

Psychoanalysis Alter Ego Of Dissociative Identity Disorder Through Speech Acts Of The Main Character In The *Split* (2017) Movie

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Abstract: *The research “Psychoanalysis alter ego of dissociative identity disorder through speech acts of the main character in the Split film (2017)” aims to identify the speech act of the main character. Speech acts are analyzed by the type, function, form and perlocutionary effect, which shows the alter ego personality of the main character who suffers from dissociative identity disorder. This research uses descriptive methods and qualitative approaches. This study shows that there is a relationship between speech acts and psychoanalysis alter ego of the main character who has dissociative identity disorder.*

Keywords: *Speech acts, descriptive, qualitative, dissociative identity disorder*

Abstrak: *Penelitian “Psikoanalisis Alter Ego Penderita Gangguan Identitas Disosiatif Melalui Tindak Tutur Tokoh Utama Pada Film Split (2017)” bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi tindak tutur tokoh utama dari jenis, fungsi, bentuk dan perlokusi, serta psikoanalisis kepribadian alter ego tokoh utama penderita gangguan identitas disosiatif melalui tuturannya. Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif dan pendekatan kualitatif untuk mengidentifikasi tindak tutur tokoh utama dari jenis, fungsi, bentuk dan perlokusi, serta psikoanalisis kepribadian alter ego tokoh utama penderita gangguan identitas disosiatif melalui tuturannya. Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa ada keterkaitan antara tindak tutur dan psikoanalisis kepribadian alter ego dari penderita gangguan identitas disosiatif.*

Kata kunci: *Tindak tutur, deskriptif, kualitatif, gangguan identitas disosiatif*

Introduction

Austin (1962: 94) said that speech acts are conducts done by language to alter the situation of the object of which the conduct is done. Austin also said that there are three forms of speech acts, such as locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. Searle (1969: 23) said that speech acts are classified into five forms, such as expressive, declaration, commissive, directive, and representative. Based on the explanation above, the speech acts contained in the *Split* movie are illocutionary. Pragmatics is also the study of linguistics which is related to context. This means that contextual consideration is needed regarding the way speakers organize what they want to say and adjust it to the person they are saying. The context in question relates to who is speaking, what is being discussed, to whom, and where the conversation occurs (Yule, 2014: 4).

Chaer and Agustina (2004: 50) said that speech acts are psychological and individual symptoms and their continuation is set by the speaker's language capabilities in facing some specific conditions. The effect of psychological situations impact the speech acts of the primary character in the film *Split*, such as Kevin Wendell Crumb, who has Dissociative Identity Disorder. Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) is an illness where someone has two or more various and changing traits. Dissociative Identity Disorder covers temporary and sudden alters in behavior, identity, or consciousness (Farrell, 2011: 402). As reported by Cleveland Clinic (2021), DID is very rare. This disorder affects between 0.01 and 1% of the population and can occur at any age. Because of this,

researchers are interested in raising the issue of DID in this research so that readers can become more familiar with this rare mental disorder.

While other films use characters with only two personalities, the film *Split* depicts a man who has many personalities (alters). This complex disorder film has a main character named Kevin. He has 24 different personalities. According to Sigmund Freud, human personality is a battle between the Id, Ego, and Superego. These three aspects are related to consciousness, preconsciousness, and unconsciousness in humans. Kevin has an alter ego due to DID that appears alternately without realizing it. These alter egos show different personalities according to Kevin's id, ego, and superego. Freud (2005: 159) also revealed that the subconscious is where we store feelings, thoughts, desires, and memories that we are never aware of. The forms of stored emotions can vary, from feelings of pain, and anxiety, to past trauma. Likewise, in this film, the main character Kevin has a traumatic childhood experience. He received some abuse from his mother when he was three years old. With this condition, it is likely that he experiences depression, and stress and cannot bear to solve his problems by living a pleasant life because he feels there is no way to control himself from all his problems.

