

**THE MAIN CHARACTERS DEFENSE MECHANISM IN CORMAC MCCARTY'S
NOVEL *THE ROAD***

THESIS

**Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Bachelor Degree of
English Department Faculty of Arts and Humanities State Islamic University of Sunan
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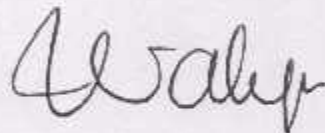
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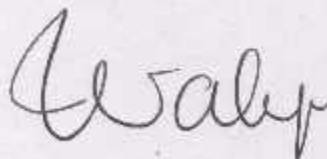
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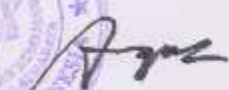


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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Literature has a relationship with human life. There is an intimate connection between literature and life. It reflects what happens in real life. Literature can also describe as a mirror, a mirror for human life. Literature is the expression of the author's experience, social condition, cultural background, and everything about his life. Related to this, and literature means the subject of distinctive knowledge, unique way to represent aspects of the condition of human life that cannot be expressed in another way (Teeuw, 1984:182). Therefore, the raw material of literature is about human life and transformed into an aesthetic form.

In the other side, literature is a body of written works. It can be applied into traditionally and imaginative works which are distinguished by the intentions of authors, by perceiving aesthetic excellence of their execution. According to Wolfreys, literature generally refers to the production of literary works as poetry, novel, short stories, drama, and other narrative text (2004:62). Literary texts are assumed to be ideological in the sense that they cannot give us a knowledge of the social formation; but they do give something of equal importance in analyzing culture, imaginary representation of real relations (Eagleton, 1996:329). So, there are many variety of literary works based on their own ways of writing.

One of the literary works is novel. The novel is a piece of prose fiction of a reasonable length (Wolfreys, 2004:65). Another explanation states that novel is a fiction which has elements such as plot, theme, character, setting, and point of

view (Nurgiyantoro, 2012:10). Therefore there are some part inside of the Novel. Some authors or novelist have their own way to improve their literary work. The book now applied to a great variety of writings that have in declare common only the attribute of being extended works of prose fiction (Sardjono, 1992:1). While the novel is used in a variety of writing in general just as a continued in works of fiction, type story in the novel can be varied with different themes offered to read and enjoy. The various types of topics that can make the reader faced with a course of events. In the imaginary world that has been packed neatly by introducing the characters in it. In good literary works, the authors aim to make the reader enjoy by providing a new world that could drag the reader into the world of imagination of the author.

This study will discuss a novel entitled *The Road*. *The Road* is a novel created by Cormac McCarthy. This novel was published in 2006; *The Road* is a novel contains elements of violence and also about friendship, McCarthy provides an element of love or affection imaginable and despair among the brave father and his timid young son. In the story of this novel depicts a struggle for survival in extreme condition. McCarthy gives an overview of a situation that requires a person to defend themselves.

Based on the understanding of literary work in a novel, there should be the main character. A writer, when analyzing the novel necessarily also should analyze the main character also include in the novel. To analyze the novel, the writer using the method called characterization. The simple definition of characterization, according to Holman, characterization is the author show the character of the imaginary person. Characterization is an essential component in

writing a good fiction because characterization can characterize the people of one's imagination successfully is a primary attribute of a good novelist, dramatist, or short-story writer (Holman, 1972:75). There are two types of characterization; direct and indirect characterization. Direct characterization is the process by which the personality of a fiction character revealed by the use of descriptive, adjective, phrases, or epithets. Indirect characterization is the process by which the personality of a fiction character's speech, action, appearance, etc.

