

THE PERSONALITY STRUCTURE OF ELLA MARCHMILL IN "AN IMAGINATIVE WOMAN" BY THOMAS HARDY: A STUDY OF FREUD'S PSYCHOLOGY

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Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan dan menganalisis aspek-aspek struktur kepribadian (*id*, *ego*, *superego*) yang terdapat pada tokoh Ella Marchmill, serta konflik batin dan struktur kepribadian yang mendominasi. *An Imaginative woman* adalah cerpen yang menceritakan bagaimana suatu hubungan rumah tangga pada era Victorian, khususnya mengenai struktur kepribadian dari seorang istri pada Era itu, yang kemudian di gambarkan oleh Thomas Hardy dalam tokoh utama Ella Marchmill. Adapun teori yang akan digunakan adalah teori yang telah dikembangkan oleh Sigmund Freud mengenai struktur kepribadian (*id*, *ego*, *superego*). Kemudian, metode yang akan digunakan adalah metode penelitian kualitatif deskriptif yaitu dengan menganalisis data-data yang berupa kata, frasa, dialog, dll dari tokoh Ella Marchmill yang terdapat dalam cerpen *An Imaginative Woman*. Metode ini dipilih karena sesuai dengan rumusan masalah yang ada serta data yang akan diperoleh berupa data yang akan di analisis, bukan hitungan matematis. Hasil dari penelitian membuktikan bahwa: 1) Tokoh Ella Marchmill memiliki ketiga struktur kepribadian yaitu *id*, *ego*, dan *superego*. 2) Konflik batin yang dimiliki Ella Marchmill memiliki pengaruh terhadap dominasi struktur kepribadiannya, yaitu *id*. Ella selalu berusaha untuk memiliki objek *id*-nya (*prinsip kesenangan*), yaitu Mr. Trewe meskipun ia harus melanggar *superego* (*aturan-aturan*) yang ada sebagai perempuan di era Victorian dengan cara mengkhianati suaminya sendiri.

Kata kunci: Karakter, Struktur Kepribadian, Era Victorian.

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to find and analyze the aspects of personality structure (*id*, *ego*, *superego*) in Ella Marchmill's characters, as well as the conflicts and personality structures that dominate. *An Imaginative woman* is a short story that tells how a household relationship in the Victorian era, especially how the personality structure of a wife in that era, was described by Thomas Hardy in the main character Ella Marchmill. The theory that will be used regarding personality structures (*Id*, *Ego*, *Super Ego*) by Sigmund Freud. Then, the method used is a descriptive qualitative research method by analyzing data in the form of words, phrases, dialogues, etc. from Ella Marchmill's characters in *An Imaginative Woman*. This method was chosen because it's relevant with the problems and the data is from data which is a words, dialogues, etc to be analyzed, not a mathematical problem. The results of the study prove that: 1) Ella Marchmill's character has three personality structures, they are *id*, *ego*, and *superego*. 2) The inner conflict that Ella Marchmill has an impact on the dominance of her personality structure, *id*. Ella always tries to have the object of her *id* (*pleasure principle*), namely Mr. Trewe even though she had to break the *superego* (*rules*) that existed as a woman in the Victorian era by betraying her own husband.

Keywords: Character, Personality Structure, Victorian Era

Introduction

Literature always presents a life that is relevant to the state of society. These events can be real-life or outside the real world, including the characters and characters depicted. Characters and characterizations become an important point in a literary work, this is because the characters can influence the reader's interest in the work or not. Through characters, readers can understand the content of the story that the author wants to convey. A character is someone who experiences an event or becomes the center of a story in a literary work (Milawasri, 2017: 88). Meanwhile, characterizations are traits or characteristics given by the author in his characters. According to Nurgiyantoro, characterization is the placement of a character on a character in a story (Nurgiyantoro, 1995: 166).

The author will give a different personality and physical description according to his wishes. Just like the personality of humans in the real world, characters in literary works have different personalities (Dewi et al., 2019: 133). However, the author will focus more on the main character, including in the description of his character and personality. Through the main character, the author indirectly also provides an overview of what he sees and feels in the real world. Furthermore, he can also provide an expression of satire in people's lives through the main characters.

