema cannot be modified as the way we modify words of language systems. An image of the sun is an image of the sun. Meanwhile, in language, the word "sun" can be the sun, simply, but it can also be modified to similar words: sunny, sunrise, sunshine, and so on. Film is like language since there are a lot of similarities between film and language. Film and language are signs that consist of signifier and signified. Therefore, images and sounds that are contained in films

are analyzed as a text in order to know the meanings, denotative meaning and connotative meaning, and messages that are conveyed by those films.

There are many branches of film theory. One of those is semiotic film theory. Semiotic film theory has sought to explain how meaning is embodied in a film and how that film is communicated to an audience (Allen and Gomery, 1985: 77). Semiotic film theory is the most provoked film criticism establishment (Lapsley and Westlake, 1998: 31). It is used to analyze signs in a film and discovers the meaning of signs in a film deeply. The growth of semiotic theory and the presence of its vocabulary in a variety of intellectual fields confirm the importance of "the science of signs, sign systems and signifying of practices" (Stam, Burgoyne and Lewis, 1992: x). Semiotic film theory was first introduced in the mid of 1960s by Christian Metz, a French scholar whose semiotic film theory is significant in cinematography (Masinambow and Hidayat, 2001: 161). Other figures who create semiotic film theory are: Charles Sanders Pierce. Peter Wollen, Gilles Deleuze, Teresa de Lauretis, Pier Paolo Pasolini, Umberto Eco and Sthepen Heath (Lapsley and Westlake, 1988: 38). The cine-simioligists of the 1960s were working within the Saussurean tradition (Stam, Burgoyne and Lewis, 1992: 31). The film semioticians pioneers of the 1960s spent much of their energies looking for literal equivalences between linguistic and filmic units. Most of the discussion revolved around the double articulation of linguistic and filmic units; speech can be analyzed into morphemes and phonemes while film can be analyzed into shots, scenes, and the sequences. Semiotics was briefly enjoyed in 1968, when its apparent scientific status threatened to displace all other filmic discourses and to become the necessary precondition for advance in any area of film study (Lapsley and Westlake, 1998: 56).

Metz's semiotic film theory is derived from Saussure's idea of semiology (Stam, Burgoyne, and Lewis, 1992: 33). Christian Metz stated that in film, the relation between the celluloid strip projected onto a screen, the shaped and patterned visual image, and what that image may represent is the relation between signifier and signified. In language, the relation between signifier and signified is arbitrary, but in film the relation is *iconic*, the image resembles what it represent, and *indexical*, the images as effect of a photochemical process is caused by what it represents. Therefore, there is no arbitrary relation of signifier and signified in cinema.

Christian Metz's semiotic film theory places a film as a text. A film is difficult to explain because it is easy to understand. Metz pointed out: we understand a film not because we have knowledge of its system; rather we achieve an understanding of its system because we understand the film. It implies that we understand a film not because the cinema is language that can tell such fine stories, but rather it has become language because it has told such fine stories (Monaco, 2000: 157). Metz distinguished images in film into cinematic image and

filmic image. Cinematic images are elements or images potentially common to all films, such as lighting, stage, the articulation of sounds, and camera movements. Filmic images are images that consist of costumes, gestures, dialogues, characterizations, and facial expressions.

Films manage to communicate meaning (Monaco, 2000: 161). Film has its own language that needs knowledge about the movie technique and terminology to understand it. Bellow is several familiar idioms known in the film theories:

# 1. Signs

# a. Denotative and Connotative Meanings

Film, like written language, has two meanings inserted in its image and sound that are denotative and connotative. Monaco cites Peter Wollen in *How to Read a Film* (2000:164) that there are three orders in the cinematic signs:

- 1) The icon: Sign in which the signifier represents the signified mainly by its similarity to it, its likeness.
- 2) The index: Which measures as a quality not because it is identical to it but because it has an inherent relationship to it.
- 3) The symbol: An arbitrary sign in which the signifier has neither a direct nor an indexical relationship to the signified, but rather represents it through convention.

# b. Codes

There are a number of codes that cinema shares with the other arts. Although, the culturally derived codes and the shared artistic codes are vital to cinema only the unique codes that form the specific syntax of film.

### c. Mise-en-scene

Mise-en-scene is a French term that means 'placing on stage'. Mise-en-scene is used in film studies to arrange how a particular scene is framed. Generally, this includes the location design, customs, and additional props that give information about the film's characters. All those items provide crucial information for the spectators.

On a higher level, this information can be used as a subtext, to analyze the movie and its message. Each discipline of *mise-en-scene* contains tools that may be used to enhance the film. *Mise-en-scene* is often regarded as static montage as dynamic. The codes of *mise-en-scene* are tools with which the filmmaker alters and modifies audience's reading of the shoot. It is usually used to denote that part of the cinematic process, such as the direction of actors, position of cameras, choice of lenses, ect (Monaco, 2000: 179). The shot is a large unit of meaning hence the explanation is divided into:

# 1) The Frame Image

The way in which subjects and objects are framed within a shot produces specific readings. Size and volume within the frame are as important as the dialogue. So too do camera angles. Thus, for example, a low angle shots in medium close-up on a character can point to his/her power, but it can also point the ridicule because of the distortion factor.

There are two kinds of light mentioned here, the key light and fill light. Key light is the main light on a subject. Usually placed at a 45-degree angle to the camera-subject axis. In high key lighting, the key light provides all or most of the light in the scene. In low-key lighting, the key light provides less light. Whereas, fill light is an auxiliary light, usually from the side of the subject that can soften shadows and illuminate areas not covered by the key lightness of the total illumination.

Lighting is very important to determine the mood of the movie.

Dark lighting is usually used for horror movie while bright lighting is used for comedy. In addition, sad or tragic movie usually applies dim lighting.

# 2) The Diachronic Shot

In terms of camera distance with respect to the object within the shot, there are basically 7 types of shots; extreme close-up, close-up, medium close-up, medium shot, medium long shot, long shot, extreme long shot or distance shot.

# a) Close-up/extreme close-up (CU/ECU)

The subject framed by the camera fills the screen. Connotation can be of intimacy, of having access to the mind or thought processes of the character. These shots can be used to emphasize the importance of a particular character at a moment in a film. CUs can also be used on objects and parts of the body other than the face. In this case, they can arrange the-coming-up-action and create suspense. Or they can indicate that an object will have an important role to play the development of the narrative. Often these shots have a symbolic value, usually due to their recurrence during the film.



Picture 1: The example of close-up (The Island, 2005 00:10:05)

# b) Medium close-up (MCU)

The phrase is used when one or two character(s), are in one frame generally from shoulder(s) to head(s). It can also be used when the camera frames the character(s) from the waist up or down. It is when the character is right to the forefront and fills the frame. An MCU of two or three characters can indicate an intimacy or solidarity.



Picture 2: The example of medium close up (The Island, 2005, 00:30:36)

# c) Medium Shot (MS)

Generally speaking, this shot frames a character from the waist, hips, or knees up (or down). The camera is sufficiently distanced from the body for the character to be seen in relation to her or his surroundings.



Picture 3: The example of medium shot

(The Island, 2005, 00:60:00)

# d) Long Shot (LS)

Subject or characters are at some distance from the camera; they are seen in full within their surrounding environment.



Picture 4: The example of long shot (The Island, 2005, 01:02:55)

## e) Extreme Long Shot (ELS)

The subject or characters are very much to the background of the shot. As the camera moves further away from the main subject the visual field lends itself to an increasingly more complex reading.



Picture 5: The example of extreme long shot

(The Island, 2005, 01:05:26)

Shot can have a subjective or objective value: the closer the shot is, the more subjective its value will be and the longer the distance of the shot is the more objective its value will be. A high or low camera angle can also de-naturalize a shot or reinforce its symbolic value.

The camera is used in such a way to suggest the point of view of a particular character. Subjective shot like this also implicates the spectator into the narrative. So, she or he identifies the movie with the camera's point of view.

### d. Angle

The height of camera compared to objects: the comparison between the position of camera and objects or subjects that are pictured by the camera. Camera can take subject in normal angle or eye level, low angle, and high angle. The high and low levels of the intake angle make the movie more dramatic.

Low angle is the camera angle technique that places camera lower than objects or subjects. It means that the position of objects or subjects is higher than the camera's position. A low angle camera will make a character appear as authoritative and superior figure, besides to give greater impression and charisma to the objects or subjects. High angle is the camera angle technique that places camera higher than the objects or subjects. This camera angle technique is applied to give inferior impression toward the objects or subjects, she/he will be seen as a weak. Meanwhile, eye level is the camera angle technique that places the camera the same as the subjects or objects. A normal angle brings a neutral effect in imaging the character and gives common impression toward the objects or subjects.



Picture 6: The example of low angle (The Island, 2005, 01:09:23)



Picture 7: The example of high angle (The Island, 2005, 00:46:35)



Picture 8: the example of normal angle (The Island, 2005, 00:14:58)

### e. Sound

Christian Metz identifies five information in film: (1) The visual image, (2) print and other graphics, (3) speech, (4) music, (5) noise. The majority of the information mentioned previously is auditory rather than visual. It means that speech, music, and sound take significant part in the movie.

# f. Montage

There are eight types of montage: sequence shot, parallel syntagma, the bracket syntagma, the descriptive syntagma, the alternate syntagma, the scene, episodic sequence, and ordinary sequence.

# B. The American Myth, Beliefs, and Values on Technology as a Savior

Myths, beliefs, and values in America are revealed through popular culture. The development of American popular culture around the world has been caused also by public interest in the society. As we already know that public interest influences the development of popular culture. So the products of popular

culture often represent the public interest because products can only have high selling point when the society like and enjoy it. The products are including the media such as movies, music, novels, and television programs.

This happening is also supported by American popular directors that are famous as skillful people. They are very talented to predict the public interest seeing the actual issues, which develop on the society, or they will do exactly things which are popular in the society with many variations and inventions in their film, so the products are more interesting than others that previously exist. They are also realizing that they cannot obey the popular cultures, which occur in the society. That is why they consider the popular cultures in making their works because they know that whenever they can create something that satisfy the society, they will earn a lot of money. As a result, they often make the popular culture as the selling point for their works. Moreover, they know that insert such American myth in their works will make their products more interesting. Myth of technology as savior and protector, myth of America as a special nation, myth of beauty, myth of romantic love and so on are often being exposed and exploited in films, music, novels, fashion and many other products.

One of the aspects in American popular culture is the myth, of which existence brings great influence to the people in the United State. Myth in American culture is different from legends, folktales, fairytales, or anecdotes. The term "myth" is often used to refer to a commonly held but untrue belief. Levi-strauss define myth as "a structured system of signifiers, whose internal networks of relationships are used to 'map' the structure of other sets of relationships; the' content' is infinitely variable and relatively unimportant" (Middleton, 1990: 222).

