

CHAPTER II

UNDERLYING THEORY

This chapter will be divided into three parts. The first part is individual psychological theory which consists of notion of individual psychology and basic concept of individual psychology, the second part is structural elements of the movie involving narrative elements and technical elements, and the third part is theoretical application.

A. Notion of Individual Psychology

Alfred Adler is the figure who found an individual psychological theory. He was born in a suburb of Vienna on February 7, 1870 and son of the middle-class Jewish Merchant.

“Individual psychology insists on the fundamental unity of personality. All apparent dichotomies and multiplicities of life are organized in one self-consistent totally” (Adler in Feist, 1985: 64). In other word, individual has physical and personality as a unity in conducting his action who is guided by attitudes toward social life. Another Adler’s statement (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 139) is “the foremost challenge confronting individual psychology is to prove this unity in each individual: in thinking, feeling, and acting, the so-called conscious and unconscious, in every expression of personality”.

In viewing life, human being as an organic unity always thinks his final goal and strives to get these final goals. According to Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 140), “every person has a natural aptitude for community feeling or social

interest, the innate ability to engage in cooperative reciprocal social relations”. It assumes that individual builds his or her personality concept is influenced by feeling, social relation, and life’s goal.

Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 140) also present “the person not only as a unified relational system but also as an integral part of larger system-the family, community, indeed humanity itself: individual psychology regards and examines the individual as socially embedded”.

B. Basic Concept of Individual Psychology

There are six basic concepts of individual psychology proposed by Adler: (1) inferiority feeling and compensation, (2) fiction finalism, (3) striving for superiority, (4) social interest, (5) style of life, (6) creative self.

1. Inferiority Feeling and Compensation

“Inferiority feeling is feelings appear as result of psychological and social weakness in individual’s subjective perception” (Adler in Hall and Lindzey, 1993: 247). It means that source of inferiority feeling is weak feeling or imperfection in each field of life.

According to Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 141), “in each individual, certain organs are some what weaker than others, making the person more susceptible to illnesses and diseases involving these organs”. It includes organ inferiority in Adler’s concept; “the whole human race is blessed with organ inferiorities” (Feist. 1985:67). Thus, human beings face this organ inferiority with compensation. They strive to eliminate their weaknesses with some kinds of manners.

Moreover, Adler states that “feeling of inferiority experienced by people often make them compensate for their weakness” (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 141). In striving to compensate, “there is the process of compensation presented by Adler that occurs in the psychological sphere; that people often strive to compensate not only for organ inferiorities but also for subjective feelings of inferiority” (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 142).

Adler further argued “Feelings of inferiority begin in infancy”. He reasoned “the human infant experiences a prolonged period of dependency during which it is quite helpless and must rely upon adults to survive” (Adler in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 142). This indicates parents or adults have an important influence on children because children’s sense of inferiority usually occurs as a result of parenting techniques, which is not appropriate with their expectation.

2. Fictional Finalism

“Fictions are ideas that have no real existence, yet they influenced people as if they really existed” (Veihinger in Feist 1985: 65). Then, Adler argued “the fiction of greatest importance is the final goal of superiority or success” (Feist, 1988: 65). Thus, the final goal is fictional because there is no reality in life or it may be called no objective existence.

According to Adler (in Cloninger 2009: 103) “the fictional finalism is a subjective experience rather than an objective reality”. It gives portrayed toward direction to the individual’s striving. He also states “although fictional goals have no counterpart in reality, they often help people to deal with reality more effectively” (Adler in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 154).

The statement shows that fictional finalism has great significant to motivate people to strive their goals. Fictional goal also influence all individual's action to create what to be done in daily life for his or her parents perception of the future.

Adler insisted "each individual has power to create a personalized fictional goal". It is constructed "out of the raw materials provided by heredity and environment, but the goal is neither genetically nor environmentally determined" (Feist, 1985: 66). Moreover, Adler states "the creativity of the personality is that power which expresses itself in the desire to develop, to strive, and to achieve and event to compensate for defeats in one direction by striving for success in another" (Monte and Robert, 2003: 173). This is an innate drive to compensate for deficiency that drive individual to set a fictional goal to be successful.

3. Striving for Superiority

"Striving for superiority is a single motive, flowing from life itself and shaping the various sub drives" (Adler in Feist, 1985: 70). It means that a man generally is motivated by drive to be superior or more dominate than others. Striving for superiority responses the feeling of inferiority because a man driven by need overcome the feeling of inferiority and purposed toward superiority.

