

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Every single man has a goal to reach and become successful in all aspects of life success in mastering the development task set by the social group will bring the person happiness, social recognition and success with new tasks, which are dependent on the foundation, lay earlier. Adult people have many experiences that come from life task, which he could or could not from life task, which he could or could not handle and sometimes it becomes complex and harder give contribution to create the personality of human being. Mostly human are created by external factors such as environment and experience or internal factor such as inferiority feeling, weakness and imperfection in the face of task that need to compensate. By this feeling human being are forced to compensate in order to repair his lack and become better, complete or perfect like in social life.

Lack of social life and failures to solve problem can make people feel inferior. The inferiority feeling is imperfection of life that is related with unsatisfied goal. It is no doubt as the basic reason of human to make some compensation in order to achieve their life goal. The attempts to compensate inferiority feeling bring much influence of humans life style based on their goal. To reach the goal based on their inferiority, human sometimes do some

positive reactions like creating the new one but in contrary they also do the negative one like aggression in order to break the constraints that made inferiority feelings.

All humans begin the life with inferiorities. Humans try to strive and develop a unique life style to strive and develop a unique life style that is basically to solve their inferiorities. The inferiority feeling appears in physicians and psychological sphere. This feeling is not only because of organism weakness but also lack of social life, or inability to overcome the life problems. According to Adler as quoted in (Hjelle, 1992:142):

People often strive to compensate not only for organ inferiority, those are that a rise from uniquely felt psychological or social disabilities.

Furthermore, these early inferiority feelings mark the beginning of a lifelong struggle to achieve superiority over the environment as well as perfection and completion. In essence, (Adler in Hjelle 1992: 142). Maintained that striving force in life. The inferiority feeling is one of aspects in individual psychology.

The individual psychology is a science or theory of personality proposed by Alfred Adler, which emphasizes the uniqueness of each individual and the processes by which people overcome their limitation or sense of inferior by doing some efforts to become superior, perfect or complete in order to achieve their life goal. The inferiority could happen anywhere.

The inferiority feelings are found in all institutional spheres: in family, church, neighbourhood, workplace and school, As well as in science sectors

there is no institutional area without its manifestation of inferiority feelings including literature.

Literature, as work of art, gives us possibility and ease in comprehending other worlds, realities that happen in certain society and the value system which are adhered by that community. Literature also opens our mind an experiences and also invites us to come into the world. It seems that one who wants to understand the social condition which prevail of the moments. It can also be said that a literary work is a model of social life reality that is supported by the behaviour of individual interaction with others, which could also describe inferiority feeling.

One of the literary authors concerning with the psychological problem, especially inferiority feeling is William Faulkner (1897-1962). He writes a novel entitled *Absalom Absalom!*. It is a novel published by Random House, New York, 1936. It is also the most challenging of Faulkner's works often proclaimed as the great masterpiece. When he completed this novel. Faulkner said, "I think it is the best novel yet written by an American" (<http://www.randomhouse.com/vintage/read/January10>, 2007).

Absalom-absalom is a title taken from biblical story of Absalom, the third son of David, king of Israel and Judah. It is dynastic tale of incest, rebellion, revenge, and violent death told in the Old testament. The novel of *Absalom Absalom!* tells the story of Thomas Sutpen as the main character. He is the son of a poor white in Western Virginia has inferiority feeling. It

happens when he is fourteen year old, he delivers a message to the landowner, but a liveried black servant told him to go around to the back door the house.

He never give me a chance to say it and Pap never asked me if I told him or not and so he ant even know that pap sent him any message and so whether he got is or not cant even matter, not even pap: I went up to that door for that nigger to tell me never come to that front door again....(A, A! 1932:237).

The fact above shows that Thomas Sutphen has inferiority feeling and tries to compensate it, which influences his personality although it is just temporary. Therefore the writer is interested in analyzing it by using Alfred. Alder's individual psychological theory, because the inferiority feeling has grown and powerfully influenced him.

