

**JOURNAL**

**HOW PSYCHOSOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF “SHE” AFFECTED HER  
MARRIAGE CRISIS IN JENNY OFFILL’S DEPT. OF SPECULATION**



By

Kenny Satrio Firdani

1800026272

**Submitted as a Partial fulfillment of Requirements to Obtain Sarjana Sastra  
Degree English Literature Department**

**FACULTY OF LITERATURE, CULTURE, AND COMMUNICATION  
UNIVERSITAS AHMAD DAHLAN**

**YOGYAKARTA**

**2024**

**Bagaimana Perkembangan Psikososial “She” Mempengaruhi Krisis  
Pernikahannya di *DEPT. OF SPECULATION* Oleh Jenny Offil**

By

Kenny Satrio Firdani

1800026272

**INTISARI**

Penelitian ini yang berjudul “Bagaimana Perkembangan Psikososial “She” Mempengaruhi Krisis Pernikahannya di *DEPT. OF SPECULATION* Oleh Jenny Offil ” ini bertujuan untuk mempelajari perkembangan psikososial tokoh utama “She” dalam novel *DEPT. OF SPECULATION* dan bagaimana perkembangan psikososial dapat mempengaruhi pernikahannya.

Penelitian kualitatif ini mengambil data utama dari novel *DEPT. OF SPECULATION* dan data sekunder dari berbagai jurnal, buku, dan website yang kredibel dengan menggunakan metode penelitian kepustakaan dimana peneliti bekerja langsung dengan data yang sudah ada sebelumnya. Peneliti mengumpulkan data utama dengan cara membaca secara mendalam dan mencatat. Peneliti menggunakan teori perkembangan psikososial Erik Erikson untuk menganalisis data dan menggunakan data sekunder untuk mendukung argumen. Penelitian ini akan menggunakan 3 tahap perkembangan psikososial yaitu Identitas vs Kebingungan Peran, Keintiman vs Isolasi, Generativitas vs Stagnasi karena data dalam novel tidak mencukupi, dalam penelitian ini juga akan menggunakan struktur ego Erikson 4 untuk menekankan penelitian, dan peneliti akan menggunakan pendekatan krisis pernikahan untuk menghubungkan perkembangan psikososial dengan krisis pernikahannya.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa perkembangan tokoh utama mampu dianalisis dan tokoh utama mengalami naik turun di dalam kehidupannya dengan tidak berhasil menyeimbangkan krisis pada tahap identitas vs. kebingungan peran dan keintiman vs. isolasi sedangkan tahap generativitas vs. Stagnasi ternyata berhasil. Dan terbukti untuk Tahap identitas vs. kebingungan peran dan Keintiman vs Isolasi yang tidak berhasil dapat mempengaruhi hubungannya dengan suaminya dan berujung pada krisis perkawinan.

Kata kunci : Perkembangan psikososial, Krisis pernikahan, hubungan manusia

# **How Psychosocial Development of “She” Affected Her Marriage Crisis in**

## **Jenny Offill’s *DEPT. OF SPECULATION***

By

Kenny Satrio Firdani

1800026272

### **ABSTRACT**

This research titled “How Psychosocial Development of “She” Affected Her Marriage Crisis in Jenny Offill’s *DEPT. OF SPECULATION*” aimed to study the psychosocial development of the main character “She” in the novel of *DEPT. OF SPECULATION* by Jenny offill and how her development affect the main character’s marriage crisis.

This qualitative research took the main data from the novel *DEPT. OF SPECULATION* and the secondary data from various journal, book, and website using Library research method in which the researcher works directly with pre-existing data. The researcher collect the main data by reading in-depth and taking notes. The researcher uses psychosocial development theory by Erik Erikson to analyze the data and use the secondary data to support the argument. the research will use the 3 stage of psychosocial development and that is Identity vs Role confusion, Intimacy vs Isolation, Generativity vs Stagnation as the data in the novel is not sufficient, in this research will also use Erikson 4 ego structure to emphasis the research, and the researcher will use marriage crisis approach to connect the psychosocial development with her marriage crisis.

The result of this research reveal that the main character development is able to be analyzed and the main character experiences up and down of her life by being unsuccessful to balance the tension in the stage Identity vs. role confusion and Intimacy vs. Isolation while the generativity vs. Stagnation is actually successful. And it is proven that the unsuccessful stage of identity vs. role confusion affect her relationship with her husband and cause the marriage crisis.

