# BULLYING AGAINST TEENAGERS AS REFLECTED ON AMERICAN SERIAL DRAMA 13 REASON WHY (2017)

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# BULLYING AGAINST TEENAGERS AS REFLECTED ON AMERICAN SERIAL DRAMA 13 REASON WHY (2017)

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#### Abstract

Bullying has long been an interesting problem to be discussed, both among ordinary people and scientists, of course bullying is no stranger to our ears. Bullying is negative behavior that uses violence and words with the aim of making someone feel hurt, both physically and mentally. Bullying has become a common problem in various countries, including America and one of the strong reasons why many films in America show the theme of bullying, both in the comedy drama and animation genres, with the aim of making people aware that bullying has a bad impact on its victims and educating and making people aware to prevent bullying. In this thesis, I as a researcher will describe the main character in this series, namely Hannah Baker. The author wants to describe what forms of bullying are received by Hannah Baker and the researcher will also look at what psychological impacts Hannah receives due to bullying. This thesis uses multidisciplinary theories, namely Types of Bullying Theory and Psychoanalytic Theory with the aim of finding out (1) What types of bullying does Hannah face? (2) What psychological impact did Hannah have as a result of bullying?

Researchers used descriptive qualitative research. The goal of descriptive qualitative research is to do a good job on something. Descriptive qualitative research is useful because it can provide important information about important phenomena that emerge from the data. The researcher then explained that there were several types of data used in this dissertation.

In this thesis I also found that the type of bullying that Hannah faced was physical bullying, bullying with words and relational bullying, while an example of bullying was when Hannah was raped by Bryce, this was one example of physical bullying and verbal bullying was one example. is when Alex compares the size of Hannah's butt with Jessica's and for Relational Bullying one example is when Hannah reads a poem in front of the class and is laughed at by the whole class and researchers. The psychological impact of the bullying that Hannah faces is a drastic change in Hannah's personality and excessive anxiety from this shows that bullying is not a problem to be taken lightly and can have fatal consequences if not handled properly.

Keywords: Bullying, Hannah Baker

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Since long time ago until now, the problem of bullying has been an interesting topic to discuss, both from intellectual circles and ordinary people discussing this problem. We often find bullying phenomena around us, one of which is often found is the phenomenon of racism.

Currently, bullying is a term that is familiar to Indonesian society and throughout the world. Bullying itself comes from the word bull, which means a bull that likes to ram around here and there, which literally means violent behavior where psychological or physical coercion occurs against someone or a group of people who are weaker. by a person or group of people who make a person or group of people feel tormented both physically and mentally (Sejiwa,2008).

This research discusses bullying, more precisely what kind of bullying was experienced and what psychological impacts were experienced by Hannah Baker and then proves that bullying has an effect on

mental health. This research will identify bullying and the psychological impact that Hannah experienced in the series 13

Reason Why.

Research related to Bullying conducted by Turkmen et. al (2013) the aim of this study was to investigate the prevalence of bullying behavior, victims of types of bullying and places of bullying among adolescents aged 14-17 years in a sample of school children in Bursa, Turkey and in this study they found that at least the majority (96.7%) high school students are involved in bullying, either perpetrators or victims, and here it is also found that most male students are likely to be involved in violence or bullying detected 8.4 times higher than female students.

As for other research conducted by Pujimahanani and Firdaus (2018), the aim of this research is to identify what factors caused Hannah to commit suicide and what impacts Hannah's family and friends had on Hannah's death and this research explains that the factors that Hannah's death was due to the anger she couldn't express because she was a victim of bullying the second was because he was tormented as a result of being a victim of bullying and the third was because he was mentally disturbed due to being bullied by his

friends and the impact that his family and friends received as a result of Hannah's death.

Of course he was very angry and caused him to feel mentally down and his friends blamed themselves for being indirectly killed Hannah.

David Farrington (2013) in his research also said that one of the important roles in shaping bullying is the environment and in his research it was also found that bullies tend to grow up to become bullies into adulthood and the importance of parental supervision to prevent bullying in the future.

From the research above we know why most films in America of all genres include the theme of bullying in each film because as explained above, bullying has a very significant impact on its victims and as learning material for parents throughout the world to tighten supervision of their children because as explained In his research, David Farrington (2013) explains that one of the important roles in forming bullying is the environment. If the environment is good then their growth will be good. Conversely, if a child is in a bad environment, the child will grow up to be a bully, dissident and likes to torture people and therefore by The inclusion of bullying themes

in every American film genre is a hope for parents in America and around the world to tighten supervision of their children in order to minimize bullying in the future.

