

**ALIENATION OF BRUNO & SHMUEL'S CHARACTERS IN JOHN BOYNE'S**

***THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS***

**THESIS**

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**UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM**

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**ALIENATION OF BRUNO & SHMUEL'S CHARACTERS IN JOHN  
BOYNE'S *THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS***

**THESIS**

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In Partial fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S)

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**2021**

## STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled “**Alienation Of Bruno & Shmuel's Characters in John Boyne's *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas***” is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

Malang, 09 Desember 2021

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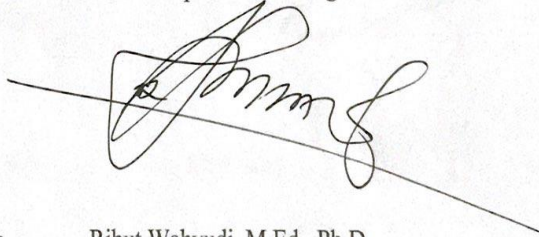
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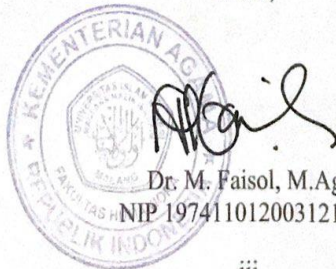
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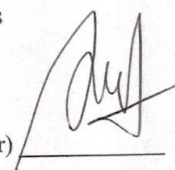
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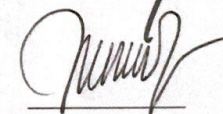
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## **MOTTO**

*“Hidup adalah keberanian menghadapi tanda tanya”*

(Soe Hok Gie)

## **DEDICATION**

I proudly dedicate my thesis to:  
My beloved father Abdurrakhman S, Pdi  
My beloved mother Asmariah  
My beloved Sister Fauziatunnisa S, Kep

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Hafiz Anshori

## ABSTRACT

**Anshori, Hafiz** (2021) *Alienation of Bruno & Shmuel's Characters in John Boyne's The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*. Undergraduate Thesis. Departement of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang.

Advisor : Dr. Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum.

Keywords : Psychological Approach, Alienation, The Boy in The Striped Pajamas

This study aims to explain the various causes of alienation that appear in *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*. Research on the causes of alienation in this novel can provide a deeper understanding of how war and human atrocities can affect a person's mental health. This can help in further understanding the theme of alienation in literary research. The method used in this study is a literature study with a psychological approach supported by Erich Fromm's concept of alienation. The source of the data in this research is the novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne, with attention to the story units in the form of character dialogue and author's narration. From this research, it can be shown that there are various causes of alienation in Bruno & Shmuel's characters found in the novel, namely alienation caused by other people, alienation caused by society, and alienation caused by oneself.

## ABSTRAK

**Anshori, Hafiz** (2021). *Alienation of Bruno & Shmuel's Characters in John Boyne's The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*. Skripsi. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang.

Pembimbing : Dr. Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum

*Kata Kunci : Pendekatan Psikologi Sosial, Alienasi, The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*

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Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan berbagai penyebab alienasi yang muncul di dalam novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*. Penelitian tentang penyebab alienasi dalam novel ini dapat memberikan pemahaman yang lebih dalam tentang bagaimana perang dan kekejaman manusia dapat mempengaruhi kesehatan mental seseorang. Hal ini dapat membantu dalam pemahaman lebih lanjut tentang tema alienasi dalam penelitian karya sastra. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah studi kepustakaan dengan pendekatan psikologis yang didukung oleh konsep keterasingan Erich Fromm. Sumber data dalam penelitian ini adalah novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* karya John Boyne, dengan memperhatikan satuan cerita berupa dialog tokoh dan narasi pengarang. Dari penelitian ini, terdapat berbagai penyebab alienasi pada tokoh Bruno & Shmuel yang ditemukan dalam novel, yaitu alienasi yang disebabkan oleh orang lain, alienasi yang disebabkan oleh masyarakat, dan alienasi yang disebabkan oleh diri sendiri.

## مستخلص البحث

أنشوري ، حافظ (2021). اغتراب شخصيات برونو وشموئيل في رواية جون بوين الصبي في بيجاما مخططة. فرضية. قسم الأدب الإنجليزي ، كلية العلوم الإنسانية ، جامعة الدولة الإسلامية مولانا مالك إبراهيم مالانج.

