

# Linguistics and Literature Journal

Vol. 3, No. 2, December 2022.

Published by

English Literature Study Program Faculty of Arts and Education

## UNIVERSITAS TEKNOKRAT INDONESIA

Zainal Abidin Pagaralam No. 9 – 11 Bandarlampung

## LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE JOURNAL Vol. 3, No. 2, December 2022

Linguistics and Literature Journal is a peer-reviewed journal published in Indonesia by the Faculty of Arts and Education, Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia. This journal aims to facilitate and promote the dissemination of scholarly information on research and development in the field of linguistics, literature, and language teaching and learning. The articles published in this journal can be the result of research, conceptual thinking, ideas, innovations, best practices, and book reviews.

#### **Chief Editor**

Dina Amelia

#### **Editorial Team**

Dian Puspita Ingatan Gulö Suprayogi

#### **Board of Reviewers**

Dr. Huili Li, M.A., Yuxi Normal University
Dr. Li. Nurdiana, S.Psi, M.Hum., Universitas Bunda Mulia
Anna Sriastuti, M.Hum., Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana
Riza Lestari, M.Hum., ITL Trisakti Jakarta
Akhyar Rido, Ph.D., Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia
E. Ngestirosa E.W.K., M.A., Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia
Heri Kuswoyo, M.Hum., Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia
Afrianto, M.Hum., Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia
M. Yuseano Kardiansyah, M.A., Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia
Laila Ulsi Qodriani, M.A., Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia

Editor and Administration Address: **LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE JOUNAL. E-ISSN: 2723-7273.** Publication Division, Arts and Education Faculty, Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia. H. Zainal Abidin Pagaralam No. 9-11. Kedaton, Bandarlampung. Telephone (0721) 702022, 774061(hunting) 784945. E-mail: llist@teknokrat.ac.id.

## LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE JOURNAL

## Vol. 3, No. 2, December 2022

### Table of Contents

| The Stereotype of Afro-American Father in <i>The Pursuit of Happyness</i> (2006) Movie:                                 |
|---|
| Counter Discourse   |
|   |
| Vietnamese English Accent Vs American English Accent: Locating the Phonological Variation                               |
| Tri Kurnia Putri Utami, Suprayogi Suprayogi   |
| Character's Obsession for Perfection in <i>The Aviator</i> Movie by Martin Scorsese: a                                  |
| Psychoanalysis  |
| Rape Trauma Syndrome Representation as seen in <i>The Way I Used to be</i> Novel by Amber                               |
| Smith   |
| Dissociative Identity Disorder and It's Significance to Nina Sayer's Personality Development in <i>Black Swan</i> Movie |
|   |
| The Portrayal of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as seen in the Main Character in <i>The Woman in The Window</i> Novel   |
| Fadhilah Salma Husna, Heri Kuswoyo  |
| Agoraphobia Analysis Experienced By The Main Character In Maria Semple's Where'd You Go, Bernadette Novel               |
| Ara Najma Indah, Ely Nurmaily   |
| An Analysis Of Racial Profiling In Dear Martin Novel By Nic Stone   |
| Delita Amelia, Ingatan Gulö   |
| The Representation of Suicidal Behavior in A Star Is Born Movie: a Freudian  Psychoanalysis Reading                     |

| The Unfulfilled Gender Stereotype in Lamb to The Slaughter by Roald Dahl |   |
|--|---|
|  | 9 |
| Anna Sriastuti. E. Ngestirosa Endang Woro Kasih                          |   |



# Published by Faculty of Arts and Education UNIVERSITAS TEKNOKRAT INDONESIA

Bandarlampung

| Linguistics and Volume 3 Literature Journal | Number 2 | December | 2022 | Page 79 - 163 |
|---|----------|----------|------|---------------|
|---|----------|----------|------|---------------|

#### **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

Securios Parios Securios Secur

Vol. 3, No. 2, 79 – 89 E-ISSN: 2723-7273

available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index



# THE STEREOTYPE OF AFRO-AMERICAN FATHER IN THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (2006) MOVIE: COUNTER DISCOURSE

#### Ledy Heryanti<sup>1</sup>, E. Ngestirosa Endang Woro Kasih<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia <sup>1.2</sup>

ledyheryanti@gmail.com1, ngestirosa@teknokrat.ac.id2

**Received :** (November 2022) **Accepted :** (November 2022) **Published :** (December 2022)

#### Abstract

Stereotyping and stereotypes have always been an element of human society. In society and the media, there has existed a stereotype of Afro-American fathers. Studies revealed that Afro-American fathers are often absent from their children's lives. The issue tends towards Afro-American father stereotypes and has a long and complicated history in the U.S. Through this autobiography movie: *The Pursuit of Happyness*, Chris Gardner, as the main character and an Afro-American father, breaks the negative stereotype in the U.S. society viewing Afro-fathers. The author uses a descriptive qualitative method and stereotype theory, helped by narratology film in analyzing the data. The primary data were pictures, narration, and dialogue in *The Pursuit of Happyness* movie. The study found six issues considered as counter-discourse on Afro-American father stereotypes. They are educated, attentive, supporting, financially responsible, and diligent figures on Afro-American father figures. The paternal bound also exists in the figure.

Keywords: Afro-American father, counter discourse, film analysis, stereotypes

#### INTRODUCTION

Stereotype itself is a matter where a person or group decides to judge another group only based on remembering the type of group that is the individual representation or distinctive (Bordalo, Coffman, Gennaioli, & Shleifer, 2015). In this particular case, stereotypes indeed highlight differences between groups and are highly inaccurate. They sometimes consist of doubt and imply an overreaction to information that generates or confirms the stereotype and an underreaction to information that contradicts it. Stereotypes can change if new information appears to change the group's most distinctive character, which can be through media, movies, or literature. In society and the media, there has existed a stereotype of Afro-American fathers. Studies (Lopez, 2015) revealed that Afro-American fathers are often absent from their children's lives. The issue tends towards Afro-American father stereotypes and has a long and complicated history in the U.S. Those stereotypes started with the history of Afro-American slavery, which significantly impacted Afro-American men (Mertania and Amalia, 2020; Samanik, 2018). At first, it was only a stereotype based on biological differences in accent and skin color. Thus, these stereotypes increasingly persist and are even built-in new forms, turning into social constructions to legitimize the superiority of certain races. Through that incident, systematic racism has been seen in the presence of an Afro-American male throughout history.

The stereotype was naturally formed in the U.S. society, creating some complicated circumstances for an Afro-American group in the U.S. The issue has also built negative stereotypes in viewing Afro-American role models, especially a father, which has become "a mind virus" in Western countries. Something that has ever happened will form a stereotyped group's perception and generally homogenize the group. Oliver (2003) stated "Many Afro-Americans, especially men, are stereotyped as stupid, cruel, lazy, and dangerous criminals" (p. 5). In addition, stereotype, criminal justice, and prejudice measures have far-reaching implications for these men relative to the economic support they can provide their families, their involvement, and the emotional impact on their families. That certainly affects the formation of the stereotype of the Afro-American father in the U.S., who is constantly compared to Western fathers.

For years, much of the movie has been criticized for its representation of African Americans. African Americans have often been portrayed in stereotypical job roles, with negative personality characteristics, underachievers, and negative stereotypes. The individual correlation of racial and ethnic prejudice, which gave rise to prejudice theory (Stangor, 2009). Of course, this indirectly has a destructive impact on Afro-Americans

from the perspective of people viewing Black people after watching a movie that negates the presence of an Afro person. Therefore, at this time, along with the changing times, the appearance of Afro-American movies is very varied, which used to be a Black movie that presented history or events that relate to the life or presence of an Afro-American itself, currently contains stories with different nuances. Moreover, the Black Lives Matter movement was used as a protest because there are still strong racist cases that have occurred until now and have become a sensitive matter in the U.S. (Ghandnoos, 2014). Behind it all, the existence of black movies today is to prove history and emerge the lives value of minority groups; as the studies noted, T.V. and Black movies are used to describe the importance of Afro-Americans (Redfern, 2005). One of them is *The Pursuit of Happyness* movie, as an outspoken representation of people who seem to oppose the negative stereotype of the Afro-American in the U.S.

The Pursuit of Happyness (2006) movie is an autobiographical movie with a background in the early 1980s in San Francisco, the United States, adopted from the novel within the same title released in 2006s. Marcus (2013) reviewed that the movie presents the colors of the single Afro-American father, Christ Gardner, as the head of the family and as the father with custody of Christopher, his son. Then, the movie supported a true story that reflects the lifetime of the characters on how reality takes place, family problems, economy, children, divorce, and the journey of life as Afro-American people where Gardner was the struggle the better life and reached equality in his environment (Marcus, 2013). Furthermore, *The Pursuit of Happyness* movie can be a study both in psychology and sociology (Afriangga and Nurmaily, 2017; Kasih and Fithratullah, 2018), connecting the character's personality as an Afro-American and American Dream in the U.S. (Tarigan, 2009). However, The Pursuit of Happyness has received awards in various nominations for its attention has not been studied from the perspective of father figures, especially Afro-American fathers. That is what makes this movie exciting and unique to be discussed in scientific analysis (Fithratullah, 2021; Kasih, 2020). More clearly, the study to discover how social issues arise and formed into a social doctrine regarding the stereotype of the Afro-American father in the U.S.in The Pursuit of Happyness movie is needed. To be more specific, through the sociological approach and steretypes theory, researcher tries to form counter discourse on the figure of an Afro-American father against the stereotype Afro-American father in the U.S. through the characters in *The Pursuit of Happyness* movie.

#### **METHOD**

This study applied the descriptive qualitative method as it is more suitable for analyzing the data in this research. Qualitative research is a research method that is most suitable to be implemented in research with a group of words as data such as quotes in books, novels, poems, and others (Rido and Sari, 2018; Kasih, Amelia, Fithtratullah, 2022; Suprayogi, 2021). In this methodology, the researcher has to build abstracts, concepts, and theories as a research framework. Moreover, the qualitative research method is the research that focuses on understanding a phenomenon and studying it more effectively to find the meaning of the phenomenon discussed and describe a phenomenon in word form and a particular context by utilizing several natural methods to support the primary methodology (Kasih and Strid, 2020). The qualitative research method is carried out by describing the data used to reveal different facts, and then the data will be re-analyzed according to the objectivity of the research (Amelia and Daud, 2022). Qualitative descriptive method is a research method that describes and qualifies scientific data that are related to each other so that they can be compiled into a scientific and objective conclusion (Nassoba & Samanik, 2022). This method also aims to accurately describe or explain the facts being investigated (Oktavia & Suprayogi, 2021; Pranoto and Sartika, 2021).

The qualitative approach is essential because the data taken comes from specific issues and the object of research (Maulana, Kasih and Suprayogi, 2022) which becomes the important focus of analysis. In the qualitative method, data analysis is the stage of searching and compiling the data obtained using different data collection techniques that researchers need, such as observations, interviews, literary work analysis, and others. This method is used to explore research based on the material objects used. Therefore, researchers need to organize data, choose which ones are important to study, and make conclusions that are easy to understand (Gulo and Rahmaely, 2020; Kuswoyo, 2016). Thus the primary data were taken from dialogue, images, and the narrations in *The Pursuit of Happyness* movies. Some studies were also needed to support and strengthen the analysis. They were journals and recent studies regarding the Afro-American father and the film. The study applied sociological approach defining steretypes theories from Stangor (2009) and stereotypes denial theory from Cohen and Garcia (2005).

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this part, the researcher classified the data regarding stereotypes of Afro--American fathers from the previous study. Furthermore, the researcher presents the data taken from scenes in *The Pursuit of Happyness* movie, such as quotations and narration of the film. The researcher analyzes every detail of the story to deny the stereotype of Afro-American father with the theory used. The dialogues and pictures of the movie reveal the characters by what they say and act; they either use direct and indirect ways (Famela, 2011). Thus, the action of the main character, who is an Afro-American father, will break the stereotype. The data are presented as follow:

## Gardner's Attention on His Kid's Education Scene 1

The discussion is taken from a scene where Gardner is taking his son to daycare. Like other mornings, Gardner and his son would rush to daycare before his father left for work. Gardner noticed a typo in the mural, which Gardner explained to his son at their hasty pace. Despite the fountain, the conversation between them always went well. The word is '*Happiness*,' which should be written with 'I' instead of the letter *Y*, to be '*Happyness*.' He tried to explain to his son the mistake and did not forget to explain how it should be written correctly and also about which word class the "happyness" is.



Gardner: "It's written as P-P-Y, but it's supposed to be an I

in "happiness"

**His son**: "Is it an adjective?"

Gardner: "Uh, no. Actually, it's a noun. But it's not

By explaining the word in the mural, Gardner tries to pay attention to his son. The term 'Happyness,' which Gardner explains, means that Gardner has background knowledge. Here, Gardner, as Afro-American, adjusts the simple educated in his conversation with his son with his passion while he is in a rush. Unlike what is written in American history, many Afro-Americans, especially men, are stereotyped as stupid (Oliver, 2003). Through the record creates in U.S. society, back then, putting Afro-American men in slavery in a lower position, the doctrine Afro men as uneducated people who do not have knowledge or ability to say or do something. However, Gardner broke the stereotype. It attests from Gardner's characteristic of treating his child's thinking well about the word's meaning. Of course, the existence of Gardner's figure can be one way to show the truths that the doctrine of Afro-American fathers is not valid. Still, the truth is that African-American fathers can stand to educated people and educate their children. Gardner puts his position to deny the stereotypes to his community. When community or individuals are faced with a stereotype threat to their integrity embodied in a stereotype they believe being applied to them, one of the most straightforward coping strategies is stereotype denial (Cohen and Garcia, 2005).

#### Scene 2



His son: "Is "fuck" spelled right?"
Gardner: "Yeah, that's spelled right. But that's not part of the motto, so you're not supposed to learn that. That's an adult word to show anger and, um... other things. But just don't...Don't use that one, okay?"

His son: "Okay." (00:16:45 -

00:17:01)

The second conversation between them is where his son asks about the word 'Fuck', which is also painted on the wall near the child's daycare. Hearing this question, of course, Gardner was a little confused about how to explain it, but thoroughly and kept an understanding, Gardner tried to explain that the word was not written wrong and asked the child not to use it. Gardner also said why the child should not use the word, which is because the word is to show anger. The seriousness and concern that are imprinted on Gardner as a father can be seen through the picture.

In the picture, Gardner's face (A), who looks at Christopher with the mimic worried regarding what his son asks and thinks. The camera centers much on the mimic of Gardner's face to delineate his much attention on his son. Then the gesture of his hand (B) interprets the movement that affirms what he said, or the order was something to believe in his statements. What Gardner explains in the second scene is about moral education. Gardner tries to provide an understanding of words that should not be used for children his age. Education itself is an effort that is deliberately chosen to influence and help children ourselves to improve science, physical, and morals. So they can deliver the children to reach their dreams to get happiness in life and make a good impact in society, state, and religion. Those shreds of evidence show if Afro-Americans can stand as educated fathers for the children in the context of children thinking development in formal and informal things. Gardner shows another side of an African-American father who was previously seen as an uneducated father in formal or informal terms. Of course, Gardner's way of educating his kid is a kind of denial for the common perception that Afro-American fathers cannot fulfill the role of fathers in educating their children.

## Gardner's Attention as a Father to His Child Scene 3

The third piece of evidence happened at the door of the daycare. Where Gardner complained to Mrs. Chu, the daycare owner where his child was entrusting, about the daily activities carried out by his son in that place.

**Gardner:** "He says he's been watching TV."

Ms. Chu: "Oh, little TV for history."

Gardner: "Love Boat?"
Ms. Chu: "For history. Navy"

**Gardner:** "That's ... That's not the Navy. I mean, he... He could watch television at home. We're paying you \$150 a month. I-if he's gonna be sitting around watching TV all day, we're taking him out of here." (00:18:07 – 00:18:27)

Through the dialogue, it can be seen that Gardner is worried about his son's development. In contrast, his son stayed at the daycare that Gardner paid for it. Even Gardner is willing to pay a price that is high enough to compare with his economic situation. "I-if he is gonna be sitting around watching TV all day, we are taking him out of here", implies that Gardner expects something his son may not get when he is only at home while his mom and dad are working. However, TV shows only to serve his son, not something Gardner expected before, like playing with his friends to build confidence or socializing, reading or hearing the story related to child development and education. Chu reasoned that his TV viewing was done to learn about the history of the navy, but Gardner knew it was not a good learning tool for children.

The study refutes a stereotype using literature data that reflects the public's view of African-American fathers as one the fathers involved with their children (Khan, Benda, & Stagnaro, 2012). This research proves that there is a doctrine or negative belief of an Afro-American father in U.S. society. Furthermore, the film scene above also refutes the negative view of the uninvolved Afro-American father figure on his child's development. He is judged by how Gardner is very critical of what happened to his son in his development. By protesting to daycare owners, it also proves that Gardner's decision to leave his child in daycare is not solely because he and his wife are busy working. Because if that is the case, Gardner would not have thought about what his son is doing there; merely someone taking care of his son when he and his wife are busy would be enough. However, Gardner is very concerned about the conditions in which his child is placed. That concern can also be seen in Gardner's expression when he speaks to Mrs. Chu; his worries are apparent. Garden's attitude is inversely proportional to the public's view of African-American fathers as one the fathers involved with their children.

#### Scene 4

The next scene happens when Gardner goes to buy a lamp for his broken destiny scanner in the store. Gardner stands in front of the cashier with his son beside him and the child is still carrying the bag in his backpack, watching the snacks in front of him.

Α



В



Gardner: "Hey, you want one of those?"

His son: "No, it's okay."

Gardner: "Come on, you can have one. Which one?"

**His son**: Take a snack

Gardner: "You like that one? How much?"

**Seller**: "Twenty-five cents." (00:57:05 – 00:57:16)

After noncing it, Gardiner asked his son it he would like the shack in nont of him in the dialogue above. With a made-up look, the boy said that he did not want that. However, behind the words "No, it is okay" that came out of his son, of course, Gardner felt that it meant the child because Gardner had noticed how the boy acted when they were in the store. Therefore, Gardner again offered, which sounded more like an option to take the snack he wanted.

As seen in picture B, Gardner gets his son's attention fixed on the red-wrapped snack in front of him. As if knowing his son's wish, Gardner offers to take a snack his son wants. His son initially rejected it if he did not like it. But Gardner forced his son to keep taking the snacks he wanted and ended up having one snack in his hand the second time Gardner offered it. What is striking here is apart from Gardner's concern for his son's wishes. Gardner still puts his child first. However, he inevitably has to be more economical at that time due to his unstable economy. However, Gardner still prioritizes his attention on his son by trying to fulfill his son's wishes. Also, Gardner becomes a father who pays attention to their children's matters. As it is known, American society and media consistently picture Afro-American fathers as absent fathers (Ransaw, 2014). The statement can indirectly say that the Afro-American father is a father who is not involved with his child. Nevertheless, the scene and the quotation are said differently; it denies the stereotype of Afro-American fathers as uninvolved fathers through Gardner's involvement and interest in his childhood development and the environment around his son.

## Gardner's Involvement as a Supportive Afro-American Father Scene 5

The evidence of this scene was setting in Gardner's rented house. The conversation in the scene is where Gardner reminds them of their Saturday morning routine to play basketball excitingly. Because Gardner knows that basketball is his son's favorite sport.



Gardner: "Hey. You know what today is?"

His son: "Yeah." Gardner: "What?" His son: "Saturday."

**Gardner:** "You know what Saturday is, right?"

His son: "Yeah." Gardner: "What?" His son: "Basketball."

Gardner: "You wanna go play some basketball?"

Through Gardner's actions, it proved that if he is a supporting Afro-American parent for his child. In his busy, fulfilled economy, Gardner still supports his child's hobby. He even offered to remind him that Saturday was his son's schedule for playing basketball. Not only that, but Gardner was also playing with his son in his suit, after which he would return to the hospital one by one to offer density scanner products. The scene can deny the Afro father stereotype as unsupportive fathers in children's development. Because literature data itself reflected the public's view of Afro fathers as unsupportive parents (Smith, Krohn, Chu, & Best, 2005). However, the Afro-

American father in the movie supports what his son needs. Gardner tried his best to make his son can do something he wanted to do as his hobby. In an economic situation that must be more struggling in seeking money, Even Gardner is still thinking about his son's daily activity on Saturday. As it said, Gardner can ignore his child's hobby and go somewhere to sell his product. Nevertheless, he is not. He still balancing his roles as the head of the family who has to earn money and as a father who has to take a father role for his son.

#### Scene 6

The scene appeared on the basketball court, where the child continued to control the ball, throwing it here and there and the father following the flow of the game. Dressed neatly, the two of them played basketball with enthusiasm before leaving for daycare. On the sidelines of the game, they continued to chat as usual.



**His son:** "Hey, Dad, I'm going pro."

Gardner: "Oh-ho! Okay. Yeah. I don't know, you know. Uh... you'll probably be about as good as I was. That's kind of the way it works, you know. And I... I was below average. You know, so... Whoa. So you'll probably ultimately rank...somewhere around there, you know, so... I really... You'll excel at a lot of things, just not this. So I don't want you out here shooting this ball around all day and night, all right?"

The dialogues looked like his son want to get a confession from his dad. That is why he told him if he is going pro in playing basketball; like the one with lots of experiences, Gardner tried to explain when replying to his son's statement related to the ability. Gardner said that if he is a father who can be below average in playing basketball, his son will ultimately be ranked. That is a supporting sentence for the people who heard about it.

The stereotype of an Afro-American father known as a father who did not support his child's development is no longer valid because of Gardner's action in responding to his son's statement. It proved that Gardner as an Afro-American father has a dedication to supporting his son's characteristics and needs. As is well known that stereotypes have always been an element of society (Schmader & Inzlicht, 2011) which means it is only the perspective of an individual or group in viewing something based on what was heard and seen from family TV or social media. Likewise, what happens to African-American fathers' negative view lies in the wrong view that does not include alternative models (Ransaw, 2014). Whereas Theodore Raw (2014) researched the quality of fathers, one of which is establishing good communication (2014). That is what Gardner has as a father figure, who is an Afro-American. Through the part of the dialogue from Gardner, he put lots of support through his words to push his son's spirit. Even in the following sentence, it makes his son misunderstanding him. In his last sentence, Gardner said that he wants to make his son search for other abilities that he has, not only good at playing basket but Gardner embed his son will be good at anything, it sounds like such a motivation in accordance supporting his son. Therefore Gardner did not want his son only playing around with basketball. Because Gardner believes his son can reach anything as he does.

#### Scene 7

The following scene on the basketball court is a continuation of the previous evidence. After responding to Gardner's son's statement, ending in a lousy mood, he pulled over to the side of the field, followed by his father, who felt that his son was a little offended by his father's words.



**Gardner:** "Hey. Don't ever let somebody tell you...you can't do something. Not even me. All right? All right. You got a dream...you gotta protect it. People can't do something themselves; they want to tell you you can't do it. If you want something, go get it. Period." (00:53:39 – 00:55:39)

The quote from Chris Gardner describes what Gardner taught to his children. It is not just about lessons. Gardner even applies the hardships of life, about how people will always mock and break our dreams, which happened to Gardner. He is trying to instill confidence and a sense of resilience to live better in a better

environment. It is also clearly seen through the look on Gardner's face; it can be seen how he is trying to convince his son to believe that what he said is true and hope his son remembers what he said in the scene. In this case, it also proves that support can be instilled by a father who has the stereotype of someone always busy with his work, to the point that he is considered incapable of taking care of children's problems. Through the main character, the stereotype of an Afro-American father in the U.S community who thinks that an Afro father cannot support and raise his child (LaRossa, 1997) is refuted through the main character in the film *The Pursuit of Happyness* movie. Here, Garden gave his son support to always stand in his way to the things he wanted to pursue even though the world tried to break him down.

## Gardner's Willingness to Take the Responsibility over his Family's Finances $\mathit{Scene~8}$

The scene happened at a blood donation place when Gardner was struggling in the economic crisis. At that time, Gardner decided to apply for a job as a stoker holder, which made him inevitably follow an intensive program for six months as an employee selection process.





Gardner's action as a proof if an Afro-American father that can stand as a financially responsible father for his family. Stereotype as an absent father, certainly it effects on their responsibility in children's needs or financial. Furthermore, an Irresponsible father was awarded for being an Afro-American father figure in the U.S (Stublety, Rojas, & McCroy, 2015). But, the scenes from the movie speak it differently. It also tries to deny its stereotype on how still there is the Afro-American father that exists and becomes a responsible father financially (Taylor, Guy-Walls, Wilkerson, & Addae, 2019). Even at first, he argued with his wife when they were having problems in an economic crisis. However so far, Gardner still seems to be a good father figure in financial matters. He is still trying to find and get good results for the good of his family. Behind his sincerity in work, Gardner's act of donating blood certainly proves that an Afro-American father still thinks and does various ways to fulfill and, of course, be responsible for his family's needs.

## Gardner's Effort to be a Diligent Figure *Scene 9*

(01:14:54)



(01:34:36)



In picture A, with the scene in the bedroom of Gardner's rented house and it was time to sleep, he struggled with the book he was holding, a textbook during his internship, which he was required to read during his internship program. Then in picture B, with the lack of light in a shelter for the homeless, it looks like Gardner continues to study with the help of light coming in through the window where he is staying

Both scenes pictured how Gardner is very diligent and dedicated; it showed how dedicated he is to what he will achieve for his family. It denied the stereotype in the U.S society if Afro-American fathers are stupid because they are lazy (Smith, Krohn, Chu, & Best, 2005). Because back then, Afro-American men, Afro-American fathers, indotrinated as lazy people, it seems like the main problem for the economic crisis of their family (Smithsonia, 2017). Nevertheless, that doctrine is still believed and becomes a stereotype for Afro-American fathers in U.S society. Two of the other scenes are used as evidence that not all Afro-American fathers are lazy and stupid in terms of being responsible for their families. However, Gardner, as the main character in the biographical film, breaks the stereotype statement.

That says if an Afro-American father is a lazy person because Gardner in the movie shows his diligent side in pursuing a better life for himself and his son through the scene, Gardner's action in every detail. It can be seen how he keeps trying to achieve his goals even though the circumstances make it difficult for him; of course, he does it to make his life and the life of his family better than before. It proves that the stereotype of stupid and lazy fathers is not justified.

## The Paternal Bond between Gardner and His Son Scene 9



**His son**: "Dad, you don't have a shoe."

Gardner: "Yep. I know. Wanna know what happened? I got hit by a car."

His son: "You got hit by a car? Where?" Gardner: "Uh, just right by the office." His son: "No, wherein your body?" Gardner: "Like, the back of my legs." His son: "Where are you on the street?"

**Gardner**: "Y-yeah. I was running in the street." **His son**: "Don't do that. You can get hurt."

Gardner: "Yeah, thanks. I'll remember that next time." (1:01:46 – 1:02:16)

This scene begins when Gardner is going to pick up his son on the break from his internship. On the way, he saw a beggar carrying his lost density scanner and chased him. But unlucky, Gardner was hit by a car while crossing the road then lost a shoe. That scene was picturing when Gardner arrived at the daycare. His son was noticing his father, who lost his shoes when squatting in front of him. In the dialogue, trying to look okay, Gardner tried to tell what happened until he lost one shoe. The exciting thing is when his son asks "where?" and Gardner answers about the accident's place, whereas he asked about being injured because of the incident. His son conveyed another concern by saying, "Do not do that. You can get hurt." when his son found out that the cause of his father's accident was because he was running on the road.

Through the evidence mentioned, the paternal bond shows that the bond between father and son can bring positive emotions and expressions between them. It could believe that Afro-American fathers can take part in the development of their children and how a father takes the figure of a caregiver. Gardner's relationship with his son proved pretty good by seeing the excellent response in his son's attention to his father. It is refuting the stereotype in the US that says the presence of an African-American father has a destructive impact on his child's emotional development (Ransaw, 2014).

#### Scene 10

The scene occurred when he was at an inn for beggars—seen the child supine on the bed, with Gardner sitting with his face facing his son. It can be seen from the child's face full of anxiety. What then looks like the son is also touching his father's chin with total sincerity for what he is about to say.





His son:

That statement was producing when his son asked about his mother's departure if it had anything to do with him. In response, Gardner tried to explain that his mother's departure was not because he wanted to go. Gardner tried to calm his son's worries. Therefore, his son said he was a good father, with what they had been through so far.

The evidence scene above has explained, where the child says that Gardner is a good father, with a facial expression showing emotion that says he means what he says. It proves that from the side of the Afro-American child, he admits that the African-American father is a good figure for them. It can be said that the African American

father-daughter relationship can be well-formed without causing the negative things that western people expect, because naturally, each individual or group will give their assessment of other individuals or groups (Khan, Benda, & Stagnaro, 2012). However, over time, our judgments of others cannot be used as a basis for social comparison or social understanding (Schmader & Inzlicht, 2011). It causes stereotypes to be considered an assumption or perspective from a general pattern of behavior or judgment that often extends to people, society, and culture. Just as with the role of African-American fathers, which refers to U.S. history, Afro-American fathers were placing as fathers who would not take on the role of fathers. Because during that historical period, many African-American fathers were entangled in economic problems, so they were less qualified to support their families, so there was no reasonable relationship between them. It gave rise to the stereotype because social interactions between individuals or groups provide conclusions and understandings that are not entirely correct based on history. Through Gardner's action, As an Afro-American father, he stayed and did what was best for his family. If concluded, Gardner can be a father figure who can build a good father and son relationship.

#### **CONCLUSION**

This study focuses on the stereotype denial of Afro-American fathers seen in The Pursuit of Happyness movie (2006). There are six issues considered as counter-discourse for Afro-American father stereotypes. They are Afro-American fathers as educated, attentive, supportive, financially responsible, and diligent in Chris Gardner character. There is also a paternal bond through the characteristics and actions of Chris Gardner as an Afro-American father in the movie. The movie depicted a denial of the stereotype of the Afro-American father in the U.S. However, according to Hollywood's needs, American movies are made for America's needs. Whose concept of Americanism has become known worldwide since becoming a world superpower and trying to make films as a new political tactic used in world politics. That Americans should look fine, although Afro-American people remain in their original identity. Even though Hollywood produces films about black, there is still discrimination regarding skin color in U.S. society, whether it is in the context of children, parents, students, or others. Likewise, this movie, based on the story of a black person, was produced by a black person and played by a black person. It is certainly not a coincidence, but something conveyed about the voiceless, discrimination, or the truths through literary works. Likewise, in this movie, it can be seen how good an Afro-American father is. However, in U.S. society, the African-American father figure is exposed to negative perspectives about his existence in the family. Most people only focus on racist skin color, even though discrimination has gone far beyond skin color and gender, but the role of fathers towards their families and children. Therefore, the autobiography of this film should be used to change the perspective on the image of African American fathers in the U.S., that they are equal to other fathers from various places, ethnicities, and races.

#### REFERENCES

- Aryangga, A., & Nurmaily, E. (2017). Women's Power and Stereotype Denial in Pocahontas Movie. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 15(1), 46-52.
- Bordalo, P., Coffman, K., Gennaioli, N., & Shleifer, A. (2015). Stereotypes. *Quaterly Journal of Economics*, 1753-1794
- Cohen, G. L., & Garcia, J. (2005). "I Am Us": Negative Stereotypes as Collective Threats. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 566-582.
- Creswell, J. W. (2003). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed-Method Approaches. New York: SAGE.
- Famela. (2011). An analysis of the Main Character on the Movie amazing graze by Michael Apted. *Universitas Syarif Hidayattullah*.
- Fithratullah, Muhammad. (2021). Representation of Korean Values Sustainability in American Remake Movie. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 19(1), 60-73.
- Ghandnoos, N. (2014). *Black Lives Matters: Eliminating Racial Inequity in the Criminal Justice System.* Washington D.C.: Research and Advocacy for Reform.
- Gulö, I., & Rahmawelly. (2018). An Analysis of Omission in Students' English Writings. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 16(2), 55-59.
- Kasih, E. N. (2018). Redefining Hybridity of Chicano Literature in Jimenez's Fictions. *International Journal of Diaspora & Cultural Criticism*, 8(2), 294-319.

- Kasih, E. N. E. W., Amelia, D., and Fithtratullah. M. (2021). Unraveling Students' Attitude of Using Blog for Online Learning in Literature Class. *Universitas Riau International Conference on Education Technology* (*URICET*), pp. 419-424, doi: 10.1109/URICET53378.2021.9865946.
- Kasih, E.N., & Fitratullah, M. (2018). Minority Voices in Power Rangers Movie: A Study of Popular Literature. *Journal of Literature and Language Teaching*, 9(1), 9-17.
- Kasih, E.N., & Strid, J.E. (2020). Reconstructing the Border: Social Integration in Reyna Grande's The Distance Between Us. *IDEAS: International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change*, 14(9), 702-715.
- Maulana, B., Kasih, E.N., & Suprayogi. (2022). Genetic Structuralism Analysis on The Color Out of Space By H.P. Lovecraft. *Journal on English Language Teaching and Learning Linguistic and Literature*, 10(1), 648-656.
- Khan, S. R., Benda, T., & Stagnaro, M. N. (2012). Stereotyping From the Perspective of Perceivers and Targets. *sychology and Culture*, *5*(1), 1-10.
- Kuswoyo, H. (2016). Thematic Structure in Barack Obama's Press Conference: A Systemic Functional Grammar Study. *Advances in Language and Literary Studies*, 7(2), 257-267. https://doi.org/10.7575/aiac.alls.v.7n.2
- LaRossa, R. (1997). *The modernization of fatherhood: A social and political history*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Lopez, G. (21 de Juni de 2015). *Vox.* Acesso em 19 de Juni de 2016, disponível em Voxmedia: vox.com/2015/6/21/8820537/black-fathers-day
- Mertania, Y., & Amelia, D. (2020). Black Skin White Mask: Hybrid Identity of the Main Character as Depicted in Tagore's The Home and The World. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(1), 7-12.
- Nassoba, R., & Samanik. (2022). Domestic Violence Issue As Seen in the Memoir Brutally Honest by Melanie Brown. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, *3*(1), 1-10.
- Oktavia, W., & Suprayogi, S. (2021). Grammatical Cohesion in Boris Johnson's Speech Entitled Coronavirus Spread in UK. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(1), 8-16.
- Oliver, M. B. (2003). African American Men as "Criminal and Dangerous": Implications of Media Portrayals. *Journal of African American Studies*, 3-18.
- Pranoto, B., & Sartika, L. (2021). Analysis of Humor in the Big Bang Theory by Using Relevance Theory: A Pragmatic Study. *Linguistics and Literature*, 2(1), 1-7.
- Ransaw, T. (2014). The Good Father: African American Fathers Who Positively Influence the Educational. *A Journal on Black Men*, 2(2), 1-25.
- Redfern, N. (2005). Film As Text: Radical Constructivism and The Problem Of Narrative In Cinema. *Amsterdam International Electronic Journal for Cultural Narratology*, 1-10.
- Rido, A. and Sari, M.S. (2018). Characteristics of Classroom Interaction of English Language Teachers in Indonesia and Malay. *International Journal of Language Education*, 2(1), 40-50.
- Samanik. (2018). Achebe's Things Fall a Apart as a Counter Discourse of African Representation in Colonial Literature. Linguistics, Literature, & Language Teaching Series: An Overview of Current Issue in Literature, Linguistics, and Language Teaching.
- Schmader, T., & Inzlicht, M. (2011). *Stereotype Threat: Theory, Process, and Application*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Smith, C. A., Krohn, M. D., Chu, R., & Best, O. (2005). African American Fathers Myths and Realities About Their Involvement With Their Firstborn Children. *Journal of Family Issues*, 975-1001.
- Smith, W. & Muccino, G. (2006). The Pursuit of Happyness. United States: Sony Pictures Releasing.
- Smithsonia. (2017). *Popular and Pervasive Stereotypes of African Americans*. Acesso em 2017, disponível em National Museum of African American History and Culture: https://nmaahc.si.edu/blog-post/popular-and-pervasive-stereotypes-african-americans.
- Stangor, C. (2009). The study of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination within social psychology: A quick history of theory and research. In T. D. Nelson (Ed.), *Handbook of Prejudice, Stereotyping, and Discrimination* (pp. 1–22). Psychology Press.

#### Linguistics and Literature Journal, Vol. 3, No. 2, 79 - 89

- Stublety, T., Rojas, M., & McCroy, C. (2015). Father's Perceptions about Their Fathering Role. *Journal of Arts & Humanities*, 33-39.
- Suprayogi, Suprayogi, et al. (2021). "EFL learner's literary competence mapping through reader-response writing assessed using CCEA GCSE mark scheme." *Celt: A Journal of Culture, English Language Teaching & Literature*, 21(1), 22-40.
- Taylor, E., Guy-Walls, P., Wilkerson, P., & Addae, R. (2019). The Historical Perspectives of Stereotypes on African-American. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*, 213-225.

