



Cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Portrayed in The Movie Cherry by Russo Brothers

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Received: 2021-12-26 Accepted: 2022-06-06

DOI: 10.24256/ideas.v10i1.2383

Abstract

The theory used in this research was proposed by Freud, (1921) to analyze Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder found in the movie "Cherry" movie by Russo Brothers. The movie will be the data source to analyze cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Mental illness is the main topic that sometime portrayed in the movie or novel. This research will be focused on the cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder from the utterances and narrations by the characters in the movie. The research will be used descriptive qualitative method of the research by (Creswell, 2013) to conduct the data. The researchers will be analyzed the utterances and narrations from the characters in the movie "Cherry." The utterances and narrations discovered in the movie will be classified used theory causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder proposed by Davison, (2012) which were genetic, environmental, brain structure and psychological causes. The observational method and non-participatory technique as the methods of collecting data will be used in this research. The result will be discovered that there were 10 utterances, narrations, or actions of cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder by the characters in the movie. They are included 3 data discovered as genetic causes and 7 data discovered as environmental causes.

Keywords: cause, post-traumatic stress disorder, psychology

Introduction

Literature is a term used to describe not only written work but also spoken one. Literature most commonly refers to art works such as poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction. According to Greil Marcus and Werner Sollor 2009 (in Fruzińska, 2012), literary is a term not only define as what is written but what is voiced, what is expressed, what is invented, in whatever form. According to Wellek & Warren (1954), literature is a kind of art which is not science, because in literature, there are a lot of elements in humanity are involved, and it usually reflects in human aspiration.

Literary work which relates to the real life can be seen from novel, film, drama, and poetry. One of them is psychological movie which mostly tells about mental illness that happens in human life. Mental illness is a real psychological disorder that happens to everybody regardless of age or gender. These days, mental illness is one of the psychology disorders which cannot be seen. Psychology is a study used to analyze the psychology in literary works Freud (1921). Psychology problem that reflected in literary works is Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is a mental illness for someone that have experienced with traumatic event in the past. Davison, (2012) stated that Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is a mental illness which caused by someone who has a terrible, shocking, and dangerous experiences in the past.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder happens to everyone without any exception. One of phenomenon of PTSD in real life is the effect after being positive with Covid-19. One of the researcher's friends, Ren, is diagnosed positive with Covid-19 along with his two little sisters and one little brother Corona (2020). One of his little sisters has passed away because she couldn't recover from it. Ren has Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder after he got positive Covid-19 and lost his little sister. He became introvert, insecure, overthinking, and anxious. He is stressed out and easily gets panic attack because he lost his little sister. After he realized that he became so anxious and overthinking about everything, he went to ICEO hypnotherapy in Batam and realized that he diagnoses with PTSD. This is the example of PTSD phenomenon in real life. As stated in Keyes et al. (2014), the sudden or unexpected death of someone is one of the factors for some mental disorders, including PTSD, major depressive disorder, panic disorder, and alcohol use disorders.

The researcher discovered the phenomena of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in the novel entitled "Cherry." The novel was written by Nico Walker and published in 2018. "Cherry" was a novel tells about a man named Cherry who had Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder after he went back from military. He had a lot of traumatic experience when he was in the military. He had medicine dependence and being in love with a woman named, Emily. Both of them were in medicines dependence and eventually, heroin. Because they did not have enough money to pay the bills for medicine, they became robberies and rob the bank. They also had a problem with drugs mafia. The searcher wanted to analyze the cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to the character named Cherry in the novel "Cherry." The

reasons why the researcher used novel "Cherry" as the data source, it was because the main character had struggle with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder until he became a robbery and trapped in the trouble that he created.

"The story of become **addicted** to heroin is that you can kill yourself really slow, but you felt really so great when you are doing it." (25:00-26:15)

From the quotation above, Cherry said that he has had addicted to heroin. He had become addicted to heroin since he went back from military. It made him feel comfortable and calm when he used it because his PTSD. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder has causes and symptoms like other mental illness. There are some causes that developed the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. The development of Post-Traumatic Stress disorder is followed by traumatic experiences in the past. According to Davison, (2012), there are three kinds of causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder which are genetic cause, brain structure cause, environmental cause, and psychological cause. It can be seen from the following below.

For the previous research, first there is Retnowaty, (2019) discovered deixis in Donald Trump's speech to UN General Assembly using theory by Yule to analyse the data. The researcher also used descriptive qualitative to conduct the data. The result of the research there are five kinds of deixis in Donald Trump's speech. There are 334 utterances found in the data.

