

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL REVIEW

2.1 Review of Related Studies

There have been some precursor studies taking the similar issues to this study, as follows:

2.1.1. An Analysis of The Main Character's Conflicts and Personality Development in Remy Sylado's "Ca Bau Kan" by Kristina Harpana from Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana.

This study analyzes the conflicts and the personality development of the main character in Remy Sylado's "Ca Bau Kan" by using a combination of theories from the experts. The conflicts are categorized according to Likumahuwa (2001:82) saying that different points of view, needs and goals between characters could stimulate social conflicts, also an elemental conflict that takes place between character and the force of nature and environment. The theory by Morgan, King and Robinson (1981:235) that divides types of internal conflicts are also applied. Furthermore, the writer used the need-fulfillment model by Maslow as quoted in Robert E. Franken (1983:112) to find the character needs leading to conflicts. Finally, the personality development is analyzed using Tedeschi, Lindskold and Rosenfield, and Papalia and Olds.

This study proves that the main character, Tan Pen Liang was able to fulfill five hierarchical needs of human beings after succeeded overcoming both social conflict and inner conflicts. As the result, Tan Pen Liang develops into a more mature man, he does not obsessed with property competitions or reprisals again,

but the happiness of his family instead. This also strengthen the result that he has grown into a stronger character.

2.1.2. A Socio-Pschological Approach Analysing Khalia's Conflicts ad Her Persnoality Development in "Losing Isaiah" by Clara Dina Oktorina from Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana.

This study analyses the conflicts and the personality development of the main character in the film "Losing Isaiah" to find out her conflicts and how she solves them and how her personality develops because of it. This study emphasizes on the use of socio-psychological approach in which it is a systemic learning about nature and also the human performance or behaviour with the issues of how a person and his/her social group affects each other.

Using the theories of Baron and Bryne and also Harber and Runyon, the writer find out Khaila's conflicts and develops a better personality, especially her attitude toward drugs and she also succeeded fulfilling society demads to change her behaviour.

The previous studies shows that personality development and conflicts have been interesting subjects of research in literary world. Those studies also shows that using psychological approach might be one of the best way to analyze the matter. Even so, this study differs from them as this study reviews a particular novel with its own attractions. The final findings of this study will give a new original knowledge instead of merely expanding it.

2.2 Review of Related Theories

2.2.1 Maslow's Theory of Personality

Human beings are born with a basic set of needs that they strive to satisfy (Franken, 1982:436). Abraham H. Maslow states that "these needs are organized in a hierarchical fashion whereby needs lowest in the hierarchy must be satisfied first". One must fulfill lower

level needs before moving to higher-level ones while reaching self actualization (Pfeiffer, 1991:245). These needs are divided into Deficiency needs (psychological, safety and social needs) and Growth needs (esteem, self-actualization needs) which are put in the diagram as:

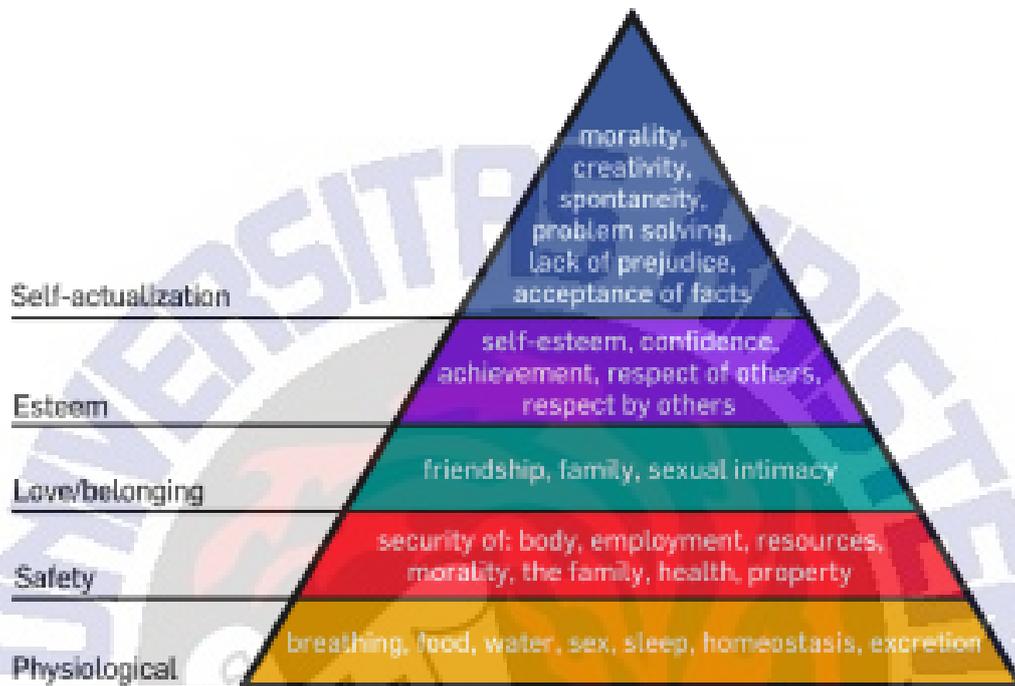


Figure 1: Maslow's hierarchy of needs.

