

**THE SACRIFICE OF A HUSBAND REFLECTED IN
"OSCAR WILDE'S *AN IDEAL HUSBAND* DRAMA":
PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



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ABSTRACT

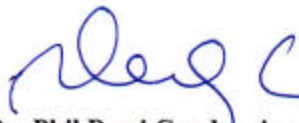
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The major problem of this study is how anxiety arises in major character's personality. Then the other problem is how she tries to overcome it. The aim of the study is to analyze Oscar Wilde An Ideal Husband based on the structural elements of the drama and personality of the major character, namely Sir Robert Chiltern.


The benefits of the study are to give some contribution to the development of larger body of knowledge, particularly the literary study and to enrich the researcher's knowledge about literary work. The study uses library data; the primary data are taken from the novel itself, while the secondary data are taken from some information needed. The method of data collection is descriptive qualitative research. The study employs Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis to answer the problem.

The result of this study shows that the problem of the major character causes the conflict of her mental condition. Then, it develops to be anxiety that makes her does some defenses to overcome her anxiety

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INTRODUCION

A. Background of the Study

Beside that there are many TV movies that have been produced based on Oscar Wilde's such as *An Ideal Husband*(1895).An ideal husband Oscar Wilde alt although it become the basis for the movie but it also has an interesting element to read and analyze. This drama shows an expression of human internal battle in overcoming frustration and anxiety.

The reason why the writer chooses this drama as her object of the study because It is interesting to analyze, there the author could present many internal a lieu to her characters. In *Sacrifice of a husband reflected* in Oscar Wilde's an husband as the major character whose life is full of anxiety. He was a very loving husband wife Lady Chiltren, so that one day he lied to his wife about the business she was doing and it was years ago he bought a stake in the disputed waterway Sues and at the time it purchased the shares without the knowledge of her the Lady Chiltren. and one day someone comes old friend Sir Robert is Mrs. Chevely and it turns out he wants to unload the shares lie quiet and he's also destination to destroy marriages and lies lady Chiltren. He do it all for the sake of his wife he was afraid of losing a perfect wife like Lady Chiltren.

The second Reason why the writer chooses this drama as the object of the study is because the writer understands well about the story of the drama; she feels that this drama is easy to understand Including the plot, theme, diction and the conflict.

The third reason is the plot of *An Ideal Husband*; the writer wants to understand more about the plot of this play. The plot plays is to criticize the late Victorian society about their life. The life of Victorian society is almost the same with situation in this era. Many people want to get the advantages from the other without hard work. In this play Sir Robert Chiltren sell a government state secret to get the power and reputation. The plot makes the writer so interested, because it shows how Sir Robert Chiltren struggles for life to defend wife because Chiltren's demand that her ambitious husband is clean.

From the short description above, the researcher is interested in analyzing major character of Sir Robert Chiltern especially her anxiety which is viewed from psychoanalytic perspective of Sigmund Freud. So, the writer will title her study as THE SACRIFICE OF HUSBAND REFLECTED IN OSCAR WILDE' S AN IDEAL HUSBAND DRAMA: PSYCHOANALYTIC PRESPECTIVE.

B. Problem Statement

Consider ring the phenomenon clarified above, the researcher proposes two problems

1. What are the factors that cause sacrifice of a husband reflected?
2. How does she overcome the problem?

C. Research Objectives

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the drama in term of its structural elements.
2. To analyze the drama based on the psychoanalytic perspective.

D. Method of Data Collection

The method used in this research paper is library research, which means that the data from both, primary and secondary sources are collected and recorded in a sort of document used as evidence.

E. Technique of Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis used in this research is descriptive analysis, and to analyze the data the researcher has to step. The first stepin analyzing the data of this research is trying to clarify the abstained data by selecting the necessary data excluding the unnecessary ones. The second is analyzing data based on Sigmund fraud's theory of psychoanalytic.

UNDERLYING THEORY

A. Notion of Psychoanalysis

Psychoanalysis is a part of psychological study. The theory based on its application was developed by Sigmund Freud (Encarta Encyclopedia, 2004). It has fundamental assumption which divides the human's mental life into two levels, they are conscious and unconscious (Feist, 1985:21). Conscious is everything about human's feelings and experiences in awareness (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992:86) and the unconscious is all the thoughts, experiences and feelings of which human is unaware (Pervin, 1984:7 1).

B. Systems of Personality

1. *Id*

Id is the true psychic reality where contains parts of biological at birth including instinct that human has and sexuality. It is the basic systems of personality to transfer the activities of ego and superego because id is the original system where the ego and superego develop (Koswara, 1991:32; Hall and Lindzey, 1985:33).