#### **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

Vol. 3, No. 2, 90 - 97 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

# VIETNAMESE ENGLISH ACCENT VS AMERICAN ENGLISH ACCENT: LOCATING THE PHONOLOGICAL VARIATION

#### Tri Kurnia Putri Utami<sup>1</sup>, Suprayogi Suprayogi<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia<sup>1,2</sup>

Tri.kp.utami@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, suprayogi@teknokrat.ac.id<sup>2</sup>

Received: (November 2022) Accepted: (November 2022) Published: (December 2022)

#### **Abstract**

Accent is something important in communication things. There are intonation, tone, stress, rhythm and segmental also supra segmental features in an accent. It has lot of function for all the speakers from all over the world when two speakers using the languages to communicate. The objective of this study is to compare Vietnamese English accent and American English accent by seeing the consonants production from each English language. The writer investigated supra segmental features, sound changes, and correspondences to disclose the comparison to the accents. Moreover, this analysis applied qualitative method in which data were obtaibed through interview and some instruments such as a spoken language in a transcription form, facebook messenger, whatsapp and audio recording. The findings show that the number of the consonants production in Vietnamese is not the same with English Consonants. Several deletion or apocopate and addition or paragog occurred.

**Keywords:** American English accents, comparing, phonology, sound correspondence, Vietnamese English accent

#### **INTRODUCTION**

As English has become an international language that has been used for many years in this world (Novanti & Suprayogi, 2021), many people from different nationalities and cultural backgrounds learn English as their Second Language (L2) or English as a Foreign Language (EFL) to communicate among them. Further, English is used at most of international event (Dosia & Rido, 2017). Therefore, English has gained the status of a prestigious language worldwide. Everyone learning English wants to gain full profits of modern education, research (Nadeem and Arshad, 2010) and business fields (Afrianto and Gulö, 2019). That means people realize that learning English is important for their future career (Suprayogi & Pranoto, 2020a).

When people who use English as their Second Language (L2) or English as Foreign Language (EFL) to communicate; however, their mother tongue (L1) can influence the way they speak English. The way they speak English might be different because of the imperfection of each speaker to acquire English as its native speakers do. It happened due to different background of language variety. This phenomenon can clearly be seen from pronunciation aspects. Those aspects can create a phonological variation called as an accent. Behravan (2012:16) defined accents as "varieties in pronunciations of a certain language and refers to the sounds that exist in a person's language". Furthermore, Becker (1995:37) also stated that "accent can identify the speaker's regional origin or national/ethnic identity". Therefore, accent can be known as a person's status belonging by guessing the sound and pronunciation in language she/he utters. Accents are different in quality. Moyer (2007) stated that accent can connect to social belonging, identity and communicative fluency. Furthermore, accent includes prosody; intonations, tone, stress, pronunciations and rhythm.

Additionally, when L2 or EFL learners talking in English, they use their strong accents that may influence the meaning when they are pronouncing some words that are not similar compared to common English pronunciation that we heard on television and class. This consequently result in the possibility of misunderstanding (Renaldi, Stefani, and Gulö, 2016). The people might face difficulties talking in English because of their different language background. One of the examples is Vietnamese. Based on the writers' experience when talking to Vietnamese native speakers, the writers found some unique accents when they pronounced like [westən] for "question" but it heard like "western" and [neɪl] for "snail" but it heard like "nail". It might be ambiguous for several people that are not familiar with those words above, and it can cause misunderstanding because they have similar sounds with other English words. From this observation, the writer is interested to see bigger phenomena of Vietnamese English accent.

Moreover, when we read Vietnamese alphabet, we cannot rely on its real alphabets because it has different pronunciation on its tone. It comes from this example "yêu quá em oi" [iu wa em oi] that means "how lovely you are, babe" in English. When we look at Vietnamese alphabet, it makes some Vietnameses have to have attention lots to the word pronunciation in English for basic daily conversation to interact with people outside the country based on the writer experienced. In the end, this research is expected to make the readers understand the theory that they implement while having communication interaction. The writers believe that through this study, new pattern of sound changes and correspondences from Vietnamese English Accent to American English Accent can be further observed. Many studies have been conducted on the topic of language variation such as variation in Javanese (Suprayogi, 2019) on English across genders and genres (Puspita & Suprayogi, 2021), and other. However, it is limited to see how Vietnamese English accent is observed.

The writers applied several theories to approach this phonological phenomena. The first one is sound change. According to Keraf (1996:90) "Sound changes based on its place that are assimilative and dissimilative can be seen from sound changes angle qualities. Besides sound qualities, there are some other changes solely seen from its place in a form". Based on the place of sound changes can obtain some kinds of sound changes like metathesis, aphaeresis, syncope, apocopate, prosthesis, epenthesis, and paragog. Those branches will show which parts of word that changes the places, its sounds and it appears in every language. In this study, the sound change theory is actually to analogize the both accents. The second is sound correspondence which is a constant of one language to another that has the sameness of structure and word (Crystal, 2019). Alphabets in English are not much same as Vietnamese, but some of the alphabets and words in Vietnamese were influenced by English. It is also valid for the consonants that they have. Pronouncing consonants in Vietnamese will be difficult for some reason because some consonants are not the same in English one. This theory is used to find certain patterns of variation in both accents. The third one is Segmental Features. This segmental features deal with the phonemes.

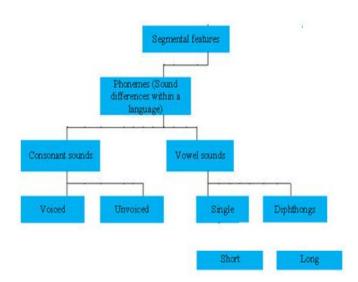


Figure 1 A branch of segmental phonology by Pourhosein (2012, p. 120).

In segmental features there is one branch called as Phonemes. This branch has two sound designs: Consonant and vowel sounds. In consonant, there are two types: Voiced, which is vocal cord vibrate, example Vanilla [vənɪlə] meanwhile Unvoiced, which is no vibration of the vocal cords, example She [ʃi] On the other hand there is vowel has two types: single (short and long) and diphthongs. Single (short) is ǎ /æ/ in apple, pan or mat while (long) is ō /oo/ in oats, moat or mote. Diphthongs are made by separated voices within the same syllable. For instance, sow [səʊ] or sov [səɪ].

#### **METHOD**

This study use qualitative method, on how the results of the analysis are in form of words (Kuswoyo & Susardi, 2018; Afrianto & Reranta, 2019) and focusing diverse points of view of analysis, and also concerns on inductive and deductive processes (Creswell, 2014 in Suprayogi and Pranoto, 2020b). Data source was taken from questionaire and interview of 3 Vietnamese speakers who are now in university level. Those speakers could speak English in daily communication as EFL. They were asked to pronounced listed vocabulary then record

themseleves using whatsapp voice recorder. The voice is the trascribed using International Phonetic Alphabet. The American English Accent each word referrs to Cambridge Dictionary online version. The communication was conducted though facebook and whatsapp.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This study analyzed how the consonant productions of Southern Vietnamese English accent are different from American English accent. In the other hand, this analysis shows the sound changes and correspondences of consonants that mostly appear in English when the Vietnamese speakers having conversations also how the changes influence the words and the structure themselves. This analysis was grouped based on the segmental feature; consonant sounds. Additionally, the differences create certain absence of consonants in both languages; Vietnamese English and American English make some sound changes in the way of pronunciation. Sound change differences are found in Vietnamese English and it has many types of sound changes produced in their accent.

The respondent often omit and add the phonemes. These problems can cause many types of sound change appear, additionally, place of sound changes sometimes different from one and another. We cannot predict where the sound is be being omitted or changed or even followed by other consonants and vowels for the place. That coexistence of sounds will be different from each other, it depends on how the speakers pronounce the words. In the other word, consonants sound occurred in the front, middle sometimes in the end. In one case of consonant differences can have more than one type of sound changes. Moreover, place and manner in each consonant has seen literally different.

#### Differences in /l/ Sound

A sound change can be seen in another sound like /l/ sound. This /l/ sound meets with vocal  $/\epsilon$ / which no other possible consonants put between those sounds. In the other hand, the writer finds out the speakers pronounce it differently. The contrast makes a sound change with labial approximant /w/ sound. This problem happens before alveolar lateral /l/ sound. Articulation of alveolar lateral is when the tip of the tongue touching the teeth. It appears consistently in the middle of  $/\epsilon$ / and /l/ sound. /w/ sound is placed in the middle of those sounds. This /w/ sound has epenthesis as its type of sound change. The examples are in the table bellows:

No. Words A E A V E A **Consonants Types** Tell [tel] [tewl] **Epenthesis** 3. ['sto:ritewlə] Storyteller ['sto:ritelər] + w **Epenthesis** a. Intelligible [ɪnˈtelɪʤəbl] [ın'tɛwlɪʤəbl] **Epenthesis** b. + wTeller [telər] [tewlə] **Epenthesis** 

Table 3 /l/ Preceded by /w/

Consonant problem shows in this table. This table shows how /w/ sound can occur in the middle of the vocal / $\epsilon$ / and consonant /l/ sound. Labial approximant /w/ sound in Vietnamese consonant comes out as an additional consonant between / $\epsilon$ / and /l/ sound then create epenthesis sound. This /w/ sound appears before alveolar lateral /l/ sound consistently. The strong /w/ sound in these examples make significant clarities that a consonant will always flank or meet a vowel but it happens not because the vowel bring the /w/ sound but it is more to /l/ sound that emphasize the changing itself.

Table 4 /l/ Preceded by /w/

| No. | Words     | A E A        | V E A       | Consonants | Types      |
|-----|-----------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 4.  | Else      | [els]        | [əwls]      | + w        | Epenthesis |
| a.  | Maelstrom | ['meɪlstrəm] | [məwlstrom] | + w        | Epenthesis |
| b.  | Belsen    | [belsən]     | [bəwlsən]   | + w        | Epenthesis |
| c.  | Elsewhere | [elsweər]    | [əwlswə]    | + w        | Epenthesis |

Different case has different explanation, but not with this explanation. This explanation has few differences only of previous /l/ sound case. In this case the Vietnamese speakers have the same problem with additional /w/ sound that occurs in the middle between vowel /ə/ and consonant /l/ sounds with the same type either. This /w/ sound is labial approximant where the constriction to articulate it must be rounded at the lips. The writer provides an example table above to make the readers understand easily about the changing in this sound. However, the differences between those tables are only the words. This table shows that /w/ sound is

flanked by vocal  $/\mathfrak{d}/$  and consonant /1/ sounds, meanwhile, the previous table is flanked by vocal  $/\mathfrak{e}/$  and consonant /1/ sounds. Moreover, alveolar lateral /1/ sound is always preceded by labial approximant /w/ sound consistently in this second table of /1/ sound.

#### Difference in /t/ Sound

This sound exists in another consonant like in /t/ sound. Alveolar un-aspirated /t/ sound has an additional /w/ in the middle where it happens after a vocal /ɔ/ and before consonant/t/ sounds. Due to the transformation of the sounds, this changing shows that epenthesis which is an additional sound occurs in the middle of the word between /ɔ/ and /t/. In the other word, this problem shows that /t/ sound preceded by /w/ sound consistently and change the way of its pronunciation like /wt/, however, it has an apostrophe before the /w/ sound, so it is clear if no vocal brings an additional consonant /w/ sound in this changing. It purely happens because labial approximant meets alveolar un-aspirated. The problems can be seen in the following table:

No. Words A E A V E A **Consonants** Types Hot [hɔ'wt] **Epenthesis** 5. [hpt] + w'mæskvt] [maskɔ'wt] **Epenthesis** Mascot + w **Epenthesis** b. Knot [npt] [no'wt] Shot [fot] [ʃɔˈwt] **Epenthesis** c. + w

Table 5 /t/ Preceded by /w/

This table experiences adding /w/ sound in the middle of the word and change the word formation. The problem not only comes from /w/ sound, but also /ɔ/ sound. This coexistence is extremely consistent in its set. This /w/ occurs after vowel /ɔ/ and before alveolar un-aspirated/t/ sound that create new sound type called as epenthesis.

#### Difference in /tf/ Sound

Difference in /tf/ sound actually happens when Vietnamese speakers pronounce that sound. It happens because in Vietnamese there is /c/ sound which exists in palatal un-aspirated place and manner of Vietnamese consonants must be articulated with the back of tongue comes into near contact with the palate when pronouncing /c/. It is different from English, in English consonants there is no /c/ sound but /tf/. Moreover, this /tf/ palato alveolar in English consonant sound read as /ch/, it is a mixed of /c/ and /h/ sounds together in this case. The change from /tf/ to /ch/ sounds happens because palatal un-aspirated /c/ sound encounters glottal fricative /h/ sound and became /ch/ in phonetics. Apparently, this change brought two types in precise, paragog and epenthesis. Paragog known as added a consonant sound in the end. The examples are provided in the table bellows:

Words V E A A E A Consonants **Types** No. Paragog Much [mach] 6. [mʌʧ] + ha. Nature ['neɪʧər] [nəiche] +h**Epenthesis** b. Lunch [lʌntʃ] [lach] +hParagog Search [so:ch] +hParagog [sa:tʃ]

Table 6 Unaspirated /c/ Followed by Fricative /h/

Alphabets in Vietnamese are different from English. Some of the alphabets are the same, but not all and it happens to the consonants sound as well. This /tf/ does not exist in Vietnamese consonant, but /tf/ can read as /c/ for Vietnamese. Unfortunately, this palatal un-aspirated /c/ sound encounters glottal fricative /h/ sound to be /ch/ when it pronouncein phonetics. Paragog and epenthesis become the types of this sound change.

#### Difference in /d/ Sound

One of complex sound changes from all sounds in the previous explanation before is /d/ sound. Slightly, this sound sees very complex because there is no existence either in Vietnamese or English. The main problem is not from /d/ sound, but more to what is the thing applies in /d/ sound. Moreover, this sound gets changing by /h/ sound which brings /d/ sound joining into one to be /dh/ sound. /d/ sound in Vietnamese consonants known as alveolar un-aspirated while /h/ is glottal fricative. This change happens when the speakers released /d/ with /h/ together and layer it with /l/ sound. Therefore, /d/ sound change into /dh/ because an additional /h/ in the middle

of /d/ and /l/ which already flanked together like /dl/. The writer puts the examples in a table bellows to see how complex the change is:

Table 7 Unaspirated/d/ Followed by Fricative /h/

|     |         | _        |           | •          |            |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| No. | Words   | A E A    | VEA       | Consonants | Types      |
| 7.  | Noodle  | [ˈnuːdl] | [ˈnudhl]  | + h        | Epenthesis |
| a.  | Cuddle  | [ˈkʌdl]  | [kuːdhl]  | + h        | Epenthesis |
| b.  | Doodle  | ['du:dl] | [dɛu̯dhl] | + h        | Epenthesis |
| c.  | Spoodle | [spu:dl] | [speudhl] | + h        | Epenthesis |

Sound change can happen to alveolar un-aspirated /d/ sound. It has an additional /h/ sound after /d/ and if we look at the words clearly, this /h/ sound is placed in the middle of /d/ and /l/ sound and it consistently happens. That is why the changing form sounds like /dh/ sound. In this /dh/ sound show that there is /h/ sound is flanked by /d/ and l/ sound and this creates sound change, type epenthesis. Therefore, this changing is kind of complex sound because 3 consonants are flanked together start from /d/ sound followed by /h/ sound and /l/ is preceded by /h/ itself.

#### Difference /r/ Sound

There are two types of sound changes in this case of /r/ sound. The types that this /r/ sound brought are syncope and apocopate. Syncope defines omitting the consonant sound in the middle while apocopate in the end of the word. These types created by /r/ sound problem in this case. /r/ sound in Vietnamese consonants is alveolar trill meanwhile /r/ sound in English consonants is post-alveolar approximants. That difference makes sound change when the Vietnamese speakers pronounce it. It can be seen from the place and manner from each /r/ sound and the way the Vietnamese speakers articulate the sound. Therefore, the writer provides a table to make the readers understand and see the different between /r/ sound in Vietnamese and English even though they have "r" as their consonants.

Table 8 Omitted Trill /r/Sound

| No. | Words      | A E A         | V E A                                       | Consonants | Types     |
|-----|------------|---------------|---|------------|-----------|
| 8.  | Understand | [ˌʌndərstænd] | [ˈandəstɛnd]                                | - r        | Syncope   |
| a.  | Chair      | [ʧeər]        | [chea]                                      | - r        | Apocopate |
| b.  | Screw      | [skruː]       | $[\mathrm{sk^h}\epsilon\check{\mathtt{u}}]$ | - r        | Syncope   |
| c.  | Thunder    | [ˈθʌndər]     | [tʰundε]                                    | - r        | Apocopate |

Sound change happens in alveolar trill /r/ sound which omitted in the middle and end. In some cases omitting phoneme, consonant or sound called epenthesis and syncope types. These types have different meaning such syncope, it means a phoneme, consonant or sound omit in the middle of the word meanwhile apocopate means omit it in the end of word.

#### Difference in /l/ Sound

In this explanation, the writer tries to shows that /l/ sound has omitted. The /l/ sound lateral has omitted after /t/ sound. The way of pronouncing /t/ sound by Vietnamese and American in English Language are different. This difference appears when the speakers pronounce the sound. It happens continuously whenever those sounds meet together. Moreover, this omitting transformation finds out apocopate type as their type because they omit the /l/ sound in the end of the words. The examples have put evidently in the table bellows:

Table 9 Omitted Lateral /l/ Sound

| No. | Words   | A E A   | V E A    | Consonants | Types     |
|-----|---------|---------|----------|------------|-----------|
| 9.  | Bottle  | [ˈbɒtl] | ['bɒteu] | - 1        | Apocopate |
| a.  | Shuttle | [ˈʃʌtl] | [ʃateu]  | - 1        | Apocopate |
| b.  | Battle  | [ˈbætl] | [badeu]  | - 1        | Apocopate |
| c.  | Little  | ['lɪtl] | [lɪteu]  | - 1        | Apocopate |

This transformation is really striking because the writer finds /l/ omitted and brought /eu/ sound in Vietnamese consonants. Where /eu/ is diphthongs sound that coexistence with alveolar un-aspirated /t/ sound. Sound type in this transformation set is apocopate because they omit the /l/ sound in the end of word. The structure of English has been changed here. The changes that happen from American to Vietnamese English syllable in the words shows that the speakers construct those words consistently, but some of those words were correspondence. This correspondence sometimes replacing a consonant to another consonant, but not often they omit the consonants to some consonants that followed by vowels, however, it depends on the phonetics transcription itself. Therefore, the researchers have decided to analyze correspondence in this paper. In the analysis she puts adequate correspondence sound examples in order to show that some words change not only in its sound, but they can correspondence as well. In some cases correspondence sound happens to vowel and consonant or consonant that is followed by vowel and many more examples. The result of correspondence sound itself makes such types to be put and analyze due to the differences of what the sound correspondence to the sound. It is literally seen in the several examples provided bellows.

Moreover, the concern is more to see what the sound that correspondence with other sound even vowel or consonant, while it has its types in the end to look the boundaries. Despite this explanation the writer provides tables for correspondence sound itself. The correspondence sound can be seen in provided table in this page:

#### /I/ Correspondence to /n/ Sound

This case is /l/ sound correspondence to sound /n/. The writer sees a complexion correspondence sound in this case because there are two consonants correspondence the /l/ sound in one time. The alveolar nasal /n/ sound in Vietnamese consonants articulation is obstructing the airflow in the mouth but allow air to flow through the nasal cavity. This is how /l/ correspondence to /n/. The correspondence of this case produces one consistent type which is apocopate. The /l/ sound omits in the end of the word and the way of pronouncing must be different. It proves in the table bellows:

Words A E A V E A No. **Consonants** 10. Call [kɔ:1] [kown] 1 > nSmall [smɔ:l] smo:wn] 1 > na. Tall [to:1] [town] 1 > nb. Fall [fo:1] [fo:wn] 1 > nc.

Table 10 Lateral /l/ Correspondence to Nasal /n/ Sound

The change that happens in the table above is omitting the alveolar /l/ sound and adding new consonants alveolar nasal/n/ sound. Those sounds combine together to with /w/ sound. This changing sound is placed in the end of the word it means the possibility to omit and replace the /l/ is quite well. Due to the changes, the writer put apocopate as the sound type. The sound type can happen to in correspondence sound, but not all sound types are suitable for the sound correspondences. It means only some sound changes types relate to sound correspondences.

#### /d/ Correspondent to /t/ Sound

The correspondence happens in the end of the words where the Vietnamese speakers correspondence the alveolar un-aspirated /d/ sound to the same place and manner alveolar un-aspirated /t/ sound in this case. This problem is not a complex problem at all because the place and manner of articulation has the same state and the way the speakers pronounce it is exactly the same. This correspondence between /d/ and /t/ sound is always shows its similarities location to correspondence that is after /n/ alveolar nasal sound. The problem can be seen in the table following table:

Table 12 Un-aspirated /d/ Correspondent to Un-aspirated /t/ Sound

| No. | Words   | A E A      | V E A      | Consonants |
|-----|---------|------------|------------|------------|
| 12. | Friend  | [frend]    | [frent]    | d > t      |
| a.  | Extend  | [ɪkˈstend] | [ɪkˈstent] | d > t      |
| b.  | Descend | [dɪˈsend]  | [dɪˈsent]  | d > t      |
| c.  | Ascend  | [əˈsend]   | [əsent]    | d > t      |

The last table shows that little correspondence because these /d and /t sounds are not different in the place and manner itself. The place between those sounds has a little correspondence that consistently happens. It always happens after /e and /t.

#### /ð/ Correspondence to /d/ Sound

In the next case which is case 2 the writer finds out the contrast between this problem and previous problem. In the previous problem the writer found  $/\delta$ / correspondence to  $/t^h$ / sound and here is found  $/\delta$ / correspondence to  $/t^h$ / sound. This problem happens because the sound is correspondence in the middle and flanked by two vowels sounds. Moreover, the interesting things are this correspondence is always followed by  $/t^h$ / sound in the end and that was omitting by the speakers. Due to this correspondence the writer conclude that epenthesis sound change type is the exact type for this correspondence problem. It definitely can be seen in the following table:

| No. | Words   | AEA       | VEA     | Consonants |
|-----|---------|-----------|---------|------------|
| 14. | Brother | [ˈbrʌðər] | [bradə] | ð > d      |
| a.  | Further | [ˈfɜːðər] | [fudə]  | ð > d      |
| b.  | Mother  | [ˈmʌðər]  | [madə]  | ð > d      |
| c.  | Weather | [ˈweðər]  | [cb3w]  | ð > d      |

Table 14 Fricative  $\slash \delta$  Correspondence to Un-aspirated  $\slash d$  Sound

Contrast with Case one, this  $/\delta/$  sound correspondence to /d/ sound. The changing of the sound happened in the middle and flanked by two vowel sounds. Those vowel sounds that was flanked the /d/ sound were different from one and another, but always consistent ended with /e/ sound. In the same time, /r/ sound that located in the end of the words was omitted. Therefore, in this case 2 is quite different, due to the correspondence happened in the middle, so that epenthesis type appeared to make the sound change can clearly be seen here.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The researchers conclude that there are two things in this study that was taken from both consonants, English and Vietnamese. This conclusion is begun based on the analysis of how consonants production between Vietnamese English accents and American English accent are different. The differences are only the number of both consonants. But, that the problems come out due to the way of their pronunciation. Sometimes the consonants correspondence to other sounds and often followed by vowels and other consonants. This problem is not point out to the number of consonants but it happens due to the existence of consonants from both languages. As the results the Vietnamese speakers change the structure that changes the sound and its type. There are 56 words in total that changed in 2 aspects; sound correspondence and sound type. This problem happens because 1) the speaker omit some sounds such as /r/ in the middle and the end of the words. Speakers omitted /l/ sound and replace it to /e/,/o/ and /w/, /n/. Sound /ð/ changeS into / /d/. Additional sound also found such /w/ and /h/, 2) transformation of sound change creates types done by the speaker such as epenthesis, apocopate, syncope, and paragog. Different types produced by the Vietnamese speakers depend on how they pronounce and construct the words structures. In this study, the speakers change the place of consonants in the phonetic transcription based on what sound followed and flanked.

#### REFERENCES

- Afrianto, A & Gulö, I (2019). Revisting English Competence and the Hotel. Teknosastik. 17 (1) 35-39.
- Afrianto, A & Reranta, R C. (2019). English Equivalent Translation of Suffix-Nya. LITERA. *Jurnal Penelitian Bahasa, Sastra dan Pengajarannya.* 18 (8) 211-228.
- Becker, P. (1995). *The Etiology of Foreign Accent: Towards A Phonological Component of Identity*. Unpublished Master's Thesis, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.
- Behravan, H. (2012). Dialect and Accent Recognition. Eastern Finlan: University of Eastern Finland.
- Crystal, D. (2019). The Cambridge Encyclopedia of English Language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Dosia, P A & Rido. (2017). Production of English Diphtong: A Speech Study. *Teknosastik*. 15 (1). 21 35.
- Keraf, G. 1996. Linguistik Bandingan Historis. Jakarta. PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama.
- Kuswoyo, H., & Susardi, S. (2018). Thematic Progression in EFL Students' Academic Writings: A Systemic Functional Grammar Study. *Teknosastik*, 14(2), 39. <a href="https://doi.org/10.33365/ts.v14i2.60">https://doi.org/10.33365/ts.v14i2.60</a>
- Moyer, A. 2007. Do Language Attitudes Determine Accent? A study of Bilinguals in The USA. Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development, Vol. 28, No.(6), 502-518.
- Novanti, E. A., & Suprayogi, S. (2021). Webtoon's Potentials to Enhance EFL Students' Vocabulary. *Journal of Research on Language Education*, 2(2), 83-87.
- Puspita, D. & Suprayogi, S. (2021). Language use variation of L2 writers in weblog across different gender and genres. *Rainbow: Journal of Literature, Linguistics, and Cultural Studies*. 10 (2) 42-50.
- Renaldi, A., Stefani A P, Gulö (2016). Phonological Difficulties Faced by Students in Learning English. Proceedings of ISELT FBS Universitas Negeri Padang 4 (1). 97 – 100.
- Suprayogi, S (2019). Javanese Varieties in Pringsewu Regency and Their Origins. Teknosastik. 17 (1). 7-14.
- Suprayogi, S., & Pranoto, B. E. (2020a). Students' Perspectives Toward News Voiceover Activity in Pronunciation Class. *Proceedings of the Twelfth Conference on Applied Linguistics (CONAPLIN 2019)*, 430, 203–206. https://doi.org/10.2991/assehr.k.200406.04
- Suprayogi, S., & Pranoto, B. E. (2020b). Virtual Tourism Exhibition Activity in English for Tourism Class: Students' Perspectives. *Celtic: A Journal of Culture, English Language Teaching, Literature and* Linguistic.7 (2) 199-207.

#### **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

Vol. 3, No. 2, 98 - 104 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

# CHARACTER'S OBSESSION FOR PERFECTION IN *THE AVIATOR*MOVIE BY MARTIN SCORSESE: A PSYCHOANALYSIS

#### Misnawati<sup>1</sup>, Budi Eko Pranoto<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia<sup>1,2</sup>

Misnawatii2711@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, Budiekopranoto@teknokrat.ac.id<sup>2</sup>

Received: (November 2022) Accepted: (November 2022) Published: (December 2022)

#### **Abstract**

Obsession for perfection is common behavior that may be suffered by people. Those who are so obsessed with something are easily sacrifice anything to chase the perfection that has already been created in their minds. It is possible that they will perhap harm themselves. Therefore, this research aimed to analyze the obsession for perfection in The Aviator movie 2012 by Martin Scorsese by using Psychoanalytic theory. This research applied an in-depth qualitative narrative analysis method which examines the story elements from dialogue and picture collected in the form of screen-capture of the relevant scene. This research used psychoanalytic theory as the approach and divided the analysis into two sub discussions; they are the reflection of obsession for perfection and the effects of obsession for perfection. Based on the analysis, the data supports the findings that Howard suffers some conditions which includes Target Oriented; where people with ambitions like this have all-or-nothing thinking. The second finding is Highly Dependent on Result; it shows that Howard put his self-esteem depends on what is accomplished and how others respond to what he would achieve.

**Keywords:** The Aviator movie, Obsession, Obsession for Perfection, Psychoanalytic theory

#### INTRODUCTION

Obsession for perfection is a common behavior that everyone has. People tend to do anything to chase the perfection that has already been created in their minds. It is possible for those who are so obsessed with something to easily sacrifice anything that is no less important in their lives so that it will perhaps harm themselves. Obsession for perfection is the right expression to describe the phenomenon in real life. We can learn the phenomenon from celebrities' live. The perfection that many celebrities highlight is physical appearance. In achieving perfection, many celebrities even do plastic surgery to improve their physique, they even go on a strict diet to balance the ideal body proportions to look perfect in front of the camera and in front of many people. Mel Schwartz in *Psychologytoday.com* says that the mindset of perfection can dominate humans to do anything. Ralph Ryback (2016) also clarified in Psychological Today, that the "examples of obsessive thoughts center on order, cleanliness, symmetry, security, doubting one's own thoughts and perceptions, and unwanted sexual aggression or ideas. "Kristi Tackett (2019) said on her article that "personal standards are nothing more than a set of behaviors that are based on expectations people have of themselves in various situations." This line of thinking suggests that by having high standards, you are much more likely to achieve everything you want in life. Therefore, the writer offers something new about research in *The Aviator* movie. This movie had been analyzed by other researchers, such as Brown et al (2012), Chosak & Anne (2014), and also Srikandi & Novita (2018), but this research is aimed at revealing the signs of people who suffer obsession for perfectionism portrayed by the characters in the movie. Movie, considered as one of literary works, can be the sources to explores how characters are portrayed by the author, because movies are also considered a medium to reveal the author's ideology (Woro Kasih, 2018). Literary work, such as movie, often portrays real issues and events through the use of language, picture, plot, and other scene properties (Amelia, 2016; Rido, 2020). In fact, language serves as one of the media to distribute message among people in various context (Kuswoyo, 2016:257; Afrianto et. al, 2014:78; Samanik, 2018). Further, movies also can be the representation of the reality and social issues in real world and (Fithratullah, 2021; Yunara and Kardiansyah, 2017). The writer sees that there is a possibility that Howard Hughes has a mental disorder due to trying to achieve perfection or in other words an obsession for perfection. The writer chose this topic because the obsession for perfection is a problem that the writer believes happens to everyone in reality. It aims to convincing people that perfect is not always good. Maybe it is good but for only certain times and eventually will disappear. We as a human need to be grateful for what God has given to us.

This research is utilized psychoanalytic theory. Psychoanalysis is a branch of psychology that is specifically concerned with individual experiences (Milton et al, 2004). Freudian Psychoanalytic is usually used by the researcher to analyze the psychological problems of the character (Ryckman, 2008; Bernadro, 2015; Dintasari & Amelia, 2017). Freudian believes that human has three psychology elements which are Id, Ego, and Superego (Setri & Setiawan, 2020). Many psychology issues are found not only in real life but also in literary works such as movie, drama, and novel. Most psychologists believe that movie has deeper impact to the audience especially in shaping the opinion and the perception, because of the cognitive ability of human by capturing moving image in their minds (Kiranamita & Samanik, 2021). Referring to the relation between literature and psychology, the researcher proposes to describe the obsession for perfection of Howard Hughes in *The Aviator* movie based on 10 signs of people suffering from obsession for perfection that was coined by Newburg (2019), and also understanding cognitive theory of obsession by Salkovskis (1985). Moreover, the writer will also uncover some of the impacts of that obsession.

#### **Cognitive Theory of Obsessions**

Salkovskis (1985) proposed a cognitive-behavioral theory to explain the development and persistence of clinical obsessions. Some theory of obsession is heavily influenced by Salkovskis's cognitive-behavioral theory (Abramowitz & Houts, 2005). The model considers two cognitive processes central in the development of obsessions. First, people who tend to be obsessive attribute excessive personal responsibility to possibly hurting themselves or others in response to unwanted intrusive thoughts. Second, in an attempt to overcome the discomfort and sense of responsibility associated with intrusion, individuals develop overt or covert neutralization rituals that, in turn, increase the frequency and salience of intrusions. Salkovskis' model begins with the assertion that clinical obsessions represent the extreme end of the normal, unpleasant, unwanted, and disturbing cognition continuum. Rachman (1981) describes unwanted or unacceptable thoughts, images, and impulses as mental events that interfere with ongoing activity, are associated with internal origin, and are difficult to control. The concept of unwanted intrusive thoughts is defined and elaborated, with particular reference to obsessions (Rachman, 1981). Examples of unwanted intrusive thoughts reported by nonclinical subjects were thoughts of saying something rude or unacceptable to someone, of being poisoned with dirt or germs, of harming others, or of engaging in unacceptable sexual acts.

#### 10 Signs People May Be Suffering from Obsession for Perfectionism (Newburg, 2019):

#### 1. Having an all-or-nothing mindset.

A person who has "All-or-Nothing" thoughts refers to a tendency to evaluate one's own qualities in an extreme category. this type of thinking leaves small room for mistakes, no matter how small the trouble will have a major impact on the perfectionist's mentality.

#### 2. Having constant self-doubt.

A person with a perfectionist obsession can also experience enormous self-doubt, especially when it comes to their own performance. Even if they received overwhelming feedback, they would worry excessively. Since a perfectionist's sense of self-worth depends on the expectations of others, they will obsessively contemplate everything.

#### 3. Self-esteem depends on what is accomplished and how others respond.

Perfectionist bases their self-worth on what they have accomplished. They crave the approval of others and will regularly make the comparison because the perfection they achieve is based on how people perceive them. Those with this sufferer will constantly make comparisons with others to achieve perfection.

#### 4. Fear of failure leads to project delays or abandonment.

Perfectionists will worry that they don't live up to their own (or others) standards. The expectation of negative consequences causes anticipatory anxiety, which in turn leads to avoidance. Perfectionism and procrastination go hand in hand. Procrastinating on a difficult task or ignoring it makes it possible to avoid failure. Perfectionists may prefer not to take on jobs that are likely to lead to failure.

#### 5. Unable to accept and celebrate any success

#### Linguistics and Literature Journal, Vol. 3, No. 2, 98 - 104

Perfectionists cannot calmly celebrate victory, even if they have completed their goals and achieved their perfectionist standards. They still believe that they can do more than what they have already accomplished. Perfectionists don't recognize their victories as far as feeling happy or satisfied with a job well done. Instead, they find every flaw in the way they run the project.

#### 6. Avoid challenges that can expose weaknesses

Perfectionists like to persevere by avoiding making mistakes based on what they realized. When they are faced with new challenges, they fear not being able to learn something new. As a result, they avoid taking risks and end up inhibiting their creativity to stay within their own comfort zone. They worry that if their failures will reveal their weaknesses, they will not be able to achieve the perfection that they have been aiming for in themselves.

#### 7. Always put up a front, insisting everything is perfect

Perfectionists have an outward need to emerge perfect and will avoid the opportunity to reveal imperfections, especially in public concerns. Driven by a deep-rooted fear of vulnerability, perfectionists hide their perceived imperfections as a way to gain the approval of others.

#### 8. The word "Should" is part of everyday vocabulary

The word "should" is prominent in the daily internal dialogue of a perfectionist. Statements like, "must be the best at everything" or "no mistakes" will make them feel anxious or depressed and often lead to avoidant behavior.

#### 9. Being defensive when receiving feedback

Perfectionists always carry out projects with great detail and have high standards and never allow the slightest mistakes. When they receive constructive feedback, they have a tendency to do mental screening and focus only on negative feedback. Mental screening can make them feel as if they were being verbally attacked, leading to feelings of defensiveness.

#### 10. Frequently feel overwhelmed with stress

Perfectionism can be a huge contributor to personal stress, which can wreak havoc on the body. Chronic stress has been linked to insomnia, fatigue, anxiety, depression, and even cardiovascular disease.

#### **METHOD**

The research applies an in-depth qualitative narrative analysis method to gather the data (Kardiansyah, 2016). Qualitative method is different from quantitative method because the object and result are not focused on number (Sari & Pranoto, 2021; Pranoto & Yuwono, 2018). The data is in the form of dialogues, pictures, and scenes (Istiani & Puspita, 2020). Thus, the aim of the research will be in the form of explanation or statement to explain in detail about the phenomenon in the research rather than numerical data. Further, Litosseliti (2010:52) stated that qualitative research puts much attention mainly on textual description by implementing inductive and deductive processes (Suprayogi, and Pranoto, 2020; Rido et. al, 2020; Mandasari, and Aminatun, 2019) It is in the line with Crocker (2009:74) who defines qualitative research as analyzing the data in the form of textual data and analyze it in the way of interpretive analysis. By using descriptive qualitative method, the researcher focused on the content of analysis and the actions done by the characters (Aryangga & Nurmaily, 2017). The data are in the form of words and pictures which are obtained from the Movie entitled *The Aviator* (2004).