This study aims to analyze and classify the personality structure contained in Ella Marchmill's character and the inner conflict experienced by Ella, thus making one of her personality structures more domineering. This study uses the theory that has been developed by Sigmund Freud, namely regarding the structure of personality.

Through this research, the author hopes that it can provide benefits for readers as reference material in analyzing literary works or similar theories. Practically, this research can be useful to facilitate an understanding of the description of women who lived in the Victorian era. In addition, the most important thing is to facilitate an understanding of the relationship structure of personality between the id, ego, and superego from Sigmund Freud's theory.

An Imaginative Woman is a short story that has a setting in the Victorian Era (1837-1901). In this short story, Hardy describes how a household relationship and the personality structure of a wife during the Victorian Era took place. The main character of this short story is Ella Marchmill, the wife of Mr. William Marchmill. Her husband himself worked as a sailor and owned a firearms business. This makes Ella always left to work by her husband, so she always feels unsuitable and does not get William's attention. Therefore, when she lost the figure (object) of her husband, she began to look for another

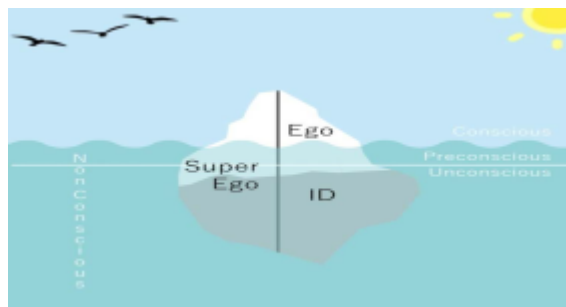
object as a substitute, namely Mr. Robert Trewe. Furthermore, in this short story Hardy also indirectly describes how the norms that apply to a wife in the Victorian Era.

Psychology in literature is not something new in the world of literature. A literary work can be researched based on psychological theories. Many psychological theories can be used, one of which is the theory of personality structure by Sigmund Freud.

Freud was first recognized in the field of academic psychology in 1909, and the influence of his thoughts was felt only around the 1930s. He is known as a prolific figure in writing various works, therefore he is not only known as the originator of psychoanalysis but also on how to understand human behaviour techniques. The result of his efforts was a theory of personality and psychotherapy.

Personality theory is the core of psychology because psychology itself is a science that discusses a person's psyche or personality. The driving reason for the emergence of this personality theory in psychology is the question of who "I am", that is, I as a human being. This big question then encourages people to find out and analyze the structure of the "I". In general, people believe that each individual has his own "I". Then, "I" will act and experience something. Everyone has a belief that he or she is an entity or a unit that is separate and different from others (Zaviera, 2008: 26-27).

According to Freud, every person who behaves is a mixture of conscious and unconscious thoughts. As in below:



Source: (Toelle, n.d. 2018)

Picture 1. Ilustrasi Id, Ego, dan Superego

In Figure 1, the upper part of the surface is a person's behavior which is considered a basic thought. However, there is also a part under the iceberg that is invisible and is called the subconscious mind. These two thoughts then contribute to each other to influence someone in taking an action (Zaviera, 2008: 91-92). In Freud's psychology there are structures and mechanisms of mental defense, he revealed three models of personality structure, namely: id, ego, and superego.

1. *Id*

According to Freud, the first thing of a primitive mind is das Es "something" or "it" which is often translated as id. The id is a personality system that emerges from our birth. Freud also called the id a biological need that cannot be regulated and cannot be reached by the conscious mind or it can be said that the id is in the unconscious. The translation of biological needs into a desire is called the primary process (Zaviera, 2008: 92-93). The id always works with the pleasure principle which can be understood as an urge to always fulfill a need. The id can also be said to be a psychic representation of biological needs. Id is unaffected by reality, logic, etc. It only focuses on the pleasure principle (Hall S. Calvin, 2000: 18).

2. *Ego*

In the second part is das Ich, or "I" which is translated as ego. The ego itself is controlled by the reality principle and is also the part of the mind that represents the conscious mind. The ego will connect the desires and the reality of the world through the consciousness that it occupies, and it looks for objects to satisfy the desires raised by the id. This process is then called the secondary process.

