

**NEUROTIC SOLUTION OF CHRISTOPHER MAHON IN  
COVERING HIS CRIME IN *THE PLAYBOY OF THE  
WESTERN WORLD* DRAMA BY J.M SYNGE (1907):  
AN INTERPERSONAL PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



Submitted as a Partial Fullfillment of Requitment for Getting Bachelor  
Degree of Education in English Department

by:

**DANNY EKOWATI**

**A320130065**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH EDUCATION  
SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA**

**2017**

**APPROVAL**

NEUROTIC SOLUTION OF CHRISTOPHER MAHON IN COVERING  
HIS CRIME IN *THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD*  
DRAMA BY J.M SYNGE (1907):  
AN INTERPERSONAL PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH

Publication Article

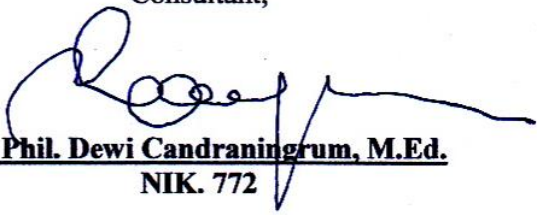
by

**DANNY EKOWATI**  
**A320130065**

Approved to be examined by Consultant  
School of Teacher Training and Education  
Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

Surakarta, 11 June 2017

Consultant,

  
**Dr. Phil. Dewi Candraningrum, M.Ed.**  
**NIK. 772**

## ACCEPTANCE

NEUROTIC SOLUTION OF CHRISTOPHER MAHON IN COVERING  
HIS CRIME IN *THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD*  
DRAMA BY J.M SYNGE(1907):  
AN INTERPERSONAL PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH

by

**DANNY EKOWATI**  
**A320130065**

Accepted by the Board of Examiner  
School of Teacher Training and Education  
Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta  
On July 2017

The Board of Examiners:

1. Dr. Phil. Dewi Candraningrum, M.Ed.  
(First Examiner)
2. Dr. Abdillah Nugroho, M.Hum.  
(Second Examiner)
3. Yeny Prastiwi, Ph.D.  
(Third Examiner)



Dean,



**Prof. Dr. H. Joko Prayitno, M.Hum.**  
**NIP. 196504281993031001**

## DECLARATION

I am the researcher, signed the statement bellow :

Name : Danny Ekowati

NIM : A320130065


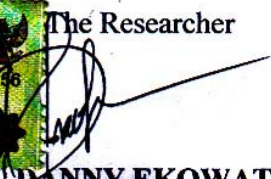
Study Program : Department of English Education

Title : NEUROTIC SOLUTION OF CHRISTOPHER MAHON IN  
COVERING HIS CRIME IN *THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD*  
DRAMA BY J.M SYNGE (1907): AN INTERPERSONAL PSYCHOANALYTIC  
APPROACH

Herewith, i testify that there is no plagiarism in this Publication Article. As far as I know, there is in literary work which has been raised to obtain bachelor degrees of university. Nor there are obtain master pieces with have been written or published by others, except those in which the writing are refered manuscript and mentioned in the literary review and bibliography.

Hence later, if it is proven that there are some untrue statement in this testimony, I will hold fully responsible.

Surakarta, 22 June 2017

 The Researcher  
  
**DANNY EKOWATI**  
**A320130065**

**NEUROTIC SOLUTION OF CHRISTOPHER MAHON IN COVERING  
HIS CRIME IN *THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD*  
DRAMA BY J.M SYNGE (1907):  
AN INTERPERSONAL PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**

**Abstract**

The objectives of this study are to find out the kind of neurotic solution and the most dominant of solution appears in Christopher Mahon in covering his crime in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama By J.M Synge (1907) viewed from an interpersonal psychoanalytic approach. The research is qualitative research. The object of the study is utterance from the dialog in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama. It is analyzed by using interpersonal psychoanalytic. The method of collecting data is reading the script repeatedly and understanding the content, watch the drama repeatedly and compare it with the script, reading other resources related to the script, giving marks to particular parts in the script, taking notes for important parts both in primary and secondary data sources and classifying the data into categories (problem statement) and developing them into a good unity. The results of the study shows that the movement toward other people (the compliant personality) in the *Playboy of the Western World* drama shows that Christy tries to get rid of his upset in his heart and mind by finding someone to share of, Christy Mahon really needs protection from the house and the girls, and Christy needs somebody to listen to his true story and believes on him and protect him. Movement against other people (the aggressive personality), of Christy appears when he wants to solve his problem by facing his problem, he must says the truth on her and take what ever happen on him, and Christy also being braves to talk to Shawn to marry her. Movement away from other people (the detached personality) of Christy appears when he tries to cover up his crime by leaving the house and he travel to other city and he meets Pegeen. For eleven days he walks and waking fearful in the night. Then Christy makes decision to leave the house of the girls. The most dominant of solution appears in Christopher Mahon in covering his crime in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama is movement towards people.