1. Physiological Needs

These are very crucial yet basic needs of human beings. These needs are related directly to survival, they are not only the most of obvious of our needs but also function as the instant motives we have (Liebert & Spiegler, 1982:349). They include the need for food, water, shelter, clothing, sleep, sex, and so on.

2. Safety Needs

These needs are the most visible when the future is unpredictable (Burger, 1986:268). Although they are particularly dominant in children but they are also appear and actively influence adults (Koswara, 1991). These needs include

security, protection, dependency, stability, and freedom of fear, anxiety, and chaos (Liebert & Spiegler, 1982:50).

3. Belongingness and Love Needs

These are the first intrapersonal needs to be felt after the previous personal needs, which include love, affection, and affiliation. When these belongingness and love need can not be achieved, people will have the feelings of rejection and friendlessness (Liebert & Spiegler, 1982:351).

4. Esteem Needs

Marslow (1970) divides esteem needs into two subsidiary sets: self esteem and esteem from others. Self-esteem involves a desire for competency, mastery, achievement, strength, adequacy, confidence, independence, and freedom. While esteem for others involves desires for recognition, appreciation, attention, prestige, reputation, status, and fame. In short, we want others to respect and recognize us (Liebert & Spiegler, 1982:352).

5. Self-Actualization Needs

Self-actualization is the highest level and the most difficult to satisfy. It includes the needs for personal development and self- fulfillment that exist in risk-taking, seeking autonomy, and developing freedom to act (Pfeiffer, 1991:246).

An individual may move on from a lower need to a higher one when a relative gratification submerges or after a forced deprivation, renunciation or suppression of lower basic needs and then allow the next higher need in the hierarchy to emerge. However, other than that basic gratification process, there is also a secondary consequences which is caused by an change of interest where a certain phenomena becomes interesting for the first time and the old one becomes boring, even repulsive. It is the same as a shift in the human values which impacts on the cognitive capacities (attention, perception, learning, remembering,

forgetting, and thinking). In this case, the new interests or needs are not only new, but in certain senses are higher (Maslow, 1954:59,60).

The hierarchy of needs must be fulfilled from the lowest to the highest ones, but it does not need to be a hundred percent-fulfilled to move onto the higher one, if a particular need has partly been fulfilled, a higher need might have come in hand (Asnawi, 2002:92). However, according to Maslow, human needs underlie conflicts. As cited by Mislak and Sexton, he argues that conflict is caused by neurosis, which is the unfulfillment of deficiency needs causing resistance to self-actualization (2005:128). An individual can try to go in the direction of self-actualization by solving the lesser, prerequisite motivational problems (Maslow, 1970:64). This means that in the process of fulfilling the needs, one will face conflicts.

Maslow (1954:108) divides conflict into:

1. Sheer choice: a choice between two paths to the same goal, this goal being relatively unimportant for the individual, it even mostly does not rise a feeling of conflict at all. For example, a boy is going to eat lunch and he chooses fried chicken over chicken soup.
2. Choice between two paths to the same (vital, basic) goal: a choice of alternative ways to reach an important goal for the individual. For example, a woman needs to choose between a blue dress or a red one to go to a party to make a good impression of her.
3. Threatening conflict: a choice between two different goals, both vitally necessary. Here even after the choice is made, the feeling of conflict still remains because the choice given up is almost as necessary as the one chosen. For example, a married man's wife has to undergo an important surgery has to choose whether he wants to accompany his wife or attend a business meeting. If he goes to his wife, he might lose

a business deal but in the other hand if he attends the business meeting, he won't be able to fulfill his duty as a husband.

4. Catastrophic conflict: all the choices are equally catastrophic or threatening in their effects or else there is only one possibility. This can be seen from the example of a man who is waiting for a execution in a few minutes.

In line with Maslow, Warga (1983:112) describes conflicts as a special sort of frustration because it requires right solution that you choose among alternatives.