The ego itself functions based on the principle of reality, meaning that the ego fulfills the needs (id) based on reality. The ego represents reality, and to a certain extent, it also represents reason. The ego itself has two main tasks, namely: the ego must choose which instincts must be satisfied according to the priority needs (id), and the ego determines when and how these needs can be satisfied. When the ego tries to fulfill the desires of the id, on the other hand, it also experiences an obstacle that exists in the real world which sometimes prevents it from fulfilling the desires of the id (Zaviera, 2008: 93-94).

3. *SuperEgo*

The last one is das Uber Ich or "over-I" which translates to superego. Superego is between the conscious, subconscious, and unconscious. The superego is controlled by moralistic and idealistic principles (Zaviera, 2008: 94-95).

Sigmund Freud divides the superego into two sides, namely: conscience, which is the internalization of punishment and warning. The ego-ideal, stems from praise and positive examples. Conscience and ego ideal sometimes conflict with the id (desire) (Freud, 2017:111).

The superego itself represents society, such as norms and social order. The superego itself has several functions, namely: as a controller of the impulses of the id instincts so that these impulses can be accepted by the community. Then, directing the

ego toward goals that are by morals as opposed to reality. And the last one is to encourage someone to perfection, which is like certain attitudes or feelings from someone related to self-observation, self-correction, or self-criticism to encourage him to be perfect by the existing morals, norms, or social order.

In its development, research on literary psychology, especially regarding psychoanalysis using Freud's theory of personality structure, has been carried out. Like the research conducted by Linda Eja Pradita, Budhi Setawan, and Yant Mujiyanto entitled "The Inner Conflict of the Main Character in the Film Sang Enlightenment by Hanung Bramantyo", in this study, the psychoanalysis studied focused more on the inner conflict of the main character (Pradita et al. ., 2012). Another research on psychoanalysis was also conducted by Ani Diana entitled "Analysis of the Main Character's Inner Conflict in the Novel Wanita Di Lautan Sunyi by Nurul Asmayani". Similar to previous research, the focus of this research is to focus on the condition of the main character's inner conflict (Diana, 2016).

From the two previous studies, the author then tries to make a study that focuses on analyzing and classifying the personality structure contained in the main character and the inner conflict experienced by the main character so that one of his personality structures becomes more domineering. In addition, of course with a different object from previous research.

Research Method

The method used is descriptive qualitative method. According to Moleong, descriptive qualitative is research that understands phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects, such as behavior, actions, etc. by means of descriptions in the form of words and language (Moleong, 2018: 6).

Several stages must be done using this method, namely: the author determines the material object, namely research data from the short story *An Imaginative Woman* by Thomas Hardy, while the formal object is the psychoanalytic theory of personality structure from Sigmund Freud which was obtained by looking for sources of information from books, journals, etc. At this stage, the author reads several times the material and formal objects to better understand the main focus of this research. Then, observing and selecting words, phrases, dialogues, etc. from Ella Marchmill's character in the short story and used as the primary research data. Third, classify the data according to the problem formulation. Fourth, the data that has been classified is then analyzed according to the theory of personality structure that Sigmund Freud developed to answer the formulation of the problem. The last stage is to conclude all the data analysis that has been studied.

Finding and Discussion

In a narrative story, each character will always have their own a personality. And so on, in this short story that highlights the personality of the main character, Ella Marchmill.

1. Personality Structure of Ella Marchmill

a. Id

In this short story, Ella's inner id begins to appear when she and her husband occupy the former house of Mr. Trewe. Ella's inner id is in her attraction to Mr. Trewe (a poet), Ella's inner pleasure is being able to meet Mr. Trewe. As in:

Mrs. Marchmill opened one of the books, and saw the owner's name written on the title-page. 'Dear me!' she continued; 'I know his name very well-- Robert Trewe--of course I do; and his writings! And it is his rooms we have taken, and him we have turned out of his home?' (Hardy, 1893: 5-6).