2. *Ego*

Ego is the personality system which guides into the objective reality because it is the only one of personality systems which has connection with the real world (Koswara, 1991:33-34). According to Freud it is as mediator of id to be real, as statement of Hall and Lindzey "ego evolves out of id to enable the organism to deal with reality" (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:33). Here the ego has a function to express and satisfy the desire of the id in accordance with the reality (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992:89). For example when human feels hungry, he has to look for, get and then eat some food to solve his hunger but the human self has to learn to differentiate between the fantasy or the actual food since the hunger only needs the real food. Therefore, ego is called as the reality principle because ego decides what human can do as seeking reality.

3. Superego

Superego is the last of personality systems which contains of norms in a society and also the rule to behave (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992:90). It decides the right or not the mind which will do and as the system which based on the moral principle, its aim is to seek perfection which tells what human should do. As Freud stated that "superego forward to deal world and perfection than pleasure" (Feist, 1985:4 1).

C. Anxiety

Anxiety is an emotional condition which contains of the painful, represents a danger, makes the human feels uncomfortable and also always feels so scare (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:41; Pervin, 1984:80). This condition comes from some hurt experiences which finally will increase the tension and apprehension to the human self (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992:103).

D. Ego Defense Mechanism

Anxiety is considered as a thing which has an important role in the theory of personality but if it is exaggerative, it will become a disturbance to human's personality. Then, if it happens, ego will do some defense mechanism (Koswara, 1991:46). According to Freud defense mechanism is "a technique by which the source of the anxiety is either excluded from consciousness or distorted in such a way as to be less anxiety producing"(Bower, 1987:373).

STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

A. Structural Elements

1. Characters and Characterization

In the novel each character has different characterization from the others. Characterizations of character in the novel are usually formed by the author by giving some descriptions, such as the action, speech and also habit (Semi, 1988:37). It is qualities of the character either physically, mentally, socially and morally.

a. Major Characters

1) Sir Robert Chiltern

Sir Robert was the husband of the Lady Chiltern he is a very loving husband to his wife to cover up a lie to keep his wife was not upset.

b. Minor Character

1) Mrs. Cheveley

Mrs. Cheveley is Lady Chiltern friend from school when he also had a desire to squeeze Sir Robert and he wants to dismantle all lie to the Lady Sir Robert Chiltern.

c. Setting

Setting is where and when the story takes place. There are two kinds of setting, they are setting of place and setting of time.

1) Setting of Place

The setting of place of An Ideal Husband in place Sir Robert Chiltern in the Grosvenor square in London. Morning-room at Sir Robert Chiltern's house. The Library in Lord Goring's house. An Adam room.

- a). In place Sir Robert Chiltern in the Grosvenor square in London
- b) Morning-room at Sir Robert Chiltern's house
- c) The Library in Lord Goring's house. An Adam room

2) Setting of Time

In An Ideal Husband, Oscar Wilde as the author does not give certain year when the story takes place. She just gives the period of the day such as morning afternoon, night and midnight

d. Plot

1) Exposition

Exposition is the beginning of the story which is related to the introduction of the characters and the other background information of each character (Klarer,1999:15).

2) Complication

Complication or raising action is a series of events that related each other and then lead the rising action or conflicts. It consists of two kinds of conflicts, they are internal and external conflict.

e. Climax

Climax is the highest tension of the story. When she and Lord Goring confront each other, Mrs. Cheveley makes a proposal. Claiming to still love Goring from their early days of courtship, she offers to exchange Sir Robert's letter to her beau, an old hand in marriage. Lord Goring declines, accusing him of defiling love by reducing courtship to a vulgar transaction and spoiling the Chilrens'. He then springs the trap. Removing the diamond brooch from his desk drawer, he binds to Cheveley's wrist with a hidden device. Goring then reveals how the item came to hers. Apparently Mrs. Cheveley stole it from his cousin years ago. To avoid arrest, Cheveley must trade his release for a damning letter from bejeweled handcuffs. After Goring obtains and burns the letter, however, Mrs. Cheveley steals Lady Chiltern's note from his desk. Vengefully he plans to deliver it to Sir Robert, misconstrued as a love letter addressed to the master dandy. Mrs. Cheveley escapes out of the house in triumph. (L:75-93)

f. Resolution

Resolution is the stable situation at the end of the story where the tension drawn into the falling action, Sir Robert Chiltern, which returns to Grosvenor Square, completed many plot complications sketched above with a clear happy ending.