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Salkovskis (1985, 1989) proposed a cognitive-behavioral theory to explain the development and persistence of clinical obsessions. Obsessions are thoughts, images, or impulses that you play over and over in your mind and can never let go of. Everyone experiences obsessions to some extent. Salkovskis's theory on obsessions helps us comprehend why they happen and how to prevent them. Based on Newburg (2019), there are 10 signs that people suffer from obsession for perfection.

#### The Indicators of Obsession for Perfection

#### **Target Oriented**

Howard has a big target orientation which makes it difficult to stop or change the steering wheel before hitting the target. Goal-oriented means having an individual willingness to achieve a goal set. This willingness encourages and orients the person to develop habits to reach the results expected for this specific goal. That behavior can be said that he has an all-or-nothing mindset, this type of thinking leaves small room for mistakes, no matter how small the trouble will have a major impact on the perfectionist's mentality (Newburg, 2019). Discussion plays the important part in a scientific article. This part answers the problems, interprets the research results and the findings into the already known knowledge, confirms and/or contrasts with the research of other researchers, constructs the new theory, and/or modifies the previous theory. Discussion may also contain the implications of both theoretical and implementation results. Results and Discussion should answer what, why and what else questions. The research findings must be stated explicitly. After stating the research findings, the research findings and the relevant theory or hypothesis must be discussed comprehensively. The discussion section also must explain the comparison of the research finding with the relevant results. Therefore, a notable citation must be found in the discussion section. In the last part, the implication of the research finding to sciences should be stated clearly.

Referring to the finding, Howard was very target oriented. It can be noticed from the way he made sure that the project would work by prioritizing the results in any way, even though it would have small percentage of success. He conceptualized in his mind that anything would be tried and achieved. Even when the man said that the angle was pretty hard to be shot and still needed 2 cameras to make it happened "We're still short two cameras. We need to cut that sequence down" (*The Aviator*, 00:02:40 - 00:02:44). He took it lightly that he could get the 2 cameras which were needed without having to cut the scene "We're not cutting, I'll get those cameras. Set up for rehearsals" (*The Aviator*, 00:02:44 - 00:02:47). Having a high desire for success makes Howard eager to cover the shortcomings that can worsen his work. He was willing to spend much money on a big project that he set out to produce "What I do with that money may seem crazy to those sons of bitches in Houston. I'm sure it does, but it all makes good sense to me. You got that?" (*The Aviator*, 00:03:11 - 00:03:15). This statement was uttered by Howard when he himself realized on how much many he would spend for the project. And was proven quite much as he was talking that those people from different industry would probably mock him.

#### Highly Dependent on Result

Howard is highly dependent on the result of his ongoing work, Hell's Angel. He emphasizes that his reputation and his life is very rely on the success of the creation of Hell's Angels. Howard's remarks showed that his life and reputation depended heavily on the success of Hell's Angels, making him ambitious to fulfill anything for the success of his work. It shows that Howard put his self-esteem depends on what is accomplished and how others respond to what he would achieve. Perfectionist bases their self-worth on what they have accomplished. They crave the approval of others and will regularly make the comparison because the perfection they achieve is based on how people perceive them (Newburg, 2019).

#### Meticulous Behavior

One of the highlighted indicators of someone who have obsession with perfection is being meticulous in every detail or insisting everything is perfect without the slightest gap. Because of his thoroughness, the shortcomings he saw in such project were sometimes not realized by most people. That was of course experienced by Howard Hughes. In minute 00:11:17 shows Howard's behavior that is not satisfied with the results of some of the scenes that were shot. Perfectionist always has lots of ideas, even the less detailed parts can be quickly noticed by him. "Without something standing still behind the planes, we've got no idea of how fast we're moving. We got no sense of relative motion. Call UCLA. Get me the best meteorologist they got" (*The Aviator*, 00:11:16 - 00:11:26). Howard unsparingly involved the best meteorologists from UCLA in producing the perfect film. The cost that he spent was not a significant problem for him. From the beginning of the movie played, showed Howard had been spending a large amount of money. "What I do with that money may seem crazy to those sons of bitches in Houston. I'm sure it does, but it all makes good sense to me. You got that?" (*The Aviator*, 00:03:11 - 00:03:15).

#### Do not Allow Any Mistakes

Perfectionists will avoid and insist on every shortcomings detail to look perfect. They are insisting that everything is perfect. To be at the forefront, he will try very hard to achieve perfection. It can be seen from the following scene and dialogue which proven the writer's argument. There was a scene where Howard asks the meteorologist to get a place with sufficient cloud capacity for the film sequence. But when the picture will be taken, the cloud has moved. Although not an accidental mistake. He remained furious and blamed the meteorologist for his inability to keep the clouds in place. Howard forced the meteorologist as soon as possible to find a place with lots of clouds. Howard's intolerance shows that he insisted on everything to look perfect.

#### Being Defensive When Receiving Feedback

Being defensive is the surest way to prevent someone from telling you their honest opinion in the future. The time we get defensive is when we permanently block the other person from giving us feedback again. When feedback triggers defensiveness, it's often because it elicits feelings of sadness, hurt, shame, anger, or being misunderstood. Defensiveness may emerge in response to what you said at the time, but it often has deep roots. Perfectionists never allow the slightest mistake. When they receive constructive feedback, they have a tendency to do mental screening and focus only on negative feedback. Mental screening can make them feel as though they are being verbally attacked, leading to feelings of defensiveness.

Howard gets advice from Mr. Mayer, who is a senior film producer, after being refused to lend a camera. "If you continue making the movie the way you are there isn't gonna be a distributor. And you're not gonna have any more oil money" (*The Aviator*, 00:07:06). Howard showed a defensive nature by ignoring the advice of the co-founder of MGM, then finding another camera loan. He does not need advice. He knows what he is doing and does not take little input from people. From Howard's perspective, what he said sounded insulting.

#### Unable to Accept and Celebrate Any Success

After finally completing the production process for Hell's Angels, it finally arrived at the premiere which was attended by a large audience and half a million souls waiting for Howard Hughes to create a traffic jam on Hollyw Boulevard. The filming of Hell's Angeles was declared the most expensive film produced outside a studio in the 1930s. In stark contrast to the grandiose celebrations of his success, Howard still couldn't accept his success. It was proven when from the scene spotted in the finding when he intended to cut some sequences that he felt were not too important to show even though it was already released and had been enjoyed by many people.

#### The Effect of Obsession for Perfection

Howard is known as an ambitious person to reach the pinnacle of success, even what he has managed to achieve is always lacking for him. Through some of the previous findings, some of the effects of the obsession for perfection will be described in several sub-chapters.

#### **Loosing Much Money**

3 years of making Hell's Angels cost an unimaginable amount. Especially with Howard's ambition to achieve the success of the Hell's Angels project. He did not take into account the numbers he had issued so that the making of Hell's Angels threatened to stop. The process of making Hell's Angels took more than 3 years. The fact that Howard was spending 25 million dollars a day made it the most expensive film of the era.

#### Suffering Mental Disorder

According to Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, Obsessive-compulsive disorder usually includes both obsessions and compulsions. Judging from the symptoms, it shows that Howard has OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder). There are several scenes that express that opinion which is finally clearly depicted throughout the end of the scene. One of the scenes that obviously described Hughes suffers from OCD was when he checked the rivets of the new plane. He thinks that the rivets are not completely flush.

From a row of rivets on the fuselage to peas next to a piece of steak. The scene from 00:35:10 from the image above is that Howard is even reluctant to enjoy his meal after seeing the untidy pieces of peas. Hughes' OCD was seen when one of his colleagues took one of the peas off Howard's plat, making it messy. Then Hughes

pushed the plate away and lost his intention to eat the steak. It has clearly shown his disturbed habit of things that are not arranged. As the film progresses, it becomes increasingly apparent that Howard is suffering from OCD symptoms. Such as the habit of washing hands, protecting themselves or their belongings, and feeling anxious when people touch their belongings.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Looking at the characteristics of Obsession for perfection based on Newburg, the data matches what Howard shows as a sufferer. These include; Target Oriented, where people with ambitions like this have all-ornothing thinking, if you have decided on a goal, that goal must be able to be achieved. The second finding is Highly Dependent on Result. It shows that Howard put his self-esteem depends on what is accomplished and how others respond to what he would achieve. Perfectionist bases their self-worth on what they have accomplished. Having Meticulous Behavior is also one of the findings of the research that shows Howard suffers Obsession for Perfection. Being meticulous in every detail or insisting everything is perfect is also parts of the indicators. Being Defensive when Receiving Feedback makes it very clear that he not only rejects minor mistakes, but is also firm in his conviction that what he is doing is right, even though many parties think that the method he uses is very risky. Perfectionists are still people who are hungry for perfection. Based on finding, Howard is unable to accept and celebrate any success, even the success he has achieved has not satisfied him. He always finds a gap in the success that people think has been packaged so perfectly. Although in the end the project that Howard worked on resulted in a masterpiece, it is undeniable that there were some bad impacts caused. Some of the impacts that can be highlighted in the film are losing much money and suffering mental disorder.

#### REFERENCES

- Abramowitz, Jonathan S. & Houts, Arthur C. (2005). *Concepts and Controversies in Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder*. USA: Springer.
- Afrianto et al. 2014. Transitivity Analysis on Shakespeare's Sonnets. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)*, Vol 19(1), 78-85.
- Afrianto. (2018). *Poem from Linguistic Point of View.* Linguistics, Literature, & Language Teaching Series: An Overview of Current Issues in Literature, Linguistics, and Language Teaching. Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia.
- Amelia, D. (2021). Antigone's Phallus Envy and Its Comparison to Indonesian Dramas' Characters: A Freudian Perspective. Vivid: Journal of Language and Literature, 10(1), 23-30.
- Aryangga, Afri & Nurmaily. (2017). Women's power and stereotype denial in *Pocahontas* Movie. *Teknosastik: Journal Bahasa dan Sastra*. 15(1), 46-58.
- Asia, Janitra & Samanik. (2018). Dissociative identity disorder reflected in Frederick Clegg's character in *The Collectors* novel. English Language and Literature International Conference (ELLIC) Proceedings. Vol. 2, 424-431.
- Bernado, Karen. (2015). Types of Characters in Fiction
- Brown, Robert., Poncelet, Evan & Borgeson, Karlye. (2014). Public Quarantine: The Adaptive Functions of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder as Shown in The Aviator. *ResearchGate*. Retrieved from ResearchGate. Nate/publication/269929744
- Chosak, Anne. (2012). The Aviator: A real-life portrayal of OCD in the media. *Center for OCD & Related Disorders*. Retrieved from mghocd.org/the-aviator-ocd-in-the-media/
- Crocker, R. A. (2009). An introduction to qualitative research. *Qualitative research in applied linguistics: A practical introduction*. (pp. 3-24). Palgrave Macmillan, London.
- Dintasi, Febri Diantika & Amelia, Dina. (2017). Ephebophilia Suffered by The Main Character in The Novel *Lolita* by Nabokov. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*. 15(2), 81-86.
- EWK, E. N. (2018). Redefining Hybridity of Chicano Literature in Jimenez's Fictions. International Journal of Diaspora & Cultural Criticism, 8, 293-319.
- Fithratullah, M. (2021). Representation of Korean values sustainability in American remake movies. Teknosastik, 19(1), 60-73.
- Istiani, R., & Puspita, Dian. (2020). Interactional Metadiscourse Markers as Persuasive Strategies in Oral Business Presentation. *Lingua Cultura*, 13(4), 297-304.
- Kardiansyah, M. Y. (n.d.). (2016). The index of hero's power and nobility in Shakespearean tragedy drama: A semiotic study. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 14(2).
- Kiranamita, Shabrina & Samanik. (2021). The portrayal of malignant narcicism in the Villain characters of Disney movies. Linguistics and Literature Journal. 2(1), 33-40.
- Kuswoyo, Heri. (2016). Thematic Structure in Barack Obama's Press Conference: A Systemic Functional Grammar Study. *Advances in Language and Literary Studies*, Vol 7(2), 257-267.

- Litosseliti, L. (2010). Research Methods in Linguistics. Continuum International Publishing Group Ltd. 228pp. ISBN 978-0-8264-8993-7
- Mandasari, B., & Aminatun, D. (2019). Vlog: A Tool to Improve Students' English-Speaking Ability at University Level. Proceeding of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Indonesian International Conference on Linguistics, Language Teaching, Literature and Culture, 245-254.
- Milton, Jane. Polmear, Caroline. Fabricius, Julia. (2004). *A Short Introduction to Psychoanalysis*. London: Sage Publications Newburg, Kristi Tacket. (November 16, 2019). Obsessed with Perfection: How to Overcome Toxic Perfectionism in a Highly Competitive World. *PsychCentral*. Retrieved from psychcentral.com/blog/self-empowerment/2019/11/obsessed-with-perfection-how-to-overcome-toxic-perfectionism-in-a-highly-competitive-world
- Pranoto, B. E., & Suprayogi. (2020). Insights from Students' Perspective of 9GAG Humorous Memes Used in EFL Classroom. *Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research*, 546, 72-76.
- Pranoto, B. E., & Yuwono, U. (2019). Leader's attitude towards terrorism: A critical discourse analysis of Dr. Mahathir Mohamad's diplomatic letters. *Cultural Dynamics in a Globalized World*, *December*, 65–73. https://doi.org/10.1201/9781315225340-10.
- Rachman, S. (1981). Part I. Unwanted Intrusive Cognition. Advances in Behavior Research and Therapy. 3(03):89-99
- Rido et. al. (2020). Interaction Management Strategies in English Literature Lectures in Indonesian University Setting. Indonesian Journal of EFL and Linguistics, Vol. 5 No. 2, 315-337.
- Ryback, Ralph M.D. (2016). Perfectionism Versus Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder. *Psychology Today*. Retrieved from https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-truisms-wellness/201612/perfectionism-versus-obsessive-compulsive-disorder
- Ryckman M. Richard. (2008). Theories of Personality Ninth Edition. United States of America: Thomson Wadsworth.
- Rido, Akhyar. (2015). The Use of Discourse Markers as an Interactive Feature in Science Lecture Discourse in L2 Setting. TEFFLIN, 90.
- Salkovskis, M. Paul. (1985). Obsessional-Compulsive Problems: A Cognitive-Behavioral Analysis. *Behav. Res. Ther*, Vol 23(5), 571-583.
- Samanik. (2018). Teaching English Using Poetry: An Alternative to Implement Contextual Teaching and Learning. *Journal of ELT Research*, Vol 3(1), 21-28.
- Sari, K, and B.E. Pranoto. (2021). Representation of Government Concerning the Draft of Criminal Code in The Jakarta Post: A Critical Discourse Analysis. *PAROLE: Journal of Linguistics and Education*, vol 11 (2), 98-113.
- Schwarts, Mel. (2008). The Problem with Perfection. *Psychology Today*. Retrieved from www.psychologytoday.com/intl/blog/shift-mind/200811/the-problem-perfection.
- Setri, Teta Irama & Setiawan, Dwi Budi. (2020). Matriarchal Society in The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd. *Linguistics* and *Literature Journal*, 1(1), 28-33.
- Srikandi, Cut Novita. (2018). The Inner Conflict of the Main Character in The Aviator (2004) Using Sigmund Freud Perspective. *Journal of English Language and Literature (JELL)*. 2(01):49-54
- 264 million people worldwide live with depression. (2021). *Anxiety & Depression Association of America*. Accessed 18 May 2022, retrieved from https://adaa.org/understanding-anxiety/depression
- Yunara, Yurisa Yuli & Kardiansyah, M. Yuseano. (2017). Animus personality in Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire: A Game of Thrones. Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra. 15(1), 7-13.

#### **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

SELITAS TEARLO

Vol. 3, No. 2, 105 - 113 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

## RAPE TRAUMA SYNDROME REPRESENTATION AS SEEN IN THE WAY I USED TO BE NOVEL BY AMBER SMITH

#### Delfira Rizkiana<sup>1</sup>, Muhammad Fithratullah<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia<sup>1,2</sup>

delfirarizkiana17@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, fithratullah@teknokrat.ac.id<sup>2</sup>

Received: (November 2022) Accepted: (November 2022) Published: (December 2022)

#### **Abstract**

This research focuses on the discussion of the Rape Trauma Syndrome (RTS) representation in the novel entitled The Way I Used to Be that was written by Amber Smith. The synopsis of the novel told about the suffering of the main character, fourteen year's old Eden, who changed after her older brother's best friend raped her one night on the Christmas break. By looking at the synopsis of the novel, the writer aims to see the way the novel represented the existence of RTS through its main character, Eden, who at that time experienced sexual assault. To conduct the research, the writer uses a descriptive qualitative methods to describe and explain the issue of RTS inside the novel. Therefore, to support the analysis and explanation, the writer uses the theory of psychological approach as well as the Rape Trauma Syndrome (RTS) theory that explains the signs and phases of RTS. By that, the writer is able to see, reveal, and explain the way the novel represented the existence of the RTS through the main character. After doing the analysis, the writer found that Eden in the novel, suffered from RTS due to her trauma of rape. It was because Edy was seen fulfilled all of the symptoms of RTS. She also fulfilled all the phases of RTS which are acute phase, outward adjustment phase, and resolution phase. It was all seen through her behavior and attitudes throughout the novel.

Keywords: Main character, psychological approach, rape trauma syndrome, the way I used to be

#### INTRODUCTION

Literature is a written work that plays a role as a reflection of life (Karnataka, 2019) As the reflection of life, literature provides values that may guide people and raise the awareness among society (Karnataka, 2019). Thus, the conclusion can be drawn that literature is able to portray the real issues that happen among society. In this research the writer has chosen one of the forms of literature, which is novel, to be discussed further. Novel is chosen because according to Aliyev, novel has exceeded word count and provides a significant structural-level difference compared to other literature (Aliyev, 2021). There is no limitation of word counts in novel, it can be as long as possible, and it allows novel to provide complexity of the character and the story better (Dharlie & Samanik, 2021). In addition, novel reflects the picture of real characters, characters that depart from social reality and can convey dialogues and conversation that can stir and move the hearts of the readers (Amelia & Diantika, 2017). Therefore, the writer believes that novel can explore and portray the issue better with its length and complexity.

To analyze the issue inside the novel, the writer has chosen one of the psychological issues, namely Rape Trauma Syndrome (RTS). Rape trauma syndrome is a term that is used to refer to the trauma that was caused by the bad experience of being raped or sexually assaulted. Trauma itself is defined as an injury, such as a wound, to living tissue of human that is caused by an extrinsic agent (Gerber, 2019). However, the wound or injury is located in the psychology of human not physical. Even though it happens in the psychological of human, trauma can cause a disordered physic or behavioral state that is resulting from severe mental or emotional stress that are caused by the trauma itself (Gerber & Gerber, 2019). Meanwhile, Burgess and Homstrom stated that rape trauma syndrome occurs when the tragedy of rape happened (Burgess & Holmstrom, 1974). Rape trauma syndrome is the extension of trauma, when the trauma happens to a more specific case or tragedy, which is rape.

To analyze the existence of rape trauma syndrome in a novel, the researcher has chosen one of the novels to be analyzed. The novel entitled *The Way I Used to Be* by Amber Smith is chosen to be the object of this analysis. *The* 

Way I Used to Beis a 278 pages novel that was published on March 22, 2016 by Margaret McElderry. The Way I Used To Be is a courageous telling of a young girl's struggles to deal with her rape. The synopsis of the novel told about the suffering of the main character, fourteen years old Eden, who changed after her older brother's best friend raped her one night on the Christmas break.

By using that novel as the object of analysis, this research aims to see the way *The Way I Used to Be* novel represented Rape Trauma Syndrome (RTS) through its main character, Eden or Edy. It is expected that this research can make the society have better awareness about the rape trauma syndrome issue and will stop the victim-blaming culture.

Psychological approach is used as the fundamental and first theory of this research as this research focuses on revealing psychological issue, which is RTS. The approach of psychology is seen as the most suitable approach for this research as it allows the researcher to see the problem in literary work by using psychological lens. It is in line with the purpose of psychological approach that is to analyze the psychological aspects in a literary work (Semi, 2013). Psychological approach allows the writer to see the psychological aspects or issues in a character in a work (Semi, 2013). Considering that, the researcher used the psychological approach. Here, the researcher used humanistic perspective as the psychological approach of this research. Humanistic psychology refers to the psychological perspective that emphasizes the study of the whole person (McLeod, 2013). The theory of humanistic psychology believed that what happen to an individual is connected to his/her inner feelings and self-image. Therefore, the researcher decided to use this aspect as the fundamental approach.

Additionally, the writer also used Rape Trauma Syndrome theory. According to Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, victims of sexual assault may experience one, some, or all of RTS symptoms, and they may experience them for months or years after the rape or assault. The term Rape Trauma Syndrome was first used by a psychiatric nurse named Burgess and a sociologist named Holmstrom. It was introduced as a response for the rape survivors in 1974 (Burgess & Holmstrom, 1974). Clegg, C., McCoy, K., & Fremouw, W. (2009) describes three major phases of Rape Trauma Syndrome in which the victims of rape endure after the sexual assault. By using the RTS theory arranged by Clegg, C., McCoy, K., & Fremouw, W., the writer founded her research on analyzing Eden McCrorey's RTS by finding the evidence of phases and symptoms exhibited by the protagonist. The three phases are; 1) acute phase; 2) outward adjustment phase; 3) resolution phase. The explanation is written further below.

#### 1. Acute Phase

The acute phase is believed happened as soon after the victim of the sexual assault got the sexual assault. Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw (2009) agreed that the victim of sexual assault can undergo this phase for several days or even months. During the acute phase, the victim can show several reactions, which usually follow similar patterns, which are: 1) expressed; 2) controlled; 3) shocked disbelief.

#### 2. Outward Adjustment Phase

This phase refers to the repression or outward stage, where the victim can show denial, suppression, and/or rationalization that replace the shock (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). In this phase, the sufferer of rape trauma syndrome is believed to continue to be involved to what appears to be his/her normal life (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). This phase includes several signs and behaviors, which are: 1) severe mood-swing; 2) sense of helplessness; 3) persistent fear or phobia; 4) rage; 5) flashback and difficulty concentrating (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

#### 3. Resolution Phase

During this last stage, the syndrome is characterized by the victim's approach towards the assault, in which he or she is no longer focusing on the traumatic event. The victim can charge with the task of making sense of the rape as well as regaining a sense of control over their lives (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). While he or she may continually remember, and never completely overlook the assault; the suffering and harmful effects will decrease over time.

#### **METHOD**

As this research focuses on revealing the rape trauma syndrome in a novel, the descriptive qualitative method is used as the research method. By using qualitative method, the researcher can describe and explain the issue non-numerically (Rido, 2020). It is because descriptive qualitative focuses on non-numeric data, different

with quantitative that focuses on numerical data (Adepati & Samanik, 2018). Descriptive qualitative method is used because it allows the researcher to analyze the non-numerical data(Rido, 2015). Additionally, by using the descriptive qualitative method, the researcher can focus on the character in literary work (Fithratullah & Ngestirosa, 2018). It is because the method is usually used to find the best answer for a question then present the result descriptively (Sartika & Pranoto, 2021). Descriptive qualitative method is a method that can be used to expand the "what" and "how"question (Mitchell & Jolley, 2010). In other words, the method is useful to reveal certain phenomenon deeply (Afif & Amelia, 2021). William in 2007 also believed that the qualitative method is an approach that is used in textual analysis research and involves discovery that enables the researcher to develop in detail (Williams, 2007). It also makes it possible for the writer to focus on the issue seen through the character as the method allows the writer to focus on the content of analysis (Tirtaningtias & Setiawan, 2021). Thus, the researcher uses the descriptive qualitative method. The data of this research will be in the form of words, phrases, sentences, quotations, and statements. Books, book chapters, essays, interviews, talks, newspaper headlines and articles, are included as texts and can be analyzed using descriptive method (Kiranamita & Samanik, 2021). Moreover, library research method is also used to collect the written data which includes sourcebooks and articles. The library research method allows the researcher to gain supporting insight related to the topic from other source of books and articles (Farras & Nurmaily, 2020).

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the writer presented the portrayal of rape trauma syndrome as found in a novel entitled *The Way I Used to Be* by Amber Smith. To present the analysis, the writer combined the theories and research methodology. The writer used the theory of rape trauma syndrome as guidelines for the writer.

#### **Acute Phase**

The first phase of the rape trauma syndrome, according to Clegg, McCoy, &Fremouw (2009) is the acute phase. The acute-phase refers to the coordinated series of events that occur nonspecifically in response to the trauma, or in this case rape trauma syndrome (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). During the acute phase, the victim can show several reactions, which usually follow similar patterns, which are: 1) expressed; 2) controlled; 3) shocked disbelief.

#### Expressed

The first pattern that the victim of rape might experience in the acute phase is expressed. It refers to the pattern phase where the victim or survivor of sexual assault emotionally tries to open up herself (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). Open up emotionally can be defined as a phase where the survivor showed her emotion and feelings after the rape tragedy that is happened. Hence, the survivor might show extreme anger, hysteria, or may display radicalism I the form of hysterical crying or anxiety attacks (Clegg, McCoy, &Fremouw, 2009).

"I start running after I round the corner, my head pounding harder and faster with each footfall, my whole body in this cold sweat. By the time I make it home I'm so nauseous I'm actually crying. I run into the bathroom and am instantly on the floor kneeling in front of the toilet, gasping for air." (The Way I Used to Be, p.31, 2016) One day, when the school had started, Edy went with her best friend since childhood, namely Mara. Edy and Mara planned to go to Mara's house. However, to get to Mara's house, both of them needed to past Kevin's house. Knowing that fact, Edy got really scared until she could feel her legs got weakened every time they got closer. She really hoped that Kevin was not home. Luckily, Kevin was not home, but Kevin's younger sister, Amanda, was home. Because Amanda was in front of the house, Mara decided to greet her and talk to Amanda, when suddenly Edy felt not great and left both of them in hurry. When Edy tried to go home by running, she felt her head pounding and her body in a cold sweat. She felt nauseous and cried hardly. When she got home, she ran into the bathroom in hurry and knelled in front of the toilet, tried to gasp for air. The writer interpreted the datum above as the traumatic reaction of Edy, who got really trauma due to the rape done by Kevin. The reaction of Edy showed that she could finally show her feeling and emotion, at least to herself, because at that time no one knew about the rape. It could be seen that Edy felt nauseous and cried hardly until she needed to gasp for air to breath. From Edy's reaction, Edy showed that she showed her emotion about the rape. The way she cried hardly, until she needed to try to breath, and felt nauseous is in line with the acute phase where the survivor might open up to her/his feelings by crying hardly (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). Considering that, the writer believed that the datum above show that Edy underwent the acute phase, which was expressed, because she express her feelings by crying.

#### Controlled

The second pattern of acute phase of the victim of rape is controlled. This pattern refers to the time when the victim or survivor appears to be without a sign of noticeable emotion and acted as if nothing happened and everything is fine and under control (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). However, what the survivor really felt is unknown, what is clear is only the survivor seemed calm may be deceptive towards other people eyes (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

"I don't know how long I lay there afterward. Try to ignore all the things that didn't feel right, all the things that felt like I would never feel right again. No, can't cry. Because there's nothing to cry about. Because it was just a dream, a bad dream, a nightmare. Not real, not real, not real." (The Way I Used to Be, p.2, 2016)

In the data above, it could be seen that the novel described that Edy tried to ignore all the wrong things. She thought that she did not have to cry, because what she felt was only a nightmare and not a reality. In fact, what she felt was true event and not a dream at all. However, Edy tried to deny it by keep telling herself that it was not right and just a nightmare. The writer interpreted what Edy did there as a reaction of Edy who tried to avoid and deny the reality. She wanted to be under control and did not want to break down because of what she experienced. The data above showed that Edy tried to be fine and fully under control. What she did was in line with the theory of controlled pattern in the acute phase, explained by Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw (2009). In the pattern of controlled, the survivor will show as if everything is fine and nothing happens (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). The theory is in line with the fact that in the data above Edy showed that she tried to think that she was fine and nothing bad happened to her in reality.

#### **Shocked Disbelief**

The pattern of the acute phase suffered by the survivor of rape or sexual assault is shocked disbelief. Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw (2009) defined the third pattern as a time when the survivor of rape reacts with a strong sense of disorientation. The survivor may experience a disruption in concentrating, which can heavily affect the decision-making, or unable to manage simple, daily tasks (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

"I don't know, as I force my eyes open, that the lies are already in motion. I try to swallow. But my throat's raw. Feels like strep, I tell myself. I must be sick, that's all. Must have a fever. I'm delirious" (The Way I Used to Be, p.3, 2016)

The data above happened at the beginning of the novel, when Edy was laying down on her bed, when suddenly, beyond her control, she remembered the rape tragedy again. She could feel and see the tragedy clearly, even though she tried to forget it. She tried to close her eyes and open her eyes, yet with both ways, she still could the bad memory of the rape she suffered. From the data above, it could be seen that Edy tried to open her eyes because the motion and memory became worse when she closed her eyes. However, though she had opened her eyes, she could still feel the reaction due to her brain which remembered the rape traumatic tragedy. However, Edy tried to ignore it because of her disbelief towards what had happened to her. Though she could feel her throat was not feeling well and she felt like she was sick and had fever, she denied those feelings as a reaction of her trauma. Instead, she told herself that she just sick and had a fever, and it did not have any relation with her traumatic experience. The writer then interpreted the data above as a proof that Edy showed shocked disbelief. Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw (2009) believed that the rape survivor can show disorientation, where the truth that the sufferer feels is different from the real truth, which causes confusion as well as illusions. The way Edy tried to deny what had happened to her, and the way she told herself that the traumatic reaction is only ordinary sickness, proved that Edy showed the pattern of shocked disbelief caused by her rape traumatic experience.

#### **Outward Adjustment Phase**

The second phase of rape trauma syndrome is the outward adjustment phase. This phase refers to the repression or outward stage, where the victim can show denial, suppression, and/or rationalization that replace the shock (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). In this phase, the sufferer of rape trauma syndrome is believed to continue to be involved to what appears to be his/her normal life (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). This phase includes several signs, which are: 1) severe mood-swing; 2) sense of helplessness; 3) persistent fear; 4) rage; 5) flashback and difficulty concentrating (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

#### **Mood-Swing**

The first sign or behavior of the sufferer of rape in the second phase is the mood-swing. Mood-swing refers to the changing of mood of the sufferer (Clegg, McCoy, &Fremouw, 2009).

""I do need them!" I can feel the tears beginning to simmer behind my eyes. "And just so you know," I continue, my voice falling in on itself, "I'm not wearing my glasses anymore even if you don't get me contacts!" I throw my glasses onto the table and then I stomp off to my room." (The Way I Used to Be, p.53, 2016)

The data above happened when Edy had a conversation with her parents. At that time, Edy started her morning nice and well, when suddenly she saw Minnie asked for a contact to her parents, instead of glasses. It made Edy only asked for a contact because she did not want to look like she was in a band, while actually she really was. Edy suddenly wanted to change her appearance, and one of the way to do that was by using contact lens instead of glasses. Therefore, she tried to ask her parents about that, but the parents did not fulfil what Edy wanted. In that datum, it could be seen that Edy suddenly got mad and cried, even though it was a simple problem and Edy was usually a tough girl. Yet, at that time she cried, angry, and snapped at her friends just because her friends did not buy her contact lens yet. Edy even threw her glasses and stomped her feet to the room, which was impolite. Considering that, the writer believed that the data above could be interpreted as a situation where Edy had a mood-swing, because she suddenly got mad over small things. Mood-swing refers to the changing of mood of the sufferer (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). In the data above, it could be seen that Edy had a change in her mood a second after her parents rejected her wants.

#### **Sense of Helplessness**

The second sign or behavior of rape trauma syndrome is the sufferer may suffer the sense of helplessness (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). In this sign, the individual may feel weak, helplessness, and cannot be helped at the others.

"It's...personal, I guess" But the truth is that it's humiliating. It's too humiliating to be in lunch anymore, to have to hide and still get food thrown at you anyway, and not be able to do anything about it, and your friends are too afraid to stand up for you, or themselves. Especially when you just got attacked in your own house-in your own bed-and you cant even stand up for yourself there, either, the one place you're supposed to be safe" (The Way I Used to Be, p.18, 2016)

At that time, it was shown that Edy tried hard to let go the incident and went back to the way she used to be. However, during the lunch time at the cafeteria, Edy suddenly felt bad. She felt like the pace at the cafeteria was too fast due to the food thrown, who actually had often happened during lunch time, and it made her feel bad, until she wanted to hide and go. The feeling Edy felt at that time, somehow, stressed her out. There was nothing wrong with not eating at the cafeteria, yet Edy felt like it was too humiliating to be in the middle of the food thrown. It was triggered by the tragedy where the food thrown to the cloth of Edy. With that little trigger, Edy suddenly felt the sense of helplessness, as she thought that she could not even stand up for herself. It made her felt helpless because she thought that she could not stand up for herself during the rape incident, stand up for herself during the food thrown, and even stand up for herself. It is explained that in the second sign, the individual may feel weak, helplessness, and cannot be helped at the others (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). It was in line with the data above, because there Edy said that she could not be helped, as she could not helped her friend and herself. The way Edy said "you cant even stand up for yourself there" showed that Edy felt the sense of helplessness where she could not stand up for herself, because she had a thought that she could not help herself when the rape happened. Hence, the writer saw the data above as a proof of Edy's sense of helplessness.

#### **Persistent Fear**

The third behavior that is done by the sufferer of rape in the second phase is the persistent fear. Simply, the individual or sufferer of rape may have a persistent or constant fear about anything (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

"Maybe this is my chance. Would Kevin really kill me if I told-could he really kill me? He could. He made sure I knew he could if he wanted to. But he's not here right now. Caelin is here. To protect me, to be on my side" (The Way I Used to Be, p.11, 2016)

The datum above happened not so long after the rape tragedy suffered by Edy. After the incident, Edy acted weird and her brother aware about that. When Edy's brother asked why Edy acted weird, Edy for a second thought that maybe that was the right time for her to confront and tell him about the rape. However, when she thought about that, she emerged the fear, as could be seen in the data above. Edy feared that Kevin would kill her if he knew that she told her brother that Kevin was a rapist and he raped Edy. Edy was not sure whether or not her brother would stand for her and whether or not Kevin would actually kill her if she told her brother, however, the fear of Edy made her believe that she should not tell her brother because Kevin would really kill her if she did. The thought and behavior of Edy above showed that Edy emerged fear after the rape incident she suffered. It is in line with the theory of rape trauma syndrome that explained the individual or sufferer of rape may have a persistent or constant fear about anything (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). Therefore, the data above showed the fear of Edy.

#### Rage

The next sign of outward adjustment phase is rage. The victim of rape in this phase may show instability in the emotion that can be seen through depression or rage (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). The rage usually seen through the violent, uncontrollable anger, or the instability of the emotion of the individual (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

"I stomp away, my feet like bricks. I slam my bedroom door again as hard as I can, then press my ear against it. My chest heaves with frantic breaths as I listen" (The Way I Used to Be, p.54, 2016)

At that time Edy asked for a contact lens. However, her parents thought that she did not need it as she could still use glasses. Her parents gave a reasonable reason to not buy her contact lens, and it was said with a very nice and kind way. However, Edy suddenly got very mad because she thought that her parents did not care about her. She yelled and screamed at her parents, then she stomped away. She went away to her bedroom and slammed the door as hard as she could. Through the action done by Edy, it could be seen that Edy showed her instability of emotion by showing her anger and rage, even to her parents. It is in line with the sign of outward adjustment phase where the rage and depression usually seen through the violent, uncontrollable anger, or the instability of the emotion of the individual (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

#### Flashback and Concentrate Difficulties

The victim of rape also may have flashback to the traumatic event as it traumatizing (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). The individual in this phase may have a flashback to the tragedy of rape, and it happened in the mind (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

"Amanda,hi," I finally say, taken back by her presence-by the hot sinking feeling her presence leaves in my stomach-by all the memories of the past, of growing up together, of her and Kevin, and Kevin, and Kevin, and Kevin. Stop, I command my brain. Icant quite stop, but it slows down just enough for me to try to smile anyway. Because all of that is in the past, I remind myself. It's not something I need to think about ever again. And Amanda has nothing to do with it anyway" (The Way I Used to Be, p.47, 2016)

The data above happened when Edy passed by the Kevin's house with Mara, her best friend. Kevin was not home at that time, but his sister, Amanda, was home. Amanda was actually quite close to Mara and Edy as they lived near. When they passed by Kevin's house, Amanda was in front of the house, so both Edy and Mara greeted Amanda. When Edy greeted Amanda suddenly she had a flashback to what Kevin did, even though she just saw Amanda and not Kevin. In the data above, it could be seen that Edy suddenly had a flashback and she could feel it in her stomach. She remembered the bad memories of the past when Kevin touched her and raped her. Edy tried to not think about it as Amanda had nothing to do with it, but she could not as the memories and flashback came suddenly without she could not control it. The individual in this phase may have a flashback to the tragedy of rape, and it happened in the mind (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). So, the data above showed that Edy had a flashback about the rape.

