

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Choosing the Study

The relationship between literature and psychology is an interesting topic that explores the intersections between these two disciplines. Literature often delves into the human psyche, emotions, and behavior, while psychology seeks to understand and analyze these aspects. The connection between literature and psychology is multifaceted, with literature serving as a record of human consciousness and a means to interpret human existence and culture. Psychological themes such as motives, desires, and the human mind are frequently explored in literature, making it closely related to psychology (Ayesha Dar, 2022). The relationship between literature and psychology is considered a site for practice informing, challenging, and influencing each other. The intertwining of literature and psychology is evident in the analysis of characters, authors, and the writing process, which are subjected to psychological scrutiny. Literature is also seen as a means to construct a taxonomy of pain and extract meaning from it, reflecting the shared interest in understanding human experiences and emotions. Additionally, psychological sciences are utilized to provide multifaceted analyses concerning the human mind and spirit, highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of literature. (Aras G, 2015)

There is an opinion, according to Wellek & Warren, (2011) who states that psychology can enter the field of literature in several ways. There are psychological

arguments about the creator of the work, as a person and as a type. Psychological principles derived from literary works are discussed. A discussion of the impact of literary works on audiences. He claims Literature related to psychopaths is a subject of interest due to the portrayal of psychopathic characters in fiction and the study of psychopathic tendencies. Psychopathy has been a popular topic in literature, particularly in crime fiction, due to the intriguing and often disturbing nature of psychopathic characters. The portrayal of psychopaths in fiction has been studied to understand the language used by psychopaths and the fictional representation of psychopathic characteristics.

Psychopathy is a complex condition characterized by a number of disturbing tendencies, including a lack of empathy and remorse, grandiosity, impulsivity, and sometimes aggressive or violent behavior. While it is true that people with psychopathy vary in severity and types, it is important to note that not all psychopaths are violent criminals. Psychopaths are disproportionately responsible for the crimes committed and are particularly prone to violence, exhibiting more aggressive behavior and violent attacks more often than non-psychopaths. However, it is also important to understand that psychopaths can show that they care about popular opinion. Treating a psychopath is difficult because of psychopaths' inability to believe that there is anything wrong with them and their inflated self-esteem. Therefore, the development of interventions and therapy for people with psychopathy is an area of continued research and hope. (Anderson & Kiehl, 2014)

The depiction of fictional psychopathic characters in movies often represents the connection between the two. After analyzing 400 films from 1915 to present-day, a

study showed that these depictions have become more realistic and reflect an increased understanding of clinical psychopathy by healthcare professionals over time. However, it should be noted that pre-2000s "Hollywood Psychopaths" may contain exaggerated traits which are not commonly seen among real-life individuals who suffer from this personality disorder. Real-life psychopaths lack empathy, guilt and emotional connections with others. They also exhibit manipulative tendencies alongside reckless risk-taking behaviors. Although some movie characters portraying as psychopath might possess few such characteristics but not all. In popular movies, having no emotions or rather presenting themselves as calculating aggressive entities without feelings is common amongst portrayed portrayals of those diagnosed with psychopathy. However, such character sometimes fail to address other problems related until their condition like they tend only skim through surface-level issues associated with being one, making further attention necessary for accurate portrayal highlighting accurate description towards dealing psychopathic trait will help normalise the disease management across society. (Leistedt & Linkowski, 2014)

In this study, the values of capitalist culture are reflected throughout the film *American Psycho*. The word "American" in the film's title doesn't just refer to one researcher. Patrick Bateman It symbolizes madness and pain on a larger scale. We know that the United States represents Society of capitalist culture. This madness and pain spread long ago to other peoples. Released on April 14, 2000, with a running time of 101 minutes, Mary Harron's film *American Psycho* ostensibly tells the story of a psychopath. In fact, the film depicts pain and madness on a broad scale. (Ellis, 2000)

American Psycho is a 2000 satirical psychological horror film directed by Mary Harron, who co-wrote the film with Guinevere Turner. The film is based on Bret Easton Ellis' 1991 novel of the same name, which follows the life of wealthy young investment banker Patrick Bateman in Manhattan during the Wall Street boom of the late 1980s. The film premiered at the 2000 Sundance Film Festival and was a financial success, receiving mostly positive reviews. However, it was also controversial for its depiction of violence, and was initially rated NC-17 by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA). The producers cut about 18 seconds of footage to give the film an R rating. The analysis of the film is based on its themes of toxic masculinity and the portrayal of the subjective mental state of the main character.

Apart from the discussion of psychopathic films in America. There is also some history of psychopathy in the real world and why it happens, especially in America :

The concept of psychopathy has a complicated history, its origins are in psychiatric folklore, and its modern understanding has evolved over time. The term "psychopathy"; generally credited to the German psychiatrist J.L.A. Koch in 1888 and gained clinical traction in the early 20th century. The term was later replaced by the word "sociopathy," who was born in the 1930s. Psychopathy is not a DSM diagnosis, but it is still a useful clinical diagnosis in a forensic context (Kiehl et al., 2011).

