

**PERSEVERANCE REFLECTED IN *SAFE HAVEN*
BY NICHOLAS SPARKS (2010) :
A FEMINIST APPROACH**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of Requirement for Getting Bachelor
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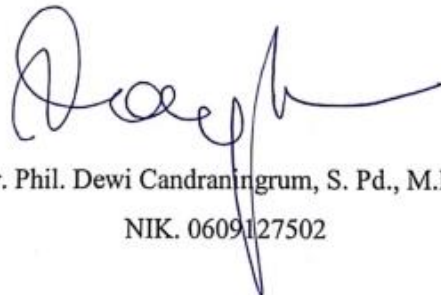
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In this occasion, the researcher states that there is no work had been submitted to get bachelor degree in any University in this article and as far as the researcher concerns there is no work or opinion had been written or published by someone else except the written references which are referred in this article and mentioned in the bibliography. If only there will be any incorrectness proven in the future in the researcher's statement above, the researcher will be fully responsible for that.

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini berfokus untuk mengetahui isu upaya upaya yang dilakukan oleh tokoh utama dalam novel *Safe Haven* (2010) karya Nicholas Sparks. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah Feminist secara umum. Jenis penelitian yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode pengumpulan data menggunakan tehnik *deskriptif*. Penelitian ini menggunakan dua data yaitu data primer dan data sekunder. Novel *Safe Haven* karya Nicholas Sparks sebagai data primer. Jurnal online, thesis dan skripsi yang terkait dengan kegigihan dan upaya pelarian diri sebagai data sekunder. Penelitian memiliki tujuan antara lain untuk mengetahui upaya apa saja yang dilakukan oleh tokoh utama dalam novel *Safe Haven*, dan untuk mengetahui dampak apa sajakah yang diderita oleh tokoh tersebut paska kekerasan yang dialaminya. Hasil dari penelitian ini antara lain (1) terdapat 16 upaya yang dilakukan oleh tokoh utama untuk melarikan diri dari tindak kekerasan tersebut, (2) dari 3 dampak yang menjadi acuan penulis, penulis hanya menemukan 2 diantaranya dampak luka fisik, dan dampak psikologis yang dialami tokoh.

Kata kunci: nicholas sparks, aktualisasi diri, dampak kekerasan

Abstract

This research focuses to find out the issue of the efforts made by the main character in the novel *Safe Haven* (2010) by Nicholas Sparks. The theory used in this study is Feminist in general. This type of research used in this research is descriptive qualitative. This research uses data collection methods using descriptive techniques. This study uses two data, primary data and secondary data. The novel *Safe Haven* by Nicholas Sparks as primary data. Online journals, theses and theses related to perseverance and escape as secondary data. The purpose of this research is to find out what kind of efforts were made by the main character in the *Safe Haven* novel, and to find out what impact these characters suffered after the violence they experienced. The results of this study include (1) there are 16 attempts made by the main character to escape the violence, (2) of the 3 impacts that the authors refer to, the author only found 2 of them the impact of physical injury, and the psychological impact experienced figure.

Keyword: nicholas sparks, self-actualization, impact of violence

1. INTRODUCTION

Researchers learn about the violence felt by women, especially in household matters. researchers understand about the impact of domestic violence on a woman. From the novel *Safe Haven* by Nicholas Sparks it turns out the impact on

victims of violence is very bad and leaves deep scars. Likewise with the efforts made by figures. In fact there are many women who are not strong soul after experiencing violence caused by her husband, that is the reason why many of the women treated in mental hospitals, suffer from serious illnesses caused by thoughts that are too depressed, and not infrequently many women choose to end their lives because he felt his life had no hope anymore. The researcher chose to examine the efforts and impacts experienced by the main character in the novel because according to researchers the problem of domestic violence is very important. There are more cases of domestic violence experienced by women than when they are in a crowd or on the road. This was stated from the annual records of the National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) in 2005 there were 20,391 cases of violence. This figure shows a 45% increase, compared to 2004 with 14,020 cases and the most interesting thing to be discussed further is domestic violence (domestic violence) being the form of violence against women that dominates the overall violence cases which is around 82%. Researchers mention the biggest impact of domestic violence is about their psychological impact, such as anxiety or anxiety, fear all the time, feeling insecure, feeling insecure, and feeling of trauma. But what's interesting in this novel is the main character's efforts in escaping no matter how great the impact he experienced after that terrible life. It is this spirit and persistence of these figures that makes researchers interested in researching the novel Safe haven with the issue.