#### **Resolution Phase**

The last stage of the rape trauma syndrome is the resolution phase. This phase refers to the unaroused state, where the situation goes back to normal (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). In this phase, the victim or

sufferer is no longer focusing on the traumatic event (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). Generally, the victims will begin to accept the rape as part of their life and choose to move on (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009).

"I've been with fifteen different guys, sometimes it seems like too many, other times it seems like not nearly enough. But each one takes me just a little farther away. I'm so far gone now, sometimes I feel like maybe it's almost enough. Because honestly, there isn't the slightest trace left of that frizzy haired, freckle faced, scared silent little girl. And her big secret is really not such a huge deal anymore. It was all so long ago now, it practically never even happened" (The Way I Used to Be, p.175, 2016)

In the data above, Edy told that she finally could had a relationship with another people, even though she previously had a trauma with boys because she was being raped by Kevin. Moreover, the data above showed that Edy finally realized that she was worthy and enough, she had a thought that she could go far from the trauma and lived her live just like she used to. The writer interpreted the data above as a proof that Edy had moved on by having a relationship with boys and realizing her worth. In the resolution phase, the individual will begin to accept the rape as a part of their life and move on (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). The individual also may try the best to live their life again (Clegg, McCoy, & Fremouw, 2009). It is in line with the data above where Edy tried to move on by living her life like she used to.

# **CONCLUSION**

After conducting the analysis by using the theory of Rape Trauma Syndrome, the writer could present the data of the analysis. The research was conducted by using the descriptive qualitative method, which was beneficial for the writer to present the data descriptively. The Rape Trauma Syndrome (RTS) that is used in this research came from Clegg, McCoy, &Fremouw in 2009. In the theory, it was explained that RTS presents as a form of post-traumatic stress disorder that occurs after the sexual assault. There are three phases of RTS according to the theory, which are acute phase, outward adjustment phase, and resolution phase. Each syndrome had its own signs that can be used to analyze the existence of RTS in the literary work.

By using those three phases of RTS, the writer analyzed the object of the analysis, which is a novel by Amber Smith entitled *The Way I Used to Be*. To be more specific, the writer analyze the existence of RTS in the main character of the novel, who was Edy. After doing the analysis, the writer found that Edy in the novel, suffered from RTS due to her trauma of rape. It was because Edy fulfilled all of the symptoms of RTS. Through the analysis, it was seen that Edy fulfilled the expressed, controlled, and shocked-disbelief signs in the first phase, which is acute phase. She also shown that she had mood-swing, sense of helplessness, persistent fear, depression or rage, and flashback and concentrate difficulties, which proved that she also experienced outward adjustment phase. Furthermore, at the end of the novel, Edy also showed that she was in the resolution phase, as she seemed as if her life was normal. It was because Edy tried to accept what had happened and live her life normally.

Therefore, from the research findings, Edy suffered from RTS because of the rape incident she got from her brother's friend. Through this analysis, the writer hopes that it can raise the awareness and knowledge about RTS and sexual assault. Also, it is expected that this research can be the insight for other future researchers who want to conduct deeper analysis about RTS.

#### REFERENCES

- Adam, K. (1967). Suicide: A Critical Review of the Literature. *Canadian Psychiatric Association Journal*, 416-418.
- Adepati, M., & Samanik. (2018). Narrative Structure of the Minds of Billy Milligan Novel and Split Film. *English Language and Literature International Conference (ELLiC*, 2, 442.
- Afif, R., & Amelia, D. (2021). Humanistic Hierarchy of Needs on Auggie's Personality in Wonder Movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(2),69-70.
- Aliyev, A. (2021). What Is a Novel? The European Journal of Aesthetics, 19-22.
- Amelia, D., & Daud, J. (2020). Freudian Tripartite on Detective Fiction: The Tokyo Zodiac Murders. *Language Literacy: Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Language Teaching*, 299-304.
- Amelia, D., & Diantika, F. (2017). Ephebophilia Suffered by the Main Character in the Novel Lolita by Nabokov. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 81-86.
- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition*. Arlington: American Psychiatric Association.

- Arnheim, R. (1957). Film as Art. London: University of California Press.
- Aryangga, A., & Nurmaily, E. (2017). Women's Power and Steorotype Denial in Pocahontas Movie. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 15(1), 46-58.
- Burgess, A., & Holmstrom, L. (1974). Crisis and Counseling Requests of Rape Victims. *Nursing Research*, 196-202.
- Clegg, C., McCoy, K., & Fremouw, W. (2015). Rape Trauma Syndrome (RTS). Wiley Encylopedia of Forensic Science, 2-6.
- Dharlie, K., & Samanik. (2021). Imagery Analysis in Matsuoka's Cloud of Sparrows. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 18.
- Farras, P., & Nurmaily, E. (2020). A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado Poem by Edgar Allan Poem. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 78.
- Fithratullah, M., & Ngestirosa, E. (2018). Minority Voices In Power Rangers Movie. *NOBEL: Journal of Literature and Language Teaching*, 1-9.
- Gerber, M., & Gerber, E. (2019). An Introduction to Trauma and Health. Springer Nature Switzerland, 4-5.
- Heaverly, A., & Kasih, E. (2020). Jane Austen's View on the Industrial Revolution in Pride and Prejudice. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 1(1), 2.
- Igwenagu, C. (2016). Fundamentals of Research Methodology and Data Collection. 4-15.
- Jogezai, F. (2020). Film Theory and It's Application. Term Paper, 3-10.
- Karnataka. (2019, November 28). *The Hindu*. Retrieved November 30, 2021, from The Hindu: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/literature-is-areflection-of-life/article30108401.ece
- Kiranamita, S., & Samanik. (2021). The Portrayal of Malignant Narcissism as seen in the Main Characters of Disney Movies. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(1), 33.
- Lapsley, D., & Stey, P. (2011). Id, Ego, and Superego. Encyclopedia of Human Behavior, 1-4.
- Leo, D., Kerr, S., Bertolote, J., & Kerkhof, A. (2006). Definitions of Suicidal Behavior: Lessons Learned from the WHO/EURO Mukticentre Study. *The Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention*, 4-10.
- McLeod, S. (2013). *Psychology Perspective*. Retrieved November 30, 2021, from Simply Psychology: https://www.simplypsychology.org/perspective.html
- Mitchell, M., & Jolley, J. (2010). Research Design Explained. Belmont: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.
- Nababan, R., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). The Hypermasculinity as seen in the Main Character in Rambo: Last Blood Movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(1), 26.
- Philip Wang, M. D. (2018, August). *What Are Dissociative Disorders?* Retrieved from American Psychiatric Association: https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/dissociative-disorders/what-are-dissociative-disorders
- Ramadhani, A., & Setiawan, D. (2021). Gender Dysphoria as seen in Normal Movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 124.
- Ranti, D., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). Racial Profiling on Police Stop and Search Practice as Portrayed in the George Tillman's Movie The Hate U Give. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 94.
- Rido, A. (2015). The Use of Discourse Markers as an Interactive Feature in Science Lecture Discourse in L2 Setting. *TEFLIN*, 90.
- Rido, A. (2020). Why They Act the Way They Do? Pedagogical Practices of Experienced Vocational English Language Teachers in Indonesia. *International Journal of Language Education*, 24-30.
- Samaritans. (2020). Depiction of Suicide and Self-Harm in Literature. 3-5.
- Sartika, L., & Pranoto, B. (2021). Analysis of Humor in The Big Bang Theory by Using Relevance Theory: A Pragmatic Study. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1-3.
- Semi, M. (2013). Kritik Sastra. Bandung: CV Angkasa.
- Smith, S., Choueiti, M., Choi, A., Pieper, K., & Moutier, C. (2019). *Mental Health Conditions in Film & TV:*Portrayals that Dehumanize and Trivialize Characters. America: USC Annenberg Inclusion Initiative & American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.
- Stacy L Smith, e. a. (2019). MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS IN FILM & TV: Portrayal that Dehumanize and Trivialize Characters. *AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION*, 1.
- Tirtaningtias, H., & Setiawan, D. (2021). Trickster Archetype as seen in Harry Potter Movies the Fourth and the Fifth Series. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 41.
- Williams, C. (2007). Research Method. Journal of Business & Economic Research, 65-67.

# **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

SENTAS TEARLO DE LA CONTRACTOR DE LA CON

Vol. 3, No. 2, 113 – 122 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

# DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER AND IT'S SIGNIFICANCE TO NINA SAYER'S PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT IN *BLACK SWAN* MOVIE

# Tiara Wulandari<sup>1</sup>, Samanik<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia<sup>1,2</sup>

Tiarawulandari151096@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, samanik@teknokrat.ac.id<sup>2</sup>

**Received :** (November 2022) **Accepted :** (November 2022) **Published :** (December 2022 )

#### **Abstract**

The portrayal of mental illness is often depicted in movies through characters' characterization. As literary work's purpose focuses on the words and on a conscious and consider arrangement of the words to produce a pleasing or enhancing effect, it can be concluded that movie is one of the best literary work as the tools for portraying the phenomenon of life. In accordance, this research focuses on the movie entitled Black Swan that was released in 2010. By using that movie, the researcher aims to reveal the psychological issue suffered by the main character, Nina. Through the movie, it is believed that behind the soft and kind attitude of Nina, there was a master of evil and sensual role. Considering that, this research aims to reveal the portrayal of Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) as seen through Nina character in the movie. Furthermore, this research also aims to see the impacts obtained by Nina to her personality development.

To conduct the analysis, the researcher used the DID theory by Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder (DSM) as well as the personality theory by Carl Rogers. There are seven symptoms used to reveal the existence of DID in the main character. Meanwhile, there are three components of personality to see the personality development of the main character. To present the data, the researcher used descriptive qualitative methods to describe and explain the issue of DID and personality changing in Nina. Hence, the data are in the form of dialogues and scenes that were taken from the movie.

The findings of this research found that Nina Sayer in the movie of Black Swan fulfilled all the symptoms of DID. Due to her DID, Nina also showed the personality changes, by showing her development on her self-worth, self-image, and ideal-self. It happened due to the tense and burden Nina got during her practice time as the Swan Queen.

**Keywords:** Black Swan, dissociative identity disorder, personality.

# **INTRODUCTION**

The portrayal of mental illness is often depicted in movies through characters' characterization. According to an American voluntary health organization, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, out of 4598 characters in movies, 1.7% experience a mental health condition (Stacy L Smith, 2019). As literary work's purpose focuses on the words and on a conscious and consider arrangement of the words to produce a pleasing or enhancing effect, it can be concluded that movie is one of the best literary work as the tools for portraying the phenomenon of life. Thus, the researcher chooses Black Swan movie as the media to be analyzed based on some criteria. The movie focuses on a ballerina, named Nina Sayers, who prepared for a performance of Swan Lake Tchaikovsky. The journey of Nina in the movie showed that Nina got a psychological disorder due to the pressure she got during the preparation of the performance. The problems faced by Nina is believed caused symptoms of one of mental disorder which is Dissociative Identity Disorder.

According to (Philip Wang, 2018), Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) (previously known as multiple disorder) involve problems with memory, identity, emotion, perception, behavior and sense of self. Dissociative Identity Disorder symptoms can potentially disrupt every area of mental functioning. The symptoms of Dissociative Identity Disorder that appear in the movie showed the main problems of how the researcher interested in conducting this research. By knowing the symptoms, the researcher can easily assume that the main character of the movie is indeed suffer from Dissociative Identity Disorder. The researcher tries to portray how Dissociative Identity Disorder symptoms portrayed through the main character and also tries to reveal out the impacts obtained by Dissociative Identity Disorder sufferer as portrayed through Nina Sayers character of Black Swan movie. The

researcher also wants to prove that suffering from Dissociative Identity Disorder will give many impacts toward someone's personality development in their whole life. By conducting this research, the researcher hopes that it will be useful for next research related to Black Swan movie or the issue inside this paper which is about mental disorder, specifically Dissociative Identity Disorder.

Hence, this research aims to describe the symptoms of Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) as well as the impacts of DID on the sufferer to the personality development, as portrayed through Nina Sayers in *Black Swan*. It is expected that this research can be insight and inspiration for others deeper analysis of psychological issue.

#### **METHOD**

In this research, the researcher used the psychological approach. Psychology in literature is taking an important role in bringing theory and issue within this paper. Psychology of literature is the study of the author's psychology as an individual or as an author who creating a literary works (Dinurriyah, 2004). Thus, psychological approach is about the author's life who taken into consideration of their literary works. The author's perceptions, unconscious and conscious mind, and the plot of their works are the signs of their psychological traits in creating literary work (Wellek & Warren, 1963). When an author produces a literary work, their biographical circumstances and background is often influence on how their literary work created (Freud, Introduction to Psychoanalysis, 1917). The aim of psychological study folds in three natures. Foremost, the objective of understanding behavior, that is by defining factors that combine the development and expression of behavior. Secondly, the psychologist striving to develop procedure for the accurate prediction of behavior. Thirdly, psychology aims at developing techniques that will permit the control of behavior that is, way of "shaping" or course of psychological development through manipulating those basic factors to the growth and the expression of behavior.

Additionally, the researcher also used the dissociative identity disorder, as this research focused on the portrayal of DID in a movie. According to World Health Organization (WHO), mental disorder is generally characterized by a combination of abnormal thoughts, perceptions, emotions, behaviors, and relationships with others. Mental disorder has many different types and different presentations (WHO, 2019). Thus, dissociative identity disorder is become the issue chosen by the researcher to analyze the movie.

Dissociative identity disorder was previously known as multiple personality disorder. American Psychiatric Association stated that dissociative identity disorder is associated with an unforgettable-overwhelming experiences, abuse, and/or traumatic events that happened in childhood (Philip Wang, 2018). According to a survey conducted by Stein, 14.4% out of 25,018 respondents from 16 different countries suffered post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as one of most common symptom of dissociative identity disorder (Stein et al., 2014). United States treatment service for substance abuse and co-occurring mental health disorders stated that 2% out of people in the world suffered from Dissociative Identity Disorder and most of them are women. Men are more likely to hide symptoms and painful memories. Meanwhile, women experience symptoms more regularly than men. Men are also easier to show their aggressive behaviors and have less memory loss than women, which contributes to less diagnoses. Moreover, women are often in facing childhood abuse than men (Smith, 2020). Thus, most of the sufferers experienced unforgettable traumatic events during their childhood. In line with the movie chosen by the researcher, the main character also has a traumatic problem. Her mother nurtured her to be a perfect ballerina as she was. That problem leads the main character feels the other identified Dissociative Identity Disorder symptoms and make her difficult to differentiate realistic and unrealistic things.

The symptoms of Dissociative Identity Disorder will guide the researcher to analyze this paper. The scene and movie script also will trustful enough to become a media in analyzing Dissociative Identity Disorder through the main character behaviors and experiences. According to DSM-5 (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual), someone will be diagnosed as Dissociative Identity Disorder sufferer if they fulfil all the symptoms/criteria.

Philip Wang, M.D., Dr.P.H director of research for the American Psychiatric Association (APA) stated that there are 7 diagnostic criteria of Dissociative Identity Disorder sufferer (Philip Wang, 2018), which are; 1) Experiences two or more distinct identities or personality states; 2) The changing of sense of self, sense of agency, changes in behavior, consciousness, memory, perception, and cognition; 3) Frequent gaps of sufferer's memories of personal history, including people, places, and events, for both the distant and recent past. These recurrent gaps are not consistent with ordinary forgetting; 4) Having depersonalization symptoms, feels like detached from thoughts, feelings, and like being separate from one's own body, as if the sufferers were watching their body with another personality; 5) Significant stress or problems in relationships, work or other important areas of sufferer's life; 6) A perception of the people and things around the sufferer as distorted and unreal; 7) Inability to cope well with emotional or professional stress.

Lastly, the researchers also used the personality theory by Carl Rogers. Personality theory by Carl Rogers is used to know the development of Nina Sayer's personality. Rogers described Personality theory as the idea of

self or self-concept. The self is a humanistic expression for who we are as individuals. The self is our inner personality. It is shaped by a person's experiences as well as people's perceptions of those experiences. Childhood experiences and other people's evaluations are two major influences on our self-concept (Bhoite & Shinde, 2019). Rogers also described his theory by explaining the growth of a person need an environment that provides them with genuineness, acceptance, and empathy (McLeod, 2014). The self-concept includes three components, which are:

- 1. Self-worth, self-worth compares what we think about ourselves. Rogers believes feeling of self-worth developed in early childhood and were formed from the interaction of the child with the mother and father. Moreover, a person with a high self-worth also has confidence and positive feelings about him or herself, faces challenges in life, accepts failure and unhappiness at times, and is open with people
- 2. Self-image, is about how we see ourselves, how we appreciate what we have, perceiving ourselves as a good or bad person. Beautiful or ugly self-image affects how a person thinks, feels, and behaves in the world.
- 3. Ideal-self, is about who we would like to be. It consists of our goals and ambitions. Ideal-self makes the dynamic of our lives forever changing. Ideal-self of childhood, teen, and adult will always changing.

To conduct the analysis, descriptive qualitative method is used. In elaborating the idea of this research, the researcher uses qualitative research. It helps the researcher to gain the objective of the research. According to Conaway & Powell (Connaway & Powell, 2010), "Qualitative research method focus on observing events from the perspective of those involved and ettemp to understand why individuals behave as they do. They take more nature approach to the resolution of research problems". From the explanation above, qualitative method is influential because this study is considering the experience or the act of Nina Sayers as the main character of Black Swan movie. By knowing the symptoms of Dissociative Identity Disorder and relate it to Carl Roger's theory about personality, the researcher will find out why that mental disorder gives significance to Nina's personality development.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter aims to analyze the existence Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) as seen in the main character of *Black Swan* movie, namely Nina Sayers. Moreover, the researcher also explained the impacts obtained by Nina Sayers as a sufferer of DID towards her personality development as portrayed in *Black Swan* movie.

# Diagnostic Criteria of Dissociative Identity Disorder

To reveal and proof whether or not Nina Sayers was the sufferer of DID in *Black Swan* movie, the researcher needed to analyze the symptoms of DID with Nina Sayers behavior.

# Experiences two or more distinct identities or personality states

The first symptom of DID, according to the American Psychiatric Association (APA) is the sufferer experiences two or more distinct identities and/or personality states (Philip Wang, 2018). This symptom will show that the sufferer has two or more personalities or identities that are very different one to another.

#### Datum 1

"She grabs a pair of little scissors from the medicine cabinet and starts trimming her fingernails. She looks up at the mirror and sees her reflection snip off the tip of her index finger. Nina gasps and drops the scissors, clanging in the sink. Two of her fingers are bleeding, their tips sliced.

The datum above happened in the minute of 00.52.19, when Nina felt sad after her practice of being a Swan Queen. She felt that she did badly in her practice. So, after she went home, she lied in the bath and tried to close her eyes. Suddenly, she got shocked when she saw her other self. When she suddenly got her consciousness back, she realized that her finger was bleeding and it turned out that she unconsciously hurt herself by scratching her back unconsciously until it bled. After she realized that, she directly went out of the bath, took her nail-clipping, and went in front of the mirror to trim or cut her fingernails, so she would not hurt herself anymore. But, when she looked at the mirror, she suddenly saw the other version of herself looking her through the mirror in the evil way. In the movie, it was shown that Nina had other identity or personality, the evil one, which was described and referred to "the double" in the movie and script. The evil version of herself was shown intentionally cut the tip of her index finger until it sliced and bled. In the movie, it also shown that the blood was real. From that scene, the

researcher interpreted that scene as the proof that when it happened, the other personality of Nina took control. She bled herself because her other identity or personality, the evil one, took control. That was why, at first Nina did not realize that she cut her own finger. Moreover, when it happened it felt like Nina could not control that and could not avoid that to not happen. From that incident, the researcher saw that Nina experienced identity or personality state that was different from her true-self. From the theory of DID symptoms, it was explained that the sufferer of DID will has two or more personalities or identities that are very different one to another (Philip Wang, 2018). From the scene, it could be seen that Nina had the evil personality and identity that was very different from her true-self. Considering that, the researcher believed that from the datum above, Nina fulfilled the first symptom of DID, which was experiencing two or more identity. The creepy smile of her double portrayed distinct identities because it is beyond Nina's mind. Meanwhile, Nina's original and/or true personality is a kind hearted and innocent woman.

# The changing of sense of self, sense of agency, changes in behavior, consciousness, memory, perception, and cognition

The second symptom of DID, according to APA, is the changing of sense of self, sense of agency, changes in behavior, consciousness, memory, perception, and cognition (Philip Wang, 2018). Sense of self is the view of an individual attitude towards oneself. Usually, it is related to physical dimensions, individual characteristics, as well as self-motivation (Philip Wang, 2018).

#### Datum 2

"Nina: "We can't smoke in here" Lily: "I won't tell if you won't"

Nina reluctantly takes the cigarette, holds it a little awkwardly, clearly not a regular smoker. Lily sparks a flame for her and then lights one for herself. Nina puffs, but doesn't inhale. Lily smirks"

In the story, Nina is a nice girl who always lived in a healthy lifestyle. She never ate too much, she always ate healthy food, never smoke, and never drink alcohol. She tried to keep her body healthy and good because she was a ballerina and she had a dream to be the Swan Queen. In the minutes of 00.50.47, Nina felt really tired after a long session of practicing. She had a bad day because she did her practice badly. She then stayed alone in the studio, while everyone else, including her coach, already went home. Suddenly, when she was daydreaming in front of the mirror, her friend, Lily, came while smoking. Nina said that it was forbidden to smoke inside the studio. Instead of listened to Nina, Lily offered the cigarette to Nina. Surprisingly, Nina took the cigarette, even though she never smoke before. The researcher interpreted that Nina never smoke because previously she was portrayed as a ballerina with a very healthy lifestyle. Moreover, it was written in the script that Nina awkwardly took the cigarette, and when she smoke she smoke it wrong because she only puffed and did not inhale it. It was also written that the way Nina smoke showed that she was not a regular smoker. The researcher then interpreted Nina's change as a proof that Nina showed changing in her sense of self, where she changed her view and attitude towards herself. From the theory of DID, in the second symptom, the sufferer of DID can show changes in the sense of self. Sense of self is the view of an individual attitude towards oneself. Usually, it is related to physical dimensions, individual characteristics, as well as self-motivation (Philip Wang, 2018). It is in line with the action of Nina, who at that time changed the way she saw herself as well as her characteristics. She did not see herself as a healthy ballering who was not allowed to smoke anymore, because she finally smoke the cigarette given by Lily. Additionally, she changed her characteristics from a nice and healthy ballerina to an impish and unhealthy ballerina, because she smoke. Therefore, the researcher believed that the datum above showed that Nina had a change in her sense of self.

# Frequent gaps of sufferer's memories of personal history, including people, places, and events, for both the distant and recent past

The third symptom of DID according to APA is the sufferer has frequent gaps in the sufferer's memories of personal history, including people, places, or events, for both the distant and recent past (Philip Wang, 2018). Further, it is explained that the recurrent gaps are not consistent with ordinary forgetting (Philip Wang, 2018).

# Datum 3

"Nina: "You put something in my drink."

Lily: "Yeah..."

Nina: "And took off this morning."

Lily: "This morning?"

Nina: "Yeah, you slept over."

Lily: "Uh, no. Unless your name's Tom and you have a dick."
Nina: "But, we..."
Nina stops herself"

In the datum above, Nina was having a conversation with Lily in the morning after they had a party in the night before. It happened in the minutes of 01.13.33. At that time, Nina had a gap in her own memory that includes people and event. The night before, Nina and Lily had a party in a bar, where the also consumed ecstasy and alcohol. In Nina's memory, after she went home from the party using cab, Lily also went to her house and had a sleepover. From what Nina remembered, Lily went to her house and they had sex in Nina's house. Therefore, in the datum above, Nina tried to confirm to Lily that she put something to Nina's drink and they had a sleepover after that. However, Nina was confuse why Lily did not wake her up, even though Lily slept in her house. Initially, Nina wanted to confirm the reason of why Lily went alone to the studio without woke her up. However, when she tried to confirm that, Lily said that she did not sleep in Nina's house. But, in Nina's memory, she remembered and felt it well that Lily was in her house and they had sex that night. The researcher interpreted Nina's confusion as a proof that Nina had a frequent gap related to a person and event. Nina had a gap in her memory where she did not remember the real event and situation that happened that night. What she remembered was another event which was very different with the real event that actually happened. Nina also remembered that there was Lily that night, while actually it was not true. Hence, the researcher could see that there was a gap in Nina's memories related to what happen after the party as well as the person included, which was Lily. In the symptom of DID, it is explained that the sufferer will show that there is a memory gap in the sufferer's mind, and it can happen to certain aspects, such as people, event, or place (Philip Wang, 2018).

### Having depersonalization symptoms

The fourth symptom according to APA is the sufferer has depersonalization symptoms (Philip Wang, 2018). It is explained that the sufferer of DID may show depersonalization symptoms, where the sufferer feels like detach from thoughts, feelings, and like being separate from one's own body, as if the sufferers were watching their body with another personality (Philip Wang, 2018).

#### Datum 4

"She abruptly stops and submerges herself under the water, defeated. She lies still, her arms wrapped around her chest. She opens her eyes, her vision distorted by the water. Suddenly, her blurred Double appears, staring down at her. Nina shoots up. The Double is gone. Nina scans the bathroom, but she is alone"

Another proof of Nina had depersonalization syndrome could be seen in page 00.51.52. At that time, Nina was very tired, so she decided to drown herself in the bath. Shot for Nina's eyes, where her vision distorted by the water. Suddenly, she saw herself stood up on the bath, stared down at her. It was shown that her another-self had an evil face. In the datum above, it could be proven that Nina saw herself in front of her. In the datum, her another-self referred as "the double". The researcher saw that scene as a proof that Nina saw herself, referred as the Double, from another perspective. It means that she saw her own body from her another body. It was because the kind Nina, the one who was under the water, saw the evil Nina, and it was shown that there were two Nina there. The fourth symptom of DID explained that the sufferer of DID may experience a situation where she feels like she is being separate from her own body and as if she watches her body from another personality (Philip Wang, 2018). It is in line with the datum above, where Nina suddenly felt like she was being separated from her own body because she saw her body from another personality. It was shown from the way her kind personality saw her evil personality, or her Double.

# Significant stress or problems in relationships, work or other important areas of sufferer's life

The fifth symptom of DID is significant stress or problems in relationships, work, or other important areas of sufferer's life (Philip Wang, 2018).

#### Datum 5

"Erica: "You're not my Nina right now!"
Nina: "LEAVE ME ALONE!!"
Nina shoves the door shut"

The significant problem of Nina in her relationship also shown through the way she had a problem with her mother more than once. It showed that Nina's relationship with her mother got worse day by day. In the minutes of 01.08.12, as written in the datum above, Nina had another fight with her mother. Previously, before the Swan Queen role, she never had a fight with her mother at all. But, in the middle of the movie she suddenly changed and had a bad relationship with her mother. It was shown in the scene above that Nina had a fight with her mom, until

#### Linguistics and Literature Journal, Vol. 3, No. 2, 113 - 121

her mom said that she could not recognize Nina anymore. When her mother said that, instead of saying sorry, Nina shoved the door shut and did not care and pay attention to her mother. The way Nina behave and had a fight with her mother proved that Nina had a significant problem with her relationship with her mother. In the theory of DID, the sufferer of DID will show problems or stress in the sufferer's life, that usually happened in the important areas of the sufferer's life. (Philip Wang, 2018). Hence, the datum above proved that Nina had a problem in her life, especially in her relationship with her mother.

# A perception of the people and things around the sufferer as distorted and unreal

The sixth symptom of DID according to the theory of DID is the sufferer may have a perception that the people and things around the sufferer is distorted and unreal (Philip Wang, 2018).

#### Datum 6

"She looks down, sees one of her knees snap backwards, like that of a bird. Then, the other knee snaps back.

Nina stumbles and falls. And slams her head into the radiator"

The datum above happened in the minutes of 01.25.00, right after Nina saw thorns appeared on her shoulder. After that, Nina got much panicked, and suddenly when she looked down, she saw both of her knees snap backwards until it broken. After a terrifying sight of her knees that snap backwards like a bird, Nina stumbled and fell. However, even though what Nina saw was there were thorns on her shoulder and her feet was broken, in the morning after that incident, Nina looked fine without any broken legs. It was shown that she slept and her legs were fine and not broken, because after that she still could walk and even perform in the Swan Lake performance. From that fact, it showed that what Nina experienced and saw at that night was false and not true. The researcher interpreted that as a proof that Nina got distorted in her perception towards the situation around her. According to the theory of DID, the sufferer may have a perception that the people and things around the sufferer is distorted and unreal (Philip Wang, 2018). From what happened in the datum above, it could be seen that the perception and memory of Nina related to things around her was actually distorted and unreal. It meant that Nina fulfilled the sixth symptom of DID.

# Inability to cope well with emotional or professional stress

#### Datum 7

"Erica: "What happened to my sweet girl?"
Nina yanks Erica off the chair onto the floor.
Nina: "She's gone"
Erica: "Please, you're not well"

Under the cushion Nina grabs the hidden brass doorknob. Erica lunges for her daughter's legs"

The scene above happened in the minutes of 01.26.17. The scene above involved Nina and her mother, Erica. Nina seemed could not control her anger. She even squeezed her mother's hand who got injured by her when she slammed the door. Her anger showed an emotional event and stress. The narration and dialogue above portrayed Nina's emotion. She could not control herself well when she faced that situation. Whereas, before she became a cruel woman, she was innocent and always obeyed her mother. Thus, the feeling of Nina's anger showed her stress. Furthermore, when she yanked her mom from the chair to the floor, when she squeezed her mother's injured hand, it all portrayed that Nina's is incapable to cope well with her emotion and stress. The behavior and action of Nina above was in line with the last symptom of DID, where it is explained that the sufferer of DID may have the inability to cope well with stress. Hence, the researcher believed that the datum above showed that Nina fulfilled the last symptom of DID.

# Impacts Obtained by the Sufferer of DID to the Personality Development

After analyzing the main character, Nina Sayers, with the symptoms or diagnostic criteria of DID, the researcher analyzed Nina Sayers' personality development due to the DID condition of Nina Sayers.

# **Self-Worth**

The first component is self-worth. Self-worth refers to what a person think about himself/herself. Carl Rogers believed that self-worth compares what a person think and it developed in the early childhood (McLeod, 2014).

#### Datum 8

"Erica: "But it's alright. No matter what. You'll probably get to dance the Pas de Quatre again. That's such a wonderful part. Or maybe he'll make you a Big Swan. Either way, you'll shine"

Nina: "I know""

At that time, Nina just had an audition of the main character of black swan. However, during the audition, Nina lost her focus because someone suddenly went to the audition room and it made Nina shocked. Because of that, Nina thought that she would not get the role because she messed up her performance. What happened in the afternoon then made Nina sad and pessimistic. However, as could be seen in the datum above, Nina's mother tried to support Nina to the fullest. Her mother told her that she was a good ballerina and would do well in every role. Additionally, her mother also tried to convince Nina that Nina would shine in whatever role she got later. It made Nina had a good self-worth, because her mother supported her. The affirmation and compliment given by her mother, somehow, boosted her self-worth. It could be seen through the way Nina answered what her mother said with "I know", which meant that she knew that she would shine. The researcher interpreted that answer as a proof that Nina believed in herself. She showed that she confident with her skills. The way Nina answered the question is in line with the theory of self-worth in the personality theory. It is explained that a person with a high self-worth also has confidence and positive feelings about himself/herself (McLeod, 2014). Through that datum, it could be seen that Nina was confident and believe on herself, which proved that she had a good self-worth. Moreover, she got that because of the support she got from her mother. It is in line with the explanation of the theory that believed that self-worth is formed from the interaction of the child with the mother or father (McLeod, 2014). Hence the datum above showed the self-worth of Nina.

#### Self-Image

#### Datum 9

"Leroy: "Truth is, when I look at you, all I see is the White Swan. Yes, you're beautiful, fragile, fearful. Ideal casting. But the Black Swan...it's a hard fucking job to dance both"

Nina: "I can be the Black Swan too""

In the datum above, Nina came to Leroy a day after the audition because she wanted to convince Leroy that she deserved to get the Swan Queen role. During their conversation, Nina stated that she could show Leroy that she had mastered the coda and could play as the Swan Queen. However, Leroy hesitated that and said that Nina was a perfect role for the White Swan, not the Black Swan. Yet, to be the Swan Queen, Nina needed to master both White Swan and Black Swan. Hearing the explanation by Leroy, Nina directly said that she could be the black swan too. Her confident while saying that could be interpreted as an act that showed the way she saw herself. Through that answer, the researcher interpreted Nina as a person who saw herself as great and skillful. It means that Nina showed a good self-image towards herself. In the explanation of self-image, it was explained that self-image refers to the way someone see himself/herself (McLeod, 2014). It is about how we see ourselves, how we appreciate what we have, perceiving ourselves as a good or bad person (McLeod, 2014). From the theory, it could be concluded that Nina saw herself in a good wa because she saw herself as a great ballerina that even could two roles at the same time, which were Black Swan and White Swan. Hence, the researcher believed that the datum above showed the good side of Nina's self-image.

#### **Ideal-Self**

The last component is ideal-self. Ideal-self, is about who we would like to be (McLeod, 2014).

### Datum 10

"Leroy: "Why are you here? All dolled up? Nina: "I came to ask you to give me the part. I can be the Black Swan too" Leroy: All that discipline, for what?" Nina: "I want to be perfect"

The datum above happened a day after the audition, that was explained in datum 38 before. At that time, Nina really wanted to get the role as the Swan Queen, so a day after her messed-up-audition, she went to see Leroy in his office. At that time, Nina tried to change Leroy's mind, so she could be the Swan Queen.

When Leroy asked why she came, Nina directly said that she came to Leroy because she wanted Leroy to give her the part, which is the Swan Queen part. Nina said that because she had practiced all night long, and it made her believe that she could take the role. In the datum above, it also could be seen that Nina wanted to be perfect and really wanted that role. It showed Nina wish and desire, which was be the greatest ballerina ever by becoming the Swan Queen. The way Nina fought for that showed that she had a big goal that she needed to achieve, so she would do everything to achieve that. The action of Nina in the datum above could be interpreted as the ideal-self component of Nina. It was also in line with the personality theory related to ideal-self. In the theory, it was explained that ideal-self, is about who we would like to be, which consists of goals and ambitions (McLeod, 2014). Hence, the researcher believed that the datum above showed Nina's goals and ambitions related to her ballerina carrier, which made her show her ideal-self.

#### **CONCLUSION**

After conducting the analysis, the researcher found that Nina suffered from DID as Nina fulfilled all of the seven symptoms of DID. After that, the researcher analyzed Nina using the personality theory to see the impacts that were obtained by Nina as the sufferer of DID. It was because in most cases, the sufferer showed the impacts of personality development due to the DID. From the analysis, it was found that Nina had developed her self-worth, self-image, and ideal-self due to her background as the sufferer of DID. It was because Nina had a big ambition to be the best ballerina. During her way to achieve that, Nina suffered DID and had developments on her personality, in terms of self-worth, self-image, and ideal-self, according to the personality theory by Carl Roger.

Through this analysis, it is expected that it will be beneficial to give insight related to DID and its impacts. Furthermore, it is expected that this research can be used to conduct other deeper analysis related to DID.

