DESIRE FOR WEALTH IN THEODORE DREISER’S NOVEL
SISTER CARRIE (1900): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH

PUBLICATION ARTICLES

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ABSTRACT
The aim of this study is to analyze Theodore Dreiser’s Sister Carrie novel based on Psychoanalytic Perspective. This study focuses on the major characters, namely Carrie. The method of data collection is qualitative method. This study uses two data sources, namely primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is the novel itself, while the secondary data source includes books and other data that have relationship with the research. Technique of the Data Collection is library research, while the technique of Data Analysis in this study is descriptive. Based on the psychological analysis, it clear that in Sister Carrie novel Dreiser describes a psychological phenomenon, in which the major characters, Carrie is obsessed by the desire for wealth. Carrie who has strong desire for wealth may do bad things until she gets what she wants.

Keywords: Desire for Wealth, Sister Carrie, Psychoanalytic Approach
INTRODUCTION

Human in the world needs wealth. Sometimes wealth as a symbol of a power and successful, wealth can show the social class of society. For this reason, many people want to have wealth. They can do anything to get it, although the way is bad, because wealth is everything. Wealth has a big position in our life. Our life have intense bond with wealth.

Desire for wealth is a motivation from somebody to have material possession. This motivation likes an emotion. It can burn someone as a spirit to achieve his or her goal. Desire for wealth always progress follows with the life, because wealth does not have limitation. If someone is in one position, he or she will want to achieve the higher next position. This desire based on character of materialistic and consumptive. Therefore, it supports them to get material possession such money to enliven their life.

*Sister Carrie* is a novel written by Theodore Dreiser in 1900 published by Doubleday in United States. It consists of 47 chapters in 557 print pages and 408 or 994 pages in PDF. It is to translate in several languages, such as Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, and Dutch.

*Sister Carrie* tells about young girl who have desire to realizing her American Dream. The source of the novel is the story of his sister Emma’s affair with L.A. Hopkins, a married man. *Sister Carrie* is called the "greatest of all American urban novels" in Donald L. Miller, *City Of The Century*. It is also as an influential example of naturalism and realism. So, this study chooses desire for wealth an issue and psychoanalytic perspective as the approach of the study.

The benefits of the study are divided into two parts. The first is theoretical benefit; this research will become a reference to study literature, especially novel analysis using psychoanalytic approach, this research can give a contribution to English learning. The second is practical benefit; this research gives a deep understanding for the writer himself about the novel based on psychoanalytic approach. The objectives of the study are to analyze the novel based on the psychoanalytic approach.
According to Freud “Psychoanalysis has reflected changing values in our society and itself played a role in the changing of these values” (Pervin, 1984: 21). Psychoanalytic theory derived from intensive work with individuals and applied in the individuals. Psychoanalytic theory has particular relevance to the study of individual differences as well as the total functioning of individuals. Furthermore, psychoanalysis exemplifies a psychodynamic theory in that it gives a prominent role to the complex interplay among forces in human behavior.

Conflict originate as the three systems of the mind compete for the limited amount of psychic energy available, energy that has its starting point in the instinctual needs of the individual. These three systems are the id, ego and superego.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this research, the writer uses a qualitative research. It is library research while data sources are using literary data. It purposes to analyze the drama using a psychoanalytic approach. The steps to conduct this research are determining the type of study, determining the object of the study, determining the data and data source, determining technique of data collection, and determining technique of data analysis.

The object of the study is desire for wealth in *Sister Carrie* novel written by Theodore Dreiser and publishing by Doubleday in 1900. In addition, it is analyze by psychoanalytic approach.

There are two data sources that are needed to do this research (1) Primary Data Source, the primary data source is desire for wealth in *Sister Carrie* novel written by Theodore Dreiser from Doubleday and the novel itself. (2) Secondary Data Source, the secondary data sources Psychoanalytic Theory book and other sources.