Before conducting the study, researchers watched the film Safe Haven, directed by Lasse Hallström, and is an adaptation of Nicholas Sparks' 2010 novel of the same name. The film, released on 14 February 2013, starred Julianne Hough, Josh Duhamel and Cobie Smulders. But there are some differences found by the researcher between the film and the novel. In the film there is no detailed explanation about a number of things, but the novel is very explained in a detailed way such as the example, the Safe Haven film does not mention that Erin had changed his name to Erica while staying in Chinatown, but in the Safe Haven novel was explained about it . Safe haven novel is a romantic novel that is also

complicated. Therefore this novel is highly recommended for researchers because of its complicated story and also often found around us. Erin's persistence of the main character in the novel to escape her husband. Several times failing does not discourage him, and it is persistence that ultimately changes his destiny. She was able to achieve her goal of being free from her husband and having a perfect life like other women considering that she was still young at around 26 years. This study is expected to be able to bring a change in the behavior of men towards women. This research refers to the aim of feminism, which is to fight patriarchy and fight for women's rights. Associated with the theory of feminism which has a goal as mentioned, the researcher highlighted the actualization carried out by the Erin figure. Erin's version of self-actualization in the safe Haven novel is to have a free and pleasant life, and to have true love that is happy. And after his failure Erin was able to reach the phase of life he had been trying for. From the little explanation, finally the title of this research is PERSEVERANCE REFLECTED IN SAFE HAVEN BY NICHOLAS SPARKS (2010): A FEMINIST APPROACH.

2. METHOD

This study uses qualitative research methods of analysis. The researcher used qualitative analysis research methods because the researcher would analyze the violence experienced by one of the characters in the novel that was raised by the researcher. The researcher uses descriptive technique in analyzing data. Descriptive technique is to explore some information, state implicitly within both of primary and secondary data source. Primary data is novel Safe Haven by Nicholas Sparks, then Secondary data sources are also related to the main data such as information from the website, journals and books, and other literature that related about the feminist approach.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter contains an analysis of the application of the perseverance of the female lead in the novel Safe Haven using the theory of feminism. This chapter is

divided into two sections as follows: the efforts made by the main character in the novel, and the impact of violence did main character's feel in the novel.

3.1 Finding

3.1.1 The Efforts Made by the Main Character

Erin is the wife of a reliable detective named Kevin. But the violence that Erin always gets makes Erin tries to break away from her husband.

Riondita, Deby. 2017. "Aktualisasi Diri Tokoh Utama dalam Novel 1Q84 Karya Murakami Haruki: Sebuah Kajian Psikologi Humanistik " that the purpose of this study is to reveal the self-actualization of the main characters according to Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs. In achieving this, two main analyzes were conducted. First, the structural analysis of 1Q84's novel includes characterizations, plot and setting. Second, analysis of humanistic psychology by using Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs. The self-actualization that found in the novel "Safe Haven" is taken from the theory produced by Riondita, namely:

3.1.1.1 Self-Actualization

Self-actualization as B-Needs means that there is no need to deficit or "Owe" if not immediately fulfilled, in contrast to the four other demands that demand. This need will be satisfied if we truly have become the desired individuals by mobilizing all the potential and continue to grow.

The effort made by Erin (Katie) was clearly seen when she talked to her friend Jo that she wanted to start everything from the beginning. That meant she was determined to leave her abusive husband and begin her new life.

"I already told you," Katie said. "I wanted to start over."(SH.41)

Katie tried to make friends with Jo and spend time together. At that moment of course there was jokes and laughter between the two of them and Katie was happy with a moment that she had never felt in the past few years.

She felt happy and safe and thought again how enjoyable the evening had been. She had a friend, a real friend, someone who laughed and made jokes about the stars, and she wasn't sure if she wanted to laugh or cry because it had been so long since she'd experienced something so easy and natural.(SH. 66)

Tears began to pool in the eyelids, Katie tried hard not to cry and ventured to tell all her stories to Jo. During this time Katie did not dare tell her story to anyone because she felt that no one would be able to help her and she felt depressed when she told it. But now Katie was trying to tell everything that happened to Jo and of course that would greatly reduce the feeling of stress experienced by Katie.