The storyline of the film *Split* made researchers interested in using it as study material in research because in this film the main character suffers from Dissociative Identity Disorder, which is a rare mental disorder that causes him to have different alters. The alter personality can be identified through speech acts. Therefore, several problems can be identified, namely, the main character in the *Split* (2017) movie has dissociative identity disorder which causes sufferers to have 24 characters or alter egos. These characters have different characteristics and personalities and can be shown through psychoanalysis and speech act studies. This research is limited to only analyzing Kevin's personality or alter egos through speech acts. According to Nurgiyantoro (2007: 177), in terms of their roles, some characters are considered important and are shown continuously so that they feel like they dominate most of the story.

Research Methods

The type of research used in this research is qualitative research. In qualitative research, the data used comes from two sources, namely primary data and secondary data (Sigoyono, 2016: 7). Primary data in this research was obtained from the film entitled *Split* which was released on January 20, 2017. Furthermore, the secondary used in this research was obtained through online searches on the Google Scholar site to search for supporting journals, and the pdfdrive.com site to simplify the process of searching for data through books and also from offline data searches in Universitas Pakuan.

The researchers' steps in analyzing the data were watching the film *Split* and looking for the main character's speech through the dialogue that had been downloaded. Classifying speech acts with the theory used, the researcher then used the theory of Psychoanalysis according to Sigmund Freud to identify the alter ego characters of the id, ego, and superego possessed by the main character suffering from a dissociative identity

disorder. In this research, the researcher also used Mimi Darwati's (2018) research on psychoanalysis of the personality of the main character in the film *Split* as a reference in analyzing the data.

Result and Discuss

Dennis

Dennis represents the Superego and Id. Dennis in his character is a man who is obsessed with cleanliness (representing the Superego) and likes to see girls dancing naked (representing the Id). Dennis' character who is obsessed with cleanliness can be seen in the following data:

Dennis: *"Please, keep your area neat. The bathroom, it's unacceptable. To make it easy, I've color-coded these. Use the blue bottle for the floor and pink bottle for ceramic surfaces."* (*Split*, 00:22:30)

Saying *"Please, keep your area neat."* is included in the type of directive. This sentence was said by Dennis to young women. He then continued with the representative's words *"The bathroom, it's unacceptable"*. He expressed the opinion that teenage girls' bathrooms were intolerable to Dennis. This form of speech is spoken by Dennis literally, this means that Dennis is an alter who is dominant and straightforward. The perlocution of Dennis' story makes the teenage women obey his orders to clean the bathroom. Besides being obsessed with perfection, Dennis is also obsessed with cleanliness (Darwati, 2018: 22). Dennis has an obsession with cleanliness so he orders the teenage girls to clean the bathroom.

Id, Ego, and Superego play a role in character formation. Dennis' Id and Ego are not dominant in his character who is obsessed with cleanliness. The id comes from instinctive desires and if it is not fulfilled it will cause anxiety tension and even emotional instability. Meanwhile, the ego, which has the function of managing the ID and Superego, so that it is by this reality, the alter Dennis decides to fulfill the demands of the Superego, which leads to good and moral things, namely maintaining cleanliness.

However, the superego becomes too dominant, making Dennis a character who is obsessed with cleanliness and cannot stand anything he considers unclean. In the words *"To make it easy, I've color-coded these, Use the blue bottle for the floor and pink bottle for ceramic surfaces."* Dennis' directive speech act instructs the three teenage women on how to clean the bathroom using appropriate tools. This story also shows that Dennis is very detailed about cleanliness. This is supported by a quote from research entitled *Multiple Personality Disorder and Defense Mechanism of The Main Character In The Split Film* by Mimi Darwati (2018: 23), namely, *Dennis is very detailed about the clean area. He asked three teenage girls to keep the bathroom clean by telling them which cleaning tools were suitable for the different areas.*

Patricia

Patricia represents the Superego in her character, namely a motherly woman, and this can be seen in the following data:

Patricia: *"I have your meal, sleepyhead. Eat it. Is it good? It's got paprika in it."*