Even though the previous research both discussed bullying, I as a researcher have different problems and objectives from this research. In this research, this research also uses different theories, namely Types of bullying theory and Psychoanalysis Theory. The author uses this theory because it is used to discuss problems regarding bullying. experienced by Hannah which was adapted from the American drama series *13 Reason Why* (2017).

The problems that will be explored in this study are:

- 1) What are the types of bullying in the drama 13

  Reason Why Season 1 (2017)?
- 2) What is the psychological impact of bullying on the main character Hannah Baker in drama *13 Reason Why Season 1* (2017)?

The Objectives of the Study are:

- 1) To analyze the types of bullying in the drama

  13 Reason Why Season 1 (2017)
- To find out what is impact of bullying on the main character Hannah Baker in drama 13 Reason Why Season 1 (2017)

#### II. METHODOLOGY

The methodology or method that I use is the qualitative method. The qualitative method itself is a method where a researcher collects their research in a way also a stage to generate descriptive data in the form of words or writings and observations about people's attitudes (Bogdan & Biklen 27).

The data in this study includes two data, namely primary data and secondary data. For primary data, researchers used the American drama series *13 Reason Why* (2017) which was directed by Jay Asher in 2017 and this film was also adapted from the novel with the same title, namely 13 Reason Why which created by Brian Yorkey

Meanwhile, after primary data, the author uses secondary data which aims to help research. Secondary data that can be used can be from journals, interviews or the internet which can support research. The data collection techniques are divided into 4 types, namely observation, collection, interviews and feelings as a researcher are choosing observation as an option in data collection techniques.

Observation itself was chosen as the way to collect data because I as a researcher used the drama series 13 Reason Why (2017) as the main element in the research and as the subject to be researched.

As for observing films/drama series as the main data in this research, there are steps that must be considered in researching films, the first is to watch the drama series 13 Reason Why (2017) directly, the second is to read the synopsis to better understand the content of the story conveyed in the film and the last one is capturing images that are used to prove situations or events in a film. Apart from being used to research films as main data in observational research as a data collection technique, it is also used in collecting secondary data such as journals, theses and books. The steps in observing data from journals to support data from research are To Observe data, there are several stages that must be carried out, namely, preparation, disassembly, rearrangement, interpretation conclusion. Data analysis starts from the first stage, namely by compiling and sorting the notes that have been collected. The second phase is the splitting of the compiled data into smaller fragments or chunks, which can be considered a disassembly procedure.

The third stage of rearrangement and recombination

can be facilitated by depicting the data graphically or by arranging it in lists and other tabular forms. The fourth phase involves using reorganized material to create a new narrative, accompanied by tables and graphs. The fifth stage is drawing conclusions from the research (Yin 179).

#### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As discussed in chapter I, it is previously known that bullying is violent behavior that aims to hurt and weaken the mentality of a person or group of people and according to (Colloroso,2007) it is categorized into 3 types, namely:

## A. Physical Bullying

There is physical contact involved in this bullying. (Coloroso, 2008) states that, although physical bullying is the most visible and, therefore, the most easily identifiable form of bullying, it accounts for less than a third of bullying incidents reported by teenagers.

In this series the author found four scenes that could be categorized as physical bullying, namely when Jessica slapped Hannah for dating Alex which caused her friendship with Jessica to end and the second case when Bryce Walker raped her in the hot springs in front of his yard.

#### A. Jessica Davis

Jessica Davis is Hannah Baker's friend. At first they were close friends, but that all changed when a man named Alex Standall came. At first they were all good friends, but a few years later, Alex Standall started to like Jessica and was still friends, but over time Hannah Baker's friendship and Jessica Davis started to get worse because issues at school that were circulating widely resulted in Jessica getting emotional and slapping Hannah in public.

Jessica: I should have realized, I know those rumors.

Hannah: You don't know anything about those rumors.

Hannah: You can hear rumors, but you don't know them.

Jessica: We used to be friends, how could you betray me like that.

Hannah: Like what? What did I do?

Jessica: Are you dating Alex now?

Hannah: No! Maybe you...

