

## THE VICTORY OF SUPER EGO TOWARD ANNA KARENINA'S CHARACTER IN TOLSTOY'S NOVEL ANNA KARENINA

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### Abstract

This Research emphasized the uses of psychoanalysis in analyzing the psychological aspect of a person in making decision. The author chose the Novel written by Tolstoy, one of the famous Russian novelists, entitled Anna Karenina. Based on the quotation and narration in the novel, the researcher tried to prove that the super ego aspect can get the victory toward main character, Anna Karenina. Psychoanalysis is a theory which is introduced by Sigmund Freud. This theory reveals about two most important parts of human psyche, conscious and unconscious mind. From the two important parts than arise the mind apparatus. It consists of three parts called id, ego and super ego. Simply the id can say as desire, the super ego is the rules in society, written or unwritten and the ego is the action. Based on the understanding, the researcher proves that the super ego is society rules that can affect the life of person, in this case, Anna Karenina. Society with its judgment, has won many parts of Anna's life until she committed to suicide because of her guilty feeling. The victory was evident in four important decisions taken by the main character. Those decisions are, being unnatural woman, leaving her marriage life, showed herself in society and finally decide to die.

**Key words:** Psychoanalysis, Super Ego, Russian Society.

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### INTRODUCTION

Human being is a social creature; lives in a society and becomes a part of the society. There are some rules and norms which exist. There are rules established in a written form called as law (Rido, 2019) and unwritten form called as custom. For examples, a written rule for the society which is stated in the Indonesia's Constitution Article 28, that every citizen is free to deliver their thought orally or writtenly and to live in group or in community. So if there is somebody who hinders other people in delivering their thought, means that they violate the rules and it is possible for them to be put in a jail. Besides, there are unwritten rules which made based on the agreement of the society in a community. For example, there is a custom in Lampungese to carry a girl out from her parents' house to be married. It is called as Sebambangan. It implicates in Lampung society, not in the Javanese or the other ethnics. In Javanese, the people will sentence a man who carries a girl out from her parents' house to be married. He will be alienated and will be thought as a stranger by his society for breaking the rules or the customs.

But, even though people live in a society, they may also live as an individual. They still have an opportunity to obey or disobey the rules or norms. People will have a

consideration and finally take a decision by themselves. Just what happens with the Lampungese man. He can use the Seimbangan to get married with Lampungese girl or to propose her as commonly. All of the decisions are on his own hands. The process to take the decision is based on our individuality which is preceded in our mind and it can be called as psychological process.

An Expert, called as Father of Psychology, Sigmund Freud, stated three aspects in psychology which are called as mind apparatus. It explain about three aspects are id, ego and super ego. Super ego can be defined as society, norm or the rule which exists in society, while id as instinct and ego as the rational part which acts as the mediator to id and super ego. One of the things which is interesting here is sometimes the super ego can beat the other aspects and makes individuals confuse and feel guilty moreover decides to commit suicide.

Psychology is an interesting topic to be discussed because it can explain deeply about human ((Adelina & Suprayogi, 2020), (Liu et al., 2020)). How people life in their everyday, have a relation to the others and to themselves. But, it is not only for the real life. It can be used in literature as a portrait of the real life ((Amelia, 2016), (Rido et al., 2020), (Rido et al., 2021)). Psychoanalysis had moved beyond the treatment of the mentally distressed and was now a general theory of the human mind, applicable to all. Based on the researcher's understanding, one of the novels which have interesting psychology aspects to be investigated is Anna Karenina. And in this research, the researcher uses the Anna Karenina which has been translated by Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky who were the winner of the Pen/Book- Of-The-Month Club Translation Prize.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Psychoanalysis Theory**

Psychoanalysis is a theory which was explained by Sigmund Freud, a Jewish man who was born on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1856. He liked to study about a human rather than an object. After he and his family escaped from Nazi, he worked with Professor Ernest Bucke in his Psychology Institute from 1876 until 1882. Freud's love of psychology made him as a father of psychology with his famous theory; Psychoanalysis. Freud's psychoanalysis introduced us about the new ways to understand about our life. It could be about love,

hate, childhood, family relation, civilization, religion, sexuality (Evayani & Rido, 2019), fantasy and conflict which all of them built everyday of human life. Therefore, we can apply this theory in many aspects in our life which are about human life and their mind. Based on Nick Rennison in his book *The Pocket Essential: Freud and Psychoanalysis* originally, Freud divided mind in two divisions, consciousness and unconsciousness. In the further, he made the analogy of iceberg that explained about the parts of these divisions which exist in human mind. The biggest and strongest between both of them is unconsciousness, even it is hidden and sometimes we are not aware about it. This is our storehouse of instinctual desires and need (Pranoto & Suprayogi, 2020). All of the hidden and forgotten memory lives there because actually, even if we do not want to remember it and try to forget about the hurting memory (Isnain et al., 2020), it is still there. Freud in Pamela Thurschwell's book *Sigmund Freud* said the unconsciousness is the great waste-paper basket of the mind.