Keywords: Psychosocial development, marriage crisis, Human relationship

## **A. BACKGROUND OF CHOOSING THE SUBJECT**

You know what's punk rock about marriage?

Nothing.

You know what's punk rock about marriage?

All the puke and shit and piss. (Offill, 2014, p. 25).

The quote above from Jenny Offill's novel "DEPT. OF SPECULATION" captures the main character's sentiment about marriage. Despite knowing it might not be a good idea, she went through with it. While society sees marriage as a pathway to happiness, divorce rates remain high. For instance, in 2011 alone, there were 3.6 thousand divorces in the US. "DEPT. OF SPECULATION" challenges the notion of marital bliss, prompting readers to question whether marriage truly leads to a better life or a potential nightmare.

In Jenny Offill's novel exploring Marriage and Family life, she offers a realistic portrayal of the struggles faced by women in marriage, leading to profound personal transformation. The novel challenges common notions about post-marital life and questions the essence of a fulfilling marriage. Highlighting values such as trust, understanding, and love, Offill prompts readers to reconsider the true meaning of marital happiness (Chang, 2022).

The core components of a successful marriage are universally recognized, transcending cultural boundaries (Fatima & Ajmal, 2012). When any of these elements are lacking, it can trigger a chain reaction culminating in marital crisis, as depicted in DEPT. OF SPECULATION. Here, the failure to establish trust and understanding led to a breakdown in care and affection between "the wife" and her husband, altering the dynamics of their relationship (Chen et al., 2021; Weinberger et al., 2008).

DEPT. OF SPECULATION by Jenny Offill serves as a poignant commentary on societal norms, highlighting misconceptions surrounding marriage ideals (Keerthika, 2018). Contrary to popular belief, the novel challenges the notion of marital bliss perpetuated by society, depicting the harsh realities of married life. In contrast to the idyllic portrayals of marriage, the novel presents a more nuanced perspective, revealing the complexities and challenges faced by couples (Banjo, 2002).

Women are often told by society that having a husband will provide them with financial security and a comfortable life (Yusuf & Alkali, 2022). However, this idealized notion of marriage does not hold true for everyone. Many women also need to work to support their families, and the romanticized image of marriage often does not reflect the reality of daily life (Chang, 2022; Sabatelli & Pearce, 1986).

DEPT. OF SPECULATION is a novel about main character “she” in her daily life. there were up and down in her life but the essence of the novel is when “she” is in romantic relationship in marital life, “she” thought life after marriage would be pleasant, beautiful and glittery like every people talk about their prince charming. However it was actually her worst ever nightmare, all dreadful thing hitting her mentally, social stigma about her baby, her cheating husband, love hate love relationship and so on.

Marriage is supposed to be a peaceful stage for people, where they should feel relaxed because they finally have someone dear to them who will help them in times of need (Chang, 2022). Marriage is where two people specifically a man and women recognized in the society, establishing split duties with the couple and legitimizing newborn (Duvall & Miller, 1985). Marriage is where people should have found their identity, then they could move to the more important part and that is to trust the significant other that they must accept for what she or he is, this is the part where people tend to be intimate with the other in physically or socially to complete the stages (Arnett & Taber, 1994).

The declining divorce rates in the US from 2009 to 2019, as reported by Census.gov, initially sparked speculation about fewer marriages experiencing crisis (Anderson & Scherer, 2020). However, further analysis reveals a parallel decrease in marriage rates during the same period (Gill, 2023), leading to concerns that people are increasingly hesitant to marry. This shift prompts a deeper examination of societal responses to marriage challenges, motivating researchers to investigate the issue of marriage crisis, as explored in this novel (Curtis & Susman, 1994).

The researcher selects the issue of marriage crisis due to the alarming rate at which contemporary society embraces divorce, treating it almost as an inevitable outcome. Moreover, many individuals opt to remain single to avoid the potential turmoil of married life, although this approach fails to offer an ideal solution to relationship challenges. And this marriage crisis is well portrayed in the novel written by Jenny Offill that was shortlisted in two big award that is the 2015 PEN/Faulkner Award and 2015 Folio Prize and also selected as the 10 best book in 2014 (Nytimes, 2014; Penfaulkner, 2015; Piepenbring, 2015).

