

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Motive's "a reason for doing something, especially one that is hidden or not obvious" (Merriam Webster Dictionary). Everyone has the motive to do something. Even death has a motive. They use many ways so that the killings can occur. The example is paying a contract killer, using euthanasia and suicide. A contract killer occurs since the early 1900s. There have been many cases in western countries. While euthanasia is a method of suicide by injection but it does not make pain. Countries that have legalized euthanasia are Germany, Switzerland and Washington DC etc. The other way is suicide. The main cause of suicide is depression. The country that has many cases about suicide is South Korean. They do not confidence when facing their problem.

Maslow (1987) classified hierarchy needs into five, as follows: (1) Physiological needs, (2) Safety needs, (3) Belongingness and love needs, (4) Esteem needs and (5) Self- actualization". Most motives for murder are caused by psychological needs and safety needs. Psychological needs including food, water etc. One of the examples of psychological needs is people want to get compensation money. They want to get compensation money because they want to make their family live better. For example, is getting proper food. While safety needs including safety and security. People choose to kill someone because they want to make their secret safety. One of the things that make the safety of our secret is to kill others who know our secrets.

One of the authors that create novel about the motive of the murder is Gillian Flynn. Gillian Flynn is an American written and former television critic. She was born on February 24, 1971. Gillian Flynn has published three novels and all of them have the same genre, namely mystery genre. The three novels are *Sharp Object*, *Dark Places* and *Gone Girl*. *Dark Places* and, *Gone Girl* were already adapted for the movie. She was also written novella entitle *The Grownup*. Flynn worked at U.S News & World after she graduated from

Northwestern. She married with Brett Nolan in 2007 and they have two children.

The themes of *Dark Places* are mystery and thriller. The main characters of this novel are Libby Day, Trey and Ben Day. Libby day is the only person who still alive in the massacre murder of her family. Libby day tells the police that his brother (Ben) is the one who killed his mother and two older sisters. Libby day lives from the book money sales revenue about the story and the donors who feel pity for her. The savings money owned by Libby is getting worse because the incident has been so long so they have forgotten and they do not donate again.

One day the kill club is making an offer to Libby. Libby will be given money if Libby wants to tell the truth who the murder is. Kill Club does not believe that Ben Day has killed his family. Libby actually did not want to do anything crazy to find the true information. She needed money so Libby finally sought the truth of the original story. Libby helped by Trey as a member of Kill Club.

The fact is that Libby's mother (Patty Day) given money to a contract killer to kill her because she wants to get compensation money. The compensation money is to save their agricultural land that will be taken over and save the lives of their children. The second truth is Ben didn't rape Krissi and other girls. Krissi just wants to show off to their friends and have bad consequences of doing that. The third truth is that Diondra kills Michelle because she knows that she is pregnant. Ben covered up the fact because he didn't want Diondra to give birth to their baby in prison and ended up into foster care. The fourth truth is that the contract killer also killed Debby because she sees when he tries to kill her mother.

Dark Places is a novel that successful enough. The novel has many bad and good responses. According to good reads, Ameera (2016: October 11) said that Ok. I expected this book gonna be good like gone girl and more but unfortunately was boring and sad all the time actually. I don't like it. On the other hand, *Dark Places* is very interesting to the readers. Raeleen (2013: May

01) gives an opinion that I have now officially read all of Gillian's books, and I really enjoyed this one! The story and the characters were so twisted and the last hour or so of the audiobook was insaaaane. (<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/5886881-dark-places>).

This novel was adapted for the movie. The movie was released in France on April 8, 2015, and in the United States on August 7, 2015. According to Indoxxi, the rating of this movie is 6.2 from 10 (<https://indoxxi.vip/movie/dark-places-2015-3wv4>). The film earned \$3,512,942 for a worldwide. This novel won the Dark Scribe Magazine Black Quill Award for Dark Genre in 2015. *Dark Places* also was listed on the New York Times Best Seller List for hardcover fiction on 2009.

There is a reason why the researcher chooses this novel. *Dark Places* is a mystery novel that successful enough. Gillian Flynn always success if she creates a mystery novel. This novel is very recommended novel both of man and women. The researcher raises an issue the motives of murder. Patty, Diondra and Calvin Diehl have the motive of commit the murder. Based on humanistic psychological perspective, Patty is in psychological needs category. Patty wants to get compensation money. Diondra is in safety needs category. She does not want Michelle tells about her mother about her pregnancy. Calvin Diehl has two motives. The first motive is a psychological need. He receives money from Patty because Patty asks him to kill her. The second motive is safety need because Debby saw him when he tries to kill Patty.

Based on the background above, the researcher analyzed *Dark Places* novel with the issue is motives of murder by using humanistic psychological perspective. So, the researcher constructs the paper entitled **MOTIVES OF MURDER IN GILLIAN FLYNN'S DARK PLACES (2009): A HUMANISTIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE.**

B. Problem Statement

The researcher has forms problem statements of this study, as follows:

1. What are the character's motives of committing the murder?

2. How were the motives of murder depicted in the novel?
3. Why did the author address the motives of murder in the work?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statements, the objectives of this study are:

1. To identify the character's motives of committing the murder.
2. To describe the motives of murder depicted in the novel.
3. To reveal the reason why Gillian Flynn addressed the motives of murder in the novel.

D. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the study that conducted by the research as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of this study gives information on knowledge and experience about the literary study in Gillian Flynn's *Dark Places*. This study can be used as a reference to make better research about *Dark Places* as a material object of the future study.

2. Practical Benefit

This study gives benefit to provide information, especially for the Department of English Education and the other can to learn this literary research in analyzing *Dark Places*.