Psychopathy has been a subject of interest in America, with influential works such as "Without Conscience" (1993) and "Snakes in Suits: When Psychopaths Go to Work"

(2006) by Hare contributing to the understanding of psychopathy. The impact of psychopaths on the criminal justice system and their potential economic impacts have also been studied. Additionally, there is a resistance to funding and treating psychopathy, but it is important to recognize it as a true disorder for the well-being of affected individuals and the broader community (Kiehl et al., 2011).

The history of psychopathy is rooted in psychiatric folklore, and its understanding has evolved over time. In America, influential works have contributed to the understanding of psychopathy, and its impact on the criminal justice system and potential economic impacts have been studied. Recognizing psychopathy as a true disorder is important for the well-being of affected individuals and the broader community (Kiehl et al., 2011)

B. Scope of the Study

On this occasion, the researcher, based on the movie “American Psycho” , explains what causes Patrick Bateman as an American to commit psychopathy and madness on a grand scale.

C. Problem of Formulation

Based on the description above, the researcher just focuses on two problems:

1. What are the characteristics of psychopaths undergone by Patrick Bateman, the main character of the movie "American Psycho"?
2. What factor causes the main character act psychopathically?

D. Objective of the Study

1. To analyzed psychopathic characteristics experienced undergone Patrick Bateman, main character on film "American Psycho".
2. To analyze factor cause the protagonist to behave like a psychopath.

E. Review of Relate Study

From the titles I chose, I picked up several studies on the same topic but with different topics of discussion.

The first article is from (Taroreh. N. M. S, 2021) entitled “ILUSTRASI PSIKOPAT PADA FILM THE ORPHAN KARYA JAUMME, COLLET-SERRA 2009”. In her article, The author tells about the main character of the film "Orphan". According to Edgar V. Roberts (1983), personality is a broad expression of human beings, particularly in relation to self-determination through thought, language, and action. This theory articulates that dialogue, action, and commentary are the verbal expressions of people or have the most important dominance in literary works, creating multiple interactions of surrounding characters increase.

Second, is an article written by (ASKAHFI. M. K, 2016) entitled “Analisis Perilaku Psikopatik Pada Tokoh Utama Dalam Film “Switch” Karya Frederic Schoendoerffer”. In his article, The author believes that the movie "Switch" can serve as a lesson for the general public, especially to know the behavior of those around us who have Spicopat

personalities. It is very important because it reveals in detail the symptoms of psychopathy, and the behavior that people with psychopathic personalities emit toward their environment.

The third article is from (Zahidi & Qur'ani, 2021) entitled "CITRAAN PSIKOPAT PADA TOKOH UTAMA DALAM NASKAH DRAMA "CERMIN" KARYA NANO RIAN TIARNO". It was said Anti-social behavior in the drama script "Cermin" occurs when the main character doesn't care about his surroundings, doesn't care about his family, doesn't show responsibility to his children, and cares about himself. Think about how he feels.

The three articles above have similarities with the thesis used with the theme I used, which is about the psychopathic nature of the main character of the film. But they are different from this study, the difference is that the character is driven by unreasonable jealousy, so that the psychopathic desires within him also flare up.

F. Method of the Research

This study used the Qualitative Description of (Bogdan & Biklen, 1998). They suggest that qualitative research is descriptive when data are collected in the form of words or images rather than numbers. The researcher explains three points about the research method. The first is data sources, including primary and supporting data, the second is data collection techniques, and the third is analysis techniques.

1. The Source of Data

a. Main Data

The main data of this research is a documentary film as the object research. The documentary that the researcher used are watching film "American Psycho".

b. Supporting Data

The supporting data that support the main data are taken from some books, internet sources, copied material, journals, lecturing in the class, the other graduating papers, and discussion related to the topic of research.

c. Technique of Collecting Data

- 1) Watch the movie "American Psycho" and understand the story of the movie.
- 2) Read various discussions and analyzes on the Internet about topics of research debate.
- 3) Find other research references related to research discussion.

d. Technique of Analysis Data

The researcher clarifies data during data analysis by employing theory Qualitative Descriptive to identifying and describing the psychopathic traits and behaviors exhibited by the main characters in the movie. Increased psychopathic characteristics in Patrick Bateman and the researcher also used theory of Daniel Boduszek, Agata Debowska, and Dominic Willmott to contribute and support the form of supporting character analysis seen from the camera's point of view and taking pictures from the camera.

G. Presentation

The researcher hopes that more and more students are researching or finding out about characteristic psychopathy with the aim that we are aware that psychopathy exists and can be caused by several factors. For example, biological factors, environmental factors, personality traits, brain development, and traumatic factors can be triggered by watching movies about psychopaths, and this disease can be prevented by creating a good and harmonious environment, for example at home. The closer the bond between children and adults, the more difficult it is to become a psychopath. We must also strive to be more aware and attentive to our surroundings in order to prevent things from happening that we do not want to happen. It is hoped that this study will be useful for both students and researchers in the future, so that this study will be useful.