**Keywords:** *neurotic solution, interpersonal psychoanalytic, The Playboy of the Western World*

**Abstrak**

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui macam-macam solusi kegelisahan dan solusi yang paling dominan yang ada pada Christopher Mahon untuk menutupi kejahatannya dalam drama *The Playboy of the Western World* karya By J.M Synge (1907) dilihat dari sudut pandang pendekatan psikoanalisis interpersonal. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif. Objek penelitian ini adalah tuturan dari dialog tokoh dalam drama *The Playboy of the Western World*.

Tuturan dianalisa dengan menggunakan psikoanalisis interpersona. Metode pengumpulan data penelitian ini adalah dengan membaca naskah secara berulang dan memahami isinya, menonton drama secara berulang dan membandingkannya dengan naskahnya, membaca sumber lain yang berhubungan dengan naskah, membuat tanda atau kode pada bagian dari naskah, membuat catatan untuk hal terpenting dalam naskah baik itu primer maupun sekunder dan mengklasifikasikan data berdasarkan kategori yang digunakan, dan mengembangkannya kedalam sebuah kesatuan yang baik.. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa mendekati orang lain dalam drama *the Playboy of the Western World* menunjukkan bahwa Christy berusaha untuk menyingkirkan kegelisahan dalam hati dan pikirannya dengan menemukan orang lain untuk berbagi, Christy Mahon sangat memerlukan perlindungan dari rumah dan gadis-gadis dalam rumah, dan Christy perlu seseorang untuk mendengarkan cerita sebenarnya dari dia dan percaya terhadapnya kemudian bisa melindunginya. Melawan orang lain dari Christy muncul ketika ia ingin menyelesaikan masalahnya dengan menghadapi permasalahan tersebut dengan menceritakan kejadian yang sebenarnya kepada para wanita dalam rumah dan ia berani menerima apapun konsekuensinya, dan Christy juga berani untuk bicara kepada Shawn bahwa ia akan menikahi kekasihnya. Menghindari orang lain Christy muncul ketika ia berusaha untuk menutupi kejahatannya dengan meninggalkan rumah dan pergi melakukan perjalanan jauh ke kota lain dan kemudian ia bertemu dengan Pegeen. Selama 11 hari ia berjalan dan selalu bangun dengan rasa takut setiap malam. Kemudian Christy mengambil keputusan untuk pergi meninggalkan rumah dan para gadis di dalam rumah. Solusi yang paling dominan dari Christopher Mahon dalam menutupi kejahatan di drama *The Playboy of the Western World* adalah dengan mendekati orang lain.

**Keywords:** *solusi kegelisahan, psikoanalisis interpersonal, The Playboy of the Western World*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Human have their own ways to solve their problem related to the neurosis and Horney named it as human's neurotic solution. When people gets their neurosis it will affect to their social relationship, individuals have a constant fear of social situations for fear of embarrassment. Symptoms of anxiety may be experienced when an individual is exposed to social situations, these can include physical symptoms such as blushing, fear and diarrhoe (Hancock, 2012: 2). So, the solution is how they have to deal with social.

The neurotic will pursue the search for safety and security by using more than one of these mechanisms and the incompatibility among the four mechanisms, securing affection and love, being submissive, attaining power,

and withdrawing, can lay the groundwork for additional problems. The four self-protective mechanisms Horney proposed have a single goal: to defend against basic anxiety. They motivate the person to seek security and reassurance rather than happiness or pleasure. They are a defense against pain, not a pursuit of well-being. Another characteristic of these self-protective mechanisms is their power and intensity. These mechanisms may reduce anxiety, but the cost to the individual is usually an impoverished personality (Schultz, 2005: 158). So that is why the neurotic solution stands as self protective mechanism for human to decrease their anxiety.

