

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents some sub-topics to aid the research. The first is *Background of the Research* which shows the reason why the researcher wants to conduct this research. The second is *Research Question*, which shows the problem of research that the researcher should find out. The third is *Research Objective* that shows the sadomasochism in Christian Grey's personality. The fourth is *Benefit of the Research* which displays the research's advantages. The last one is *Scope of the Research* that focuses on analyzing the sadomasochism portrayed by Christian Grey character by using a psychoanalytic approach.

#### **Background of the Research**

Sex is the natural component of life for human, in which human being engages in a sexual intercourse in order to achieve the sexual pleasure. In gaining the sexual pleasure, there are several ways to gain it, one of them is through sadism. Whitbourne (2015: 1) states that sadism may refer to "a predilection for cruelty stands on its own in understanding why one person would want to harm another". Based on her statement, sadism means the tendency of cruelty possessed by a person that leads him or her to impose harm to another person. In particular, the display of sadism can be seen through a sexual intercourse as a means to achieve someone's sexual gratification. Such condition undergone by a person is named sexual sadism disorder. Sadomasochism or sexual sadism disorder also could be a subject in literary work.

One of the literary work that adopt the sexual sadism disorder is *Fifty Shades of Grey*—a novel published by E.L. James, born under the name Erika Mitchell, in London, England, on March 7, 1963.

*Fifty Shades of Grey* is a romance-erotic story about a man who has a sexual disorder. This man enjoys doing the sexual activities with spiced violence, in which the male role as sadistic (giver of pain). On the other hand, this giver of pain (sexual disorder) called as paraphilia. One of the paraphilia types is sadomasochism (sexual sadism disorder). As stated by Davison and Neale, Paraphilia is defined here as sensual interest towards the unusual activities or unusual things. (1996: 339).

In the *Fifty Shades of Grey* novel, there are two primary characters: the main female character (Anastasia Steele) and the main male character (Christian Grey). However, this research only focuses on analyzing Christian Grey character. Christian Grey is a character who was attractive, brilliant and also intimidating. Although, even his an attractive and brilliant men, he has some abnormalities in sexual life and it is called: sadomasochism. According to the definition of psychology, Sadomasochism is seen as sexual pleasure given through the practices of giving or receiving pain of humiliation.

This *Fifty Shades of Grey* novel was also adapted into movie and released on February 13, 2015. However, the researcher only used the novel as a references data rather than film. Regarding the analysis of Christian Grey character's sexual disorders, this research employs Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic framework as the researcher found that it fits the aim to analyze the issues of

sadomasochism or sexual sadism disorder that portrayed in the main male character, Christian Grey. This research also delve deeper into understanding the Christian Grey character traits which drives his sadomasochism disorder, which seems influenced by one of the three structure of personality systems suggested by Freud in psychoanalytic theory.

The psychoanalytic theory is a branch of psychological studies that learn about the conceptual model of human of personality. This research uses psychoanalytic theory as it deals with Christian Grey's personality include his abnormalities in sexual life. The researcher also interested in examining Christian Grey further, especially his sexual sadism disorder. In order to achieve the outcome of examining the Christian Grey's sexual sadism disorder, this research also deals with the analysis of Christian Grey's characterization which indicate his sexual sadism disorder that portrayed in the novel. Freud defined the unconsciousness in psychoanalytic as factors of personality that are unbeknownst to the subject's awareness (Bootzin, et al, 1975:455).

Sigmund Freud essentially classified personality under three distinct but interconnected systems in psychoanalytic, and it is called: the *ego*, *superego* and *id*. The *id*, according to Freud, encompasses all impulses, instincts, and other genetic characteristics that are carried at birth. The *Superego* serves as a mental filter, causing us to make moral judgments in social expectations, whereas the *Ego* is satisfy, express and fulfill the desire of the *id* in consent with obviousness and the demands of *superego* (Pervin, 1970:77). Sexual sadism disorder or sadomasochism often referred as erotic cruelty condition, does have alternative named: BDSM (Bondage, Discipline, and Sadism/Masochism).

That is condition about the dominance and submissive, sexual slavery, surrender and sadism/masochism. Sadomasochists typically pursue sexual pleasure through these practices, while they may simply want different sources for gaining sexual satisfaction.