The technique of data collection is library research, the steps are: Reading the text of the novel to get the messages, and better understanding.Reading some related references to observe the theory, data and
Making notes of important part in both primary and secondary data sources. Classifying the data into some categories. The technique of analyzing data is descriptive analysis. Descriptive means that the researcher interprets the text to analyze text and content relating to psychological condition.

RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Based on the issue this study is reflected in Psychoanalytic approach. There are three basic principles of psychoanalytic approach, namely id, superego, and ego. This study tries to discuss them and correlate all of them. Theodore Dreiser in Sister Carrie novel generally wants to express that someone who has strong desire for wealth may do bad things until she or he gets what he or he wants.

1. Carrie’s Structure of Personality

   a. The Id

   In psychoanalytic theory, the id is home base for the instinct. According to Freud “The id are based on the pleasure principle. It is concerned only with satisfying personal desires, regardless of the physical or social limitations that might prevent us from getting whatever we want” (Pervin, 1984: 21).

   The first Carrie’s id begins to occur when she wants to leave her family and to go to Chicago to realize her dream.

   The second id occurs when Carrie wants to quit from the shoes factory because the salary is too low. She does not like the job.

   The third Carrie’s id occurs when she wants to go home. Carrie remembers her memories in the village. She misses her village and parents. Carrie thinks that her effort is poor reward and she gives up.

   The fourth id occurs when Carrie wants to leave Minnie’s flat, because she has some problems with her brother in-law, Sven. Sven expects Carrie can contribute in his family.

   It had been tacitly understood beforehand that she was to get work and pay her board (SC, 1900: 27).
The fifth *id* occurs when Carrie wants to live with Drouet. Drouet offers some materials that she is always dream. Carrie thinks her life will better if she lives with him.

The peculiar state which she was in made it sound like the welcome breath of an open door. Drouet seemed of her own spirit and pleasing (SC, 1900: 145).

The sixth *id* occurs when Carrie wants to go with Hurstwood and to leave Drouet. Hurstwood is more interesting than Drouet. Hurstwood is richer than Drouet.

The seventh occurs when Carrie wants take a job as an actor. Carrie thinks that she must do something, because Hurstwood does not do anything to get money.

The last Carrie’s *id* occurs when Carrie wants to leaving Hurstwood, because he does not give luxurious life and she is disappointed with him.

**b. The Superego**

Freud maintains that *Superego* is “the moral or ethical province of personality. It is guided by the idealistic principle as opposed to the pleasure principle of the *id* and the realistic principle of the *ego*” (Feist, 1985: 26).

The first Carrie’s *superego* occurs when she wants to leave her family and to go to Chicago to realize her dream. Carrie is a young girl and she is eighteenth years old. As a young girl, she is better to stay at home than go to the big city, Chicago.

The second Carrie’s *superego* occurs when the Carrie’s *id* wants to quit from the shoe factory because the salary is too low. She does not like the job. Her *superego* warns to keep the job, because it will be more difficult to find other job.

The third Carrie’s *superego* occurs when she wants to go home. Carrie remembers her memories in the village. She misses her village and parents. Carrie thinks that her effort is poor reward and she gives up. She
is a young girl from rural area that is better too staying in home. She does not have qualities to stay in Chicago.

The fourth *superego* occurs when Carrie wants to leaving Minnie’s flat, because she has some problems with her brother-in-law. Sven expects Carrie can contribute in his family. However, Minnie is her sister who very kind and accept her to live in Minnie’s apartment. Carrie worries her sister will feel sad and angry if she goes out from Minnie’s apartment.

Carrie was afraid of what she was going to do but she was relieved to know that this condition was ending. They would not care. Hanson particularly would be glad when she went. He would not care what became of her. (SC, 1900: 153)

The fifth *superego* occurs Carrie wants to live with Drouet. Drouet offers some material that she is always dream. Carrie thinks her life will better if she lives with him. However, she knows Drouet for a while. She thinks to go together with Drouet is bad things. She asks Drouet to marry her as soon as possible.

