THE REPRESENTATION OF AMERICAN BLENDED FAMILY
IN FILM “YOURS, MINE AND OURS”

A Thesis

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for the Strata One Degree

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CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Family comes in many shapes and sizes. The family is of course, the first socializing agency in the child’s life. The mother, then the father, then siblings and other relativities are the first people with whom the child has contact and the first to teach him how to live with other people.¹

The family is the place where human biological and cultural heritage meet and joined in the living and learning new family member. It is the place where the biological being becomes a human and social being. The family not only links the individual to society, it also links to previously unrelated kinship group through marriage of a woman from one family to a man from another family, thus creating and maintaining new social bonds.²

Family builds in the foundation of love and affection, trust and also caring. From that the whole member of family can make a good and strong bone family. There are many different types of families in America and around the world. Blended family is one of many American family types that exist. Some of blended families are small and some are large. Blended family is where a child from a previous relationship is included in the family created by a new marriage.³ Blended families are complicated. There are many different ways of becoming a blended family and many types of living arrangements. The

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¹Havighurst, Neugarten. Society and Education. 150 Tremont Street, Boston Massachusetts. Copywrite, 1962, by Allyn and Bacon, Inc. p.93.
³ http://www.way2hope.org/blended_family_problems.htm
death of one parent can also lead to remarried. A person with children may marry someone without kids or both people may have children from past relationship.⁴

Blending two different families with different habits, culture, and perspective of course not easy and it tends to creates problems and conflicts in their family life. Marriages with blended families tend to be very unsuccessful, one of the greatest predictors of divorce⁵. Analyzing about Blended family is unique, because blended family is always connected with conflicts, challenges, and also compromise. Blended family is a relatively new term in history, but it (or step families) has become part of every-day language in the last 50 years.⁶ From the explanation above, it can be seen that blended family is already the interesting topic to discuss and analyze.

To make the analysis about family become easier, the writer sees the explanation by watching the film about family. A film is a dramatic form. It is hardly an adjunct or appendage of drama or the stage.⁷ Film is very loved by many people, through films people can get the solution of the problems and conflicts that faces, it also can inspire people to do something useful in their life, and also learn through experiences from figure or character in the film stringed up in dialogues and scene.

“Yours, mine, and ours” film is the example of film about blended family and its conflict. This film directed by Raja Gospel from Columbia Picture, story about widower (Frank) and widow (Helen) which is remarriage and makes a new big family with the children from the previous marriage.

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⁶ [http://www.allaboutlifechallenges.org/blended-families.htm](http://www.allaboutlifechallenges.org/blended-families.htm)
Here the writer is interested in knowing everything more clearly about Blended Family in this case American Blended Family, how American blended family is presented in “Yours, Mine & Ours” Film and also to know the meaning of whole family that consist of “Mother” and “Father” is it still important for children in this film, the family that not only just mother or just father as their parent but both of them, because however parents in family have a role to stimulate and influence the developing emotional, intellectual, and even spiritual of each family member, because from the family those children are shaped to be a morality and good person.\(^8\) From the explanation above the writer is so excited to analyze this Film “Yours, Mine, and Ours” more deeply.

B. Focus of the Study

1. In this research, the writers focus on the Representation analysis in Film “Yours, Mine and Ours” and how does Film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent American blended family lives with its conflict, problem and solution.

C. Research Questions

Based on the problem above, the writer makes research questions:

1. What are the representations in Film “Yours, Mine and Ours”?

2. How does Film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent American Blended Family?

D. Significance of the Study

The significance of this study, the writer hopes result from this analysis can makes the reader understand literary values in the film, and can open our eyes and mind that literature works is so global, it is not only limited for poem or prose but also to the film which is always interesting to analyze. Finally she hopes that this research can give useful contribution to students of English Letters Department in UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta.

E. Research Methodology

1. Objective of the Research

According to the research questions, the objectives of the research are:

a. To know what kinds of representation are existed in film “Yours, Mine and Ours”.

b. To describe how Film “Yours, Mine, and Ours” represent American Blended Family.

2. The Method of the Research

The method of the research is descriptive qualitative method, by watching, learning and analyzing the main value in the film through the scene and dialogue from the actors in the film, then the writer can find how American Blended Family in film “Yours, Mine, Ours”.
3. Data Analysis

The writer analyzes the data collected qualitatively based on representation theory. The writer uses the script of film “Yours, Mine & Ours”, the books of American family and many literature as the sources of the research.

4. Instrument of Research

In this research, the instrument is the writer herself, who reads, watches, marks and analyzes the data which is deal with a film script or scene through this film, then related by the relevant theories.

5. Unit of Analysis

In this research, the unit of analysis is a film entitled ‘Yours, Mine, & Ours”, copy of a film script and some capture of scene in Film “Yours, Mine and Ours” by Columbia Picture 2005.
CHAPTER TWO

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A. Representation Concept

To analyze data, the writer uses concept of Representation given by Stuart Hall, in that book explained the meaning of Representation: "Representation is an essential part of the process by which meaning is produced and exchanged between members and culture".\(^9\) From here it can be seen that Representation is one of important practice producing culture. Culture represent very wide concept, Representation is an essential part of the process by which meaning is produced and exchange between members of a culture. It does involve the use of language, of signs and images which stand for or represent things. Culture concern 'experience of sharing'. Representation is the production of the meaning from a concept in our mind through language.

Representation is the production of meaning through language. The Shorter Oxford Dictionary suggests two relevant meanings for the word:

1. To represent something is to describe or depict it, to call it up in the mind by description or portrayal or imagination; to place like likeness of it before us in our mind or in the senses; as, for example, in the sentence, “This picture represent the murder of Abel by Cain.”\(^10\)

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\(^10\) Ibid, p. 17.
2. To represent also means to symbolize, stand for, to be a specimen of, or to substitute for; as in the sentence, ‘In Christianity, the cross represents the suffering and crucifixion of Christ.’

This is how the writer gives meaning to things through language. This is how people ‘make sense of’ the world of people, objects, and events, and how people are able to express a complex thought about those things to other people, or communicate about them through language in ways which other people are able to understand.

Representation is the production of the meaning of the concepts in our minds through language. It is the link between concepts and language which enables us to refer to either the ‘real’ world of objects, people or events, or indeed to imaginary worlds of fictional objects, people and events.\(^\text{11}\)

So, there are two processes, two systems of representation, involved. First, there is the ‘system’ by which all sorts of objects, people, and events are correlated with a set of concepts or mental representations which the writer carries around in her heads.

Before move on to look at the second ‘system of representation’, the writer should observe that what the writer has just said is a very simple version of a rather complex process. It is simple enough to see how the writer might form concept for things the writer can perceives – people material objects, like chairs, tables, and desks. But the writer also forms concepts of rather obscure and abstract things, which the writer can’t in any simple way see, feel or touch.

This is a ‘system of representation’. That is because it consists, not of individual concepts, but of different ways of organizing, clustering, arranging and classifying concepts, and of establishing complex relations between them. For example, we use the

\(^{11}\) Ibis, p. 17.
principles of similarity and difference to establish relationships between concepts or to distinguish them from one another.¹²

Meaning depends on the relationship between things in the world—people, objects and events, real or fictional—and the conceptual system, which can operate as mental representation of them.