Based on the above explanation about neurotic solution, the researcher wants to used it as the approach to analyze the phenomenon within the *The Playboy of the Western World* written by Irish Playwright. The researcher interested to analyze the drama by using interpersonal psychoanalytic because, first the script has been played in so many country in a form of thetrical act and also played in a film version. The second the *The Playboy of the Western World* also has been played by English Student of Muhammadiyah University, the third, there are a lot of phenomenon related to self hatred and discrimination, the last is that this script never been analyzed before in UMS. The researcher wants to analyze the script in one research entitled “Neurotic Solution Of Christopher Mahon in Covering His Crime in The Playboy of the Western World Drama By J.M Synge (1907): An Interpersonal Psychoanalytic Approach”.

The objectives of this research are to find out the kind of neurotic solution and the most dominan of solution appears in Christopher Mahon in covering his crime in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama By J.M Synge (1907) viewed from an interpersonal psychoanalytic approach.

The previous study was done by Mary Röine Doolan (2013) entitled *The Playboy of the Western World (carnavalesque reading)*. The result of her research were carnivalesque as a literary style that challenges authority and traditional social hierarchy through the use of humour and chaos, and he compares the carnivalesque in literature to the carnivals of popular culture.

Several carnivalesque tropes apparent in *The Playboy*—inversion, subversion, grotesque imagery and ambivalent laughter—are examined, and a specific focus is placed on carnivalesque tropes in the language of the play and carnivalesque aspects in the action.

Horney defined basic anxiety as an “insidiously increasing, all-pervading feeling of being lonely and helpless in a hostile world” (Horney, 1937: 89). It is the foundation on which later neuroses develop, and it is inseparably tied to feelings of hostility. Regardless of how people express basic anxiety, the feeling is similar for all of human. In Horney’s words, we feel “small, insignificant, helpless, deserted, endangered, in a world that is out to abuse, cheat, attack, humiliate, betray” (1937: 92). So, based on the above anxiety within human there are.

### **1.1 Movement toward other people (the compliant personality),**

The compliant personality displays attitudes and behaviors that reflect a desire to move toward other people: an intense and continuous need for affection and approval, an urge to be loved, wanted, and protected. Compliant personalities display these needs toward everyone, although they usually have a need for one dominant person, such as a friend or spouse, who will take charge of their lives and offer protection and guidance. Compliant personalities manipulate other people, particularly their partners, to achieve their goals. They often behave in ways others find attractive or endearing (Schultz, 2005: 166).

### **1.2 Movement against other people (the aggressive personality),**

Aggressive personalities move against other people. In their world, everyone is hostile; only the fittest and most cunning survive. Life is a jungle in which supremacy, strength, and ferocity are the paramount virtues. Although their motivation is the same as that of the compliant type, to alleviate basic anxiety, aggressive personalities never display fear of rejection. They act tough and domineering and have no regard for others. To achieve the control and superiority so vital to their lives, they must consistently perform at a high level. By excelling and receiving



recognition, they find satisfaction in having their superiority affirmed by others. Because aggressive personalities are driven to surpass others, they judge everyone in terms of the benefit they will receive from the relationship. They make no effort to appease others but will argue, criticize, demand, and do whatever is necessary to achieve and retain superiority and power (Schultz, 2005: 167).

### **1.3 Movement away from other people (the detached personality).**

People described as detached personalities are driven to move away from other people and to maintain an emotional distance. They must not love, hate, or cooperate with others or become involved in any way. To achieve this total detachment, they strive to become self-sufficient. If they are to function as detached personalities, they must rely on their own resources, which must be well developed. Detached personalities have an almost desperate desire for privacy. They need to spend as much time as possible alone, and it disturbs them to share even such an experience as listening to music. Their need for independence makes them sensitive to any attempt to influence, coerce, or obligate them. Detached personalities must avoid all constraints, including timetables and schedules, long-term commitments such as marriages or mortgages, and sometimes even the pressure of a belt or necktie (Schultz, 2005: 168).

The neurotic will pursue the search for safety and security by using more than one of these mechanisms and the incompatibility among the four mechanisms can lay the groundwork for additional problems. For example, a person may be driven by the needs to attain power and gain affection. A person may want to submit to others while also desiring power over them. Such incompatibilities cannot be resolved and can lead to more severe conflicts. Neurotic Needs and Trends Horney believed that any of these self-protective mechanisms could become so permanent a part of the personality that it assumes the characteristics of a drive or need in determining the individual's behavior. She listed 10 such needs, which she termed neurotic needs because they are irrational solutions to one's problems. The 10 neurotic

needs are as follows (Schultz, 2005: 168); (1) Affection and approval, (2) A dominant partner, (3) Power, (4) Exploitation, (5) Prestige, (6) Admiration, (7) Achievement or ambition, (8) Self-sufficiency, (9) Perfection, (10) Narrow limits to life.