Next there is Astria et al. (2019). The researcher discovered types of deixis found in the students' paper. The researcher analyzed the data using theory by Levinson and Yule. The researcher also used descriptive qualitative to conduct the data. The result of the research that the person deixis more dominant in student's paper rather than the others.

Ilham, Poli, and Makka. (2019) analyzed the survival instinct of the main character in the novel entitled "The War of the World" by Herbert George. The aim of the research to revealed the survival instinct of the main character of novel which were basic instinct, life instinct (Eros), and death instinct (Thanatos). The researcher used psychoanalytic approach by Freud (1921). The data are taken from dialogues and narrations from the novel. The research revealed the survival instinct of the main character which are basic instincts, life instinct, and death instinct using Freud (1921).

Qodariyah, Rohamah, and Sugiyani. (2017) discovered the psychological conflicts of the main character in the novel entitled "Sharp Objects" by Gillian Flynn. The researcher found two different types of psychological conflicts using the id, ego, and superego theory by Freud (1921). The research used qualitative research method to conduct the data. The data are taken from the dialogues and narrations from the novel. The result of it is that the researcher found two types of psychological conflicts which are approach-avoidance conflict and avoidance-avoidance conflict regarding the id, ego, and superego theory by (Freud, 1921).

From the previous research above, it can be concluded that both of the researcher using psychological approach to analyze the main character's psychological problems. The researcher is going to use novel "Cherry" by Nico Walker. The researcher wants to analyze the causes of PTSD using theory by Davison, (2012) in the book "Abnormal Psychology." When analyze about the causes of mental illness in the literary works, the researcher is not analyzing that the character and the story based on the real people or real story, but the researcher analyze about the mental illness that happened to the character represent the psychological experience of human beings in real life.

Method

This research will be conducted with descriptive qualitative research to present the result of the research. The purpose of descriptive qualitative research is to conduct the data by collect them through documents, observation, interview, also investigate. According to Creswell, (2013) that research design is the plan and the procedure for research to conduct the data collection and analysis. The result of descriptive qualitative research will be presented by using words and sentences so that the reader will be understand the intention of the research and the analysis of the research.

In collecting the data, the researcher uses method by (Creswell, 2013). According to Creswell, (2013), the data collection procedures in qualitative research involve four basic types: observation, interview, documentation and visual image. Observation is how the data observed and collected by the researcher. Interview and documentation are about how the data is suitable to the objective of the research. There are some steps of collecting the data. First, the researcher will download and watch the movie "Chery." Second, the researcher will read the whole script of the movie and watch the movie. Third, the researcher will highlight and take notes of the dialogues and narrations that contain four causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in the movie. And the last, the researcher will classify the data based on the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder using theory by (Davison, 2012).

In analyzing the data, the researcher will be used theory by Creswell, (2013) to conduct the data. The data will be analyzed with preparation, understanding the data, classifying the data, analyzing, and the last is making a conclusion (Creswell, 2013). First, the researcher will be sorting or highlighting the data that needs to be analyzed. Second, the researcher will identify and classify the dialogues and narrations based on the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Second, the researcher will analyze based on the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder using theory by (Davison, 2012).

Results

Psychology

According to Wellek & Warren (1954), the study of psychology in literature is to analyzing the author's personality, how literary work was made, the psychological types presented in the literary works and the characteristics of the characters' personality, and the last is the effect of literature for the readers. Generally, literature is related to the literary works, while psychology is related to human beings, personality, and mental processes (Siswantoro, 2004). The study of psychology in literature is to understand the mental significance in literary works as long as the theme of the work is about human beings. The psychology related to the characters that portrayed in the literary works. The characters supported the literary works to know about the psychology problem in literary works.

Davison, (2012) stated that Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is a mental illness which caused by someone who has a terrible, shocking, and dangerous experiences in the past. According to Freud (1923), a mental illness for someone that have experienced with traumatic event in the past. The symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder can be anxious, overthinking, depression, stressed out, trembling, shaking, crying out, sweating, and the worse is committing suicide. Someone who has Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder has a vivid flashback in a particular time. They also have lack of sleep, anti-social, and difficult to concentrate over something.

There are some causes that developing every mental illness. Mental illness is not happened suddenly without any reasons. According to Davison, (2012) there are some factors that developed Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to someone who has traumatic experiences.