Language is therefore the second system of representation involved in the overall process of constructing meaning. Our share conceptual map must be translated into a common language, so that we can correlate our concepts and ideas with certain written words, spoken sounds, visual images. The general term we use for words, sounds or images which carry meaning is *signs*. These signs stand for or represent the concepts and the conceptual relations between them which we carry around in our heads and together they make up the meaning-systems of our culture.¹³

Any sound, word, image or object which functions as a sign, and is organized with other signs into a system which is capable of carrying and expressing meaning is, from the point of view, a ‘language’.

At the heart of meaning process in culture, then, are two related ‘system of representation’. The first enables us to give meaning to the world by constructing a set of correspondences or a chain of equivalences between things—people, objects, events, abstract ideas, etc—and our system of concepts, our conceptual maps. The second depends on constructing a set of correspondences between our conceptual and a set of signs, arranged or organized into various languages which stand for or represent those concepts. The relation between ‘things’, concepts, and signs lies at the heart of the production of

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¹² Ibid. p.17.
¹³ Ibid. p. 18.
meaning in language. The process which links these three elements together is what we call ‘representation’.\textsuperscript{14}

To explain how representation of the meaning through language works the writer can use three theories of representation:

First, the reflective approach, it means thought to lie in the object, person, idea or event in the world, and language functions like mirror, to \textit{reflect} the true meaning as it already exists in the world.

Second, the intentional approach, it means that it is the speaker, the author who imposes his or her unique meaning on the world through language. Words mean what the author intends they should mean.

Third, the constructive approach, acknowledges that neither things in themselves nor the individual users of language can fix meaning in language. Things do means: construct meaning, using representational systems-concepts and signs. According to this approach, the writer must not confuse the material world, where things and people exist, and the symbolic practices and processes through which representation, meaning and language operate. Constructivists do not deny the existence of the material world. However, it is not the material world which conveys meaning: it is the language system or whatever system the writer is using to represent her concept. It is social actors who use the conceptual systems of their culture and the linguistic and other conceptual systems of their culture and the linguistic and other representational systems to construct meaning, to

\textsuperscript{14} Ibid. p. 19.
make the world meaningful and to communicate about that world meaningfully to others.  

Representation is a practice, a kind of ‘work’, which is uses material objects and effects. But the meaning depends, not on the material quality of the sign, but on its symbolic function. It is because a particular sound or word stands for symbolize or represents a concept that it can function, in language, as a sign and convey meaning – or, as the constructionists say, signify (sign-i-fy). 

The concept of representation has come to occupy a new and important place in the study of culture. Representation connects meaning and language to culture. Representation means using language to say something meaningful about, or to represent the world meaningfully, to other people. Representation is an essential part of the process by which meaning is produced and exchange between members of a culture. It does involve the use of language, of signs and images which stand for or represent things. Three different accounts or theories of representation are: the reflective, the intentional, and the constructionist that the writer had explained above.

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B. The American Blended Family

1. Introduction to Blended Family

A family is a group of people who love and take care of one another. When any two families join together, they become a blended family.\(^\text{17}\) Today more Americans are part of a second-marriage family than a first. Inevitably, these newly blended "stepfamilies" will be confronted by their own special problems and needs. A blended family is where a child from a previous relationship is included in the family created by a new marriage.\(^\text{18}\) In a modern world where divorce and remarriage has become common, more and more people are living in step and blended families involving children from both parents. Blending a family isn’t easy and it can present a unique set of challenges when discipline is concerned.

In America, as in many other modern societies, remarriage is permissible after the death of a spouse, and for those not under a religious restriction, after divorce or annulment. One has considerable freedom of choice in the matter in societies, however, where being married is considered so important and such a strong personal obligation that the norms prescribe mandatory remarriage.\(^\text{19}\)

The step family, or blended family, is as common today as the traditional family headed by a biological mother and father. About 50 percent of all Americans currently have some sort of step relationship, from stepsiblings to stepparent to step grandparent.\(^\text{20}\)

Approximately 2,100 new blended families are formed every day in America. More than 20+ million Blended Family households exist today and that number grows

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18 [http://www.way2hope.org/blended_family_problems.htm](http://www.way2hope.org/blended_family_problems.htm)
19 The American Family, variety and change, hal 26.
daily. Research shows that by the year 2010 the 'blended family' will be the most common form of family unit in our nation. By 2010, 140+ million people either will be in or have been in a blended family of some form (through re-marriage, adoption, foster home, etc). 21

Today, at least one-third of all children in the U.S. are expected to live in a stepfamily before they reach age 18. The blended family is becoming more of a norm than an aberration. Born of conflict and loss, newfound commitment, and often heart-wrenching transition, stepfamilies face many lifestyle adjustments and changes. Fortunately, most blended families are able to work out their problems and live together successfully. But it takes careful planning, open discussions of feelings, positive attitudes, mutual respect and patience. 22

Step family or Blended family are different with biological or first families, and it is relatively clear, why blended families experience is particular tensions. Every new union brings some similarities such as the individual experience of loss, past family histories, and previous sibling/ parent bonds, as well as the possibility of individual family members being at different stages in their life cycles. This condition means that blended family have special challenges and issues to which they must adapt. The form the Blended family takes impacts the development and success of the new family. There are various combinations of these forms:

- Two divorce partners remarrying.
- Single partner married divorce spouse
- Widow or widower married divorce partner

22 http://www.helpguide.org/mental/blended_families_stepfamilies.htm
- Two partners who spouses died marry
- Single partner marries widow or widower.
- Older male marries younger female
- Older female marries younger male.\(^{23}\)

In this case, according the explanation above, the blended family type in “Yours, Mine, and Ours” Film is two partners who spouses died marry.

2. Blended Family Problems and Conflicts

Blended families are complicated. There are many different ways of becoming a blended family and many types of living arrangements. Blended families are normally formed through remarriage, often after divorce. Whatever the circumstances, the blending of two different families in a step relationship is often difficult. The blended family is not the same as the traditional family, but that does not mean it is less meaningful or incapable of building strong emotional bonds. Blended families have to build shared memories and establish new ways of doing things. It takes times and effort to build good blended family relationship.\(^{24}\)

Statistics tells that second marriages fail earlier and even more frequently than first marriages and the most important factors in this failure is children.

According to McGoldrick and Carter (1980), a number of rather predictable emotional problems occur in blended family:

1. \textit{New roles}. The formation of a blended family plunges family members suddenly into multiple and often ambiguous roles; for example over night a bachelor


become a spouse and step father. One direct result of this is the problem of what the children should call their stepfather.

2. *Ambiguous Boundary*. Other significant problem include: who should discipline the children; who are the “real” members of the family, and so forth. It is very difficult to draw one simple boundary around the blended household as one can do with new families.

3. *Affective problem* they are a range of emotion unique to the blended family. For instance, if the mother has left the children of her first marriage, she may experience a great deal of guilt. Loyalty conflicts occur: children will usually feel a natural loyalty to their real parent and this can generate conflict.