The writer is interested in analyzing this novel because this novel explains and describes the story depicts love and survival, in a connection based on the characters in the story of a novel, the figure of the main character is the most influential in the whole story of the novel. A writer finds out who and how the figure of the main character in the novel. A personality and behavior of the main character are inextricably linked in a discussion. Therefore, the writer also uses psychoanalysis as an analysis of the research. In *The road*, the main character was unnamed. The main character is described as a father. A brave and struggle father who protects his son. He is struggling to survive after all the plant and animal are died because of attacking from unknown something. At that time, human life becomes chaos, and a lot of cannibalism's cases appeared. They walked to the South for the hope to find a peaceful place and some food there.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study above, the writer is interested in analyzing the problems which are formulated as follows:

1. How is the main character described in *The Road* novel?
2. What types of defense mechanism is undergone by the main character in *The Road* novel?

1.3 Objective of the study

Based on the statement of the problem above, this study has two objectives that can be stated as follows:

1. To describe the main character in the novel *The Road* novel.
2. To explain types of defense mechanism is undergone by the main character in *The Road* novel.

1.4 Significance of the study

The writer hopes this research will give inspiration and enrich knowledge to the readers. By reading this thesis, the reader can expect that the findings of this thesis can improve experience about character and the study of literature for readers. Furthermore, the writer expects this research will be useful, especially for all the readers to know the example of defense mechanism theory that is applied in *The Road*. The writer also intends to show a figure of a father in the struggle to defend himself and his son from hazardous conditions. Moreover, the writer hopes that the research will be a benefit and can be a helpful reference for other writers who are interested in conducting further research.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

To prevent non-relevant problems, the study will be limited only in the novel "*The Road*." The writer focuses on the main character and plot of the story in the novel. Knowing both of the limitations above to answer the statement of the problem stated. The main character and plot of the story in the novel become the object for analysis. The scope of this research is upon the struggle of the main character to defend himself and his son from a dangerous situation.

1.6. Research Method

The writer used qualitative approach; this method chose because the data forms are words and sentences from stories. Events, conversations, quotes are important for the writer to analyze. First, the writer read the novel to understand the whole of the story and author messages. Second, the writer classified important quotes, sentences, and words as analysis material. Third, after the writer found all of the information about the main character, the writer chose some important data and analyzed them using new criticism and psychoanalysis. The writer also used other resources like author biography and journals. Forth, drawing a conclusion based on the result of data analysis.

1.7 Key Term

To avoid any different perceptions between the writer and the readers in understanding the study, it is essential to give some definition of key terms used in this study. Here are the key terms explained:

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Theoretical Framework

In this chapter, the writer discusses the literary theory that will be used to analyze *The Road*. The writer uses new criticism to analyze character and characterization, especially to analyze the main character in the novel *The Road*. The writer also uses the theory of defense mechanism in this study. The defense mechanism is a branch of psychological approach created by Sigmund Freud. The writer uses a psychological approach by applying several types of defense mechanism theory to answer the statement of the problem in this research. So, it helps the writer make a thorough analysis and achieve the purpose of the study.

The writer uses some theories in this research. Since the analysis focuses on the main character in the novel *The Road*. So, the new criticism theory which discusses character and characterization is used. Also, this study uses the theory of psychology by Sigmund Freud. The writer uses the theory of psychology include defense mechanism to describe the characters and to find out the answer to the problem statement. Moreover, the writer uses the theory of defense mechanisms to explain how the main characters perform in their defense mechanism.

2.2 New Criticism

According to Lois Tyson, the New Critics introduced to America and called "close reading," has been a standard method of high school and college instruction in literary studies for the past several decades. So in this sense, New Criticism is still a real presence among us and probably will remain so for some

time to come (2006:135). At that time, it was common practice to interpret a literary text by studying the author's life and times to determine authorial intention, that is, the meaning the author intended the version to have (Tyson, 2006:136). Therefore, the relationship between the text and the author is very close. So the reader must be focused on writing to understand the meaning and author's intention.

The readers can know if given the author's intention or a given reader's interpretation actually represents the text's meaning, all the evidence provided by the language of the book itself: its images, symbols, metaphors, rhyme, meter, point of view, setting, characterization, plot, and so forth, Because they form, or shape, the literary work is called its formal elements (Tyson, 2006:137). However, that statement has explained that the reader should be attentive to all the aspects contained in the text. It means the reader will get an understanding from the book only.