This novel portrays marriage crisis life for women and creates unique engagement through its domestic drama plot, and its out of the box fragmentary writing style create the ambience the reader need in order to understand more of the main character feeling and unique mind. These characteristic of the novel create the perfect condition for domestic fiction plot to read, thus interest the researcher to analyze the domestic problem that is written in the novel.

The fragmentation style of writing also made the researcher need to accountable the important part of the story because a lot of part this novel have unrelating phrases to the main story. This writing style force the reader to construct the plot to create the storyline understandable themselves (Barthes,

1974). this why DEPT. OF SPECULATION novel need to be engaged more to create understandable plot story.

Fragmentation style of writing in this novel meant to seek for architectonic metaphor as in every few line there will be some kind of phrases, poetry or even some fun fact (Drag, 2017). However there's another reason the novel is written this way, this novel meant to be flowing memory of the Main character, In order to create engagement for the reader to feel how the main character feel in the novel (Wolitzer, 2014). This is why at the beginning of the story there are a lot of unique sequence of seemingly random phrases or sentence in the middle of the plot and then in the ending there are a lot melancholy expression (Rolen, 2023)

To analyze the character development and marriage crisis in this novel, the researcher employs Erik Erikson's psychosocial theory. This theory is particularly fitting as it explore into the main character's experiences in marriage. By examining how "the wife" evolves throughout the story and identifying which stages she struggles with, the researcher sheds light on why her marriage falters. This character development can significantly impact marital dynamics (Russell et al., 2013).

Hence, the researcher is curious to analyze how the main character of "the wife" experience in the painful lie, a fantasy creates a big letdown of a marriage life expectation from herself, using Erik Erikson theory psychosocial development. Erikson Psychosocial is different with psychology theory. if psychology is talking about how to understand better one individual, their mental behavior occurrence, psychosocial is to understand mental behavior on a individual as a society as a whole (Erikson, 1968; Meliana, 2020). In this case the researcher use psychosocial to analyze one person in the novel in relation to society.

Theory of psychosocial stage of development consist of 8 psychosocial stages and that is Basic Trust vs. Basic Mistrust, Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt, Initiative vs. Guilt, Industry vs. Inferiority, Identity vs. Role Confusion, Intimacy vs. Isolation, Generativity vs. Stagnation, Ego Integrity vs. Despair (Syed & McLean, 2018). Each of the stages will have different outcome depending on the completion on each stages. This stage of development has a domino effect affecting the next stage of development. for example if the childhood life full of memories where their parent lie to them, this individual could have problem of doubting someone else in next stages, this effect could affect any stages after the first stages which is infant, in the end the person personality and character developed according to the completion of the 8 stages (Chen et al., 2021; Mcleod, 2013).

The plot the main character "She" in DEPT. OF SPECULATION spends mostly in her teenage and life after marriage, and that is in the stage of adolescence and young adulthood. In the stage of adolescence it is the stage of identity vs. role confusion mainly focuses in development of identity of the person

itself and in young adulthood is intimacy vs. isolation focuses on having close relationship toward other person especially in romantic way (Cherry, 2022b).

To analyze how the intimacy vs. Isolation development affecting the marriage phase that greatly impact her final characteristic in marriage crisis. The researcher will use the psychosocial theory stages of development and ego structure by Erik Erikson to answer the research question. Psychosocial stages of development is a theory of about personality development and how human have 8 important stages in life where in this each individual stages that based on their age will receive specific personality that will affect the next following stages of their life (Erikson, 1950, p. 270).

In his 1956 journal "The Problem of Ego Identity," Erikson challenges Freud's psychosexual theory, which focuses on genitalia development and unconscious libido forces. Unlike Freud, Erikson emphasizes the influence of environment, culture, and society values on personality development. According to Erikson's psychosocial theory, ego identity is dynamic and subject to change throughout life stages, highlighting the importance of continual revision (Erikson, 1956, 1968).

Erik Erikson's Ego Structure theory outlines four key aspects of ego development: Ego Identity, Ego Strength, Ego Ideal, and Ego Control (Erikson, 1950, 1968, 1977). Ego Identity, discussed in "Youth and Crisis" (1968), refers to one's self-image shaped by successful resolution of psychosocial crises at each developmental stage. Ego Strength represents an individual's ability to maintain consistency in identity choices, crucial for successful development. Ego Ideal reflects a person's aspiration toward an ideal self, influenced by societal values and role models. Ego Control refers to managing desires while balancing self-expression and societal expectations, essential for adaptation to social and cultural demands (Erikson, 1968). These ego components shape an individual's consciousness, guiding their behavior to conform to societal norms and values (Alwisol, 2009).