4. *Solutions to conflict*. Given that blended families are usually formed against a backdrop of hurt and confusion, there is a tendency to smooth over conflict rather than “rock the boat”. (McGoldrick & Calter 1980).  

The complex task facing blended families in our society are deserving of more research. Only the barest outlines of problems facing the blended family have been alluded to here. Children should not be exposed to parental conflicts. Children begin to think they can do whatever they want when parents argue and disagree in front of their child.

When two families are combined, each family brings its own set of rules, rituals, traditions and loyalties (culture). Values, household responsibilities and ways of doing things that were established in one family must now are reconfigured into a new family structure: all of these have to be blended and merged into one workable, working unit.

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Less codified norms exist about parental disciplinary techniques, such as spanking and control of the children.\textsuperscript{26} It is likely that different types of talents and interests, lifestyles and ways of spending leisure time will exist and may even clash. In fact, some, or many of those will look "weird" or strange to each other. Yet, they weren't weird or strange in the home they originated in, that was "just the way they did things". In short, each was different.

And there's nothing wrong with difference - it's just that those differences have to be worked out into a new, combined, blended way of doing things. The first noticeable thing will be that life will never be the same again - for any members of the "new" family. There is no initial break-in period after which everything resorts to "normal" - or the same as it used to be (also see Culture, because two families merging is similar to two cultures meeting).\textsuperscript{27}

Parenting under this circumstance is not necessarily more difficult than parenting in general, but it does present unique challenges. Loss and unresolved grief are the underlying emotional issues that parents encounter when raising children in a blended family. This can look like fear, anger, depression and other insecurities in a child’s behavior. In many cases, children will seek out and discover ways to avoid or "cover-up" their feelings. Arguments, blaming, defiance and acting like a victim are the most common ways that children try to take control of their life or to avoid even the reminder that their life is not necessarily secure and predictable. Nationally, nearly three out of five families are raising children from another parent, different marriages and different families. Blended families include adopted children, divorced families raising children

\textsuperscript{27} http://www.dawncoveabbey.org/healing-circle/blended-family.html
together and children from other marriages or relationships. An increasing number of
grandparents are raising their grandchildren. And foster parents are raising their own
children with the children of other parents. Parenting in a blended family is a challenge
with unique problems.

Co-parenting requires cooperation between the responsible parents and it requires
consistent discipline. Blending a family is not easy. Some children will test the
relationship between a man and woman. They will break the rules, ask for exceptions and
challenge parents to make a choice between them and the other parent. Children need
guidance, instruction, training, choices, consequences and supervision. These are roles
that any caring and responsible adult can provide. Regardless of the approach to
parenting, couples should never threaten the bonds between a parent and their child.\(^{28}\)

The rules and behaviours of a biological family develop over time. In blended
families, these rules can collide. One parent may have strict expectations of behaviours,
while the other parent lets most things slide. It is difficult enough to accept new siblings.
Discipline should be fair.

- Discuss what the house rules will be.
- Both parents should be open to change.
- It is best when biological parents discipline their own children.

Lack of private space is an area of conflict. "Children in blended families are
asked to share, all of a sudden, their room, their toys, their clothes," according to Dr.
Emily B. Visher.\(^ {29}\) The best solution is for both families to move into a new house or
apartment to avoid territorial squabbles, but financially that's often impossible. Parents

\(^{28}\) Michael G. Conner, Psy.D. http://www.crisiscounseling.org/Articles/BlendedFamilies.htm
\(^{29}\) The blended family advisor
should try to give each child his or her own room. Kids have spent years finding their niche in the family, and when their identity is challenged by new stepbrothers and stepsisters, it is important to have a place to get away from it all. If rooms must be shared, a curtain or screen can be used to divide the territory. Teach children to respect each other's private space. All blended family problems, conflicts, and challenges implicit in Blended Family Stages. The more explanation about blended family stages is this below.

3. Blended Family Stages

Creating a supportive blended family is not automatic. Therapist have condensed this model to five (easier to remember) conceptional stage. The expert Margaret Newman, registered psychologist, in her book Stepfamily Realities, lists five stages in stepfamily or blended family growth. Understanding each of these areas alone will really help blend a family, ease the stress and find greater happiness within the family. Each stage can, and probably will be experienced with portions of other stages present, too. However, these stages represent the evolution of stepfamily life.

a. The Fantasy Stage.

Husband and wife feel all dreams of family life will finally come true. Stepsiblings may be looking forward to living together. There is idealism with everyone putting their best foot forward. In addition, the two parents are getting to know each other as mates. This is hard enough with no children present. This is the stage that two people fall in love. They want to spend as much time as possible together. They only see the good things about each other. The fact that children are involved hardly matters at this

30 http://blended-family.management.suite101.com/article.cfm/blended_families_and_sibling_relationships

point as love conquers all! And this is a second chance and it's going to be wonderful - a lovely partner and one big happy family. This whole stage is littered with dreams and uncertainty with hardly anyone knowing what to do or how to act. At this stage it's ideal to plan, look ahead, discuss the future and all the what ifs and buts. Think about the reality of living together. Who will discipline who, what are acceptable standards amongst the children, etc. This fantasy stage also can grouping as getting going stage according to Jo Ball as family adviser who have developed The Stepfamily Development Model.

b. The Confusion Stage.

Differences begin to emerge and expected happiness is slipping away. Still, there is typically denial of impending trouble. Tension grows, romance wanes, children's novelty has worn off, and fear of not making it rears its head. The realities are beginning to really hit home. The realities are beginning to really hit home. The realities are beginning to really hit home. Family members moved in together and are realising that they don't agree with the way one partner disciplines his/ her own children and even worse the way they discipline his/ her spouse’s children from previous marriage before. It's during this stage that many families get stuck.

c. The Conflict Stage.

Power struggles begin as family members want their needs met. Open or hidden expressions of anger and aggression appear. But this stage also can be say as growing stage, because there is lots of learning, lots of realization coming all at the same time and adults can, understandably, get overwhelmed with what to do with all this information. The thing is if something isn't done with the information then rifts, arguments, irritations
and conflicts grow. This is where stepfamily life can be at its most stressful. In this stage parents and children feeling very unhappy, at the worst families break up again.

d. The Coming-Together Stage.

Relationships are becoming familiar, parts of the family are operating smoothly, and members are learning to resolve issues. Hope is renewed. This is the phase where family members begin to be able to make agreements and cooperate. There is general respect for adults and children alike and older children might share some of the leadership. In this stage the relationship between all family members become flowing, so that’s way this stage also can be say as flowing stage.

e. The Resolution Stage.

