

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

World War II was a global military conflict that lasted from 1939 to 1945. It is best known for being the deadliest and most destructive war in human history, resulting in the deaths of over 60 million people. It was fought between the Axis powers (Germany, Italy, and Japan) and the Allied powers (France, the United Kingdom, the United States, the Soviet Union, and China). The result of this war is known for bringing a lot of big destruction known to the history of mankind. And one of the known tragedies that World War II brings to the history of mankind is holocaust (Shirer, 1960).

The Holocaust was a systematic genocide perpetrated by Nazi Germany during World War II, resulting in the mass murder of approximately six million Jews, along with millions of others deemed undesirable by the Nazi regime. It is considered one of the darkest and most horrific chapters in human history. Under Adolf Hitler's leadership, the Nazis implemented a state-sponsored ideology of anti-Semitism, promoting hatred and discrimination against Jews. The Holocaust aimed to eradicate the Jewish population and impose Nazi racial and ideological purity (Shirer, 1960)

The Holocaust involved the establishment of concentration camps, where millions of innocent people were imprisoned, tortured, and subjected to inhumane conditions. These camps served as centers for forced labor, medical experiments,

and the systematic extermination of individuals through methods such as gas chambers, mass shootings, and other forms of brutal violence.

According to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum the terrible amount of the crimes committed was made clear after the liberation of the concentration camps by Allied forces. Families and communities were torn apart, survivors suffered from physical and psychological anguish, and this event had a profound and long-lasting effect on the Jewish community and the rest of the globe. The Holocaust serves as a sobering warning about the perils of bias, intolerance, and unbridled governmental authority. It serves as a reminder to pay respect to the victims, take lessons from the past, and work for a society that upholds justice, equality, and human decency for all.

As the holocaust is known for being one of the tragedies that ever hit the history of mankind, this event is one of most memorable ones to many people. As such the world decided to make a place for people to remember and understand this tragedy. One example of a memorial location that holds a record of holocaust is the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum located in the USA. The function of this museum is to provide a detailed account of the Holocaust through exhibitions, artifacts, testimonies, and multimedia presentations. It also includes the Hall of Remembrance, a solemn space for reflection and remembrance.

Holocaust is quite often being used to make a film based on the event, one of the recent movies that put holocaust in its movie is Jojo Rabbit. Jojo Rabbit (2019) is a movie directed by Taika Waititi, jewish filmmaker (Burack, 2022), that tells a story about a boy who is a fanatic on nazi and set on the world war II era in

Germany. The boy is named Johannes Betzler who is a big fan of nazi. He also has an imaginary friend and an imagery of Adolf Hitler who usually motivated him to keep up with the nazi. In this movie Adolf is portrayed as a comedy character instead of the evil mass killer he is. Jojo then met a jewish girl who lived in his house inside the wall with the help of his mother. When the nazi lost and real Adolf died, imaginary Adolf of Jojo began to force him to stay as a nazi but Jojo refuse as he dodge him and make the imaginary Adolf fly off the window and gone forever, freeing Jojo from the shackle of nazi and his naive belief.

The Jojo Rabbit movie focused on Jojo who is the protagonist of the movie and his ignorance on blindly following his idol Adolf Hitler. This movie tells about him growing up and understanding what is happening in this world. Making him question what he believes and him facing consequences of his blind following. His blind following is caused due to him still being a 10 years old and pretty much not knowing about the world itself. As such his only personality is his fanaticism on Adolf Hitler. His personality development in this movie and also the manifestation of imaginary Adolf Hitler from his own pictures of him are the one that is going to be analyzed in this research.

Personality is that pattern of characteristic thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that distinguishes one person from another and that persists over time (Phares, 1991). Personality is something that every person has and is different from one to another. Some might have a similar trait to one and another, but they are fundamentally different. It is one thing that makes humans very different from each other. The function of personality is to show a type of person they are through the behavior, feel, choice, and think. The combination of biologically

based and learned behaviors that make up a person's distinct responses to environmental cues makes up their personality.