The researcher choose this theory because by using Erikson theory of psychosocial development it is supposed to have a chronological order for big incident such as marriage crisis that happen in an individual creating flowing understanding what is the probable of the cause of the big incident (Cherry, 2022b). In theory the researcher should be able to find the cause by looking into the previous stage where the big incident happen, and by using psychosocial theory the researcher might found prevention solution for this problem in general for the society since psychosocial development is analysis from a person that will also apply to people in general (Newman & Newman, 2020).

The reason why the researcher wants to analyze marriage crisis in the novel is how alarmingly nowadays marriage ended in divorce or dissatisfaction, thus the researcher want to dig deep into the novel hoping to found ways to prevent or avoid marriage crisis in our society today's. The researcher believe by analyzing the main character "she" in the novel DEPT. OF SPECULATION the researcher

will found similar ideas to how society right now experience dissatisfaction toward their marriage relationship, and perhaps found a similar point to understand better on this matter to prevent marriage crisis.

## **B. METHODS OF THE RESEARCH**

In this research the researcher use descriptive qualitative analysis. The researcher will focus on the novel *DEPT. OF SPECULATION* by Jenny Offill by analyzing the main Character. Sugiyono (2009), Qualitative method could see social reality as dynamic, full of meaning and complex matter. This research focuses on psychosocial analysis of character in the novel hence the reason the researcher choose qualitative method.

## **C. FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

In this chapter, the researcher presents the findings of a psychosocial analysis of the main character in Jenny Offill's novel "DEPT. OF SPECULATION" and its impact on her marital crisis. Divided into two sub-chapters, the discussion begins with an exploration of the main character's development using Erikson's psychosocial stages of development theory. Analyzing the character's life throughout the novel, the fragmented style prompts an examination of random sequences for their significance in relation to Erikson's theory. The second chapter delves into the psychosocial development factors leading to the main character's marital crisis.

This story is best analyzed by using Erikson's psychosocial stage since this theory analyze every developmental change by the character (Syed & McLean, 2018). The researcher will gain valuable insights on character development after analyzing the main character using psychosocial stage development theory to understand and the character personality development and find the which that cause her marriage crisis the main Character Experienced.

### **A. The Character “She” Psychosocial Development**

In hindsight, this character may seem to be a normal character with a basic characteristic a happy, good mannered person who strife for a happy life with typical nuclear family as a goal. However in the middle of the novel this character undergoes a big change in characteristic. What used to be the basic characteristic of a happy good mannered person that had been in happy family in the novel changed into someone who is accepting the hard life she experienced. The researcher uses Erikson Psychosocial theory to analyze any peculiarity that is happening in her life.

#### **1. Identity vs. role confusion**

The story begins with the main character entering a pivotal career phase, reflecting Erikson's view that life stages are determined by experiences rather than age (E. Erikson, 1956, 1968). The main character's ego development is evident in



her internal conflict over career choices, reflecting Erikson's theory of identity vs. role confusion (Cherry, 2022b). Despite her initial aspiration to be an "art monster," she ultimately chooses a more rational path, demonstrating high ego strength but potential for future dissatisfaction (Erikson, 1956). However, her lingering obsession with her past ambitions suggests unresolved identity issues (Offill, 2014).

In later passages, the main character's envy of a friend's seemingly ideal life highlights her ongoing struggle with identity and societal expectations (Offill, 2014). Her anxiety about uncertainty reflects Erikson's concept of role confusion, indicating insufficient ego strength (Erikson, 1956).

Overall, the main character's journey through this stage of development is marked by internal conflict and uncertainty, suggesting an incomplete resolution of identity issues (Erikson, 1956).

## **2. Intimacy vs. isolation**

The main character's journey through Erikson's psychosocial stages reflects a complex development influenced by past romantic experiences and current marital challenges. While Erikson's stages are typically associated with specific age ranges, the main character's experiences emphasize the importance of focusing on challenges and conflicts rather than strict age categories (Cherry, 2022b).

The main character's past failures in romantic relationships, as seen in her encounters with an ex-boyfriend and memories of a past lover, illustrate unresolved intimacy vs. isolation conflicts (Offill, 2014). Her coping mechanism of forgetting past experiences and prioritizing work over love further complicates her ability to form intimate relationships (Offill, 2014).