Hannah: Of course not. He likes you. You like him.

I'm the one you ignore.

Jessica: Yes, and that makes you angry, doesn't it?

Hannah: A little. I mean...

Hannah: That makes me feel a little sad.

Hannah: Why didn't you tell me?

Jessica: Maybe I'm afraid of things like this.

Hannah: Like what?

*Jessica* : ...(giving a piece of paper)

Hannah: Jess. You know this means nothing.

*Jessica : Don't pretend to be innocent.* 

Hannah: I'm innocent, I had nothing to do with

this.

Hannah: Alex did it himself.

Jessica: He just broke up with me.

Hannah: I didn't know you just broke up with

Alex.

Jessica: Let me say this, just enjoy it because

you will enjoy it, right?

Jessica: Because that's what a bitch would do.

Hannah: Fuck you.

Jessica: ...(Jessica slaps Hannah)



( Picture 1.1 Jessica slaps Hannah)

#### **B.** Bryce Walker

Apart from Jessica's case, there is another case which is categorized as Physical Bullying, namely the case of Bryce Walker. Bryce Walker himself in this story is a man who is famous for being rich and naughty. He likes taking part in rugby extracurricular programs

and is a man who is famous for playing with girls. In Bryce's case, it all started when Hannah didn't accidentally lost a lot of money from her parents and at that moment Hannah's parents' business went bankrupt and Hannah felt very depressed at that time and decided to take a short walk to relieve boredom until she accidentally passed by Bryce's house who was having a party with his friends and at that moment Hannah joined Bryce's party to get rid of her sadness, but a few days later Hannah was raped by Bryce in a hot tub in Bryce's yard.



( Picture 1.2 Bryce rapped Hannah in bathtub)



(Picture 1.3 Hannah 's back was covered in red streak from Bryce's grip)

#### C. Marcus Cole

Just like Bryce Walker, Marcus Cole is also a famous person because he is the student council president at school and is in the same gang as Bryce and his friends. Apart from Jessica and Bryce's case which is categorized as physical bullying, Marcus's case is also categorized as physical bullying because he touched a woman's forbidden area more To be precise, Hannah Baker's forbidden area for Marcus's own case initially occurred on Valentine's Day, at that time Hannah didn't have a date. Markus proposed to Hannah that he could be the perfect date on the day Valentine's Day started. Marcus, who deliberately arrived late, made Hannah wait a long time. Even though he had made Hannah wait too long, Marcus didn't feel the slightest bit guilty and embarrassed Hannah in front of the people at their date by touching Hannah sensitive area.

Hannah : What are you doing?

Marcus: What? Nothing. Just...

Hannah : Seriously, Marcus?

Marcus: What?

Hannah : You're such an asshole.

Marcus : Come on.

Hannah : No. Stop it, no. Get off me. Don't

touch me! Get off!

*Marcus* : Hey, what the fuck?

Hannah : Get away from me.

Marcus : No sweat. [scoffs] Thought you were easy.

# D. Bryce Walker (again)

The beginning of this happened when Hannah was shopping at a minimarket and met Bryce there.

Bryce initially pretended to be nice to Hanna by paying for Hannah's shopping, but in the end Hannah was harassed in a public place by Bryce by Bryce grabbing Hannah's butt.

Hannah: Did you just?

Bryce: Oh, no, i did'nt mean to...

Bryce: It's just....

Bryce: Your butt is so tight...

Bryce: In store. Tight in the Store.

Bryce: I usually don't hear gossip from second year high school students but it turns out there is some truth to that list.



( Picture 1.4 Bryce's touch Hannah butt)

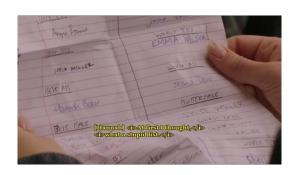
# **B.** Verbal Bullying

According to (Coloroso, 2008), verbal bullying (Halpern, 2018). can reach a point where the victim becomes so depressed in some cases, that the victim may turn to drug abuse or even suicide. The realities of verbal bullying can have very physical consequences, even if the aggressor never lays a finger on the victim (Coloroso, 2008).

