

## CHAPTER I

### 1.1 Background of the Study

A film is a type of media that uses audiovisual elements to convey information to a group of people gathered in a specific location (Effendi, 1986:134). For many people worldwide, the film appears to be a place to escape reality. Previously, films were created solely for entertainment, documentary, education, or to tell a story about something or someone, whether actual or just fiction. Nowadays, the film industry has improved a lot. A film is a combination of audio and visual. Because it is an audiovisual aspect that includes both vision and sound, the film has the potential to be a medium of communication for the targeted masses. A movie with pictures and sound may tell many stories in a short amount of time. A film can be used as a medium to collect an approach related to social theory, social phenomenon, and other sciences getting discussed or even criticized of the movie. A film also describes social or individual problem phenomena that reflect our daily lives. One of them is about psychological phenomena that happen in our society. When watching a film, the audience seems to be able to penetrate the space and time that can tell the life and even influence the audience.

Typically, a film is an adaptation of literary works in prose, particularly novels, which are long-form human portraits existence. It can use to investigate human nature as a substance. In a film, different types of human nature and life phenomena are mirrored, including mental illness. Nowadays, mental illnesses be in the spotlight in the community because of the many cases of death related to mental illness. It is because the incident happened close to the community, whether it is celebrities, relatives, or even their own family. Currently, many films voice the theme of mental health so that they can indirectly help people to be more aware of their mental health. Furthermore, mental illness is an exciting thing as a literary theme works because the stories are emotionally charged and inspire psychology of the readers. There are many causes of mental illness, and one of them is trauma. There are several trauma factors, one of which is painful things that happened in the past.

There are many theories of psychoanalysis. One of them is the theory proposed by Sigmund Freudian, which is the Ego defense mechanism. A defense mechanism is a protective shield developed by humans to defend their ego from situations that would harm it. One of the most often used theories in society is the defense mechanism. For example, if someone is traumatized by being in love because they do not want to hurt when they break up, they will strive to avoid falling in love as a protection mechanism.

A defense mechanism is a psychological method used by individuals, a group of individuals, or even a country to deal with reality and maintain a sense of self-worth. Throughout their lifetimes, healthy people employ a variety of defense mechanisms. When someone overuses their defense mechanism, it becomes pathological, causing a person to become maladaptive/unable to adapt well, affecting their bodily and mental health. The defense mechanism's purpose is to protect the mind/self/ego from anxiety, trauma, and social punishments and to provide a location of "displacement" from situations that cannot be handled. In this study, the researcher wants to discuss using defense mechanism theory. An individual's ego defense mechanism is a defense tactic used by the ego to counteract the id and superego pressure on external reality. Individuals' defense mechanisms assist them in carrying out the automatic rejection function of undesired instincts while protecting them from excessive distress. The researcher chose this explanation because it corresponds to Teddy's protection mechanisms as he recovers from his trauma. A defense mechanism is a form of self-defense that humans naturally do.

Literature has now become an integral component of people's lives. Literary works are done based on two things, namely fiction or based on personal experiences. Sigmund Freud developed psychoanalysis as a philosophy for examining human psychology. According to him, the subconscious, which includes the id, ego, and super ego, is in charge of human behavior. Experts criticized and responded to aspects of Sigmund Freud's outstanding work, particularly his theories of dreams and sexuality. It is necessary to apply psychological concepts to children.

That is, when it comes to developing and educating kids, education must also consider the concept of psychoanalysis. Paying attention to the concept of psychoanalysis is one of them. According to Heinrich, human beings have basic desires and requirements. (Cherry, 2020)

In shutter Island movie 2010, the story is about Teddy, a marshal agent from the United States who went to the Ashecliffe Hospital for the mentally ill on Shutter Island in the Boston Harbor area. He went with his friend named Chuck Aule. He rushes to the hospital for an urgent investigation regarding the disappearance of Rachel Solando, a patient. Rachel Solando was apprehended after her children died after she drowned in the lake behind their house.

After Teddy and Chuck arrived, a hurricane hit the island, and they could not return home for several days. When Teddy asked Dr. John Cawley, the chief psychiatrist, to release hospital staff records, he refused. Dr. Sheehan, Rachel Solando's doctor, went on vacation after she vanished. They were also prohibited from entering ward C during the investigation and the island's lighthouse. Realizing the oddities, Teddy finally decided to enter ward C and the lighthouse on the island to find out what happened. During his investigation, he uncovers shocking facts about the Ashecliffe hospital. In the middle of the investigation, he experienced several severe migraines and hallucinations about a woman, namely Dolores' wife.

