

ABSTRACT

Rahayu, Nila Sukmaning. 2009. *The Contribution of Particular Characteristics and Childhood Memory toward the Creation of Self- Hatred as Seen through Damien Karras in William P. Blatty's The Exorcist*. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University.

Every human being grown up could not be separated from their childhood. Childhood experiences surely give an important contribution in the process of maturity. In this stage, human may store painful memories or even the beautiful ones. Working under consciousness, particular characteristics and childhood memories can create new characteristics within one's life.

The study aims to answer three questions. They are figuring out the characteristics of Damien Karras as seen in *The Exorcist*, a novel by William Peter Blatty, viewing the description of his childhood memory, and revealing thoroughly the contribution of his characteristics and childhood memory in creating the feeling of self hatred as a new characteristic appeared.

Library research was taken in conducting the study. Some important sources were collected. The primary source is a novel titled *The Exorcist* written by William Peter Blatty, the second are books contained of the theories needed and also internet sources for better understanding. In analyzing the study, psychological approach was used to relate the literature and psychology.

It was described that Damien Karras was a middle aged priest and also psychiatrist. He was a well educated person, defensive, trustworthy, sentimental, warm, and thoughtful. He would be feeling inferior and guilty when his desire was unfulfilled. He grieved so easily. Something interesting about this priest was he had a crisis of faith.

The effect of his fragile characteristics brought emotional responses in facing his life. Moreover, his helpless childhood experiences like fear, guilt, and grief strengthened by the feeling of frustrated because of having his blocked desire and goals revealed them selves in the form of self hatred.

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Tiap manusia berkembang tak dapat dipisahkan dari masa kecil. Pengalaman masa kecil sungguh memberikan peranan dalam proses pendewasaan. Dalam tahap ini, manusia mampu menyimpan pengalaman yang menyakitkan dan indah sekalipun. Dengan bekerja di bawah alam sadar, beberapa karakteristik tertentu dan pengalaman masa kecil dapat mencipta sebuah karakteristik baru dalam kehidupan manusia.

Studi ini bertujuan menjawab tiga pertanyaan, yaitu: mencari karakteristik tokoh Damien Karras, seperti terlihat dalam novel *The Exorcist* karya William Peter Blatty, melihat bagaimana masa kecilnya digambarkan, dan mengungkap secara keseluruhan peranan karakteristik dan masa kecil tersebut dalam munculnya rasa benci pada diri sendiri sebagai karakteristik baru.

Beberapa sumber penting hasil dari penelitian pustaka dikumpulkan. Sumber utama berupa novel itu sendiri, sumber kedua berupa buku-buku kumpulan teori terkait dan sumber internet guna pemahaman yang lebih baik. Pendekatan psikologi digunakan untuk menghubungkan sastra dan psikologi.

Damien Karras adalah seorang pastur separuh baya sekaligus psikiater. berpendidikan tinggi, defensif, dapat dipercaya, hangat, baik hati namun agak sentimen. Ia mudah merasa minder dan bersalah saat keinginannya tak terwujud. Ia pun mudah berduka. Suatu hal menarik terjadi dalam dirinya yaitu adanya krisis keyakinan akan Tuhan.

Efek dari karakteristiknya yang rapuh menimbulkan rasa gelisah yang berakar dari respon emosional dalam menghadapi hidupnya. Lebih jauh lagi, pengalaman masa kecil seperti rasa takut, perasaan bersalah, dan berduka yang teramat sangat diperkuat oleh rasa frustrasi karena tujuan dan keinginan hidupnya yang tak terwujud akhirnya terkuak dalam wujud rasa benci pada diri sendiri.