In this series the author only found one scenes that could be categorized as verbal bullying,

#### E. Alex Standall

Alex made the rumors of Hannah bigger and more trusted because of his stupid list; Best of... Worst of... list. Alex made the list just because he wanted to get back at Jessica for her refusal. Even though he aimed to get back at Jessica, Hannah's name was included in the list because Alex felt that Hannah was a good fit on the list. In this case, Alex is seen using the existence of Hannah who has had bad rumors to take revenge to Jessica becuase doesn't want to sex with Alex . Alex's actions became a butterfly effect in Hannah's life. The butterfly effect is part of chaos theory, which states that there are limitations to predictions even in small discrete systems. Chaos is possible because systems are extremely sensitive to initial conditions



( Picture 1.5 Best of Worst List)

# C. Relational Bullying

Social bullying is also known as relational bullying (Coloroso, 2008). It involves psychological harm and manipulation of the social system. It involves situations where the perpetrator might spread rumors, excluding the victim from the group. This type of bullying is the hardest to recognize. In this series, the author only found two scene that fell into the Relational Bullying category, namely:

# F. Ryan Shaver

From joining the poetry club, Hannah has made many meaningful words. Even so, she did not want her poetry to be published in school magazines. All she needs is to convey her heart through writing. But Ryan stole it. Ryan publishes Hannah's poetry in the school magazine and everyone reads it. The words are quite vulgar, but

of course they actually have a deep meaning. But not everyone can understand. Although it was not written who the author of the poem was, all the students speculated that it belonged to Hannah. Everyone laughed at her poetry and Hannah felt humiliated for it.

Hannah: How could you do that to me?

Ryan: The poem? I did you a favor,

Hannah.You're a beautiful poet. Your work

deserved to be heard.

Hannah : You're a self-serving, egoistical fuckwad.



(Picture 1.6 Everyone laughing at Hannah Poetry)

## **G.** Justin Fooley

In the first episode, researcher find out that Justin Foley committed reason and used Hannah Baker to bolster hi popularity among his mates. It all started with Justin Foley who used Hannah as a form of recognition from his friends to looks cool. Justin spread rumors that

he kissed Hannah and did other adult things on their first date. Despite the fact that they were just kissing and doing nothing but that. On that day, Justin secretly took a photo of Hannah's underwear, which he then showed off to his mates. From the rumors made up by Justin and the photo shared by Bryce, Hannah Baker's bullying begins.

Justin: A picture's worth a thousand words.

Bryce: Public space. That's hot. Oh, yeah. We're sendingthat shit around



(Picture 1.7 Hannah's underwar)

# B. Psychological Impact as the Impact of Bullying in 13 Reason Why: Season 1

#### A. Dominant Personality Sistem

As explained in chapter II, in Sigmund Freud's theory, there are three pillars that form personality, namely Id, Ego and Superego. If one of the three pillars that form human personality is not balanced, there will be an imbalance in human personality.

According to (McLeod, 2016) the superego has

two systems, namely the conscience which serves to punish the ego through feelings of guilt and the ego-ideal which is an imaginary picture of how individuals behave according to the norms in society. In this Freudian concept, McLeod exemplifies that if the ego succumbs to the demands of the id, then the superego dominates the personality system and can make the person feel bad through guilt. Hannah Baker's excessive personality imbalance happened after experienced many events that made her feel very guilty over and over again. Hannah Baker's excessive personality system imbalance happened after she experienced many events that made her feel very guilty over and over again.

I couldn't move. I couldn't get up and leave or scream. Anything would have been better than sitting there thinking that somehow this was my fault. Thinking I'd be alone the rest of my life. (13 Reasons Why: Season 1, episode 6 min 41:22). The first incident experienced by Hannah was when Jessica was raped by Bryce. Despite knowing it firsthand,

Hannah could not do anything about it.

He did not even report it to anyone.

Although Hannah tries to tell what happened to Jessica, she does not believe and trusts her boyfriend more; it was Justin who covered up the truth and said that what Hannah said was just a lie. Because she cannot do anything, Hannah always feels guilty every time she sees or meets Jessica.

I had to do something. I had to make him stop.

But I couldn't get my feet to move. It was dark
in there. And the music was loud, but I saw his
face. And I recognized his voice as clear as
day. And so would all of you. (13 Reasons
Why: Season 1, episode 9 min 40:25)

## **B.** Neurotic Anxiety

In chapter two, it has been explained that neurotic anxiety has five forms, there are; hysteria, depression, phobias, obsessive compulsive disorder, and post-traumatic disorder traumatic stress that can occur after experiencing a traumatic event. In Hannah's case, she had neurotic anxiety in the form of post-traumatic stress.