The theory that is used to study and analyze a personality is called psychoanalysis. It is a theory that serves as a guide for psychoanalysis and is regarded as a theory of personality organization and the dynamics of personality (Hossain, 2017). It is well known that the academic field of literary criticism or literary theory has consistently used the tacit association between literature and psychoanalysis.

At first, psychoanalysis was used as a treatment for the patient and also an act of re-narrarziation of their life (Hossain, 2017). Psychoanalysis placed a strong emphasis on motives, focusing on subliminal or veiled motivations that aid in the understanding of literature on two levels: the level of the writing itself and the level of character activity in the text. The focus of psychoanalysis is on the issue and an explanation of how meaning and identity relate to mental and societal processes is attempted. Not only on real people, psychoanalysis also manages to branch itself to the work of art and literature (Hossain, 2017). Freud presented his theory on literature in his book 'creative writers and Daydreaming'. Psychoanalysis in literature can focus on analyzing the author, characters, text, and audience. Psychoanalysis functions to help the reader to better understand the mind of the characters that are presented in the story by gaining an understanding of how they think and feel. An opportunity to find and examine those reasons is presented by a psychoanalytic criticism, which contributes to a fuller comprehension of the whole work (Hossain, 2017)

The psychoanalysis theory that will be focused on this research is id, ego and superego. Id is a personality system that has been there since the birth of a person. Id has all the basic features of a personality. In short, the id is the origin of all of our aggressions and cravings. It is unsocial, immoral, and unlawful. Its purpose is to satiate our craving for pleasure without regard for morality, legality, or social mores (Seligman, 2014). Ego developed from id so that people are able to perceive reality, as such ego follows the reality principle in order to gain the need that is produced by the id (Seligman, 2014). According to Seligman (2014), Ego plays the role as a reality checker, to prevent someone from doing something, or making the person become more aware. Id is chaotic, while ego works by reason. Superego is the morality that the person learns from people around them (Seligman, 2014). Seligman (2014) states that superego makes up the ethical part of the psyche, gives the ego the moral guidelines by which to conduct itself. The superego's judgments, restrictions, and restraints serve as one's conscience, while its lofty goals and ambitions serve as one's idealized self-perception, or "ego ideal."

From the psychoanalysis of the character development of the protagonist it will be correlated to see how it connects to the psychosexual development stages. Psychosexual development theory is a theory that focuses on analysis of the development of a personality that begins in childhood. This theory is one of the most famous theories that he ever suggested, yet also a controversial one (Cherry, 2016). In this theory, Freud suggests that there are five stages of personality development, there are oral, anal, phallic, latent, and genital stages (Seligman, 2014). And the reason this theory is applied to this research is because they are

related to the topic of the research, both psychoanalytic theory and psychosexual theory focused on the development of the protagonist, Jojo. Psychoanalysis and psychosexual focus on the development of the personality, the function of id, ego, and superego and how they work during the latent stage of psychosexual development.

The result of the psychosexual stage that affects the personality is going to be compared to the real historical side using New Historicism theory by Stephen Greenblatt (1980). New Historicism is an approach that studies to understand the context of the history from the literature works such as its culture, society, and economic condition of the history (Bressler, 1999). Different from old historicism where the literature work is the main object value and the history context merely a background component, the new historicism theory does not negate the literature works and the context of the history (Bressler, 1999).

As Jojo Rabbit is a movie that is tied to a real historical event but portrayed in a sarcastic way, a comparison between the movie and the real history is inevitable. That is why new historicism is used in this research as it helps compare the portrayal of Imaginary Adolf Hitler created by Johannes and the historical version of him. The new historicism theory is used to analyze the historical side of the literature text, in the case of this research, it is the movie script of Jojo Rabbit.