## **ID**

ID which is taken from Latin word -itl. We are all born with this and it has the principle of the pleasure. The primitive one which is based on the libido. As we develop, we have to put it in the back because it is not suitable for life in the society. Actually, we never really leave it as wholly, because sometimes it appears in our dream to express our real self. Id always tries to fulfill the need without any considering with other aspect such as super ego. Whereas, the super ego is very important to life in the reality because it touches the human directly as a society. However, because the main point in id is to seek a pleasure, so sometimes the people with the bigger part in this section in their mind will be removed from the society.

## **Ego**

The ego is the rational part of the mind, the part that reacts to the outside world and allows the individual to adapt to reality, to acknowledge the -reality principle. we can know that the ego is based on the reality principle. We can call also as the action and it exits in the top of the iceberg, the conscious one. This is the action based on our decision to follow the id, super ego or to mediate both of them. It tries to fulfill all the needed of the id but in the rational way. If we correlate it to the first example about the cakes, so the ego will analyze first. If the cakes are really for us or may we eat all of them or have to give it also to other. Based on the consideration, the ego will take the best decision to ask our mother about the cakes or just to eat some of the cakes not all of it.

This is the action of the ego which mediates well between the demand of the id and the order of the super ego.

### **Super Ego**

The last aspect in this tripartite model is super ego. The super ego is the storehouse of the social rules, barriers and permissions. This aspect leads us from the individual psychology to the social psychology where many rules and norms exist. Because of it, the id tries to deny the super ego. The basic of id is contradictory with the super ego. The first one tries to fulfill the needed without any consideration and the other tries to press it by the judging and give the punishment.

### **METHOD**

This research is conducted through library research (Huda & Fernando, 2021) in which the data are taken from books that correspond to the novel to find more information in order to give comprehension in doing the analysis ((Fitri & Qodriani, 2016), (Sasalia & Sari, 2020), (Afrianto & Ma'rifah, 2020), (Kardiansyah & Salam, 2020), (Kardiansyah, 2017)). Besides, the descriptive qualitative method is also used. The researcher believes that the formulation of problem formulated can be answered within the available time and means. The primary data are some quotations that are taken from the dialogues and narrations (Puspita & Pranoto, 2021) from Tolstoy's novel *Anna Karenina*. The data source is the Tolstoy's novel entitles *Anna Karenina*. Besides that, some articles from books, journals and internet ((Ahdan & Susanto, 2021), (Ahdan et al., 2019), (Prasetyawan et al., 2021), (Borman et al., 2018), (Susanto, 2003), (Sari, 2016)) are taken to support the primary data ((Saifuddin Dahlan, 2013), (Kuswanto et al., 2020)).

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **The Victory of Super Ego**

#### **Being unnatural woman**

Being unnatural woman here is the assumption of the society about the woman who has affair with other man, like Anna. Like what has been stated in chapter two where the woman in affair is unnatural woman. Here Anna becomes unnatural woman because her affair and because she wants and does it, so she gets the negative opinion from the society like to mock behind her. It really appears in some dialogues and narrative which are being Anna's id, super ego and the ego.

## **Id**

Anna's id about being unnatural woman really appears in some dialogues and narrative below. The dialogs or narrative can be talk by Anna itself or can be seen in the others characters in the novel who are talking about Anna ((Amelia & Dintasi, 2019), (Rido & Sari, 2018), (Amelia, 2021), (Gulö, 2014), (Kardiansyah, n.d.)). However, it back to the meaning of id itself, where id is libido, needed and desire. In addition, to emphasize the characteristic like what has been stated in chapter two, we have to underline the pleasure principle. Based on its characteristic ((Mertania & Amelia, 2020), (Yulianti & Sulistiyawati, 2020), (Schrape, 2018)), we can take some data from the novel. The first Anna's id which is appear in the novel is when she came back from Kitty's *debunte* party and she talk to Dolly about what happen done there.

I'm telling you this because I don't allow myself to doubt myself even for a moment.'