Myth is the body of belief and representations that sustain and legitimate current power relationship. It promotes the values and interest of dominant group within society. According to Barthes, myth is the notion of social constructed realities, which are passed of as natural. These realities are held up as a universal truth (www.orac.sund.ac.uk/~osOtmc/myth.html).

Myth is also used to explain that something is false, but it can be either true or false as well. But this is not the way contemporary popular culture scholars use the term. "Myth" in the study of popular culture, says nothing about the truth or falsity of any belief or values. It says that the belief or value is significant and long lasting, vital to the mindset of the culture which holds it, and that is widely accepted as being true" (Nachbar&Lause, 1992: 84).

As stated, myth of technology as a savior is one of myths, which can easily be found in the United States of America. This is one kind of myths that exists in society. The meaning of this myth is that technology is a good thing since it can protect human being's life, beneficial and save them, that nearly all problems in the present world are solvable with new invention. This myth, related to popular culture, contains beliefs and values. The beliefs and values that are

contained in this myth are: science is the servant of mankind and progress is mankind's most important product. The American space program is the concrete example of American society's fundamental in this myth. Another current example of this myth is the faith that technology will solve mankind's environment problems. American society believes that scientists can create machine that can repair the ozone layer. They also believe that one day there will be clever scientists, who invent a new energy source to replace oil (Nachbar&Lause, 1992: 128).

The significant role of technology in medical field is the application of myth "Technology as a savior". Technology has save million of lives every month. Recently, a group of scientists cracked the human DNA code. This could mean a cure for cancer, liver and diabetes (<a href="https://www.adfacilities.org/rl/technology.cfm">www.adfacilities.org/rl/technology.cfm</a>). The use of helicopter saves lives in the medical field through emergency airlifts to hospitals. These are the examples of why technology is looked as the savior.

The myth of technology as a savior stimulates American society to invent new machines and all forms of sophisticated technology as a way to facilitate mankind in doing their daily activities. This myth causes amazing technology progress in the United States of America since it is supported by the culture of science that is professed and applied by American society in their daily life. The myth of technology as a savior praises technology as a good since technology is believed beneficial, can save mankind and environmental from disaster, and make mankind's life better. Therefore, this myth is contradicted with Christianity values that are professed by American society. Christianity values emphasize the values "God is the savior and mankind are his creatures". On the contrary, the myth of technology as a savior implies that the position of God as a savior tends to be replaced by technology.

The second myth is the American myth of America as a special nation that states the United States is a nation with a special destiny and mission. The myth has brought the beliefs and values that America is a "City On a Hill" and American democracy is the only valid social/governmental structure. The myth has its icons, they are the American eagle and G.I. Joe. It also has brought the rituals, they are the pledge of Allegiance and "star spangled banner" before sporting events.

Further, there is the American myth of anti-intellectualism. The myth says that the truly intelligent person translates ideas into practical solution to real problems, lives "off" ideas instead of "for" them, and recognize that human identity is found essentially in the heart, not the mind. The beliefs and values in this myth is experience is the best teacher, common sense is superior to book learning, and if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Moreover, the American myth of anti-intellectualism has brought the heroes in the society, they are inventors, Ben Franklin, and Captain Kirk (Nachbar&Lause, 1992: 93).

Nachbar and Lause states that besides American myth of antiintellectualism, there is the American myth of beauty. It is a myth, which concern with man's appearance. If there are some people considering that there are internal and external beauty, it does not happen in this myth. It is just connected to someone's especially women's appearance, which can be seen by eyes. American myth of beauty concerns with the shape of women's body totally. It discusses the exact shape of parts of body, which are easily seen from outside. It talks about shape of waist, skin and the most obvious mainly talk is about breast size. This myth of beauty is often used in clothing industry, cosmetic, sport products, and also in movies industry, because it has big and dominant power in the society. The women's intelligent are in American myth of beauty, once again it only talks about physical attraction which clearly seen from her.

Then, there is the American myth of romantic love. The myth states that for each individual there is a single perfect partner who, once found, makes life complete and permanent happiness possible. The American myth of romantic love contains the belief and values that love conquers all, that are problems, obstacles, and differences that faced by the lovers. It also states that sex is best in true-love relationship and culminates in the unit of the nuclear family. The myth can be seen in famous movies, *Beauty and The Beast* (cartoon), and *Pretty Woman* (Nachbar&Lause, 1992: .96).

# C. Human cloning as a Reflection of the Power of Technology And the Social Views on Cloning

The word "Technology" is formed by compounding the classical roots "Techno", art in the traditional sense of craft or skill, and "Logos", a framework of principles derived from the application of reason (Holt, 1996: 1298). According to *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*, technology is systemic application of knowledge to practical tasks in industry (Hornby, 1998: 887). This contemporary meaning is used since 17<sup>th</sup> century (Holt, 1996: p.1298). Popularization of the word "Technology" in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century indicated that an organized body of knowledge was developing about how to produce various useful material object (Borgatta, 1992: 2163). Popular

discussion of technology focus largely on recent and anticipated advances in, and problems related to weaponry, medicine, computing, communication, transportation, space flight, biotech, and agricultural and industrial production. Old and simple tools such as toothpicks, flyswatters, hammers, ect are also part ff technology, and they do not necessarily disappear as newer and more complicated forms of technology arise (Borgatta, 1992: 2166).

Technological developments have positive and negative effects. Despite problems associated with modern technology, we have become fundamentally dependent upon it (Borgatta, 1992: 2166). Without modern technologies of agriculture and transportation, we could not feed our population that has grown far beyond the previous level. The cracked of human DNA code cures cancer and diabetes. Furthermore, we depend on further technological progress to help us overcome problems associated with the technology we already have. Thus, we need new energy sources to enable us to avoid the polluting effects of fuels that we use today (Borgatta, 1992: 2166).

One of implications of technological advancements in science is the technique of cloning. The ability to successfully clone an animal from an adult cell significantly enhances the chances the development of a biotechnological future. Cloning technologies can be used for other purposes besides producing the genetic twin of another organism. There are different types of cloning. The following three types of cloning technology:

### 1) Recombinant DNA technology or DNA Cloning

The terms "recombinant DNA technology", "DNA cloning", "molecular cloning", or "gene cloning" all refer to the same process: the transfer of a DNA fragment of interest from one organism to a self-replicating genetic element such as a bacterial plasma. This technology has been around since 1970s, and it has become a common practice in molecular biology labs today.

#### 2) Reproductive cloning

Reproductive cloning is to clone cells for the purpose of producing a human being. For example, reproductive cloning would aid the ability for an infertile couple to have a genetically like baby versus an adopted or sperm donated baby. It also could be used to repopulate endangered animals or animals that are difficult to breed. Reproductive cloning is expensive and highly inefficient.

#### 3) Therapeutic cloning

Therapeutic cloning also called "embryo cloning", is the production of human embryos for used in research. It can be considered from the medical standpoint of cloning individual cells for research on various health and medical issues. The goal of this process is not to create cloned human beings, but rather to harvest stem cells that can be used to study human development and to treat disease and also could aid in organ or tissue transplantation. Stem cells are important to biomedical researches because they can be used to generate virtually any type of specialized cell in the human body.

### (http://www.bioethic.gov/reports/cloning report/overview.html)

The possibility of human cloning rose when Scottish scientists at Roslin Institute created the much-celebrated sheep "Dolly". In November 2001, scientists with the biotechnology company Advanced Cell Technology (ACT) in Massachusetts reported that they had cloned the first human embryos for the purpose of advancing therapeutic research; however, the only embryo to survive the cloning process stopped developing after dividing into six cells. In February 2002, scientists with the same biotech company reported that they had successfully transplanted kidney-like organs into cows (<a href="http://www.bioethics.gov/reports/cloningreport/overview.html">http://www.bioethics.gov/reports/cloningreport/overview.html</a>).

Cloning human being would involve the following process: The cell nucleus of an adult person would be removed from an ordinary body cell (e.g. a skin cell). Since the nucleus of each cell (red blood cell excepted) contains all of the genetic information (the DNA) for a complete human being, a nucleus extracted from a donor would be transplanted into an unfertilized host egg cell (the nucleus of which had been removed). Supposedly, then, the embryo transplanted into some woman's "rent-a-uterus" would develop, ultimately producing an exact copy of the person whose original DNA provided (<a href="http://www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human-Genome/elsi/cloning.shtml">http://www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human-Genome/elsi/cloning.shtml</a>).

Human cloning is a scientific research area that has developed through the medical and biomedical research over the years. "To clone is to reproduce, by human hand, identical copies of any living organism (Haseltine, et al, 2002: foreward). This is not new technology, medical practice has transplanted organs, the first test tube baby was born over 21 years ago, and the famous Dolly was a success story of a cloned sheep (Haseltine, et all, 2002: 89). All of these technological advances did not come without years of research and there is success and also failure, while society seems to be facing a constantly challenging and rewarding period of advancement.

A society always moving forward along the uncertain path of discovery, although over a century ago, the discovery of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), and the medical advances were not yet reality, philosophers and politicians in America had a strong interest in biological science, medicine, and society and that interest is increasingly more present (<a href="http://www.actionbioscience.org/biotech/mcgee.html">http://www.actionbioscience.org/biotech/mcgee.html</a>). Even, since the discovery in 1944 that gene consists of DNA, and nine years later in 1953 that the structure of DNA was found to be a double *Helix*, the field of gene research has advanced very quickly. By 1972, the first gene was cloned (Lane, 1997: 174).

There is a social, political, and philosophical context in which all activity takes place in a society regarding any issue. Issues like the new cloning capability expose the problems. The capability to do recombinant DNA research was

debatable regarding cloning. Issues such as genetic counseling, genetic screening for abnormalities of a fetus while in the womb, began a series of questions concerning informed consent of procedures, individual medical privacy, and abortion of genetically malformed. Many of the ethical, moral, and legal issues that emerged then are resurfacing now. Even, the current controversy surrounding gene research lies in U.S. Many opponents of cloning in The United States have pushed for a total ban, but the National Bioethics Advisory Commission stopped short of a complete cloning ban and recommended allowing cloning research to proceed but not to allow human cloning. Several state legislatures, most notably California and New York, have attempt to make cloning research against state law (http://www.actionbioscience.org/biotech/mcgee.html).

Public reaction toward cloning has been mixed. General opinion, as express in an endless onslaught of polls, seems to weigh against cloning. Many feel cloning is morally wrong and goes against the laws of God. Others have taken a more scientific stance, arguing that cloning would be dangerous as it could potentially reduce the genetic diversity of the human species (http://www.hofstra.edu/academics/law//lawrev/law\_lawrev\_nelkin.cfm.html).

