

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature and psychology have a correlation. Psychology finds human behavior that is influenced by their life experiences. From the experience of human life, can give inspiration for writers to produce literary works. According to *Wellek and Warren (1995:81)*, psychology of literature as the psychological study of the writer, as type and as individual, or the study of the creative process, or the study of the psychological types and laws present within works of literature, or, finally, the effects of literature upon its readers. In addition, literature gives effect to readers, beside to entertaining the readers, literary works also have a function to educate and as a media for writers to share their life experiences and imagination that they find in their lives.

In the psychology of literature, there are many literary works that have high moral values and very educated which is can change the point of view and mindset of the readers about psychological issues that happened arround us. Thus, literary work can serve as a tool that conveys stories and events in psychology contexts including its causes in the novel form. The novel as part literary work replicates some realities that happen in the human's life. It is induce the behavior of the character in the novel. Literary works, especially novel, there are main characters and supporting characters whose characterization can be analyzed so as to reflect some behavior, actions, and

also the word. In addition, psychology literature analyses as an imaginative expression of the inner workings of the human mind.

The aim of this work is to show the causes and the characteristics of antisocial personality disorder in Ove as the main character accurately that the writer already found in the novel. To conduct this research, the writer uses the personality disorder theory from the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (DSM-IV)* which defines the Antisocial Personality Disorder and also *Antisocial Personality Disorder: Treatment, Management and Prevention* written by Professor Connor Dugan *et al.* The writer finds it suitable by using the theory from DSM-IV by American Psychiatric Association and Dugan Connor to conduct the analysis and achieve the objectives of the research.

DSM-IV is a guide book, it was used by psychiatrists and psychologists to identify the behaviors and actions that represent certain personality disorders and mental disorders, in this case, antisocial personality disorder. American Psychological Association (APA) was founded in July 1892 by a small group of men interested in what they called "the new psychology." with G. Stanley Hall as its first president. Years after that, there were more studies in psychology established such as functionalism, psychodynamic, behaviorism and many more. Even though each of the psychologists has his own theory that becomes branches in psychology, the matter being discussed remains constant (Stangor, 2010: 26).

According to American Psychiatric Association, antisocial personality disorder is a pervasive pattern of disregard for, and violation of, the rights of others that begins in childhood or early adolescence and continues to adulthood. It has also

been referred to as psychopathy, sociopathy, or dyssocial personality disorder (APA, 2000: 645).

It means, Antisocial personality disorder is a disorder that develops in some people personality and developed since one was child. During the process of growth from childhood to adulthood, there have been many events occurred to one's life. Those events, more or less, will have impact to the person's personality development and this kind of psychological problem which has to be faced in real life.

A Man Called Ove is just one of the fictional books that has been written by *Fredrik Backman* that has published in 2014. This novel is written by one of the successful authors that has attracted readers around the world and this novel is featured in *The New York Times* over 70 weeks (2016-2017) because the story is successfully absorbing the reader in the world.

The novel conveys about how Ove as the main character can maintain of his first love, though many obstacles face him, from the first time Ove and Sonja meet. All his life, all he has to believe is Sonja, a beautiful woman, love books, and love Ove's sincerity. Until finally their true love is separate by the death and Sonja leaves Ove forever. Ove tries to end his life for several times. However, suicide was very difficult in the neighborhood where Ove lives. There are always bullies. People around Ove, especially his friends call him an Antisocial. Ove is a very grumpy man, moody, and unfriendly to others people. Can be seen from how Ove when dealing with his neighbors, he is very stubborn, his unwillingness of technology, and his refusal to modernize his neighbors who always live like

people nowadays. He believes in his idealism for all his life. He does not need the opinions of others, nor the appreciation that makes him famous.

In addition, Ove's hard principles and ideologies, even his rejection of modernization is often also due to Ove's past life experiences. Beginning when he is a child, how his ideology was obtained, and how he has slumped after the death of his parents. Ove learned to be firm from his father. His father, who did not speak much, taught him how to be an independent human being. Since childhood, Ove was raised by his father and they live far from the social environment. His father worked on the railroad emplacement whose pay was quite small and his work was not so comfortable. However, Ove's father always said "It's an honest job and it's worth doing." One day, his father died hit by a train at his workplace and Ove was right at the scene when the accident occurred. His father died right in front of him. Since his father died, Ove stopped happy. Therefore, all Ove's personality can be seen from the dialogue and narration that is often cynical, sarcastic, and reflect antisocial attitude.

There are some reasons why the writer is interested to study this novel. First, after searching various journals and doing library research, the authors found that there was still rarely a discussion of antisocial personality disorder theories and also about the novel, *A Man Called Ove*. Especially in literature journals. The second, writer would like to explore further the psychological issue of the main character who suffers Antisocial Personality Disorder. Psychological problems that Ove suffers is actually happens in the society, but there are still many theories from psychology that are still rarely discussed in general by the society. The

characteristic of psychological issue in the main character that appears in this novel actually can be strange for some people and psychology as a field is often misrepresented in modern literary works.

1.2 Research Question

Referring to background of the study that has been explained above, the writer formulate the problem formulation that will be discussed in this thesis is as what are the characteristics and the causes Antisocial Personality Disorders of the main character as seen in *A Man Called Ove*?

1.3 Research Objective

The objective in writing this research is to show the characteristics and the causes of Antisocial Personality Disorder of the main character as seen in *A Man Called Ove* accurately.

1.4 Uses of the Research

Since the object of this paper is popular fiction, by presenting this research, the writer hopes that it will give some benefit as follows:

a. Theoretical Uses

In conducting this research, the writer theoretically expected this research will be useful and beneficial for the reader and other researcher by giving the information related to human's personality disorder through literary test, in this case it is the causes and the characteristics of Antisocial Personality Disorder. Therefore, the

writer hopes this research can be a reference for literature student of Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia who interest with the same topic, approach, and theory.

b. Practical Uses

Practically, after doing the research the writer believes that by learning thesis, the readers are not only able to feel and understand what has really happened in the character who being discussed. Thus, the result of the research will also help to create a better perspective about personality disorder and give solutions to have better social life, especially in dealing with human behavior.

1.5 Scope of the Research

Based on the background of study above, the writer limit the discussion of antisocial personality disorder to the descriptions of the characteristics and the causes of anti social personality disorder as seen in Ove character.