g. Causality

Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband* is arranged systematically and shows causality. It means that the appearing of an event causes another event to emerge.

h. Plausibility

Based on the plot of *An Ideal Husband*, the researcher draws a conclusion that the change of the major character's behavior is plausible. Now this incident took place at the home of Sir Robert, Lord Goring urges Sir Robert to fight Mrs. Cheveley and pleaded guilty to his wife. He also revealed that he and Mrs. Cheveley were previously involved. After finishing his conversation with Sir Robert, Goring engaged in flirtatious banter with Mabel. He also takes Lady Chiltern aside and urged her to be tilted less flexible and more

forgiving moral. Once Goring leaves, Mrs. Cheveley appears, unexpected, look for a brooch she lost the previous night. Sir Robert is angry at his word, he finally confronts Sir Robert to his wife after they were both in the room. Unable to accept Sir Robert now unmasked, Lady Chiltren then denounces her husband and refuses to forgive him.

i. Point of View

In Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband*, the point of view is non participant. It can be shown that the narrator is not a character in the story and she uses the third of person pronouns, "he", "she", "it" and "they". In *An Ideal Husband*, the author is as omniscient which means the author knows all about the characters, major and minor. It can be seen in the narration of the story from the physical appearance to the feeling of the characters that is described by the author.

j. Style

Style refers to the element of language that is used by the author to reflect an author's originality in writing (Koesnosoebroto, 1988:124). The author's style is an important part to make clear what the author wants to say through the action of the story. The style of the novel consists of grammatical structure, sentence construction, diction, figurative language, imagery and symbolism.

1) Grammatical Structure

In writing *An Ideal Husband*, Oscar Wilde uses standard language and also the modern English. Therefore, the sentences are easy to understand. The researcher can find the standard language in the narration and dialogues as the following examples:

2) Sentence Construction

The sentence construction used by Oscar Wilde are combination between long and short sentences. She usually uses long sentences in writing narration to describe some detailed information.

3) Diction

Diction is the selecting words used by the author to tell his idea in a story. In *An Ideal Husband*, Oscar Wilde chooses the diction which is

simple and easy to understand. her also uses some borrowing words from another language, includes for giving the name of place such as drawing room. For examples:

4) Figurative Language

Figurative language is sentence that is used by the author to imagine something differently from the real meaning. In *An Ideal Husband*, the researcher finds several figurative languages.

- a) Simile
- b) Personification
- c) Methapore
- d) Hyperbole
- e) Euphemism

k. Theme

The theme of a story is whatever general idea or insight the entire story reveals in a literary work (Klarer, 1999:103). Usually the author does not state the theme explicitly but the reader can predict and conclude from the message of the story which is told by the author

The theme of *An Ideal Husband* is "Anxiety can influence human's self confidence". The theme of this novel is in accordance with the theoretical approach used by researcher in analyzing the story Sir Robert Chiltren as major character is a man who feels guilty because his wife had lied to his wife, he covered crime to keep his career and marriage. When Mrs. Cheveley informs Lady Chiltren sharp change of heart regarding Sir Robert canal scheme , flexible morals Lady , well aware of her past and the blackmail plot, insists that Sir Robert renege his promise.

B. Discussion

Sir Robert Chiltren is the major character who is created by Oscar Wilde treats to show he felt guilty for his wife and had to hide the problem from his wife just because he's afraid his career was destroyed and marriage ends the most part, this story tells of the anxiety that Sir Robert chiltren caused by discomfort because

it hides a secret to his wife and was in to keep her marriage but in the story appears someone who wants to tell all his crimes to his wife. The major character dominates this story because she is effective to be used as the means to convey the author's idea but Oscar Wilde also creates other characters, which have kinds of characterization differently. They are created in order to make the story more alive.

The setting of place of the story is in London. Oscar Wilde mentions some place such as The Octagon Room in Sir Robert Chiltern's House in Grosvenor Square, Morning-room in Sir Robert Chiltern's House, The Library of Lord Goring's House in Curzon Street Whereas, the setting of time is nineteenth century. The author places the characters in 60s until the last of 70s or in the beginning of 80s, although it is not mentioned explicitly but it can be known by seeing action that is happened in the story then related with the issue, which happened at that time.