The implication of the cloning processes also lies in the political and religious thoughts regarding human cloning in The United State. The issues addressed in the 1970's regarding the recombinant DNA debate resulted in an agreement to ask the government to adopt a set of guidelines for the performance of the research. This was studied and responsible action was also moved along by serious discussions in Congress to limit or outlaw the research. And an advisory council to the President, is reviewing both reproductive and therapeutic cloning processes, and has provided legislature and guidelines for future research (http://www.hofstra.edu/academics/law//lawrev/law lawrev nelkin.cfm.html). With any potential in health, medical or economic benefits, politics and legal issues become prevalent. In a book entitled, Justice and the Human Genome Project (Murphy, 1994: 77), a collaboration of leading scholars in the area of bioethics, law, and public policy suggests that the Human Genome Project while supporting medical research in preventing disease was acceptable, that the

understanding of genetics and the limitations of genetic knowledge, cannot be determined. The politics involved with the economic advantages to cloning, the ability for private medical insurance companies to manipulate known genetics information, such as disease or even race, to deny health coverage, is controversial.

In a brief statement, Christians seems to address human cloning, stem cell research, and scientific research, as it is similar to the issues associated with abortion and birth control. Christians are taught by faith to affirm the morality of conception. Within this affirmation, come responsibility, respect, unique creations, and the birth of God's child. All of which is considered a privilege by the church. Human cloning can be considered a form of birth control, a process to control the "output" of an infant, it falls into the realm of birth control for Christians beliefs. In his 1995 encyclical The Gospel of Life, Pope John Paul II wrote: "Human embryos obtained in vitro are human beings and are subjects with rights; their dignity and right to life must be respected from the first moment of their existence. It is immoral to produce human embryos destined to be exploited as disposable 'biological material' (As cited on American Catholic Organization). This view, the Pope holds, is a combination of both reproductive cloning and therapeutic cloning.

The social views considered from an objective standpoint, human cloning would be considered legal. With the legalization, research would be federally funded, cloning could or may be used for medical research and clones could be "made" for organ transplant and "spare body parts" as needed by society.

Individuals of society who could obtain and afford such technology would legally be able to request "production" of a clone to satisfy personal desires, such as a childless couple, a couple who has lost a child, or just to have a later "twin" of another child. On the contrary, based on the subjective views, subjectively, human cloning should never and will not ever be legalized or shall it be tolerated as an illegal or black-market procedure. Individually, the moral relevance for human cloning would be socially unacceptable issues regarding relationships and the structure of the family.

The improvements in cloning technologies may face many challenges must be overcome before cloned organ transplants become reality. More effective technologies for creating human embryos, harvesting stem cells, and producing organs from cells have to be developed. So that may some day, such as therapeutic cloning technology can be used in human to produce whole organs from single cells or to produce healthy cells that can replace damaged cells in degenerative diseases, for the treatment of diabetes, cancer, liver, and other diseases.

# CHAPTER III ANALYSIS

This chapter consists of the analysis as answer to the problem statements in this research. The analysis is divided into two sub chapters in order to discuss each question deeply. The first sub chapter deals with how the film *The Island* reflects the myth of American technology as a savior through the story of human cloning. In this section, any informations from the film is dig out to support the description of the myth of American technology as a savior through the story of human cloning that is the subject matter of this film. The second sub chapter will answer the second question of the problem statements that is how does the film *The Island* reflect the paradox of human cloning in American technology? These problem statements stated in chapter one will be answered by using all of the

approaches mentioned previously in the first chapter in order to get proper analysis.

The analysis starts with simple analysis of the title of the film. The title of the film that becomes the research object is *The Island*. The title of a film is one of important elements in film since it describes the story of a film. It represents the ideas inside the film. Therefore, moviegoers see the title first before making any decision which film is going to watch. The title of a film should be short and eye catching. So, the perspective of moviegoers will get an early description about the film in a glance and then decide to see the film to fulfill their curiosities. In this case, The Island uses only two words as its title to get the attention from the oax and hope offered to the clones public. The title, *The Island*, refers housed in a place-contained facility the mid 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is uttered in the movie's key line by the community announcer: The Island, supposedly the last remaining pathogen-free zone (The Island, 2005, 00:06:22). The clones remember a vague environmental catastrophe that contaminated most of the world and new survivors. Their brain were implanted that they are chosen and special people, having major specify in their life and special purpose to go to the island. Another key scene that is closely related with the title of this film is the scene 00:29:27. Below is the quotation:

"The next winner will be selected in random for relocation to the island, to transport it to the world last paradise. You have been chosen. The island waits you.

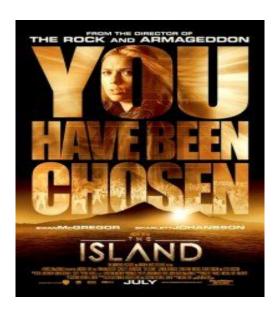
(The Island, 2005, 00:29:27)

All the clones will be permanently-relocated to the only uncontaminated area left on earth, a paradise. From those quotations, the film title, *The Island*,

means as the only uncontaminated area left on earth, as a paradise and the last remaining pathogen free zone. It is the place that the clones hope to go. But in this film, the island ultimately refers to the hoax island created by Dr. Merrick for the clones that it is an isolated state of mind, one that exists artificially in an human landscape of ideas and that denies personhood to human beings in the service of power, privilege and wealth. In another word, actually there is no island at all.

The first promotional movie poster has already suggested the theme of human survival in the movie. In the poster, there is a quotation "you have been chosen". The sentence in the poster indicates the girl in a frame of the alphabet "o" as a chosen girl to go to the island. It suggests the theme of the movie, *The Island* that is about the message that the human is the chosen, the elected people going to the island or the paradise. This is supported by the key scene 00:29:27 "the next winner will be selected in random for relocation to the island, to transport it to the world last paradise. You have been chosen. The island waits you". This scene reminds the moviegoers of the doctrine of 'the elected', "You have been chosen" meaning that human beings are the elected among God's creature and the one deserve paradise to go to the island.

The scenery of vast island, high mountains, and bright sky of the sea in the twilight are placed bellow the picture with the title, *The Island*, in white-bold-Arial-capitals. The twilight here seems to give description that the island is the last place to go. The scenery creates the imagination of the new world, where human beings will continue their lives, and imaging place for human beings.



Picture 9: The first promotional movie poster

Source: <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/image:The-island.jpg">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/image:The-island.jpg</a>

Unlike the previous, which is simple and motionless, the second one is more vigorous and attractive. This poster illustrates more actions of Ewan McGregor (Lincoln Six Echo) and Scarlett Johansson (Jordan Two Delta) that make a desperate attempt to escape from the institute to the outer world. In this poster is seen their daring escape from a mercenary strike team, who chase the two clones by helicopters, with city of the real world as the background. The city may reflect the civilization in the real world. The helicopters here remind the technology that is used in the outer world uses high technology products.



Picture 10: The second promotional movie poster

Source: <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/image:The-island.jpg">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/image:The-island.jpg</a>

The next is the setting of the film, *The Island*. The setting of place is in Los Angeles, New York, the desert near Yuma, Arizona and mostly in the U.S. military bunker bellow ground, where the institute operates their illegal business. The setting of time approximately is estimated to be set in the near future the year 2019 inside the institute facility vs. the speculated 2050 in the outer world. From these times, there is phenomenon that the length of a year inside the Merrick's institute and outside of it, is different. By this year, America is described as a modern totalitarianism nation, because person; models, athletes, even politician quickly comes to mind to use transplant, Botox, facelifts, that knows best what is good for them as individuals to survive and looks better, which also includes insurance, services, high tech transportations; the train axles were made out of rubber, subway cars, jet-bike, instead of upgrading everything to the latest and greatest technology. This setting is calculated from Merrick's dialogue with the

audiences in the following sequences in the day when Merrick promote his business in his institute:

'Ladies and gentleman! Welcome to the next generation of science...convention in new genetic law two thousand and nineteen...

(The Island, 2005, 00:49:27)

Another elements that the director uses to attract the moviegoers attention is by using the unique name of the character in a film. In *The Island*, the characters use unusual name even it sounds rather strange. Such as Lincoln Six Echo, Jordan Two Delta, Lima One Alfa and so on. They are not usual name, but names that usually used for naming the technology products. So it can be said that their name are the marriage between technology and humans. The director also gives more explanation about the meaning of the names. It can be seen from the quotation bellow:

### **MACORD**

You're echo generation, so you three. Delta means, you four. Your sponsor's name Tom Lincoln and Sarah Jordan. Your sponsor lives in New York. The number in your name is a regional code. Six Echo means your sponsor lives in LA.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 62)

From the quotation above, the moviegoers will know the meaning of the character's name. The clones' names are a combination of the last name of their sponsor, a numbering indicating the sponsor's geographical area, and a code to indicate the clone's generation. Such all Echo clones are supposed to be the same age, and indicates how long they will be harvested. The clones here are isolated in

an enormous building, approximately in the military bunker bellow ground, enclosed colony, and having the structure live according to the rules.

At the beginning of the film, Lincoln Six Echo is shown sleeping in his bedroom, and he seems having nightmare about the island that he will go. In this island there is a vast sea and he sailed on a boat, *Renovatio*, unfortunately, he drowning form the boat, which then makes him wakes up from his sleeping.



Picture 11 (The Island, 2005, 00:05:33): Lincoln Six Echo when awakes from his sleep.

When he awakes from his sleep, in this scene is shown Lincoln Six echo is lying in his bed. The camera shots Lincoln by using extreme close up technique to emphasize the importance of a particular character of Lincoln Six Echo at a moment in this film, besides to indicate that this character has an important role to play the development of the narrative of this film.

In the next scene, the using of modern technology products is shown in this film, such as when the camera shots a screen in Lincoln's wall room, which inform Lincoln's erratic rem sleep cycle is detected, which then ask Lincoln to report to the tranquility center and follows for wellness evaluation at 08.00 hours. Then the camera shots Lincoln Six echo in the bathroom. Here a modern and

sophisticated technology that is used in the bathroom is seen, the technology screening shows sodium excess detected and advising to nutrition control.

The significant things that are shown in the beginning of this film are the sense of technological domination and the lack of presentation of nature. These are shown by the camera angle, which shots the whole of the institute rooms. The camera shots the ladder to the upper levels of the facility in the institute, then the camera shots through the floor tiles of a long white corridor, apparently the inner working of the facility, which resembles a modern-day habitation. All of the facilities in the institute work automatically and it is programmed by computerizing system.

The clones here, having structure life according to the rules that are selected for them such as clothing, meals, leisure, and jobs are all structured and controlled. They all wear white shirts, white pants, and white shoes and live in a white environment, programmed, controlled and sexless. It can be seen in the pictures bellow:

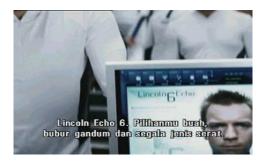


Picture 12 (The Island, 2005, 00:08:57): Lincoln Six echo in monitored room

The picture above portrayed that the technology that is used by the institute uses
high and sophisticated technology. It is seen several monitor programmed to

communicate with Lincoln Six Echo automatically and inform what he has to wear.

Further, the camera shots Lincoln Six Echo in the nutrition control room. Then the camera shots Lincoln who waits for his meals, moves to nutrition clerk who gives and controls meals to the clones. In this scene is seen that all the clones' meals are controlled and limited.