# **REFERENCES**

- Adam, K. (1967). Suicide: A Critical Review of the Literature. *Canadian Psychiatric Association Journal*, 416-418.
- Amelia, D., & Daud, J. (2020). Freudian Tripartite on Detective Fiction: The Tokyo Zodiac Murders. *Language Literacy: Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Language Teaching*, 299-304.
- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition*. Arlington: American Psychiatric Association.
- Arnheim, R. (1957). Film as Art. London: University of California Press.
- Farras, P., & Nurmaily, E. (2020). A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado Poem by Edgar Allan Poem. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 78.
- Heaverly, A., & Kasih, E. (2020). Jane Austen's View on the Industrial Revolution in Pride and Prejudice. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 1(1), 2.
- Jogezai, F. (2020). Film Theory and It's Application. Term Paper, 3-10.
- Lapsley, D., & Stey, P. (2011). Id, Ego, and Superego. Encyclopedia of Human Behavior, 1-4.
- Leo, D., Kerr, S., Bertolote, J., & Kerkhof, A. (2006). Definitions of Suicidal Behavior: Lessons Learned from the WHO/EURO Mukticentre Study. *The Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention*, 4-10.
- Nababan, R., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). The Hypermasculinity as seen in the Main Character in Rambo: Last Blood Movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(1), 26.
- Philip Wang, M. D. (2018, August). What Are Dissociative Disorders? Retrieved from American Psychiatric Association: https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/dissociative-disorders/what-are-dissociative-disorders
- Ramadhani, A., & Setiawan, D. (2021). Gender Dysphoria as seen in Normal Movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 124.

# Linguistics and Literature Journal, Vol. 3, No. 2, 113 - 121

- Ranti, D., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). Racial Profiling on Police Stop and Search Practice as Portrayed in the George Tillman's Movie The Hate U Give. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 94.
- Rido, A. (2020). Why They Act the Way They Do? Pedagogical Practices of Experienced Vocational English Language Teachers in Indonesia. *International Journal of Language Education*, 24-30.
- Smith, S., Choueiti, M., Choi, A., Pieper, K., & Moutier, C. (2019). *Mental Health Conditions in Film & TV:*\*Portrayals that Dehumanize and Trivialize Characters. America: USC Annenberg Inclusion Initiative & American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.
- Tirtaningtias, H., & Setiawan, D. (2021). Trickster Archetype as seen in Harry Potter Movies the Fourth and the Fifth Series. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 41.
- Williams, C. (2007). Research Method. Journal of Business & Economic Research, 65-67.

# **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

Securios Parios Parios

Vol. 3, No. 2, 122 - 131 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

# THE PORTRAYAL OF POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AS SEEN IN THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW NOVEL

# Fadhilah Salma Husna<sup>1</sup>, Heri Kuswoyo<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia<sup>1,2</sup>

fadhilahsalmahusna@gmail.com@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, hery@teknokrat.ac.id<sup>2</sup>

**Received :** (November 2022) **Accepted :** (November 2022) **Published :** (December 2022)

#### **Abstract**

This study discussed the post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) experienced by Anna Fox in the novel *The Woman in The Window* by A.J Finn. This study aims to investigate the causes and analyze the impact that occurs by finding the symptoms experienced by Anna Fox. Post-traumatic stress disorder theory to analyze the behavior data and character condition was applied. This study used a psychological approach. In addition, this analysis used a qualitative descriptive method to describe the problem using words. From this study, three findings can be clarified as the problem formulation, namely (1) two causes of Anna's post-traumatic stress disorder, (2) symptom re-experiencing, avoidance, mood and cognition, and arousal activity symptoms, and (3) the impacts of post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by Anna based on physical, emotional, mental, behavioral, and spiritual aspects.

**Keywords:** Main character, post-traumatic stress disorder, psychological Approach, *The Woman in The Window* 

# **INTRODUCTION**

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (hereafter PTSD) attacks a person's psyche, causing it to generate instincts and aberrant conduct and to be filled with particular problems. Deviant behavior arises from childhood or past trauma, resulting in personality changes. Post-traumatic stress is a syndrome of anxiety, emotional vulnerability, and flashbacks of bad experiences after physical or emotional stress that exceeds the limits of ordinary people's endurance (Kaplan et al., 1997). The Woman in the Window is a novel by A. J Finn which contains a story about the traumatic experienced by the main character, Anna Fox. She lost her husband and child in a car accident. Since the tragedy, she chose not to leave the house because she believed there was no safer place than her house. She would be overcome with fear, even if it were just the front door. In addition to the past tragedy that still haunts the main character, she also has agoraphobia or fear of the outer world. Anna also stated that she experienced extreme anxiety when leaving the house and could pass out. Anna claimed that her home was the most secure. The present writers chose A.J. Finn's novel The Woman in the Window as the research subject because the main character's experiences would serve as the background for explaining PTSD depending on someone's personality. The present writers have applied a psychological theory to analyze the data of character behaviors and conditions. Characters are people who appear in stories or plays and have moral characteristics and tendencies that are expressed through speech and action (Abrams, 1981). It is possible to describe their thoughts and ideas to conduct a psychological study of the character as it relates to human emotion.

Similar studies about PTSD have been conducted by some researchers with different contexts (Gea, 2018; Rai, 2020; Silalahi & Saragih, 2021; Fadillah, 2021). By examining the main character's personality and background, the present writers used previous research as a reference by identifying diseases suffered by the main character, such as anxiety disorder in Silalahi & Saragih's research (2021) and agoraphobia studied by Rai (2020). The last, a study by Gea (2018), discussed PTSD experienced by Hannibal that affects his personality and life. However, a study with identifying PTSD's symptoms, causes, and impacts in A.J. Finn's novel *The Woman in the Window* has not been discussed and analyzed yet. Thus, the research questions are formulated in this study to find out the causes and symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder in Ana's personality in *The* 

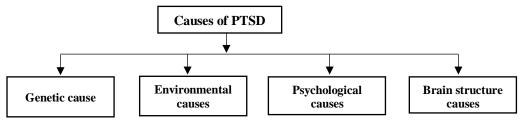
Woman in The Window novel and to analyze the impacts of post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by the main character, Anna Fox.

#### **Psychological Approach**

Psychology might be defined as the study of human behavior (Hilgard et al, 1991). This occurs because conduct is a tangible entity that can be readily observed, whereas the mind is abstract. Following a person's actions is thought to lead to a knowledge of the soul's state. In short, we can learn about the features and conditions of a person's soul by observing their actions in daily life. Psychology appears to be firmly attached to the human soul; the reaction of the soul through conduct and its causes will be investigated in depth in this study, and the emergence of this research may also help to address human issues. In comparison, literature is thought to be a representation of real life that is communicated through the means of words. Psychology in literary works is emphasized in characterization because it is closely related to psychology and human psychology. Furthermore, studying and explaining the character's behavior with a study of personality psychology.

### Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

According to the American Psychiatric Association (APA), people with PTSD have powerful and distressing thoughts and feelings related to their experiences that persist long after the traumatic event has finished. PTSD responds to traumatic experiences with anxiety and sorrow; they will continue to reminisce about the occurrence and avoid things that will remind them. Irritability, loss of concentration, loss of interest in interacting with the environment, feeling alienated from others, and having nightmares are all symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. There are three causes of post-traumatic stress disorder (Davison, 2006). It can be seen clearly in figure 1.



(Adapted from Davison, 2006)

#### a. Genetic causes

Someone in the family with a mental illness, such as anxiety disorder or depression, is at a higher risk of developing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder than others in their family.

#### **b.** Brain structure causes

Certain parts of the brain control emotions and fear in response to traumatic situations. It is not the case for someone with a standard brain structure. Their brain cannot regulate their emotions and anxiety in the face of stressful occurrences.

#### c. Environmental causes

Those with a history of trauma and stress were more likely to develop post-traumatic stress disorder than those without a similar history. Also, children who grow up in families with addiction are at a greater risk of developing post-traumatic stress disorder.

#### d. Psychological causes

People who suffer from certain mental illnesses, including anxiety and depression, are more likely to acquire post-traumatic stress disorder.

Meanwhile, Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms are divided into four parts: re-experiencing symptoms, avoidance symptoms, mood and cognitive changes, and arousal and activity symptoms (Schiraldi, 2009). First, re-experiencing symptom. People often remember events or experience nightmares, disturbing images, and physiological reactivity to reminders of the trauma. Memories or trauma experienced can reappear unexpectedly in people with PTSD. Secondly, avoidance symptom. These symptoms are about avoidance of

stimuli associated with the event or numbness of the response in general. Some may try to avoid all reminders of events or situations that trigger traumatic memories, such as related places, items, and topics. Next, *Mood and cognitions symptom* 

Negative mood changes include a chronic inability to recall crucial details of the traumatic incident, such as what happened, who was there, and the sequence of events.

#### a. Arousal and activity symptom

Traumatized people may have trouble sleeping because they are constantly alert and restless. The body becomes so bad at receiving responses that the sufferer cannot tell the difference between actual danger and ordinary situations, as if the threat level filter has disappeared and even the slightest stimulus produces an explosive response.

Schiraldi (2009:5) explains that post-traumatic stress disorder can affect a person's psychological capacities, self-concept, development, and relationships. If not treated, PTSD will get worse and have an impact on the emergence of (i) physical, (ii) emotional, (iii) mental, (iv) behavioral, and (v) spiritual aspects. Examples that will appear on the physical aspect include frequent fatigue, dizziness, shortness of breath, and panic. In addition, sufferers will feel the impact on emotional aspects such as loss of passion for life, always being afraid of something, low self-esteem, and difficulty controlling anger.

This can also be caused by the emotional desires they experience. While on the mental aspect, sufferers will usually feel the effects such as confusion, inability to solve problems, difficulty concentrating, unable to remember well. PTSD also impacts changes in behavioral aspects of sufferers, including difficulty sleeping, losing appetite, overeating, consuming a lot of alcohol or smoking, and often crying. The last is the impact of PTSD which will affect the spiritual aspect of the sufferer, for example, despair, losing hope, blaming God, stopping worship, doubting beliefs, etc.

### **METHOD**

The method of research importantly provides various points of view (Suprayogi and Pranoto, 2020). The method is necessary to assist the writers in collecting data and the information needed for the research (Ramadhani & Setiawan, 2022). This research uses a descriptive qualitative study as the research methodology. This method helps to interpret many kinds of contexts and situations (Kuswoyo and Rido, 2019). Qualitative means that the analysis is based primarily on the constructivist perspective that involves individual experiences that have been historically or socially constructed (Aryangga & Nurmaily, 2017).

It is described particular text because the data would be in the form of written text instead of numerical data (Amelia and Dintasi, 2017). The writers use the method to collect detailed information from multiple sources. Further, the strength of qualitative is to connect with context (Fithratullah, 2020). According to Lianasari & Samanik (2016), the text is defined broadly as books, essays, interviews, speeches, articles, and many more. In this study, the writers use a text in the form of a book, *The Woman in The Window* novel. The data are presented in a structured or written way (Gulö and Rahmawelly, 2019). Then, The data will be analyzed through dialogue, pictures, and scenes (Istiani and Puspita, 2020).

Data collecting techniques are critical to successful research to obtain data relevant to the issue. The script is helpful to facilitate the writers in collecting the data (Pranoto and Afrilita, 2018). The information is synthesized with the theory to find and define the pattern and significant points (Lianasari & Samanik, 2016). The data analysis process begins by breaking down the data and selecting and structuring it so it may be readily comprehended (Lianasari & Samanik, 2016). This research focuses on the object of the analysis as the primary source of data (Kuswoyo and Siregar, 2019). In analyzing the data, the writers take several meaningful dialogues to describe and identify existing data to explain the causes, symptoms, and impacts that occur in sufferers of PTSD using a psychological approach.

# FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

#### A. Post-traumatic stress disorder causes

Post-traumatic stress disorder is caused by various risk factors and tendencies that work together to develop post-traumatic stress disorder following a traumatic event. The experience causes a person to feel intense fear or a feeling of helplessness. Based on Davison's theory, the writers identify that several causes cause Anna to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.

#### Brain structure causes

Certain areas in the brain regulate emotions and fear of traumatic events. It's different for someone who has a standard brain structure. Their brains do not control emotions and fear of traumatic events.

A moment later I heard the front door shut. I stand in my kitchen, watching little galaxies of dust form and dissolve in the sunlight. My hand creeps to my glass. I pick it up gingerly and rotate it in my hand. Lift it to my face. Inhale. **Then I throw the fucking thing against the wall and scream louder than I've ever screamed in my life.** (p.375).

The conversation above describes that certain areas in the brain regulate emotions and fear of traumatic events for someone with post-traumatic stress disorder. Their brains can not handle emotions, so traumatized person experiences emotional disturbances and anxiety. This is also shown by Anna Fox, who has experienced a traumatic event resulting in losing her husband and daughter. This is also demonstrated by Anna Fox, who has experienced a traumatic event resulting in losing her husband and daughter. Anna became very emotional, such as excessive anger and sadness. People with post-traumatic stress disorder look for an environment they can control, so Anna feels there is no safe place other than her home. Anna becomes easily angry and emotional due to the traumatic experiences she experienced in the past.

My throat hardens. I walk to the windows and tug the curtains shut. And I stand there in the dark: cold, utterly alone, full of fear and something that feels like longing. (p.378).

In the conversation above, Anna realized she was getting weaker daily because she was covered in fear. After losing the two people he loved, making him an unstable person. Due to her illness, she could no longer leave her home. She can experience panic and helplessness when she sets foot outside her home. She could even faint and suffocate. Someone who has to live alone and trapped in her house will undoubtedly make someone bored. Endless boredom will make a person frustrated and stressed. When a person feels stressed, they tend to focus on the pressure and passively reflect on it rather than distracting it or engaging in activities to change the situation.

#### Psychological causes

After experiencing a traumatic event, it's normal to feel fearful and react in a fear response triggered by the brain's 'run, fight, or stay' system. Mostly, the fear response and symptoms disappear after a short time. A person with a history of mental illness is more prone to developing post-traumatic stress disorder if they have the same symptoms. Anna also experienced this because she has a history of Agoraphobia, a type of anxiety disorder outside the home. She also suffered from depression due to the events she experienced, making her have to continue to undergo mental therapy.

And so, with Little attending amiably from his chair and the nurse trembling like a hummingbird, I tell the doctor—tell all of them—about my Agoraphobia, my depression, and, yes, my panic disorder; I tell them about my drug regimen, about my ten months indoors, about Dr. Fielding and his aversion therapy. It takes a while, with my voice still swathed in wool; every minute, I tip more water down my throat, trickling past my words as they bubble up from within and spill over my lips. (p.188)

The quotation above shows that Anna explained what had happened to her. The statement supports that Anna has a history of Agoraphobia and depression which eventually made her also become someone who is addicted to alcohol. That's because, according to Anna, she can feel calm by drinking alcohol. According to the American Psychological Association, untreated chronic or prolonged stress can lead to high blood pressure and a weakened immune system. Psychological requirements and the most fundamental and urgent human needs, such as the need to physically support life, have been examined (Afif & Amelia, 2021). As a woman, she needs someone who can help her weak self. This made Anna depressed. Depression that is not handled correctly can cause health problems. Even at a severe level, depression can be life-threatening for sufferers.

# B. Post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms

According to Robin (2011: 311), Post symptoms are categorized into three significant and a person must have three different types of symptoms, there are re-experiencing symptoms, avoidance symptoms, mood and cognitive changes, and arousal and activity symptoms.

#### Re-experiencing symptom

People who have gone through traumatic experiences will generally recall their traumatic experiences. They will remember the events they have experienced mentally, emotionally, and physically. Anna shows symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder when she is reminded again of the death of her husband and daughter.

All I hear is Little's voice. "He said a state trooper found you at the bottom of a cliff." Yes. I remember his voice, that deep cry, rappelling down the face of the mountain. "And by that point, you'd spent two nights outside. In a snowstorm. In the middle of winter." Thirty-three hours, from the instant we dove off the road to the moment the chopper appeared, its rotors swirling overhead like a whirlpool. "He said that Olivia was still alive when they got down to you." *Mommy*, she'd whispered as they loaded her onto the stretcher, sheathed her little body in a blanket. "But your husband was already gone." (p.367)

Anna recalled the incident where the lives of her husband and child could not be saved during the car accident incident at that time. She replayed the memory of the traumatic event in every detail. People with post-traumatic stress disorder tend to be reminded of past traumatic events and feel they are in danger again and still there

#### Avoidance symptom

Avoidance symptoms are a means for some people who have experienced traumatic events to try to forget about them and remove them from their brains. They will avoid anything associated with it, including locations, people, sounds, and other things. People who have had terrible events deal with it by avoiding it. Anna suffered because of the accident. She has trauma and is afraid to go out and live alone in her house. The symptom of Anna's avoidance is that she is no longer in touch with the outside world. When she tried to get out of the house, she would have a panic attack and pass out.

"That's when your troubles started. Your problems are going outside. Post-traumatic stress. Which I—I mean, I can not imagine." God, how I cowered beneath the hospital fluorescents; how I panicked in the squad car. How I collapsed those first times leaving the house. Once and twice more, until at last, I dragged myself back inside." (p.368)

After the traumatic incident, doctors diagnosed her with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Agoraphobia. She was afraid to leave the house and could not do her usual activities. Her world changed in an instant. The avoidance of Anna was not because of her desire but because of her phobia, which made her have to be trapped inside every day. She was in deep depression, frustrated and hopeless about living her life.

#### Mood and cognition symptom

Mood swings often occur in someone with post-traumatic stress disorder. Sufferers are usually constantly blaming themselves or others for the event. They have pervasive negative emotions and lack interest or involvement in things. In addition, they often find it challenging to pick up positive emotions.

This is my home. That's my Window. My throat shrinks. Tears well in my eyes. I feel surprised, then ashamed. Whap. Then angry. I can not fling wide the door and send them scurrying. I can not barrel outside and confront them. I rap on the Window sharply— Whap. I slap the heel of my hand against the door. I bash it with my fist. I growl, then I roar, my voice bounding between the walls, the dark little hall a chamber of echoes. I'm helpless. (p.59).

Anna shows unstable emotional changes when in a situation that threatens her. She felt terrified, shocked, and even cried. Then suddenly, her emotions turned into anger. She could not control her anger and could not vent her anger well, so she felt helpless because she could not do anything. Drastic mood changes are also one of the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder shown by Anna.

### Arousal and activity symptom

This condition makes sufferers stay alert and alert when thinking about their trauma. Several states may be experienced by people with post-traumatic stress disorder, including increased sensitivity, easily startled or frightened, and aggressive behavior. Sufferers usually find it difficult to concentrate and difficult to remember

things confusion. In addition, the usual activities will be more challenging if they have post-traumatic stress disorder.

"What?" I ask. The living room has gone dark with dusk; I reach for the lamp and switch it on. Once more, carefully, eyes on hands: 0-2-1-4. *Passcode incorrect*. The phone twitches. I'm locked out. I don't understand. When was the last time I tapped in my passcode? I did not need it to answer Little's call just now; I used *Skype* to dial Boston earlier. My mind is foggy. (p.316).

Anna can not even remember well what her handphone password is. She also can not remember the last time she changed her handphone password. Her mind was blurred, and she lost her focus. It is well known that Anna is an alcoholic, but that is not the only reason she loses concentration.

#### C. Post-traumatic stress disorder impacts

Schiraldi (2009:5) explains that post-traumatic stress disorder can affect a person's psychological capacities, self-concept, development, and relationships. If not treated, PTSD will worsen and impact the emergence of physical, emotional, mental, behavioral, and spiritual aspects.

#### Physical aspect

Changes in the physical aspects of patients with post-traumatic stress disorder include being quickly tired, lethargic, dizzy, short of breath, and panicky. They will feel dizzy and panic in an uncomfortable and safe situation.

"Hooray." She chews and swirls her water glass. "You look tired, Anna. Are you resting?" I nod my head, then shake it. "No. I've—I mean, yes, but I've had a lot on my mind lately. This is hard for me, you know. All . . . this." My arm sweeps the room. "I know it must be. I know it is." "And exercise is hard for me." "You're doing great. I promise." "And therapy is hard for me. It's hard to be on the other side of it." "I can imagine." I breathe. I don't want to get worked up. One last thing: "And I miss Livvy and Ed." Bina sets her fork down. "Of course you do," she says, and her smile is so warm I could cry. (p.127).

Changes in the physical aspects of patients with post-traumatic stress disorder include being quickly tired, lethargic, dizzy, short of breath, and panicky. They will feel dizzy and panic in an uncomfortable and safe situation. This is also how Anna felt; when she was at her lowest point, she had to be far from her loved ones and live alone in her house. This triggers a person's body to feel helpless. In addition to decreasing stamina in the body, the impact of post-traumatic stress disorder on the physical is also in the form of frequent feelings of tightness and panic. This happened to Anna when she was in an unsafe situation. She would feel threatened that she might even faint.

#### Emotional aspect

The impact other people with PTSD will receive is a change in emotions. In the emotional aspect, the patient will be controlled by emotions, easily angry or easily sad. In addition, sufferers will feel an unusual fear.

I nod my head, then shake it. "No. I've—I mean, yes, but I've had a lot on my mind lately. This is hard for me, you know. All . . . this." My arm sweeps the room. "I know it must be. I know it is." "And exercise is hard for me." "You're doing great. I promise." "And therapy is hard for me. It's hard to be on the other side of it." "I can imagine." I breathe. I don't want to get worked up. One last thing: "And I miss Livvy and Ed." Bina sets her fork down. "Of course you do," she says, and her smile is so warm I could cry. (p.128).

Anna felt a sad mood because she felt like a pitiful person. She had to feel painful things alone. She was sick and had to be away from her family. She felt tired doing all the treatment. Anna is holding back too much and feels isolated. She often feels headaches because she keeps too many things in her head, with no place for her to express what she feels. And this frustrates her so much that her mood changes frequently. But Anna did not get that.

#### Mental aspect

One of the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder on the sufferer is the mental aspect. This aspect usually makes sufferers often confused, cannot solve problems, and can not even concentrate, so they can not remember well. In addition, her mental impact felt by Anna is that she often has hallucinations that her husband and daughter are still alive and interacting with them. However, sometimes she was aware that they were dead, but she could not accept reality, so she lived in the shadows and felt that the two people she loved were still with her.

How can I explain? To anyone—to Little or Norelli, or Alistair or Ethan, or David, or even to Jane? I hear them; their voices echo inside me, outside me. I hear them when I'm overwhelmed by the pain of their absence, their loss—I can say it: their deaths. I hear them when I need someone to talk to. I hear them when I least expect them. "Guess who," they'll say, and I beam, and my heart sings. And I respond. (p.366).

Anna was confused about herself and how she could explain to people that she could hear them. She could communicate with her husband and daughters as if they were still alive. She knew she might hallucinate but could feel that they were still with her. Anna points out that she has a mental illness due to a traumatic event she experienced. Hallucinations are also one of the effects of the brain's powerlessness to accept reality.

#### Behavior aspect

Besides being able to impact physical, emotional, and mental, post-traumatic stress disorder can also affect the sufferer's behavior. What is meant by behavior here is that they will have difficulty sleeping, lose their appetite, or vice versa, namely overeating, smoking or drinking a lot of alcohol, not being able to move their body, or even driving too much.

Of course, he's right. A lot of stimulation: yes, indeed. Too much. I'm sleeping too much, drinking too much, thinking too much; too much, too much. (p.145).

Anna drank more alcohol than was restricted. She was under the influence of alcohol, which was very dangerous for her vulnerable body. Even Anna also mixed the pills recommended by her doctor with alcohol. She felt that when she drank her wine, she would feel her stress go away. This is one of the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder, where sufferers experience behavioral changes because they are looking for an outlet to relieve their stress. They tend to look for outlets such as alcohol, smoking, and things contrary to the doctor's recommendations. In addition to alcohol addiction, Anna also shows the impact of sleep disorders. She can sleep less and sleep too much.

#### Spiritual aspect

The spiritual influence in question is that they are often desperate for their lives and often lose hope for their future. Traumatic events that continue to haunt the victim make them unable to accept reality, and they often blame God for what happened. They even stopped worshiping and praying because they had no faith, thought it was useless, and could not change their destiny.

That little boy would be well into his teens now, almost Ethan's age, not quite half mine. I think of him tonight as I stare at the ceiling, feeling dead myself. Dead but not gone, watching life surge forward around me, powerless to intervene. (Chapter 12, Pages 67).

Anna had a look of desperation in her. She feels hopeless when she has to face her days alone with no one around her who cares. In this novel, you can feel how desperate Anna must be to accept that she has to spend her life alone. A person with an unstable condition tends to end their life easier if they do not get help immediately. This condition is generally characterized by feelings of hopelessness, bad mood, lack of enthusiasm for carrying out daily activities, or loss of interest and motivation in life.

# CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, two factors cause Anna to experience post-traumatic stress disorder, including brain structure and psychological causes. Their brains can not regulate emotions, so traumatized person experiences emotional disturbances and fear. This is also shown by Anna Fox, who has experienced a traumatic

event resulting in losing her husband and daughter. Not only that, but because of the traumatic experience, she had to suffer from Agoraphobia which resulted in her being unable to leave the house and being confined to her home alone. Anna recalled the incident where the lives of her husband and child could not be saved during the car accident incident at that time. After the traumatic event she experienced, she could not accept the reality of this tragedy. When she tried to get out of the house, she would have a panic attack and pass out. With an illness that prevents her from leaving the house, she becomes antisocial and locks herself away from her surroundings. Drastic mood changes are also one of the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder shown by Anna. She could not control her anger and could not vent her anger well, so she felt helpless because she could not do anything.

The writers found five aspects; those are physical, emotional, mental, behavioral, and spiritual. Post-traumatic stress disorder suffered a change that can make her feel anxious and sad. Besides that, her behavior change makes her become someone who isolates herself from society, and she also experiences trouble breathing. Anna shows physical changes such as easily dizzy and panicked. Not only that, she will feel short of breath if she is in an unsafe and threatening situation for her. Anna is holding back too much and feels isolated. She often feels headaches because she keeps too many things in her head, with no place for her to express what she feels. The mental impact felt by Anna is that she often has hallucinations that her husband and daughter are still alive and interacting with them. In addition to consuming alcohol as Anna's habit to relieve stress, she also shows the impact of her post-traumatic stress disorder, such as difficulty sleeping. Anna sometimes has to take sleeping pills because she has a sleep disorder. She always has nightmares where the traumatic event is repeated in her dreams.

### **REFERENCES**

- Abrams, M. H. (1981). A glossary of literary terms. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.
- Afif, R. S., & Amelia, D. (2021). Humanistic hierarchy of needs on Auggie's personality in wonder movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(2), 69-74.
- Afrianto. (2018). Poem from linguistic point of view. linguistics, literature, & language teaching series: an overview of current issue in literature, linguistics, and language teaching. Universitas Indonesia.
- Amelia, D., & Dintasi, F. D. (2017). Euphebophilia suffered by the main character in the novel lolita by Nabokov. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 15(2), 81-86.
- Aryangga, A., & Nurmaily, E. (2017). Women's power and stereotype denial in pocahontas movie. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 15(1), 46-58.
- Davison, G. C., Neale, J. M. dan Kring, A. M. (2006). *Psikologi abnormal* (9th ed.). Jakarta: PT Raja Grafindo Persada.
- Direktorat Kesehatan Jiwa. (2017). *Pedoman upaya pelayanan kesehatan jiwa anak dan remaja*, Jakarta: Kemenkes RI.
- Fadillah, A. (2021). PTSD as portrayed in Finn's the woman in the window and Murakami's colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and his years of pilgrimage: a comparative literature. *Jurnal Pendidikan Indonesia*, 2(4), 543-556
- Farras, P., & Nurmaily, E. (2020). A semiotic analysis on Eldorado poem by Edgar Allan poem. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(1), 78-84.
- Finn, A. J (2018). The woman in the window, Novel.
- Fithratullah, M. (2021). Representation of Korean values sustainability in American remake movies. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 19(1), 60-73.
- Gea, S. M. L. (2018). Post-traumatic stress disorder in Thomas Harris' Hanibal raising. *Lingua Litera*, 3(1), 66-76
- Gulö, I., & Rahmawelly, T, V. (2018). An analysis of omission in students' English writings. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 16(2), 55-59.
- Herman, J. L. (1992). Complex PTSD: A syndrome in survivors of prolonged and repeated trauma. *Journal of traumatic stress*, 5(3), 377-391.
- Hilgard, E. R., Leary, D. E., & McGuire, G. R. (1991). The history of psychology: a survey and critical assessment. *Annual review of psychology*, 42(1), 79-107
- Istiani, R & Puspita, Dian. (2020). Interactional metadiscourse used in bloomberg international debate. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(1), 13-20.
- Kaplan, H. I., Sadock, B. J., & Grebb, J. A. (1997). Sinopsis psikiatri ilmu pengetahuan perilaku psikiatri Klinis Jilid 2.

- Kuswoyo, H., & Rido, A. (2019). Process types of transitivity system in engineering lecture introduction: a pedagogic discourse. *Jurnal Bahasa & Sastra*, 19(2), 85-96.
- Kuswoyo, H., & Siregar, R.A (2019). Interpersonal metadiscourse markers as persuasive strategies in an oral business presentation. *Lingua Cultura*, 13(4), 297-304.
- Lianasari, F & Samanik. (2016). Antimatter technology: the bridge between science and religion toward universe creation theory illustrated in Dan Brown's angels and demons. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 14(2), 18-27.
- Minderop, A. (2010). *Psikologi sastra "karya sastra, metode, teori, dan contoh kasus"*, Jakarta: Yayasan Pustaka Obor Indonesia.
- Nevid, J.S, Rathus, S.A., & Greene B. (2005). Psikologi abnormal. Jakarta: Erlangga.
- Rai, S. G. A. M. (2020). Agoraphobia problem of Anna Fox in the woman in the window by Aj Finn. *Kulturistik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Budaya*, 4(2), 77-82.
- Rido, A. (2015). The use of discourse markers as an interactive feature in science lecture discourse in L2 Setting. TELFIN, 90.
- Pranoto, Budi Eko & Afrilita, Lidia K. (2018). The organization of words in mental lexicon: evidence from world association test. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 16(1), 26-33.
- Ramadhani, A., & Setiawan, D. B. (2021). Gender Dysphoria as seen in normal movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(2), 124-133.
- Rokhmansyah, A. (2014). Studi dan pengkajian sastra. Yogyakarta: Graha Ilmu.
- Schiraldi, G.R. (2009). *The post traumatic stress disorder sourcebook.* (2nd edition). A guide to Healing, Recovery, and Growth. The United States.
- Silalahi, E., & Saragih, A.(2021). Anxiety disorder on the main character of Aj Finn's novel the woman in the window. *Transform Journal of English Language Teaching And Learning of FBS UNIMED*, 10(2).
- Suprayogi, & Pranoto, B.E. (2020). The implementation of a virtual exhibition project in English for tourism class for University Students. *Academic Journal Perspective*, 8(2), 87-97.
- Thiel, K.J., & Dretsch, M.N. (2011). *The basics of stress response: a historical context and introduction*. In C.D. Conrad (Ed.), The handbook of stress: Neuropsychological effects on the brain (pp. 3-28). Malden, MA.: Blackwell.
- Van Etten, M. L., & Taylor, S. (1998). Comparative efficacy of treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder: a meta-analysis. *Clinical Psychology & Psychotherapy: An International Journal of Theory and Practice*, 5(3), 126-144.
- Wellek, R., & Warren, A. (1949). Theory of Literature. Harcourt Brace & World, Inc.
- Westphal C. (1872). Die Agoraphobie. Archive fuer Psychiatrie;3: 138-161.
- Yasin, A. M. (2016). Post-Traumatic stress disorder suffered by Katie in Nicholas Sparks' Safe Heaven (Doctoral dissertation, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim).
- Zolads, P.R., Park, C.R., & Diamond, D.M. (2011). *Neurobiological basis of the complex effects of stress on memory and synaptic plasticity*. In C.D. Conrad (Ed.), The handbook of stress: Neuropsychological effects on the brain (pp. 157-178). Malden, MA: Blackwell

# **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

SELITAS TEARION SELITADONESIA

Vol. 3, No. 2, 131 - 139 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

# AGORAPHOBIA ANALYSIS EXPERIENCED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN MARIA SEMPLE'S WHERE'D YOU GO, BERNADETTE NOVEL

# Ara Najma Indah<sup>1</sup>, Ely Nurmaily<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia<sup>1,2</sup>

aranajma25@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, elynurmaily@gmail.com<sup>2</sup>

**Received:** (November 2022) **Accepted:** (November 2022) **Published:** (December 2022)

#### **Abstract**

This research is entitled agoraphobia analysis experienced by the main character in Maria Semple's where'd you go, Bernadette novel. This research aims to discuss the portrayal of Agoraphobia that was experienced by the character Bernadette in Maria Semple's novel entitled where'd you go, Bernadette. Bernadette is the main character in this novel that is assumed to suffer from agoraphobia due to some things in the past that made her very disappointed and traumatized. Therefore, the objectives of this research are to find out what symptoms are experienced by Bernadette; the writers also describes the agoraphobia seen in the main character in the novel whether she is suffering from agoraphobia or not in the novel Where'd you Go, Bernadette.

This research also used a descriptive qualitative method to describe and explain the data. The writers collected the data in the form of dialogues, words, and sentences from the main data resource, which is the novel where'd you go, Bernadette. To support the data, supporting data from articles and journals are also used. This research used psychology literature as the approach. To find the result, the writers used a theory from the American Psychiatric Association (2013) in Barlow, David H (2014), and supported by the theory from American Psychiatric Association (2013); which explains the symptoms of agoraphobia.

The theory helps the writers to find the causes and symptoms of Agoraphobia experienced by characters. Where the cause of Agoraphobia she suffers is due to the trauma she went through and bad experiences in her past. The results of this research show that Bernadette in the novel where'd you go, Bernadette suffered from Agoraphobia because she showed the symptoms of Agoraphobia.

**Keyword:** Agoraphobia, Bernadette Fox, symptoms of agoraphobia

# **INTRODUCTION**

One of the psychological disorders that are assumed suffered by Bernadette as the main character in the novel *where'd you go, Bernadette* is agoraphobia. Agoraphobia is a type of anxiety disorder, which is characterized by a tremendous fear when the sufferer is in unfamiliar situations, crowded places, and alone, such as in recreation areas, airports, markets, cinemas, traveling by bus, etc. People with agoraphobia as much as possible will avoid crowded places and not be alone. Therefore, sufferers usually need to be accompanied to feel safer in a crowded place. "Agoraphobia usually refers to avoidance or resistance with fear of situations where escape may be difficult or help is not available in the event of symptoms such as panic (including but not limited to panic attacks) or other disabling symptoms, such as loss of bowel control or vomiting, disorientation (especially in children) or feelings of falling (especially in older adults)" (American Psychiatric Association, 2013 in Barlow, David H, 2014).

Agoraphobia is also divided into three parts, which are mild agoraphobia, moderate agoraphobia, and severe agoraphobia. "Mild" agoraphobia occurs in people who are hesitant to drive long distances alone but manage to drive to and from work, prefer to sit in the aisle at the cinema but still go to the cinema that they are used to, and avoid crowded places. "Moderate" agoraphobia occurs in people who drive limited to a 10 mile radius from home and only want to drive if accompanied, who shop outside of peak hours, avoid large supermarkets, and

avoid flying or traveling by train. "Severe" agoraphobia refers to very limited mobility, sometimes even reaching one's own home.

The novel where'd you go Bernadette is the second book of a former television writer who worked on shows such as Mad about You and Arrested Development, Maria Semple. This novel was the best-selling novel at that time. Where'd you Go, Bernadette is a fast-paced comic novel with a complex narrative structure. This book follows a letter format (e-mail, transcripts, memos and other documents). The events in this novel are told from various points of view by a large number of characters. Set in contemporary Seattle and incorporating real places and personalities both in and around Seattle. Where'd you go, Bernadette is an ingenious and shamelessly entertaining novel about a family realizing who they are and the power of a daughter's love for her mother.

This novel tells the story of Bernadette Fox, a former architect who lives in Seattle with her husband, Elginn Branch, an engineer at Microsoft and host of a TED Talk about artificial intelligence, and their teenage daughter, Bee. The story begins when her daughter, Bee, claims a family trip to Antarctica as a reward for her perfect report card scores. Bernadette is a quiet mother, who is genius, she is already preparing for the family trip, but she feels tired from years of trying to live the Seattle life that she never wanted.

Bernadette was also an award-winning architect, and she was an inspiration to many people at the time as a woman in a male-dominated business. However, when one of the houses she designed that is famous and stunning is purchased, only to be torn down and used as a parking lot, Bernadette loses her creativity, ambition and, ultimately, her mental stability. As life continued to present challenges to her, including fertility problems, miscarriage, and an ill child, Bernadette's mental health took a turn for the worse. She is assumed to have anxiety and agoraphobia. And she decided to go missing so as not to go to Antarctica.

With the narrative in the form of documents, Bee establishes a network of emails, invoices and school memos that reveal the secrets of his family's past. This includes a letter her father wrote to Dr. Janelle Kurtz, which describes the psychological disorders suffered by Bernadette, and one of the psychological disorders portrayed that is assumed by Bernadette is agoraphobia. With this issue, therefore the writers decided to analyze more deeply about agoraphobia on the main character in *where'd you go, Bernadette novel*. In this research the writers focuses in two things, which are: the symptoms of agoraphobia experienced by the main character in *where'd you go Bernadette* novel, and the agoraphobia that seen in the main character in this novel.