Ella was very surprised and couldn't hide her happiness when she found out that she was occupying the house of Mr. Trewe, one of his favorite poets. Furthermore, the id aspect also appears when she explains about Mr. Trewe to Mrs. Hooper (housekeeper), even though she has never actually met and known Mr. Trewe, he already feels like she knows Mr. Trewe like his own partner, even though she has a husband. As seen in the quote:

'Ah, he's kind-hearted . . . and good.'

'Ah, indeed! His is a sensitive nature, no doubt.' (Hardy, 1893: 8).

'He's nearer my real self, he's more intimate with the real me than Will is, after all, even though I've never seen him,' she said. (Hardy, 1983: 15).

Several weeks of living at the former of Mr. Trewe's house made the id aspect of Ella become worsen, she couldn't control the id that was inside her. As in the text:

Ella sat for a while as if stunned, then rushed into the adjoining chamber and flung herself upon her face on the bed

Her grief and distraction shook her to pieces; and she lay in this frenzy of sorrow for more than an hour. Broken words came every now and then from her quivering lips: 'O, if he had only known of me--known of me--me! . . . O, if I had only once met him--only once; and put my hand upon his hot forehead--kissed him--let him know how I loved him--that I would have suffered shame and scorn, would have lived and died, for him! Perhaps it would have saved his dear life! . . . But no--it was not allowed! God is a jealous God; and that happiness was not for him and me!' (Hardy, 1893: 26).

In this text, illustrated how the id has penetrated the subconscious personality of Ella Marchmill. She felt very sad when she know that Mr. Trewe had died before she could meet him. Ella lost her object of id, makes her frustrated. It in line with Freud statement about the id, which is a biological need that cannot be regulated and cannot be

reached by the conscious mind. Ella didn't think about anything, she just wanted to meet Mr. Trewe, so in the end, she was willing to go to Mr. Trewe's grave and wanted to stay there because for her, Mr. Trewe was everything.

b. Ego

As a human, Ella Marchmill also has an ego-personality structure. As it's known, the ego controlled by the principle of reality and also a part of the mind that represents the conscious mind, in "An Imaginative Women" this ego structure begins to emerge when Ella tries to fulfill Id's in the real life, as in the text below:

One day the children had been playing hide-and-peek in a closet, whence, in their excitement, they pulled out some clothing. Mrs. Hooper explained that it belonged to Mr. Trewe, and hung it up in the closet again. Possessed of her fantasy, Ella went later in the afternoon, when nobody was in that part of the house, opened the closet, unhitched one of the articles, a mackintosh, and put it on, with the waterproof cap belonging to it.

'The mantle of Elijah!' she said. 'Would it might inspire me to rival him, glorious genius that he is!' (Hardy, 1893: 10).

In the text above, it can be seen how Ella with her ego tries to fulfill her id desire to be able to meet Mr. Trewe, she looks for objects to satisfy the desires raised by her id, such as wearing clothes from Mr. Trewe which she accidentally found in the cupboard and then fantasized as if Mr. Trewe were with him in the room. The longer Ella Marchmill stays in the house, the more ego within Ella becomes to be able to realize her id. In addition to wearing clothes from Mr. Trewe, Ella also uses other objects, namely photos, and asks Mrs. Hooper to get Mr. Trewe's hair before his coffin closed. As in the text:

She laid his book and picture on the table at the bedside, and when she was reclining on the pillow she re-read those of Robert Trewe's verses which she had marked from time to time as most touching and true (Hardy, 1893: 16)

She wrote to the landlady at Solentsea in the third person, in as subdued a style as she could command, enclosing a postal order for a sovereign, and informing Mrs. Hooper that Mrs. Marchmill had seen in the papers the sad account of the poet's death, and having been, as Mrs. Hooper was aware, much interested in Mr. Trewe during her stay at Coburg House, she would be obliged if Mrs. Hooper could obtain a small portion of his hair before his coffin was closed down, and send it her as a memorial of him, as also the photograph that was in the frame (Hardy, 1893: 27).

Meanwhile, Ella's inner ego is also seen when she began to dare to refuse her husband's invitation to go sailing, just because she wanted to fulfill her inner desire to meet Mr. Trewe. As in the text:

'I don't want to go,' she said to herself. 'I can't bear to be away! And I won't go.'
She told her husband that she had changed her mind about wishing to sail. He was indifferent, and went his way (Hardy, 1893: 12).