Picture 13 (The Island, 2005, 00:09:51): Lincoln Six echo in nutrition room

In addition, the clones in the institute are also doing routine activities such as studying. Like real human, they learn how to read and get basic knowledge equal to those of knowledge of human being under 15<sup>th</sup> years old. Then the camera shot moves to the tranquility center. Here, the clones are shown to enjoy leisure time activities such as swimming, and having relaxation. It is seen that the clones in this tranquility center room are women. It is aimed to show to the moviegoers that the clones in the institute are sexless. Besides the clones who have such activities, also are programmed to do certain job that is structured by the institute. They have specified jobs.



Picture 14 (The Island, 2005, 00:11:44): The clones learn to read



Picture 15 (The Island, 2005, 00:011:58): The clones in the tranquility center



Picture 16 (The Island, 2005, 00:13:21): The clones doing a mundane job



Picture 17 (The Island, 2005, 00:14:23): The clones in the lottery room of the Merrick's institute

In the next scene, in the time of the clones doing their activities, in a certain time, when the lottery is pronounced, they gathered in the lottery room. In

this scene is shown that the community announcer announces the clone that will go to the island. The camera shots in normal camera angle that is aimed to give a neutral effect in imaging the characters and Long Shot portrayed the picture, so the object and the surrounding are seen. Here is clearly seen that all the clones wear white shirts, white pants, and white shoes and live in a white environment.

In addition to the fact that the clones here having structured life according to the rules that are selected for them, programmed, controlled and sexless, the significant thing that is shown in the beginning of this film are the sense of technological domination and the lack of presentation of nature. It is clear that the technology has already dominated the civilization in the institute. On the other side, it also give the sense that human beings are controlled by technology that also give sense of no human freedom, lack of human relationship and intimacy.

# A. The Myth of American Technology as a Savior as Reflected in The Island

Most member of general public in many countries have at least heard about human cloning. Even the majority of Americans are interested in new development of this technology, although only a relatively small percentage consider themselves are well informed about this technology. American people are optimistic and supportive of the progress made in the life sciences, they are also concerned about the implications of the cloning technology advancement,

even if they have different views on this technology, or have different myths and beliefs. So this technology becomes a public issue, and made it be interesting thing to be packaged into science fiction movie.

The cloning technology that becomes the subject matter in *The Island* reflects the American myth on technology as a savior. In this film, it can be seen that American people expect cloning technology to save their lives. The American myth on technology as a savior that is reflected in *The Island* can be known from all of the elements in the film, plot, dialogues, and cinematographic elements.

The Island places cloning technology as an important factor in saving human from death because of disease, accident, or old age, having agnates or making somebody looks perfect. From the beginning until the end, The Island exposes the significant role of cloning technology in saving human from death because of disease, accident or old age, a childless couple can own agnates. Even somebody can their life quality. The condition that The Island places technology as an important aspect to prevent death and American people's opinion toward technology are closely related to the American myth on technology as a savior. In this myth, technology is seen as the savior of the human that can save human beings from dangers even from death and also giving benefit to them. This belief stimulates the writer of The Island, Caspian Tredwell-Owen, to insert this myth to the plot of The Island, the myth of technology as a savior.

The myth of technology as a savior in *The Island* can be seen when some of American society's wealthy elite placed cloning technology to guarantee their life to live longer and spent several million dollars to get insurance policies

for their body parts. They believe this insurance policy is very beneficial and will save them. It will provide them liver, kidneys, and other essential things, when something bad happens to them. With their insurance policy, the institute that they have paid will save them and provide them with new organs they need. For some women who do not want to go through the pain of childbirth and have stretch marks, or childless couple, they could own clone birth to get agnates for them. Even some Americans who want to beautify their body parts like fresh skin for a facelift, they join this insurance policy program. They believed this technology would save them and fulfill their desire to live longer, more beautifully and perfectly. American people rely on cloning technology product to save them.

The myth of technology as a savior that is reflected in *The Island* can be known when American wealthy people join insurance policy program in Merrick's biotech institute to have cloned of them. The clones in this movie are commissioned by the "sponsor", wealthy people including movie stars, models, athletes, even politicians who pay to have a clone for themselves, in case they have a medical need for organs or other biological material so the clients might achieve immortality even as they destroy their own organs through unhealthy lifestyles choices. Here, Jamal Starkweather played by Michael Clarke Duncan, is a football player with liver failure took an insurance policy. He places this technology as the last hope for him to prevent his death. When the time he needs a new liver comes, the liver of his clone, Starkweather Two Delta is then harvested. The community announcer of the institute announces that the clone won the

lottery and was the next person to head to the island. Actually, going to the island means to have them made for replacement body of parts.



Picture 18 (The Island, 2005, 00:37:25): Starkweather Two Delta is in a surgery room, being operated to take his liver.

The picture shows the camera angle in this scene uses high angle. This camera angle technique is applied to give inferior impression toward Starkweather as a clone like a product to be harvested, so he will be seen as weak. Medium close-up potrayed the laser bonds saw cut him open on Starkweather's chest to take his liver. Besides this angle is to give impression to the power of technology.

Further, in this scene, Starkweather's facial expression shows his being powerless. The custom that he wore is white, using a breathing aid in his nose, and his make-up that was made so minimal, even tend to look pale shows that he is getting weak and losing his strength. Here, in this scene the power of technology is seen through the camera angle and camera shooting technique. The camera shot Starkweather was silently awareness. He is as being in unconscious level. Here, the camera also shots him as the laser bonds saw cut his chest open to focus Starkweather as the main object in this scene and to show what he feels more clearly. So, he will be seen as being so powerless. These shots show the dominant and the power of technology in contrast to human being. The

technology that is used in the surgery room uses high technology and is sterilized. Such as laser bonds saw that works automatically with control system and organs or tissue that have been harvested for transplant is handled with care and keep in up right position. The technology is shown as powerful and dominant, while Jamal Starkweather is shown as human being whose good life, but he cannot do the best for his life, for instance having good life and keeps healthy depends on the cloning technology.

In the next scene, the myth of technology as a savior is also shown in the scene of a woman in giving a birth. The use of camera angle that reflects the myth of technology as a savior is clearly reflected through Lima One Alpha, one of the clones in giving a birth, but she was killed immediately afterwards. Her baby was taken away and handed over to a woman who curiously looked exactly like her. This woman was a childless wife who paid Merrick's biotech institute to have a baby. In this case, this technology is believed to be able to protect human being's life, beneficial and to save them. Lima believes that this cloning technology could give her agnates, after her long married life in which she could not have a baby, and the doctor told her that she could not own agnates. Here, the role of cloning technology is clearly important and significant for American people who want gets agnates. This technology seems beneficial for them. Lima and her husband are childless couples because they are sterile. By cloning technology, they could realize their dream to have an agnate. This technology is also can be used for some women who do not want to go through the pain of childbirth and have

stretch marks, but they could own agnates. This implies that cloning technology is so powerful in American technology and beneficial for Americans.



Picture 19 (The Island, 2005, 00:34:07): Lima One Alpha is in a surgery room in giving a birth.

In addition, through the picture, the camera shots in medium shot for the characters to be seen in relation to the surrounding of the surgery room. So the camera shot is not only focused on the characters but also almost on of the surgery room to portray the uses of technology to help the birth process such as controlled monitor, light shot, infusion tools and many others. Normal angle is used to bring neutral effects in imaging the characters. Moreover, fill light gives in the side of the subject that can soften the shadows. In this scene, the camera shot Lima on her face to show her paint when giving a birth, the camera shot moves to the doctor who is giving instruction to Lima, after few seconds when the baby born, the camera shot moves to the baby, the doctor then shows a beautiful baby in her carrying. Then the camera moves to Lima, and the lighting tends to shot her face to make clear Lima's facial expression. Lima expresses her joys when she sees her beautiful baby. She smiles, and her face shows a feeling of amazement. The camera also shots the whole of the room to show the technology that is used in the

institute's surgery room uses high and sophisticated technology. Afterwards, the inhuman side of the institute's staffs begins. The doctor holds Lima's foot and a man giving her a death injection. The smiles on Lima's face turn to be strained, her body convulsed, and then she breathes her last breath.

In the outside of the surgery room, from the window Lincoln sees that horrible thing. He seems shocked with what he saw. He saw how the staff institute killed Starkweather Two Delta then take his organs and Lima One Alpha. Shocked by this discovery and knowing that Jordan Two Delta is next to be transported to the island, which means she will be killed, Lincoln raced back to the facility to save her from death. Then they escaped from the institute, they passed a high place, and the camera angle shots them with high angle to express their anxiety and confusion when they saw the outside world for the first time, so they are seen as weak creature like a new baby born who cannot do nothing then. They just looking around, then the camera shot moves to the below ground, Jordan and Lincoln, then moves again to the surroundings.

In addition to the scenes that expose the process of the application of cloning technology as seen in the "harvesting" of Lima One Alpha and Starkweather Two Delta clones, the belief in technology as a savior can be seen in the presentation of the institute's mission. Dr. Merrick gives a speech to promote his new technology development. He told how important his mission and institute. They had done the best to prevent the world extinction and save mankind from disaster and dangers that endanger them. Saving the environment from mass

extinction and mankind from danger are not an easy duty. The myth of technology as a savior can be concluded through this quotation:

### Dr. MERRICK

Ladies and gentleman! Welcome to the next generation of science: the agnates, an organic frame and genuine directly into adult fetus to match the client's age.

You're looking the step one of development.

In twelve months will be ready to harvest. Providing the womb for the baby, second period of lungs, fresh skin for a face-lift. All genetically can't be distinguished from your own.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 79)

Dr. Merrick is giving a speech toward the audiences to promote his cloning technology product in the Merrick's biotech institute. He is the scientist who is in charge of the entire product. He pronounced that his cloning technology be able to produce the agnates, so the childless couple or for some women who do not want to go through the pain of childbirth and have stretch marks, they could owned a baby from clone birth, and providing the womb for the baby. Further, he explain that they can own new livers, lungs, and other organs or tissue, an organic frame and genuine directly into adult fetus to match the client's age. So the client can live several years longer as they want. Even, his technology can provide the clients with fresh skin for a face-lift so they can beautify their body parts. He gives guarantee for his clients and believes this cloning technology would save them and fulfill their desired to live longer, more beautifully and perfectly. It indicates that cloning technology has important role to American in the future. It also implies the myth of technology as a savior since this technology is placed as the last hope for human to prevent the death, gets agnates or to make people more beautiful and perfect.

Dr. Merrick as the representative of American people is confident that all American technology product such as cloning technology that is used to make new organs to be transplanted, providing fresh skin for a face lift, or agnates can support him and his teams in saving people from death because of disease, accident or old age, to have a child, even to make people more beautiful and perfect. Although this cloning technology seems to be impossible and even breaking the laws, Dr. Merrick is certain that his work, saving people from death and giving other services will be successful.