Katie could feel tears beginning to form in her eyes and it was all she could do to blink them back. Her mouth was dry. "Not always," Katie whispered. She turned to face the window. Beyond the glass, the moon hung low over the trees. Katie swallowed, suddenly feeling as if she were observing herself from across the room. She could see herself sitting at the table with Jo, and when she began to speak, her voice didn't seem to be her own. (SH. 67)

Before her last escape, Katie had tried to run away twice. First, she went home alone because she was confused where to go. The second time, Katie thought that she had been freed from her husband, but apparently he managed to find her and dragged her back home.

My friend tried to get away twice. (SH. 68)

Katie began to plan carefully on her last escape. Katie knew that she had to go far and have enough money for food and shelter as long as she did not have a job. Katie stole her husband's money little by little and needed a very long time because her husband would know that he stole too much money at one time. In addition to stealing, Katie collects money by looking for coins tucked into sofas and washing machines.

She started to steal money from his wallet. Never more than a dollar or two, because otherwise he would notice. Normally, he locked his wallet up at night, but sometimes, he would forget. It took so long to get enough money for her to escape. (SH. 69)

3.1.2 The Impact of Violence did Main Character's Feel

The violence Erin experienced had a tremendous impact on Erin. It was not only his physical appearance that was often bruised, but also Erin's mental and soul. Erin feels very depressed and lives full of fear.

Sari, Nurmalia. 2017. "Kekerasan Dalam Novel Bak Rambut Dibelah Tujuh Karya Muhammad Makhdlori" which has the purpose of describing the violence experienced by the main female character in the novel *Bak Rambut Split Seven* by Muhammad Makhdlori. The position and role of women are not considered significant, only as a sacrifice for men's interests. The occurrence of violence stems from the existence of an unequal pattern of power relations between men and women. The method used to express violence in this novel is descriptive qualitative. The results of this research are there are three types of violence experienced by the main female characters *Kekerasan Dalam Novel Bak Rambut Dibelah Tujuh Karya Muhammad Makhdlori*, namely physical violence, psychological violence, and sexual violence.

The violence found in the novel "Safe haven" taken from Sari's theory is as follows:

3.1.2.1 The Impact of Physical Violence

Physical violence is any act that causes pain, injury, injury or disability to a person's body and causes death. Although it did not lead to death, but the case experienced by Erin was included in a serious case.

When Kevin approached and began to touch Katie's hips. Katie knew what she had to do to make Kevin happy. But when Katie turned and responded to Kevin, he was slapped instead. Katie didn't know what she was doing wrong, and she didn't argue at all because Katie knew it would make Kevin even more angry. All Katie did was apologize while stroking her cheek.

And didn't see the slap coming until she felt the sting against her cheek. It burned, hot and red. Sharp. Bee stings. (SH. 143)

Katie tried to pull away when Kevin grabbed her wrist. Katie struggled and the man let her go. When Kevin reached out, trying to pull Katie, she tried to run. Kevin catches her right away and she can't go anywhere. And again what happened was Kevin played his hand to Katie as she pleased. He punched Katie in the lower back.

He struck fast and hard, his fist a piston, firing at her lower back. She gasped, her vision going black in the corners, feeling as though she'd been

pierced with a knife. She collapsed to the floor, her kidney on fire, the pain shooting through her legs and up her spine. The world was spinning, and when she tried to get up, the movement only made it worse.(SH. 143)

A week before the incident, Kevin also did the same thing. Without knowing what Katie's mistake was, Kevin punched her hard in the stomach until he vomited overnight. Just then Katie fell on the floor and Kevin grabbed her wrist to pull her up. thanks to Kevin's grip again Katie's hands became bruised.

The bruise on her wrist was shaped like fingers. Branches of hell.(SH. 144)

3.1.2.2 Trauma

Adinda, Rizky. 2011. "Analisis Trauma Dan Dendam Hannibal Lecter Dalam Novel Hannibal Rising Karya Thomas Harris" whose purpose is to show change the psychological side of an innocent boy named Hannibal Lecter who turns into a psychiatric killer.

