

CHAPTER II

UNDERLYING THEORY

This chapter deals with psychoanalytic analysis on the mental condition of the main character of *Uncle Vanya* named Ivan Petrovich Voynitsky . This research will apply the psychoanalysis theory proposed by Sigmund Freud to analyze the play. This chapter is divided into four parts namely notion of psychoanalysis, system of personality, anxiety, and defense mechanism.

A. Underlying Theory

1. Notion of Psychoanalysis

Psychoanalysis is the part of psychological study that focuses on the personality of human being. It is a method of therapy for personality disturbances and technique for investigating an individual's unconscious thoughts and feelings (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 86). It was founded by Sigmund Freud, a physician from Austria in 1900. According to Freud (in Pervin, 1984: 21) "Psychoanalysis reflected changing value in the society and plays a role in the changing of values". Psychoanalysis has many functions in the human personality, it helps many researchers in finding the ways to solve the problem about human psychology.

2. Structure of Personality

As the part of psychological study, psychoanalysis is study that focuses on the personality of human being. According to Hjelle and Ziegler (1992: 88), during the early 1920s Freud revised his conceptual model of mental life and introduced three basic structures in the anatomy of human personality: *id*, *ego*, and *superego*. This three basic structures is known as the *structural model of mental life*.

According to Freud (in Feist, 1985: 24), *the id*, *ego* and *superego* are not persons, places, or physical things, they are the names given to certain motivational forces whose existence is inferred from the way people behave.

Everybody has *id*, *ego*, and *superego* in themselves because they have their own minds and behaviors. It helps them to know what they want.

a. The *Id*

Id is the biological aspect and the original system in the personality. *Id* is also called the irrational, instinctual, unknown and unconscious part of the psycho Freud. According to Freud (in Pervin, 1984: 76), “The *Id* is demanding, impulsive, blind rational, asocial, selfish, and finally pleasure loving”.

b. The *Ego*

Ego is another system in the personality. “The *Ego* is initially the “executive” of the personality in that it decides what actions are appropriate and which *Id* impulse will be satisfied in what manner” (Atkinson and friends, 1983: 395). Freud (in Hall and Lindzey, 1985: 34) states that the *ego* is “the result of the creation of spiritual inner systems as the result of reciprocal relationship between an individual and his world. Freud declares that the *ego* is actions based on the reality principle.

Freud explains that, “very young children might be allowed” to grab food off their parent plate, and may be watched carefully enough so that they do not found hot or sharp object that might harm them.

c. The *Superego*

Superego is the internal representative or the traditional values and evaluative norms. Freud (in Hall and Lindzey: 1985: 35) states that the *superego* represents societies and is particularly the parents as values and standards. “*Superego* as the principle of morality consists of some values and evaluated norms”. The *Superego* forwards to ideal world and perfection than pleasure.

The *Superego* does not merely punish the individual for moral violations. *Superego* is a morality element branch of justice from personality system. Freud (in Hall and Lindzey, 1985: 35) states “*Superego* is the internal representative of the traditional values and

evaluative norms. *Superego* represents the ideal world rather than pleasure or the real world it tries to reach perfection rather than pleasure”.

The *Superego* does not merely punish the individual for moral violations. In other individuals, The *Superego* can become too powerful, or: supermoral” and burden The *Ego* with impossible standard of perfection”.

3. Anxiety

Theory of psychoanalysis does not only discuss the personality of human being, but also covers about anxiety. In psychoanalytic theory, anxiety is a painful emotional experience and representing a threat or danger to the organism (Freud in Pervin, 1984: 80). Anxiety is the most important concept of psychoanalysis theory. Freud (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992 : 102) states anxiety “is *ego* function which alerts the person to sources of impending danger that must be counteracted or avoid. As such, anxiety enables the person to reach to threatening situations in an adaptive way”. Anxiety plays the important role, either in the development of the personality or in the dynamism of the personality. Besides, anxiety is the central of Freudian theories about nervous system. According to Hall, ” a feeling experience that makes the individual hurt, this hurt is presented by the tense of the internal part of the body. The tense itself is caused by the internal or external drives. In short anxiety serves two short possibilities of effects for person who suffers it. First the anxiety will disturb the days of its victim by making him or her unable to spend his or her life happily instead it will sink them in deep sorrow. The second effect is anxiety gives worth present by leading a person to learn useful knowledge or experience. All that results will occur differently depending on a person reaction, his or her personality and his or her ability to compromise with it.

a. Reality Anxiety

Reality anxiety is an experience of fear or real dangers in the external world. (Hall and Lindzey, 1985 : 41). That is to say that this type of anxiety occurs because the individual is fear of the reality around him.