Optimism returns and the future look better. Family members can relax and start to be themselves. Methods for resolving conflict have been learned and can be used as needed. Family ties are growing. The children are well balanced and effectively balance their two homes. Everyone respects and appreciates each other. The family members now have a clear vision and everyone knows clearly why they are doing what they are doing. The family has a shared vision and everyone interacts with little intervention from the adults. There is a real feel for working together and doing the best for the family and everyone makes most of their decisions based on their family values. This stage also knows as glowing stage.32

32 http://www.sideroad.com/Family_Life/blended-family-article.html
CHAPTER THREE  
THE RESEARCH FINDING  

A. Data Descriptive  

As the writer has written in chapter II “to represent” means to symbolize or stand for, like exactly what the writer wants to describe in this chapter. The writer will analyze American Blended Family from “Yours, Mine, and Ours” In this chapter the writer discusses the meaning of dialogues and scenes from film “Yours, Mine, and Ours”. The description is based on representation theory.  

B. Data Analysis  

In this film it can see that the typical family in this film is Blended family because the family construct from two different families join together and become one family from remarriage of their parent with children from their previous marriage before. In this case Frank (the widower) and Helen (the widow) remarriage for the second time and they bring their children from their previous marriage before, to stay in one roof together. From those dialogues and scenes in this film, the writer finds the representation in Film “Yours, Mine and Ours” are:  

1. Modern vs. Conservative  

Most people bring fantasy, wishes, and unspoken expectations to their new relationship. So do Frank and Helen in this film “Yours, Mine, and Ours”. They have their own dreams and hopes when they decide to remarriage, that they can be a happy and strong bone family with both their children before, but Frank’s children are different with
Helen’s Children. Frank’s children are conservative and Helen’s children are modern tend wild, all of that because Frank and Helen come from different background and they raise and educate their children with different way. The representation of modern vs. conservative can be seen in scene below:

(Scene 4):

From scene above it presents Helen’s children expression when they know they will be having a new father, their expressions are so expressive. In this case the way they sit down on the sofa and from Jimi question about “Are you crazy?” to Helen, it can be concluded that Helen’s children are wild and impolite, because they say their mom was crazy even though it just a kidding, it still cannot be tolerance. All of that caused by the way Helen educates her children in modern way which is she put no limit between children and parents in their daily live. So from that explanation above, it can be concluded that Helen educates and raises her children in the modern way which is later it makes the children of Helen become wild and impolite.
From scenes above, Frank’s children seem so polite it can be seen from the way they sit down on the sofa and listen their father talking but it make them look conservative, it can be understand because Frank educates his children in the conservative way which is children have to respect their parent and be polite.

This differences between them bring so many conflict and problems later, but Frank and Helen does not consider it because in that time Frank and Helen as a new couple just focus on their parents fantasy about happy blended family. It can be seen from this dialogue:

**Dialogue 1:**

“Frank: *So then I asked her to marry me*… (to his own kids in the different place with Helen)

“Helen: and I say Yes…!

“Helen’s children: What...(surprise expression)

“Helen: *it was spontaneous and so romantic*”

“Helen’s children: how could you do this? We don’t even know this guy”

Helen’s kids: Yeah., mom! We don’t even know him, Mom!

Helen: Okay. Quite. I have the talking stick. He is a lovely..lovely man. And I’m sorry that we didn’t include you, and he has….

In Frank’s place:

Franks’s children: ten kids.....!!!

Frank’s Children : no there no way let make this..

Frank: Guys.....!!!! *It’ll be fun, having ten new brothers and sisters.*

In Helen’s place:

Helen: Okay, come on guys, come on, come on group hug. Come on. Okay. *It’s gonna be fun.*

Aldo: but where we live? (Scene 4)
From dialogue above, it can be concluded that as a new couple Frank and Helen are fall in love by each other, in that condition they just see the good things of each other, that is the reason why Helen tells her children that Frank is “a lovely man”, because Helen only see the good things of Frank, she does not consider about the different side between them. Frank and Helen also want to spend as much time as possible together, so that they getting marriage so fast and also romantic like Helen says that “it was spontaneous and so romantic”. But in this case they were getting marriage without telling their children and considering their children opinion and then when Frank said to his children that “It’ll be fun, having ten new brothers and sisters”, Frank imagine that his new blended family life will be fun and lovely, not just for him, but also for his children. Frank and Helen in this condition fulfilled of their own dream and fantasy to make one big happy and strong family with lovely partner. So from scene, dialogue and explanation above it can be concluded that in this stage, film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent fantasy and hopes of American blended family and it named fantasy stage.

Fantasy stage in “Yours, Mine, and Ours” also can see at scene below, when Frank and Helen move into the new house:

- (Scene 4):

- (Picture 5)

- (Picture 6)

Start from Aldo’s question about “where we live?” Frank and Helen answered it by moving into the new house. It is the best decision for everyone in blended family,
because a new home for everyone means the entire family has to start over and everyone is equal. This film “Yours, mine, and ours” represent that idea, to move into the new house for new blended family in order to make their family become strong and harmonious, and one of many ways to make a house become a home. This is the picture of new house, a big house for their big blended family:

- (Scene 4):

(Picture 7)

Moving in the new house also means new hope for everybody, all dream and fantasy about happy family living will finally come true. So from the explanation above, the writer concludes that film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent American blended family by attending two different concepts from two different families in educating and raising their children such as modern vs. conservative which is it can be seen when Frank and Helen enter the fantasy stage.

2. Discipline Military (awkward) vs. Affection (warm and close)

The formation of a blended family plunges family members suddenly into multiple and often ambiguous roles, such as what happen to Frank and Helen. Both of them also play new role for their step children, Frank plays the new role as father for Helen’s children, and Helen plays the new role as mother for Frank’s children.

a. Frank’s (New Father Role for Helen’s Children):
1) **Discipline military father role**

Frank as coast guard admiral works in discipline environment. He keeps and educates his children of course in discipline way, with rules, organize, and in control. Different rules and habits from each family bring by each spouse, contradictive one and others come in Frank and Helen new blended family. Because of Frank and Helen remarriage without telling their children before, so each of parents have not time to introduce their each rules and habit in their single parent family before to children. There is no adaptation process between each family before, tend to appear so many conflicts later, because all people in blended family not just live for a while, for a week, or even just for a month but for their lifetime, they have to live in one roof or one house together as blended family. Frank’s new role to Helen’s children as their step father brings so many differences rules and habit into their daily lives, which they never found before. It can be assured by this dialogue:

**Dialogue 1:**

- Helen : kids!
- Frank : All right then. All right, kids. Fall in for billeting!
- Phoebe: for what?
- William: **Room Assignment!**
- Frank : All eyes on the chart, your room are numbered, your bathroom schedule are color coded! (Scene 5).

Room assignments, room numbered, and bath room schedule are representation of Frank’s military discipline, about the rules that he put in his family before, of course that things are not problem for Frank’s biological children, but for Helen’s children it can be a problem. Room assignment means each child in family have an obligation to do their assignment, in this case frank divide based on children’s room, so they children can be cooperate by each other as brother and sister and also as a room mate. Actually room
assignment represents a new rules and habit bring from Franks side to Helen and her children, because it means Helen and her children for the next must adapt with Frank’s discipline model in family, it is so contradictive with Helen which is Helen and her children already accustomed to be a flexible person, free spirit that not to really concern with rules. That’s why Helen and her children laugh when Frank does that because that thing of course seems so funny for them, knowing that their own lives have to be arranged by that rules, such as bath room schedule, it is funny because bath room is something so private, and desire to go to bath room sometimes unconditionally. We can see Helen’s children expression in these scenes:

- (Scene 5):

(Picture 1)  (Picture 2)

And for Helen’s child Dylan, when he said like this:

“Great, mom get married, we get drafted” (Scene 5).