Furthermore, the researcher decides THE INFERIORITY FEELING OF THOMAS SUTPEN REFLECTED IN WILLIAM FAULKNER'S *ABSALOM ABSALOM: AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH* as the title of her study.

B. Literary Review

There are many researchers who have examined this novel. The first is James L Roberts. He writes note entitled *Absalom, Absalom!* Notes. It consists of summary and commentary of the characters of the story. The result of his research is there are eight major character and thirteen minor characters. Thomas Sutphen is one of major character he is an individualistic person and an innocent man. The second is Ismiary Wuryandari, a student of UNS, 2000. Her research is entitled *Ambisi Thomas Sutpen, Tokoh Utama dalam Novel*

Absalom, Absalom! Karya William Faulkner. She uses existentialism philosophical emphasizing on the essence and the realization of Thomas Sutpen ambition that is done through bad way. The result of her research is Thomas Sutpen has ever asks an outrageous request to Miss Rosa that he wants to get son before marriage. The third is Sugianto, a student of UNS, 2004. He analyzes the novel entitled *Racisme in Absalom, Absalom!: Faulkner Defence for the Blacks and Their Descendents Againsts Unfriendly Contemporary Social Condition in the US*. It is about blacks strunggle in order to get a better life in US. The result of his research is in 1808-1910 these regions are defeated in civil war and experience poverty. Therefore the inhabitants want to escape from that bad condition.

Further, there is no student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta who has analyzed *Absalom, Absalom!* Thus, the present researcher will analyze it by emphasizing on the inferiority feeling of Thomas Sutpen which influences his personality.

C. Problem Statement

The major problem of the study is how inferiority feeling influences Thomas Sutpen's personality development.

D. Limitation of the Research

This study is limited to the inferiority feeling of Thomas Sutpen, one of major characters, in the novel *Absalom, Absalom!*. This study uses the theory of individual Psychology developed by Alfred Adler. It is as a means of analysis with consideration that man is social creature: in which formulation

and development of personality are influenced by social factor that covering his life.

E. Objective of the Research

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the novel based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze the novel based on the Individual psychological approach.

F. Benefit of the Research

The benefit of the study deal with:

1. Theoretical Benefits

Theoretical benefits are to improve the body of knowledge in studying literature and give contribution to literary studies on Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!*.

2. Practical Benefits

Practical benefits are to fulfil the requirement for getting Bachelor of Education in English Departement and to be used as a book guiding in researching *Absalom, Absalom!*

G. Research Method

Research method cover object of the research, type of the research, type of the data and the data source, method of data collection and technique of data Analysis.

1. Object of The Research

Object of this research is novel *Absalom Absalom!*

2. Type of The Research

Type of this research is qualitative. It is the research that does not need statistic and calculation to explore the facts. The data of this research type also concerned with word rather than numbers.

3. Type of The Data and the Data Source

There are two types of data source. The first is primary data source that is the text of the novel *Absalom Absalom!* Written by William Faulkner in 1936, New York. It involves words, phrases, and sentences. The second is the secondary data sources, consisting of the other data having relationship with the research, such as essay, comments, internet, and other relevant information.

4. Method of the Data Collection

The method of data collection is library research. The writing process of this research consist of several procedures.

1. Reading the novel repeatedly and noting the importing element of the novel.
2. Identifying the topic of the novel
3. Determining the major character that will be analysed.
4. Looking for the secondary data.
5. Classifying and determining the relevant data
6. Arranging, researching and developing the selected materials into a good unity to ward the topic of the study.

5. Techniques of the Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis is descriptive. It describes the structural elements of the novel and individual psychological analysis. It is used to show the influence of Thomas Sutpen inferiority feeling on his personality.

H. Paper Organization

This research paper consists of five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, it deals with background of the study, literature review, limitation of the study, problem statement, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and paper organization. Chapter II contains underlying theory explaining Individual Psychology used to analyze the novel. Chapter III presents structural element and discussion of the novel *Absalom Absalom!*. Chapter IV deals with the analysis of Individual Psychology toward the inferiority feeling. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion of the research.