Mr. Whitman who continued Dr. Merrick speech, explains to the client how they will be able to live sixty until seventy years longer for the smartest investment if they take part in the insurance policy. Thus, it is clear that this cloning institute exist mostly for the sake of profit making. Further, Mr. Whitman shows a room, where it is provided with an organic frame that can be used for transplantation. Actually, the institute was a lie. All organic frames that they said to be made directly into adult fetus are a hoax. They deceive prospective sponsors by telling them that the clones are kept in a persistent vegetative state, and are never really alive. Truthfully, the first clones kept in this state suffered organ failure within two years. The organic frame cannot grow directly into adult fetus. It must grow in human body. The institute then determines that the clones needed to experience life in some form in order to be viable donors. For that reason, the institute produces human clones to get their organs. This fact is not known by all the sponsors. If the sponsors know this, this institute's secret might come to

public, which means their illegal business will be prohibited. This describes that the institute will do everything to get their profits.

In the next scene the audiences followed the tour carefully and they surround the demo of an organic frame example.



Picture 20 (The Island, 2005, 00:46:35): The example of an organic frame

which genuine directly into adult fetus.

The picture shows the camera angle in this scene uses high angle. It is used to convey the sense of atmosphere in the certain room of a promotion and engulf the organic frame as the object. Long Shot portrayed the picture, so the object and the surrounding are seen. Some wealthy elite Americans, the example of organic frame which genuine directly into adult fetus in different stages, fill the surrounding of this room and Mr. Whitman who has responsible that can handle the promotion to the project of cloning technology. Then, the promotion tour is continued to another room. In this scene, the camera shots several rooms of the institute to show that the technology that is used by the institute is high and sophisticated technology. Then the camera shots another human organs in the clear bags are shown in different stages of growth. One bag appears to contain only one organ of human, some of it already to be transplant. All of it are processed by sophisticated machine and seems sterilize. It describes that the institute rely on the power of technology, which can be used to support their operation to produce some human organs by cloning. It can be understood that it is one of the modern technology products, which reflects American progress in modern technology. Then the camera moves to the audiences who satisfied with the technology that the institute used and they seem full of curiosity to know more the demo of the institute's promotion.

Nevertheless, eventhough Dr. Merrick seems to be doing a great service to humanity through cloning technology, it cannot be denied, that actually he is running the cloning institute not solely to give services for humanity, but also for the purpose of commercial business. Although there is law that prohibit cloning human, Dr. Merrick and his institute keeps on running their illegal business to clone human. He promotes his products in his institute is limited for certain social class not for public in general. Dr. Merrick explains that the clones are simply tools for cure diseases, creates agnates or tools to make somebody looks perfect. They assumed as products and instrument and they have no soul, so it no harmful for Dr. Merrick to use the clones for treatment or other services even by destroy the clones

Dr. Merrick as the creator of cloning technology believes this technology can be a savior and beneficial for human being. By this technology, he is sure that he can give life and agnates. He rattles off a list of diseases he can cure by using his clones. He suggests that he has two years away from curing childhood leukemia. One of the current treatments for leukemia is to clone a human in order to help transfusing blood cells from the clone to the patient. He believes that cloning technology that he provides is like the holy grail of the science, that will solve all human problems, and it answers all human quests.

As quoted from the dialogue of Dr. Merrick and Mr. Laurent:

### Dr. MERRICK

I've discovered the holy grail of science Mr. Laurent. I give life, the agnates. They simply a tool, instrument, they have no soul. The possibility is unendless here. In two years time, I'll be able to cure a child leukemia. How many people in earth can say that? They can't do that Mr. Laurent!

## Mr. LAURENT

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 102)

From this dialogue, it can be understood that cloning technology is one of the great inventions in modern technology and human life. In this case, Dr. Merrick himself is presented as truly believing that he was doing a great service for humanity, beside to make the American dream come true. He thinks he is a pioneering scientist who is acting within guidelines of positive ethics and helping to extend the lives of patients. This human cloning technology is perceived as a savior and gives service for humanity.

The characterization of Dr. Merrick as a powerful person in the institute who wants to make benefit from cloning technology is completely recognized when he talks to Mr. Laurent, the leader of mercenary team, in his private room in the institute. The camera shot his face by using close up technique and it moves slowly to shot Merrick's face from left to right. It gives dominant sense to the character. He is very dominant in this conversation and in the project of cloning technology. His facial expression looks so serious. He speaks clearly and he looks so powerful. It is also followed by Dr. Merrick getting up from his chair and the camera shots his body using low angle technique from the waist up. It gives sense that he has great authority, and makes him appears as authoritative and superior figure, besides to give greater impression and charisma to him.



Picture 21 (The Island, 2005, 00:49:21): Dr. Merrick, the leader of the institute who talks to Mr. Laurent to capture the escaped clones.

## **MERRICK**

Jordan two Delta's sponsor, Sarah Jordan, is a comma after car accident. She needs more of organ transplant.

Mr. LAURENT How long that she had? MERRICK Forty-eight hours.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 66)

The quotation above tells about Dr. Merrick who speaks to Mr. Laurent about what had happened to the institute's clones. He told that Jordan's sponsor,

Sarah Jordan, was recently in a car accident, and requires multiple organ transplants to survive. Unfortunately, Jordan's clone, Jordan Two-Delta escaped the institute with her fellow, Lincoln Six Echo. Dr. Merrick as the leader of the institute has responsibility to get back the clone to the facility, which then to be harvested. He then ordered Mr. Laurent to capture Jordan because Sarah Jordan does not had much time waiting her new organs to be transplanted.

Sarah Jordan as a famous model also follows Merrick's institute program to have an insurance policy to have a clone to get new organ such those people for her body parts when they get disease, accident or old age to prolong her life. Sarah Jordan as a famous wealthy person realize how important the insurance policy for new organs to her, even if she has to spend much money to this insurance policy. She believes cloning technology will provide her with new organs, save her to live longer.

Further, Sarah Jordan act implies that she is as an American illustrating the corrupted use of technology. As a human who God created with a lot of superiorities; beautiful face, good body, famous, rich, a child is not satisfied with God has grant for her. It describes the life of man with an insatiable desire, the basic characteristic of human who always wants more in their life. Sarah Jordan as a model believes that cloning technology would gives her a lot of benefits. She is realize as a model she must always looks perfect to keep her commercial. By this cloning technology, she could own fresh skin for face-lift to beautify her whole bodies. Even, if something bad happens with her, such as she gets accident or diseases, her insurance policy will guarantee her to get new organs she that needs.

This describes that the power of cloning technology stimulates American people rely on this technology and believes this technology could save them from danger and gives them a lot of benefit.

While Laurent mercenary strikes team begins to hunt the two clones who escaped from the institute, Lincoln Six echo and Jordan Two Delta run out the institute to a vast desert, the camera shot them in slow motion, and then the camera shot moves around the desert, describe the two clones just like newly born humans be a new human and experience a new life in the real world without enough knowledge and experience of the real world. In the outside, Lincoln and Jordan begin to walk, and find a bar frequented by McCord. McCord is shocked to find both Lincoln and Jordan outside to the institute. He takes Lincoln and Jordan back to his home and gives them clothes, money, and credit card to help them find their sponsors and reveal the truth. He tells them that Lincoln's sponsor lives in Los Angeles, and Jordan's lives in New York City. Knowing the two clones escape from the institute, Dr Merrick sends a mercenary strike team to find them, led by Albert Laurent. At the train station, the strikes team kills McCord and gives chase to Lincoln and Jordan. Lincoln and Jordan successfully evade Laurent's team members and broad the train to Los Angeles.

After arriving in Los Angeles, Jordan uses McCord credit card and a video phone booth to call her sponsor. Lincoln finds his sponsor, Tom Lincoln, a Scottish playboy racer, in an expensive and luxurious apartment. Tom revealed he needs a new liver because of chronic hepatitis infection, which he got from sleeping around and a lot of sex adventure. He has paid five million dollars for an

insurance policy to Merrick's biotech institute that will provide him a liver in the event of his disease. As a playboy, Tom Lincoln's appearance was initially conservative and good looking. He also came from the high class and holds a position in a prestigious class society, lives in expensive and luxurious apartment. Actually he was a talented young guy. As a young racer he was be able to design a great motorcycle, luxurious car, even great ship a model of *Renovatio*. This conclusion is taken based on the conversation between Tom Lincoln and his clone, Lincoln Six Echo:

**TOM** 

I have chronic hepatitis infection. Affecting from God, a lot

of sex.

LINCOLN

Sex?

**TOM** 

Sex with....Are you virgin? My doctor said that my liver

would stop. Failing in the next two years.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 62)

LINCOLN

How much my cost?

TOM

Five million dollars.

LINCOLN

Is that a lot?

TOM

It's a small price to pay to cheat death.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 63)

From this dialogue, it can be understood that Tom Lincoln, as an American believes that cloning technology via organ transplantation will save him. He will do anything to survive and he does not care how. He just wants to live. He does not care that he has to pay a lot of money to get his life. The myth of

technology as a savior stimulates American people to do the best and keep

struggling when they face dangers or disasters that threat human's life. Therefore, although it seems impossible, American people will do the best and keep struggling to survive.

Tom Lincoln as an American people will do anything to survive. It is helped and fulfilled by American technology that offers cloning technology to fulfill his desire. In addition, Tom Lincoln's act describes as a man who has corrupted use of technology. It portrays that the life of man are full of an insatiable desire. As a man he cannot praise his live. He has good talent to create new innovation in automotive technology, good looking, rich, even many woman are so interested in him. But he cannot use this case of opportunity that God has granted to him well. So, when there is cloning technology that offers the solution for him, although it is harmful, he keeps rely on this technology; for he believes that this technology can be a savior for his life.

Here, Ewan McGregor plays against himself relatively well in this scene, as both the naïve Lincoln Six Echo, the clones, and the lecherous young guy Tom Lincoln. Tom turns out to be from Scotland, meaning McGregor uses both fake accent and his real accent in the same scene, which admittedly is a clever touch. Tom Lincoln seems to be amused by his encounter with his clone, and is friendly and informative. He flirts with Jordan, one of the clones, saying that he has seen her in Maxim magazine and kissed her hand lecherously.

TOM LINCOLN
I've see you before in Maxim, Esquire.
JORDAN TWO DELTA
Maxim?
TOM LINCOLN
All the men magazine. You're very popular.
(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 58)

Sarah Jordan seems so famous in men's world. Tom Lincoln knows her well for her beauty and sexiness. He saw Jordan full of amazement, kissed her hand with flirtatious smiled. He still did not realize that Jordan was a clone.



Picture 22 (the Island, 2005, 01:35:11): Sarah Jordan in one of her advertisings The normal camera angle in this scene is used to give a neutral effect in imaging the characters and Medium close-up portrayed them to indicate an intimacy. Jordan seems to catch what Tom feels. Jordan whispers that she sees the same look of deceit in Tom's eyes that she picks out in Lincoln Six echo's eyes when he is lying. The camera moved on Jordan, who stood near Tom, full of curiosity. Then the camera moved on Lincoln Six Echo, Tom's face, and Jordan that still observes Tom's eyes carefully. Lincoln is looking across the room to the next room. He saw the television and looked surprised about what he saw. He saw the same men in the institute with the men in the TV program.