It represents Frank’s idea which does not match with Helen’s child. Actually this condition not only brings the new role for parents but also for children in blended family. In this case Helen’s children have the new role as children from the discipline military father, and they must adapt with this new role. In this case all family members in blended family are in confusion stage. It can be concluded that film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent American blended family trough the stages in blended family, one of that is confusion stages.
b) Helen (new mother role for Frank’s children)

1) Group Hug (Affection of Helen to the children)

Group hug is one habit in Helen family, Helen and her children usually hug each other when they close their discussion in order to solve the problems and to reduce their family tension. We can see Helen group hug habit, when she tells her children about her marriage with a lovely man named Frank, Helen calm down their children with group hug, like in this dialogue and scene:

**Dialogue 2:**

- **Jimi**: are you crazy mom!!
- **Helen’s kids**: Yeah..., mom! We don’t even know him, Mom!
- **Helen**: Okay. Quite. I have the talking stick. He is a lovely...lovely man. And I’m sorry that we didn’t include you
- **Helen**: Okay, come on guys, come on, come on group hug. Come on. Okay. It’s gonna be fun. **(Scene 4)**

From that dialogue, when Jimi said “are you crazy mom!” and the other children said “yeah we don’t even know this him, Mom!” it represents that Helen’s children shock and protest about their mom’s decision that suddenly get marriage, scare and worry about that guy who will plays the new role as a father in they new blended family later. But Helen can calm down her children, make sure that the man she marries with is a lovely man, and all can be fun for all family members. Then at last she closes it with group hug.

Through group hug, every people in the family can feel the love and so close by each other. It represents good relationship between Helen and her children and also represents the role of warm mother in family. This group hug is already become a habit
for Helen’s children, but for Frank’s children, it gives a different meaning. For Frank’s children, a group hug seems like a ridiculous thing. So it is clear that new role of Helen as a mother for Frank’s children bring new habit into their family lives. In this case all family members in the family are enter the confusion stage which is new habits and culture meet in a new family, during this stage that many families get stuck.

It also can be concluded that this film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent American blended family that come from two different backgrounds, but later Frank and Helen as parents for their new blended family can survive even though there are so many differences between them.
3. Authority Power vs. Democratic

a) Chart Board represents Authority of Frank

Frank in educating his children has the authority power in family, for example he makes so many rules that must be obeyed by all of the family members in the blended family. And when Helen introduce about “talking stick” and “no judgment circle” to Frank’s Children, no one of them participating, all Frank’s children just give the talking stick to the next people with confused face. It can be understood, because their father Frank educates his children with authority power in family, Frank’s children are accustomed to accept rules from Frank without compromise or any discussion with children before. Room assignment, bathroom schedule, and room numbered are some examples of Frank Authority Power in family. Another Frank Authority power in family, it can be seen from this scene and dialogue, when Frank takes “the talking stick from the children:

- (Scene 5):

(Picture 1) (Picture 2)

Frank: “Okay, if I can Interrupt. Okay, have something to say” (Scene 5).

From those scenes and dialogue, we can see that because no one of Frank’s children use “talking stick”\(^{33}\), so Frank takes that talking stick to say something about his

\(^{33}\) Talking stick is a tool to express the feeling or opinion without any interruption.
little chore chart, in this case Frank also shows his dominant role and his authority in the family. Chore chart board that Frank made also represents his own rules and habits in his single family before. He tends to organize everything in his family; chart board is one example of many rules from Frank. Through chart board, hopefully all kind can be good, and help each family members understand their duty & obligation. From chart that Frank made, He also wants to give a definition that everything that has planed before can reach a good result, so his children can do and prepare well before. And also become discipline people. So in this case it can be conclude that chart board represents Frank authority.

b) Democratic side of Helen (“talking stick and no judgment circle”):

- (Scene 5):

Talking stick and no judgment circle represent democratic side of Helen, talking stick represent that everybody in the family have the same right to express their opinion, feeling or even an objection of what happened in the family, so whoever has the stick may express themselves without fear or interruption. In this case it also represents Helen’s point of view, that parent and children have the same position. The way Helen educate
her children using “talking stick” symbol and “no judgment circle” already become a habitual activity for Helen and her children in their daily life. Through “no judgment circle”, Helen hopes that parents including children can solve their problems in the family together and then find the best solution for everyone in the family. It also teaches children to listen somebody else opinion and do not intrupt someone when he or she speaks. So it can be concluded that “talking stick” and “no judgment circle” represents Helen habits in educating her children democratically. Actually parent need to sit down together and discuss the future with the children. because open communication will be the key to a successful new start family. So what Helen has done is very good for the first step in order to make a new happy blended family.

But in this case Helen role as democracy mother does not seems interesting to frank’s children, when Helen give the talking stick to them, they won’t to be participate to express their opinion in “no judgement circle” because that thing is unusual for them. It can be understood because Frank’s children are already accustomed to live under Frank authority. In this case both children from Frank and Helen start a little uncomfortable with all new habit and new roles that come into their life which is so contradictive one another, actually both of them enter the confusion stage. So in this case Authority power vs. democratic can be concluded as representation of two characteristic of parents in American blended family that bring two different concept and ideology into their new blended family and this film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent it through confusion stage.

4. Spanking Punishment vs. Permissive
It is very difficult to draw one simple boundary around the blended household as one can do with new families.

Parents realize that there are many differences between them, such as different perspective, idea, and ideology that can brings them into a big conflict. We can see the example from a scene and dialogue when Frank feels so disappointed, because the children ruined his planner chart:

- **Scene 7:**

![Picture 1](Picture 1)

![Picture 2](Picture 2)

**Dialogue 3:**

- **Frank**
  - That was very naughty
- **Helen**
  - what's happening?
  - Boys I don’t think that was a good idea. Do you?
  - But that was very important to your father.
  - So you need to say you are sorry...
- **The kids**
  - sorry...
- **Helen**
  - Okay, now go on and play...
- **Frank**
  - Whoa... whoa...! that’s it! Go play!
  - Well, they’re four years old, Frank!
  - What else is there? The hammer?
  - No honey, of course not, we don’t spank our children.
- **The kids**
  - The admiral does.
- **Frank**
  - Occasionally, a little pat on the butt sends a clear message.
- **Phoebe**
  - well, you’re not spanking my children. I thought they were our children. You’re not spanking our children.
- **Frank**
  - Let’s let them all run naked and wild

When the children ruined Frank’s chart, he become so angry because it was very important to Frank, but for his wife Helen, what they children have done with Frank’s chart is not a big problem, so she just asking Aldo and Ethan to say sorry to his father,
and then she allows them to go on and play just because they are still four years old. But for Frank it is not enough, because it was a big deal, the children must knows that they already did something wrong so those kids have accepted the punishment. In this case he has his own perspective that a little pat on the butt sends a clear message to preventing them become wild and naughty. Frank believes in spanking, just a little bit. But Helen disagree, because Helen’s motto is "Spanking is never the answer". And when Helen says: “well, you’re not spanking my children. I thought they were our children. You’re not spanking our children”, it represents that she does not want anyone include Frank spanking her children, she means both of their children. Helen has perspective that parents do not need to give a hard punishment with spanking children, but in Frank’s perspective Helen is too permissive. Then Frank and Helen are debating their argument about discipline the children, the way they as parents give a punishment to them. Here is ambiguous boundary between Frank and Helen, about who should discipline the children, who should make a decision, give punishment, and determining the rules to the children. In this situation Helen holds the control to make decision, not allow Frank spanking their children. Frank and Helen have a different perspective in educating and raising children. They did not talk about being at opposite ends of the cultural divide before they married, so that ambiguous boundary happen between them and it tends bring so many conflicts into their family life which is can deliver them into a big fighting.