# **METHOD**

In this chapter, the research aims to find out how agoraphobia occurs in the main character in the novel where'd you go Bernadette using current research methods. This method will help to guide researchers in obtaining data and information related to the topic. According to Yunara and Kardiansyah (2017), the purpose of the methodology is to provide an explanation of research methods and designs that form the practical side of this research. This research method allows the writers to explore dialogue and narrative in the work and get meaning, feeling, or to describe a certain situation (Amelia, 2021). This research focuses on the object of analysis as the main source of data (Kuswoyo and Siregar, 2019). This chapter is divided into several sections, including research design, data and data sources, data collection and data analysis techniques.

This study, the writers decided to use a qualitative descriptive method. "Qualitative descriptive method is a research method in the social sciences by collecting and analyzing certain data in oral or written form, human actions and researchers do not need to try to calculate or quantify qualitative data that has been obtained and thus do not analyze numbers or some other form of calculation" (Afrizal, M.A., 2014). The qualitative method will be used because this research aims to focus on the understanding and description (Heaverly & EWK, 2020). Library research method is used to collect the data of written sourcebooks and articles (Nababan & Nurmaily, 2021). Books, journals, and articles are including as texts (Afrianto, 2018 in Made Yulianti and Setiawan, 2022). It is also supported by Rido (2015) that descriptive qualitative method is not focus in number. According to Cenita and Nurmaily (2020), descriptive research is data that is collected in the form of written or spoken words, or pictures, and does not use numbers. Qualitative descriptive method is a research method that describes and qualifies scientific data that are interrelated with one another so that they can be compiled into a scientific and objective conclusion (Samanik, 2021). This method also aims to accurately describe or explain the facts being investigated

(Oktavia & Suprayogi, 2021). By using this method, the writers can collect and analyze data relevant to the topic of the study taken by the writers, which are regarding the symptoms of agoraphobia and the agoraphobia seen in the main character in *where'd you go, Bernadette* novel.

In analyzing this novel, the writers use several data, journals, or books that are relevant to the topic of study. The writers reads the novel *where'd you go, Bernadette* to get an idea of the whole story in it and related to the depiction and the symptoms of agoraphobia that happened to Bernadette. Then the writers also search for and select some relevant data to support the symptoms cases of agoraphobia. The writers use the psychological theory of *American Psychiatric Association*, 2013 in Barlow, David H., ed. (2014). Then finally the writers conclude the research using this qualitative descriptive method.

# FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In presenting and analyzing the data, the writerss use the theory of agoraphobia from the American Psychiatric Association, 2013 in Barlow, David H, 2014, which says "Agoraphobia usually refers to the avoidance or resistance to fear of situations in which escape may be difficult or help is not available if symptoms occur such as panic (including but not limited to panic attacks) or other disabling symptoms such as loss of bowel control or vomiting, disorientation (especially in children) or a feeling of falling (especially in older adults.)"

The writers also use the theory of American Psychiatric Association, 2013 which explains that "Individuals with agoraphobia are afraid and anxious about two or more of the following situations: being in open spaces, being outside the house, or being in crowded situations." Individuals are concerned about this situation because they think that escape may be difficult or that help may not be available if symptoms of agoraphobia occur in them. This situation almost always causes anxiety and is often avoided; sufferers also need the presence of a companion from the closest and trusted person. This theory is used as a supporting theory to analyze the agoraphobia symptoms that occur in the main character in this novel.

# The symptoms of agoraphobia experienced by the main character in where'd you go, Bernadette novel

At this point, the writers analyses some of the symptoms of agoraphobia experienced by the main character in the novel *where'd you go Bernadette*. Based on the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Fifth Edition (2013) which was written by the writers in chapter two previously explained that there are 3 kinds of symptoms of agoraphobia, including: anxiety, anxiety of being outside the house, and anxiety of being in open spaces.

#### Anxiety

Anxiety is a term that describes a psychological disorder in a person. Anxiety is usually characterized by several characteristics such as the emergence of fear, prolonged worry, concern about something that will come or the future, sleep disturbances, and nervousness. According to Adwas, Almokhtar, Jbireal, j, etc. (2019) "Subjective stress experiences with sleep, concentration, social and/or occupational dysfunction are common symptoms of many anxiety disorders." This anxiety can be experienced by many people, but this anxiety will become a psychological disorder if the anxiety itself has reached the stage of disturbing or preventing someone from carrying out their daily activities. Like the anxiety experienced by Bernadette in where'd you Go, Bernadette novel.

```
"I'm curious about the medicine they wouldn't fill for you at the pharmacy."
```

(Semple, 2012: 74)

This conversation is taken from the contents of a letter written by Elgin Branch, Bernadette's husband, to be given to Dr. Janelle Kurtz, a psychiatrist on Madrona Hill; because Elgin senses that his wife is hiding something

<sup>&</sup>quot;I know!" she said. "A doctor wrote me a prescription, and it turned out to be Haldol."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Is it your insomnia?" I asked. "Haven't you been sleeping?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;Sleep?" she asked. "What's that?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;What was the prescription for?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;Anxiety," she said.

from him. From the conversation between Elgin and Bernadette above, it appears that Bernadette has a sleep disorder, which keeps her awake all night. Sleep disorders are also one of the characteristics experienced by someone who has an **anxiety**, such as Bernadette's. Especially considering the fact that she had to accompany her daughter Bee to Antarctica, it made Bernadette even more sleep-deprived and anxious about what was to come.

#### • Anxiety of Being outside the House

Home is the safest place for people with agoraphobia. People with agoraphobia will usually feel anxious when leaving the house. Feeling anxious when someone is out of the house is one of the symptoms of agoraphobia. The word outside the house has the context that the situation is still not far from the yard, and is still reflected in neighboring circumstances, such as on the terrace, garage, front or back yard, etc. They will feel threatened when someone steps into their home environment.

Of the million reasons I don't want to go to Antarctica, the main one is that **it will require me to leave the house**. You might figure it out by now that's something I don't much like to do. But I can't argue with Bee. She is a good kid. (Semple, 2012: 4)

This narrative is quoted from an email that Bernadette wrote to Manjula Kapoor, her virtual friend; which she uses as a place to complain, and tells whatever happened to her. Bernadette wrote this email right after Bee asked for a family vacation gift to Antarctica. The narrative proves Bernadette's anxiety when she wants to leave the house. It was clearly stated that the main reason Bernadette didn't want to go to Antarctica was because it required her to get out of the house, and it is become one of the symptoms of agoraphobia. Bernadette would do anything to keep herself at home. Unless it's a very urgent situation, requires her to leave the house, and involves the only daughter she has, Bee.

#### • Anxiety of Being in Open Spaces

Unlike the case with anxiety being outside the house, anxiety being in an open space here has the meaning that the room or place has a greater distance than just being in the yard or around the house. Such as airports, ports, ships, parking lots, supermarkets, etc.

The only way to get to **Antarctica** is by **cruise ship**. Even the smallest one of ship has 150 passengers, which translates into me being trapped with 149 other people who will uniquely annoy the hell out of me with their rudeness, waste, idiotic questions, incessant yammering, creepy food request, boring small talks, etc. Or worse, they may turn their curiosity toward me, and expect pleasantries in return. (Semple, 2012: 5).

What is the highlight in this narration is traveling to **Antarctica** by **cruise ship** and the travel situation that she has to go through before she reaches Antarctica where she feels that she will not be able to escape if she is in that situation and she cannot get help, which makes her feel very worried and thought deeply about it. Traveling to Antartica is included in the open space category. All the more, Bernadette also has to wait at the port before she departs if she goes to Antarctica with her family. But just hearing the word Antarctica Bernadette had already thought about things she shouldn't have thought too deeply about and she had taken it that far. The anxiety she experienced greatly affected her daily activities during this time. Excessive anxiety like that makes her think and feel that being outside, being open, and dealing with many people is a threats that endangers her and should be avoided as much as possible.

It was the first time I had been downtown in a year. I remembered why: the pay-to-park meters.

Parking in Seattle is an eight-step process. Step one, find a place to park. Step two, back to the angled parking space. Step three; find the ticket dispenser that isn't menacingly encircled by a stinky mosaic of beggars/bums/junkies/runaways. This requires step four, crossing the street. Oh, plus you've forgotten your umbrella (there goes your hair, which you stop worrying about toward the end of the last century, so that's a freebie). Step five; slide your credit card into the machine

(small miracle if you've found one that hasn't been filled with epoxy by some misguided malcontent). Step six, return to your car (passing the aforementioned putrid gauntlet, who heckle you because you didn't give them money on the way there-oh, and did I mention, they all have shivering dogs?). Step seven; affix the ticket to the proper window. Step eight, pray to the God you don't believe in that you have the mental where with all to remember what hell it was you came down for in the first place. (Semple, 2012: 45-46).

This is the content of Bernadette's email that she wrote to Manjula Kapoor telling how she managed to park her car at the hospital pharmacy when she wanted to pick up a doctor's prescribed medication. This trip was the first time Bernadette hadn't been downtown in a year. She is very **anxious** about the situation where she has to park her own **car in the parking lot** which is one of the places that fall into the open space category of agoraphobia symptoms. She is always thinking, what if she can't park her car properly; what if many people see a horrendous incident that she can't park his car properly, and so on. Therefore, Bernadette had thought about it carefully and sorted out as well as possible how to park her car neatly before entering the parking area. So that what she was worried about didn't really happen to her.

```
"I'm just anxious about the trip." She said,
```

The Drake Passage is the name of a strait located in South America, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans between Cape Horn, and the southern Shetland Islands in Antarctica. The strait has a height of 10 meters and a width of 600 miles (1,000 km) and that includes **open space**. Spending 3 hours researching the Drake Passage on the internet made Bernadette feel very anxious. She thought that she would get seasick, lose her balance, vomit, heart palpitations, etc. These symptoms are in accordance with the theory explained by the American Psychiatric Association, 2013 in Barlow, David H, 2014, which says "Agoraphobia usually refers to the avoidance or resistance to **fear of situations in which escape may be difficult or help is not available** if symptoms occur such as panic (including but not limited to panic attacks) or other disabling symptoms such as **loss of bowel control or vomiting, disorientation** (especially in children) or **a feeling of falling** (especially in older adults)." Make her want to avoid Antarctica even more.

# The agoraphobia seen in the main character in where'd you go, Bernadette novel

Agoraphobia is one type of anxiety disorder that can make sufferers feel anxious and afraid when in a situation that makes the sufferer think it is difficult to run away and get help. People with agoraphobia usually experience symptoms such as heartbeat beating faster than normal, excessive anxiety, panic attacks, nausea, vomiting, shaking, dizziness, loss of bowel control, etc. American Psychiatric Association, 2013 in Barlow, David H, 2014, says Agoraphobia usually refers to the avoidance or resistance with fear of situations in which escape may be difficult or help is not available such as panic (including but not limited to panic attacks) or other disabling symtoms such as, loss of bowel control, or vomiting, disorientation (especially in children) or a feeling of falling (especially in older adults).

Agoraphobia is not known for certain. However, there are several factors that can increase the risk of agoraphobia, such as having had another phobia before, trauma in the past (abandoned by a loved one, loss of a very valuable item, sexual assault, etc.), family members having the same phobia, and basically It's easy to feel excessive anxiety.

As experienced by Bernadette in this novel. The factor that caused Bernadette to develop agoraphobia was a trauma in her past. Events in her past that came back repeatedly made Bernadette stressed and almost gave up. Some of them are: one of the famous buildings she designed was destroyed, miscarriage, her daughter was born prematurely with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, Manjula Kapoor as her virtual friend turned out to be a criminal, and her husband had an affair with her secretary, Soo Lin.

<sup>&</sup>quot;What specifically are you so anxious about?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;The Drake Passage, people. You know how it is."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Actually," I said, "I don't."

<sup>&</sup>quot;There's going to be a lot of people. I'm not good when exposed to people." (Semple, 2012: 75)

This second point is different from the first point which explains specifically in the section on the symptoms of agoraphobia experienced by the main character. While in the second point, here is more explained how the main character in this novel suffers from agoraphobia that happened to her. Judging from how she behaves everyday, to find out if he suffers or not with the agoraphobia she has. And it's all explained based on the definition of agoraphobia itself. On this second point, the writers first analyze a few factors that cause Bernadette to experience agoraphobia so that the writersr can find out whether Bernadette is suffering or not.

From Bernadette's point of view, "just last night, I woke up to pee. I was half asleep, with no concept of myself, a blank, and the data started reloading —**Bernadette Fox-Twenty Mile House destroyed**-I deserved it-I am a failure. Failure has got its teeth in me, and it won't stop shaking." (Semple, 2012: 103)

The Twenty Miles House is a beautiful home building that took three years to complete. Shiny glass case with clear, and clean lines, not an inch of drywall or paint. The floors are concrete, and the walls and ceilings are wood, with exposed aggregate with broken glass for translucent color. It makes the eyes of anyone who sees it mesmerized. After winning the genius award, Bernadette gets word from her business manager that the building wants to be sold, but Bernadette replies that she doesn't want to sell it, she hasn't thought about it.

Because it was Bernadette's happy day after getting an award for her twenty miles house, Elgin, Bernadette's husband invited her to eat together. Elgin gave a gift to Bernadette, it is Saint Bernadette, and she has her vision with Beeber Bifocal and twenty miles house. That afternoon Bernadette and her husband decided to go to Europe to see Lourdes, the home of Saint Bernadette. After a while in Europe, Bernadette got the news that her twenty miles house had been sold. The house was sold by her business manager to his client, Nigel Miles-Murray. The Twenty Miles House that she had built for three years was destroyed in the space of just a day. Bernadette was devastated by the news, she was disappointed and distraught, and she blamed herself. Bernadette finally decided to sell the Beeber Bifocal and left the city and moved to Seattle. Bernadette also never built a house again after the incident. She disappeared from the world of architecture.

This story begins with Bernadette's daughter, Bee who gets a perfect final score and she collects a promise of a gift from her parents, she asks to go on a family vacation to Antarctica. Bee expressed her desire to go on a family vacation to Antarctica to her parents while having dinner in the dining room while showing an Antarctic vacation brochure. Then Bernadette started looking for reasons for her daughter to change her mind not to go to Antarctica, but Bee remained in her stance to go to Antarctica even though there was no "yes" from her mother and father, she assumed their silence meant "yes" to do it, family trip.

Since then, Bernadette immediately contacted her virtual friend, Manjula Kapoor and she told Manjula about everything that happened. Bernadette says that actually she doesn't want to go to Antarctica because she doesn't like things that require her to get out of the house, but the request comes from the mouth of Bee, Bernadette's one and only child who she loves very much and she can't refuse when it comes to Bee.

Of the million reasons I don't want to go to Antarctica, **the main one is that it will require me to leave the house.** You might have figured out by now that's something I don't much like to do. But I can't argue with Bee. She's a good kid. (Semple, 2012: 4)

It was from Bee's request to go on a family trip to Antarctica that the symptoms of Bernadette's agoraphobia began to become apparent. One of the symptoms is anxiety about being outside the house. Her anxiety is increasing day by day just by remembering one word, it is "Antarctica". Insomnia that she has been experiencing is getting more and more difficult to overcome by the day. It was evident when she fell asleep in the pharmacy waiting room while waiting for the scopolamine patch for motion sickness and Xanax for anxiety that the doctor had prescribed for her.

I open my eyes. I had fallen asleep. **This is the problem with never sleeping**. Sometimes you actually do, at the worst time like this time, in public. (Semple, 2012: 48)

The narration "this is the problem with never sleeping" shows that the insomnia she is experiencing has greatly interfered with his daily life. Bernadette woke up when her husband, who was passing by with a coworker, accidentally saw her through the pharmacy glass, sleeping on the sofa in the room while waiting for the medicine to wake her up. Elgin saw Bernadette dressed strangely in a fishing vest, scarf, and sunglasses that almost covered her face. She uses it all as a way for her to feel safe from threats when she is outside the house.

She wouldn't have left the house if it weren't for something urgent. Like dropping off and picking up school Bee, because there is no one she can rely on anymore but herself. Even then, Bernadette didn't get out of her car to take Bee to her class and greet the other parents, and just waited in her car. After she saw Bee enter her school from her car, she would immediately return home and another important thing that made Bernadette have to leave the house is take the medicine that the doctor had prescribed. Because she didn't want other people to know what he was feeling until the end, Elgin felt that Bernadette's behavior was getting weirder by the day. Elgin also found a lot of medicines that had written prescriptions from doctors for Bernadette.

Elgin point of view: While Bernadette slept, I opened her medicine cabinet. It was crammed with prescription bottles written by an array of doctors for **Xanax**, **Klonopin**, **Ambien**, **Halcion**, **trazodone**, **and others**. All the bottles were empty. (Semple, 2012: 75-76)

All of these medications are Bernadette's prescription pain and anxiety medications. And that proves how tormented Bernadette is by the excessive anxiety she experiences. Elgin was worried about Bernadette's current state. He seemed to see a different figure from Bernadette. Elgin looked at the photo of the two of them, he felt like there was a terrible gulf between the woman he loved and the naughty woman sitting across from him. He immediately emailed Dr. Kurtz, a psychiatrist at Madrona Hill, to ask what really happened to Bernadette and upon learning of the results Elgin immediately decided to send Bernadette to Madrona Hill for further treatment from experts.

Mr. Branch's description of his wife suggested **agoraphobia**, medication-seeking behavior, social anxiety, poor impulse control, and untreated postpartum depression. (Semple, 2012: 149)

Of the many disorders mentioned by Dr. Kurtz based on the symptoms and drugs that Bernadette has, one of which is agoraphobia. After getting an email reply from Dr. Kurtz, Elgin immediately made an appointment with Dr. Kurtz, a police, a detective, and an FBI agent to tell Bernadette that her virtual friend Manjula Kapoor is a criminal. Elgin also invites Soo-Lin to come with him. Elgin asked all of them including Bernadette to gather in the living room. How surprised Bernadette was when she saw some strangers in her room. What's more is Soo Lin, Bernadette's neighbor, her husband's secretary who she doesn't like. Bernadette felt insecure, threatened, and anxious. They all wanted to take Bernadette to Madrona Hill. Bernadette was very disappointed with her husband's decision.

Fox: Then who are these people?

Dr. Kurtz: My name is Dr. Janelle Kurtz.

Branch: You're supposed to be at the dentist, Bernadette.

Fox: **How did you know that?** Dr. Kurtz: Let's have a seat

Fox: **Why? Who are you? Elgie---** Branch: Shall we do it here, doctor?

Dr. Kurtz: I suppose---

Fox: **Do what here? I don't like this. I'm leaving**. Dr. Kurtz: I am a psychiatrist at Madrona Hill.

Fox: Madrona Hill? The loony bin? Jesus Christ! You're shipping me off to a loony bin? Elgie! You're not!

Branch: Bernadette, you need help.

Fox: So you're to take Bee to Antarctica and lock me up at Madrona Hill? You can't do that, Elgie!

(Semple, 2012: 172)

Bernadette shows how disappointed she is with Elgin, saying "Madrona Hill? The loony bin? Jesus Christ! You're shipping me off to a loony bin? Elgie! You're not!" "So you're to take Bee to Antarctica and lock me up at Madrona Hill? You can't do that, Elgie!" In that state Bernadette felt very depressed like everyone was cornering her, she felt there was no one she could turn to for help. Then Bernadette racked her brains, thinking hard, trying to figure out how she could get out of this tense situation. This situation was very frustrating. And finally, Bernadette decided to go to the bathroom and escape through the window, running from them all. Bernadette disappeared.

From this incident, Bernadette decided to escape through the bathroom window. She disappeared from her family and the people around her. "Fox: Elgin, look at me. I am in the weeds. I can get myself out. We can get out of this together. For us, for Bee. But I won't work with these invaders. I am sorry, but I have had to pee since I got here. Or do I need a doctor's approval?" (Semple, 2012: 172) She went to Antarctica alone by herself. Trying to heal her, nourish herself and her mind, find and regain her identity, trying to realize that her life can't be stuck, and she must keep going. She thinks and does what things can make herself-feel alive again. Bernadette started wanting to build again. She found people who could help her continue her dreams with development. Than finally, she found herself back.

# **CONCLUSION**

In this chapter, the author draws conclusions based on the analysis described earlier. From this analysis, the author analyzes the agoraphobia that occurs in the main character in the novel where'd you go Bernadette by Maria Semple. The author also focuses on this analysis to only discuss two things in it, namely the symptoms of agoraphobia experienced by the main character and how agoraphobia occurs in the main character according to the definition of agoraphobia itself. This study was analyzed based on data and theory from the American Psychiatric Association (2013) in Barlow David H (2014) which was also supported by the theory of agoraphobia symptoms from the American Psychiatric Association (2013). After analyzing the data in the analysis chapter and the previous findings, and also relating them to the psychological theory and approach of Wellek and Warren (1956) in the study. The author concludes that in the novel where'd you go, Bernadette presents agoraphobia that appears and is experienced by Bernadette as the main character in this novel.

In this study, there are three symptoms of Agoraphobia in Bernadette's personality. First is anxiety. She has excessive anxiety even when she is at home and doing nothing. It is proven by dialogues and narrations that describe that Bernadette has sleep disturbances, nervousness, prolonged worries, etc. which are all characteristics of people who have symptoms of anxiety. The second symptom is Bernadette in this novel has anxiety about being outside the house. She feels threatened and anxious when she is outside her house. It has been proven that Bernadette has this symptom because every time she wants to leave her house she will wear closed clothes, dark glasses, and a scarf to cover herself, and that way she will feel a little safer if someone requires her to get out of her house. The last symptom found in a person suffering from agoraphobia is that he will feel anxious when he is in an open room. Bernadette has shown this phenomenon through the narrative and dialogue written in the novel. She shows that she feels very anxious when going on a boat, going to a parking lot somewhere, going to her daughter's school, etc. Because if she was in that situation she thought that she would not be able to get past it, there was no help for her and all eyes would be on her. She would do everything she could to not be in that situation just as she thought of ways not to go to Antarctica, without hurting and disappointing her daughter.

Bernadette has Agoraphobia in her due to the trauma she went through, due to bad experiences in her past. The building she built wholeheartedly for approximately 3 years was sold by her business manager to Nigel Miles-Murray without her knowledge and simply destroyed. She felt that she was the cause of the destruction of the building, and felt that everyone was blaming her, until she miscarried many times thinking about it. In the end he decided not to leave her house for a while, preferring to have a virtual assistant to help her take care of all her needs.

#### REFERENCES

- Adwas, Almokhtar & Jbireal, J. & Azab, Azab. (2019). *Anxiety: Insights into Signs, Symptoms, Etiology, Pathophysiology, and Treatment.* The South African Journal of Medical Sciences. 2. 80-91.
- Amelia, D. (2021). Antigone's Phallus Envy and Its Comparison to Indonesian Dramas' Characters: A Freudian Perspective. Vivid: Journal of Language and Literature, 10(1), 23-30.
- Afrizal, M.A. (2014). Metode Penelitian Kualitatif. Jakarta: Rajawali Press
- American Psychiatric Assosiation. (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical manual of Mental Disorders* (5th ed). Washington, DC: Writer.
- Barlow, David H., ed. (2014). *Clinical handbook of psychological disorders: A step-by-step treatment manual*. Guilford publications.
- Barlow, D. H. (2002). *Anxiety and its disorders; the nature and treatment of anxiety of anxiety and panic* (2nd ed.). New York; Guilford Press.
- Cenita, L., & Nurmaily, E. (2020). *Methaporical Expression in Emily Dicknison's Poems*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 1(1), 46-54.
- Heaverly, A., & EWK, E. N. (2020). *Jane Austen's View on the Industrial Revolution in Pride and Prejudice*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 1(1), 1-6.
- Kuswoyo, Heri & Siregar, R.A (2019). *Interpersonal metadiscourse markers as persuasive strategies in oral business presentation*. Lingua Cultura, 13(4), 297-304.
- Made Yulianti, N., & Setiawan, D. B. (2022). *Emotional Abuse of the Main Characters in After Movie by Jenny Gage*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 3(1), 18-23.
- Nababan, R. M., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). *The Hypermasculinity as seen in the Main Character in Rambo: Last Blood Movie*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 2(1), 25-32.
- Oktavia, W. R., & Suprayogi, S. (2021). *Gramatical Cohesion in Boris Johnson's Speech entittled Coronavirus Spread in UK*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 2(1), 8-16.
- Rido, A. (2015). The use of discourse markers as an interactive feature in science lecture discourse in L2 setting. *Teflin Journal*, 21(1), 90-106.
- Samanik, S. (2021). *Imagery Analysis in Matsuoka's Cloud of Sparrows*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 2(1), 17-24.
- Wellek, R., & Warren, A. (1956). Theory of literature (p. 78). New York: Harcourt, Brace & World.
- Yunara, Y. Y., & Kardiansyah, M. Y. (2017). *Animus Personality in Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire: A Game of Thrones*. Teknosastik, 15(1), 7-13.

# **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

Vol. 3, No. 2, 140 - 149 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

# AN ANALYSIS OF RACIAL PROFILING IN DEAR MARTIN NOVEL BY NIC STONE

# Delita Amelia<sup>1</sup>, Ingatan Gulö<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia

delitaamelia177@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, atan@teknokrat.ac.id<sup>2</sup>

**Received:** (November 2022) **Published:** (December 2022)

#### **Abstract**

This paper aims to discuss the existence of racial profiling related to the main character Justyce McAllister in Nic Stone's novel Dear Martin. The cases related to race and racism in the novel urged the researchers to conduct research about racial issues, especially racial profiling. Racial profiling is committed and used as the basis for suspicion in directing discretionary law enforcement actions such as stopping, checking, questioning or searching a person based on their race. It is defined as the behavior of the authorities to initiate traffic stops by using race or skin color as the indicator. The novel Dear Martin is chosen considering the plot story of the novel that tells a story about an African-American teenager named Justyce McAllister. The story is about McAllister problem with white people. Thus, the researchers wanted to analyze the existence of racial profiling in the novel. To conduct the analysis, descriptive qualitative method was employed. This method was used as this research was considered as a textual analysis. Sociological criticism approach and racial profiling theories were also used in this research to help the researchers conducting the analysis. After analyzing the data gathered, the researchers found out that the novel Dear Martin contains the aspects of racial profiling as seen through what happened to the main character Justyce McAllister.

Keywords: Dear Martin, Nic Stone, racism, racial profiling

#### INTRODUCTION

Novels can be a realistic portrayal of reality. They reflect the picture of real characters, characters that depart from social reality and can convey dialogues and conversation that can stir and move the hearts of the readers (Amelia & Dintasi, 2017). As literary work that can reflect reality, novels portray many issues in the real world (Setri & Setiawan, 2020). Among many problems and issues that exist, the researchers chose one of the issues that often happens which is related to racial conflict or racism. The issue related to racial conflict and racism is chosen by considering that it still frequently occurs. An article that is written by Horowitz, Brown, and Cox revealed that more than 150 years after the 13<sup>th</sup> amendment abolish slavery in the United States, the legacy of slavery, as the example of racism, continues to happen (Horowitz, Brown, & Cox, 2019).

Racism can be defined as a belief that has two components, namely the difference and power (Al-Hafizh, 2016). In other words, racism can be seen when there are differences and power in a situation or in a person. Racism comes from mental attitude that looks at other people as if they are different from us permanent and unbridgeable (Samanik, 2018). These different feelings then encourage the community the race you feel superior to dominate and dominate other racial communities. In specific, racism can be defined as the belief that humans are divided into separate and exclusive biological entities known as "race" (Smedley, 2021). Briefly, racism is an act that differentiates humans based on their race.

In this study, the writers focus on racial profiling. It is a term that is used by the police of generalization based on race, ethnicity, religion, or national origin, rather than individual behavior, specific suspect descriptions or intelligence (Delsol, 2021). Racial profiling is an act committed as the effect of racial discrimination that is included as racial issue. Racial profiling is committed and used as the basis for suspicion in directing discretionary law enforcement actions such as stops, identity checks, questioning, or searchers a person based on their race (Delsol, 2021). Simply, it is defined as the behavior of the police that initiated traffic stops by using race or skin color as the indicator (Ranti & Nurmaily, 2021).

It refers to the behavior of the police and other law enforcers who tend to target African-American and Latino poachers in the streets of major cities in America as perpetrators of crime such as drug dealers, theft, robbery, sexual harassment, etc. If we want to explore further into their past, of course Racial Profiling is closely related to the history of slavery in the United States, especially southern America such as Atlanta and Georgia. The most famous case of racial profiling is the case happened to George Floyd in America. Floyd passed away in police custody on May 25 because of the racial profiling that was done by the police officer. He died because the police saw him as a bad person just because of his race (Gal et.al, 2020).

That tragedy may be a case that can open the eyes of the world that the racial issue of racial profiling is dangerous and should not be continuously committed. Considering that, the researchers bring the issue of racial issue, especially racial profiling into this analysis. A novel entitled Dear Martin is used as the object of analysis. The researchers assumes that the novel contains the portrayal of racial profiling by the experience of the main character, McAllister, who was arrested by the police. The researchers believes that Dear Martin is about criticizing the acts of racism of law enforcement against African-American adolescents in the modern United States. Racial profiling also happened in the other literary work by Fadilah Satya Handayani entitled Racial Discrimination towards the Hazaras as Reflected in Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner. The result of that study shows that racial discrimination in The Kite Runner is caused by social structural factors and social psychological factors. Pashtuns and Hazaras differ in terms of religious beliefs, cultural practices, social status, and physical appearances. Pashtun as the majority race and ethnic in Afghanistan is Sunni Moslem while Hazara is Shi'a.

The case of racial issue happened to the literary work by An Analysis of Police Traffic Stops and Searches of Motorists in Nebraska, 2002-2007 by Ngozi Caleb Kamalu. The aim of that study is to discuss the history of racial profiling, analyze the courts' positions on the topic, define racial profiling, review related literature on the theme, analyze Nebraska's law enforcement data between 2002 and 2007, draw appropriate conclusion, and in the end make policy recommendations. Furthermore, the research also employed the research done by Ronal Weitzer and Steven Tuch entitled Perceptions of Racial Profiling: Race, Class, and Personal Experience. The aim of that study is to analyze recent national survey data on citizens' views of racial profiling. Racial profiling by the police has become an increasingly controversial issue in recent years, but we know little about the extent of the problem and even less about public perceptions of profiling.

#### **METHOD**

The researchers used qualitative research to elaborate the idea. The analysis of qualitative method is different with quantitative method because the objects are not focused on number (Rido, 2015). Qualitative focuses more on the description and explanation (Dharlie & Samanik, 2021). By using qualitative research, it will help the researchers to gain the objective of the research (Afif & Amelia, 2021). "Qualitative research method focuses on observing events from the perspective of those involved and attempted to understand why individuals behave as they do (Afrianto, 2017; Azijah & Gulö, 2020). They take more nature approach to the resolution of research problems (Connaway & Powell, 2010). Additionally, qualitative research is used because it helps the researchers to focus on describing the findings and writing the analysis in detail (Samanik, 2018). Qualitative research method also focuses on the content of analysis and the actions that were done (Evayani & Rido, 2019). Based on the explanation above, qualitative method is influential because this study is considering the experience or the act of Justyce McAllister as the main character of Dear Martin novel. By knowing the act of the other characters, the researchers will reveal out the act of Racial Profiling within the novel.

Words, sentences, and dialogues can be used to reveal certain issues in literary works (Kiranamita & Samanik, 2021). Books, book chapters, essays, interview, talks, newspaper headlines and articles, historical documents, and conversations are included as texts (Samanik & Lianasari, 2016). By using that, the data can be able to answer the research questions (Pranoto & Sartika, 2021). The researchers used library research method to gather some information in this paper. It is used to support the research (Amelia & Daud, 2020). The descriptive qualitative method also allows the researchers to provide the data in the form of narrations and dialogues (Cenita & Nurmaily, 2020). Moreover, to collect the data, the researchers used the library research method. It means that the researchers used it to collect the data from written sourcebooks and articles (Samanik, 2018). Above, qualitative method is influential because this study is considering the experience or the act of Justyce McAllister as the main character of Dear Martin novel. By knowing the act of the other characters, the researchers will reveal out the act of Racial Profiling within the novel.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The issue of racial profiling refers to the law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religion or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. It is defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual. Racial profiling, however, are not limited to just a person's ethnicity or race, but can also be based on an individual's religion, or national origin.

Using that definition and theory of racial profiling, the writers found that the novel Entitled *Dear Martin by Nic Stone* has the materials of racial profiling that does exist in Atlanta and is seen in the main character. The main Justyce McAllister, a 17 years old African-American teenager who has been subjected to racist abuse and is accused of stealing a car after trying to drive a drunken ex-girlfriend home. The writers tried to reveal out Justyce McAllister's school-life and his tragic story when he got arrested by U.S police. Hence, below, the writers have written the data analysis and discussion about that.

The result of the analysis found the researchers found that the main character, Justyce McAllister suffered from the racial profiling done by the authorities. The discussion of that is written below.

# 1. Racial Profiling Action by Stopping Black People

The first situation that is considered as racial profiling, according to Cleary in 2000, is when the authorities stop someone not because he/she is guilty, but because he/she is black (Cleary, 2000). This situation means that the authorities are suspecting someone then decide to stop him/her because as a black people, they look suspicious.

In *Dear Martin* novel, this situation can be seen in page 11, where Justyce tried to get his ex-girlfriend, Melo, home, because Melo drank badly. Justyce tried to sit Melo down in his car when suddenly he heard a short siren behind him. It is seen through the quotation below.

#### Datum 1

Justyce struggles to get the back door open and is lowering her into the car when he hears the WHOOOP of a short siren and sees the blue lights. In the few seconds it takes the police car to screech to a stop behind him, Justyce settles Melo into the backseat (Stone, 2017: 11).

The quotation above showed the first tragedy Justyce felt with the police. In that case, Justyce tried to help her ex-girlfriend, who at that time was very drunk and could not drive. He struggled to help her and tried to get her to the car. However, suddenly the police stopped behind his car. He knew that the police tried to stop and question him because he could hear the short siren of the police as well as see the blue lights of the siren. The siren of the police usually indicated that the police tried to stop and question someone. In other words, in the case of Justyce, he was stopped by the police though the police had no proof that he done something suspicious. this action is identified as part of racial profiling, since based on the definition of racial profiling itself According to Cleary (2000), racial profiling can be seen when the authority stops and suspect someone because of the race. It is in line with Justyce's tragedy who at that time assumed did something because he was black people who tried to save white girl. however, even though they did not do a crime, the police will always give the negative assumption to Justyce because he is part of black people and in that novel explained that there is a regulation from the government to give the racial profiling to the black people. so that, there are a lot possibilities that happen to the black people, including they lose their life because of that regulation and the actions from the police in their town.

#### Datum 2

Justyce can hear the approaching footsteps, but he stays focused on getting Mello strapped in. he wants it to be clear to the cops that she wasn't gonna drive so she won't be even worse (Stone, 2017: 11).

The datum above happened in page 11, when Justyce tried to help his ex-girlfriend named Mello Taylor. It is explained in the novel that Mello got drunk, and because Justyce is Mello's ex, Justyce understood that Mello is a stone drunk, but even as a stone drunk, at that time the situation was too much for Mello. Hence, Justyce tried to help Mello by driving her home. The quotation above happened when Justyce tried to get Mello into the car to drive her home. The decision to drive Mello home came from Justyce's thought that it was not right to leave a girl alone in a vulnerable situation. In the quotation above, it is shown that when Justyce tried to settle Mello on the backseat, suddenly he heard the approaching footsteps. After Justyce heard a siren and saw blue lights from the police car, he heard the approaching footsteps, which was the police. Justyce did nothing but help Melo, however the fact that the police came and stop the car behind his car showed that the police, as the authority, felt suspicious with him, and it probably because Justyce was black. Cleary (2000) explained that one of the signs of racial profiling action is when an officer or police stops someone without any reasonable reason (Cleary, 2000). The reasonable reason that is meant could be in the form of the screaming from the

other person, indication of violence, or a resistance against the other person. Meanwhile, in the novel, Justyce just tried to get Mello on the backseat. Therefore, the researchers of this current research can assume that datum 1 is the proof of racial profiling indication as the officer approach Justyce without any reason. Additionally, in page 12 the police clearly stated that he stopped because he felt suspicious with Justyce appearance as a black people, and not because Justyce did something suspicious. The quotation from page 12 *Dear Martin Novel* is written below.

#### Datum 3

I know your kind: punks like you wander the streets of nice neighborhoods searching for prey. Just couldn't resist the pretty white girl who'd locked her keys in her car, could ya? (Stone, 2017: 12).