Proceeding from the journal Sari, Nurmalia. 2017. "Violence in the Novel Bak Rambut Divided by the Work of Muhammad Makhdlori" stated that there are 3 forms of violence, namely physical violence, psychological violence, and sexual violence. Further explore the second form of violence that is psychological violence, there are several types including fear, loss of self-confidence, loss of ability to act, and a sense of helplessness in someone.

According to researchers, trauma is part of a form of psychological crime. In this explanation the researcher will include previous research that focuses on trauma, in order to strengthen the author's argument and strengthen the analysis of the answers examined by the author in the novel Safe Haven by Nicholas Sparks.

Trauma is a very bad experience that arises in a human being due to an unpleasant event and can have a major impact on the physical and psychological person. Psychic effects caused will be more dangerous because he will experience feelings of extreme anxiety, helplessness, feeling threatened, to chaos in life.(Adinda, Rizky. 2011)

As a result of violence that is often done by Erin's husband. Erin is a person who is always afraid and feels threatened every time. However she could not fight

her husband because he would be even more angry or more violent with Erin. Erin attitude like this is categorized in the psychological impact of violence, namely trauma, insecurity / feeling threatened, fear / anxiety.

Because of the feeling of deep trauma, Katie shuts herself off from people who like her. Katie pretended to be ignorant because she didn't want to get a guy like Kevin for the second time.

In time, she'd learned to pretend she was oblivious to the attention of those men; in other instances, she showed obvious disdain, because she'd known what would happen if she didn't.(SH. 78)

Katie's feelings of trauma were clearly visible when she found out that Alex was a former detective. it's just that in the profession that comes, Alex is a former army detective and Kevin is a police detective. After knowing Alex's background that Alex was a former detective, Katie's expression immediately changed and she immediately looked away because she was alert, afraid and all mixed feelings.

When he told her, she turned toward him. "Like the police?" He nodded. "I was a detective," he said. Katie said nothing. Instead, she turned away abruptly, her face closing down like a gate slamming shut.(SH. 94)

3.1.2.3 Fear

For some reason, one night when Katie woke up in the middle of the night, her husband was standing next to her holding a gun. Katie was very afraid of the gun and she did not ask her husband anything but to go back to sleep. Katie was afraid that one day when her husband was drunk suddenly hit or kicked her even when Katie had done nothing wrong.

He'd been drinking and holding the gun again and she was too scared to say anything other than to ask him to come to bed.(SH. 69)

4 years Katie lived with Kevin, even just for a short time she felt Kevin's love and tenderness. Erin had forgotten when Kevin was the last time, which he remembered at the moment when Kevin was already rude. Maybe only when they were acquainted with Kevin's sweet attitude. After their marriage, all Katie felt was fear. She tells Jo his friend that she is scared all the time. Living with Kevin is a threat to him. Therefore, her determination to go as far as possible and run

away from Kevin, she had prepared thoroughly though she had to lose everything. but that's the strong desire for this. She wants to start from the beginning. Katie really wanted to free herself from Kevin.

“No,” Katie said. “My friend is scared all the time.”(SH. 69)

3.1.2.4 Insecurity

After going to the salon, Erin (Katie) and Kevin shop monthly to a supermarket. their money is just barely enough and they almost always eat at home. Kevin likes restaurant style food and two extra food. Kevin also doesn't want to eat leftovers that are warmed up again. So it was very difficult for Katie to manage finances to be sufficient for all their needs. After arriving home, Alex lowered groceries and Katie also helped. When Katie was preparing food for dinner, she saw Kevin downing the rest of Vodka, the man standing behind her while watching Katie. Only with Kevin's treatment, Katie immediately felt herself threatened.

He took a long drink, finishing his vodka and continuing to watch her, his presence all-encompassing.(SH. 142)

A few days after Kevin found Katie and burned down Alex's house and shop, Katie was still ringing in Kevin's face. Kevin, who was drunk at that time with bloodstains on his face and shirt, with eyes that were very wild. Somehow Kevin found it, the man almost managed to take her home or kill her. Every time Katie closed her eyes, she always remembered Kevin's face, sometimes her mind flew away, she imagined that she was already injured, bleeding from Kevin. But in reality she is still fine. She only held her stomach because there was a scar made by Kevin first. Katie knew Kevin was a crazy man, with just one night he was able to destroy her new life.

