

## CHAPTER FIVE

### CONCLUSION

MPD is the existence in an individual of two or more personalities. MPD itself is still a mystery since many professionals are doubtful whether MPD really exists or not. The case of MPD in literature has appeared since 300 years ago, and both novels which I have analyzed are included in the literature which involves MPD cases.

After reading and analyzing the novel The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde and The Dark Half, I find that both protagonists suffer from MPD and the causes of their MPD are not merely the potion that Dr Jekyll drank and the brain tumor which Thad has. The role of their parents in shaping their superego is also one of the causes and even the most important aspect that causes them to suffer from MPD. According to Freud, in order to be a healthy person, one should have strong ego so as to make a balance between superego and id. Superego and id cannot be too strong or too weak because it can result in an imbalance between them.

In the case of Dr Jekyll and Thad Beaumont, the problem is lies in their superego. Dr Jekyll's superego is dominant and his superego is the strongest among the superego, the ego, and id. His superego becomes so strong because of

his family background. Dr Jekyll comes from an aristocratic family that holds firmly on the moral, norms, and rules. His parents teach him moral, norms and rules and moreover, as an aristocrat, he is bound to behave strictly according to them. His superego develops so well that it becomes dominant. Freud says that if the superego becomes too strong, the person would be driven by rigid morals and that is what happens to Dr Jekyll. Dr Jekyll behaves in accordance with the moral, norms and rules that are valid in the society where he lives. He unconsciously ignores his id which is his own basic instinct and he always represses his id. His superego and id are imbalanced and as the result, he suffers from MPD which is one of the forms of neurosis.

Thad Beaumont, on the other hand, has a weak superego. It is because he has an unhappy childhood. His father is a drunkard and does not love nor care about him. As a father who is supposed to be a leader and teach his child moral values, he only acts as an irresponsible man. He does not contribute anything to his child's superego's shaping. Thad's mother, although she loves and cares about him, cannot do anything to defend Thad as she is afraid of his father. When she is supposed to defend Thad and she does not, it makes Thad confused about his belief of right and wrong. Freud says that superego consists of two subsystems which are the ego ideal and conscience. Children develop their ego ideal through rewards from their parents when they do something good, while conscience develops through parental punishment when the children do something bad. Thad does not receive any rewards from his father when he does something good. In addition, Thad also comes from a middle class family that is not really strict to moral value, norms and rules. So, his superego does not develop well and it

causes an imbalance in his superego, ego and id. Similar to Dr Jekyll's case, Thad also suffers from MPD that is a form of neurosis.

In the novel, it is believed that the cause of Dr Jekyll's duality is a potion that he makes to split his bad side and good side while the cause of Thad's duality is his brain tumor which is considered to be his unborn twin and later transforms into a new character named George Stark. I think the potion that is made and drunk by Dr Jekyll is just a trigger and it opens a door for his id to surface into consciousness. The same with the potion, the brain tumor in Thad's head is also a trigger for his id to come out. George Stark is not his unborn twin as their fingerprints and voiceprints are the same. It is said that even identical twins do not have the same fingerprints and voiceprints. So, the potion and the brain tumor is just triggers and the real cause is their family background.

Although the characteristics of Dr Jekyll and Thad Beaumont are different, their alter egos have quite similar characteristics. They are portrayed as cruel men who kill people violently, they are rude and egocentric. Their behaviors are driven by their id which Freud refers as the psyche that does not take social norms into account when thinking or acting. According to Freud, the id is actually the biggest part of the psyche of human mind. So, although id is stored in the lower part of human mind and most of the time is repressed because it is often times against the morality, the id still can go to the surface and becomes dominant in one's alter-ego characteristics.

The authors have their own perception about the superego and the id in human minds. They can be seen from the way the authors create the physical appearances of the protagonists. Robert Louis Stevenson sees superego as a good

and positive psyche in the human mind as he portrays Dr Jekyll as a man with perfect physical appearance. Stevenson also sees superego as a part of human mind which satisfies what the society think good because whether he is handsome or not is in accordance to what the society think. It is the society who evaluates which physical appearance is good while others are bad, and they also judge upon these subjectively.

Stevenson sees id as the bad part of human mind as he portrays Mr Hyde as a man with an ugly and devilish face, he is also portrayed as a short and small man and has unpleasant aura. But Stevenson also portrays Mr Hyde to be much smaller, slighter and younger than Dr Jekyll which shows that Stevenson finds the positive part of id which is freedom. Being smaller, slighter and younger gives me impression of freedom and agility.

Different with Stevenson, Stephen King sees the positive part of the id. He portrays Stark to have blonde hair and tanned skin which is more attractive than Thad. I assume that King views the id as the more interesting part of human mind. He also portrays Stark to have broad shoulder and bigger body than Thad which shows that King sees the id as the strongest part of human mind.