2.2.1 Character

The character is the name of a literary *genre*; it is a short, and usually witty, sketch in prose of a distinctive type of person. Characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who is interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it the dialogue and from what they do the action (Abrams, 2005:32). It supported by the statement as "the grounds in the characters temperament, desires, and moral nature for their speech and actions..."(Abrams, 2005:33). It can describe that

characters are including in fictional works as in the novel.

A character can be described not only from the outside but also from the inside through the character's inner thoughts and feelings, conscious or unconscious (Banner, 2017:78). The reflection of the ways to describe the character includes in the story, how she or he contends some feelings such as anxiety, sad, afraid, and so on. However, the writer must be understood of the story deeply. And the main character is considered as an essential figure at the center of the story's action or theme; they take the most crucial role in the story to deliver the topic or message of the story (Di Yanni, 2002:54).

According to Robert, how to author to disclose character in literature; First, Action by character reveals their nature. What style do is our best clue to understanding what they are. Second, The author's descriptions, both personal and environmental, tell us about the role. Appearance and environmental reveal much about a character's social and economic status, and they also tell us about a character trait. Third, What character say-dramatic statement and thought-reveal what they are like. Although the speeches most character is functional-essential to keep the action moving along-they provide material from which you may conclude. Fourth, We learn characters from what others say about them. By studying what character say about each other, you can often enhance your understanding of nature is discussed. And the last The author, speaking as a storyteller or an observer, may tell us about characters. What the author, speaking as a work's authorial voice, say about a role is usually accurate, and the authorial voice can be accepted factually (Robert, 1986:55).

The writer should understand the character because the character is one of

the essential elements of fiction. Every aspect has its characterization with describe to understand nature. As Robert stated, "without doubt, the presentation and understanding of character is a major aim of literature" (2002:53). In the story or play emphasizing a significant character, it may expect that each action or speech, no matter how small, is part of a total presentation of that complex combination of both the inner and outer self that constitutes a human being (Robert, 2002:54).

2.2.2 Characterization

A character is not only enough to build a story. The way to depict the character to make the story more alive. It is called characterization. Characterization is the creation of nature of imaginary persons so that they exist for the reader as real within the limits of the fiction (Holman, 1972:75). It can definite that characterization is the way of the author to make the reader more understand the personality and figure of character in the story. One of the ability to characterize the people of his imagination successfully is one of the primary attributes of a good novelist, dramatist, or short story writer (1972:91).

According to Holman, there are three fundamental methods of characterization in fiction: First, The clear presentation by the author of the character through direct exposition, either in a first block or more often piecemeal throughout the work, illustrated by action. Second, The presentation of the character in action, with little or no explicit comment by the author, in the expectation that the reader will be able to deduce the attributes of the actor from the action. Third, The representation from within a character, without comment on

the figure by the author, of the impact of movement and emotions upon the character's inner self, with the expectation that the reader will come to a clear understanding of the attributes of the character (1972:75).

Based on the statement from Robert above, those methods are beneficial. The writer can analyze character by a look at some aspects such as speech, appearance, action, and so on.

2.3 Psychoanalysis

The writer uses psychoanalysis theory to explain the main character and his defense act. Psychoanalysis establishes by Sigmund Freud (1856-1939). It is a general term for approaches to psychoanalysis, which attempts to provide a conceptual framework more or less independent of clinical practice rather than based on empirical analysis of clinical cases. According to Freud, there are various models of human psyche based on this psychoanalytic theory and practice (Ziegler, 1988:85). The model is known as the topographical model of personality organization that contains three levels, namely conscious, preconscious, and unconscious (1988:86).

