# PSYCHOLOGICAL CONFLICTS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN FENCES MOVIE (2016): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH



Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for Getting Bachelor Degreeof Education in English Department School Teacher Training and Education

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# APPROVAL

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I testify that in this publication article there is no plagiarism of previous literary works which been raised to obtain bachelor degree of certain university, nor there are opinions or masterpieces which have been written or published by others, except those in which the writing is referred to the manuscript and mentioned in literary review and bibliography.

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Surakarta, 20 September 2021

The Researcher

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# PSYCHOLOGICAL CONFLICTS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN FENCES MOVIE (2016): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH

#### **Abstrak**

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah (1) mendeskripsikan bentuk konflik psikologis tokoh utama. (2) Mendeskripsikan faktor-faktor penyebab konflik psikologis tokoh utama dan (3) Mendeskripsikan pengaruh konflik psikologis yang dialami oleh tokoh utama. Jenis penelitian ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif, Subjek penelitiannya adalah Film Fences (2016). Dalam penelitian ini peneliti hanya fokus pada analisis konflik psikologis tokoh utama yaitu Troy Maxson dengan menggunakan pendekatan psikologis individu. Jenis data dalam penelitian ini terdiri dari dua jenis data yaitu data primer dan data sekunder, data primer dalam penelitian ini adalah tuturan dan percakapan tokoh utama dalam film tersebut. Sedangkan data sekunder dalam penelitian ini berupa buku dan jurnal yang membahas tentang konflik psikologis individu. Teknik pengumpulan data yang digunakan peneliti dalam penelitian ini adalah penelitian kepustakaan dengan mengumpulkan dan menyeleksi data primer dan sekunder. Hasil penelitian ini menemukan bahwa Berdasarkan hasil penelitian diketahui bahwa terdapat 6 bentuk konflik psikologis tokoh utama dalam Film Fences (2016), yaitu 1 Konflik Pendekatan-Menghindar, 2 Konflik Pendekatan-Menghindar, 2 Konflik Menghindari-Menghindar dan 1 Pendekatan Ganda. -Menghindari Konflik. Konflik Approaches in Fences Movie (2016) terjadi karena Troy merasa bahwa dalam karyanya terdapat ketidakadilan yang diterima oleh orang kulit hitam. Karena itu, Troy terus protes kepada manajernya. Kemudian berdasarkan hasil penelitian juga diketahui bahwa konflik Approach-avoidance dalam Film Fences (2016) terjadi karena Bono mengungkapkan kecurigaannya terhadap Troy yang terlihat sangat dekat dengan seorang wanita. Namun Troy berusaha menyangkal dan menghindari pernyataan positif. Konflik pendekatan-menghindar terjadi ketika Rose mengatakan kepadanya bahwa putranya Cory telah diterima sebagai pemain sepak bola di sekolahnya. Kemudian Film Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict in Fences (2016) ditampilkan melalui percakapan antara Troy, Bono dan Rose berbicara tentang Lyons, putra Troy yang selalu datang dan meminta uang ketika Troy membayar. Faktor penyebab terjadinya Approach-Avoidance Conflict adalah faktor individu dimana Troy berusaha untuk jujur pada Rose tentang apa yang dia alami namun disisi lain dia juga merasa sangat bersalah karena hal ini akan menyakiti Rose sebagai istrinya.

Kata Kunci: Konflik psikologi, film, pendekatan psikologi individu.

#### **Abstract**

The purpose of this study is (1) to describe the form of the main character's psychological conflict. (2) Describing the factors causing psychological conflict of the main character and (3) Describing the influence of psychological conflict experienced by the main character. This type of research is descriptive qualitative, the subject of the research is Film Fences (2016). In this study, the researcher only focused on analyzing the psychological conflict of the main character, namely Troy Maxson, using an individual psychological approach. The type of data in this study consists of two types of data, namely primary data and secondary data, the primary data in this study is the speech and conversation of the main character in the film. While the secondary data in this study are in the form of books and journals that discuss individual psychological conflicts. The data collection technique used by the researcher in this research is library research by collecting and selecting primary and secondary data. The results of this study found that based on the results of the