Casey: *"Uh (nod)."*

Patricia: *"(Combing Casey's hair) I'm Sorry. I think I'll put a pretty flower in your hair."*

(Split, 00:43:41)

The saying *"I have your meal, sleepyhead."* is included in the representative type. Those words were spoken by Patricia to Casey. Patricia stated or told Casey that she brought food for Casey with a smile. Then Patricia continued the speech by saying *"Eat it"*. which is a directive type of speech and is spoken in literal form, indicating that Patricia is a dominant alter. Patricia orders Casey to eat the sandwiches she made for him and Marcia. Patricia continued this statement with the sentence *"Is it good? It's got paprika in it."* Patricia asks Casey if the sandwich he made was good and tells him that he put peppers in it. Casey then took and ate the sandwich and nodded in approval to Patricia's question as a perlocutionary of Patricia's story. Casey and Marcia looked confused because Patricia's character was very different from Dennis's.

Patricia shows her motherly nature by feeding the teenage women. Patricia also combed Casey's hair but accidentally pulled Casey's hair and apologized by saying *"I'm sorry."* which is an expressive type. Then Patricia continued the statement with *"I think I'll put a pretty flower in your hair."* Patricia tries to put flowers in Casey's hair and shows her concern for Casey's appearance.

Patricia's motherly nature comes from her superego's demand that her behavior not violate the principles of morality. The ego also plays a role in deciding actions that are by reality in fulfilling the demands of the Superego. Therefore, he feeds the teenage women, takes care of them, and is kind. This is supported by a quote from research entitled *Multiple Personality Disorder and Defense Mechanism of The Main Character In The Split Film* by Mimi Darwati (2018: 24), namely, *Patricia has a motherly characteristics, which can be known from her good skills in cooking, he also takes care of the three adolescents girls such as giving food, combing out, and looking after their appetites.*

Hedwig

Hedwig represents the character's ego, namely a boy who likes dancing and Hedwig is also afraid of violence and noise which represents the superego. The following is data that Hedwig is a child who likes to dance:

Hedwig: *"I like dancing. Do you like dancing? I like dancing to my CD player in my room. Kanye West is my main man. We got a CD player set up in my room next to my window."*

Casey: *"Wow maybe I could watch you dance and listen to music with you"*

(Split, 00:52:07)

The utterance *"I like dancing"* is included in the expressive type. Hedwig said those words to Casey. Hedwig then continued the story with *"Do you like dancing? I like dancing to my CD player in my room."* which is also an expressive type of speech. Hedwig explains that she likes dancing with the CD player in her room looking enthusiastic. Hedwig shows her passion for dancing with expressive speech and in a literal form which shows that Hedwig is a child alter who is honest and straightforward. This is supported by a quote sourced from research titled *Multiple Personality Disorder and Defense Mechanism of The Main Character In The Split Film* by Mimi Darwati (2018: 32), namely *He likes dancing and playing all children's games.*

Hedwig continued this statement by saying the sentence *"Kanye West is my main man"* which is a type of representative speech. Then continue with the words *"We got a CD player set up in my room next to my window."* Hedwig explains to Casey that the CD player is near her window. Casey also seemed enthusiastic and said *"Wow maybe I could watch you dance and listen to music with you"* to suggest whether he could see Hedwig dancing as a perlocution for Hedwig's story.