In the unconscious, there are some necessary powers which impulse and support the personality of human psychology; the man should explore deeply on the conscious of human being psychology (Ziegler, 1988:86). Freud gives excellent attention to the importance of the unconscious process in understanding human action. Freud also believes that human behavior is shaped and directed by impulse, and it is driven by the awareness that is being the major premise of psychoanalysis theory (1988:87). Based on the explanation above, psychoanalysis is part of a psychological study that focused on the human being personality.

2.3.1 Human personality

Psychoanalysis is a theory about the complexity of the human mind, which has a substantial impact on human's act. It refers by Tyson stated that psychoanalysis comprised of individual human beings, each with a psychological history that begins in childhood experiences in the family and each with the pattern of adolescent and adult behavior that are the direct result of that early experience (2006:12). Freud divides three aspects of personality; those are Id, Ego, and Superego. Although these aspects have each function, component and principle work and self dynamic. But these aspects have each of the Id, Ego, and Superego. The unity and human being behavior are results of these aspects(Hall and Lindsay, 1993:29).

2.3.2 Structural model (id, ego, and superego)

Freud stated the division of human personality is an *id* (located in part unconscious) which is a pulmonary reservoir and a source of psychic energy. *Ego* (located between the conscious and unconscious) that functions as the mediator reconciling the demands of the vote and the prohibition of the superego. *Superego* determined partially overseeing and obstructing the complete satisfaction of these impulses, which are the results of education (Minderop, 2005:21).

The id is an essential part of our personality because as newborn. It is psychic and intuitive energy that presses humans to fulfill basic needs such as needs: eating, sex, resisting pain, or uncomfortable. According to Freud, the *id* is in the subconscious; there is no contact with reality. The way the *id* works relates to the principle of pleasure, which is always seeking pleasure and always avoiding

the inconvenience (Minderop, 2005:21). It means that most of the individual is pervade with the unconscious.

Ego is a security that has an id and reality control obligation (Corey, 2009:15). It means the ego is between the conscious and the subconscious. The ego task gives place to the main mental functions, for example, reasoning, problem-solving, and making a decision. However, *Id* and *ego* are immoral because both of them do not recognize good and bad values (Minderop, 2005:22). Therefore the *id* and *ego* are related, and both have their duties.

Superego is formed through the process of internalization of values or rules by individuals from several figures involved (Freud 1980). *Superego* that refers to morality in personality. It is the same as the 'conscience' that recognizes good and bad values. *Superego* arises and mediates with the presumption of feeling sinful by having sex (Minderop, 2005:23)

2.4 Defense mechanism

Freud first developed the idea of a defense mechanism in 1926, and then his daughter, Anna Freud, she enhances and rearranging the concept of defense mechanism (Feist, 2008:39). Those are explained as bellows:

2.4.1 Repression

The foundation of a base defense mechanism which is appeared in forms other defense mechanism is repression (Feist, 2008:40). When the ego threatened by impulses of id which unwanted, the ego can save itself with repressing by desires and force a feeling who entered in unconscious sense (Freud 1926). According to Freud, he explained that some possibilities who felt when someone

got repression; first, the impulses are not changed. Second, recessive desires are more significant and uncontrolled. Third, these impulses expressed into another object (Feist, 2008:40).

2.4.2 Denial

Denial involves blocking an external event from awareness. If some situation is just too much handle, the person refuses to experience it (Freud, 1926:114). A denial is a primitive form of repression. In this case, a person denies things that produce anxiety. So a person denies their reality that makes an unhappy feeling.

2.4.3 Reaction formation

One of the way how to encouraged and press can be realized by hiding itself and be in contradiction with the basic form called reaction formation (Feist, 2008: 40). Freud explained, reactive behavior can be known from excessive and also obsessive disorder (Feist, 2008:40).

2.4.4 Displacement

Freud believes that reaction formation limited by one object. For example, when people have felt more reactive, it will be downing some silence people who hate for over attention and affection (Feist, 2008:41). Reaction formation is deferent with displacement, someone who shows their encouragements unclearly. So, it will not arise or save it (Feist, 2008:41).