study, it is known that there are 6 forms of psychological conflict in the main character in Fences (2016), namely 1 Approach-Avoiding Conflict, 2 Approach-Avoiding Conflict, 2 Avoidance-Avoid Conflict and 1 Multiple Approach. -Avoiding Conflict. The conflict in Approaches in Fences Movie (2016) occurs because Troy feels that in his work there is injustice that is accepted by black people. Because of that, Troy continues to protest to his manager. Then based on the results of the research it is also known that the Approach-avoidance conflict in the film Fences (2016) occurs because Bono expresses his suspicions towards Troy who looks very close to a woman. But Troy tried to deny and avoid positive statements. An approach-avoidance conflict occurs when Rose tells him that his son Cory has been accepted as a soccer player at his school. Then the film Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict in Fences (2016) is shown through a conversation between Troy, Bono and Rose talking about Lyons, Troy's son who always comes and asks for money when Troy pays. The factor causing the Approach-Avoidance Conflict is the individual factor where Troy tries to be honest with Rose about what he is going through but on the other hand he also feels very guilty because this will hurt Rose as his wife.

**Keywords**: Psychological conflict, film, individual psychology approach

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Film is one of the branches of art which usually contains a person's life story, fiction, and biography as people's entertainment. Films usually describe stories of love, life, politics, violence and others. Rahmawati (2018) explains that film is one of the works of art that is able to convey information and messages in a creative and unique way through the presence of the characters in it. Each of these characters is equipped with body and soul to support the course of the story even though it is fictional. Each of these figures has a personal character that differentiates between one character and another. The relationship between these figures often causes conflict between individuals, groups and even personal conflicts that can lead to psychological conflict between the characters.

According to Nurgiantoro (2009: 122) psychological conflict is a conflict that occurs in a person's heart or story characters. So psychological conflict is a conflict experienced by humans with themselves or a human's internal problems, for example, it occurs because of the contradiction of two desires, beliefs, different choices, hopes or other problems. According to Efendi and Praja (1993: 73), conflict approaches arise when a person has two positive motives. Both motives are beneficial and fun so that bias makes someone confused about choosing one of them. Conflict-avoidance approaches are psychological in nature. Conflict occurs when there are two motives, positive and negative motives occurring at the same time.

According to Rahmawati (2018) the level of conflict complexity displayed in a work of fiction in many ways determines the quality, intensity and interest of the work. This shows that the main character in a film occupies a strategic position as a carrier and conveyor of messages,

messages, morals or something that is intentionally conveyed to the continents. In this way the authors will describe human life with all its conflicts.

One of the films that has a lot of moral messages about everyday life is Fence (2016) directed by Denzel Washington. Fence (2016) is a film that tells the story of a household head named Troy Maxson who is 53 years old. In order to make ends meet, Troy is also willing to work hard physically and mentally as a garbage collector. Together with his wife, Rose, Troy is trying to continue to provide for his family. But problems keep coming and going, including Troy, who has to take care of and look after his younger brother, Gabriel, who suffered a head injury during World War II, conflicts with his son, and the presence of a third woman in Troy and Rose's household.

Arsyad (2003:45) explains that the movie is a collection of several images that are in the frame, where frame by frame is projected through the projector lens mechanically so that on the screen the image appears to come alive. The film moves quickly and alternately so that it gives its own charm. According to Baskin (2003: 4) movie is a form of mass communication media from various technologies and various elements of art. Film is clearly different from literature, painting, or sculpture. Film art relies heavily on technology as raw material for production and exhibition in front of the audience. Based on the opinions of the experts mentioned above, it can be concluded that the film is one of the mass communication media that displays a series of moving images with astoryline played by the actors who are produced to convey a message to the audience. Based on the background above, the writer is interested in knowing how the psychological conflicts faced by the main character through an individual psychological approach, therefore the author conducted a study entitled Psychological Conflicts of the Main Character in Fences Movie (2016): an Individual Psychological Approach.