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

The research is qualitative research. The object of the study is utterance from the dialog in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama. It is analyzed by using interpersonal psychoanalytic. The method of collecting data is reading the script repeatedly and understanding the content, watch the drama repeatedly and compare it with the script, reading other resources related to the script, giving marks to particular parts in the script, taking notes for important parts both in primary and secondary data sources and classifying the data into categories (problem statement) and developing them into a good unity. The technique used to analyze the data was descriptive analysis technique.

## **3. RESEARCH FINDING**

### **3.1 The kind of neurotic solution of Christopher Mahon in covering his crime in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama By J.M Synge (1907) viewed from an interpersonal psychoanalytic approach.**

#### **3.1.1 Movement toward other people (the compliant personality),**

The compliant personality displays attitudes and behaviors that reflect a desire to move toward other people: an intense and continuous need for affection and approval, an urge to be loved, wanted, and protected. Moving toward other people is one way for people with problem and anxiety to get solution from others or sometimes to distract their mind from something that disturbs them. In the *Playboy of the Western World* drama the solution of movement toward other people appears below.

CHRISTY -- May God and Mary and St. Patrick bless you and reward you, for your kindly talk. Well, it's a clean bed and soft with it, and it's great luck and company I've won me in the end of time two fine women fighting for the likes of me till I'm thinking this night wasn't I a foolish fellow not to kill my father in the years gone by. (*TpotWW/17:25*)

The above quotation shows that there is moving toward people solution did by Christy in the middle of his anxiety after killing his father. After he meets with Pegeen, he feels that Pegeen is one of kind and good woman, so he tries to make a good relationship with her. A lot of praise coming from his mouth to show that he is really greatfull for meeting Pegeen. This is called as moving toward people because Christy tries to get rid of his upset in his heart and mind by finding someone to share of and someone who can distract the shadow of the killing that he has done. Eventhough the need for a partner they can love and who will solve all problems is not the real purpose of Christy, but the most important thing is that he has someone to please him.

### **3.1.2 Movement against other people (the aggressive personality),**

Aggressive personalities move against other people. They make no effort to appease others but will argue, criticize, demand, and do whatever is necessary to achieve and retain superiority and power. The movement against people appears in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama can be seen below.

HONOR : Come on, will you?  
CHRISTY : I will then if Pegeen's beyond.  
SARA : She's in the boreen making game of Shaneen Keogh.  
CHRISTY : Then I'll be going to her now. (*TpotWW/32:13*)

The above quotation shows that Christy no longer runs from his problem. The situation is that, Christy does not want to looses

Pegeen, he wants to tell the truth about his father. After he tells that he just killed his father suddenly his father appears in front of him in the girls house. He knows that Pegeen considers that he is a liar, so, he wants to proof that he is telling the truth. The movement agains people on this situation is that, Christy wants to solve his problem by facing it. He can not run from it if he does not want to looses her. He must says the truth on her and take what ever happen on him.

### **3.1.3 Movement away from other people (the detached personality).**

People described as detached personalities are driven to move away from other people and to maintain an emotional distance. Maintain emotional means that by moving away from people, the people with anxiety can arrange their feeling and minds to be calm and comfortable without any of interference from others. In the *The Playboy of the Western World* drama it shows that Christy really wants to go far away from his home by visiting a lot of the unknown place to get away from people he knew. The situation is that, after he killed his father, than he tries to cover up his crime by leaving the house and he travel to other city and he meets Pegeen, it can be seen on be seen on below quotation.

PEGEEN : Go on, I'm saying, and don't be waking this place with your noise. That lad would wear the spirits from the saints of peace. Let you stretch out now by the fire, young fellow. You should be destroyed travelling.

CHRISTY : I'm tired, surely, walking wild eleven days, and waking fearful in the night. (*TpotWW/05:00*)

The above quotation shows that, finally Christy Mahon arrives at certain place where Pegeen and her friend lives. There, Christy need a place to stay and leave his problem temporarily. It is difficult for him to get rid of the scary event of the killing. For eleven days he walks and waking fearful in the night. It shows that the shadow of his father always come by in his mind and he can

not run from it. By walking for eleven days and leaving the people who next to him, he thinks that he can leave all the shadow of it. So, at the place of Pegeen he only wants to get rest and no one can disturb him.