Based on Freud, he used the term "displacement" for various things. In his encouragement sex's study, someone knows that sexual object can be transferred or displace into different object include their selves (Freud 1926/1959a). Freud

also uses displacement to explain how someone changes or replace their neurotic's indication with another object.

2.4.5 Fixation

Fixation is the next way for development to arise a big worried and ego can take strategy to still keep in the condition for pleasant psychologist anymore (Feist, 2008:41). Similar with an others defense mechanism, people who are get satisfied by eating, smoking, and talking may have an oral fixation, as like they obsess to tidiness and disciplinary may have an anal fixation (Feist, 2008:42). By the technic, fixation is the ordinary libido in the development earlier into more primitive (Feist, 2008:42)

2.4.6 Regression

Regression more known as by defense mechanism when the libido passes the development rule. While the full stress, anxiety, and libido may back to before (feist, 2008:42). Regression can be appeared in extreme stress condition, for example; adult men who sleep like a baby in pregnancy, but for another may sleep in bed all day to save and hide behind the covers of the world which full of threats (feist, 2008:42). The regression like this one has similar to a term of fixation attitude cause the characteristic like childish. But these are characteristic of temporary regression.

2.3.7 Projection

Projection is a defense mechanism when the impulse influence of excessive anxiety, usually ego can reduce anxiety by directing unacceptable impulse to the external object or generally to another person (Feist, 2008:42).

Freud defines as knowing the impulse or feeling of people cannot be acceptable, even though the feeling or impulse is in the unconscious of their self (Feist, 2008:42).

2.3.8 Introjection

Introjection is a defense mechanism where a person re-melt other's positive traits into his ego (Feist, 2008:43). Different from projection, it caught directing of the unintended impulse to the external object. Some illustration of an example in introjection can be described such when adolescent adopts the value, attitude, or lifestyle of a movie star. Introjection as it describes them how they appreciate their self and minimize their inferior feeling (2008:43)

2.3.9 Rationalization

Freud stated that rationalization is the blame on the object, or another person reduces the threat to that person slightly (1926:237). It can be defined as a strategy to use a good reason but not the real reason for behaving in a particular way. It means a person use a logical or rational reason to oppose the real idea.

2.3.10 Sublimation

Sublimation is the repression from the genital eros purpose with changing it to the positive things that can be received, almost the social and culture (Feist, 2008:43). The purpose of sublimation is revealed by clearly with creative culture such as art, music, and also literature and in all of the relation of human activity (2008:44). Most of all defense mechanism has purposed that for helping, saving the ego from feeling anxiety and one of a defense mechanism which has positive value until can be accepted by society is sublimation.