In her current marriage, the main character's codependency and attachment anxiety lead to insecurity and psychosomatic symptoms, such as a persistent cough (Offill, 2014). Despite discovering her husband's affair, she struggles to confront the issue directly, reflecting her fear of abandonment and reliance on her husband for emotional support (Gould, 2022).

The main character's reluctance to seek help or communicate her feelings exacerbates her isolation and marital discord (Erikson, 1968). Even after confrontations and therapy sessions, she remains trapped in a cycle of codependency and insecurity, unable to assert her identity or leave the marriage (Offill, 2014).

Ultimately, the main character's decision to stay in the marriage symbolizes her loss of ego identity and acceptance of a domestic, average life (Drag, 2017). Her journey highlights the complexities of navigating intimate relationships and the impact of unresolved conflicts on psychological development (Erikson, 1968).

### **3. Generativity vs. stagnation**

In this stage, which coincides with Erikson's intimacy vs. isolation stage in the novel, the main character grapples with the complexities of parenthood and the pursuit of leaving a lasting impact on society, known as generativity versus stagnation (Cherry, 2022b). Initially, she experiences the heartache of miscarriage, prompting deep reflection on her aspirations and priorities (Offill, 2014). As she and her partner navigate the challenges of trying to conceive again, societal pressures and expectations compound her internal struggles, leading her to question her capabilities and worth (Offill, 2014).

Despite these challenges, she remains determined to provide a nurturing environment for her child, driven by profound love and commitment (Cherry, 2022b). Transitioning into motherhood, she confronts societal norms and pressures while steadfastly nurturing her child (Offill, 2014). Additionally, she seeks to make a meaningful impact as a teacher, empowering the next generation through education (Offill, 2014).

Overall, her journey embodies resilience and determination, highlighting the importance of generativity in psychological development and the profound impact individuals can have on future generations and society (Cherry, 2022b).

#### **B. Psychosocial development that lead to Marriage crisis**

This section explores the causes of the marriage crisis experienced by the main character in the novel, which is influenced by various psychosocial developments. Before diving into the analysis, it's crucial to understand that a happy and successful marriage necessitates several factors that both individuals must provide. (Fatima & Ajmal, 2012) These factors include trust, understanding, satisfaction, communication, compromise, sincerity, respect, care, forgiveness, sharing, and love. The significance of these factors varies for each individual and is influenced by societal values and culture. For instance, the importance placed on maintaining a good relationship with in-laws may differ between Western and Eastern cultures.

By understanding that environment and culture affect the value they hold in happy marriage factor, this is inline with how psychosocial development analyze individual in their characteristic (Erikson, 1968; Fatima & Ajmal, 2012). Psychosocial development analysis will be affected on how the individual live in different culture, and society because it will affect how the main character value ideal identity, and ideal life in their perception (Erikson, 1968). By looking into how the development progress in the main character the researcher will correlate with how marriage have several factor that need to be accomplished with the developed character.

In this novel the main character have several small conflict that did not get resolved, and one big conflict that left the marriage essentially in shambles. The

factor that affect the main character marriage in this novel are satisfaction, compromise, love, care, communication, forgiveness, trust and understanding (Fatima & Ajmal, 2012).

As analyzed in the previous sub chapter, the main character is a character that have unique personality, a female character that goes against the mainstream. However her character is shown as a someone who easily compromise. Abandoning her life goals forced to be rational is the exact opposite of her character but she did settle for less in order to live happily with her husband. This compromise create a reluctant personality that lead her character to unable to voiced out her feeling. Her reluctant personality made her unable to demand love and care from her husband leading to her dissatisfaction in the marriage.

In a relationship where there are dissatisfaction and less communication it is really easy for it to create an opportunity for the one of the couple to become involved in an affair (Fatima & Ajmal, 2012). As for the reason is that it will lead to loneliness, emotional distance, and unmet needs by both of the partners. This void will be the rational basis for the couple to seek emotional and physical need outside the relationship (Rokach & Chan, 2023). This is exactly what happen to the husband, this show that even with the positive communication in earlier relationship when dating does not mean the partner will easily maintain the marriage. This peak conflict with her husband made the main character loses trust and understanding toward her husband. In addition the attachment anxiety she developed in earlier relationship worsened this dispute. Since both of them did not think they made any fault, but the main character attachment anxiety forces her to forgive her husband, and choose abstain from divorce while it mean she need to live with a man who she cannot trust anymore (Russell et al., 2013).