#### 2. METHOD

This research in order to know what is the form of psychological conflict of the main character, the factors that cause the psychological conflict of the main character, the influence of psychological conflicts experienced by the main character Research Finding. This type of research is descriptive qualitative, The research subject is Fences Movie (2016). In this study, researchers only focus on the psychological conflict analysis of the main character, namely Troy Maxson, using an individual psychological approach. The type of data in this study consists of two types of data, namely primary data and secondary data, the primary data in this study is the speech and conversation of the main character in the film. While the secondary

data in this research are in the form of books and journals that discuss individual psychological conflicts. The data collection technique used by researchers in this study is library research by collecting and selecting primary and secondary data

#### 3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 The Form of Psychological Conflict of The Main Character

# 3.1.2 Subordination

Subordination that is reflected on the form of behavior that the existence of men is more important than women, the privilege of men in taking education that shown by the significant ratio of male and female students, and the opportunities of women to express their opinion that shown in the scene when Ruth tries to argue but the Professor Brown prefers men to have an opinion, men are prioritized and women are secondary in terms of opine.

### 1. Approach-Approach Conflict

The conflict of approach in the film is carried out when two people are at work picking up trash while chatting about how unfair black people are at work. In the scene, Troy tells Bono that the company is unfair to black workers, because they never give black people to drive trucks. In the scene, Troy protests the policy and states that anyone can drive a truck. then the two discussed how to change job descriptions to provide better opportunities for all employees, not only for whites but also for blacks. In this dialogue, there are two positive motives that exist, the first is Troy's intention to fight the racism that is indirectly happening to him, and the second is that there will be a better job he succeeds in his intentions.

# 2. Approach-Avoidance Conflict

Approach - Avoidance Conflict is a psychological conflict experienced by individuals because at the same time they are faced with situations that contain both positive and negative motives that are equally strong. Therefore, there is uncertainty about whether to approach or move away from the object. Based on the results of the study, it is known that Approach-Avoiding Conflict in the Film Pagar (2016), there is a conversation between Troy and Bono which discusses Bono's suspicions of Troy who is too close to a woman. But Troy tried to avoid what Bono said with a positive statement. In the conversation there is a negative motive where Bono accuses Troy of having an affair, while the positive thing is that Troy has succeeded in rejecting the issue against Bono. later described in Dialogue

hosted by Troy, Rose, and Bono where they discuss their son, Cory, being recruited into his school's soccer team. There are positive motives and negative motives in this dialogue. The positive motive is that Corry was recruited into his soccer team, while the negative is that Troy denies it and doesn't want Corry to join the soccer team.

#### 3. Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict

Avoiding-avoiding Conflict Based on the results of research, it is known in the film Pagar (2016), Troy, Bono, and Rose are talking about Lyon, Troy's son who still doesn't have a proper job for himself. In this conversation, there are two negative motives. The first is about Lyon not having a proper job and the second is Lyon being old and unemployed. Troy is told who is very angry with Cory because Cory quit his job for football. There are two negative motives in this dialogue. The first is Cory who left his job at the shop Troy knows, and the second is Troy who is angry because of Cory's decision to prefer to play Football.

## 4. Multiple Approach-Avoidance Conflict

Based on the results of the study, it is known that Avoidance-Avoiding Conflict in the film Pagar (2016), tells Troy who tries to be honest with Rose about what he went through that he will become the father of a woman but not Rose. The conversation tells about Troy trying to be honest with Rose that he is having an affair with another woman, and he will have another child with another woman. There are two motives in this conversation. The first is that Troy tries to be honest with Rose about what has happened but on the other hand he also feels very guilty because this will hurt Rose as his wife.

#### 3.2 The Factors that cause The Main Character's Psychological Conflict

#### 3.2.1 The Factors that cause Conflict of Approaches

Based on the results of the study, it is known that the conflict of Approaches in Fences Movie (2016) occurs because Troy feels that in his work there is injustice that is accepted by black people. This is due to company regulations that do not allow black people to drive trucks. This shows that the factor that causes conflict between the Approaches is the situational factor where there is a regulation from the company that does not allow black people to drive trucks. This makes Troy feel that the company is unfair, because it judges people's abilities by the color of their skin.

