

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Problems always become a human's part and always appear in human being's life. No one can avoid it. Some problems can be whip, spirit and motivation to do something. For persons who can face it, they will try to solve their problem with their own ways. Usually they will do something as the defense from their problem or anxiety of something. For example, the children who have to do what their parents want that they don't like, will do something to protect themselves or to do what they want. Maybe at home they will be a good child doing what their parents want because they are scared. They feel that they are threatened by their parents. They also realize that at home, parents are the leaders and what they say is something that children have to do even though they do not like it. When they are at school or out from home far from their parent, they do what they want and sometime they switch all the pressure from their parents to their friends. In this case, the children show defense against open expression of *id* impulses.

Defense mechanism is a way that people use to protect the individual self-esteem and to defend him or her against excessive anxiety when facing with continuing frustration (Hilgard, 1962: 511). The ego defense mechanism can make people feel satisfied, although it cannot help them much. This way just gives another way on giving the perfect reason on doing something, rejects

about something and makes their personality better when they feel inferior and anxious. Freud (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1976: 38) stated that defense mechanism is a strategy used by the individual to defend against open expression, of id impulses and posing super ego pressure. Here, the researcher wants to explore the defense mechanism on the major character's personality that shows in *Monster*, a movie written and directed by Patty Jenkins.

Like novel, poetry, and drama, film has the same position as the major genres in textual studies. It is true that film has become part of daily life which always attracts the attention million of eyes in this world. Different from novel that is made to be read, film is from of entertainment that enacts a story by a sequence of images giving illusion of continues movement. Moreover, film is usually acted by humans who act likes the story they made.

Making a film is more complicated than making the other work. Making a film is not like writing a poem; it needs a team work which involves many people as a crew. Film has many elements, such as; director, script writer, editor, music composer, artists, producer, etc. Beside that, it also needs some techniques, including mise-en-scene, sound, cinematography, editing and also a story of the film.

Nowadays, the story of the film based not only on imagination of the writer, but also from the real story of someone or something happened in the world. Usually the director takes one of the greatest experiences or one of the greatest people as the resources or the idea to make a film.

There are many directors who make the movie based on true story. One of them is Patty Jenkins. She is an American film director and writer who grew in Lawrence, Kansas. She attended the American Film Institute and is widely respected for her ability to convey emotional content in her films. Her most famous movie to date is *Monster* made in 2003 starring Charlize Theron who won the Academy Award for Best Actress for her role in the movie. This film also succeeded in getting awards for 16 won and 12 nominated from the other movie awards associated. This film is produced by the Independent Spirit Awards Winner Donald Kushner, Mark Damon, Clark Peterson, Brad Wyman and the Academy Award Winner for Best Actress Charlize Theron and distributed by New Market Film association with Media 8 Entertainment. *Monster* is written by Patty Jenkins based on the real life of Aileen Wournous a Daytona Beach prostitute who became a serial killer in Florida who kills 7 man, all of whom she claimed had raped her while she was working as a prostitute. She does that as the self - defense from the man who raped her. She was executed on October, 9<sup>th</sup> 2002, after 12 years on Florida Death's Row. The title *Monster* itself comes from one of Aileen's childhood memories. It was a gigantic wheel in the garden that light the night. The people called it *Monster*. In this film, Jenkins was trying to show the reason of Aileen Wournous (Charlize Theron), the prostitute who become one of America's first female serial killers. She became a prostitute by the age of thirteen, the same year she became pregnant. She eventually moved to Florida where she began earning a living as a highway prostitute--servicing the desires of semi-truck drivers. The

tale focuses on the nine month period between 1989 and 1990, during which Wuornos had a lesbian relationship with a woman named Selby (Christina Ricci). And during that very same time, she also began murdering her clientele.

Considering the above explanatory ideas, the researcher turns to analyze the film by using psychoanalytic approach because of some consideration. *Monster* movie is an interesting movie; there are four aspects that make this movie really interesting.

The first aspect because of Aileen Wournous' personality is the mirror of human being. She has the feeling of ambition, anxiety and confusion when she meets something.

The second is that the movie has great possibility to know the phenomenon of psychological problems in the character.

The third there are many good messages which can be found in this movie. One of these messages is about in importance someone life. *Monsters* are a dark tale based on the true story of Aileen Wuornos, one of American's first female serial killers.