In *An Ideal Husband*, Oscar Wilde uses a traditional plot that includes exposition, complication, climax and resolution. Those four parts of plot make the conflicts of the story develop regularly. In the beginning of the story, Wilde puts introduction of the major character that mostly occurs between the major character and his wife. The conflict begins when their friends come and want to unload all the lies that have been carried out by Sir Robert to his wife as the climax. In the last of the story, Wilde gives a resolution as outcome of the conflicts. He describes about the major character who finally gets her self after passing a lot of conflicts which cause depression to her.

The point of view of *An Ideal Husband* is non-participant or third person narrator. it means that Oscar Wilde as the author does not have a role as character in her drama story. Here, Wilde as omniscient who knows everything about all the characters. By using non-participant point of view, it is more effective to the author in writing her drama because he can explore everything more about her feeling through her characters in the drama and he is more freely to develop her idea.

The language used by the author is standard language and modern English. The language used is appropriate to support the story that has setting time in modern life, 60s - 70s. She also uses some borrowing language for naming some places and special term such as medical term. They are used to support the setting of place, which describes American life in America modern. Beside that, Wilde also uses figurative language to support her idea in writing.

From the analysis above, the researcher concludes that the structural elements of *An Ideal Husband* such as character and characterization, setting, point of view and style are related each other in building the story. The relationship between the structural elements makes the drama more interesting to watch.

PSYCHOANALYTIC ANALYSIS

A. Structure Of Sir Robert Chiltren's Personality

1. Id

Id of Sir Robert Chiltren can be seen on the way he wants to get wealth in his life by having a lot of money. He said that wealth (material possession) is the most important thing at that century.

2. Ego

Sir Robert Chiltren first ego occurs when he arouses getting a lot of money by giving private information. In order to fulfill his wants of being rich and get the wealth he do it. But for himself, he has it by his own effort.

3. Superego

Superego is the last of personality systems which contains of norms in a society and also the rule to behave (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992:90). d. type of personality.

Sir Robert chiltren is the type of guilty ridden type where his mistake in the past haunted the decision in present. His superego dominates the id, and ego. The battle between id, ego and superego is won by super ego. To Sir Robert chiltren career and family is his priority to get successful achievement of that he will do as hard as he can, but in the end he has to regret the mistake he made, that he sell state secret for money and now he feels guilty.

B. Anxiety of Sir Robert Chiltern

The kind of anxiety that Sir Robert Chiltern encounters depends on which energy of the id or superego dominating the ego is greater than the other. The anxieties include moral, neurotic, and reality anxiety. According to Freud, anxiety is "repetition of the earlier traumatic experiences" (Pervin 1984:80)

The Sir Robert Chiltern anxiety comes from Lord Goring. Lord Goring asks him about the scandal. He feels anxious about Lord Goring's question to him. Sir Robert Chiltern thinks that the question will have a big impact on his life and ruin it.

And the biggest anxiety of Sir Robert Chiltern is when his wife Lady Chiltern is actually angry at him. He thinks that the cause of his wife's madness is because Mrs. Cheveley, who knows about his personal secrets and past. He believes that his wife knows about his affair, so he feels so anxious.

1. Realistic anxiety

Anxiety happens when Sir Robert Chiltern knows that Mrs. Cheveley will blackmail him if he does not support the building of the South American canal scheme in a speech to the parliament. Mrs. Cheveley threatens Sir Robert Chiltern that she will expose his dirty secret of the past if he doesn't support her. Sir Robert is afraid it will destroy his career and success.

2. Neurotic Anxiety

Sir Robert Chiltern experiences this anxiety when he meets Mrs. Cheveley at the party to speak specifically. Mrs. Cheveley, who knows about Sir Robert Chiltern's past, suspected that she will tell anyone about Sir Robert Chiltern's past. He is afraid of what will happen if it truly happens and he is not ready to face that.

3. Moral Anxiety

Sir Robert Chiltern's moral anxiety can be seen in Act 1, page 27 when he has to tell his past to Lady Chiltern. He tells that he ever did a bad thing by selling state secrets to Baron when he was at the early career. He feels guilty because he realizes what he has done is wrong now he is afraid of the consequences. Here Sir Robert Chiltern thinks that his past is making his present destroyed, he thinks

that its too much to lose if he stop his career now. But his wife thinks that it was a good idea to lose the bad past.

D. Ego Defense Mechanism

Sir Robert Chiltren experience many anxiety, to reduce the pain or to protect himself from overwhelming anxiety he uses ego defense mechanism. In this part the wiser will discuss what are the ego defense mechanism that Sir Robert chiltren to reduce the anxiety.

