

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the two main characters in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and *Disgrace* from a psychoanalytic perspective, the writer concludes that Dorian Gray and David Lurie suffered from Narcissistic Personality Disorder.

The causes of narcissism between the two characters have many similarities. The first cause is the absence of father figure in their life. Dorian Gray lost his father and mother at a young age and David Lurie's childhood has no figure of father. They have an empty hole in their heart that needed to be fulfilled with love and affection from their parents. The absence of love, acknowledgement and praise of a parent figure, can explain the urge of their id to be satisfied. Without all of those things, their id is hurt because it feels like they do not exist at all. The second reason is the excessive love that they receive from their society. Gray accepts huge admiration from people in his society. Yet, his biggest admirer is Sir Henry Wotton, who makes his portrait with all beauty he has. Meanwhile, Lurie got full attention from the women in his life.

When it comes to the symptoms of narcissism that happens to these two main characters, the symptoms are slightly similar. Dorian Gray believes that he is the most beautiful man and that he is greater than others. When his wish is opposed, he will do anything to fight for it to make it realized. That is why he kills Basil Hallward for opposing his friendship with Sir Henry. Meanwhile, Lurie shows the symptom of self-importance and paranoia. Being a white man in South Africa

initially makes him believe that he is much more superior than the blacks living in Eastern Cape. This kind of feeling makes him think that his opinion is the best and that his decision never be wrong. However, life changes. His superiority no longer exists. Thus, he feels insecure and paranoid when he finds out that he has lost his charming sides.

Although the symptoms of narcissism that appear by the two main characters look similar at some points, the effects of narcissism on their lives is slightly different. The effect of narcissism leads to Gray's misunderstanding and failure to get a true self-image of himself. As a result, he decides to destroy the portrait to end gain his beauty forever. Yet, he ends up killing himself by stabbing his beautiful image in the painting. When Gray falls into confusion and ignorance about himself and ends up finishing his life, Lurie actually turns into a slightly better character. Lurie's mindset, who used to think that the function of women on this earth is to fulfill his sexual desire gradually changes when he meets a woman named Bev, an ordinary woman who does not have a beautiful face like the women he had before. Additionally, Lurie then finds a personal ethic in no longer owning and being a ruler or controller of others. He now can accept the fact that he has lost his superiority and confidence.

Hopefully, this research will give some contributions to the development of literary research and give information for scholars on the related study. The writer hopes psychoanalytic criticism gives another impact on the reader to have a chance to see the character in a different point of view. After all, this research aims to examine two narcissistic men, which are Dorian Gray and David Lurie, the main

male characters in *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and *Disgrace*. This research provides the conclusion of narcissistic personality of male main characters in Oscar Wilde's *The Picture Of Dorian Gray* and J. M. Coetzee's *Disgrace*. The lack of explanation in the novel about the childhood of Dorian Gray and David Lurie make it a little bit difficult for the writer to analyze more deeply the effects of narcissism on the two male main characters. However, further studies can still be carried out with complete data on fictional characters in other literary works.

