

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

The researcher wants to discuss about defense mechanism in the psychoanalytic theory. Defense mechanism is a way to handle our anxiety. We always use defense mechanism when we feel that we are sad or mad. We use it unconsciously and sometimes when we get our mind back, we forget what happened. Every single of the creature in this world has its own defense mechanism, like a chameleon which can change its color like its surrounding to avoid the predators, or like a porcupine, if it wants to avoid or to attack the predators, it will make itself like a ball of thorn and it will make the predators get the pain and go away.

Defense mechanism is not simple like as what people see, it is more complicated in its explanation and its kinds. Many kinds of defense mechanism that people used to refuse the reality. What will people do to refuse the reality will be effected in the kind of defense mechanism. For example, one day somebody gets a bad news that his wife is dead, he is really shock for what happened and he does not believe that his wife is dead so when he comes home he acts that his wife is still going out with her friends and comes late. It is an example for the defense mechanism that called as denial. And the researcher will use this defense mechanism to analyze one of the character from Anton Chekhov's drama script.

Many people create the human personalities into scripts and make them be a play or drama. Some people think that to make a drama script or a play is a way to convey the playwright's mind or idea to the audience or reader. One of the famous Russian playwright in the 19th Century is Anton Chekhov. Anton Chekhov was born on January 29, 1860, the third of surviving children, in Taganrog, a port on the Sea of Azov in southern Russia. Chekhov began his career in writing jokes and anecdotes about the Russian life in that era. He had made a

lot of short stories and some plays such as *The Seagull* (written in 1895), *Uncle Vanya* (written in 1897), *The Three Sisters* (written in 1900), and *The Cherry Orchard* (written in 1903).

Uncle Vanya is one of the famous plays made by Anton Chekhov. It was first published in 1897 and in 1899 it was received in a production by the Moscow Art Theatre. This play is about mediocrity, the impossibility of change, and unrequited love. It is about a whole of dissatisfaction rolled up into a dreary and *Uncle Vanya* is at the center of all dissatisfaction. This play tells about an elderly professor, Serebryakov, his glamorous, younger second wife, Helena, and his other families. Vanya is the son of Mme. Voynitskaya, mother in law of Serebryakov.

Vanya feels envy with Professor Serebryakov, Vanya thinks that every woman in the house has been stolen by Serebryakov even Vanya's mother. Without realizing it, Vanya compares himself constantly to Serebryakov who steals his women constantly. Vanya is in love with Helena, Serebryakov's second wife, but Helena always rejects him. He knows that everybody in that house always praises Serebryakov and they look at himself as a coward man. He does not has a work, he just wake up at the late and he also drunk in the nights.

The woman that he loved, Helena, is a young woman who married with the old proffesor, Serebryakov, the father of Sonya. Helena and Sonya have a bad relationship. Sonya thinks that Helena has married his father to get some advantages because the ages of Helena and her father is too different, her father is too old for Helena. But someday, Helena tries to make her relationship with her stepsister, Sonya. She knows that Sonya has a feeling with the doctor, Michael Astrov and she uses this fact to make their relationship be nice. Sonya does not has a confidence to express her feeling to Astrov, and Helene let herself to ask Astrov's feeling about Sonya.

The purpose of this study to analyze the defense mechanism that occurs in Ivan character play using Psychoanalytic approach. Based on those reasons, the researcher gave the title for this research THE DEFENSE MECHANISM OF

IVAN PETROVICH VOYNITSKY IN ANTON CHEKHOV'S *UNCLE VANYA* SCRIPT (1899): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH.

B. Limitation of the Study

The researcher only focuses in analyzing the defense mechanism of Ivan Petrovich Voynitsky in Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* script (1899) using Psychoanalytic Approach that founded by Sigmund Freud, a physician from Austria in 1890.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the background above, the researcher formulates the research questions in Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* script, as follows:

1. How is defense mechanism depicted by Ivan Petrovich Voynitsky in Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*?
2. Why does Anton Chekhov address defense mechanism in his script?

D. Objective of the Study

Dealing with the problem statements above, the researcher formulated the objectives of the study as follows:

1. To explain how defense mechanism is depicted by Ivan Petrovich Voynitsky in Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* script.
2. To reveal the reasons why Anton Chekhov addresses defense mechanism in his script.

E. Benefit of the Study

This research is organized by the researcher in order to have benefits, as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The researcher writes this research paper in order to give information and contribution to the literary study in Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*.

2. Practical Benefit

The researcher expects that this research paper could give the significant information for all the people, especially for students of

English Department who study literary to increase their knowledge in analyzing *Uncle Vanya* script using Psychoanalytic approach.

F. Research Paper Organization

The researcher divides the paper into five chapters. Chapter one is introductory. This chapter is dealing with the background of the study, previous study, limitation of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, and benefit of the study. Chapter two is underlying theory. This chapter is dealing with the notion of psychoanalysis, the structure of personality, anxiety, defense mechanism, and the last is previous study. Chapter three is research method. This chapter is dealing with the type of study, object of study, data and data source, technique of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data. Chapter four is dealing with analysis and discussion. This chapter focuses on analysis about the structure of personality, anxiety, and defense mechanism that happened in Ivan Petrovich Voynitsky's character. And the last chapter five is dealing with conclusion and suggestion.