From the text above, it can be seen how Ella violated her nature as a woman in the Victorian Era by betraying her husband. It line with the explanation of ego that when the ego tries to fulfill the desires of the id. On the other hand, it also experiences an obstacle that exists in the real world, which sometimes prevents it from fulfilling the desires of the id (Freud, 2017: 18). And the obstacles from Ella's character is the norms of Victorian women. However, in the reality the norm was violated by Ella just for the sake of fulfilling the desires of the id, which the ego is trying to fulfill.

c. Superego

The character of Ella Marchmill also has a third human personality structure, namely the superego. As already explained, Ella lives in a Victorian-era social order, where this era has its social system and order that is applied to all levels of society, especially in terms of moral values that were used as a reference for women in the Victorian era. As in the text:

Indeed, the necessity of getting life-leased at all cost, a cardinal virtue which all good mothers teach, kept her from thinking of it at all till she had closed with William, had passed the honeymoon, and reached the reflecting stage (Hardy, 1893: 3).

In this text, it can be seen how Ella's character maintains the value from her parents about marriage, especially the moral values that developed in society in the Victorian era. At this moment, the superego was work, and named the ideal ego, where Ella becomes an ideal person according to the Victorian society. Although, Ella's superego only appears in the beginning of the short story, before they moved to Mr. Trewe's house.

Ella's superego also seen in other ways, as in the text:

She thought how wicked she was, a woman having a husband and three children, to let her mind stray to a stranger in this unconscionable manner (Hardy, 1893: 15).

The text describe how Ella feeling played by her own personality. When she started to violate the rule which is cheating on her husband just to fulfill the id. Suddenly, her superego appear, by feeling guilty for what he did to his husband and children. It in line with the aspect of superego that sometimes the superego conflicts with the id (desire). However, in the end Ella kept trying to fulfill the id in her self until she died.

2. Dominance of Personality Structure in Ella Marchmill

From the explanation above in some previous sub chapters, it can be seen there is an inner conflict experienced by the main character. The conflict is clear, there is a difference between what she wants in her id and what exists from the superego attached to the Victorian era norm as a wife, she must obey and be faithful to her husband. Her husband didn't care to her, as seen:

'I found them in the closet here,' she said, 'and put them on in a freak. What have I else to do? You are always away!'
'Always away? Well . . . ' (Hardy, 1893: 10).

It triggers Ella to look for her other pleasure principle (id), which is her falling in love with Mr. Trewe. Furthermore, Ella felt Mr. Trewe could understand her more than her husband. It makes triggers Ella's id to be more dominant than other personality structures, especially from the aspect of the superego (rules) that binds her as a woman living in the Victorian era. Its conflict makes Ella have a personality structure that is not related to each other, giving rise to the dominance of the personality structure within Ella. And, of course, this has an impact on his life. Finally, the most dominating personality structure in Ella Marchmill's character is the id. While the ego just to fulfill the wishes of the id itself. That's why, if the id is more dominant, then a person will be controlled by a desire and appetite only.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis, the personality conflict of Ella's character attends because the felt desire to be happy with her husband does not get it. It makes the id aspect which is more dominant in Ella's personality. It is seen when she wants Mr. Trewe to become her husband without any existing social order. In addition, Ella also has an ego personality structure. In this case, the ego emerges from Ella

when she starts trying to fulfill her id's desires in the real world at all costs. Then, Ella has a superego but is fixated on her id because the id inside Ella is so dominant that it makes her more controlled by her desires and lusts. With the description of the main character Ella Marchmill, this short story also shows how the psychological feelings of a wife in the Victorian Era. Her husband is just busy with work and forgets about their wife's happiness. It makes them (wives) betray other men as their need to feel happy. However, on the other hand, this short story also gives an implicit message from the author that when a wife does not follow existing social norms, the consequences she will experience are destruction, just like at the end of this short story. Furthermore, through this research, it also can be concluded that a stable personality structure is a personality structure that does not dominate each other between the id, ego, and superego. The structure of id (biological) must be able to sustainable with the structure of ego and superego that exists in the real world.

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