2.2.3 Personality Development

Many experts such as Fromm, Jung, Horney, Allport and others consider growth, individuation, autonomy, self-actualization, and personality development as synonymous (Maslow, 1968:24). If growth is defined as the various processes which bring an individual toward self-actualization, then it is a gratification of basic needs to the point where they disappear and the higher needs appear into consciousness. One passes into the other and is a necessary condition for it (Maslow, 1968:26,27) Therefore, as the hierarchy of needs from the lowest one to the highest one, in which self-actualization is fulfilled; growth is inevitable. So basically, an individual's personality develops as he pursue the growth needs and succeed fullfilling them. The personality development is determined by whether an individual succedeed in reaching self-actualization (Sibylle & Mary, 1953:139).

In his book *Toward a Psychology of Being*, Maslow describes a self-actualizing person to have certain characteristics, from many characteristics, there are six points that summarize the character of a self-actualized person:

1. Acceptance and Realism: Self-actualized people have realistic perceptions of themselves, others and the world around them.

2. **Problem-centering:** Self-actualized individuals are concerned with solving problems outside of themselves, including helping others and finding solutions to problems in the external world. These people are often motivated by a sense of personal responsibility and ethics.
3. **Spontaneity:** Self-actualized people are spontaneous in their internal thoughts and outward behavior. While they can conform to rules and social expectations, they also tend to be open and unconventional.
4. **Autonomy and Solitude:** Another characteristic of self-actualized people is the need for independence and privacy. While they enjoy the company of others, these individuals need time to focus on developing their own individual potential.
5. **Continued Freshness of Appreciation:** Self-actualized people tend to view the world with a continual sense of appreciation, wonder and awe. Even simple experiences continue to be a source of inspiration and pleasure.
6. **Peak Experiences:** Individuals who are self-actualized often have what Maslow termed *peak experiences*, or moments of intense joy, wonder, awe and ecstasy. After these experiences, people feel inspired, strengthened, renewed or transformed.

An important point in fulfilling all the needs, an individual must be independent and rely only on himself in making decision (Maslow in Ryckman, 2985:393,396). The process of self-actualizing is a neverending series of free choice situations, confronting each individual at every point throughout his life, in which he must choose between the delights of safety and growth, dependence and independence, regression and progression, immaturity and maturity (Maslow, 1968:47). But if an individual has achieved self-actualization, conflict and contradiction and disassociation can then be perceived as inevitable, necessary, even fated. Therefore, he or she can understand those conflicts and splits; and appreciate them as a kind of wisdom (Maslow, 1968:92).

2.3 Theoretical Framework

The hierarchy of needs by Maslow will be used to solve the first problem, which is to find out the needs of Jonas. It will also become the base to analyze the conflicts occur in the process of fulfilling the needs. For example: in the novel, the Community of Elders have set a kind of standard of Assignments, each of the adultery jobs has their own honor in the society. For example, being a Birthmother is not very honorific for after three births, they will be sent into labor work for the rest of their adult life (p.21,22). And Jonas might felt like he has achieved the highest prestige in the society when he was chosen as the Receiver, therefore he has accomplished his esteem needs. However, as he trains as a Receiver and starts gaining knowledge from the memories, Jonas was shaken with frustration, as quoted from page 121, "Jonas did not want to go back. He didn't want the memories, didn't want the honor, didn't want the wisdom, didn't want the pain..." Jonas' perception of his job shifts, he does not see his job as an honor anymore, as a matter of fact he feels burdened by it. His esteem needs is not merely about the honorific job as a Receiver but also about how he can be a competent Receiver with wisdom to help his community. But as he tries to fulfill it, he is later faced into the choices to stay at the community and continue his job as a Receiver or leave the community as the Giver suggest, to give his community a chance to change. Jonas faces a conflict.

An individual can go towards self-actualization by solving the lesser, prerequisite motivational problems (Maslow, 1970:64). As quoted in Ryckman (2985:393,396), Maslow also emphasizes that in making choices to fulfill the needs an individual must be independent and rely on his own decision. So when Jonas finally makes up his mind to flee on his own, he practically is on his way in self-actualizing. Jonas can self-actualize for he has fulfilled his esteem needs, although not a hundred percent. Jonas' values shift and pushes him to reach a higher level of needs through his conflicts, to take risk and attain his own full potential as a

human being, to-self actualize. So when Jonas is freed from problems the problems, and succeeded in transcending the deficiency needs, he would reach as descibed as a development of personality (Maslow, 1968:98;202)