Deeper evidence analysis on the novel will be stated in the analysis below by using erikson psychosocial development theory, the researcher will start the analysis from the identity vs. role confusion.

### **1. Stage of Identity vs. Role confusion**

In this stage, the main character undergoes self-understanding development. However, the analysis reveals that she lacks a solid grasp of her identity. This is evident when she abandons her aspiration to become an art monster upon meeting her romantic partner. Furthermore, she fails to pursue her ideal identity despite having firm resolve when criticized by her best friend. This indicates a lack of strong ego identity acknowledgment.

This unstable identity affects the main character's ability to express herself (Markman et al., 2010). Effective communication is crucial in relationships, requiring courage to express opinions. However, the main character lacks this courage, as seen in her marriage where she struggles to voice her social needs or opinions, leaving her unsatisfied.

## **2. Intimacy vs. Isolation**

In Intimacy vs. isolation is where the main character develop the feeling of being intimate, trying to create long term commitment with their family friends and love interest (Cherry, 2022b). Failing in having marriage is one of the biggest tensions the main character have and in this subchapter the reason to fail the marriage is explained.

Satisfaction really important to keep a happy marriage. It is easy to start a relationship rather than taking care of it. Compared to dating where the couple do not have the same commitment with marriage, dating is easier as they could just break up, but in marriage there is a lot to consider if they wanted to get a divorce.

In the novel before meeting the husband the main character already have experienced romantic relationship, The past relationship of the main character was actually in a positive relationship until they need to break up, this is big indication that she have positive communication that lead her to expect this is how relationship should be. "If I had to sum up what he did to me, I'd say it was this: he made me sing along to all the bad songs on the radio. Both when he loved me and when he didn't." (Offill, 2014, p. 12). This is the passage where she have great experience in the relationship with her ex.

The main character past romantic relationship come to an end and cause her to have a trauma "Remember it is possible to feel this way. ... But I didn't. I didn't remember it" (Offill, 2014, p. 12). This is how the main character cope with her trauma by forgetting it all ever happened. The main character trauma made it to her current relationship with her husband, this is shown on how her psychosomatic coughing gone, when she unconsciously thought she is finally successful in having a relationship "When we first met, I had a persistent cough. ... Just after we married, the cough went away. So what was it, I wonder?" (Offill, 2014, p. 17).

Attachment anxiety development, though less researched, is known to be influenced by negative social experiences, impacting a person's attachment style (Cuncic, 2023). The main character's past relationship trauma led to attachment anxiety, evident in her fear of being abandoned by her husband and reluctance to express her needs (Offill, 2014, p. 21, p. 62, p. 106, p. 58). Positive communication with her husband before marriage, while comforting, can heighten expectations, leading to distress when communication falters (Markman et al., 2010). The main character's comfortable interactions with her husband, exemplified by discussing their future, illustrate their bond (Offill, 2014, p. 15). However, the cessation of positive communication, evidenced by her rejected emergency plan suggestion, contributes to marital distress (Offill, 2014, p. 26).

Despite marital strain, the main character's love for her husband masks deeper issues stemming from attachment anxiety and codependency, perpetuating her isolation (Offill, 2014). Her reluctance to divorce and efforts to reconcile exacerbate the marriage crisis, as extramarital affairs are viewed as the ultimate betrayal. Despite mental stress, her love for her husband persists, serving as a

façade born from attachment anxiety, codependency, and her inclination to isolate herself from others, save for her immediate family, including her husband and daughter. These dynamics underscore the complexity of attachment and communication in intimate relationships, highlighting the challenges faced by individuals with attachment anxiety in navigating marital crises.

#### **D. CONCLUSION**

The researcher conclude that all the psychosocial development experienced by the main character is able to be explained and shown that she failed to balance the tension to get the positive outcome in two stage “identity vs. Isolation” and “Intimacy vs. Isolation” and proven to lead to her marriage crisis and despite the two failure prior the “generativity vs. Stagnation” stage is successful in balancing the tension and this personality development can lead to marriage crisis.