Barry

Barry is Kevin's fourth alter. Barry is a flamboyant man who loves fashion, so he likes creating designs related to fashion. The following is an utterance that shows this:

Barry: *"Hey! I was inspired. No, no, no that one, That one before the pink coat with the thorns. That's supposed to be a tailored jacket but I'm gonna hand-print it with newspaper headlines."*

Dr. Fletcher: *"I'm a simple blouse and skirt person, but these.. these are very artistic, Barry."*

(Split, 00:14:25)

The *"Hey! I was inspired."* includes representative species. This sentence was spoken by Barry to Dr. Fletcher. Barry tells Dr. Fletcher that he was inspired and made a fashion design that he gave to Dr. Fletcher looked enthusiastic. Barry then saw Dr. Fletcher misjudged the design and said *"No, no, no that one, That one before the pink coat with the thorns. That's supposed to be a tailored jacket but I'm gonna hand-print it with newspaper headlines."* This sentence is a type of representative speech with a literal form which shows that Barry is also a frank alter. Barry explained to Dr. Fletcher about the designs he came up with. Then Dr. Fletcher praised her with a smile and said *"I'm a simple blouse and skirt person, but these.. these are very artistic, Barry."* as a perlocutionary of Barry's story. Barry's actions tell Dr. Fletcher that the fashion designs he made showed he was proficient in art especially when he received praise from Dr. Fletcher.

Barry is a flamboyant character who has good drawing skills. In this case, the Ego plays a role apart from the Id and Superego in regulating Barry's cognitive function, namely creativity. This is supported by a quote sourced from research entitled *Multiple Personality Disorder and Defense Mechanism of The Main Character In The Split Film* by Mimi Darwati (2018: 25), namely *Barry is a flamboyant character. He is good at art. He is also described as having good art skills, especially designing women's dresses on a sketch.*

Kevin

Kevin is the main personality who has excessive anxiety. Kevin only appears once in this film and shows characteristics of dissociative identity disorder, namely amnesia. Kevin's excessive anxiety often arises when he becomes light again about the chaos in his life, so he wants to commit suicide because he feels too guilty. This feeling of guilt comes from his dominating Superego, which makes Kevin do this.

Kevin: *"I swear, I was on the bus. I don't remember anything after that. I... This is still September 2014, right?"*

Casey: (nod)

Kevin: *"There is a shotgun I bought. It's in the bottom cabinet hidden behind things. The shells are in my uniform closet out in the service hall. Kill me, Then kill me."*

(*Split*, 00:94:55)

The saying *"I swear, I was on the bus."* includes the representative type. Kevin said this sentence to Casey. Kevin swore he could be sure he was on the bus the last time he showed up. The words above were then continued by Kevin by saying *"I don't remember anything after that."* In this story, Kevin shows amnesia as a feature of dissociative identity disorder. Kevin's speech is also a literal form that shows that he is an honest person.

Kevin then asked Casey to confirm that it was still September 2014 but Casey shook his head indicating Kevin was wrong. Kevin then said *"There is a shotgun I bought."* which is a representative type. Kevin told Casey that there was a gun he bought and continued by saying *"It's in the bottom cabinet hidden behind things."* Kevin told Casey where the gun was. Kevin continued his speech by saying *"The shells are in my uniform closet out in the service hall."*

Kevin told Casey in that sentence that the bullets for the gun were in his uniform cupboard. After that, Kevin confidently orders Casey to kill him by telling a directive-type story, *"Kill me, Then kill me."* The directive's speech shows attempted suicide as a feature of dissociative identity disorder and Kevin's anxiety because he feels guilty and depressed for what he did so he chose to take his life. This is supported by a quote originating from a study titled *Multiple Personality Disorder and Defense Mechanism of The Main Character In The Split Film* by Mimi Darwati (2018: 40), namely, *He tries to blame himself and feels uncomfortable in the worst condition. He asks Casey to kill him*

with his shotgun. The expression of I Kevin when he talks with Casey it describes him feeling hopeless, insecure, and feeling guilty. In this case, there is anxiety from Kevin that he feels anxious because of Casey's presence.

The suicide attempt also came from the demands of Kevin's *superego* because he felt guilty for the chaos that had occurred. The *superego* that is too dominant also causes an imbalance in the Id, Ego, and Superego so that Kevin takes actions beyond the control of the ego or reality, namely, Kevin becomes excessively anxious and chooses to end his life. Casey responded by shaking his head while crying in fear as a perlocutionary elicited from Kevin's story.