Genetic Cause

Genetic cause is one of the factors to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Someone in family who has mental illness, such as anxiety disorder or depression, is at the higher risk to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to others in their family. For example when a mother has anxiety disorder in the family, and sometimes she shows action or reaction from the symptoms of her anxiety disorder. From that action or reaction, it will be a cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder for her children.

Environmental Cause

People who have past or traumatic experience in the past are at the higher risk to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. It is because traumatic experience or crime victims develop depression and trauma which one of the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. For example when people have traumatic accident in the

past, and in their present life it will be a cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Brain Structure Cause

People who have different brain structure are at higher risk to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. There are certain areas of the brain which regulate the emotions and fear of traumatic events. It is different with someone who has normal brain structure. Their brain does not regulate the emotions and fear towards traumatic events. For example when someone in the middle of traumatic experience. For people who have different brain structure, it will be a cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in the future. But for some people, their brain does not develop the experience to have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in the future.

Psychology Cause

People who struggle with mental illness, such as depression or anxiety disorder, are at the higher risk to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. For example, when someone has anxiety disorder and their action or reaction of the symptoms will be a cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to himself/herself.

The researcher discovered causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in the movie "Cherry" by the utterances and narrations by the characters in the movie. There are 10 causes discovered in the movie including genetic cause and environmental cause.

Discussion

Data 1

I didn't go around kicking hajis in the face for no reason and I didn't know anyone who did, but Jimenez was dead and I was going to kick the haji in the face. I brought the kick as hard as I could, aiming centre mass. But I stopped halfway to connecting. It was all I could do to stay on the one foot and not fall on my ass. The haji got up and stretched and he shuffled out of the room. I can't remember when it had occurred to me that maybe he was also retarded. I unfucked myself and went outside to see where the haji had gone. He was heading off into the fields, looking up into the sun. Nobody touched him. (18:00-20:43)

Quotation above is explained about traumatic experience that happened to Cherry when he was in the military. The most influenced experience that happened to Cherry and caused him to have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder was when Cherry lost his teammates one by one. His group name in military was 'Cherry' which from

his own name. His teammates were Jimenez, Arnold, Shoo, Lessing, Yuri, Bautista, and Cheetah who died at once in front of his eyes. The quotation above explained the events where Jimenez found dead in front of his eyes by the Hajis. As stated in the above quotation, Cherry was not type of army who kicked off the Hajis without no reasons. But at that time, the Hajis was killed Jimenez and Cherry could not control himself because he lost one of his teammates.

Data 2

Arnold came in. Fuentes had relieved him. **He said he'd heard on the radio that the three guys we had put on the helicopter were dead.** It fucked me up; I was kind of devastated. They hadn't looked like they were going to die. What had we missed? (22:00-23:30)

The quotation above is explained the cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder suffered by Cherry. When he first ever arrived at Iraq, he helped three guys from the war. Couple weeks ago, he heard that three guys that he helped were died. As a human being, he helped that three guys and he must left them because he needs to go to another combat mission. But the three guys were died. This is the traumatic experience that makes Cherry has Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in his future life. Feeling sorry and guilty for what happened to the three guys triggered him into having Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Data 3

He said, "Is there anything you want to tell me?"

He hit the boy some more. The boy took it quietly. His legs buckled but the sergeant had him by the neck. No one said anything. **The sergeant hit the kid some more. He had his mind made up to hit the kid for a while, so he did.** And it was meaningless because we were looking for some dead men. They'd died and gone to the Internet. That's where people go when they die these days. At least when they die like that. (30:00-33:12)

Quotation above is explained about terrible experiences suffered by Cherry. He tried to find a dead body and bring it to the camp so that they can investigate it. But another platoons from the army slaughtered a Haji family in front of Cherry's eyes. He saw a kid was beaten up by an army guy. He tried to help the kid but the he cannot beat the power of the army guy. He was just stood there and crying while the kid was beaten up by the army guy. This is one of the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder suffered by Cherry while he was served in the army.

Data 4

It didn't work out. It was 70% my fault. I'd been getting into the OxyContin pretty hard, and it made me feel a type of way so as I wasn't about taking

any shit from her. **Also I was pretty fucked in the head, and I was being a sad crazy fuck about some horrors I'd been through. It's true that you go through some horrors and it fucks you up.** I don't care what violent motherfuckers say; if it doesn't fuck you up then it's only cuz you're just too fucking stupid. Still there's no use being a sad crazy fuck about it because you kill yourself like that. And I was seeing ghosts. And I was talking too goddamn much. And I was making her miserable. I guess I wanted her to feel like shit.