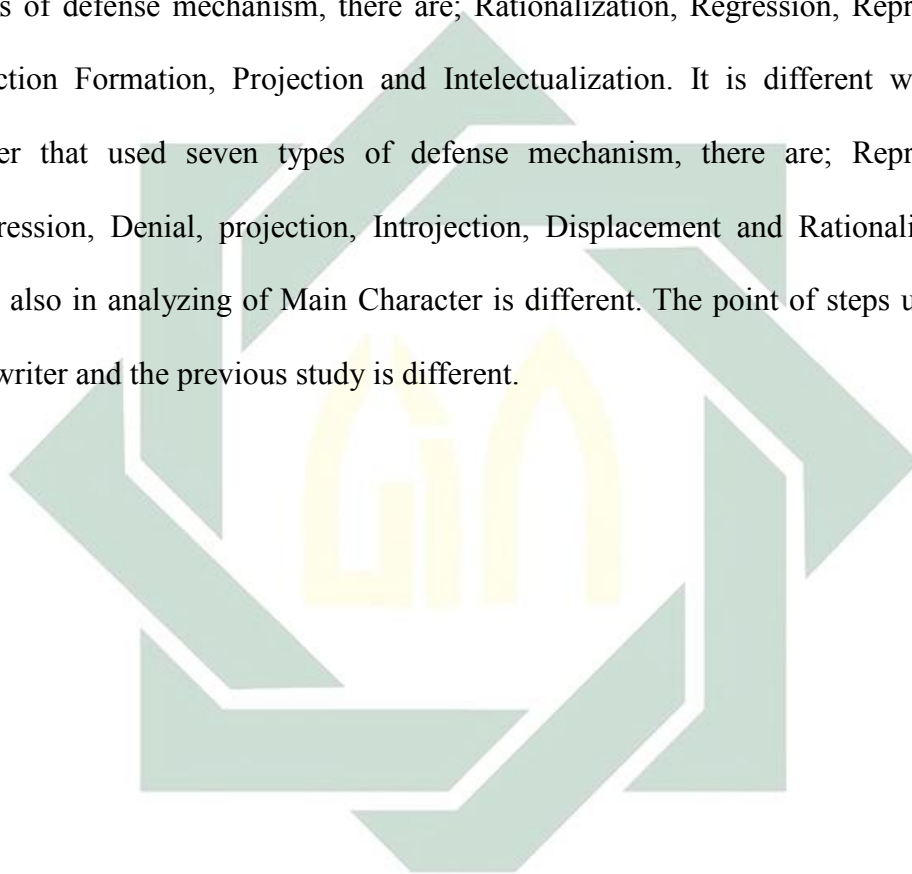
2.4 Review of related study

After searching the internet and looking for the thesis in the university library, the writer does not find previous research about the same object or the same theory that has conducted in the research. The writer just finds the previous studies about the thesis that used defense mechanism as a theory. That is conducted from Petra Christian University's scholar, Mila ratnasari in 2005 about defense mechanism in *An Act of Treachery by Ann Widdecombe*, the writer find out that the defense mechanism that related with problem occurring in the family and to improve parents and children. Even though the writer uses the same topic, which is Defense Mechanism but objects and the purpose is different.

The writer also found a previous study about the thesis that used object of the novel *The Road*. That is conducted from UGM Jogjakarta, in *the reflection of dystopia: A study on Cormac McCarthy's The Road by Cory Elida*, this thesis discussed dystopian aspect in the story of the novel by using the reflection of American contemporary work. Dystopian aspects in American literary works are the criticism toward utopian impulse of American ideology or thought. The differences between this thesis from Cory Elida and the writer's thesis. The writer used the theory defense mechanism from Sigmund Freud. So, it's different in the discussion of the research and especially used for analysis, even though the object is the same.

The writer also found a previous study about the thesis that used the theory of defense mechanism by Sigmund Freud. That is conducted from Stated University of Islamic Studies Sunan Ampel, in the *Defense Mechanism of Andy*

Dufresne in Stephen King's Rita Hayworth Shawshank Redemption by Noerliz Isnaini, This thesis discussed about the theory of defense mechanism undergone by Andy dufresne in the novel *Stephen King*. this thesis also analyzed the main character by using New criticism. Although, there is similarities in the theory that used in analyze the novel, but it different with the writer's thesis. Noerlis used six types of defense mechanism, there are; Rationalization, Regression, Repression, Reaction Formation, Projection and Intellectualization. It is different with the writer that used seven types of defense mechanism, there are; Repression, Regression, Denial, projection, Introjection, Displacement and Rationalization. And also in analyzing of Main Character is different. The point of steps used by the writer and the previous study is different.



CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

This chapter is focus to answer all the statement of the problem in chapter one. This chapter divide into two parts. First, this study analyzes the character of Father as the main character in *Cormac McCarthy's The Road* novel. Second, this study analyzes types of defense mechanism theory and also the way how the main character has undergone his defense mechanism by Sigmund Freud in *Cormac McCarthy's The Road* novel.

The writer found five types of defense mechanism that are used by the main character in *The Road* novel. Each type will be analyzed by using Sigmund Freud Theories. It includes the types, and how the main character performs the defense mechanism itself.

