

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Multiple personality disorder which is also known as dissociative identity disorder is the existence in an individual of two or more different personalities or ego-states, and to be qualified as dissociative identity disorder there must be at least two personalities take control of the individual's behavior regularly (Cherry).

Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD), is one of the topics which is most talked about and the center of much debate and criticism. The cases of MPD have increased in the past two decades, but there are many professionals who are still doubtful about whether it even exists (Cherry). The case of multiple personality disorder has also appeared in literature for some 300 years and is still a mystery.

In this thesis, I want to analyze MPD which occurs to the protagonists in the two novels that I choose as I found the case of MPD is a very interesting subject to be talked about not only in reality but also in works of literature.

Psychological criticism is the most suitable approach for my thesis since the case of MPD is a psychological case. MPD itself is a psychological illness which is caused by psychological experiences in someone's life. Through this thesis, I want to analyze the protagonists in both novels who suffer from the MPD. I use Freud theory which I will explain in the next chapter.

R.L Stevenson's work titled The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde portrays powers of invention and depth of psychological insight. As a novelist, Stevenson has a skill defined by G.K. Chesterton as being able 'to pick the right word up on the point of his pen.' (Penguin Popular Classics 3). His style of writing is very captivating, like what the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins said that 'Stevenson is a master of a consummate style, and each phrase is finished as in poetry' (Dury). The publisher Penguin Classics even said that Stevenson had made an enormous contribution to the world of English literature with his novels, poetry, and essays (Penguin Group (USA)).

As the comparison, I choose a contemporary American novelist, Stephen King as he is the most productive and prominent horror writer of the 21st century. His profound influence on modern horror literature cannot be denied. His works have been regarded as an insightful reflection of fears, anxieties, and obsessions of the late twentieth century (enotes.com). Stephen King has written more than forty novels and two hundred short stories. Since 1976, King has been a nominee in many awards almost every year and often he becomes the winner of the awards. He even becomes the recipient of Medal Distinguished Contribution to American Letters on 2003 National Book Foundation. As for the book, I choose his novel titled The Dark Half.

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde gives something different compared with the other Stevenson's works. This novel mixes psychological aspect with science that emerged at Victorian era. It offers something new and of course it is really interesting. Once again Penguin Classics gave their opinion toward R.L. Stevenson's The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde that said 'Few Victorian mysteries are more haunting, sinister and profound than Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'. (Penguin Popular Classics 100). This novel also has been made into films with many versions (Dury).

The Dark Half, from many mystery novels written by Stephen King, is the only one which tells about psychological matter that has always been debated in decades, multiple personality disorder. This novel mixes mystery, psychological aspect, and also medical science. Flint Journal said the novel as 'A knockout thriller...brilliant, compelling...grips you by the throat.' And New York Times Book Review said it as 'A chiller.' (Signet 2).

Both novels which I want to analyze have a case of MPD. There are similarities in the novels. First, both of the protagonists in the novels, which are Dr. Jekyll and Thad Beaumont, have double personality in one body. Dr. Jekyll has Mr. Hyde and Thad Beaumont has George Stark. The second similarity is that their alter egos are evil, compared to their conscious personalities.

There are also differences in both novels. The first difference is the protagonist of The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Dr. Jekyll is aware that he has another unconscious personality in him and it also appears because he wants it. He wants to separate the bad side of him from the good side. So, the alter ego of Dr. Jekyll comes out because of himself and he does it on purpose. That is

different with the case in the novel The Dark Half. The protagonist in the novel, Thad Beaumont, at first does not know that he has another personality. The alter ego of him comes out accidentally. Second, the causes of their multiple personality disorder are different. While the cause on the surface of the existence of Mr. Hyde is a potion which is made by Dr. Jekyll to separate the bad side of him, the cause of the emergence of George Stark is the tumor which is believed as his unborn twin brother. The last difference is the setting of time; The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde is in 19th century, while the setting of time in The Dark Half is in 20th century.

In this thesis, I want to prove that the causes of MPD in both the novels are not simply the potion which was drunk by Dr. Jekyll or the brain tumor, which is considered to be his unborn twin, in Thad's head. I will propose to analyze the cause of MPD case experienced by the two protagonists. According to the psychological theory of MPD, the background of life, including the psychological experience, plays important part in revealing the cause of MPD case.

Statement of the Problem

1. How do the authors portray the protagonists who suffer from MPD in these novels?
2. What are the causes of MPD suffered by the protagonists seen from Freud's Theory of Mind?

Purpose of the Study

1. To show how the authors portray the protagonists who suffer from MPD in these novels.
2. To show what the causes of MPD suffered by the protagonists seen from Freud's Theory of Mind.

Method of Research

In this major thesis, I use library and internet research. I use psychological approach by Freud's Theory of Mind: Topographical Models of Personality and Structural Model of Mind. First, I read Stevenson's The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, and as the comparison I also read King's The Dark Half. After reading both novels, I choose the most suitable approach to analyze the MPD case in them which is psychological approach. Then, I choose Freud's Theory of Mind as I find it can explain the cause of MPD case from the psychological perspective. I search the theory of Freud and MPD through internet and by reading other sources. Then I make the conclusion.

The Organization of the Thesis

My major thesis is divided into five chapters. Chapter one is the Introduction which contains Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Methods of Research and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter two is Theoretical Background. Chapter three is the Analysis of MPD Case in the Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. Chapter four is the Analysis

of MPD Case in The Dark Half. Chapter five consists of the Conclusion of the Analysis.