After Justyce heard the sirens and footsteps, he saw the police came to him. Though at first Justyce thought that it would not be a trouble, because he just wanted to drive Mello home and had not bad intention to Mello, it turns out that Justyce prediction was wrong. Without asking him any further about what Justyce do at that time, the police directly gave his wrong prejudice towards Justyce. The quotation above clearly proved that the authority, in that case the police, stopped his car behind Justyce because Justyce was a black people. The police had the assumption that black people, which in the quotation referred as "your kind", like to wander the streets looking for beautiful woman. The researchers assumed that the assumption of the police addressed to Justyce and black people, because the police used the term "your kind", which could be interpreted as the kind of people with the same type, appearance, or race. In the novel, it was explained that Justyce was a black people, meanwhile Mello was a white people.

Hence, since in that situation there were only Mello and Justyce, the words "your kind" stated by the police was addressed to Justyce, as a black person. The statement in datum 2 showed that the police just done the act of racial profiling, by suspecting Justyce did something bad just because he is black. Additionally, the police did not ask for Justyce clarification of what he did there at night. The statement said by the police to Justyce was merely the prejudice of the police to black people. Hence, instead, the police directly assumed that Justyce came for Melo because he was pretty and assumed that Melo was a stranger to Justyce. The act of a police who stopped and directly accused Justyce just because he was black showed that the police did the racial profiling action. According to Cleary (2000), racial profiling can be seen when the authority stops and suspect someone because of the race. In the quotation from page 11 and 12, the police gave negative judgment to Justyce as a black people.

Therefore, the researchers of this current research believed that data 1 and 2 showed the racial profiling towards Justyce, because those data as the proof that support the definition of the racial profiling. since base on the definition racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religion or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual.

The bad prejudice as stated by the police in data 1 and 2 continued to another racial profiling action done by the police, as written in page 12.

#### Datum 4:

Don't you say shit to me, you son of a bitch. I knew your punk ass was up to no good when I saw you walking down the road with that goddamn hood on (Stone, 2017: 12).

In the datum above, the police shoved Justyce to the ground and tried to arrest Justyce. When Justyce tried to explain the police the misunderstanding that happened at that time, the police directly cut Justyce statement said another bad assumption towards Justyce as a black people. The datum above showed the reason of why at first the police stopped behind Justyce's car. The police also clearly stated that the reason of why he stopped Justyce is because he used the typical black people appearance, which is hoodie. It could be seen in page 12, as written above. The statement above showed that the police stopped Justyce simply because Justyce wore a hoodie. In the thoughts of the police, hoodie was often used by the black people. Hence, when the police saw Justyce walked using a hoodie at night, he totally sure that Justyce had a bad intention. It explained the reason of why the police stopped Justyce from the very beginning. Datum 3 also showed that the police had no proof that Justyce had a bad intention, because the statement of the police could be interpreted that the police only believed that Justyce was bad because he was a black person, used hoodie, and with a white woman at night. The police assumed that Justyce was a bad person only because of that. The act of the police is considered as racial profiling, because racial profiling acts will stop someone just because his/her appearance or race (Cleary, 2000). Hence, the researchers believed that datum 3 showed the proof of racial profiling towards Justyce as the proof was in line with the theory.

Datum 5:

Mama told him how to handle this type of situation, though he must admit he never expected to actually need the advice: Be respectful; keep the anger in check; make sure the police can see your hands (though that's impossible right now) (Stone, 2017: 12).

In response to the accused of the police towards him, Justyce tried to remember the message of his mother in case he had to face bad situation with the police. The fact that Justyce's mother gave a message about that type of situation proved that that incident is something that commonly happen to the black people. In the statement, as written above in datum 4, Justyce's mother said that when being arrested by the police, a black person should make sure that the hands can be seen by the police. The researchers interpreted that the suggestion is given because if the police cannot see the hands of the black people, the police will assume that the black people bring weapon. At that time, Justyce remembered the message from her mother because he realized that the police did the racial profiling action towards him, which made him tried to follow his mother's suggestion, which are be respectful, keep the anger, and make sure the police can see the hands. From that, the researchers believed that the action of the police was considered as racial profiling, as Justyce also realized that. The message from his mother also proved that the black people should back down because white people see them bad.

Datum 6:

Officer Castillo, I mean you no disresp-

I told your punk ass to shut the fuck up He wishes he could see Melo. Get her to tell this cop the truth. But the dude is blocking his view (Stone, 2017: 13).

During the incident when the police tried to arrest Justyce, Justyce still tried to explain the misunderstanding that happened. But, instead listened to Justyce's explanation, the police said another bad prejudice about the black people. As could be seen in the quotation in datum 6 above, the police said the words "punk ass" to Justyce. The researchers of this current research believed that the words "punk ass" was addressed to the black people, like Justyce, because earlier, in data 3 and 4, the police said the same thing about black people to Justyce. Thus, the datum strengthened the reason of why the police stopped Justyce and tried to arrest him, which was because of the bad prejudice about the black people. The datum is in line with Cleary (2000) who believed that racial profiling can be identified by the action of stopping someone based on the bad prejudice about their race (Cleary, 2000). Hence, the datum above proved that the police did the racial profiling action.

#### 2. Racial Profiling Action by Searching and Ouestioning Black People

Cleary (2000) explained that the racial profiling issue can happen when the authorities searched and questioned someone based on their race, and not based on the suspicion based on strong evidence (Cleary, 2000). Usually the searching and questioning black people caused by the police who feel suspicious with black people, and not because they did something suspicious. In the novel, this characteristic of racial profiling could be seen in page 134

Datum 7:

Detective: On the night of May twentieth, there was a fire at the home of Garrett and Beverly Tison. The blaze was started at around eleven-forty-five p.m. You know anything about that? (Stone, 2017: 134).

The quotation above happened when Justyce and his mom was at the Bras Prep's commencement ceremony. After the event, suddenly a pair of cops approached Justyce and his mom. The police approached Justyce because the police wanted to ask questions. As stated above, the police asked about Justyce involvement related to the fire tragedy at the home of Garrett and Beverly Tison. The police questioned Justyce without any evidence and with unfounded allegations. In the quotation, it is shown that the police asked whether or not Justyce knew something about that, even though the police had no proof, evidence, or allegation that Justyce knew something about the tragedy.

The questioning continuously happened and the police asked Justyce the same questions for three times. It shows that the police does not search for the proof first, but instead directly asked Justyce without any proof. It means that the police, in that case, questioning Justyce on the basis of his own assumption, which is considered as racial profiling (Cleary, 2000). This questioning action is including as the action of discrimination from the police to the black people inside the novel since based on the definition Racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religion or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual. from the questioning actions, which means the police giving the negative assumption

to the character Justyce, just only because Justyce is part of black people and the police generalized all black people are doing crime. therefore, in fact Justyce never do a crime in that moment.

#### Datum 8

I know your kind: punks like you wander the streets of nice neighborhoods searching for prey. Just couldn't resist the pretty white girl who'd locked her keys in her car, could ya? (Stone, 2017: 12).

Another proof of questioning act done by the police could be seen in page 12 in the novel. In that quotation, the police said the bad prejudice to Justyce as well as asked him something sensitive with the basis of the police's assumption and prejudice just because Justyce is black people. In that case, Justyce tried to bring his drunk friend home, while suddenly the police stop by him and asked him what he was doing at night. It could be seen in the quotation in datum 5, that the police officer asked whether Justyce could not resist the pretty white girl who'd locker her keys in the car. That statement could be interpreted that the police asked Justyce not because Justyce did something suspicious or brought any weapon, but because Justyce was outside with a girl at night, even though actually Justyce was trying to help his friend only.

Hence, the police in that case showed the questioning action that based on his own assumption, and without any proof. this questioning action is including as the action of discrimination from the police to the black people inside the novel since based on the definition Racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religion or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual. from the questioning actions, which means the police giving the negative assumption to the character just because Justyce is part of black people and generalized him do a crime to the white girl inside the car. even though, in fact Justyce does not even touch her or do a crime to her in that moment.

# 3. Racial Profiling Action by Arresting Black People

The theory of racial profiling by Cleary (2000) explained that the racial profiling can be seen when the authorities arresting someone not because he/she did wrong, but because he/she is a black people (Cleary, 2000). Further, Cleary explained that the action of arresting can include force, seize, take into custody, or use objects such as handcuff to stop and arrest (Cleary, 2000). However, the authority only can arrest someone if he or she did criminal actions, yet if the authority arrest someone because of age, dress, time of day, geography, and race or ethnicity, it means that it already considers as racial profiling (Cleary, 2000).

In the novel Dear Martin itself, the act of the police that shows the racial profiling action by arresting based on race or ethnicity could be seen in page 12.

#### Datum 9:

Before he can get his head out of the car, he feels a tug on his shirt and is yanked backward. His head smacks the doorframe just before a hand clamps down on the back of his neck. His upper body slams onto the trunk with so much force, he bites the inside of his cheek, and his mouth fills with blood. Jus swallows, head spinning, unable to get his bearings. The sting of cold metal around his wrists pulls him back to reality. Handcuffs. (Stone, 2017: 12.

In the quotation above, the police used force to get Justyce out of his car. The force is used even though Justyce made no resistance. At first, when the police came Justyce planned to tell the police that Melo was not going to drive, instead he would drive, so the police did not have to be worry about that. However, before he could explain, the police suddenly accused him and tried to arrest him. The police used force without any explanation or question before. Cleary stated that the arrest can be done under certain circumstances of crimes such as burglary, robbery, or rape (Cleary, 2000). However, the situation of Justyce, who wanted to take her exgirlfriend home was not considered as any of those circumstances.

The quotation in page 12 clearly showed that Justyce was not able to do anything when the police directly tug on his shirt backward until his head smacked the doorframe. The physical attack was used by the police to Justyce and it caused Justyce got wounded. The arresting action was also followed with the police who used handcuffs on Justyce. The action of the police showed that he committed racial profiling on Justyce by arresting him because he was black, not because he did criminals. The fact that physical attack and handcuffs were used to arrest him without any question or explanation before strengthen the point that racial profiling was done by the police towards Justyce (Cleary, 2000).

Those actions that used by the police are identified as the racial profiling, since based on the definition Racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religious or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual. from the physical abuse from the police, and the

negative assumption that given by the police, these activities are clearly seen as the proof that included as part of racial profiling to the main character Justyce.

The racial profiling action by arresting also can be seen in the novel Dear Martin page 12, where Justyce was arrested but Melo did not.

#### Datum 10:

It hits him: Melo's drunk beyond belief in the backseat of a car she fully intended to drive, yet Jus is the one in handcuffs (Stone, 2017: 12).

In the quotation above, it could be seen that Justyce got handcuffed by the police because he was black, as explained in the previous quotation. However, his ex-girlfriend, Melo, who was drunk was not arrested because Melo in the novel is a biracial that considers as white people. Logically, Melo should be suspected as she drunk in the middle of the night. However, that did not happen because Melo was white. Yet, Justyce who did nothing and just tried to help Melo got arrested because he was black. This clearly identified as racial profiling, shown by the action of the police who gave unbalance treatment to these two different people with different background, since based on the definition Racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religion or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual. (Cleary, 2000), from the moment of Melo's and Justyce, the writers believe that the police is generalized all the black people in the same field and did not give them a chance to defense themselves even though they are not doing a crime, but still get the accused by the police.

Another proof of the racial profiling in the novel by arresting Justyce because he was black and not because he did wrong is still can be seen in page 12.

#### Datum 11:

The cop shoves him to the ground beside the police cruiser as he asks if Justyce understands his rights. Justyce doesn't remember hearing any rights, but his ears had been ringing from the two blows to the head, so maybe he missed them. He swallows more blood. "Officer, this is a big misundersta—" he starts to say, but he doesn't get to finish because the officer hits him in the face. (Stone, 2017: 12).

The quotation above shows that the police used force to get Justyce got to the ground. The police also said whether or not Justyce understands his right. That statement usually used by the police to arrest someone (Cleary, 2000). The conclusion can be drawn that the police arrested Justyce using force, physical attack, and handcuffs because Justyce was black. in this position, Justyce as the black people did not get the chance even only to defense himself because of his racial and skin color. This action is as the proof to support the definition of the racial profiling itself. Since based on the definition racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religion or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone because of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual.

The novel also showed that the similar issue often happens to black people. It could be seen through the way the mother warning her child that similar racial profiling act using arrested action often happens. Thus, the mother told several tips to handle the situation. The warnings can be seen in the novel page 13.

#### Datum 12:

Mama told him how to handle this type of situation, though he must admit he never expected to actually need the advice: Be respectful; keep the anger in check; make sure the police can see your hands (though that's impossible right now (Stone, 2017: 13).

The quotation above showed that the similar case of racial profiling often happens, until the mother had tips and trick to undergo the situation. In the quotation, it could be seen that the action of arresting based on racial profiling often happens, and most often the police will take further action if the black people does not show their hands. Thus, the mother said that the black people had to make sure that their hands can be seen by the police. The black people need to be wise when this racial profiling happen; they need to control themselves, to make the police believe with them, because this condition will threaten their life. Though in fact not all black people are criminals, they need to prove that they are not, because most likely police will suspect the black people. This needs to be done, because the white police will never care about the condition of black people. The behavior is classified as racial profiling in which police officers act unexpectedly on black people and accuse them of false accusations, this action is as the proof of the racial profiling and support the definition of racial profiling based on the theory, since based on the definition Racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religion or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting

someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual. and the solution that given by quotation above is the proof for being a black people must be back down to them to be safe from the threat from the police.

In racial profiling, police also often show presumption of innocence behavior (Cleary, 2000). It means that the police accuse or make bad assumption to the black people without having a strong proof or evidence. The assumption then urged the police to arrest black people just because of the race or ethnicity. In the novel itself, this situation can be seen in page 69.

#### Datum 13:

Jus grabs the flask again and takes a swig. "Niggas gettin' shot for carrying candy and cell phones and shit. Can you imagine what woulda happened to me if I'd had my cell phone out that night? I could be dead, dawg. And for what?" He swigs again just to feel the burn. (Stone, 2017: 69).

The quotation above showed that the police accused and arrested black people because of their race, and not because they did criminals. It is shown through the statement that black people were getting shot because he carried candy and cell phone. That fact showed that even so the black people was not wrong, they still can get accused or physical attack because the police had bad assumption towards the black people. From the presumption of innocence, it is shown that the main character, Justyce, thought that this could also happen to him and other people. The quotation above showed how racial profiling often happened to black people, which proved that they are an easy target because there is no law that protects black people, as they are seen as criminals. In that quotation, Justyce totally aware that his situation could get worse if at that time, at the night he got arrested, he was holding a cell phone, because the police would mistake his cell phone as a gun.

This negative assumption from the police as the proof of the condition Justyce during his life as the black people and got some bad treatment, and all the bad treatment from the police could make he died. from that it reflected to the definition of racial profiling, since based on the definition Racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religioon or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual. so that, from that regulation the police can do anything because they have the power to do the physical abuse and many others discrimination things.

The racial profiling issue in the novel also explained by Justyce when as a black people, it is even suspicious for him to wear a hoodie. Justyce stated that even though he wanted to help his ex-girlfriend, the police kept arrest him because he is black. It can be seen in page 14.

#### Datum 14:

And despite the fact that my ex-girl was visibly drunk off her ass, excuse my language, I apparently looked so menacing in my prep school hoodie, the cop who cuffed me called for backup.

The craziest part is while I thought everything would be cool as soon as her parents got there, no matter what they told the cops, these dudes would not release me. Mr. Taylor offered to call my mom, but the cops made it clear that since I'm 17, I'm considered an adult when placed under arrest—aka there was nothing Mama could do. (Stone, 2017: 14).

The quotation above proved that Justyce got arrested while he appeared using his prep school hoodie. It means that, as the black people, the police still arrested him because he looked suspicious in his prep school hoodie. Not only that, the police also arrested him by using handcuffs and even called for backup. It shows that the police felt threatened, even so Justyce brought no weapon and did no mistake. The quotation above also showed that Justyce was really arrested and brought to the police office for something he did not do, just because she was black. During his under-arrested, he could do nothing and was not allowed to explain anything. It proved that the police in that novel committed racial profiling to Justyce.

Those activities are identified as the racial profiling, since based on the definition of racial profiling itself. since based on the definition Racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religioon or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual. so that, because the police have the law that allowed them to do an abuse thing to the black people, and it makes them have the power to do anything to the black people. even though, they have the same right to life as the human in the reality, but because the regulation, the black people losing a half of their own right, at least for being safe in their own country.

As the main character who underwent the racial profiling issue, Justyce was totally aware that it was not something he supposed to undergo. He knew exactly that he did nothing wrong, even so the police kept

suspecting him. The statement that showed how Justyce knew he was arrested because he was black, not because he did something black, could be found in page 162.

#### Datum 15:

Last night changed me. I don't wanna walk around all pissed off and looking for problems, but I know I can't continue to pretend nothing's wrong. Yeah, there are no more "colored" water fountains, and it's supposed to be illegal to discriminate, but if I can be forced to sit on the concrete in too-tight cuffs when I've done nothing wrong, it's clear there's an issue. That things aren't as equal as folks say they are. (Stone, 2017: 162).

In the quotation above, Justyce stated that the racial profiling he got was a discrimination against black people. Justice was aware that it was illegal to force someone to sit in too-tight cuffs when that person was not do something wrong. That quotation strengthens the point of racial profiling existence in the novel, because Cleary (2000) stated that force someone and cuff someone when the person did nothing wrong, but because of their race is considered as racial profiling (Clearey, 2000). It was unequal to treat someone badly because of the race. The quotation above was written by Justyce while he got arrested in the office and his hands were handcuffed, however, he still tried to flow down his feelings about the inequality he felt. the feeling of unequal that felt by Justyce as the proof the black people could not feel safe in their daily activities. so that, this can be proof that support the definition of racial profiling itself, since based on the definition Racial profiling is law enforcement actions carried out by police officers because it is based more on ethnic, racial, religion or national identity, rather than individual actions or objective evidence. Racial profiling can be defined as the act of suspecting or targeting someone on the basis of assumed characteristics or behavior of a racial or ethnic group, not on the suspicion of an individual, and in this case, the writers believe the feelings of Justyce are coming from the treatment from his surrounding, especially from the regulation that given by the government about his skin color that makes the police give him and others black people unequal same as white people in his country.

#### **CONCLUSION**

From the analysis done by the researchers, the main character, Justyce, suffered from the racial profiling done by the officer or the police. The sufferings of Justyce were seen by the way the police stop, searches, questions, and arrests him without any reason. The stopping, searching, questioning, and arresting were done because Justyce was a black person. The findings are in line with the theory of racial profiling that believe that racial profiling can be seen when a police officer stops, questions, arrests, and/or searches someone only based on the person's race or ethnicity. Hence, from the analysis, the researchers found the three acts of the police to Justyce that indicated the actions of racial profiling.

The result is really close to the fourth previous studies. The researchers hope this research can be used by other researchers to get some knowledge about racial profiling, and how to deal with this condition. Above all the researchers hope this research can raise the awareness of tolerance and diversity. Finally yet importantly, this research can be useful for the future researchers who want to discuss about racial profiling in deeper issues and giving the impact to the society too to build the tolerance.

#### **REFERENCES**

- Afif, Rahmat S. & Amelia, D. (2021). Humanistic Hierarchy of Needs on Auggie's Personality in Wonder Movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(2), 69-74.
- Afrianto. (2017). Grammatical cohesion in students' writing: A case at Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia. *Leksema: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 2(2), 97-112.
- Al-Hafizh, M. (2016). *Modern Racism: Binary Opposition of Black and White in the Novels of Jacqueline Woodson*. Universitas Negeri Padang: Padang.
- Amelia, Dina, & Daud, Jepri. (2020). Freudian Tripartite on Detective Fiction: The Tokyo Zodiac Murders. Language Literacy: Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Language Teaching, 4(2), 299-304.
- Amelia, Dina., & Dintasi, Febri D. (2017). Ephebophilia Suffered by the Main Character in the Novel Lolita by Nabokov. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 15(2), 81-86.
- Azijah, Desma Putri & Gulö, Ingatan. (2020). Interpersonal metadiscourse markers in Jacinda Ardern speech at Christchurch memorial. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, *I*(2), 70-77.
- Cenita, Lola & Nurmaily, Ely (2020). Metaphorical Expression in Emily Dickinson's Poems. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(2), 46-54.
- Cleary, J. (2000). Racial Profiling Studies in Law Enforcement: Issues and Methodology. *Minnesota House of Representatives Research Department*, 7-12.
- Connaway, L. S., & Powell, R. R. (2010). Basic Research Method for Librarians. California: Greenwood.

- Delsol, R. (2021). Centre for Crime and Justice Studies. Retrieved October 8, 2021, from Centre for Crime and Justice Studies: ttps://www.crimeandjustice.org.uk/publications/cjm/article/racial-profiling
- Dharlie, Kevin A. & Samanik. (2021). Imagery Analysis in Matsuoka's Cloud of Sparrows. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(1), 17-24.
- Evayani, Widya & Rido, Akhyar. (2019). The representation of social actors in sexual violence issue in The New York Times and The Jakarta Post Newspaper: A critical discourse analysis. Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra, 17(2), 43-55.
- Gal, S., et. al (2020). *Insider*. Retrieved 7 October, 2021, from Insider: https://www.businessinsider.com/us-systemic-racism-in-charts-graphs-data-2020-6?r=US&IR=T
- Habibah, N., & Nurmaily, Ely. (2020). A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado Poem by Edgar Allan Poem. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 78.
- Horowitz, J., Brown, A., & Cox, K. (2019). Pew Research Center. Retrieved October 11, 2021, from Pew Research Center: https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2019/04/09/race-in-america-2019/
- Kiranamita, S., & Samanik. (2021). The Portrayal of Malignant Narcissism as seen in the Main Characters of Disney Movies. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(1), 33-40.
- Pranoto, Budi Eko & Afrilita, Lidia K. (2018). The organization of words in mental lexicon: Evidence from word association test. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra, 16*(1), 26-33.
- Ranti, Dea Via & Nurmaily, Ely. (2021). Racial Profiling on Police Stop and Search Practice as Portrayed in the George Tillman's Movie The Hate U Give. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(2), 93-97.
- Rido, Akhyar. (2015). The Use of Discourse Markers as an Interactive Feature in Science Lecture Discourse in L2 Setting. *TEFLIN Journal*, 21(1), 90-106.
- Samanik, & Lianasari, F. (2016). Antimatter Technology: The Bridge between Science and Religion toward Universe, Creation Theory Illustrated in Dan Brown's Angels and Demons. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 14(2), 18-27.
- Samanik. (2018). Achebe's Things Fall Apart as a Counter Discourse of African Representation in Colonial Literatures. *Linguistics, Literature, & Language Teaching Series*. Bandar Lampung: Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia.
- Setri, Teta I. & Setiawan, Dwi B. (2020). Matriarchal Society in The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(1), 28-33.
- Smedley, A. (2021). Britannica. Retrieved on October 12, 2021 from: https://www.britannica.com/topic/racism.

#### **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

LA POONEST

Vol. 3, No. 2, 150 - 158 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

## THE REPRESENTATION OF SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR IN A STAR IS BORN MOVIE: A FREUDIAN PSYCHOANALYSIS READING

#### Jihans Siska Arnetta<sup>1</sup>, Dina Amelia<sup>2</sup>

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia<sup>1,2</sup>

jihanssiskaarnetta@gmail.com, amelia.dina@teknokrat.ac.id

Received: (November 2022) Accepted: (November 2022) Published: (December 2022)

#### Abstract

This research uses a movie entitled A Star is Born that was released in 2018 as the object of analysis. The movie focuses on the story of a seasoned-musician, namely Jackson Maine, who had difficulties in quitting from drugs and alcohol. The movie ended on the scene of Jack who attempted suicide. Considering the story of the movie, this research aims to examine the portrayal of suicidal behavior in the movie as portrayed through the main character, Jack. In this research, the researcher used descriptive qualitative methods to describe and explain the issue of suicidal behavior in A Star is Born movie. Hence, the data are in the form of dialogues and scenes that were taken from the movie. To analyze the suicidal behavior of Jack through the scenes, the researcher used the theory of suicidal behavior as well as Freudian psychoanalysis. By conducting the analysis, this research found that Jack showed the acts that fulfilled the suicidal behavior according to the American Psychiatric Association (APA). The suicidal behavior of Jack was done due to Jack who often follows his Id, according to the Freudian Psychoanalysis.

Keywords: Freudian psychoanalysis, suicide, suicidal behavior

#### INTRODUCTION

Movie is a unique experiment in the visual arts that has existed since a long time ago (Arnheim, 1957). Additionally, as visual arts, movie as the moving images are based on human emotions and reality, which makes it relatable to society and allow society to get influences (Jogezai, 2020). Hence, a movie often refers to the reflection of reality in the form of art. Considering that, this research took movie as the object of analysis.

Though the movie is a fictional form of literature, the movie can contain real-life issues, according to research that was conducted in 2017 (Das. et al, 2017). Considering that, it can be concluded that the movie contains real-life issues, and its portrayal can be discussed in the form of a research paper.

A movie often contains the material of psychological issues, but unfortunately, society sometimes does not realize that. USC Annenberg Inclusion Initiative with American Foundation for Suicide Prevention researched in 2019 with the result that out of 4.598 characters in movies, 1.7% of them experienced psychological issues (Smith, Choueiti, Choi, Pieper, & Moutier, 2019). The data do not show a very huge percentage of psychological issue portrayal in the movie. Even so, the lack of information and low awareness of the psychological issue can lead society to misunderstand certain psychological issues and the sufferer (Aryangga & Nurmaily, 2017).

To limit broader discussion, the researcher chooses one of the psychological disorders or disturbances to be discussed in this current research. Suicidal behavior is the psychological issue of literature that is discussed in this current research. Suicidal behavior is different from the action of suicide in general, even though suicidal behavior can end up in suicide. A study conducted in 2006 examines the elements that characterized the components of suicidal behavior. In that article, the researchers define the nature of suicidal behavior as an act of the sufferer who has the intention to die (Leo, Kerr, Bertolote, & Kerkhof, 2006). In suicidal behavior, usually, the sufferer wants to die because of reasons outside the control of the individual, and however, the attempt at death was thwarted (Leo, Kerr, Bertolote, & Kerkhof, 2006). Hence, the action is usually known as "failed suicide".

Adam (1967) agreed that it is important to discuss how literature portrays suicidal behavior by emphasizing the study of suicidal ideation as an independent phenomenological entity (Adam, 1967). The complexity of suicidal behavior portrayal in literature needs to be discussed to see the pathological variants and

symptoms of suicidal behavior (Adam, 1967). Considering that, the researcher has chosen one of the movies to be the object of the research. The movie that is chosen is *A Star is Born* which was released in 2018. The movie was produced and directed by Bradley Cooper. With a duration of 136 minutes, the movie *A Star is Born* used English as the original language. The researcher chose that movie because based on the synopsis and the main idea of the movie, the researcher assumed that the movie contains the material of suicidal behavior and can be analyzed by using Freudian Psychoanalysis. The movie told about the forty-three-year-old Jackson Maine who was a famous country rock singer who privately battling an alcohol and drug addiction. The movie focused on the story of Jackson Maine who had difficulties in his life. At the end of the movie, it was shown that Jackson Maine could not handle his problem anymore, so he hang himself in the garage. The portrayal of alcohol abuse and suicide that was portrayed in a movie can be a sign of suicidal behavior (Samaritans, 2020). Therefore, this research will discuss the representation of suicidal behavior in the movie entitled A Star is Born.

This research aims to describe and explain the suicidal behavior as seen in Jackson Maine in *A Star is Born* movie scenes from the perspective of Freudian Psychoanalysis. It is expected that this research can be beneficial for other future researchers who want to conduct similar analysis.

#### **METHOD**

In this research, the researcher used the Freudian psychoanalysis. This research focuses on the psychological issue as seen in a movie, thus the approach of psychology is used as the fundamental of the research. The theory used is Freudian Psychoanalysis. Psychoanalysis itself was originally developed by Sigmund Freud, the theory is now called Freudian Psychoanalysis. Initially, the theory is introduced in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century by Freudians to cure a patient that is believed to have a psychological problem (Amelia & Daud, 2020). However, along with the time, the theory is then used to analyze a literary work (Amelia & Daud, 2020). The theory is so complex and contains many branches. Basically, Freudian psychoanalysis tells about the human psychology, in which there are three elements of human psychology that drives the irrational and unconscious motivation of human (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). Freud developed the concept of Id, Ego, and Superego as the result of his thoughts related to the unconscious mind of the human. The Id, Ego, and Superego are sometimes called and known as the tripartite of Freudian (Amelia & Daud, 2020). The term is given to refer to the three elements in the theory of psychoanalysis by Freudian. The elements meant in the theory are the elements that control the behavior and mind of human. Generally, Id plays a role as the number of uncoordinated instinctual, ego is the organized and realistic part that mediates the id and the superego, while the superego plays a role as a critical and moral role.

According to Freudian psychoanalysis, the Id becomes a psychical province that incorporates instinctual that drives energies (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). Briefly, Id represents the wants, needs, and desires of humans (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). Ego is defined as an impersonal apparatus that aims to de-tension the biological strivings of human (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). Then, there is a special physical agency that emerges to observe the Ego and measure it by its ideal, or known as "ego-ideal", according to Freudian psychoanalysis (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). This self-observing agency is known as Superego. Essentially, Superego is the element of human psychology that controls Id and Ego.

This research is also used the theory of suicidal behavior as this research will focus on the suicidal behavior of Jackson Maine. The theory used is from the Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder (DSM) Fifth Edition. Suicidal behavior refers to the behavior, attitudes, or signs that occur in a person who has tendencies to attempt or commit suicide. By explanation, suicide refers to the act of taking one's own life on purpose, meanwhile suicidal behavior is the action that could cause a person to die (Leo, Kerr, Bertolote, & Kerkhof, 2006).

In DSM-5 suicidal behavior is included in section III and can be defined as any action that could cause a person to die (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). In most cases, suicidal behavior is seen as the comorbidity of other problems, such as bipolar disorder and depression (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). To determine whether a person has suicidal behavior, according to DSM-5 several signs may be considered, which are (American Psychiatric Association, 2013); 1) Within the last 24 months, the sufferer did a suicide attempt; 2) The act that was done does not meet the criteria for non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI). NSSI refers to the injury without suicidal intent, such as burning and scratching without the want to commit suicide; 3) The sufferer expects the set of actions would lead to his or her death; 4) The sufferer thinks about death, suicide plans, or suicide attempts; 5) The sufferer's act is undertaken not for a political or religious objective. Additionally, there are also other specifies, that are divided into current and in remission. The current means that not more than 12-24 months since the last attempt, meanwhile, the remission means that more than 24 months since the last attempt (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

By using those theories, the researcher used descriptive qualitative method to conduct the analysis. Descriptive qualitative method is a method that focuses on analyzing non-numerical data (Rido, Why They Act the Way They Do? Pedagogical Practices of Experienced Vocational English Language Teachers in Indonesia, 2020). The method has a purpose to analyze a character in a work with some specific theory and issue (Tirtaningtias & Setiawan, 2021). Moreover, by using the method, the researcher can see a detail message in a work, text, or literary work (Heaverly & Kasih, 2020). As this research is considered as textual analysis, the descriptive qualitative method is seen suitable for this research. It is because the method allows the researcher to present the data descriptively and using written texts and explanation (Ranti & Nurmaily, 2021). Hence, the data is presented in the form of words, phrases, and sentences, and not in the form of a number (Nababan & Nurmaily, 2021). Hence, the researcher believes that the descriptive qualitative method is the most suitable method for this research, as the method deals with collecting and analyzing information in the form of non-numeric (Samanik, 2021). Moreover, an article in 2007 also agreed that a qualitative method is an approach that involves the discovery that enables the researcher to develop it in detail (Williams, 2007). Meanwhile, to collect the data, the library research method is used, because it allows the researcher to collect the data of written articles and sourcebooks (Farras & Nurmaily, 2020). Further, the data and data source are important because those that will be analyzed in a research (Ramadhani & Setiawan, 2021). In conducting the analysis, the data is needed because it can be the proofs of the analysis (Gulö & Rahmawelly, 2018). In this research, the data were taken from A Star is Born movie, that includes scenes, dialogues, and actions in the movie. The data can be taken from further readings (Istiani & Puspita, 2020), and it will be presented in the form of narration and dialogues (Pranoto & Afrilita, 2018).

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter the researcher provided the discussion about the way suicidal behavior is represented in a movie entitled *A Star is Born*. The discussion focused on the main character, namely Jackson Main. The suicidal behavior also analyzed through Jackson Maine behaviors by using Freudian Psychoanalysis perspective. Hence, the suicidal behavior symptoms and Freudian Psychoanalysis were used to reveal the suicidal behavior of Jackson Maine.

#### 1. Id, Ego, and Superego

This research aimed to see the suicidal behavior of Jackson Maine in a movie entitled *A Star is Born* through the Freudian Psychoanalysis perspective. Hence, the researcher analyzed Jack's existence of Id, Ego, and Superego first. The first element of human's psychology in Freudian Psychoanalysis theory is Id. Generally, Id refers to the secret desire, need, and want of human (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). The element of Id allows human to drive energies and unconscious motivation to do something that is believed can achieve the secret desire, need, and want of an individual (Lapsley & Stey, 2011) In the movie *A Star is Born*, the researcher could find the portrayal of Jack's Id through the reason of why Jack did something.

| Screenshot      | Description  |
|-----------------|--|
| Time: 00.00.32. | Jack took drugs on the backstage before he performed, even so there were many people could see him |

Narration:

"Jackson (Jack) Maine (early 40s) pulls out a prescription pill bottle, dumps a few pills into his hand -- knocks them back -- drinks deeply from a gin on the rocks, the alcohol spilling down his beard... the awaiting crowd just off in the b.g... a male roadie slaps him on the back"

From the datum above, the researcher interpreted what Jack did as an act that was driven by his Id, because he did that without caring about the morality and the perspective of other people. The Freudian Psychoanalysis explained that the Id of humans operates unconsciously, based on the primary process that impels humans to engage in need satisfying and tension-reducing activities, which are experienced as pleasure (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). Hence, when an individual followed the Id, it makes the individual has possibility to not follow the right moral and rules in the society (Cenita, & Nurmaily, 2020). In the datum above, it could be seen that Jack followed his Id by doing something bad in front of many people, without thinking about the morality. It was done because,

according to the theory, Jack needed tension-reducing activity that he then experienced it as pleasure. It was because Jack, as a seasoned musician, did that before he went on stage to perform in front of many people. Therefore, he needed to reduce the tension by consuming drugs and alcohol at the same time. Besides, another reason of Jack abusing alcohol and drugs was because of his unhappy background with his family. He was a lonely-seasoned-musician who tried to stay alive, which later made him followed his Id to reach happiness and freedom. The theory of Id believed that a person may follow the Id to reach the need, including the need of freedom (Lapsley & Stey, 2011).

# Screenshot Time: 00.51.03

Description

Jack went to Arizona with Ally, because at that time he had a concert there. While they were in the Arizona, the hometown of Jack, Ally insisted to go see Jack's father's grave while they were in Arizona. But, instead of seeing his father's grave, Jack only saw a wind farm and his father's grave was not there anymore. Then, Jack in a hurry came to see his brother, namely Bobby.

Dialogue:

"Bam! Jack decks Bobby with a hard punch sending him flat to the ground—Jack: "You sold Dad's ranch! They turned it into a fucking wind farm!"

The researcher interpreted that the moment when Jack punched Bobby was the moment when Jack was driven by his Id. It is because according to the theory of Id, the Id also contains the unwanted memories and wrongful desires of human (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). At that time, Jack was furious when he knew that his father's grave was gone. The anger of Jack came from his unwanted memories related to his father. Though his father was a drunker, his father was the only person he had in his life. Hence, when he knew that his father's grave was gone, and it was gone because his own brother sold it, he got very furious and punched his brother without further ado. Through the act of Jack who got mad and punched and swore at his own brother, even though there were many people at that time, the researcher could interpreted that Jack was driven by his Id due to his unwanted memories and wrongful desires.

## Screenshot Time: 01.31.16 Jack met Ally in the studio, few days after the big fight of Ally and Jack when Ally mocked Jack for being an alcoholic. Few day after that incident, Jack came to say sorry to Ally, and when they met and hug, Ally told that she knew Jack had not been drinking.

Dialogue:

"Ally: "you haven't been drinking"

Jack: "What'd you say?"