After realizing so many differences between Frank’s children and Helen’s children, open or hidden expressions of anger and aggression appear, in this case blended family members enter the conflict stage. Rifts, arguments, irritations and conflicts grow. In this stage parents and children feels very unhappy and stressful, at the worst families
can be break up. So in this case spanking punishment vs. permissive can be concluded as representation of two ways of parents in educating and raising children in American blended family that bring so many conflicts and problems into blended family lives and this film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent it through conflict stage.

5. Decorating vs. Vandalism

By this film “Yours, mine, and ours represent that in American blended family there are so many problems appears between the children from each spouse that can make their family lives become uncomfortable for the whole family member. One of many things affectively appear problems is each child from each spouse who become from different family have a different side and perspective of one and many thing. For example, it can be seen from scene and dialogue:

- Scene 5:

(Picture 1)

**Dialogue 1:**

*Franks’s child*: hey, what are you doing?
*Helen’s child*: it’s called decorating
*Franks’s child*: no, it’s called vandalism
*Helen’s child*: whatever…..

From the dialogue above we can see that, for Dylan North, decorate his wall in his room is called decorating, but for William Beardsley, what Dylan do is not decorating but
vandalism. Their different perspective represents their each parent educates them. Dylan is representation of Helen’s perspective that “homes are for free expression” (scene 2), so in Dylan’s perspective decorating his wall is self expression to make his room become full of expression. On the other side William is representation of Frank’s perspective that “clean ship is a happy ship” (scene 9). In this case ships is a home, so he must keep clean, it can see from William’s bedroom that so clean and tidy, that is way he says what Dylan do is vandalism¹⁴, because Dylan scrawling the wall, ruin it and make it become dirty. This different perspective delivers both of them in the big chaos later, because from the first day they stay in one roof together, they already felt uncomfortable with one the others, and conflict already grow. In this case William and Dylan are in conflict stage. Vandalism and Decorating are the representation of different perspective of children in new blended family which is it creates conflict later, so it can be concluded that film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent it through conflict stage in American blended family.

6. Rules vs. No rules

Parents realize that so many the differences between them that can not be tolerance, such as different perspective, habit, culture, and the ways they raised and educated their children, whom they did not talked about it before they married. And then it provoked by their children with the party incident that makes both of them into a big fighting. We can see in this below:

Dialogue 1:

¹⁴ Willful or malicious destruction or defacement of public or private property (http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/vandalism).
Helen: Dylan, Phoebe, I’m very disappointed for both of you
Frank: Disappointed? Is that what you are Helen?
Christina, William, Front and Center!
Helen: Frank, take it easy!
Frank: That’s has been enough taking easy around here. That’s clearly doesn’t work. I should have never gone against my better judgment. This is why we have rules.
Helen: Do you hear yourself? Because it all not about rules. You sound like some military robot Frank!
Frank: Yeah, You sound like A Big Free to be you and Me Flake.
Helen (left go to her room)
Frank: (to the children) You have one hour to get this place cleaned up(Scene 9.)

From that dialogue we can see that beside frank feels so angry with the children, he is also disappointed and disagree with Helen, about what Helen said to the children, she said to Dylan and Phoebe as the big kids of her, that she was “very disappointed with both of them”. In this situation Frank can not really understand with Helen response, for a big problem like this, Helen just said disappointed with her children, it just means “disappointed”! Then when Frank said to his big children, William and Christina, start to judge them and give punishment, Helen ask Frank to be easy, of course in this case he can not to take easy at all for this problems, it enough to take easy, because that clearly does not work, so that is why we have rules. Actually what Frank said is right in a certain side. In this case Frank thinks that he is right, that very important to put rules in the family, he thought that his wife Helen is too permissive with their children, so it makes their children enjoy and not really matter or care when they do something wrong. But for Helen, when Frank says like that it makes he seems like military robot, because Frank always connected every things with rules which is seems so rigid. From Frank statement it is also implicit that he blames Helen for her policy that seem to permissive for all children. Then they become blaming by each other, Frank blames Helen that she is too permissive and makes children become wild and beyond control. And Helen also blame
Frank that he is too rigid with all his rules likes a military robot. Actually both of them is right, all rules that Frank created, is needed for family discipline, but of course not too rigid, and not left the military horrible thing, that when parent give a judgment it does not always mean a physical punishment. And also for Helen, if the children already do something beyond control, it necessary for rule and judgment for their children, so that their children have control of their life and know about good and bad values, about may and may not, do and do not in life. So they can be responsible person later.

Actually after Frank and Helen debating their different principle in front of their children, their continued the debates in their private room about different principle of rule between both of them, then it brings them into big decision to separate. We can see that in this dialogue:

**Dialogue 2:**

*Frank* : there is nothing wrong with having rules. Everybody lives by them. The entire universe lives by them.

*Helen* : there’s only one rule I know and that’s… “at any time, all of this could be over, taken away from you forever. And then who needs more rules after that? I can’t live with this anymore Frank, and neither can my kids.

*Frank* : My kids got along just fine until we moved in together

*Helen* : It’s obvious that we got this way too fast. But maybe that’s a lot of longer ago than we both realize. I don’t know how yours do it

*Frank* : Everything was shipshape!

*Helen* : oh Frank.

*Frank* : maybe it was…

*Helen* : Hey, you know what, Frank? I think you should take that job!

*Frank* : I told you, I don’t want to take the...