Adler argued "The striving is innate, not acquired. It exists at birth, and precedes feeling of inferiority, rather than springing from then" (Feist, 1985: 70). The striving must be developed to set the direction of superiority though it is innate. Then, Adler in believed that the striving for superiority is innate and that we are never free of it because it is life itself". In addition, "at birth, it exists as

potentially, not actuality” (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 144). This process brings a man toward development from one stage to the next and high stage.

Every person has own creative power to strive perfection in his life. “We strive for perfection not only as individuals; as members of society, we strive to perfect our culture” (Adler in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 144). Adler also states “striving is useless if it doesn’t benefit other people; it is healthy if it proceeds in the direction of social interest” (Feist, 1985: 71). It closely related to social because human beings live in reality with their social world even to strive to create a better life.

4. Social Interest

“Social interest is an attitude of relatedness with humanity in general, as well as empathy for each member of the human race” (Adler in Feist, 1985: 71). It means that human being consider their relationship to live cooperatively with others for social importance rather than for personal importance.

Adler insisted (in Suryabrata, 2002: 188-189) “Social interest is true and inevitable compensation for all the natural weaknesses of individual human being”. It reflects that “people are pushed by the need to overcome their deep-seated feelings of inferiority and pulled by their desire to be superior” (Adler in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 147). Adler further defines “social interest is the matter dealing with how create life to be meaningful and useful for others” (Boere, 2008: 143).

Actually, Social interest is not only innate as well as achieved as developmental process but also it is acquired both innate and developmental

process. It is clearly found in Adler's concept that "social interest does not emerge automatically but needs to be consciously developed. It also "has to be nourished to fruition through proper guidance and training" (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 148). Adler also presents "social interest is part of human nature and some amount of it exist in everyone-the criminal, the psychotic, and the mentally healthy". Thus, basically, "social interest is rooted as potentiality in everyone that must be developed" (Feist, 1985:71).

In other word, human being develops the relationship with other through interaction and communication, even corporation to get the meaningful goal in social life.

5. Style of Life

Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 144) presents "the style of life encompasses the unique pattern of traits, behaviors, and habits which, when taken together, defines the flavor of a person's existence". It indicates how person shape his or her individual's concept about the self through his or her unique way of life to strive his or her life goal.

Adler uses the term "style of life to refer to the flavor of a person's life. It includes "not only the person's goal but also self-concept, feeling toward others, and attitude toward the world" (Feist, 1985: 74). This related to the way person to do his or her life and how overcomes the problems and make relation with others.

Talking about the problems of individual begin from sense of inferior, which influence style of life. This is return to the Adler's concept of inferiority

and compensation; “in infancy we all experience inferiorities, either imaginary or real, that motivate us to compensate in some way” (Hjell and Ziegler, 1992: 145).

Human being has different life-style, which becomes any cooperation among them. All of the person’s behavior emerges from his or her style of life and everything is done not far from life-style to get the highest goal. In Adler’s argument, he states “everything we do is shaped and directed by our unique life-style; it determines which aspects of our environment we will attend to and which aspects we will ignore” (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 145).

Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 146) maintained four types of life-style attitudes:

a. The Ruling Type

In this type, people possess a dominating attitude toward the outside world and confront the major life tasks in a hostile, antisocial manner.

b. The Getting Type

This type shows how people relate to the outside world. People’s main concern in life is getting as much as possible from others. Because they possess a low degree of activity, however, they are not likely to hurt others.

c. The Avoiding Type

People have neither sufficient social interest nor activity to solve their own problems. Their goal is to sidestep all problems in life, thereby avoiding any possibility of failure.

d. The Socially Useful Type

Person with this type expresses a genuine concern for and communication with other people. The person realizes that solving three major tasks (work, friendship, and love) requires cooperation, personal courage, and a willingness to contribute to the welfare of others.

6. Creative Self

“The creative self is a dynamic concept”. It implies “movement and this movement is the salient characteristic of life” (Adler in Feist, 1985: 78). This creative power reveals freedom. People have freedom to do and to be what they want, and to create their own style of life to gain the goal.

Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 150) maintained that “the style of life is shaped by the person’s creative power. In other words, each person is empowered with the freedom to create his or her own life-style”. Adler (in Feist 1985:77) also insisted that “this creative power is responsible for the final goal, determines the method of striving for the goal, and contributes to the development of social interest”.

Hence, creative self gives meaning for life. Besides, “creative self creates the goal as well as the element to reach it” (Hall and Lindzey, 1993: 252). It is identified that creative self is an active principle of human being which becomes a connection to make it easy to strive for the goal. Adler also supposed “the creative forces produce perception, memory, imagination, fantasy, and dreams” (Feist, 1985: 78). Based on the assumption, principally, individual has power to realize his or her own desire throughout creative action in daily life.

C. Structural Element of the Movie

The structural elements of the movie are divided into two parts; narrative elements and technical elements. Narrative elements consist of character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, theme, and casting, while technical elements cover mise-en-scene involving costume, make up, lighting, and figure expression and movement. In technical elements, there are also cinematography, editing, and sound. Those elements are very necessary in the movie, and strongly related to each other.

1. Narrative Elements

a. Characters and Characterization

“Character is presumably an imagined person who inhabits a story” (Kennedy, 1983: 45). In other word, character is a person who created by the director’s imagined in literary work especially in movie, while characterization is a way to present character. It is such in Klarer’s statement “the explanatoy characterization, or telling, describes a person through a narrator” (Klarer, 1999: 17). There are two kinds of characters namely, major character and minor character. Major characters are characters which have much participation in the story, while minor characters are characters that are less important than those of major characters.

b. Setting

Setting is a very significant aspect in the literary work. Without setting, the work will no complete or may be it could not exist.

“Setting denotes the location, historical period, and social surroundings in which the action of a text develops” (Klarer 1999: 25). The setting can show the situation that is described in the work. Consequently, without setting there will be no story. Setting can give critical information about plot and character that are integrated one another.

Setting can be divided into two parts explicitly, setting of place and setting of time. Setting of place deals with where the action takes place, while setting of time is the time when the action happens.

c. Plot

Plot is the arrangement of events. According to Hall (in Koesnosoebroto 1988: 29), “plot seals with what happens in a story, the story’s organized development, and usually chains linking cause and effect”. Klarer (1999: 15) argued “plot is the logical interaction of the various thematic elements of a text which lead to a change of the original situation as presented at the outset of the narrative”. There are two kinds of plot according to Klarer (1999: 15):

1) Traditional Plot Structure

In this plot, there are four sequential levels; exposition-complication-climax or turning point-resolution.

2) Flashback Plot Structure

Flashback introduces information concerning the past or future into narrative. It also encompasses four levels; climax-resolution-exposition-complication.

d. Point of View

Point of view deals with the author's relationship to his or her fictional character. According to Klarer (1999: 21), "point of view or narrative perspective characterizes the way in which a text presents person, events, and settings". Klarer (1999: 21) also elaborate three basic positions of point of view:

1) Omniscient Point of View

This is mediated by external narrator who refers to protagonist in the third person. It presents the action from an all-knowing.

2) First Person Narration

First Person Narration is prexented by protagonist or by minor character. The action is seen through a participating figure, which refers to her or himself in the first person.

3) Figural Narrative Situation

The action is mediated through figures acting in the text.

e. Style

Style is a a choice of words into sentence. Kennedy (1983: 75) presents "style refers to the individual traits or characteristics of a piece of writing; to a writer's particular ways of managing words that we come to recognize as habitual or customary". Therefore, style is very important in building a whole of story.

Kennedy asserts "style indicates a mode of expression; the language a writer uses". He also explains the notion of style including "such traits as the

length and complexity of sentences, and diction, or choice of words: abstract or concrete, bookish or close to speech” (Kennedy, 1983: 75).

f. Theme

Theme is meaning of a plot. According to Kennedy (1983: 103), “theme is whatever general idea or insight the entire story reveals”. It is called a theme is stated in general terms. “It may be what the happenings add up to what the story is about”. Theme is important because theme can influence and bring people into focus one control idea.

2. Technical Elements

a. Mise-en-Scene

Mise-en-scene is “staging in action, and it was first applied to the practice of directing plays” (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990: 127). Mise-en-scene includes all the elements in front of the camera which compose shot how a film is structured and subsequently understood by viewers. The following are components of mise-en-scene:

1) Costume

“Costume simply refers to the clothes that character wear. Costume in narrative cinema is used to signify character, or advertise particular fashions or to make clear distinctions between characters” (Sirk, 1956). Thus, costume has function to identify character. According to Bordwell and Thompson (1990: 132), “costume can give specific function in the total film, and the range of possibilities is huge”.