In one night, he had destroyed the fragile illusion of security she had managed to construct since she'd arrived in town.(SH. 301)

3.2 Discussion

For all women who often experience violence will definitely want to run away from that person. Especially violence committed by her husband, it feels disappointed and regretful because he chose the wrong life partner. For Erin, life

with Kevin is a regret. It is very natural that victims of violence have attempts to escape. Efforts to save yourself from threats. This effort in scientific language can also be called self-actualization.

The need for actualization is a need that does not involve balance, but involves an ongoing desire to fulfill our potential, to be all that we can be. Being the most intact and maximum individual (Hidayat, 2011: 169). Self-actualization theory is a kind of hierarchy of needs theory. The concept of the hierarchy of needs expressed by Maslow assumed that low level needs must be met before the higher level needs become motivating. The needs that form this hierarchy are conative needs, which means these needs have a motivating or motivating character.

The following graph depicts the level of the hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow: Physiological Needs, Safety Needs, Belonging Needs, Esteem Needs, Self-actualization. Self-actualization as B-Needs means that there is no need to deficit or "owe" if not immediately fulfilled, different from the other four needs who demanded. This need will be satisfied if we truly have become the desired individuals by mobilizing all the potential and continue to grow. Abraham Maslow (1970), the need for self-actualization includes self-fulfillment, aware of all potentials, and the desire to be as creative as possible (Feist, 2010: 336). The achievement of self-actualization of each person is different, there must be obstacles encountered in achieving it. That first, the obstacles from within the individual, in the form of fear, doubt, ignorance so that it is difficult to express their potential.

From the first problem formulation, the researcher focused on the efforts (self-actualization) made by Erin to escape from her husband. Based on the understanding of self-actualization, it can be said that Erin's motivation for running away was very strong. Several times she tried to get away from her husband's attack and had twice tried to escape, but both of them have great obstacles. As explained in the journal above, that Erin continues to menueurs trying to break away from her husband's clutches. She wants to be a free and happy woman according to his version. The achievement of Erin's self-actualization was

certainly different from others. She did everything to be free from her husband. And true, because of Erin's strong desire to escape, making Erin never run out of ideas until his last attempt succeeded. Initially, Erin was very difficult to conquer obstacles. That was the reason Erin's first escape failed because he doubted and did not believe in her abilities, then she decided to call Kevin to get him back home. As well as on the second runaway, her husband managed to drag her home because Erin was too scared and did not know about what after that she would do. That reason made Erin not fight when forced to go home by her husband. However, Erin's enthusiasm did not break there. Erin continued to plan well and mustered up the courage not to repeat the same mistakes. Erin finally decided to go as far as possible after making plans and raising enough money. Then because Erin already knew her potential, that was the source of Erin's strength when her husband finally found her escape. With all her courage and without thinking doubts Erin fought her husband alone and finally she really became a free woman. Erin really managed to escape from her husband.

In the formulation of the second problem, the researcher focused on the impact of violence experienced by Erin. Researchers focus on the physical injuries and psychological effects of Erin. The physical injuries impact in question is the bodily injury that Erin has experienced in the Novel *Safe Haven* by Nicholas Sparks. Then the psychological impact, which included feelings of trauma, fear, and insecurity Erin because of her husband. According to researchers, the physical impact does not really affect Erin's soul apart from only causing wounds or bruises on his body parts so often it is difficult to cover the scar when leaving the house. But it is different from the psychological impact that greatly affects Erin's soul, including Erin's behavior in others. In the Finding section, the author has provided valid data taken on the *Safe Haven* novel as proof that it is true that the psychological impact will be very strong for someone.

As written in the journal Adinda, Rizky. 2011. "Analisis Trauma Dan Dendam Hannibal Lecter Dalam Novel *Hannibal Rising* Karya Thomas Harris" in the journal there are several understandings of one of the psychological effects of trauma. But from these expert fig sentences the writer gets information about how

powerful psychological effects are on one's soul and behavior. Some of them are, although trauma can be caused by actions that are physical in nature, the effects caused more to one's soul or psychic. That is why there is a psychological term trauma. This is the real effect that will only be experienced by someone who has a traumatic experience. The impact is often known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or more commonly called PTSD (Harvey, 2002: 5), from this information it can be concluded that the psychological impact caused will be more dangerous because he will experience feelings of anxiety extraordinary, helpless, feeling threatened, to chaos in life.