Ally: "I said you haven't been drinking. I can tell"

Jack: "No, I haven't. No"

The researcher interpreted the data above as a proof that Jack followed his Ego at that time, because of Ally. As an alcoholic and drug addict, it must be really hard for Jack to stop, because he had been doing that every day for years. Yet, someday, Jack planned to stop doing that because of Ally, which proved that he followed his Ego. In the Freudian Psychoanalysis theory, Ego is defined as the common sense of human, which occurs as the individual's reaction to the need of Id (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). With the need of freedom and happiness of Jack, Jack realized that he could lost his happiness, Ally, if he kept drinking. Hence, Jack used his rational Ego to stop drinking and using drugs, which showed the good impact of Jack's reaction to his own need. Moreover, Ego also consists of reasoning, tolerance, memory, understanding, judgment, as well as planning (Made Yulianti & Setiawan, 2022). The datum above showed that Jack showed reasoning, tolerance, understanding, and planning, because he tried to understand the reason of Ally wanted him to stop.

| Screenshot    | Description  |
|---------------|--|
| Time:01.39.56 | Jack finally went to the group session in the rehabilitation. Jack finally decided to go there after there was an incident of Jack who almost died because she committed suicide by using drugs and alcohol. |

Dialogue:

"Carl, the group therapist, stares jack down as sits at one of many chairs circled up, group therapy in midsession...

Carl: "Jack, hey"

Jack: "Sorry. sorry i'm late" Carl: "Can't be late, jack" Jack: "Understood, sorry"

Carl (to jack): "Anything you wanna tell us?

Jack: "Um... i'm grateful to... to be here, and, uh, trying to hold it together... (a beat) i'm jack, i'm an

alcoholic"

Rehab members "Jack... "
Jack: "Drug addict""

The researcher interpreted the datum above as the Superego of Jack because Jack did that without anyone's instruction. Ally even at first had no idea that Jack went to a rehab. It means that Jack went there because of his own will. The action of Jack was in line with the Superego explanation. The explanation of Superego believed that the existence of Superego makes an individual had inner voice that constantly reminding the individual to be good and follow the morality (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). In the datum above, Jack showed had his own reminder to be good and follow the morality by going to a group session and tried to quit from alcohol and drugs. Moreover, the datum above showed that Jack tried to avoid the bad consequences of alcohol and drugs, by trying to stop the use of both.

#### 2. Suicide Attempt Within the Last 24 Months

The first suicidal behavior as published by APA in DSM-5 is characterized when an individual attempt suicide at least in the last 24 months (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). Through this sign, the suicidal behavior sufferer can be seen and characterized through the way they tried to end their life, consciously or unconsciously (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

| Screenshot    | Description  |
|---------------|--|
| Time:01.34.30 | At that time he was in the greenroom, which is a room for the performer before perform. He was waiting for his performance in the event of tribute to Roy Orbison. Jack drank for a glass of gin, and in the background there was many people in the room. |

Narration:

"Jack is in the packed greenroom, drinking as much and as quickly as he can...pops a couple of pills for good measure...and there's a sense, despite where he is at, he's a man without a country..."

At first, Jack was called to be the performance to sing and play guitar in the tribute to Roy Orbison. However, at the day of the rehearsal, he suddenly got an information that he would not sing in that tribute, because someone else would. Though Jack was very disappointed, he still wanted to perform even though he just became the guitarist. He was actually very sad hearing that news as he felt painful to see himself relegated to just playing as a backup. He felt like he was being forgotten and not being the main singer anymore. When it happened, at the same time, he heard the news that Ally got three nominations at Grammy Award. The researcher could see that the situation of Ally and Jack was very in contrast, where Ally in the peak of her career, and Jack in the lowest phase of his career. It then made Jack became more stress, hurt, and mad. He felt like he was on the lowest, so he

tried to kill himself on the day of his performance, which is the same day of the Grammy Award. As could be seen in the datum above, in the greenroom, just minutes before the performance, Jack drank as many gin as he could and combined it with several smashed-pills that he had prepared on his pocket. The researcher interpreted that action as an action of Jack to escape the reality and the feelings of him being forgotten. The researcher then saw that action as the action of Jack that was driven by his Id, which wanted to be seen and remembered. Jack showed the needs of companion and affection. Hence, when he did not get it, his Id told him to do something to gain it. The elements of Id represents the wants, needs, and desires of humans (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). Thus, the action above was done by Jackson Maine as his effort to take his own life, because he wanted to get affection and wanted to be remembered. The proved that Jack attempted suicide recently due to his psychological problem, showed that he had successfully fulfilled the first suicidal behavior sign.

#### 3. Non-NSSI Act

The second sign of suicidal behavior according to DSM-5 is the act done by the sufferer is a non-NSSI act (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). It means that the action should not meet the NSSI criteria. NSSI itself refers to non-suicidal self-injury, which refers to the self-injury caused by a non-suicidal thought (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). In other words, when an individual gets injury, but without the wants or thoughts of suicide, it cannot be included as suicidal behavior.

#### Screenshot

#### Time:01.11.20



#### Description

It happened after the scene where Noodles, Jack's friend found him fell on the grass by the roadside. The picture above showed that Jack already sober in the morning when he talked to his friend, Noodle, in Noodle's house.

"Jack: "Yeah. Bunch of others, too. Got hooked up with some manager guy, wants to...you know..."

Noodles: "She's good, bro"

Jack: "I know"

Noodles: "Maybe she's a way out"

At that time, in the datum above, Jack had a conversation with Noodles related to Jack's reason fell down on the grass due to drugs and alcohol's effect. Noodles discussed about the video of Jack and Ally who sang a song together on the stage, and the video went viral. Actually, both Jack and Noodles knew that Ally was talented and good and singing. However, when Jack talked about Ally great progress of having a great manager, Jack said it with a sad face. Through the way Jack said the dialogue, the researcher interpreted that it was something that Jack did not want to talk about, because it made him sad. At the end of the conversation, Noodles said that maybe Ally can be a way out for Jack.

Therefore, the datum above proved that what was done by Jack, the suicidal attempt, was driven by his Id and it was not NSSI act at all, because it was because of his psychological and not because of accident. It is explained that the act done by the sufferer is a non-NSSI act (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). The act of Jack, as had been explained, was not NSSI act because it intentionally done by Jack, and not an accident.

#### 4. Set of Actions that Leads to Death

The third criteria of suicidal behavior according to DSM-5 is the set of actions done by the individual have possibilities to lead the individual to death (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). Simply, what is done can make the individual die. It is explained that the substance use disorder (alcohol abuse and/or drug abuse) also can be the criteria of suicidal behavior as the substance use disorder can lead to death as well (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

| Screenshot    | Description   |
|---------------|---|
| Time:01.39.38 | Ally tried to wake Jack up in the bathroom under the shower. Meanwhile Jack lost his consciousness and laid on the bathroom floor. The scene happened after the incident of Jack who fell on the stage of Grammy Awards |

Dialogue:

"Ally looks at Jack, completely a waste on the shower floor...the water pouring over him... despite still being in her gown, she kneels down beside him...

Ally: "You gotta sit up. I don't want you to choke, baby. Sit up!"

Jack (slurring): "All right, I, I must've taken too much""

The datum above showed that Ally looked Jack who collapsed on the floor, nearly died. Ally looked so panic, and with still using her gown, she tried to get Jack up, because Jack nearly choked and died. In the datum, it was shown that Jack was talking while slurring, which means that Jack did not speak clearly due to the effect of drugs and alcohol, which made him choked. What was done and suffered by Jack at that time is in line with the third sign of suicidal behavior. It is believed that the substance use disorder (alcohol abuse and/or drug abuse) also can be the criteria of suicidal behavior as the substance use disorder can lead to death as well (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). Hence, the datum above showed that Jack fulfilled the third sign of suicidal behavior.

#### 5. The Thoughts about Death, Suicide Plans, or Suicide Attempts

The fourth sign of suicidal behavior according to DSM-5 is the sufferer may show thoughts or acts that are related to suicide plans, suicide attempts, or something that can kill herself/himself (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). Simply, through this sign, the sufferer shows the willingness to end himself/herself in any way possible (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

| Screenshot    | Description   |
|---------------|---|
| Time:01.09.57 | Jack was unconsciously fell asleep among the bushes by<br>the roadside. The picture showed Noodles, Jack's friend,<br>who tried to pull Jack from the bush. |

Dialogue:

"Noodles: "Jack. I feel like we've done this before. Didn't think we'd do it so soon, man"

We see that Jack is looking up at him, lying in a field of ivy. Rough night.

Noodles: "Come on, bro. get up. All right. There we go"

Noodles helps Jack stumble to his feet. They head for the house"

Through the datum above, the researcher interpreted that Jack, affected by his Id, planned and had a thought to attempt suicide by drinking much pills of drugs with alcohol. He did that a day after Ally rejected his invitation and at the same day of Ally's tour. It was a coincidence that has been planned by Jack because he was actually mad that Ally chose her career over him. It was in line with the theory of Id that stated the Id becomes a psychical province that incorporates instinctual that drives energies (Lapsley & Stey, 2011). Hence, it could be seen that in the situation above, Jack was driven and got energies from his Id. The act of Jack was also in line with the theory of suicidal behavior, where in the fourth symptom it was explained the sufferer shows the willingness to end himself/herself in any way possible (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). The explanation above showed that Jack planned to end himself by using alcohol and drugs, even though it was not succeed at the end.

#### 6. The Act is Non-Political or Religious Objective

The last suicidal behavior according to DSM-5 is the act done is a non-political or religious objective act (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). In other words, the sufferer's act is undertaken not for a political or religious objective, instead it is taken due to the psychological of the sufferer.

| Screenshot    | Description   |
|---------------|---|
| Time:01.01.30 | Jack suddenly fell down due to alcohol and drugs, just after Ally told about her career |

Dialogue:

"Thunk! Jack crashes to the floor.

Concerned party member: "You all right, Jack?"

Ally: "He's okay. He's fine. He does this all the time"

Jack gets up and casually walks away without the slightest bit of acknowledgment to Ally's career-shifting moment"

At that time, Ally told Jack that there was an amazing producer that wanted to bring in to record Ally's songs. But, instead of happy to hear the good news from Ally, Jack suddenly crashed to the floor. He was suddenly drunk badly until she fell to the floor. After that, it was shown that Jack got up and walked away, without caring about Ally's career-shifting moment. Through that scene, the researcher interpreted that Jackson was jealous of Ally because Ally was approached by a famous producer who wanted to record Ally's songs. After the scene in the datum above, Ally also stated to Jack that he just jealous of her. From that, it showed that Jack's problems, especially in the alcohol addiction, was caused by his life. In that case, Jack was jealous and annoyed because the only person he had, Ally, probably would leave him for the music management, even though Jack was actually the one who made Ally famous. Hence, the datum above showed that the suicidal behavior of Jack was caused by what happened in his life, instead of because of the politic or religion.

#### CONCLUSION

After conducting the analysis by using the suicidal behavior and Freudian psychoanalysis theory, the researcher could answer the research question and the research objective of this current research. The research was conducted using descriptive qualitative method, where the result and findings were presented descriptively. From the analysis, it could be seen that the main character of the movie *A Star is Born* was seen suffering from the suicidal behavior. It was because the character, Jackson Maine, fulfilled all the six symptoms of suicidal behavior, according to DSM-5.

The suicidal behavior shown by Jack in the movie was caused by his Id, who seek for freedom and happiness. It is because the Id contains the unwanted memories and wrongful desires of human. Because Jack wanted to get rid the feelings of loneliness, lack of freedom, and unhappiness, he then showed the suicidal behavior through the symptoms of suicidal behavior, as had been explained. Hence, he often followed his Id to get those feelings, which was by running away from his miserable life, through suicide. He wanted to get rid the burden, which according to his Id, could be done by suicide. Even so in several cases Jack followed his Ego and Superego because of his girlfriend, Ally, the proof that he fulfilled all the symptoms of suicidal behavior and at the end attempted suicide, proved that in most of the time Jack followed his Id.

#### REFERENCES

- Adam, K. (1967). Suicide: A Critical Review of the Literature. *Canadian Psychiatric Association Journal*, 416-418.
- Amelia, D., & Daud, J. (2020). Freudian Tripartite on Detective Fiction: The Tokyo Zodiac Murders. *Language Literacy: Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Language Teaching*, 299-304.
- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition*. Arlington: American Psychiatric Association.
- Arnheim, R. (1957). Film as Art. London: University of California Press.
- Aryangga, A., & Nurmaily, E. (2017). Women's Power and Stereotype Denial in Pocahontas Movie. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 15(1), 46-52.
- Cenita, L., & Nurmaily, E. (2020). *Methaporical Expression in Emily Dicknison's Poems*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 1(1), 46-54.
- Farras, P., & Nurmaily, E. (2020). A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado Poem by Edgar Allan Poem. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 78.
- Gulö, I., & Rahmawelly, T, V. (2018). An analysis of omission in students' English writings. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 16(2), 55-59.
- Heaverly, A., & Kasih, E. (2020). Jane Austen's View on the Industrial Revolution in Pride and Prejudice. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 1(1), 2.
- Istiani, R & Puspita, Dian. (2020). Interactional metadiscourse used in bloomberg international debate. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(1), 13-20.
- Jogezai, F. (2020). Film Theory and It's Application. Term Paper, 3-10.
- Lapsley, D., & Stey, P. (2011). Id, Ego, and Superego. Encyclopedia of Human Behavior, 1-4.
- Leo, D., Kerr, S., Bertolote, J., & Kerkhof, A. (2006). Definitions of Suicidal Behavior: Lessons Learned from the WHO/EURO Mukticentre Study. *The Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention*, 4-10.
- Made Yulianti, N., & Setiawan, D. B. (2022). *Emotional Abuse of the Main Characters in After Movie by Jenny Gage*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 3(1), 18-23.
- Nababan, R., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). The Hypermasculinity as seen in the Main Character in Rambo: Last Blood Movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(1), 26.
- Pranoto, Budi Eko & Afrilita, Lidia K. (2018). The organization of words in mental lexicon: evidence from world association test. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 16(1), 26-33.
- Ramadhani, A., & Setiawan, D. (2021). Gender Dysphoria as seen in Normal Movie. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 124.
- Ranti, D., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). Racial Profiling on Police Stop and Search Practice as Portrayed in the George Tillman's Movie The Hate U Give. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 94.
- Rido, A. (2020). Why They Act the Way They Do? Pedagogical Practices of Experienced Vocational English Language Teachers in Indonesia. *International Journal of Language Education*, 24-30.
- Samanik, S. (2021). *Imagery Analysis in Matsuoka's Cloud of Sparrows*. Linguistics and Literature Journal, 2(1), 17-24.
- Samaritans. (2020). Depiction of Suicide and Self-Harm in Literature. 3-5.
- Smith, S., Choueiti, M., Choi, A., Pieper, K., & Moutier, C. (2019). *Mental Health Conditions in Film & TV:*\*Portrayals that Dehumanize and Trivialize Characters. America: USC Annenberg Inclusion Initiative & American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.
- Tirtaningtias, H., & Setiawan, D. (2021). Trickster Archetype as seen in Harry Potter Movies the Fourth and the Fifth Series. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 41.
- Williams, C. (2007). Research Method. Journal of Business & Economic Research, 65-67.

#### **Linguistics and Literature Journal**

Tenno Penno Penno

Vol. 3, No. 2, 159 – 163 E-ISSN: 2723-7273



available online at: http://jim.teknokrat.ac.id/index.php/linguistics\_and\_literature/index

## THE UNFULFILLED GENDER STEREOTYPE IN LAMB TO THE SLAUGHTER BY ROALD DAHL

#### Anna Sriastuti<sup>1</sup>, E. Ngestirosa Endang Woro Kasih<sup>2</sup>

Satya Wacana Christian University<sup>1</sup>, Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia<sup>2</sup>

anna.sriastuti@uksw.edu<sup>1</sup>, ngestirosa@teknokrat.ac.id<sup>2</sup>

**Received :** (November 2022) **Accepted :** (December 2022) **Published :** (December 2022 )

#### Abstract

As society is filled with diversity, such as differences in race, skin colour, culture, religion, and economy, it is common that each society has formed its own perception over things that happen around them. Stereotypes are among the most striking differences in perception. There may be perceptions regarding an unequal assessment of a community group based on attitudes and opinions, leading to wrong beliefs and losses for one party. Stereotypes are like masks put on individuals. Masks cover up individual characteristics and make the people wearing them look alike. The issue of stereotypes is very complicated, and it is sometimes hard because it changes how society views something, which sometimes is not the truth. Lamb to the Slaughter by Roald Dahl delivers a story of a housewife who kills her husband with a frozen lamb tight. What the husband and the wife do in this short story break the gender roles stereotypes labelled by the society. This article will analyse how the stereotypes are broken.

Keywords: gender roles, society, stereotypes

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Discussion about stereotypes has been flowing for centuries. Stereotypes can be related to any social group, whether it is based on one's career, nationality, and religion. "Stereotypes are like masks put on individuals. Masks cover up individual characteristics and make the people wearing them look alike" (Cai, 1992, p. 15). In other words, masks hide distinct characteristics and make those wearing them resemble one another. Stereotyping also converts natural persons into constructed, artificial people. Therefore, a stereotype can be a false perception that someone or something has, particularly an untrue one. In the case of America, for instance, America, known to have many races and tribes, might have stereotypes that are believed or rejected to be accurate descriptions of America. While some see America as a land of opportunity, others might consider it a dangerous place, both physically and mentally. Some might think of Americans as passionate and hardworking people. In American culture, people are highly motivated to work individually. They tend to emphasize terms of independence that allow them to actively shape their destinies, which means that you are free to pursue your goals, often in your way (Sriastuti, Adi & Rokhman, 2021; Fithtratullah, 2021; Kasih, 2019). On the contrary, others might argue that Americans are relaxed, loud, obnoxious, lazy, racist, and gun-obsessed. Differences in the cultural background are often an obstacle in the process of intercultural communication. This is due to different assessments of good or bad or right or wrong measurements. These differences in judgments can trigger misunderstandings that lead to prejudice. People have long lived in stereotypes. Adjusting to the standard role given by society is only sometimes something that needs to be done. Many consequences occur because people believe that stereotypes that have been in force for a long time become role models as a standard. Even though precisely, in this case, it certainly has its weaknesses, which could be that stereotypes are not always true.

One of the stereotypes that become popular in society is gender stereotypes. In this perspective, women are often labeled as emotional, whereas men are rational (Casad & Bryant, 2016). Women use their emotions often and are considered weak, irrational, and unknowledgeable. On the other hand, as men use their ratio, they are considered more intelligent and decisive. This leads to the gender roles applied to men and women. Women are associated with domestic work, such as taking care of the children and husbands, cooking, and doing the house chores, while men take care of finances and work outside the house (Buttler, 1999). In short, the world of work applies the stereotype that men will usually work in fields that require energy and intelligence while women will work in the care sector, such as being a nurse. If the world allowed women to work in the industry like men, their positions would not be the same. Using a sample of 230 respondents from previous studies on gender stereotypes in India, Khandelwal (2002) found that male managers were portrayed as working in production, sales, and

marketing, as bosses, leaders, and good decision-makers, and as being more likely to take on challenging fieldwork and assignments. Gender stereotypes became an important issue after the discrimination against women due to this distinction (Tabassum & Nayak, 2021). Various movements emerged to defend gender equality and eliminate this gender stereotype. However, this does not arbitrarily make people aware of the social roles that have gone wrong. This is evidenced by the many issues of gender stereotypes that are still firmly held by society even today. This stereotype can also be seen in literature, where female characters are portrayed as a weaker party than men.

Lamb to the Slaughter by Roald Dahl was published in 1954. It delivers a story of a housewife who killed her husband with a frozen lamb tight. The story characters that are highlighted are husband and wife, Mary Maloney and Patrick. This story is about a woman who is in a marriage that is almost oppressive. When she finds out that her husband plans to leave, she kills him and leaves no evidence for the police to find. Through the use of assumed gender roles and their reversal, Lamb to the Slaughter depicts a woman's successful escape from her oppressive marriage and the role society had assigned to her. The setting and the way Mary Maloney and her husband fit into their roles as married people are shown at the beginning of the story. The narrative begins with Mary Maloney, a pregnant woman, waiting for her husband to return home. Mary, embracing her role as a devoted and loving wife, is content with carrying out the responsibilities that are expected of her. When her husband comes home from work, they behave in the manner that is typical of a couple in this era, that is, the wife tries to do everything she can to make her husband happy by offering to help him and doing whatever she thinks will make him happy. However, he does not treat her with respect and acts entitled to her attention, as was almost always the case in those kinds of relationships. The author of story centers the differences of men and women position.

Miller and Lachman (1992) states "when an author assigns general characteristics to a group particularly if those characteristics have long been attributed to the group rather than exploring its members' diversity and individuality, it can be said that the author has engaged in stereotyping" (p. 16). Whether used in literary criticism or in sociological studies, stereotype is a pejorative term that denotes an oversimplified generalization that trivializes individual differences and complexities. Stereotypes prepare us for interactions with members of a group we have never met. However, it can also lead to bad attitudes and behaviours toward members of a social group. Thus, stereotypes might be the inspiration behind the most terrible actions that people are capable of. Stereotype might figure in many contexts such as gender tradition roles, cultural, socio-historical, etc. In gender traditional roles for example, it says that women should be staying at home, taking care of her husband, and many other things that represent her domesticity and traditional roles of women. Women are also often described as innocent and graceful creations. The stereotype of men says that men should be the financial providers. This kind of stereotype leads the society to put women's position under men.

Gender roles stereotype is highlighted the most in *Lamb to the Slaughter*. In general, the stereotypes of women roles say that women should be staying at home, taking care of her husband, and many other things that represent her domesticity. Women are also seen as innocent and graceful. On the other hand, the stereotype of men says that men should be strong, powerful, and must work hard as the financial providers. Apart from the oppression and less appreciation, the female character in the story has to first satisfy herself with the role labelled to her before she finally takes an action to protest toward the situation. From this it can be seen that even though the stereotype of the role of women in society has existed for a long time and according to this, the role of women will indeed be subject to men. However, the prevailing stereotypes are not always true, the stereotyped roles of women and men in society are not always agreed upon. This is why women's roles are often more complicated and most women disagree with the roles assigned to them. The purpose of the research conducted based on the background of this story is to find out whether women are against stereotyped gender roles which are accepted standards in society.

#### **METHOD**

This research paper is conducted under a descriptive qualitative method. As Bogdan and Biklen have stated, qualitative research should deal with a natural, descriptive setting, emphasize the process rather than the result, and be inductive and interpretative (1992, pp. 29–32). The qualitative method can also be used to analyze social phenomena by interpretation and criticism (Denzin & Lincoln, 2005, p. 2). Additionally, the qualitative method is chosen because this study aims to explore a particular phenomenon (i.e. gender stereotypes in a short story). The descriptive qualitative method also allowed the researcher to provide the data through narrations and dialogues (Kasih, Amelia, and Fithtratullah, 2022). In this method, the researcher has to build abstracts, concepts, and theories as a research framework. Moreover, the qualitative research method is the research that focuses on understanding a phenomenon and studying it more effectively to find the meaning of the phenomenon discussed and describe a phenomenon in word form and a particular context by utilizing several natural methods to support the primary methodology (Rido & Sari, 2018; Kasih & Strid, 2020). The qualitative descriptive method qualifies scientific data related to each other so that they can be compiled into a scientific and objective conclusion. Therefore, researchers need to organize data, choose which ones are important to study, and make conclusions that are easy to understand (Gulo & Rahmaely, 2020; Kuswoyo, 2016). Through data, the writer can gain information,

and it can help the writer reach the research objective (Amelia & Daud, 2021). Thus the primary data were taken from dialogue, images, and the narrations about gender stereotypes in *Lamb to the Slaughter* (1954) short story written by Road Dahl. Some studies were also needed to support and strengthen the analysis. The writer also employed several sources, journals, and papers as supporting ideas regarding the issue of gender stereotypes. The study applied a sociological gender approach to defining gender stereotypes theories from Casad and Wexler (2017). As Creswell (2007) stated, data were collected first by closely reading the source of data to find the data related to the research topic. Secondly, the data were categorized and displayed based on the research topic (Creswell, 2007, pp. 276–284).

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In the beginning of the story, it is told that Mary, a pregnant wife, is sewing while waiting for her husband to return home from work. "Mary Maloney was waiting for her husband to come him from work. Now and again she would glance up at the clock, but without anxiety, merely to please herself with the thought that each minute gone by made it nearer the time when he would come" (Dahl, 1954, p. 1). This is a description of a regular wife in a family. Mary has to wait anxiously for a husband so this makes Mary a weak person who has to wait for her husband. Under normal conditions, a woman can also do other work that does not place herself as a man waiting at home. The text has stereotyped the position of woman and man, Mary and her husband. Stereotype oversimplifies generalization that trivializes individual differences and complexities. The gender stereotpes belief "reflect perceivers' knowledge and expectations about women, men, transgender, and other gendered people" (Casad and Wexler, 2017, p. 2). The issue of stereotypes is very complicated, and it is sometimes hard because it changes how society views something, which sometimes is not the truth. Stereotypes might be good because our mental resources are constrained and we need to organize our social environments. Mary has been put the condition as the one who must take care the house and the child. On the other hand, her husband is never placed to the activities at home.

As an obedient wife, she is ready to serve her husband's home as her daily routine. Later her husband returns from work by hanging up his coat, preparing the drink, and preparing the supper. As a good wife should be, Mary is supposed to remain in the home as a housewife while her husband is at work. Mary exemplifies the conventional duties of women as child-bearers and domestic workers throughout her pregnancy. When her husband arrives home, Mary serves her husband well. "She took his coat and hung it in the closet. Then she walked over and made the drinks, a strongish one for him, a weak one for herself; and soon she was back again in her chair with the sewing, and he in the other, opposite, holding the tall glass with both hands, rocking it so the ice cubes tinkled against the side." (Dahl, 1954, p. 2). Mary's act is another example of her wifely duties. Mary really brings out the stereotype of women as a wife in her actions. She serves her husband even though she is still busy sewing, which means her husband needs to support her with money. Mary needs to fulfill her clothes by sewing. Mary also positions to have different kinds of drink that 'a strongest one' must be for a man and 'the weak' must be for a woman. Mary places herself on managing everything and puts herself into woman stereotypes. Stereotypes about women's roles are also influenced by societies that are consistent about women's roles. This aligns with role alignment theory (Eagly & Karau, 2002). The role of women that is very common and developed in society is women who are allocated for household work and men for paid work roles (Cabrera et al., 2009). Society then accepts these skills as normative and feeds into fundamental gender roles, which are descriptive and prescriptive in defining how women and men usually do and should behave.

Mary also offers her husband to eat the supper, "Darling," she said. "Would you like me to get you some cheese? I haven't made any supper because it's Thursday." (Dahl, 1954, p. 3). In this part, her husband also portrays stereotypes over men, meaning that her husband has fulfilled responsibility as a financial provider. Although his refusal to have the dinner is a signal of his power over his wife as a decision maker. Mary's efforts to please her husband seem not enough for her husband. Without any proceeding sign, her husband askes her to sit down and be a passive listener. "Sit down," he said. "Just for a minute, sit down." It wasn't till then that she began to get frightened. (Dahl, 1954, p.3). Mary still has no idea with Patrick's intention, she does nothing but obeys his husband because she is aware that the man is the leader of the house.

However, her husband's next words strikes her badly.

"So there it is," he added. "And I know it's kind of a bad time to be telling you, bet there simply wasn't any other way. Of course I'll give you money and see you're looked after. But there needn't really be any fuss. I hope not anyway. It wouldn't be very good for my job." (Dahl, 1954, p. 3)

It is not clearly stated why his husband does this, but it is enough to explain that her husband is likely leaving her in divorce. Some who enter marriages may not know how much of an ego their new spouse actually has. Stereotype of a good husband or a good wife cannot directly take arrogance from people's minds and personalities. Arrogant individuals have the ability to succeed, not only in their careers but life in general (Milyavsky *et.al.* 2017). Arrogant individuals can be difficult to interact with, causing conflict avoidance with those who interact with them on a

daily basis. They can exhibit their dominance in social situations, which can lead them to obtaining some levels of power. Arrogant individuals can believe themselves to be superior, just like Patrick. It is true that her husband stated that he would give Mary and her unborn child money for living, meaning that he is still the financial provider. However, he breaks the stereotype that men should be the protector of the family. He leaves his family when his family needs him the most.

Furious, Mary took a frozen lamb thigh as a weapon to kill her husband. Mary breaks the stereotype that women should be innocent, graceful, and obedient. On the contrary, Mary not wanting to comply with her husband's request, Mary rebels and even kills her husband. This shows that she is not weak and does not have to obey her husband. She can rebel when it feels wrong for her. "At that point, Mary Maloney simply walked up behind him and without any pause she swung the big frozen leg of lamb high in the air and brought it down as hard as she could on the back of his head." (Dahl, 1954).

She feels disappointed with her husband because she does not receive what she deserves even after she plays after she plays her role well as a wife. Her husband fails to fulfil responsibilities as a husband and father. Being treated unfairly after all her devotion to her family makes Mary upset and takes actions in anger. After killing her husband, she tries to remove the evidence by cooking the lamb in the oven.

"She carried the meat into the kitchen, placed it in a pan, turned the oven on high, and shoved t inside. Then she washed her hands and ran upstairs to the bedroom. She sat down before the mirror, tidied her hair, touched up her lops and face. She tried a smile. It came out rather peculiar. She tried again." (Dahl, 1954)

Try to escape from the situation, Mary persuades the policemen and the detectives to eat her cooked lamb. Although it is in a negative way, Mary's efforts to get rid of trouble is a proof that woman can be stronger, more clever and powerful than man. Women can also stand over men in society either in a good way or bad way. Women are not always weak and can never do such things.

"Here you all are, and good friends of dear Patrick's too, and helping to catch the man who killed him. You must be terrible hungry by now because it's long past your suppertime, and I know Patrick would never forgive me, God bless his soul, if I allowed you to remain in his house without offering you decent hospitality. Why don't you eat up that lamb that's in the oven. It'll be cooked just right by now." (Dahl, 1954)

Mary's actions break the stereotypes labelled to women. Clearly, Mary does not fit the stereotype that a woman is caring and loving. But in any point of view, taking a person's life will never be an act of caring and loving.

Finally, this story involves gender issues between Mary and her husband, Patrick, who can be raised and analyzed by correlating the stereotypes between women and men roles. Stereotypes of gender roles make society think that men are higher than women, and women are demanded to obey men, especially in husband-wife relationships. However, the story breaks the stereotype of gender roles. At first, Mary Maloney is an obedient wife who fulfills her responsibility as a good wife by serving and obeying her husband well. She is a good actor in the woman stereotype. In return, she hopes her husband will treat her like she does. However, the reality is not what she wants, as her husband divorces her while pregnant. As a protest, Mary takes the frozen lamb thigh, swings it to her husband's head, and kills him. It shows she is not weak and can 'fight' her husband's oppression and unfair treatment. By doing this, she breaks the stereotype that women are weak. Her disobedience and courage to defend her rights shock society because Mary's action lets her become a murderer. Mary's husband, Patrick, also shows stereotypes in the story. Men are expected to be the head of a family by providing financial and family protection. Patrick has done his role and responsibility as a financial provider by working. However, his decision to leave his pregnant wife has failed him to be a family protector as what society labels man should be. It breaks the stereotype that men should protect women. Instead of protecting and loving his family, Patrick chose to leave Mary and her unborn child at a terrible time when his wife and unborn child needed him the most. Mary's action has triggered a reason to conduct research whether women who are against stereotyped gender roles can be accepted the society

#### **CONCLUSION**

Lamb to the Slaughter by Roald Dahl tells a story about a housewife who kills her husband using a frozen lamb thigh. The story portrays stereotypes that are shown by the characters Mary Maloney and her husband, Patrick. However, instead of supporting the stereotype of gender roles, it breaks them. In society, women should be staying at home, taking care of her husband, and many other things that represent her domesticity. Women are also seen as innocent and graceful. On the other hand, the stereotype of men says that men should be strong, powerful, and must work hard as the financial providers. In the story, these stereotypes are denied. Mary Maloney through her action breaks the rules that women should be innocent and obedient. By killing her husband, Mary shows her rebel toward her husband's unfair decision to divorce her while she has played her part as a good wife.

It shows that women can also rebel and do not have to always follow the rules. On the other hand, Patrick, as a husband, fails to play his role as a family protector as he intends to divorce his wife while she is pregnant. Patrick breaks the stereotype that men should protect their family. From this analysis, it can be seen that stereotype can be wrong as it works as a mask which is put to give label over something.

#### **REFERENCES**

- Amelia, D. & Daud, J. (2020). Freudian Tripartile on Detective Fiction: The Tokyo Zodiac Murders. *Language Literacy: Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Language Teaching*, 4(2), 299-305.
- Bogdan, R. C., & Biklen, S. K. (1992). Qualitative Research for Education. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Butler, J. (1999). Gender Trouble Feminism and Subversion of Identity. New York and London: Routledge.
- Cabrera, S. F., Sauer, S. J., & Thomas-Hunt, M. C. (2009). The evolving manager stereotype: The effects of industry gender typing on performance expectations for leaders and their teams. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 33(4), 419–428.
- Cai, Mingshui (1992). Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults. Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults, Reflections on Critical Issues, Greenwood Press. Pdf.
- Casad, B.J. & Wexler, B.R. (2017). Gender Roles. In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Psychology and Gender*. (Ed.) Kevin L. Nadal.
- Casad, BJ and Bryant, WJ (2016) Addressing Stereotype Threat is Critical to Diversity and Inclusion in Organizational Psychology. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 7(8), 1-18. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2016.00008
- Creswell, J. W. (2007). *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches* (Second). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publication.
- Dahl, Roald (1954). Lamb to the Slaughter. https://www.rsf.gsacrd.ab.ca/eteacher\_download/1119/35642
- Denzin, N. K., & Lincoln, Y. S. (Eds.). (2005). *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research* (Third Edit). California: Sage Publications, Inc.
- Eagly, A. H., Karau, S. J., & Makhijani, M. G. (1995). Gender and the effectiveness of leaders: A meta-analysis. *Psychological Bulletin*, 117, 125-145. doi:10.1037/0033-2909.117.1.125
- Fithratullah, M. (2021). Representation of Korean Values Sustainability in American Remake Movie. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 19(1), 60-73.
- Gulö, I., & Rahmawelly. (2018). An Analysis of Omission in Students' English Writings. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 16(2), 55-59.
- Kasih, E. N. E. W., Amelia, D., and Fithtratullah. M. (2021). Unraveling Students' Attitude of Using Blog for Online Learning in Literature Class. *Universitas Riau International Conference on Education Technology* (URICET), pp. 419-424, doi: 10.1109/URICET53378.2021.9865946.
- Kasih, E. N. (2018). Redefining Hybridity of Chicano Literature in Jimenez's Fictions. *International Journal of Diaspora & Cultural Criticism*, 8(2), 294-319.
- Kasih, E.N., & Strid, J.E. (2020). Reconstructing the Border: Social Integration in Reyna Grande's The Distance Between Us. *International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change*, 14(9), 702-715.
- Khandelwal, P. (2002). Gender stereotypes at work: implications for organizations. *Indian Journal of Training and Development*, 32(2), 72–83.
- Kuswoyo, H. (2016). Thematic Structure in Barack Obama's Press Conference: A Systemic Functional Grammar Study. *Advances in Language and Literary Studies*, 7(2), 257-267. <a href="https://doi.org/10.7575/aiac.alls.v.7n.2">https://doi.org/10.7575/aiac.alls.v.7n.2</a>
- Miller, L. M. and Lachman, M. E. (2000) Cognitive Performance and the Role of Control Beliefs in Midlife. *Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition*, 7(2), 69-85.
- Milyavsky M, Kruglanski AW, Chernikova M, Schori-Eyal N. (2017). Evidence for arrogance: On the relative importance of expertise, outcome, and manner. *PLoS ONE*, *12*(7), 1-31. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0180420
- Rido, A. and Sari, M.S. (2018). Characteristics of Classroom Interaction of English Language Teachers in Indonesia and Malay. *International Journal of Language Education*, 2(1), 40-50.
- Sriastuti, A., Adi, R.A., Rokhman, M.A. (2021). Capitalism and Socialism As Ideological Constructions In American Dystopian Novels. *Rubicon*, 8(2), 91-105
- Tabassum, N. and Nayak, S. (2021). Gender Stereotypes and Their Impact on Women's Career Progressions from a Managerial Perspective. *IIM Kozhikode Society & Management Review 10*(2) 192–208.





### **UNIVERSITAS TEKNOKRAT INDONESIA**

Zainal Abidin Pagaralam No. 9-11 Bandar Lampung <u>www.teknokrat.ac.id</u> <u>www.fsip.teknokrat.ac.id</u>