2) Make-Up

Make-up is an important part to draw a character's personality. "Make-up originally necessary because actor's faces would not register well on early film stocks. It has been used in various ways to enhance the appearance of actors on the screen" (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990: 133). Therefore, make-up can change physical appearance of actors and create suitable combination with costume.

3) Lighting

Lighting is "more than just illumination that permits us to see the action. Lighter and darker areas within the frame help create the overall composition of each shot and hence guide our eyes to certain objects and action" (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990: 133). Most mainstream films rely on the three point lighting style. The three points are "key light; the major source of illumination, fill light; the opposite side of the camera from the key light, back light; in above and behind the subject, shining down and hitting the subject on the back of the head" (Mamer, 2009: 252-254).

4) Figure Expression and Movement

Figure involve "a wide range of possibilities, since the figure may represent a person but could also be an animal" (Lassic in Bordwell and Thompson, 1990: 137). Figure expression may be called action because film consists of some kinds of acting of style. Moreover, actor's performance is the skill to become character in film which is not the real people's action. Later, Bordwell and Thompson (1990: 138) ensure that "there are many

ways a film might motivate non realistic acting”. One of them is “an attempt to give a realistic performance would make the character stand out as inappropriate to his or her place in the context of the film’s total mise-en-scene”.

b. Cinematography

Cinematography refers to the art and technique of movie photography. As said by Bordwell and Thompson (1990: 156), “cinematography depends to a large extent on photography”. In cinematography, there are some elements:

1) The Range of Tonalities

“An image may be seen all grays or stark black and white. It may display a range of colors”. Some images influence the range of tonalities. “The range of tonalities in the image in the course of the photographic process” (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990: 156-158).

2) Speed of Motion

The speed of motion depends on the relation between the rate of the film as shot and printed and the rate of projection. Whatever the shooting rate, if the projection rate corresponded, the action would look smooth and realistic (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990: 159). Thus, the speed of motion affects the action’s result of the screen.

3) Perspective Relation

The photographic lenses can change perspective relation of the image. “if two different lenses photograph the same scene, the perspective relation

in the resulting image could be drastically different. The image's perspective relation may also be created by means of certain special effects" (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990: 164).

4) Framing

Framing is important in defining the image for viewer. "The frame not only space outside itself but also a position from which the material in the image is viewed" (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990: 174). The position is implied by frames which involve angle of framing, level, height of the camera, and distance.

c. Casting

Casting is an important element of the pre process of film production. It involves a series of audition before a casting panel for selecting actors and other talent. An audition itself includes a sample performance by an actor, singer, dancer, musician, and other performing artist. According to Douglas and Harnden (1996: 108) state that "the quality of character represents the special matter which needed to look for the actor capable to understand and fulfill the overall of expected quality".

d. Editing

Editing involves the process of selection of the shot into sequences which appear on the screen into viewers. Bordwell and Thompson (1990: 207) state editing may be thought of as the coordination of one shot with the next". Mamer (2009: 347) further insisted "editing reflected to as cutting, is the process of selecting the parts of the shot that are good and

that serve the needs of the film and eventually discarding the rest”. Thus, editing can create a meaningful relation between shot one to another shot.

e. Sound

According Bordwell and Thompson (1990: 244-247), sound has some advantages for a film. First, it engages another sense mode our visual attention can be accompanied by an aural attention. Second, sound can actively shape how we interpret the image. Third, film sound can direct our attention quite specifically within the image. The last advantage is sound bristles with as many creative possibilities as editing.

D. Theoretical Application

This research employs the individual psychology theory by Alfred Adler, who analyze the movie. It focuses on the inferiority feeling of two major character in Greg Berlanti’s *Life As We Know It*.

There are some steps in analyzing the movie. Firstly, the analyzing begins from the structural elements of the movie which consists of characters and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, theme, and technical elements. Secondly, the writer applies a study about the theory of individual psychology that is appropriate to analyze the problems of personality. It can be done toward action, the dialogues, and the thought of the character. Those steps will answer the objective of the research.