Anxiety neurosis can occur for a number of reasons. One of them is obtained because of the frightening internal and external factors. Hannah got her first anxiety when her friends at school started judging her as an easy girl. She also

began to feel uncomfortable and restless when everyone looked at her and started talking about her. Anxiety grew when Hannah found out that she was being followed by someone. She is also worried that someone she likes will judge her as an easy girl and do not like her with all their heart.

...but you didn't walk that hall. You didn't feel those eyes on you. You've never heard those whispers. (13 Reasons Why: Season 1, episode 3 min 22:41)

I was too scared to move... even to shut the blinds. (13 Reasons Why: Season 1, episode 4 min 08:41)

Thing is... even though Tyler stopped coming around... I never stopped feeling afraid. So what could I do after that? First school, then my house... even my own bedroom. Nowhere was safe. You took all that away. (13 Reasons Why: Season 1, episode 4 min 50:36)

You made me paranoid, Tyler. So, now... I'm giving that to you. Maybe I'll never know why you did what you did. But I can make you understand how it felt to be me. That's why I'm outside your window, Tyler. And

after people hear this, I bet I won't be the only one. (13 Reasons Why: Season 1, episode 4 min 52:25)

...so I don't know why my mind took me everywhere else. And I thought of every other guy. And they all became you. But you walked out the door... like I told you to. Why did you have to leave? It was the worst thing ever. (13 Reasons Why: Season 1, episode 11 min 37:04).

# CHAPTER IV. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### A. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and discussion in previous chapters, it can be concluded as follows:

From this research it can be concluded that the bullying faced by Hannah Baker in the 13 Reason Why series is divided into 3 types, namely Physical Bullying, namely relying on the physical to make someone feel depressed, for example when Hannah was raped by Bryce which made Hannah physically injured because she was raped by Bryce. Verbal Bullying is bullying which uses words as a medium for bullying which makes someone intimidated, for example when Alex Standall compared the size

of Hannah's buttocks with the size of someone else's buttocks which indirectly Hannah's heart. Social Bullying (Relational Bullying). Social or relational bullying is bullying that is carried out with the aim of humiliating in public in the case of Hannah Baker. Hannah was humiliated when her work was published by Ryan Shaver and made all her classmates laugh at her and made Hannah embarrassed herself because the work that Hannah made was said to be too full and unpleasant to listen in front of many people.

And from this research the author can conclude that bullying can have a very significant psychological impact on its victims, in the case of Hannah Baker in the series 13 Reasons Why, the psychological impact that Hannah received was prolonged trauma, for example when she was spied on by her friend Tyler and made her half scared and the psychological impact that Hannah got from bullying was that her personality changed 180 degrees since she was bullied, for example when Hannah told Jessica that Bryce was not a good person but instead of getting a positive response, Hannah was called a liar and since then Hannah's personality has changed because she is haunted by guilt. because he couldn't help his closest

friends who needed her help.

#### **B. SUGGESTION**

From the conclusions of the research results above, some suggestions can be made as follows:

To schools who still consider bullying to be a trivial matter, researchers hope that schools will immediately be aware and respond quickly to cases of bullying because this problem is not a trivial matter because it has a very big impact on children and teenagers, both psychologically and physically, even at the worst it can cause suicide and the author hopes that the school will open a complaint service that students comfortable in telling about their problems and minimize cases of bullying and create a conducive and comfortable environment in teaching and learning activities

For parents, they should always provide positive encouragement and always be open to being a place for all things that their children are worried about. Sometimes children feel so burdened by their parents' expectations that are too high for them to cause great guilt in children when they are not able to meet their parents' expectations.

From this research, I as the writer hope that I can educate the public and readers not to underestimate cases of bullying because the

and physically, and I as the writer hope that 1/s schools and the community will unite to Co combat bullying cases so that it does not take by many more victims in the future and I hope From that the perpetrators who carry out bullying You will be given the most severe punishment so that it will have a deterrent effect on other perpetrators of bullying so that they think Haw first before acting.

As the author, through this research, I hope that the American government or governments of other countries will unite to combat bullying in order to prevent bullying from happening in the future so that it does not happen again.

For further researchers, the researcher hopes that the results of this study will be useful for them.

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