The Beast

The Beast is the 24th personality that has just emerged due to the efforts of Dennis, Patricia, and Hedwig because The Beast is considered the strongest alter and can protect Kevin. The Beast represents Id and is a monster who likes to hurt people who have never suffered like Kevin.

The Beast: *"We are glorious! We will no longer be afraid. Only through pain can you achieve your greatness! The impure are untouched, the unburned are the slam. Those Who have not been thorn have no value in themselves and no place in this world!"*

Casey: *"Fuck!"*

(Split, 00:101:10)

The speech *"We are glorious!"* includes representative species. The sentence was said by The Beast to Casey. The speech was then continued by The Beast by saying *"We will no longer be afraid."* which is also a representative type. Then in the next representative's speech, namely *"Only through pain can you achieve your greatness!"* The Beast has a belief that only by feeling pain will one feel glory.

The Beast then continued his speech by saying *"Those Who have not been thorn have no value in themselves and no place in this world!"* The Beast shows his belief in the opinion that people who have never suffered do not deserve to be in the world in the form of indirect literal speech which shows that he is a dominant alter. Then the word *"Those who have not been thorn"* has an indirect meaning it refers to people who have never suffered by using the figurative word *"thorn"* which means thorns. The Beast states that the person is worthless and has no place in this world. This is supported by quotes originating from research titled *Multiple Personality Disorder and Defense Mechanism of The Main Character In The Split Film* by Mimi Darwati (2018: 42), namely *The Beast becomes Kevin's ego who cannot stop the killing. He feels pleasant and just believes that he is glorious, he will be no afraid after he kills her because he will get the greatness that he can hurt many people who have a good and happy life in his family.*

The character of The Beast is caused by the ego which has been dominated by the Id, causing an imbalance in the Id, Ego, and Superego. Kevin has a bad family background because he was abused by his mother so he has an alter The Beast who believes he gets

glory by hurting other people and doesn't care if he has to sacrifice other people for his satisfaction. This satisfaction is by the id's pleasure principle which makes Kevin avoid pain and only think about pleasure and enjoyment. This dangerous belief makes Kevin commit crimes and get out of morality. Casey was getting scared and ran fast while cursing as a perlocutionary from The Beast story.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis that has been carried out on the main character in *Split* (2017) movie, the main character mostly uses representative, directive, expressive, and commissive speech acts in the form of literal speech acts. In the analysis above, Kevin's character shows the characteristics of dissociative identity disorder, namely amnesia, attempts suicide, and excessive anxiety. Dissociative Identity Disorder can be seen from Kevin's utterances. As in the analysis above, Kevin gives a representative speech showing his amnesia which he says shows that he is an honest person. In his alter ego Dennis he has an obsession with cleanliness stemming from a dominating superego. This character can be shown through his directive utterances, literally ordering his interlocutor to clean up areas that he thinks are dirty and showing that Dennis is a dominant alter. In Alter Patricia, Kevin becomes a motherly woman. The character comes from the superego's demand to behave according to morals. She takes care of teenage girls and makes their food which is shown through literal directive, representative, and expressive speech and shows that Patricia is an alter who is dominant and forthright.

Apart from being a female figure, Kevin can also be a child figure representing the ego and superego in his alter named Hedwig. He became a child who loves to dance which can be seen from his expressive speech. This comes from the ego that regulates cognitive function in Hedwig's alter. In Barry's alter, Kevin becomes a man who likes to design fashion, and can be seen from his representative speech in expressing his opinion about the designs he makes. This was said by Barry literally and showed that Barry was an honest person. Barry's expertise in fashion design comes from the ego that regulates Barry's cognitive function in creativity. In the 24th alter, namely The Beast, Kevin becomes a monster who likes to kill people who he thinks have never felt suffering like Kevin and can be shown through representative speech in expressing his opinion literally which means that The Beast has a dominant nature. This character comes from the demands of the id which dominates the ego so that it does not care if it has to hurt other people for its satisfaction.

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