LINCOLN
Who is that guy? I know him. Is he the community announcer?
TOM
He is the president of America
LINCOLN
He is a cloned
TOM
He is absolute idiot
LINCOLN

Yeah, I've never really to like him

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 66)

The quotation above implies that not only the common people who believe cloning technology can be a savior for their life, but there are also politicians in America such the U.S. President George W. Bush. He cloned himself and paid insurance policy to Merrick's biotech institute to get a guarantee for his life. Although in this film, there is no scene that shows how the U.S. president follows this insurance policy to have a clone for organ transplant, this use of political figure, the US of president to be one of the character in the movie to accept the clone technology shows how the belief in technology as a savior is a dominant value in American society.



Picture 23 (The Island, 2005, 01:29:01): The U.S. President,

George W. Bush who cloned himself in Merrick's biotech institute.

In this scene, the camera shots in normal camera angle to give a neutral effect in imaging the character and Medium shot portrayed him. By seeing the television program show, Lincoln asks Tom to expose Merrick's biotech institute to television station. In this way, he thinks that he could tell the truth what the institute did to the public. Himself as the clone and Tom Lincoln can prove the secret of the institute's illegal business. This scene actually describes that Lincoln Six Echo as a clone is not merely a product, he could think like a real human. He knows the way out to solve his problem.

Further, Tom Lincoln agrees to help the two plead their case before the media. However he then calls the institute, informing them that his insurance policy is sitting in his living room. Tom leaves them goes to his room, and call the institute with hidden anger.

TOM

Merrick institute?

**OPERATOR** 

Merrick Biotech, may I help you?

TOM

Yes. I'm Tom Lincoln.

**OPERATOR** 

Hi..Mr Lincoln.

TOM

Can you get the good answer to explain to me why my insurance policy is sitting down stair in my fuckin sofa!

**OPERATOR** 

Cam you wait please?

TOM

Sure.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 63)

From the quotation above, it is clear that Tom Lincoln joints insurance policy program in Merrick's biotech institute. He feels that the existence of his clone could threat his life. First, when he needs new organs from his clone, it is

impossible to take the organ when his clone escaped from the institute. And he knows that Merrick's institute would not let both of them live in the real world to keep their illegal business. The quotation above also implies that Tom Lincoln perceives that cloning technology will save him from death because it can provide him with new organ he needs to prolong his life. But the existence of the two clones in his apartment makes him worried.

In addition, the scene in this film that took place in Tom Lincoln's apartment when he tried to confirm what had happen to the institute exhibits his anxiety. He walks across the room then climb up a ladder entrance accompanied by gloomy music soundtrack. Tom Lincoln is confused, there is someone like his twin in his own apartment. Lincoln's life is turned upside down when he discovers that someone like him want to replace his life. In this scene, the turning point of the effect of cloning technology arises. The product of cloning technology begins to be a dilemma for the human. Technology that Lincoln hoped could be a savior for him, can provide him with new organ for his hepatitis, in fact turns to be a nightmare because the product he needs escape from the institute. Further, the music played an important role to describe the intensity of Tom Lincoln's confusion and anger. Further, the gloomy atmosphere and melody gave a deep description of Tom Lincoln's feeling and emotion. The dark lighting in this scene was used to transfer Tom Lincoln's burden to the moviegoers. This is to show and to bring the moviegoers into the dramatic event in the film

At last, Tom Lincoln is ready to help Lincoln Six Echo to go the TV station to tell the truth what the institute did. But on the way to the TV station,

naturally, Tom Lincoln selfishness comes up. He tries to kill Lincoln Six Echo, pulls a handgun to him. He will do anything to live longer. His attempt to kill his clone actually is a description of his anxiety about the existence of his clone in the real world. He realized that it is impossible in his real world there are two people who really have the same body, DNA, and fingerprint. Merrick's biotech institute also never let the same people live in the real word to keep his secret about his illegal business.

But ironically, while the two are heading to a television station, Laurent and his team, the mercenary institute haunted them. Here Laurent and his team cannot distinguish the sponsor, Tom Lincoln, from the clone. The two men were similarly dressed, and Lincoln Six Echo was perfectly mimicking Tom Lincoln's Scottish accent. The naïve Lincoln Six Echo turn to tricky, he removed his clone ID bracelet, puts it on Lincoln's arm, causing Laurent confused in differentiating who is the sponsor, Tom Lincoln and Lincoln Six Echo as the clone, which then he killed Tom Lincoln.



Picture 24 (The Island, 2005, 01:35:29): Lincoln Six Echo in fighting,

A handgun was aimed to him.

The picture shows the camera angle in this scene uses normal angle. The normal camera angle is showed to give greater impression to Lincoln. Medium close-up portrayed Lincoln's anxiety and tension on his face. It meant, to show Lincoln's anxiety and tension, where Tom Lincoln pulled Lincoln Six Echo by pulls a handgun to Lincoln's head.

Through the beliefs of the characters such as Tom Lincoln, Sarah Jordan, Jamal Starkweather, Lima and the U.S. president who believe cloning technology will guarantee and save their live, the myth of American technology as a savior stimulates American people to do the best and keep struggling in destroying diseases that threat human's life. And human cloning technology has placed by American people as the savior for them. They believe this technology is very beneficial and will save them. It will provide them liver, kidneys, and other essential things with new organs they need. For some women who do not want to go through the pain of childbirth and have stretch marks, or childless couple, they could own clone birth to get agnates for them. Even some Americans who want to beautify their body parts like fresh skin for a facelift, they perceive this technology would help them. They believed this technology would save them and fulfill their desire to live longer, more beautifully and more perfectly. From the explanation above it's clear that human cloning technology in this movie is believed as a savior since American people believe this technology can save them from death because of diseases, accident or old age and beneficial for them as well they tend to depend on cloning technology product as the last hope to save them.

## B. The Paradox of Human Cloning in American

# Technology Reflected in The Movie

Human cloning as a product of the power of technology can be a paradox in human life and also in the American technology itself. Technological development of cloning also certainly brings important effects on the American daily behavior. Paradox in *Oxford Dictionary* is defined as a person, thing, or situation that has two contrary features and is therefore rather strange, or a statement containing opposite ideas (Hornby, 1998: 839). Further, Kammen in his book "*People of Paradox*" that translated by Mochtar Pabotingi explained paradox as follows:

Paradok selalu berarti ganda. Terkadang di dalamnya terjadi koreksi diri. Paradoks itu bisa mencakup berbagai pandangan yang berbeda, tetapi pada dasarnya yang dicerminkan adalah ambiguitas pikiran. Ia bisa terdapat di tiap tempat atau masa dalam permasalahan intelektuil; tatapi ia terutama cenderung menumpuk pada masa-masa dimana kegiatan intelektuil sangat kuat. Tatkala banyak pandangan dan system yang berbeda satu sama lain saling bersaing dan membuat orang peka terhadap cara-cara yang berlainan dalam menghayati realitas (Pabothinggi, 1985: 55)

This can lead to American mindset that it is precisely complex mixture of contradictory beliefs, which is the defining characteristic of the American worldview. Cloning as the product of technology makes American people seem often to contradict to each other in important ways. The complexity of the American is at least partly a definition of it as well since it seems to suggest that it is the nature of pluralism. The contradictions are at the heart of an American mindset, which attempts to create a nation out of crowd of individuals, the national identity with ethnic, religious, and other individual roles.

In *The Island* the paradox of human cloning in American technology arises through the existence of cloning technology, especially when this technology implicates an exploration of the human life. There are no moral or legal problems with the cloning of animals, plants or others, but there are multitudes of serious moral and legal problem with the cloning of human. There are contradictory views on cloning technology of the humans. Some American supports it and believes this technology can be savior and protector for them as well beneficial for them, while others assumes human cloning create very serious moral and ethical problems, and consider cloning unacceptable.

The practice of human cloning technology begins to present a paradox in American technology. As seen in *The Island*, the human cloning technology is actually a secret mission of the institute that is very controversial. This technology is completely forbidden by government as well by the law. But the institute keeps running this illegal business, which then creates a paradox in American technology itself.

As stated by Dr. Merrick that believes cloning technology is a great invention in American modern technology that will give a lot of benefits for human life can be known from the dialogue:

## **MERRICK**

Ladies and gentleman! Welcome to the next generation of science: the agnates, an organic frame and genuine directly into adult fetus to match the client's age.

You're looking the step one of development. In twelve month will be ready to harvest. Providing the womb for the baby, second period of lungs, fresh skin for a face-lift.

All genetically can't be distinguished from your own. And in convention in new genetic law two thousand and fifteen all our agnates are maintained in the system of vegetative state. They never achieve consciousness. They never think, was suffer, feel pain, joy, love, hate. It is a product.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 79)

The quotation above tells about Dr. Merrick who supports the development of cloning technology was giving a speech toward the audiences to promote his cloning technology product. The scientist in charge of the entire product, pronounce that his cloning technology is able to produce the agnates, so the childless couple or for some woman who do not want to go through the pain of childbirth and have stretch marks, can own a baby from clone birth, and provide the womb for the baby. Further, he explains that they can own new livers, lungs, and other organs or tissue, an organic frame and genuine directly into adult fetus to match the client's age. So the client can live several years longer as they want. Even, his technology can provide the clients with fresh skin for a face-lift so they can beautify their body parts.

However, in order to sidestep moral and legal prohibitions of commissioning the creation and eventual destruction of another human from cloning technology, Dr. Merrick and his institute, deceives prospective buyers by telling them the clones are kept in a persistent vegetative state, and are never really alive. Truthfully, the first clones kept in this state suffered organ failure within years. The institute then determined that the clones needed to experience life in some form in order to be viable donors. The community serves this purpose: the clones are fed, matured to adulthood, educated to approximately the same level as fifteen year old, experience social interactions, though kept ignorant of sex, and made useful to the colony. The clones are isolated in an enormous building, they look like slaves, and live structurally according to the rules that all are selected for them such in clothing, meals, leisure, and jobs. They all are structured and controlled. They have jobs that they do not understand, and there is not much to do outside of work besides exercise. Their activities and meals are rigorously monitored, a computer even scans urine when they goes to the bathroom in the morning, and limits the diet. Many clones living this same humdrum existence, watched over by "censors" who control everything they do. They all remember a vague environmental catastrophe that contaminated most of the world, and new survivors, and childlike, are found all the time and integrated into their society.

In *The Island,* Dr. Merrick as the creator assumed the clone as a product, not a human. They live to be harvested. This seems to be morally correct, to grow and then use parts of a living being who lacks consciousness in order to improve the life of one that has consciousness. By his technology, he could realize human's universal wish to live longer, because human beings could get a liver, a heart, kidneys, and other essential things, like fresh skin for a face-lift. It cannot be denied that cloning technology is very useful and advantageous. This technology can be said as a savior and so beneficial for some Americans.