And the last aspect is the visualization and the cast of the movie. Patty Jenkins makes the audience feel enthusiastic with this thriller movie. The casts of this film also have a valuable part in this film. Charlize Theron who plays as Aileen is very wonderful actress. He makes the character of Aileen is really life. Based on that reason the writer will observe *Monster* film by using defense mechanism theory by Sigmund Freud. So the writer constructs the title:

## **Defense Mechanism of Aileen in *Monster* Movie (2008) Directed by Patty Jenkins': A Psychoanalytical Approach.**

### **B. Literature Review**

The writer is not the first person who analyzes this movie. To prove the originality of the research the writer find several previous researches. As far as the writer knows, the researches on the movie *Monster* have been conducted by students in Muhamadiyah University of Surakarta and STAIN Surakarta.

The first research is Ana Ike (2006) in her research entitled "*Defense Mechanism in Patty Jenkins' Monsters: a Psychoanalytic Approach*". This research is a kind of research that takes account on the discussion of defense mechanism by taking the data from the movie manuscript. The data are all from by many characters, Clarice Starling and the other supporting characters. This research paper discusses many characters in this movie. The present writer wants to focus on analyzing the anxiety reflected in the movie using psychoanalytic approach. Ana Ike finds the structural elements of all character in *Monsters* and also finds the anxiety reflected in *Monsters* movie is the personality reaction.

Furthermore, it is Yadi Susilo (2005) "*A Anxiety of Aileen Directed by Patty Jenkins' in Monster Movie: A Psychoanalytic Approach*". The data of this study are taken from the expression in thrillers movie. In collecting the data, the writer uses two techniques of collecting data; they are observation and library research. The writer analyzes the anxiety of the main characters using

psychoanalytic approach. She finds the structural elements of Aileen's in *Monsters* and also finds the anxiety reflected in *Monsters* movie is the personality reaction.

Based on the previous research above, the positioning of this research is to try extending previous studies on psychoanalysis. This study focuses on defense mechanism of Aileen, one of the major characters in the movie by psychoanalytic approach. In the study the research gives title "*Defense Mechanism of Aileen in Monster Movie (2008) Directed by Patty Jenkins': A Psychoanalytic Approach*".

### **C. Problem Statement**

According to the background of this study, the writer creates the problem statement into:

"How is defense mechanism reflected in the Aileen character in *Monster* Movie?"

### **D. Limitation of the Study**

In this study, the writer focuses on defense mechanism done by Aileen in *Monster* movie using psychoanalytic approach.

### **E. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study are mentioned as follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the movie.

2. To analyze the character of Clarice Starling based on psychoanalytic approach

## **F. Benefits of the Study**

The benefits of the study are:

1. Theoretical benefits

To give additional contribution to the other literary research, especially the study of *Monster* movie.

2. Practical benefits

The study is hoped to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and other students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

## **G. Research Method**

1. **Type of the Research**

In this research the writer uses descriptive qualitative method.

2. **Object of the Study**

The object the study is the *Monster* movie. This movie is directed by Patty Jenkins. This movie is published by MGM Distribution Company.

3. **Type of the Data and the Data Source**

In this research the writer classifies the data source into two categories namely primary and second data sources.

a. Primary data

The primary data source of the study is *Monster* movie directed by Patty Jenkins', published by MGM Distribution Company.

b. Secondary data

The writer takes the secondary data source from many sources as references, author's biography, and criticisms in relation to the problems and material related to the study whether picking up from books or internet.

#### **4. Technique of the Data Collection**

In this case, the writer uses two techniques of collecting data.

a. Observation

This step is used to make the analysis by watching the movie repeatedly to get the understanding about this movie.

b. Library research

There are some procedures in library research, they are:

- 1) Watching the movie repeatedly and understanding about this movie.
- 2) Finding out the important data and identifying the relevant elements.
- 3) Taking notes.
- 4) Arranging data into several parts based on its classification.
- 5) Developing data to get the last result.

## **5. Technique of the Data Analysis**

The writer uses two techniques in analyzing the data:

- a. Analyzing the structural elements of the film including the narrative elements and technical elements.
- b. Analyzing the defense mechanism of main character using descriptive qualitative analysis.

## **H. Paper Organization**

The writer makes an organization of this paper in order to make an easy understanding. There are five chapters in this research paper.

Chapter one is introduction includes the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, the objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and paper organization.

Chapter two is underlying theory. It deals with the notion of psychoanalytic theory, the basic concepts of psychoanalysis and theoretical application.

Chapter three is structural analysis of the film, including narrative and technical elements.

Chapter Four is dealing with the analysis of the major character using psychoanalytic approach.

And the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion of the research.