

**REPETITIVE DEFENSE MECHANISMS IN *THE SCARLET
LETTER* (1850) NOVEL: A PSYCHOANALYTIC
PERSPECTIVE**



**Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for
Getting Bachelor Degree in the Department of English
Education**

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APPROVAL

**REPETITIVE DEFENSE MECHANISM IN NOVEL *THE SCARLET LETTER* (1850):
A PSYCHOANALYSIS PERSPECTIVE**

RESEARCH PAPER

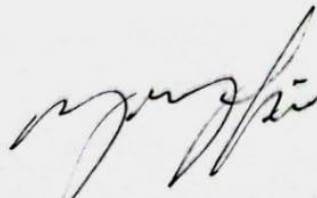
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LETTER (1850): A PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE*

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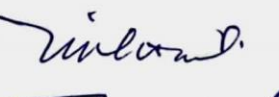

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I testify that this paper is my own result and there is no plagiarism. To the best of my knowledge and belief, no opinion has ever been written or published before, except for the written references which are referred in this research paper and mentioned in the references. If there is an incorrect statement from the results of this research paper, I will be fully responsible and willing to accept academic sanctions in accordance with applicable regulations.

Surakarta, 19 Februari 2024

The Researcher



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MOTTO

Hidup seperti cerita dongeng; ada atau tidak ada

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to Allah SWT who has given grace and health to me so that I can complete my English education studies at UMS. The most important thing for me is being able to complete my final assignment entitled REPETITIVE DEFENSE MECHANISM IN NOVEL *THE SCARLET LETTER (1850): A PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE*. This research paper is utilized to fulfill one of the requirements for completing studies and obtaining a bachelor's degree in English education at the Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. In compiling this research paper, many people have given the writer motivation, advice, assistance, and support. Therefore, the writer would like to express the deepest appreciation to:

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ABSTRACT

This study focused on the unconscious act of how the characters in the novel survive from threats. For this reason, this study applied psychoanalysis concept due to the focus of analysis concentrating on the kind of defense mechanisms as the unconscious action to deal with any threats and to reveal the reason behind of the repetitive defense mechanisms were employed by the Hester Prynne, Arthur Dimmesdale, and Roger Chillingworth. This study emphasized on description and there are no numerical data in the process of analyzed the data, thus this study is necessarily classified as qualitative research. Hermeneutics is used in this study as the approach in qualitative research in interpreting of the data. This study found four kind of defense mechanisms employed by the character namely projection, regression, rationalization, and reaction formation. Those defense mechanisms were employed by Hester, Arthur, and Roger immediately emerge to protect and help themselves from the unpleasant feeling and thoughts. The establishment of characters as a symbol and the sequence of events in the novel are the tool to depicted repetitive defense mechanism. While the reason defense mechanisms were addressed in the novel because the author's criticism toward Puritan people.

Keywords: *psychoanalytic; defence mechanisms; The Scarlet Letter novel*

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini fokus pada perilaku bawah sadar tokoh-tokoh dalam novel untuk bertahan dari ancaman. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini menggunakan konsep psikoanalisis karena fokus analisisnya tertuju pada mekanisme pertahanan yang dilakukan secara berulang sebagai tindakan bawah sadar untuk menghadapi ancaman apa pun dan untuk mengungkap alasan di balik mekanisme pertahanan yang digunakan oleh Hester Prynne, Arthur Dimmesdale, dan Roger Chillingworth. Penelitian ini menekankan pada deskripsi dan tidak ada data numerik dalam proses analisis datanya, oleh karena itu penelitian ini perlu digolongkan sebagai penelitian kualitatif. Hermeneutika digunakan dalam penelitian ini sebagai pendekatan dalam penelitian kualitatif dalam menafsirkan data. Penelitian ini menemukan empat jenis mekanisme pertahanan yang digunakan oleh karakter yaitu proyeksi, regresi, rasionalisasi, dan pembentukan reaksi. Mekanisme pertahanan yang digunakan oleh Hester, Arthur, dan Roger segera muncul untuk melindungi dan membantu diri mereka sendiri dari perasaan dan pikiran yang tidak menyenangkan. Penetapan karakter sebagai simbol dan rangkaian peristiwa dalam novel merupakan alat untuk menggambarkan mekanisme pertahanan yang berulang. Sedangkan alasan mekanisme pertahanan dibahas dalam novel ini karena kritik pengarang terhadap kaum Puritan.

Kata Kunci: *psychoanalytic; defence mechanisms; The Scarlet Letter novel*

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