At one side, human cloning technology is not always give good side for American technology. Every technology basically has it weaknesses. As seen in *The Island*, human cloning which at first gives great impact for American technology because it is believed by American wealthy elite as their last hope to make their live longer and beneficial for them. But in the end, this technology creates a paradox for human life itself. The clones, which they call as products of their technology destroy the institute and it is facilities for cloning the process.

Dr. Merrick as the creator of cloning technology realizes that his technology has it weaknesses. He

#### MERRICK

states:

The human organism unique in all the human living complexity. The product, the three billion evolution, perfect in anyway. Except one! Like all machines get was aus.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 59)

Merrick's statement represents that all the products of technology also have weakness although they are perfect in anyway. Like all technology that always has unpredictable weakness, the products of cloning technology of the institute has determined that the three generations of clones were naturally more curious than others. He knew that it could treat the continuity of his business. His private corporation is selling the organ-replacement service to wealthy clients, and telling the clients that the organs are grown in a laboratory. But in reality, the corporation is cloning these wealthy clients and growing entire adult organisms and then harvesting those humans when the replacement organs are needed by the paying clients. The clones grow into a full human that are beyond their prediction and plan itself. Organic frames as the product of cloning technology that can be used for transplantation are made directly into adult fetus and the clones are kept in a persistent vegetative state, and are never really alive. On the contrary, the clones grow into a full human and are really alive.



Picture 25 (The Island, 2005, 00:51:43): The cloning process into a full human

In addition, through the picture above it is clear that the institute grows the clones into a full human. In this process, the clone's brain is implanted with memories that they are chosen people. They have major specifying in their life they are very special and have special purpose to go the island. In this scene, the camera shots in long shot to portrayed the subjects, so they are seen in full within the room. The camera shots all the clones in clear bag. The human embryos in the clear bags are shown in the different stages of growth. Then the camera moves to one bag appears to contain only the vascular system of a human. The camera shot moves back to all the clones. The white/grey of gleaming technology and electric is the dominant lighting. More light gives to the clones to give effect the power of technology that is used in the cloning process. So the moviegoers will see the cloning process uses high and sophisticated technology, and get the idea that human life and technology are inseparable.

In addition to the fact that the clones grow into a full human who has humanism, the living development of the clones also cannot be controlled by the cloning technology. The fully living human clones itself begin to present a problem to the institute. In fact, the clones are against the institute, as represented by Lincoln Six Echo who unintentionally knows what the institute do that threaten his life and other clones' lives. It makes Lincoln Six Echo and his fellow clone, Jordan Two Delta attempt to struggle for their lives and to defeat the institute. This action also represents that the dreams of the chemists cannot come true. Their wish to make cloning technology successful and gives a lot of profit for them cannot be realized. The products of this technology in the end threaten the continuity of cloning technology and also the human lives.

First, Lincoln's life is threatened. Tom wants to kill him, as he knows that there cannot be two person with the same physical appearance.

TOM

I'm sorry. I'm not ready to die.

LINCOLN

Me too

TOM

Don't shot him! He's my clone.

LINCOLN

I'm Tom Lincoln

TOM

What! No! I'm Tom Lincoln. He's lying. I owned you.

LINCOLN

He is the clone. I'm not a clone. I'm Tom Lincoln.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 52)

Then Lincoln also knows that he would be killed because of his escaping from the institute. Their presence in the real world would blow the whole thing open. A clone in the presence of its sponsor is an evidence. The institute does not want the secret of their illegal business come to public. As an individual who wants to struggle with his life, he decides to take daring action against people who want to kill him. He knows that it would be a hard struggle since the institute he faced is very powerful. Beside he also has to face the person who cloned him is a powerful person because this person also is not an ordinary American. He comes from wealthy elite Americans. He decides to fight the mercenary team of the institute that haunted him. There were about ten people armed with sophisticated guns.

However, Lincoln is tricky enough. He knows that it is difficult to face

his enemy. He had a clever thinking. He is perfectly mimicking Tom Lincoln's

Scottish accent. Even, he removes his clone ID bracelet, puts it on Lincoln's arm, causing Laurent and his team confused to differentiate who is Tom Lincoln and the clone. And ironically, they cannot distinguish the sponsor, Tom Lincoln, from the clone then they shot Tom Lincoln's head. Seeing he is as a clone being treated with such cruelty, even assumed as less than human makes him think of and how another clones are treated. This feeling might be the real reason that makes him finally decides to help the clones in the institute and destroyed it to get their right to live.

Lincoln Six Echo as one of clone generation makes plans to exterminate the clones after knew their existence in the institute was a hoax. At last, Lincoln Six Echo and Jordan Two Delta race back to the institute to free the rest of the clones and destroyed the institute.

#### LINCOLN

When we are escaping, I saw the room. If I could get in and shut it down, they'll see the truth.

(Tredwell-Owen, 2005: 84)

After knowing what actually happened to him and the residents in the institute, Lincoln was remembering the way when they escaped. Lincoln and his fellow clone, Jordan Two Delta that escaped from the institute then agreed to come back to the institute to rescue the rest of their fellow clones and decide to infiltrate the cloning complex. Lincoln goes into the complex as Tom Lincoln, ostensibly to have a replacement agnate made again of himself.

Lincoln used this opportunity to destroy Merrick's institute and the cloning facilities. As a result Lincoln is confronted with Merrick and the institute's guards in fighting. He destroyed the holographic projectors surrounding the facility. He is revealing the truth about the institute's location to the clones. He and Dr. Merrick engage in a fight. Lincoln actions show that he, as the product of cloning technology can be a threat for the continuity of the technology itself. It is proved by Lincoln Six Echo's acts that destroy the institute and the technology that is used for cloning process. At one side, at first human cloning as new advancement of science seems so great in American technology. It cannot be denied American people shown in this film rely on cloning technology products and even they praise this technology. Nevertheless, in the end it is shown that technology has presented a problem face by real human.



Picture 26 (The Island, 2005, 01:48:43): Lincoln Six Echo

and Dr. Merrick in fighting.

The picture above describes Lincoln Six Echo confronted with Dr. Merrick engage in a fight. The camera shot uses Normal angle and medium close up portrayed Lincoln Six Echo and Dr. Merrick to indicate their fight clearly. Besides, it shows the power of Lincoln Six Echo to defeat Dr. Merrick that seems cannot do a thing about it. Further, the martial music amplifies the atmosphere and tries to convey the emotional significance of this

scene. So the real feeling of the characters, Lincoln Six Echo and Dr. Merrick, involved in it. Its aim is to deepen the sense of the fighting in the scene of this film, besides giving it an emotional texture to the moviegoers. For music has a lot in common as media of communication; they are not understood in a direct, linier way by the audience, but irrationally, emotionally, individually (Turner, 1993: 59).

Through the scene between Lincoln and Jordan Two Delta in destroying the institute, it can be seen how hard they tried to tackle their problem because there is no one who was willing to help them. They have to face thousands of the institute guards that armed with sophisticated guns, controlled and monitored rooms and all was completed with censors. They make destruction in some blocks, so that it would break the guards' attention.

In the mean time, the institute guard found the hologram room is in disturbance. It happens because of Lincoln's action who wants to destroy the institute. All of Lincoln's acts are actually his defense and his struggle to survive. Because they assumed that he is not a human, the human clones are treated worse than animals. As a product that can be killed, already to harvest when their sponsor needs their organ. At last, Lincoln succeeds to destroy the facilities in the institute. Here lies the paradox of human cloning in American technology. On one side, cloning has been the product of technology that gives hope and promise. But on the other side, the product of cloning technology in the end threatens the continuity of the cloning technology itself and the scientists involved in it.

The clone's struggle to keep alive and to defend life is also shown in Jordan Two Delta. She keeps fighting and it is presented in this film as a full human with a rough character.



Picture 27 (The Island, 2005, 01:40:35): Jordan Two Delta when she is captured in the Merrick's institute.

The picture shows the camera angle in this scene uses normal angle. The normal camera angle is showed to give greater impression to Jordan. Medium close-up portrayed Jordan has turned the tables on her captors and got the institute's staffs in her line of fire. By showing the power on her, the picture above proves that the existence of human cloning can be a threat for cloning technology. The clones that are assumed less than human at last realize that it is not fair for them to be exploited biologically. The clones recognize that it must end. So they try to destroy the institute as well the technology that is used for cloning process. Jordan's act portrays that human cloning which had been so useful and advantageous for American technology turns be a danger. She destroyed the institute's facilities and killed the institute's staff. It is aimed to show the power of

the clone. The clones here are described like real human who have power to defense their selves that endanger them. Here, Laurent as one of the mercenary was converted to help Jordan by killing one of the guards. Jordan's decision to destroy the institute was one of her ways to destroy human cloning technology. Her acts would give her and another clones a safe space that set them free from the institute that would harvest their organs for the institute's clients.

Lincoln Six Echo and Jordan Two Delta decision to destroy the institute bring some consequences. These consequences are shown in the film, in how they struggle to fight the institute. Human cloning technology at first becomes the brave new world invention and a bright future of medical science technology in American technology and this technology has led top choices in American technology for Americans as their last hope to live longer. As seen in *The Island*, human cloning reflects a paradox in American technology, it gives a lot of contribution in American technology, and many Americans rely on this technology and even praise this technology. Yet in the end, human cloning itself also endangers the continuity of cloning technology. Lincoln Six Echo and also Jordan Two Delta as the product of human cloning at last destroy human cloning technology. The two clones destroy the institute and its facilities.

Lincoln Six Echo and Jordan Two Delta stopped this illegal business and make thousands of white uniform clones free into the real world for the first time. It is because the clones recognize the corrupt use of technology by the institute. It also gives description to the moviegoers that the clones in this movie are more human than the man who have intuition. And here lies the paradox of the human cloning technology, which is indicated in the difference a contradicting opinion among the society about the morality of cloning technology. The clones here in the end are presented as fully human being that has a moral value. That is, they try to stop and destroy the illegal and inhuman practice. In the last scenes, Jordan and Lincoln staring in close up at Laurent, one of the mercenaries who help the clones free as he heroically strides into the sun set in slow motion. This is to give aesthetics value in the end of the film, to make beautiful and instill significance of the victory. Lincoln and Jordan and also all the clones who escaped the containment center and who were born only as tissue and product were born as persons. They escaped in waves of white figures across the red earth in a desert.

#### CHAPTER IV

#### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter presents the conclusion and recommendation, which are drawn from the analysis of this research. This chapter consists of two sub chapters. The first chapters is the conclusion of the myth of American technology as a savior through the story of human cloning and the paradox of human cloning in American technology as reflected in the movie version *The Island*. The second sub chapter is recommendation for the readers who are interested in American studies and who will take film *The Island* as the subject of study.