From the data collected by researchers in the Safe Haven novel, very much evidence can be found by researchers related to the psychological impact experienced by the main character in the novel (Erin). Starting from the impact of physical injuries, namely bruises found in several parts of Erin's body. Erin broke two fingers due to Kevin bringing her. The slap that Erin got until it felt like it was stung by a bee without knowing what she was doing wrong. And when Kevin kicked until the kidney Erin felt throbbing tight which resulted in urination bleeding. Then when Kevin punched her because Erin hid in the bathroom because she wanted to stay away from him. And some other evidence that was successfully obtained by researchers about the impact of physical injuries suffered by Erin.

Discuss psychological effects, at the same time researchers want to review a little about how Erin behavior changes to others. Feelings of trauma, fear, feelings of insecurity, and feelings of Erin who felt threatened were clearly visible. In the data found by researchers, including when Erin (Katie) found out that Alex was a detective and she immediately stared, it felt like she wanted to leave. She was afraid that Alex was the same figure as Kevin even though Katie knew that Alex was not that kind of person, but Katie's feelings of trauma were still so deep with men especially with the same abcourse. Then Katie's fear and anxiety can be seen in the Safe Haven novel on page 69, in the sentence "He'd been drinking and holding the gun again and she was too scared to say anything other than asking him to come to bed." At that time she was very scared because

when she woke up in the middle of the night it turned out that her husband was waiting for her with a gun. And researchers can be sure that Katie was very scared when on page 69, she told her friend Jo that she was scared all the time. Katie felt Kevin was a threat, the researchers found the data in the safe haven pdf novel on page 142, when the novel contained the narrative “He took a long drink, finishing his vodka and continued to watch her, his presence all-encompassing.” And at that time Katie really felt threatened but she tried to feel so as not to show that feeling. The last was Katie who always felt insecure when there was Kevin in her life apart from the fact that there had been a lot of bruises in Katie's body, also when she found Katie in her escape. Kevin who was determined to burn Alex's house and left a deep sorrow for Alex and his children and also Katie who felt guilty and couldn't forget Kevin's face covered in blood with a look of extreme anger. Even a few days after that incident Katie still could not remove her shadow of Kevin and his actions. Katie feels insecure every Kevin. Evidenced by the sentence In one night, he had destroyed the fragile illusion of security he had managed to construct since he had arrived in town in the Safe Haven pdf novel page 301.

4. CONCLUSION

From the results of the research and discussion discussed in the previous chapter, the researcher can conclude the following:

First, the researcher focused on what efforts Erin made to escape her husband. Even though the obstacles Erin faced were numerous, and had a great risk for her desire, Erin realized that she was capable. And apparently after several times she failed to escape, she managed to save herself. She managed to escape from her crazy husband. Indirectly in the novel also depicts the form of a tough and brave Erin, and never give up for the sake of liberating herself. Seen from the ripe Erin plans to run away, and her courage to deceive her husband by buying a telephone and a disposable card and then she connected her cellphone with home phone call forwarding so that she could still pick up the phone from her husband when she started his action away from home. She realized that she was not a slave

and did not want to be bullied by men. Therefore she fought with all her might by escape to a place very far away and start a new life without her husband Kevin.

The second is about how the impact of violence experienced by Erin. In the theory used as a reference by researchers there are 3 forms of violence, namely physical violence, psychological violence, and sexual violence. First form of violence (physical violence), it is said to have 2 impacts, namely physical injury and physical disability. In the *Safe Haven* novel the researchers did not find any physical defects experienced by the character Erin (Katie). Then on the second point namely psychological violence there are several kinds of impacts including trauma, loss of self-confidence, loss of ability to act, and a sense of helplessness in someone. The researcher carefully read the novel and found only the impact of trauma from the theory used for reference. Then the researcher looks for a more appropriate theory to complement the research namely the theory of psychological impact on the novel characters. From the second theory, it is mentioned that there are several types of psychological impacts of a person, including trauma, fear, anxiety, insecurity and feeling threatened. Researchers managed to find all of these psychological effects. The latest is sexual violence, researchers did not find the data in the novel *Safe Haven* by Nicholas Sparks.

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