The analysis will be done structurally by using Narrative Structure Theory by Tzvetan Todorov. Todorov Narrative Theory is a theory by Tzvetan Todorov (1960) about the process used to write a story's narration. The reason why this

theory is used is to help analyze the psychosexual stages of the protagonist. According to this theory, a narrative will go through five stages: equilibrium, disruption, recognition, repair of the damage, and equilibrium once more. This narrative framework has been used in numerous works where stories are concerned. Equilibrium is a stage where the character is having their normal life time and doing their daily activities, proceed to disruption where they start having a disturbance in their life, recognition is the stage where the character realize that the problem affect their life, Repair the damage is where the character is trying to fix the problem in the story and finally to equilibrium again, At this point, the character has dealt with all the issues that arise in the narrative, and he or she is either returning to their previous way of life or adjusting to the novel circumstance.

There is a little research of criticism that has been done on this film. Most of the topics that are used for the other research are related to the nazi, social, hegemonic, psychological and also culture. There are a few research criticisms on Jojo Rabbit movies that focus on the psychological aspect of the movie, one of them that I have read is “The Impacts Of Elsa’s Presence On Jojo Betzler Personality Development In Jojo Rabbit Movie Script by Waititi”. As the title suggests, the focus of the research above is pointed at the development of the protagonist similar to mine. Instead of using what the protagonist has, the research used the other character’s presence and her impact in the character development. Another research that has Jojo Rabbit as its topic of research are “Snake Mind, Wolf Body, Panther Courage: Jojo Rabbit as a Critique of Hegemonic Masculinity” that talks about the hegemonic masculinity that is present in the

movie, and “Analysis of Moral Values in Jojo Rabbit Movie” that analyze about the moral value of the movie.

In this study, the researcher wants to analyze the psychosexual stages of the main characters in the movie Jojo Rabbit by Taika Waititi named Johannes Betzler. The theory that will be used is psychological theory by Sigmund Freud that will be focused on id, ego, and superego and its correlation with psychosexual stages and comparing it the portrayal of the imaginary Adolf Hitler from the movie to the real life using New Historicism theory by Stephen Greenbalt (1980). The analysis will be done structurally using a narrative structure theory by Tzvetan Todorove (1960).

## **1.2 Research Questions**

1. What are Freud’s Psychosexual stages of development that Johannes Betzler has in the movie script?
2. What is the correlation between the psychosexual stages and Jojo’s obsession with Hitler?
3. How does Jojo’s psychosexual stages affects the characterisation of the imaginary Adolf Hitler
4. What is the comparison between the portrayal of the imaginary Adolf Hitler in the movie and the real life Adolf Hitler?

## **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

1. The purpose of this study is to examine the stage of psychosexual development of the protagonist, Jojo Betzler.

2. The goal is to examine the correlation between the stage of psychosexual development and its obsession with Hitler's character.
3. The objective is to compare the portrayal of Hitler from the movie script and the real life.

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

The scope of this study is psychosexual analysis on the protagonist of the Jojo Rabbit movie by Taika Waititi. The theory that will be used is psychosexual stages by Sigmund Freud. The purpose is to examine and identify the psychosexual stages that the protagonist of the movie, Johannes Betzler has. One of the results of psychosexual stages that Johannes has is the imaginary Adolf Hitler that he created. This portrayal of Hitler will be compared to the real life or historically accurate version of him, the theory that will be used to compare the portrayal is New Historicism by Stephen Greenblatt (1980). To make the comparison, an article or journal that is related to the biography that shows the action of Adolf Hitler during his lifetime will be used in this research. The analysis of this research will be done structurally using Narrative Structure theory by Tzvetan Todorov (1960). For the analysis, the script of the movie will be used as the main data for the characterisation of the characters. This research only focused on the script of the movie without the involvement of cinematography at all.

### 1.5 Significant of the Study

1. The importance of this study is to give the reader a hindsight about the psychosexual development stage aspects of the movie
2. To give the reader a knowledge about the psychosexual study and how it is able to be portrayed in the movie.
3. To show the reader a comparison between the portrayal of Adolf Hitler in this movie and the real life version of him