#### A. Conclusion

After the research was conducted, this research takes two conclusions. Based on the first problem statement about the myth of American technology as a savior through the story of human cloning as reflected in *The Island*, it can be concluded that this film reflects American philosophical view on technology. American philosophical view on technology that is reflected in *The Island* is the myth of technology as a savior. This myth is clearly reflected through the plot, dialogues, and camera angle of *The Island* that emphasize the important role of technology and American people's opinion toward technology.

The important role of technology in *The Island* is clearly reflected through the American people who place cloning technology as an important factor in saving human from death because of disease, accident, or old age, for having agnates or making somebody looks perfect. The researcher concludes this condition since from the beginning until the end of *The Island*'s plot and also the cinematographic elements of. *The Island* exposes the significant role of cloning technology in saving human from death because of disease, accident or old age, a childless couple can own agnates, even somebody can beautify their selves. American people place technology as the last hope for saving them from danger, death, and disease optimistic that their sophisticated technology product, such as cloning technology can be used to preven the saving through the product of the saving through the sa

The myth of American technology as a savior in *The Island* also can be concluded when some of American society's wealthy elite placed cloning technology to guarantee their life to live longer and spent several million dollars to get insurance policies for their body parts. They believe this insurance policy is very beneficial and save them. It will provide them liver, kidneys, essential things, so when something bad was happened with them, with their insurance policy, the institute that they have paid will save them and provide them with new organs they need. For some women who do not want to go through the pain of childbirth and have stretch marks, or childless couple, they could own clone birth to get agnates for them. Even some Americans who want to beautify their body parts like fresh skin for a facelift, they followed this insurance policy program. They believed this technology would save them and fulfill their desired to live longer, more beautifully and perfectly. American people tend to depend on cloning technology product to save them. The myth of American technology as a savior stimulates American people to do the best and keep struggling in destroying diseases that threat human's life. And human cloning technology has placed by American people as the savior for them. They believe this technology is very beneficial and save them.

This myth of American technology as a savior is also clearly reflected through how the film *The Island* represents the film languages in dialogues, camera shooting technique, lighting, sound effects, which support the description of this myth. In this film, there are many camera shooting techniques, which take pictures in different angles and camera distance that portrayed the power and the

uses of modern technology. And also in the presentation of the characters, the camera shots the process of human cloning technology to show the significance of technology in human life. From the explanation above it is clear that human cloning technology in this movie is believed as a savior since American people believe this technology can save them from death because of diseases, accident or old age and beneficial for them as well they tend to depend on cloning technology product as the last hope to save them.

Secondly, based on the second problem statement, that is 'How does the film *The Island* reflect the paradox of human cloning in American technology?', it can be deduced that human cloning present a paradox in American technology itself. As seen in *The Island* human cloning become a paradox in American technology, since the products of human cloning technology that at first became choices in American technology for Americans as their last hope to live longer, makes this technology gives a lot of contribution in American technology. This technology is praised as a great technology, which gives a lot of benefit for American, can save mankind, makes mankind's life better as well for the institute commercially. Nevertheless, human cloning itself as the product of cloning technology also endangers the continuity of this technology. The product of human cloning at last destroys human cloning technology. They destroyed the institute and its facilities. They stopped the operation of this illegal business, and finally in American technology there is no institute that runs cloning technology.

The Island is a portrait of American people who believed in the myth of technology as a savior, which is reflected through the characters of American wealthy elite class, such as president, athletes, models and also American rich people. It also demonstrates American values and belief on technology as the servant of humankind and this technology as the last hope to save Americans. Besides the existence human cloning technology itself at last become paradox in American technology.

After this research is conducted, the researcher concludes that film has social function. Film, which is usually used as entertainment media can also be functioned as an education media since it is interesting media to express the reality of social condition at certain time. Besides it can be functioned as a media to introduce some new discoveries that people unknown before.

#### Recommendation

The Island is one of American science fiction films that expose human cloning technology and its myth of American technology as a savior. The researcher realizes that this thesis is not perfect. Therefore, the researcher recommends other researchers and students of English Department of Sebelas Maret University to find more information about American society including their myths, beliefs, and values, the characteristics of American movies, how to read film, film theories, and how to expose hidden meanings of films.

The information above is really needed to analyze film well. Finally, the researcher hopes that this thesis can give additional information to other researchers who want to take films as their thesis subject, especially who intends to study *The Island* to explore more about another myth and another interesting issues in this film.

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# **APPENDICES**

THE ISLAND

**Directed by** Michael Bay Kenny Bates **Produced by** Michael Bay Caspian Tredwell-Owen Written by Alex Kurtzman Roberto Orci Ewan McGregor **Starring** Scarlett Johansson Music by Steve Jablonsky Distributed by **Dreamworks SKG** July 22nd, 2005 Release date (North America) **Running time** 127 min. Language **English Science Fiction** Genre

<u>US\$</u>122,200,000

**Budget** 

Actor/Actress	Role
Ewan McGregor	Lincoln Six Echo/Tom Lincoln

Scarlet Johansson Jordan Two Delta/Sarah Jordan

Djimon Hounsou Albert Laurent

Sean Bean Merrick

Steve Buscemi McCord

Michael Clarke Duncan Starkweather

Ethan Phillips Jones Three Echo

Brian Stepanek Gandu Three Echo

Noa Tishby Community Announcer

Siobhan Flynn Lima One Alpha

<u>Troy Blendell</u> Laurent Team Member

<u>Jamie McBride</u> Laurent Team Member

Kevin McCorkle Laurent Team Member

Gary Nickens Laurent Team Member

Kathleen Rose Perkins Laurent Team Member

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/image:The-island.jpg.

## THE ISLAND'S PLOT SUMMARY

The Island was a story of human clone who lives in a place-contained facility, it is set in the mid 21<sup>st</sup> century. All of the inhabitants of this carefully controlled environment and everything about their day-to-day lives were monitored. The only way out is the hope that they all were to be chosen to go to the island, reportedly the last uncontaminated and peaceful place in the world, which described such as Eden Garden. Lincoln Six Echo one of the clones has another nightmare. Shaken, he decides to sneak out of his room to the area where he caught the insect. He then frees the insect and decides to follow it. Lincoln climbs a ladder which takes him out of the colony and up to the upper levels of the facility.

When he arrives on an upper floor, apparently the inner workings of the facility, which shows a modern-day hospital. There, he witnesses the true fates of the past two lottery "winners." Lima One-Alpha gives birth and is then murdered. The baby is then handed to a woman identical to Lima One-Alpha. In another room, Starkweather is being operated on, but awakens during surgery and flees in panic. The staff drag him back with harpoon guns as he begs to be allowed to live. Shocked by this discovery and knowing that Jordan is next to go to the Island and thinks to be killed, Lincoln races back to the colony to save her from death.

Then, Lincoln and Jordan Two-Delta make a desperate attempt to escape to the outer world. Lincoln and Jordan escape the institute and emerge outside a U.S. military nuclear base in the desert near Yuma, Arizona. Lincoln and Jordan begin to walk, and find a bar frequented by McCord. McCord is shocked to find both Lincoln and Jordan outside of the institute. He takes Lincoln and Jordan back to his home and he reveals to both of them that they and everyone else in the colony, save the staff and Merrick, are clones, or "agnates". The clones are commisioned by "sponsors", wealthy people who pay to have a clone of themselves in case they ever have a medical need for organs or other biological material. The need for the organs corresponds to who will 'win the lottery.' Jamal Starkweather is a football player in liver failure; the liver of his clone, Starkweather Two-Delta, was then harvested. Jordan's sponsor, Sarah Jordan, was recently in a car accident, and requires multiple organ transplants to survive.

Dr. Merrick, also the staffs of the cloning institute, deceives prospective buyers by telling them that the clones are kept in a <u>persistent vegetative state</u>, and are never really 'alive.' Truthfully, the first clones kept in this state suffered organ failure within 2 years. The company then determined that the clones needed to experience life in some form in order to be viable donors. The clones are fed, matured to adulthood, educated to approximately the same level under fifteen-year-olds, experience social interactions (though kept ignorant of sex), and made useful to the institute.

McCord gives them clothes, money, and a credit card to help them find their sponsors and reveal the truth. He tells them that Lincoln's sponsor lives in Los Angeles, and Jordan's lives in New York City. Dr. Merrick sends a mercenary

strike team to find the two clones, led by Albert Laurent (<u>Djimon Hounsou</u>). At the train station, the strike team kills McCord and gives chase to Lincoln and Jordan. Lincoln and Jordan successfully evade Laurent's team members and board the train to Los Angeles. After arriving in Los Angeles, Jordan uses McCord's credit card and a video phone booth to call her sponsor. It is answered by a young boy. The boy says that Sarah Jordan, his mom, is very sick. Then upon seeing Jordan Two-Delta, he mistakes her for his mother. Suddenly, the L.A.P.D. shows up, having tracked the credit card, and arrest both Lincoln and Jordan, excusing them for McCord's murder. In the way to the police station, Laurent's team violently strikes the police with the intent of killing Lincoln and Jordan. During the confusion, Lincoln and Jordan escape from the destroyed police car and the mercenary team follows after them use jet bike to escape.

Lincoln finds his sponsor, <u>Scottish</u> playboy racer Tom Lincoln, in an expensive and luxurious apartment. Tom seems amused to encounter his clone, and is friendly and informative. Tom Lincoln agrees to help the two plead their case to the media. However, he then calls the institute, informing them that his 'insurance policy' is sitting in his living room. While the two are heading to a television station to expose Merrick Biotech, Tom Lincoln pulls a handgun on Lincoln Six-Echo. He takes him to meeting place with Laurent and his team, but ironically, Laurent and his men cannot distinguish the sponsor from the clone- the two men are similarly-dressed, and Six-Echo is perfectly mimicking Tom Lincoln's Scottish accent. Lincoln Six-Echo, having removed his clone ID bracelet, puts it on Lincoln's arm, causing Laurent to kill Tom Lincoln

Lincoln and Jordan agree to rescue the rest of their fellow clones and decide to destroy the cloning complex. Lincoln goes into the institute as Tom Lincoln, ostensibly to have a replacement agnate made again of himself. After Lincoln destroys the holographic projectors surrounding the facility, revealing the truth about the institute's location to the agnates, he and Dr. Merrick engage in a fight. The last few scenes of the movie are of the thousands of white-uniformed clones free into the Arizona desert into the real world for the first time. Lincoln and Jordan meet outside the facility and embrace. Laurent smiles at the pair and leaves quietly. The very last image is of Lincoln's dream come true as he and Jordan sail away to a beautiful tropical island on the *Renovatio*.

## THE PICTURE GALLERY



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/image:The-island.jpg.



Ewan McGregor as Lincoln Six Echo/Tom Lincoln



### Scarlet Johansson as Jordan Two Delta/Sarah Jordan



Sean Bean as Dr. Merrick



The process of harvesting organs to be transplanted from the clone



The process of making human clones into a full human



Lincoln Six Echo and Jordan Two Delta in the real world for the first time



The promotion tour in Merrick's biotech institute



The clones free from the institute in a vast desert