It occurs when a person feels that some danger will come and will bring him in the trouble, no matter it is caused by persons or an animal in the environment. The reality anxiety seems more real comparing to neurotic or morality anxiety. In the reality anxiety, a person is able to explain why he is afraid since the cause can be seen or recognized clearly. A person who is unable to control this reality anxiety has possibility to experience the others anxiety, whether neurotic or moral anxiety because he/she sometimes is unable to release himself/herself from bad past experience. The function of anxiety is to warn the person of impending danger; it is a signal to the *ego* that unless appropriate measures took the danger may increase until it is overthrown.

b. Neurotic Anxiety

“Neurotic anxiety is an emotional response to the threat that unacceptable *id* impulses will become conscious” (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 103). This anxiety emerges because of the fear that causes *ego* cannot control the threat (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 103). Neurotic Anxiety can be called the fear of punishment from an imaginary external source. It is an emotional response of fear experienced when the ego is threatened by not controllable instinctual desires. Neurotic anxiety is initially experience as realistic anxiety because punishment is delivered from external source.

c. Moral Anxiety

“Moral anxiety is the emotional response when the *ego* is threatened by punishment from the *superego*” (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 103). The presence of moral anxiety is to control person’s emotion or desires. His or her feeling will be expressed carefully. He or she will try to find the best way to avoid the punishment from society. By experience moral anxiety a person will drive to behave as a nice person and help them to find the right ways of live. It also serves possibility for a person

who was a bad person turns to be hearted person who obeys the moral / values in society.

These three types of anxiety have a tight relation with each other. They often exist inside the individual personality when fear of real danger, from this situation it can be all of the anxiety (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:64).

4. Defense Mechanism

Some of the ways in which people reduce anxious feeling without addressing the problems have been employed so often those they have been given names. According to Hjelle and Ziegler (1992: 104), defense mechanism helps the people to carry out or to protect them from their overwhelming anxiety which is happening in their lives. 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 when we get our mind back, we forget what happened. According to Freud (in Atkinson and friends, 1983: 38) “the term defense mechanisms refer to unconscious that depends against anxiety by distorting reality in some way”. Defense mechanism is those physical method that have been involved.

a. Repression

Repression means preventing an idea, feeling or memory from reaching conscious. Freud (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 104) regarded that repression as the primary ego defense, not only serves as a basis for more elaborate mechanisms of defense but also involves the most direct approach in avoiding anxiety. According to Freud (in Asimov, 1983: 417), the fundamental defense mechanism one that keeps threatening thought and memories from consciousness and pushes they back into the unconscious. A repression of the incestuous impulse is maintained in the unconscious.

b. Denial

When someone refuses to acknowledge that an unpleasant event has occurred, he or she is engaging in *denial* (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 107). When we use denial, we simply state that certain facts do not exist. In more cases the ego will resort to denial rather than allow certain thoughts to reach consciousness.

c. Projection

Freud (in Asimov, 1983: 47) states that “projection is a denial of one’s own unacceptable desires the discovery of these desires in the behavior of the people. People sometimes use *projection* to eliminate thoughts and feelings that arouse the anxiety.

d. Reaction Formation

Reaction formation is the extreme terms of behavior. According to Freud (in Asimov, 1983: 418), “the stronger impulse toward socially unacceptable behavior, the stronger the defense against it, so that the crusaders who “protest too much” against what they consider reprehensible behavior may be displacing reaction formation”. One of the ways in which a repressed impulse may show itself is through adopting a disguise that is directly opposite from its original form (Feist, 1985: 33).

e. Rationalization

It is the use of a “good” reason but the real reason for behaving is particular way with this strategy a person can provide a rational explanation for the behavior, and in doing so conceal from self or others the less appropriate motivation (Corsini, 1987: 298”).

f. Sublimation

According to Freud (in Burger, 1986: 60), sublimation is the only truly successful defense mechanism, in that the more we use it, the more productive we become. Freud also states (in Burger, 1986: 60) “sublimation is the channeling of negative id impulses into socially acceptable action”.

g. Undoing

Undoing is a type of repression in which the ego attempts to do a way with unpleasant experiences and their consequences. According to Freud (in Feist, 1985: 554) “It is like negative magic in that ideas or events are made to disappear. They are erased through a compulsive ceremonial performed for that purpose”.

B. Previous Study

To differentiate this research with the other researches, the researcher will provide some researches focused on defense mechanism in literary works.

The first previous study is a journal from B. Sucharita (2016) entitled *The Emancipated Women In The Plays Of Chekhov*, Associate Professor and Head Dept of English Pachaiyappa’s College, Chennai. This journal discusses the Chekhov’s major plays and his portrayal of female characters are then discussed. His female characters though beaten on all sides by life are strong enough to believe in themselves and find refuge in industry. They emerge victorious enough to encounter and find meaning in life.

The second previous study is also a journal from B. Sucharita (2016) entitled *The Cognitive Value Of The Plays Of Chekhov*, Associate Professor and Head Dept of English Pachaiyappa’s College, Chennai. This journal discusses that Chekhov manages to bring home to the readers the whole landscape of a particular era, its archetypes, its contradictions, the simultaneity of decadence and resurgence, of hope and suffering, of tears and laughter. He has captured the totality of human experience in a particular society, at a particular moment of time and this has made his works both timeless and universal.

From all the researches above, the researcher presents that the data sources are different from the previous researchers. The researcher uses defense mechanism in the analyzing Chekhov script’s *Uncle Vanya*.