1. Repression

Here Sir Robert chiltren uses it by holding a party. The chiltrens hosting a pare to reduce feeling of guilty because by hosting a party people will be respected and honored in the culture of west. The act one shows that sir Robert chiltren make a reception party, actually he is feeling guilty of the bad thing that he ever done in the past. He also feel anxious that his past known by other and also he is blackmailed.

2. Reaction Formation

According to Freud reaction formation is "the replacement of an anxietyproducing impulse or feeling by its direct opposite" (Wortman, 1988:349). It usually hides negative feeling by sowing the positive ones or it hides positive feeling by showing the negative ones (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:47). Bower states that reaction formation is aimed "to make a person unaware in the original source of distress" (Bower, 1987:373-374). For example a mother who dislikes her child but she knows that it is bad feeling and behavior, so it arises anxiety and guilty to her personality. Therefore, the mother expresses the opposite feeling by loving her child exaggerative.

3. Regression

Sir Robert chiltren uses this regression to face his anxiety when his wife knows that in his past he have done a crime by selling state secret to baron. He talk to Lord Goring about that in order to calm his anxiety.

4. Undoing

This strategy is used by Sir Robert Chiltern when he is arguing with his wife Lady Chiltern about his mistake in the past about selling state secrets and also his affair with Mrs. Cheveley. Here Sir Robert Chiltern is doing nothing but calling his wife's name.

5. Projection

Projection is turning impulse and behavior that arises anxiously into other people (Koswara, 1991:47). Wortman states that it occurs when people unknowingly attribute their own objectionable impulse to others (Wortman, 1988:349). Thus, projection is used to reduce anxiety in which way humans blame the other of their own unacceptable impulses.

6. Sublimation

Actually, sublimation is a form of displacement (Bower, 1987:374). According to Freud, it is "the channeling of negative Id impulses into socially acceptable actions" (Burger, 1986:60). It occurs when humans try to reduce their anxiety caused by their Id impulses by driving into socially acceptable activities. Freud viewed that sublimation has an important role in the development of science and arts because, according to Freud, these are forms of sublimation of the scientist and artist caused by their sexual impulses (Koswara, 1991:47).

7. Displacement

The utterance above shows that Sir Robert displaces his anxiety by flattering his wife as a defense mechanism.

8. Rationalization

He also uses it to defend himself from Lord Goring by saying about his past that he sold state secrets to the Germans long years ago. He says that his past cannot be brought up again to ruin his present.

The conversation above shows Sir Robert's confession about the part of him that he thinks is not fair if it is brought again to the present and ruined his life.

D. Discussion

There many conflict experienced by character chosen by the writer. Sir Robert children is confronted by his disreputable past, blackmailed, and finally saved from an% public scandal. The bad secret of his past is that his fortune rests on his having gee all state secret. As a young man, he finds out that England intends to support an extensive overseas construction project, before the announcement is made public will rich. Sir Robert children feels guilty and anxious because he sells a state secret to baron for money. In this play, Sir Robert children shows the effect of anxiety and the ego defense mechanism, which for the first time is to block the anxiety. In this case, anxiety can change human's personality. Having some problem, people get anxious and under control when they want to do something.

An ideal husband is one of the most serious of Wilde's social comedies, and contain very strong political overtones ironically and cynically examining the contemporary political landscape. The play's main focus is the often corrupt sources of great wealth, of which the public usually ignorant. Sir Robert children one of mirror contemporary society and how finances increasingly influence political life. Within his political realm, the play notes how social power relies not on money, but rather on information and knowledge. In the play, secret knowledge allows Mrs. Chevely to hold great power over sir Robert children. An ideal husband was largely influenced by events in Paris in 1893. The directors of the compagnie du canal interoceanique exploited shareholder funds, and similar political corruption lies at the heart of Wilde's play.

Oscar Wilde gives critical in an ideal husband that politicians in late nineteenth century England is not terribly different from politicians today. Politicians saw themselves as public servants and entered into politics to do some good make a difference. Yet, to go far in politics it takes ambition. In the ferociously ambitious sir Robert children. Wilde present just this type of politician accurately. This depiction of the politician's hury ambition makes sense in an ideal

husband. The play is concerned with having people adopt a realistic view of the world and how it works. Consequently, Wilde avoids an idealized picture of the motivations of top rank politicians.

Oscar Wilde makes his characters as works of art, and demonstrates how their culture has teach them to behave with a certain amount of pretense. The play constantly moves toward a more ideal moral standard, materialism, and corruption of social and political life. Wilde's enduring message is that love, and not wealth, leads to happiness.

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