From the quotation above, it can be seen that the horrors from what happened in the military is still haunted him. The cause of traumatic experience that happened to him in military caused him to have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. From the quotation above explained that he has been a sad person because the horrors of military that he had been through. It makes him hallucinated every day.

Data 5

Because of all the horrors that haunted him, I become fucked up. I'll try to use his Xanax. But it won't stop. **It is because of him. I need to deal with this PTSD.** Sometimes I cut, and it healed. But it hurts. (14:13-16:00)

From the quotation above, it can be seen that Emily has Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder because she dealt with Cherry and his Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder every day. She needs to calm herself down while Cherry also needs to be calmed by her. She struggles with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder because of Cherry. Genetic cause is one of the factors to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Someone in family who has mental illness, such as anxiety disorder or depression, is at the higher risk to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to others in their family. Even though they are not family, but they were living together.

Data 6

He blames me for everything. But I cannot blame him for what he did. **He has depression for over 18 years and I need to deal with it every fucking day. What am I supposed to do with that? I just want to kill myself for all the shits I have been through.** (18:00-19:19)

From the quotation above, it can be seen that Emily also got his Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder from her father. Emily explained that she dealt with her depression father for over 18 years. She has been through all her problems by herself. She struggles with her depression father and now she also struggles with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that she got from her depression father. Genetic cause is one of the

factors to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Someone in family who has mental illness, such as anxiety disorder or depression, is at the higher risk to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to others in their family.

Data 7

Cherry: "Yeah I feel anxious sometimes"

Psychiatrist: "How long you have been through that?"

Cherry: "**Since I broke up with Emily**" (34:55-37:02)

The conversations above uttered by Cherry and his psychiatrists. Cherry explained about what he felt these days. He said he sometimes felt anxious. And the psychiatrist asked him how long he has been through that. Cherry answered since he got divorced with Emily. From here, it can be seen that Cherry got his Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder since he was divorced with Emily.

Data 8

Cherry: "Don't go you stupid ass, I got you. Fuck I don't want to lose you. This is going to kill me." the blood is still bleeding. He got shots by the Hajis.

Shoo got his last breathe. He died. I need to struggle again with my depression and one of my teammates died. Shoo also has the same problem like me. He is my bro.

Quotation above is explained about traumatic experience that happened to Cherry when he was in the military. The quotation above explained the events where Shoo was died in front of him. As stated in the above quotation, Shoo got shots by the Hajis and Cherry cannot help him. It can be concluded that one of the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to Cherry is when Shoo died in front of him.

Data 9

Cherry: "I saw them slaughter the army. But I cannot do anything. It kills me. It is stuck in my head. I'm trembling."

The horrors from the army haunted me. I saw some armies from another platoons being slaughtered by the hajis. I got panic attack.

From the quotation above, it can be seen that the horrors from what happened in the military is still haunted him. The cause of traumatic experience that happened

to him in military caused him to have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. From the quotation above explained that he saw the armies being slaughtered by the armies and he got panic attacks after remember about that.

Data 10

The car accident remembers me about that day. When we drove around the deserts. The car behind us got bombed by the Hajis. **Two of my teammates died. I got panic attacks after that every time I remember about that day.**

From the quotation above, it can be seen that Cherry explained one of the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that he got when he was in the military. Cherry and his teammates drove around in the deserts but then the car behind them got bombed by the Hajis. He got Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder after that event.

Conclusion

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder or mostly people called it as PTSD is one of mental illnesses which cause by traumatic experience from the past. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder portrayed from the main character in the novel "Cherry" by Nico Walker. There are two limitations of the problem in this research, which are; (1) the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to the main character in the novel "Cherry" by Nico Walker; (2) the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to the main character in the novel "Cherry" by Nico Walker.

The causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to the main character named "Cherry" in the novel "Cherry" which is environmental causes and genetic causes. It is based on traumatic experiences that happened to the characters in the movie while he was an army medic in Iraq war. As an army medic, Cherry becomes familiar to dead bodies or any traumatic experience that happened in the war. Especially when he saw his teammates died in front of him. Those traumatic experiences caused him to have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Acknowledgement

First of all, the researcher wants to say thank you to God and Mr. Gaguk Rudianto who gives her suggestion and helps her to improve her knowledge in literature. The researcher also wants to say thank you to friends who always there to help her and give her any suggestion to improve her research. In addition, the researcher wants to say thank you to IAIN Palopo that wants to publish this research online. Hopefully, this research can help the readers to understand about psychology portrayed in the literary work.

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