#### 3.2.2 The Factors that cause Approach-Avoidance Conflict

Based on the results of the study, it is known that the Approach-avoidance conflict in Fences Movie (2016) occurs because Bono expresses his suspicions towards Troy who looks very close to a woman. But Troy tried to deny and avoid positive statements. From this it is known that one of the factors that caused the Approach-avoidance conflict was due to personal factors where Troy tried to avoid what Bono was accused of through positive statements. Then the approach-avoidance conflict occurred when Rose told him that her son Cory had been accepted as a football player at his school. But Troy is not happy about it, because there is nothing to be gained if Cory plays football. One of the factors that caused the conflict was caused by individual factors, namely sociopsychological where Troy felt that there was nothing to be gained from playing football and the only way to earn money according to Troy was to work like the average person.

#### 3.2.3 The Factors that cause Avoidances

Based on the results of the study, it is known that the Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict in Fences Movie (2016) is shown through a conversation between Troy, Bono and Rose talking about Lyons, the son of Troy, who always comes and asks for money when Troy gets paid. Although Lyon is actually an adult and 34 years old. But he still doesn't want to work in the same place as Troy and chooses to become a musician who plays music in a cafe. One of the factors that caused the Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict was the Situational Factor where Lyon should have been working and not just pursuing his dream to become a musician, because Lyon is an adult and 34 years old. In addition, Lyon is also married and has a wife which should be Lyon's responsibility as a husband to work to meet the needs of his family. Then the second Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict occurs when Troy feels very angry with Cory because, it was Cory who quit his job for his football. The factors that cause the Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict are individual factors, namely sociopsychological where Troy feels that Cory has made the wrong decision.

#### 3.2.4 The Factors that cause Multiple Approach-Avoidance Conflict

A dual approach-avoidance conflict occurs when it is Troy who tries to be honest with Rose about what he is going through that he is going to be a father to a woman but not Rose. The factor that causes the Approach-Avoidance Conflict is the individual factor where Troy tries to be honest with Rose about what is going on but on the other hand he also feels very guilty because this will hurt Rose as his wife.

#### 3.2.5 The Influence of Psychological Conflicts Experienced by The Main Character

Based on the results of the study, it is known that the conflict of Approaches in Fences Movie (2016) occurs because Troy feels that in his work there is injustice that is accepted by black people. This is due to company regulations that do not allow black people to drive trucks. Therefore, Troy continues to protest to his manager. Then the influence of the Approach-avoidance conflict in Fences Movie (2016) which occurs because Bono expresses his suspicions of Troy who looks very close to a woman. Troy became nervous and tried to deny and avoid positive statements. The influence of the Approach-avoidance conflict that occurs when Rose tells that her son Cory has been accepted as a Football player at his school is very angry because he thinks there is nothing to be gained if Cory plays football and the only way to earn money according to Troy is by working like most people. The influence of the Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict in Fences Movie (2016) which occurs when Lyons is the son of Troy who always comes and asks for money when Troy is rewarded, making Troy very angry and distrustful of Lyon. Because Lyon should already be working and not just pursuing his dream to become a musician, because Lyon is an adult and 34 years old. In addition, Lyon is also married and has a wife which should be Lyon's responsibility as a husband to work to meet the needs of his family. Then the influence of the Multiple Approach-Avoidance Conflict that occurs when Troy tries to be honest with Rose about what he is going through that he is going to be a father to a woman but not Rose makes Troy feel very confused about the situation he is in right now. Because Troy tried to be honest with Rose about what was going on but on the other hand he also felt very guilty because this would hurt Rose as his wife.

#### 3.3 Discussion

Based on the results of the study, it is known that the Approaches in Fences Movie (2016) conflict shows that the factors that cause conflict between Approaches are situational factors where there are regulations from companies that do not allow black people to drive trucks.