3.1 Character of Father

Character is the person represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who is interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of speaking in the dialogue and from what they do the action (Abrams, 2005:33). In said, "our experience of fiction concern our feelings about the character, our sense of involvement in the story's developing action.."(Abrams, 2005:23).

In *The Road*, Father is included as a main character because the father often is shown in the story from the beginning until the end of the story. Father in

of the can and opened it. He leaned his nose to the slight fizz coming from the can and then handed it to the boy. Go ahead, he said (page 11).

In this case, when a father finds a can of coca cola in the road near with supermarket. Then he gives to his son, and he allows his son to drink it. It shows that a father is very charitable. He gives a can of coca-cola and allows his son to drink it, but actually, the father also feels thirsty.

Father wants to check his things after he is from the boat. He looks for his pistol. He asks his son about his pistol. His son forgets to set out thing include his father's pistol in the waterfront. But the father is not angry.

Christ, the man said. He looked back up the beach. They were already out of sight of the boat. He looked at the boy. The boy had put his hands on top of this head, and he was about to cry. I'm sorry, he said. I'm sorry .

He set down the tarp with the canned goods. We have to go back. I'm sorry Papa. It's okay. It will still be there.

The boy stood with his shoulders slumped. He was beginning to sob. The man knelt and put his arms around him. It's all right, he said. I'm the one who's supposed to make sure we have the pistol, and I didn't do it. I forgot (page 121).

From the quotes above, it shows that the father is charitable. When his son left his things to include his pistol in the waterfront. He feels regret, but the father is not angry. He kneels and hugs his son quickly.

In another situation, father give more attention to his son because his son get a sick. He is very anxious about his son's condition. He always keep his son antytime.

The boy slept all day. He kept waking him up to drink the sugar water, the boy's dry throat jerking and chugging. You have to drink he said. Okay, wheezed the boy. He twisted the cup into the sand beside him and cushioned the folded blanket under his sweaty head and covered him. Are you cold? he said. But the boy was already asleep (page 130).

And then what? You fall over dead?
 Well, you don't. It takes a long time. We have water. That's the most important thing. You don't last very long without water.
 Okay, (page 52).

From the quotes above, the father uses rationalization for his son question. When his son always thinks about death, then he asks about his anxiety to his father. So that way father uses logical and rational reason to oppose his son's anxiety. Father explains that water is an important thing for life. Eventhough they do not have some food, but they have water to minimize the exhaustion. So they still survive their life.

The writer finds the anxiety as the cause of father uses rationalization. He feels anxious when his son always ask about death. The anxiety of his father is about condition of his son's feeling. If his son always thinks about death, it can make his condition becomes worse. Moreover the condition makes him fall into depression state. So, father uses rationalization as the defense mechanism to cover his anxiety.

In the other case, when father and his son meet an old man. Then they give some food for the old man, but father does not allow the old man to follow with him.

You cant go with us, you know, the man said.
 He nodded.
 How long have you been on the road?
 I was always on the road. You cant stay in one place.
 How do you live?
 I just keep going. I knew this was coming.
 You knew it was coming?
 Yeah. This or something like it. I always believed in it.
 Did you try to get ready for it?
 No. What would you do?
 I dont know (page 87).

From the quotes above, it shows that father uses rationalization. In the middle of their journey father and his son meet an old man. Father does not allow the old man to follow with him. Although father and his son give him some food, but father do not want to continue his journey with the old man. Father has rational reason that if the old man follow him, he will make his trip disrupted and also he can reduce the food they have during the journey. In the other side, his son force the father on pitying him, but father still does not allow the old man to follow with him.

The writer finds the anxiety as the causes of father uses rationalization. Father feels anxious when he meet the old man and give some food to him. father do not want to continue his journey with the old man because he feels anxious if the old man follow with him. it can make his journey disturbed and also can reduce the food they have. So, he uses rationalization as defense mechanism to cover his anxiety.