*Helen* : No, just come on! We both know what your better judgment is telling you, okay? You know what? Just go.., go..! *(Scene 9).*

From the dialogue above, it can be concluded that why Frank always connected everything with rules and his military life, because he has principle about rules, that rules is very important and needed in lives, because there is nothing wrong with rules,
everybody lives by them, and the entire universe lives by the. Rules keep life still control, organize, harmonize, makes people be discipline and responsible. But different with Frank, Helen just know one rule that is at any time, all of she this could be taken away from she forever, and then who need more rules after that?” so because of that she thinks that rules is not to important, because the important things are caring, attention, and affection between all family members in family, because people do not know when all of this taken away from them. And because this simple different thing but principle, Helen feels that she can not live anymore with all of this, neither her kids. In this case Frank also claim that his lives before is fine before they moved in together, he still thinks that everything is shipshape, that seems so rigid and weird for Helen. In fact what they dream of about happy blended family is not same with the reality. They to fast make decision to remarriage, and also do not consider about the worst possibility that could be happened in their new family, more over both of them never talked before about their different perspective, principle, habits, culture, and many more, they late to realize it. All of this makes them as parents feels desperate and become miss understood by each other, so then Helen offers Frank it is better for him to take the job which is newly promote to him with higher position, and it means if Frank accept it, they would be separated in a long time, so for this condition that word separate not only means separated by long distance, but also they break up as a couple and parents for their children, be separate family, not as one unite family anymore. In this case Frank and Helen are in conflict stage. Rules vs. no rules is representation of parents conflict in blended family that each of them have different ideology that bring so many problems between parents, all of that represent through conflict stage in blended family.
7. Adaptation and understanding:

This is the phase where family members begin to be able to make agreements and cooperate. In this case children in blended family are enter the coming-together stage, relationships are becoming familiar, parts of the family are operating smoothly, and members are learning to resolve issues. In this stage the relationship between family members become flowing. Especially for the children, conflict between them delivers them into the adaptation process. The more explanation is below:

Dialogue 1 (scene 7):

William : Okay everybody, it’s time that we call a truce. We need to unite againsts a greater enemy, and that’s enemy name is Mom and Dad.
Kelly : what are you talking about?
Dylan : He’s saying we are all totally incompatibility, but our parents doesn’t seem to care
William : exactly guys, we’re all in this together, come on guys none of us likes this situation. But if we want out, then we gotta stop fighting, and get them to start.
Jimi : Really? How are we gonna do that?
William : Easy, who knows what drives our parents crazy better than we do?

From that, it explain that their Mom and Dad is a greater enemy for them, so they need to unite, stop fighting and get started to break up they parents, and as children from Frank and Helen, of course they know about what can drive their parents crazy, so then they cooperate to appearing conflicts between Frank and Helen. Actually the children mission to break up their parents, without they realize bring the adaptation process between them, because in order to their mission become success, they must be a solid team work and good partner. In this case they not only coorporate to break up their parents, but also they tend to help each other at any situations, and it grows they sense of
belonging between one the other as one family, it can be seen from this scene and dialogue:

- **Scene 10:**

(Picture 1)               (Picture 2)

**Dialogue 2:**

- **Lau** : Otter, are these the kids that have a problem with big families?
- **Otter** : they say we share our underpants!
- **Naoko** : That’s just our ignorance, and do you know how to stop ignorance? Butt whupping!
- **Otter and Elly friends** : Whhooaa...., run...!
- **William** : hey, what happens guys?
- **The children** : just some kids messing with our little brother, but we handled it, Family style! (Scene 10).

From that, we can see that Lau as children from Helen automatically help his little twin brothers, when some kids messing them. Lau said that “you mess my brothers, you mess with me. It conclude that, Lau already has a sense of belonging with his step brothers Otter and Elly, so he must help them when they are in trouble. And later not only Lau help the twin brothers, but also the other big brothers and sisters cares and helps them with family style. In this case when they said that they handle it by Family style, it means the adaptation process between them is work, because it already brings brotherhood sense into them. Beside that they also cooperate in William Beardsley President campaign like this:

**Dialogue 3:**
William : I still have to make this, a million of these posters for the election!  
Dylan : Yeah, for what the class of 59? You couldn’t get elected hall with this, here imagine this in three-color spray print.  
Phoebe : nice, and I know some great campaign workers. Family Campaign! (Scene 10).

From that, we can see that Dylan helps William to design his poster layout, because Dylan is a great expert to make a creative design, so it gets the best result. In this case they collaborate two opposite things become one great strength for one goal. And all their brother and sister help William with Family Campaign, and it gets the best result that William Beardsley won the Election and become President, because their Family Campaign. In this stage children relationship flowing better, because their goal to make their parent break up, they become more solid, that process brings a sense of belonging and brotherhood between them as one family. From the explanation above it can be concluded that “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent that in blended family not only full of conflicts and problems, but also there is still understanding between all family members through adaptation process.

8. Love and Family

After all optimism returns and the future look better. Family members can relax and start to be themselves. Methods for resolving conflict have been learned and can be used as needed. Everyone respects and appreciates each other. The family members now have a clear vision and everyone knows clearly why they are doing what they are doing. In this film “Yours, Mine, and Ours” after the children success to solve the

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35 [http://www.sideroad.com/Family_Life/blended-family-article.html](http://www.sideroad.com/Family_Life/blended-family-article.html)
problem and conflict between them, they cooperate to solve the big conflict between Frank and Helen with the power of love and the power of family.

When all challenges and differences block all ways to reach a happy family, there still strong power can solve that big problem and save the family. There are the power of love, and also the power of family. In every family, debating and fighting between parents because of different perspective and principle is ordinary and can not be avoid. So when one family in this dangerous situation and threatened to be separate, the power of love and the power of family is necessary. In this “Yours, Mine, and Ours” film, the children realize that they did something wrong with their parents and feels so regret of that. Then after they plan to break their parents up and it was work, they try to save their blended family, by giving an explanation to Frank and Helen about they plan to break them up. Here the dialogue when the little kids explain to Helen about their plan to break them up:

Dialogue 1 (scene 11):

Helen : Mrs. Munion, what’s going on? Where is everybody? Where are the big kids?
Kelly : they all went to go stop dad.
Aldo : And we stayed here to mess the place up, because you were so maad when we cleaned it up.
Elly : We change our minds about the plan to break you up.
Ethan : Because we like living together.
Helen : you planed to break us up? Oh come on kids, come on.
Aldo : No mom.
Helen : what? We have to go.
Aldo : Remember the old you? Spanking is never the answer.
Helen: No honey, no spanking, come on kids. I know what we need to do.

From that dialogue, we can see that actually to make their mission success, all children divide into two team work, the big kids cooperate to stop Frank sailing, and the
little kids cooperate to mess the Helen studio up, to makes Helen happy, because she was so mad when the children cleaned it up, and also explain to Helen that they change the plan to break their parents up, because they like living together. In this case Helen realize that she and Frank should not break up just because all of this miss understanding that planed by their children, so Helen know what she must do to save her marriage. But her son Aldo, still have a little afraid about spanking from Frank, but Helen can make sure her son that no spanking at all, it just miss understanding between Frank and her. So Helen does not wait any longer time to do an action to save her love and family.