The sixth *superego* occurs when Carrie wants to go with Hurstwood and to leave Drouet, because Hurstwood is more interesting than Drouet. Hurstwood is richer than Drouet. Instead of, Drouet is very kind and Carrie feels pity if she leaves Hurstwood.

The seventh *superego* occurs when Carrie wants take a job as an actor. Carrie thinks that she must do something, because Hurstwood does not do anything to get money. As an actor is one way to be wealthy. Therefore, she keeps the spirit and looks for the procedure to be an actor. Moreover, her superego remembers for never give up looking for an agent.

The last Carrie’s *superego* occurs when Carrie leaves Hurstwood, because he does not give luxurious life and she is disappointed with him. Actually, she feels pity and worried, because Hurstwood is her husband and she loves him.
c. The Ego

According to Freud, the function of the ego is “to express and satisfy the desires of the id in accordance with reality and the demands of the superego. The ego operates according to the reality principle” (Pervin, 1984: 77).

The first Carrie’s ego occurs when she wants to leave her family and to go to Chicago to realize her dream. In addition, Carrie is a young girl and she is eighteenth years old. As a young girl, she is better to stay at home than to go to the big city, Chicago. However, her desire to gain material things is too big. Finally, she arrives in Chicago and her sister, Minnie picks up her in the station.

“Chicago!” called the brakeman, drawing the word out long. They were under a great shadowy train shed where the lamps were already beginning to shine out, with passenger cars all about and train moving at s snail’s pace. The people in the car were all up and crowding about the door (SC, 1900: 23).

The second ego occurs the Carrie’s id wants to quit from the shoes factory because the salary is too low. She does not like the job. Her superego warns to keep the job, because it will be more difficult to find other job. Therefore, she keeps the job and does not look for other job.

The third ego when she wants to go home. Carrie remembers her memories in the village. She misses her village and parents. Carrie thinks that her effort is poor reward and she gives up. She is a young girl from rural area that is better to stay in home. She does not have qualities to stay in Chicago. Nevertheless, her desiring for wealth is bigger than her missing of village and parent. Carrie keeps her spirit and tries to look for a job.

The fourth ego occurs when Carrie wants to leave Minnie’s flat, because she has some problems with her brother-in-law. Sven expects Carrie can contribute in his family. However, Minnie is her sister who very kind and accept her to live in Minnie’s apartment. Carrie worries her sister will feel sad and angry if she goes out from Minnie’s apartment.
Finally, Carrie goes out from Minnie’s apartment. She thinks that she can realize her dream after have a freedom.

The fifth ego occurs when Carrie wants to live with Drouet. Drouet offers some materials that she is always dream. Carrie thinks her life will better if she lives with him. However, she knows Drouet for a while. She thinks go together with Drouet is bad things. She asks Drouet to marry her as soon as possible.

The sixth ego occurs when Carrie wants to go with Hurstwood and to leave Drouet, because Hurstwood is more interesting than Drouet. Hurstwood is richer than Drouet. Instead of, Drouet is very kind and Carrie feels pity if she leaves Hurstwood. Carrie chooses Hurstwood than Drouet. Then she marries with Hurstwood and lives in New York as Mrs. Wheeler. In addition, Hurstwood promises much material more than Drouet.

The seventh ego occurs when Carrie wants take a job as an actor. Carrie thinks that she must do something, because Hurstwood does not do anything to get money. As an actor is one way to be wealthy. Therefore, she keeps the spirit and looks for the procedure to be an actor. Moreover, her superego remembers for never give up looking for an agent. Nevertheless, became an actor is not easy, she does not have qualities to be an actor. Finally, she takes a job as a chorus girl to get some money.