But, the moment she uttered these words, she felt that they were wrong; she not only doubted herself, but felt excitement at the thought of Vronsky, and was leaving sooner than she had wanted only so as not to meet him anymore. (2000:77)

The quotation can show what Anna's id is actually. The id appears in Anna's feeling when she feels excitement of Vronsky. From these words, we can see the real feelings of Anna who is also her id that she is amazed at the figure of Vronsky and she cannot forget about him. Even she tries to convince Dolly if she really regrets about her dance and flirt with Vronsky, but actually both of them know there is no one will lack with Vronsky's appeal. Both of them admit that Vronsky is handsome, smart, rich, and charming. Many women include Kitty really wants to be close and has a special relation with Vronsky. Even Anna has married, has a son and many people adore her beauty, she cannot avoid Vronsky's appeal. She feels and begins to fall in the wrong feeling which she is aware about it. However, even she has a doubt feeling that we can underline the contra feeling which appears in Anna's mind. It means there is an id; want to

closer with Vronsky, which face the super ego which make the doubt feeling. Anna's id still appears and actually become stronger time by time. After she decide to back earlier because she felt guilty with Kitty, but her id still try to find the justification of her act and her feeling to Vronsky. In the train which brings her to St. Petersburg, she tries to find the similarity between her and the hero in the novel she reads.

### **Super Ego**

The strongest super ego in this section is the labeling of unnatural woman to the woman who has the affair, happens to Anna. It is like has been stated in chapter two. Connects with the novel, we can find some of the society's action that positioning Anna as unnatural woman. The first super ego saw in Kitty sight when she saw Anna and Vronsky's expression.

Each time he spoke with Anna, her eyes flashed with a joyful light and a smile of happiness curved her red lips. She seemed to be struggling with herself to keep these signs of joy from showing, yet they appeared on her face of themselves. \_But, what about him?' Kitty looked at him and was horrified. What portrayed itself so clearly to Kitty in the mirror of Anna's face, she also saw in him. (2000:65)

Based on Kitty's eyes which are positioned as the society, we can see the strange feeling. It is strange to see women and man has a close relation in the ball, moreover they did not know each other at the first. The joyful light, which appears from expression, can emphasize it. It could mean that they have the same want to close each other and flirt. Contradictory situation in the society that the marriage woman cannot has the close relation moreover affair to the other man except her husband. Although Anna struggles to hide her feeling, but it is reflected in Vronsky's face if he really enjoys their relation. In the same situation, there is a quotation that can describe their closeness. | ...She saw that they felt themselves alone in this crowded ballroom. | (2000:66). This quotation emphasize that both Vronsky and Anna begin to drowning to their affair and it makes the society in the ball watching them. It is common when two of people in flirting, they will focus just to the man or woman in front of them and deny the other. It is happen also with Vronsky and Anna. We can assume that they just talking alone move from one spot to the other. They are laughing, standing or sitting close and have the intimate conversation. And the society, we can see from Kitty's, felt it was an oddity.

## Ego

Some ego that will appear here are some the ego done by Anna because of the pressure from the society based on her action. Although sometimes she does some things based on her desire or id, but some of her action below really shows that she is actually very cautious against public opinion of her action.

‘A turn of the waltz, Anna Arkadyevna?’  
‘I don’t dance when I can help it,’ she said.  
‘But tonight you can’t,’ replied Korsunsky.  
Just then Vronsky approached.  
‘Well, if I can’t help dancing tonight, let’s go then,’ she said, ignoring Vronsky’s bow, and she quickly raised her hand to Korsunsky’s shoulder. (2000:64)

Based on the quotation above, we can see if Anna tries to escape from Vronsky. Actually, she did not want to dance, she has refused Korsunsky smoothly. But because of the presence of Vronsky, she receives an invitation from Korsunsky to dance with him. She knew that Vronsky approached her to ask her to dance, and at the beginning of this, she knew that she should not be dancing with Vronsky because Kitty loves him. Other than that, she also knew that Vronsky has a special feeling to her, and she must avoid all actions that can make the sense grows bigger. But the deeper reason actually that because she also has the same feeling and she knew it was unnatural. At the beginning, despite her id began to grow, but the power of super ego, all the rules and norms which are already teach to her previously, still control the whole of her, even it slowly starting to be a little faded.

## CONCLUSION

Finally based on these result, the researcher conclude that having desire is normal and shows our humanity. But we should not only to fixated on our desires but still have to pay attention to the most important aspect of human existence, namely the society. Because, sometimes the society can take a part of people mostly because the regulations can affect people’s life. If they were going against the current, they must ensure that they are strong enough to do so. They are not against the rules and the society but that is also hey because they are the product of society. They have lived in the society and grow with the rules they have been taught since childhood. All of these inherent in themselves and become inseparable from any part of themselves. Making changes is never easy though the result not necessarily good anyway. But with the change, the society can continue to learn

about what is good within their survival. Whether it means the rules is for the society not the society for the rules.

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