When father and his son in the beach and they see a boat in the distance 60 miles from the waterfront. Father want to check inside the boat. He looks for something in the boat. Automatically he must swim to go there. But his son wants to follow him. Father does not allow his son to go with him.

What are you
going to do,
Papa?
Take a look.
Can I go with you?
No. I want
you to stay
here. I want
to go with
you.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

This chapter summarizes all the results of the analysis from the previous chapter, which examined *The Road* novel written by Cormac McCarthy.

4.1 Conclusion

The road is one of the novels written by Cormac McCarthy. This novel published in 2006. *The Road* is a novel that contains elements of violence and also about friendship. Mccarthy provides an element of love or affection, imaginable, and despair among the brave father and his son. *The Road* is a novel that contains elements of violence and also about friendship. Mccarthy provides an element of love or affection, imaginable, and despair among the brave father and his son. In the story of this novel depicts a struggle for survival in extreme condition. McCarthy gives an overview of a situation that requires a person to defend themselves. The writer researched to answer his curiosity about the types of defense mechanism that Father used in his journey from the novel. The writer uses psychological theory from Sigmund Freud.

Characterization also used by the writer to explain if the father in here is not only a significant character but also static character, this is because it is stable and same. His attitude is calm from the beginning until the end of the story. The characterization of the father is a charitable, thoughtful, lovely, smart, and brave person. The findings from the previous chapter, it could be seen there are five types of defense mechanism that are used by the father in the story of the novel. First is father use repression two times, then regression one times, follow with using denial three times, next use projection and use rationalization fourth times

and also use introjection and the last use displacement.

From the explanation above, it shows the theory of defense mechanism undergoes by the father in the story of the novel. There are several events experienced by their father, which he used defense mechanism as an effort to survive himself and his son. Father uses repression to reduce his feeling to control the situation being fine. When their father and his son are in a frightening situation, Father tries to hold back his anxiety and try to convince his son to reduce his feeling of fear. In the other case, the father also uses repression when he persuades his son, who always talk about death. Automatically he uses repression to block the feeling about the situation to forget it.

Then father uses regression when he remembered about his house and all the moment inside it. Immediately he felt comfort when he remembered the moment. At least he feels better in this condition than just thinking about things that are going to happen. Until he feels reluctant to leave that place. And next Father uses denial to deny his son in the order he does not think about something that makes him uncomfortable or afraid in bad conditions.

Father also uses projection. He thinks that the condition at that time was a bad plan that God had destined for him. He thinks that God is not fair. Father expresses his feeling by the way he speaks to God, He looks for the existence of God, and as if he wanted to scold his God. And the last, Father uses rationalization when his son asks him to help someone unknown then he rejects it. He uses logical explanation or rational reason as opposing his son's request. In the other situation, the father also uses rationalization to provide a rational explanation to his son. Father use rational or logical reason to opposing the real

reason when his son always talks about death. Father tries to persuade his son with a logical reason to make his son being comfortable. Father uses introjection. He adopts like a brutal killer to confront three unknown people who want to threaten him. Father also uses displacement. When his emotion uncontrol, and he slapped himself as an expression of his emotion.

4.2 Suggestion

In the study on literary works such as novels. To research, the novel not only can be analyzed by the study of psychological approaches but also using other theories of literary approaches. Especially in the analysis of the novel *The Road*, a writer only discusses the character of the main character and the defense mechanism experienced by the main character in the novel. In this analysis, the writer focuses on the intrinsic elements of the novel.

After reading and understanding the novel, Writer realizes that there are many aspects in literature research in this novel. But considering the research here is limited to the main characters and psychological or self-defense approaches experienced by the main characters in the novel. Therefore the writer suggests for further researchers to analyze other aspects and use other psychological approaches. There are still many aspects that can be discussed to examine this novel, such as examining characters other than the main characters and using other literary theory approaches.

The writer suggests that readers to read this novel because it has an exciting story that will offer training to them to overcome their problems, especially their anxiety problems. The writer believes that this analysis will help

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