

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of Study**

A defense mechanism is an unconscious psychological mechanism that reduces anxiety arising from unacceptable or potentially harmful stimuli. Defense mechanisms may result in healthy or unhealthy consequences depending on the circumstances and frequency with which the mechanism is used. In psychoanalytic theory, defense mechanisms are psychological strategies brought into play by the unconscious mind to manipulate, deny, or distort reality in order to defend against feelings of anxiety and unacceptable impulses and to maintain one's self-schema or other schemas. These processes that manipulate, deny, or distort reality.

When using a defense, the individual takes experiences with the outside world and places them inside to create new ego schemes (Laughlin, 1979). It means, the use of defense mechanism is a form of someone's response in dealing with a problem or event that requires self-defense. Response in each event can be formed from the environment or factors from the community.

The defense mechanism is the typical characteristics or traits representing a person's behavior, self-concept and mentality toward certain events. Therefore, the defense mechanism can be as the material in understanding human's behavior. Defense mechanism is not only possessed by living beings but the characters contained in the story also have shown defense mechanisms. So, we can also

study the defense mechanisms in a story. Sometimes a defense mechanism is made to show how people react to certain event based on their experience. Things like this have created many forms of literature and novel is one of them. For example, J. K. Rowling, author of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* novel (the last series of *Harry Potter*).

*Harry Potter* became the center of attention on Britain in July of 1997. The author, J. K. Rowling, spent six years writing the manuscript of the first *Harry Potter* novel, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* is a fantasy novel. It is the first novel in the *Harry Potter series* and Rowling's debut novel, first published in 1997 by Bloomsbury. It was published in the United States as *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by Scholastic Corporation in 1998. According to Scholastic, more than 400 million copies of *Harry Potter* series have been sold worldwide, and they have been translated into 68 languages. Because the series became a huge hit, a series of movies were released throughout the next decade and replicated the storyline of the *Harry Potter* series. The total gross of those movies was 7.7 billion dollars. Rowling started with a small idea and one manuscript and has built a legacy that has lasted through multiple generations of childhoods.

The beginning of the story is *Harry Potter series* novel, J. K. Rowling recounts the adventures of 3 main characters who became friends with the passage of time. They are Harry Potter, Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger. Harry Potter is a cursed child with a lightning-shaped scar on his forehead (the result of Voldemort's failed attempt to kill him during his infancy). Ron Weasley is the

youngest son of the Weasley family and Harry's best friend. Last is Hermione Granger, she is Harry and Ron's best friend at Hogwarts. At first, Harry and Ron did not want to be friends with Hermione, especially Ron. That's because they think Hermione is a know-it-all person and interferes with other people's business. But that changed as they watched Hermione lie to protect them from detention at school. Since then, their friendship began and this is where the character of Hermione begins to show.

In this series is told how they (Harry, Ron and Hermione) manage to destroy another Horcrux with Gryffindor's sword, and they become excited again as they begin to learn about a mysterious trio of magical objects called the Deathly Hallows. Whomever possesses the three objects will be a master of death, and to Harry, it's his one chance to beat Voldemort and live to tell the tale. In this series, Hermione acts as a thinker. One of the people who took a big part in helping Harry Potter complete the mission given by Dumbledore.

Hermione originally was not liked by them, but through a tense and unforgettable event anything that might happen. J. K. Rowling describes Hermione as a diligent, bold and courageous female character. At Hogwarts, Hermione is the smartest student in her generation. She can easily answer questions provided by the teacher and she can memorize various kinds of spells that have been learned. J. K. Rowling offered something different with marvelous style of her writing. She presenting girls of this generation with a strong female role model in Hermoine Jane Granger's character. Hermione's brave choices, her ability to stand up for

what is morally right and her intelligence make her one character that we have to see her defense mechanisms in the series.

In this research, the writer applies psychoanalytic approach, since the defense mechanisms of Hermione's character that used in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* novel has relation how the character behaving, reacting and facing any conflicts that happened in the novel. Therefore, the purpose of this research is to give additional information about defense mechanisms of Hermione's character in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* novel. Hermione is one of the main characters in the Harry Potter series and many have analyzed her character in terms of feminism, but not from the defense mechanisms. Hermione took a big role in the story, so that it could affect the story plot. Therefore, the writer chose to analyze Hermione's defense mechanisms in the story as well as the influencing factors. In order to analyze defense mechanisms of Hermione's character the writer applies Freud's psychoanalytic theory (1923). Freud's theory argues that human behavior is the result of the interactions. The writer used Freud's theory because it is very relevant to explain and describe how the defense mechanisms of Hermione Granger's character in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* novel.

## **1.2 Research Question**

Due to the background study above, this thesis to analyzes:

How is Hermione's character defense mechanisms described in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* novel?

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

The objective of study are:

To describe and explain Hermione's character defense mechanisms and factor influence described in the *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* novel.

### **1.4 Uses of the Study**

#### **1.4.1 Theoretical Uses**

This thesis expectedly gives a new knowledge about defense mechanisms of character to readers and hopefully it can be an additional point to keep the good values of defense mechanism analysis itself in life contribution.

#### **1.4.2 Practical Uses**

This thesis is expected to provide convenience or provide an overview to people who want to analyze about defense mechanisms of character and this study can give information for the next researchers who are interested in doing further study in this area.

### **1.5 Scope of the Study**

The writer focuses the analysis defense mechanisms on Hermione's character in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* novel. The writer studies the defense mechanisms of Hermione from the way Hermione's character interacts with others character and from the factors that influenced Hermione's defense mechanisms. Hence, the writer applies Freud's psychoanalytic theory to analyze Hermione's character in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* novel.