The researcher is interested in searching this film that started as a mystery surrounding the events the main character and the psychological condition of the main character. At the beginning of the Movie, Teddy is characterized as a marshal who will investigate Rachel Orlando, one of the patients at Ashecliffe Hospital that was disappeared. During the investigation, he began to notice inconsistencies at the hospital, prompting him to probe deeper. He started having migraines and hallucinations in the middle of the investigation. One by one, the facts emerge: who is Teddy, what has he been through in the past, whether everything that occurs is a hallucination or not, what causes the hallucinations, and how he attempts to recover from his mental illness. The key reason for the researcher's interest in this film is

because it aims to uncover the truth about the psychological condition of the main character, played by filmmaker Martin Scorsese.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the background above, the problem statements in this study can be formulated as follow:

- 1) What are the causes of the main character does ego defense mechanism?
- 2) How does the main character of Shutter Island use a defense mechanism to cope with his trauma?

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

- 1) To find out the causes of the main character does his defense mechanism in the Shutter Island movie.
- 2) To find out the ego defense mechanism used by the main characters to cope with trauma in Shutter Island movie.

### **1.4 Scope of the Study**

A critical approach stated by Freud's psychoanalysis called Defense Mechanism is used in this study. This research is focused on analyzing the Defense Mechanism reflected in the main character in the Shutter island film. It discusses the cause of the main character does his defense mechanism in Shutter Island movie, how the main characters cope with trauma in that movie with his defense mechanism.

### **1.5 Approach of the Study**

The research applied a psychoanalysis approach in this study. The researcher's approach is related to human life events. This study uses the defense mechanism theory by Sigmund Freud. Therefore, the first step researcher is finding the resources, like finding the film, the script of that movie, and finding any journal related to the topic chosen by the researcher. The second step is for the researcher to watch that movie while reading the movie script., the researcher will read the movie script and watch the movie to find the defense mechanism of the movie's screenplay and the theory of defense mechanisms. After the researcher has read,

understood, and watched the movie's script and theory, the researcher identifies the next step: the objective problem. After the researcher gets the data, the researcher continues interpreting the data supporting the theory. The researcher uses Sigmund Freud's defense mechanism theory at the data analysis stage.

### **1.6 Significance of the study**

Readers, English Literature students, and other researchers are expected to benefit from this study. The benefit for the Readers' knowledge of literary theory can be enhanced and broadened on defense mechanism theory by Sigmund Freudian. The writer hopes this research can inspire a new thought for their research paper or thesis for English literature students. Meanwhile, for other researchers, this study is expected to give a new point of view and references which is related to this literary theory by Sigmund Freud.

In this study, the researcher uses the psychoanalysis approach to the movie. The approach of the researcher is related to events of human life. The researcher applies the defense mechanism theory by Sigmund Freud. Therefore, to support the approach in this study, the first step that the researcher take is to find and determine the primary and secondary sources that is movie and movie script. In the next step, the researcher reads and understands the movie script and the theory of defense mechanisms and also watches the movie. After the researcher reads, understands the movie, movie script and the researcher takes the next step, namely identifying the data. After the researcher has identified the data, then the researcher continues to interpret the data that supports the problem statement.

### **1.7 Organization of the paper**

To facilitate understanding in assessing this research material, the researcher compiles systematically writing as follows:

1. Chapter I: Introduction

This chapter describes an introduction that contains seven sub bab. There is the background, problem statement, the study's objective, scope, significance, approach, research methodology, and organization of the paper. In the background, the researcher explains the background of this

thesis. The researcher chooses a two-point of problem statement for this thesis. Furthermore, the researcher answers the problem statement for the study's objective. The Researcher explains the scope of the thesis in the sub-chapter of the scope of the study. Furthermore, in the sub-chapter approach of the study, the Researcher explains the theory and method used in this thesis. In the next chapter, namely the significance of the study, the Researcher explains how this thesis is expected to provide benefits to several parties. The last sub-chapter, namely, the organization of the paper, displays the chapters and sub-chapters that are in this thesis

2. Chapter II: Synopsis and Author Biography

The researcher describes the Shutter Island movie synopsis and the author's biography of Dennis Lehane in this chapter.

3. Chapter III: Review Of Related Literature

Previous studies that can be extracted from the previously made thesis are presented in this chapter. Other university students' theses are emphasized to add insight to the current thesis and enrich scientific understanding. The thesis being examined must be current in terms of themes, theories, and techniques so that it may be utilized as a scientific foundation for the thesis being written, either as a replica, theory confirmation, or a validity test of a prior exam. It mainly contains a review of established ideas from textbooks, research journals, and Internet browsing articles, along with practical examples relevant to the thesis that makes.

4. Chapter IV: Findings and Discussions

In this chapter, the researcher found some data related to the formulation of the problem. The first is about the reason why Teddy uses his defense mechanism. After doing research, the researchers found the cause, namely trauma, and three things triggered that. The trigger is his regret of having killed hundreds of German soldiers in World War II, not taking his wife to a psychiatrist who died of his three children, and guilt

over the death of his wife. The second problem statement is about what form of defense mechanism is used by Teddy as the main character in the film. The researcher found that Teddy used four forms of defense mechanism that is repression, denial, projection, and displacement.

#### 5. Chapter V: Closing

In this chapter, the researcher writes the conclusions and suggestions obtained after conducting this research.