## Bibliography

- Aditya, N. (2011). *A Contrasted analysis of main characters in cradle of secrets Novel By Lisa Mondelo seen from Erikson theory*. Universitas Islam Negeri.
- Amadi, U. P. N., & Amadi, F. N. C. (2014). Marital Crisis in the Nigerian Society: Causes, Consequences and Management Strategies. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, 5(26), 133–143. <https://doi.org/10.5901/mjss.2014.v5n26p133>
- Anderson, L., & Scherer, Z. (2020). *U.S. Marriage and Divorce Rates Declined in Last 10 Years*. United State Census Bureau. <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2020/12/united-states-marriage-and-divorce-rates-declined-last-10-years.html#:~:text=In 2019%2C there were 16.3,2009 to 7.6 in 2019.>
- Banjo, O. (2002). The Effect of Media Consumption on the Perception of Romantic Relationships. *Penn State McNair Journal*, 9(November), 9–33. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/283703576\\_The\\_Effect\\_of\\_Media\\_Consumption\\_on\\_the\\_Perception\\_of\\_Romantic\\_Relationships](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/283703576_The_Effect_of_Media_Consumption_on_the_Perception_of_Romantic_Relationships)
- Chang, X. (2022). The Current Situation of Marriage Problems in Contemporary Society: Is Marriage in Crisis? *Proceedings of the 2021 International Conference on Social Development and Media Communication (SDMC 2021)*, 631(Sdmc 2021), 635–638. <https://doi.org/10.2991/assehr.k.220105.116>
- Chen, P. Y., Ho, W. C., Lo, C., & Yeh, T. P. (2021). Predicting ego integrity using prior ego development stages for older adults in the community. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(18). <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18189490>
- Cherry, K. (2022a). *An Overview of Sigmund Freud's Theories*. Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellmind.com/freudian-theory-2795845>
- Cherry, K. (2022b). *Erikson's Stages of Development A Closer Look at the Eight Psychosocial Stages*. Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellmind.com/erik-eriksons-stages-of-psychosocial-development-2795740>
- Cherry, K. (2022c). *Intimacy vs. Isolation: Psychosocial Stage 6*. Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellmind.com/intimacy-versus-isolation-2795739>
- Cherry, K. (2022d). *Trust vs. Mistrust: Psychosocial Stage 1*. Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellmind.com/trust-versus-mistrust-2795741>
- Cherry, K. (2023). *Biography of Erik Erikson (1902-1994)*. Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellmind.com/erik-erikson-biography-1902-1994-2795538>
- cleveland clinic. (2021). *Psychosomatic Disorder*. Cleveland Clinic. <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/21521-psychosomatic-disorder>
- Cuncic, A. (2023). *An Overview of Attachment Anxiety*. Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellmind.com/attachment-anxiety-4692761#toc-symptoms-of-anxious-attachment>

- Curtis, J. M., & Susman, V. M. (1994). *Factors Related to Fear of Marriage*. 74(3), 859–863. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.2466/pr0.1994.74.3.859>
- Drag, W. (2017). Jenny offill's dept. Of speculation and the revival of fragmentary writing. In *Miscelanea* (Vol. 56, Issue August, pp. 57–72).
- Erikson, E. H. (1950). *Childhood and Society*. W W Norton & Co.
- Erikson, E. H. (1956). The problem of ego identity. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 4(1), 56–121. <https://doi.org/10.1177/000306515600400104>
- Erikson, E. H. (1962). Fidelity and Diversity. *Daedalus*, 91(1), 5–27. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20026695>
- Erikson, E. H. (1968). *Identity Youth and Crisis*. W.W. Norton.
- Erikson, E. H. (1977). Childhood and Society. In *Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine*. Grafton.
- Esteban Ortiz-Ospina, M. R. (2020). *Marriages and Divorces*. Ourworldindata.Org. <https://ourworldindata.org/marriages-and-divorces>
- Fatima, M., & Ajmal, M. A. (2012). Happy marriage: A qualitative study. *Pakistan Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*, 9(2), 37–42. <http://ovidsp.ovid.com/ovidweb.cgi?T=JS&PAGE=reference&D=psyc7&NEWS=N&AN=2012-17550-006>
- Fawad, R., Shahid, M., Shamim, P., & Zubair, A. (2022). What I wanted vs what I have: Impact of pre and post marital expectations on marital satisfaction of married young adults. *Scholars Journal of Research in Social Science (SJRSS)*, 2(2), 1–19. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6617381>
- Fritscher, L. (2024). *Fear of Intimacy: Signs, Causes, and Coping Strategies*. Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellmind.com/fear-of-intimacy-2671818>
- Gill, M. (2023). *Fewer people are marrying. That's cause for celebration, not state intervention*. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2023/feb/25/fewer-people-marrying-cause-for-celebration-not-state-intervention>
- Gould, W. R. (2022). *How to Spot the Signs of Codependency*. Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellmind.com/what-is-codependency-5072124>
- Gross, R. (2010). PSYCHOLOGY THE SCIENCE OF MIND AND BEHAVIOUR. In *Angewandte Chemie International Edition*, 6(11), 951–952. (6th ed., Vol. 2). HODDER EDUCATION.
- Gunlicks-Stoessel, M. L., & Powers, S. I. (2009). Romantic partners' coping strategies and patterns of cortisol reactivity and recovery in response to relationship conflict. *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*, 28(5), 630–649. <https://doi.org/10.1521/jscp.2009.28.5.630>
- Jones, H. (2022). *What Is Codependency?* Verywellmind. <https://www.verywellhealth.com/codependency-5093171>

- Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2020). Research on Marital Satisfaction and Stability in the 2010s: Challenging Conventional Wisdom. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 82(1), 100–116. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jomf.12635>
- Keerthika, S. (2018). Literature and Society: How Literature reflects society. *International Journal of Science, Engineering and Management (IJSEM)*, 3(4), 471–472.
- Markman, H. J., Rhoades, G. K., Stanley, S. M., Ragan, E. P., & Whitton, S. W. (2010). The Premarital Communication Roots of Marital Distress and Divorce: The First Five Years of Marriage. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 24(3), 289–298. <https://doi.org/10.1037/a0019481>
- McLeod, S. (2013). *Erik Erikson's Stages Of Psychosocial Development*. Simplypsychology. <https://www.simplypsychology.org/erik-erikson.html>
- Meliana, S. (2020). *Modul Kuliah Psychology of Literature* (Issue September). Universitas Nasional.
- Newman, B. M., & Newman, P. R. (2020). Psychosocial theories. In *Theories of Adolescent Development* (Issue 1999). <https://doi.org/10.1016/b978-0-12-815450-2.00006-1>
- Offill, J. (2014). *Dept. of Speculation*. Alfred A. Knopf.
- Oh, J. E., & Minichiello, V. (2013). Psychosocial development in South Korean couples and its effects on marital relationships. *Journal of Family Psychotherapy*, 24(3), 228–245. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08975353.2013.817264>
- Ortiz-Ospina, E., & Roser, M. (2020). *Marriages and Divorces*. Our World in Data. <https://ourworldindata.org/marriages-and-divorces#citation>
- Rokach, A., & Chan, S. H. (2023). Love and Infidelity: Causes and Consequences. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 20(5). <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph20053904>
- Russell, V. M., Baker, L. R., & McNulty, J. K. (2013). Attachment insecurity and infidelity in marriage: Do studies of dating relationships really inform us about marriage? *Journal of Family Psychology*, 27(2), 242–251. <https://doi.org/10.1037/a0032118>
- Sabatelli, R. M., & Pearce, J. (1986). Exploring marital expectations. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 3(3), 307–321. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0265407586033004>
- Sugiyono. (2015). *Metode Penelitian Pendidikan (Pendekatan Kuantitatif, Kualitatif, dan R&D)*. alfabeta.
- Syed, M., & McLean, K. C. (2018). Erikson's Theory of Psychosocial Development. In E. Braaten (Ed.), *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Intellectual and Developmental Disorders*. SAGE. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781483392271.n178>
- Waring, E. M. (1980). Marital intimacy, psychosomatic symptoms, and cognitive therapy.



*Psychosomatics*, 21(7), 595–597. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0033-3182\(80\)73645-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0033-3182(80)73645-9)

Weinberger, M. I., Hofstein, Y., & Whitbourne, S. K. (2008). Intimacy in young adulthood as a predictor of divorce in midlife. *Personal Relationships*, 15(4), 551–557. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1475-6811.2008.00215.x>

Yusuf, M. A., & Alkali, M. (2022). Influence of marital expectations on marital dissatisfaction among adult and Non-formal education learners in Sokoto Metropolis, Sokoto State, Nigeria. *Electronic Journal of Education, Social Economics and Technology*, 3(2), 56–62. <https://doi.org/10.33122/ejeset.v3i2.95>

Zed, M. (2004). *Metode Penelitian Kepustakaan* (2nd ed.). Yayasan Obor Indonesia.