The last ego occurs when Carrie leaves Hurstwood, because he does not give luxurious life and she is disappointed with him. Actually, she feels pity and worried, because Hurstwood is her husband and she loves him. However, she is disappointed with Hurstwood. Carrie cannot realize her dream if she keeps live with him. Therefore, Carrie leaves Hurstwood after several years living together. She moves to stay with her friend, Lola.
d. Type of Personality

From the analysis of Carrie`s personality above, the researcher can make a conclusion that Carrie is included in pleasure seeking type. Her id is bigger than her superego and ego. For Carrie, wealth is more important than anything. She does many bad things to get wealth and makes her closer to luxurious life. She accepts to be a mistress and breaks man’s wedlock. Carrie`s bad action is the result of false representation of money.

2. Desire for Wealth

After the researcher observed the story, she finds some way that Carrie doing to realize her desire for wealth. The way which Carrie to do, sometimes is a bad thing. For Carrie, it is not a big problem if it makes her closer with her desire. The desire for wealth reflects in the following behaviors:

a. Carrie leaves her family and hometown to realize her dream. She goes to Chicago which offers some opportunity especially wealth. She wants to life like common girl.

b. Getting wealth, Carrie must collects money and looks for a job. Then she gets a job in shoes factory. She does not like the job because the salary is too small. However, look for other job is very difficult, so she stays it.

c. After Carrie loses her job in shoes factory and has some problems with her brother in law, Hanson. She leaves her sister’s apartment, Minnie. In addition, she gets an offer from Drouet. If Carrie wants live with him, Drouet will gives anything that she wants and looks for a job for her. Finally, she accepts to be a mistress influenced her desire for wealth.

d. Carrie chooses Hurstwood than Drouet, because Hurstwood is more interesting and richer than Drouet. Even Carrie is angry when she knows that Hurstwood is a married man, she still accepts Hurstwood, because Hurstwood explains to Carrie, that he is already divorce with
Julia, his wife. Then they are marrying illegally under the name Wheeler.

e. Carrie wants to take a job as an actor after Hurstwood does not do anything to take care of their life. Hurstwood does not look for a job. She thinks it is the time to her to get job. She never gives up realizing her want. She goes to one agent to the other.

f. Carrie takes a job as a chorus girl. She takes the job because she does not have qualities to be an actor and the salary is sufficient to take care of her life.

g. Carrie leaves Hurstwood, because she is disappointed and bored with him. Hurstwood nevermore gives luxurious life to Carrie. Besides that, Hurstwood still does not do anything; he is just depending of his life on Carrie. It is exhausting for Carrie.

h. Carrie achieves her success. She becomes famous, a high paid actor in New York. Nevertheless, she feels unhappy and lonely. She continues to suffer from an unsatisfied desire for something even she cannot name.

From the analysis above, the researcher concludes that wealth does not always make someone happy. Happiness will be achieved, if people can enjoy and to be thankful for life. Carrie has a false representation of happiness. Besides that, Carrie has way to realize her dream is a bad thing. Bad thing will into turn bad result. Carrie never satisfies with the result and still has desire for something even she cannot name.

**CONCLUSION AND PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATION**

Based on the psychoanalytic analysis, it is evident that in this novel, Theodore Dreiser wants to convey the psychological phenomena in which an individual is obsessed by the desire for wealth. By using Sigmund Freud’s theory of psychoanalytic, the researcher analyzes the personality of Carrie who relates to desire for wealth personality and have correlation with irrational personality.
Carrie as the important characters in this play is an ambitious and amoral girl. She always gives the highest priority for her *id*. By way of this novel, Dreiser wants to convey a criticism that consumer culture makes people have false representation of money. They think money is happiness. Then it makes people desire for wealth. The people who have strong desire for wealth may do bad things until they get what they want.

Related to this study above, it is hoped can give pedagogical implication such as:

a. The researcher hopes that this study can be useful for the readers as comparison to the other researcher in widening the knowledge of literary study.

b. The researcher hopes this study can give contribution for the teacher as reference for English teaching learning process especially understanding about novel.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