### **3.2 The most dominant of solution appears in Christopher Mahon in covering his crime in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama By J.M Synge (1907) viewed from an interpersonal psychoanalytic approach.**

The moving toward people solution did by Christy based on the neurotic solution appears because he knows that he can not live alone under the shadow of the murder of his father and he meets a lot of people in a house who makes him comfortable and falling in love. It can be seen from below quotation.

CHRISTY -- May God and Mary and St. Patrick bless you and reward you, for your kindly talk. Well, it's a clean bed and soft with it, and it's great luck and company I've won me in the end of time two fine women fighting for the likes of me till I'm thinking this night wasn't I a foolish fellow not to kill my father in the years gone by. (*TpotWW/17:25*)

The above quotation tells that Christy finally meets Pegeen and he falls in love with her and Pegeen also likes him. So with this condition it can be seen that the feeling of love and attraction can distract the bad mood or the bad condition and situation of Christy. He considers that by loving somebody he can run from his crime and the fear inside.

The next movement toward people because of love to get rid of the bad mood and to get the place to share with, it is also can be used as a place to get the news. It can be seen on below quotation.

CHRISTY : Is it news of my murder?  
PEGEEN : Murder, indeed.  
CHRISTY : A murdered da?  
PEGEEN : There was not, but a story filled half a page of the hanging of a man. Ah, that should be a fearful end, young fellow, and it worst of all for a man who destroyed his da, for the like of him would get small mercies, and when it's dead he is, they'd put him in a narrow grave,

with cheap sacking wrapping him round, and pour down quicklime on his head, the way you'd see a woman pouring any frish-frash from a cup.

CHRISTY : Oh, God help me. Are you thinking I'm safe? You were saying at the fall of night, I was shut of jeopardy and I here with yourselves. (*TpotWW/23:35*)

The above quotation shows that the movement toward people solution also does by Christy to get the news from outside. When Christy hide in the small house of the girls, he never know about the situation outside, so he uses the girls in thouse to get the news especially about the murder case. This can be used as a pace of protection where he can stay safe inside the house and can keep knowing the situation by using the girls in the houses.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

There are found the conclusion of the analysis of the neurotic solution of Christopher Mahon in covering his Wcrime in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama By J.M Synge (1907). The movement toward other people (the compliant personality) in the *Playboy of the Western World* drama shows that Christy tries to get rid of his upset in his heart and mind by finding someone to share of, Christy Mahon really needs protection from the house and the girls, and Christy needs somebody to listen to his true story and believes on him and protect him. Movement against other people (the aggressive personality), of Christy appears when he wants to solve his problem by facing his problem, he must says the truth on her and take what ever happen on him, and Christy also being braves to talk to Shawn to marry her. Movement away from other people (the detached personality) of Christy appears when he tries to cover up his crime by leaving the house and he travel to other city and he meets Pegeen. For eleven days he walks and waking fearful in the night. Then Christy makes decision to leave the house of the girls. The most dominan of solution appears in Christopher Mahon in covering his crime in *The Playboy of the Western World* drama is movement towards people.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

CS&CPC. 1996. *The Root Causes of Crime*. CS&CPC Statement on the Root Causes of Crime.

Cooper, Terry. 2009. *Reinhold Niebuhr and Psychology, The Ambiguities of the Self*. New York: Mercer University Press, Macon GA

Hancok, Jason. 2008. *Neuroses, first edition: London, Churchill Livingstone*,

Horney, Karen. (1937). *The Neurotic Personality of Our Time*. New York: Norton. Describes the development of conflict and anxiety within the personality and relates neuroses to past experiences and to social and cultural forces.

Horney, Karen. (1950). *Neurosis and Human Growth: The Struggle Towards Self-Realization*. New York: Norton.

Moleong, Lexy J. 2007. *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung: PT. Remaja Rosdakarya

Murphy, Patrick. 1985. *Crime and Criminality*. New York Police Department Journal.

Schultz, Duane P. 2005. *Theories of Personality*. Canada: Thomson Learning Inc

*The Playboy of the Western World*. (January, 9, 2013) Retrived September 3, 2016 from <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1240/1240-h/1240-h.htm>

WHO. 2008. *The ICD-10 Classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders*. World Health Organization