Then based on the results of the study it was also known that the Approach-avoidance conflict was known that one of the factors causing the Approach-avoidance conflict was due to personal factors where Troy tried to avoid what Bono had accused of through positive statements. This makes Troy nervous and tries to deny and avoid positive statements

Then an approach-avoidance conflict ensues when Rose informs him that his son Cory has been accepted as a soccer player at his school. But Troy is not happy about it, because there is no profit if Cory plays football. One of the factors that cause conflict is caused by individual

factors, namely sociopsychological where Troy feels that there is nothing to be gained from playing football and the only way to earn money according to Troy is to work like a normal person. This makes Troy very angry because according to him there is nothing to be gained if Cory plays football and the only way to earn money according to Troy is to work like the average person.

Based on the results of the study, it is known that the Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict is shown through a conversation between Troy, Bono and Rose talking about Lyons, Troy's son, who always comes and asks for money. when Troy gets paid. Although Lyon is actually an adult and 34 years old. But he still doesn't want to work in the same place as Troy and chooses to be a musician who plays music in a cafe. One of the factors that caused the Avoidance Conflict is the Situational Factor where Lyon should work and not only pursue his dream of becoming a musician, because Lyon is an adult and 34 years old. In addition, Lyon is also married and has a wife who should be Lyon's responsibility as a husband to work to meet the needs of his family. Then the second Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict occurs when Troy gets very angry with Cory because, it was Cory who quit his job for football. The factors causing the Avoidance-Avoid Conflict are individual factors, namely sociopsychological where Troy feels Cory has made the wrong decision.

A Double Approach-Avoiding conflict occurs when it's Troy who tries to be honest with Rose about what he's going through that he's going to be a father to a woman but not Rose. The factor causing the Approach-Avoidance Conflict is the individual factor where Troy tries to be honest with Rose about what is going on but on the other hand he also feels very guilty because this will hurt Rose as his wife. This made Troy feel very confused about the situation he was in right now. Because Troy was trying to be honest with Rose about what was going on but on the other hand he also felt very guilty because this would hurt Rose as his wife.

#### 4. CLOSING

Based on the research results, it is known that there are 6 forms of psychological conflicts of the main character in Fences Movie (2016), namely 1 Approach-Avoidance Conflict, 2 Approach-Avoidance Conflict, 2 Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict and 1 Multiple Approach-Avoidance Conflict. The conflict of Approaches in Fences Movie (2016) occurs because Troy feels that in his work there is injustice that is accepted by black people. Therefore, Troy continues to protest to his manager. Then, based on the results of the study, it is also known that the Approach-avoidance conflict in Fences Movie (2016) occurs because Bono expresses his suspicions towards Troy who looks very close to a woman. But Troy tried to deny and avoid

positive statements. Approach-avoidance conflicts occur when Rose tells her that her son Cory has been accepted as a football player at his school. But Troy is not happy about it, because there is nothing to be gained if Cory plays football. One of the factors that caused the conflict was caused by individual factors, namely sociopsychological where Troy felt that there was nothing to be gained from playing football and the only way to earn money according to Troy was to work like the average person. This made Troy very angry. Then the Avoidance-Avoidance Conflict in Fences Movie (2016) is shown through a conversation between Troy, Bono and Rose talking about Lyons, the son of Troy who always comes and asks for money when Troy pays. Although Lyon is actually an adult and 34 years old. But he still doesn't want to work in the same place as Troy and chooses to become a musician who plays music in a cafe. one of the factors that led to this. This made Troy very angry. Then the Double Approach-Avoidance Conflict occurs when it is Troy who tries to be honest with Rose about what he is going through that he is going to be a father to a woman but not Rose. The factor causing the Approach-Avoidance Conflict is the individual factor where Troy tries to be honest with Rose about what he is experiencing but on the other hand he also feels very guilty because this will hurt Rose as his wife. This made Troy feel very confused by the situation he was in right now. Because Troy tried to be honest with Rose about what was going on but on the other hand he also felt very guilty because this would hurt Rose as his wife.

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