Published in 1905, Sigmund Freud with his Three papers on Sexual Theory identified that masochism and sadism as the result of inappropriate mental growth beginning in early life (childhood). The psychoanalytic theory says that early life (childhood) experiences and unconscious desires influence the behavior. In personalities of human, there are memories, beliefs, urges, drives, and instincts that they are not always aware of and that make up this unconscious. Sigmund Freud proposed that psychological development in childhood takes place in a series of fixed the stages of sexual development, and it is called; psychosexual stages.

There are 5 stages in psychosexual development theory. Psychosexual development is a central element of the psycho-analysis about the theory of sex drive. It happens on the person who has a libido (sexual desire) that develops in five stages. The first psychosexual stage is oral stage in which the sensitive zone (libido) is centered on a baby's mouth. The second psychosexual stage is anal stage in which the sensitive zone centered in focusing and controlling waste and expel by using bladder and sphincter muscles. Third stage is phallic stage in which the libido is centered on genitals. Fourth stage is latency stage in which the libido is dormant and the kids are focused in intellectual and social pursuit. Fifth stage is genital stage in which the libido is centered on the genitals. This every stage like the oral, the anal, the phallic, the latent, and the genital - area marked by the sexual sensitive zone with the sources of the libido drive.

Libido is centered in different area of the body at each stage and the area which becomes the center of libido is called the *erogenous zone* (Hall and Lindzey, 1957: 51). Our libidinal impulses are what want to be gratified. When they are either over-gratified, not gratified at all, or partially gratified, fixation occurs at a psychosexual stage and we face either conflict or anxiety that have lifelong effects (Freud, 2010: 29).

Sigmund Freud proposes that if a child experiences sexual frustration in relation with any psychosexual stage development, he or she will experience anxiety that will survive maturing as neurosis, a functional mental disorder. Given the predicted timeline of childhood behavior, he proposes the developmental libido to be a normal childhood model of sexual development where the child takes place through five psychosexual stages: oral, anal, phallic, latent, and genital, where the pleasure of a source within a different zone is sexually sensitive. Freud believed that life was built around the concept of tension and pleasure, and that the buildup of tension could cause a lot of conflicts. *Conflict* here means the battle between these three mental structures of our mind – the *Ego*, the *Superego*, and the *Id* – which are all competing for demands.

Fixation at a particular stage is what predicts adult personality according to the theory. A label “sadist” is refers to a person who relish inflicting pain upon everyone else, while a label “masochist” is refers to a person who enjoys receiving pain from everyone else. Visser, et.al. (2007) investigated the common belief that people who has a sadomasochistic sexual interest are damaged or dangerous.

The researcher had some reasons before analyze the *Fifty Shades of Grey* novel. First, the topic in the novel has been a widespread phenomenon. It seems that now the society is finally giving proper awareness to such a sexual sadism disorder. Second, this novel has highly controversial content. Third, the content of sexual sadism or BDSM in the novel is worth paying attention. Since the novel become a worldwide phenomenon, the researcher wishes that the society have to understand of such practices before actually involved in that sexual sadism practices.

, Based on the explanation, the research would choose the novel *Fifty Shades of Grey* as a topic to analyze. The researcher adopting psychoanalytic approach to analyze this research, believing that it is must be the best approach for analyzing the psyche of the main male novel's character, Christian Grey. As a result, the researcher presents the headline of the research into **“SADOMASOCHISM IN E.L. JAMES NOVEL'S *FIFTY SHADES OF GREY*: A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH”**.

### **Research Question**

In order to guide the research, this research has two questions that will be analyze as follows:

1. How is sadomasochism portrayed in the main male character of *Fifty Shades of Grey* novel?
2. What are the structure of personality that drive the sadomasochism in Christian Grey character?

### **Research Objective**

The researcher formulates the research objectives to figure out several things as listed below by executing the research:

1. The first objective is to analyze the way sadomasochism portrayed in the main male character in *Fifty Shades of Grey* novel. This first analyze is strengthened with Christian Grey's characterization that indicates his sexual sadism disorder. The characteristic in the first objective of the research is important in provide the supporting evidences that can be related to the second objective.
2. The second is to analyze the structure personality system that drive Christian Grey's sexual sadism disorder which related to his characteristics as a sadistic person in sexual life.

### **Benefit of the Research**

The findings are designed to provide information and intellectual contributions to scholastic discourse. It could additionally serve as a resource for many other scholars conducting similar studies and scholarly researches about identical objects.

### **Scope of the Research**

The researcher focuses on analyzing sexual sadism disorder or sadomasochism that portrayed in Christian Grey character and also focuses on the structure of personality that deals with Christian Grey's sexual sadism disorder by using psychoanalytic approach.