In the other scene, the big kids also do their mission, try to stop Frank sailing in order to save their family, it can see from the scene and dialogue below:

- (Scene 11):

(Picture 1)

Dialogue 2:

*Frank*: what are you doing here?
*The children*: Stopping you
*Christina*: Dad, we have confession
*Phoebe*: We were behind everything, all the fights.
  We tried to break you and Mom up.
*Dylan*: so we could go back, to the way things were.
*William*: we made a huge mistake, and we realize that we should all be the family.
*Children*: Come on Dad, Come on Home, we need to be together!
  *Come on Dad, let’s go home! We need you. (Scene 11).*
From that scene and dialogue it shows seriousness of the big children to clear and solve the problem, stopping Frank sailing and confessing that they all behind everything, all the fight, and also they plan to break them up. They realize that they made a huge mistake, and they should all be the family, because they need to be together. But their father still pessimistic, he feels it is too late, it see from this dialogue:

**Dialogue 3:**

*Frank*: I’m sorry guys. It’s already too late. Your Mom is really…*(Scene 11)*

Frank feels almost hopeless, because the idea to break up comes from Helen. But when he doubt with Helen response, involuntarily he see the light from the Mercusuar, and he flashback to the back and remember that he ever said something to Helen, like this:

**Dialogue 4:**

*Frank*: were old man in yellow raincoat with long white beards.

“As long as that light up there is lit…, my heart is always be yours”.

So, from then on, whenever he was away at sea, he could just look back and he’d see that light, and he knew that his true love still cared.* *(Scene 6)*

So when Frank see that light from the mercusuar, it proves that Helen as his true love still care and also send the implicit message from Helen that is “my heart is always be yours”. That message is accepted with Frank, he goes home and comes back to his Blended Family. In this case Frank, Helen and also their children in blended family are
enter the resolution stage. From the explanation above it can be concluded that Love and Family are representation of American blended family strength and film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent it through resolution stage.

9. Yours, Mine and Ours.

- (Scene 11):

![Picture 1](Picture 1)

![Picture 2](Picture 2)

![Picture 3](Picture 3)

From that scenes and dialogue, we see that Helen comes with the little kids, and Frank comes with the big kids, they meet together in the middle and express their feeling, it shows actually they still love each other. And in this case not only both of them, but also their both children, so then from yours and mine it changes to ours. We can see from this dialogue:

**Dialogue 5:**

_Frank_ : _There is where I belong, and I think my kids agree_
_Helen_ : _Yeah! Your kids?_
_Frank_ : _Ours kids. Will you marry me again?_
Helen : Only this time the right way! (Scene 11).

From that dialogue, it represents exactly that in the Blended Family there is nothing anymore for both of parents says and calls their children with mention “my children” or “your children” because it already became “our children”. Because that is the meaning of Blended Family, From Yours and mine, become ours. Like in this film title Yours, Mine, and Ours. So from the writer analysis and all explanation above of film “Yours, Mine and Ours” it can be concluded that film “Yours, Mine and Ours” is representation of American Blended Family.
A. Conclusion

The main point in this film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent that American blended family can be existed, even thought in every blended family problem, conflict, chaos, and different perspective between each spouse and each child are almost happened, but with love, adaptation process, togetherness and mutually understanding American blended family can survive and become a strong family. Thereby the difference between all family members in American blended family are not a big problem anymore, because the meaning of Blended Family is combine from Yours and mine, become ours. Like in this film title “Yours, Mine, and Ours”. This film “Yours, Mine and Ours” give a message that both of parents can combine differences that exist in blended family and make it as strength of blended family, combine it from yours and mine become ours. This film can also be a reference and important lesson for many people who stay in a blended family, especially in USA that blended family is fun and can survive as well as success become a strong and happy family.

In the end, after the writer analyzes “Yours, Mine, and Ours” film, the writer can take the conclusion about what are the representations in film “Yours, Mine and Ours” and about how does this film “Yours, Mine and Ours” represent American Blended Family. The representation in this film “Yours, Mine and Ours” are modern vs. conservative, discipline military (awkward) vs. affection (warm and close), authority power vs. democratic, spanking punishment vs. permissive, decorating vs. vandalism,
rules vs. no rules, adaptation and understanding, love and family, and also yours, mine and ours. Film “Yours, Mine and Ours” also represent American blended family through five stages in blended family. The writer can conclude it based on the data analysis in chapter two and analyze the data in chapter three. First stage is fantasy stage that brings all hope and fantasy from each spouse in blended family. Second stage is confusion stage, in this stage differences start emerge, tension between two different family grow, and both children from each spouse realize about their differences. Third stage is conflict stage, in this stage Helen’s children and Frank’s children dislike each others. Problems and Conflicts also appear between parents in this stage and it tends to makes both of them separate. Fourth stage is coming together stage, in this stage family members begin to be able to make agreements and cooperate. Sense of belonging between family members grows. And the fifth stage is resolution stage, in this stage all family members can relax and start to be themselves. Because everyone respects and appreciates each other, they learn to resolve conflicts and problems in their blended family. From the analysis that the writer do through this film and the representation theory, the writer can conclude that film “Yours, Mine, and Ours” is representation of American Blended Family.

B. Suggestion.

For other researchers who want to analyze film, the first thing they have to do, they must watch that film very carefully. It is better for them to watch that film again and again to know more and exactly what the message that can be explored from that film. In this case my suggestion to the next research is analyze about the representation of step mom or step siblings in blended family from another film.


Kathleen O’Rourke, John C. Worzyt, Support Group for Children. Taylor and Francais: 1996,


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http://www.helpguide.org/mental/blended_families_stepfamilies.htm
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http://www.way2hope.org/blended_family_problems.htm
Appendix I

Cover of “Yours, Mine and Ours” Film
Appendix II

Picture of Frank and his children:

![Image of Frank and his children](image-url)
Appendix III

Picture of Helen and her children
Appendix IV

Synopsis of “Yours, Mine & Ours” Film

This film directed by Raja Gospel from Columbia Picture, story about a widow Helen North (Rene Russo) with ten kids (6 adopted from a different culture), and a widower Frank Beardsley (Dennis Quaid) with eight kids. Helen works at home in messily creative studio as a designer who sells things at place like Saks Fifth Avenue. Figure of Helen in this film looks so expressive, flexible, and cheerful. She keeps and educates her multicultural family of ten together with more free and creative hand, she allows their children to express their creativity and activity freely, as far as it still in positive area. She also has a close relationship with her ten kids and does not like to sweat a small thing.

On the other side Frank as a coast guard admiral, works in a discipline environment. He keeps and educates his children of course in a discipline way, explicit, with rules, and in control. He also likes tidiness and very concern to cleanliness. Frank and Helen is two individual with a different character and background. Later the interesting thing is when both of them meet in a high school reunion, actually Frank and Helen is a couple when they was in senior high school. So after knowing status social of each other, Frank knows that Helen is a widow and so do Helen, both of them falling in love again and it's no wonder they rush into marriage without telling their children. Unfortunately for Frank and Helen, the families don't mesh quite as easily as the newlyweds had hoped. When both families move into a new house and a new life after the marriage, it is a struggle for them to become one family, rather than two families living together. Helen and her kids with habitual free thinking spirit must live together
with Frank and his kids, with rules and discipline military father at their helm. All of it seems too complicated for the children, problems, conflicts and chaos appears between both children of Frank’s and Helen’s. Since both sets of kids aren’t happy, they devise a plan to undermine the marriage and team up to plot the breakup. East meets west as two families find a way to work together in order to separate their parents. But later all children realize their mistake, that living in a big family with complete parents consist of mom and dad, and even with step sisters and step brothers are lovely. So then all children cooperate to make their parent unite again and become one big happy blended family.