المستشار: الدكتور مندي رحيو ، الماجستي

الكلمات المفتاحية: منهج علم النفس الاجتماعي ، الاغتراب ، الصبي في البيجاما المخططة

كان هذا البحث يهدف إلى تحدف هذه الدراسة إلى شرح الأسباب المختلفة للاغتراب التي تظهر في The Boy in The Striped Pajamas. يمكن أن يوفر البحث عن أسباب الاغتراب في هذه الرواية فهماً أعمق لكيفية تأثير الحروب والفظائع البشرية على الصحة العقلية للشخص. يمكن أن يساعد هذا في زيادة فهم موضوع الاغتراب في البحث الأدبي. الطريقة المستخدمة في هذه الدراسة هي دراسة أدبية ذات نهج نفسي يدعمه مفهوم الاغتراب لإريك فروم. مصدر البيانات في هذا البحث هو رواية The Boy in The Striped Pajamas للكاتب جون بوين ، مع الاهتمام بوحداث القصة في شكل حوار الشخصية ورواية المؤلف. من هذا البحث ، يمكن إثبات أن هناك أسبابًا مختلفة للاغتراب في شخصيات Bruno & Shmuel موجودة في الرواية ، وهي الاغتراب الناجم عن أشخاص آخرين ، والاغتراب الناجم عن المجتمع ، والاغتراب الناجم عن الذات.

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background of the Study**

There are various ways to describe the human condition and the world. One of them is through literature. Literature and life are two complementary social phenomena in their being as something existential (Suyitno, 1996:3). It also has a relation to the element of truth that exists in literary works. The truth of the work of fiction lies in its author. The truths that appeared in fiction can even conflict with the truth of the laws that exist in the real world. This explanation allows us to assume that fiction is an imaginative story based solely on the author's experience and imagination.

As a result of the creativity of the author, literary works will not be separated from society, as the author becomes part of society. In literary and community study activities, a commonly used approach is to study literature as a social document, as a portrait of reality. As a social document, literature is used to describe an overview of social history (Wellek and Warren, 1990:112).

Literary works are not just a game of imagination, but is an understanding of the manners of the contemporary society as the embodiment of a certain life. Novels are mirrors that can be carried anywhere and are best suited to reflect all aspects of life and nature. As a picture of social structure, what is contained in the level is a picture of the problems of society in general viewed from a certain

environmental angle, which eventually leads to universal properties (Damono, 1984: 19).

A good literary work is a literary work that is able to recreate the sense of life, weight and atmosphere capable of recreating the whole life it lives itself. Good literature is able to create *a sense of meaning in* human life. From the author's design, the world of reality can be recorded with creation and imagination. The position of literary works as social documents is associated with the situations and conditions that occurred at the time the literary work was created. The situation and condition of the community will also affect the concept of the author's thinking. So that the work of literature is not stuck in the condition as a mere historical record, at the time of its creation the author does not simply plagiarize the reality of life.

However, the author certainly cannot be separated from real-world life which is the object of the story. Even though the novel's truth was created by the author, but we cannot deny that in the world of literature, especially regarding novels, there are literary forms based on facts. Abrams (1981: 61) stated that a work of the use of facts in the novel is sole as a storytelling process, as a mechanism material in sorting the plots in the story. The use of facts in the novel is sole as a storytelling process, as a mechanism material in sorting the plots in the story.

Many aspects build a novel as a work of fiction. According to Nurgiyantoro (2000: 4), a novel as a work of fiction offers a world, a world that contains an idealized life model, an imaginative world, which is built through various intrinsic elements such as events, plots, characters (and characterizations), backgrounds, points of view, etc. All of that aspect is built on an imaginative basis. Writing a

literary work such as a novel, of course, cannot be separated from the approaches that exist in the world of literature. According to Abrams (1981), there are four approaches to literary writing. The four approaches are the mimetic approach, the pragmatic approach, the expressive approach, and the objective approach. Before writing a novel (which in this case is also a literary work), of course, we cannot be separated from choosing these approaches.

Discussing the relationship between literature and life, Rudolf Unger (in Wellek and Warren, 1990:141) stated that literature is not a philosophy that translated in imaging form, but rather a general expression or attitude towards life. Unger further explained the problems worked on by literature include (1) problems of fate, namely the relationship between freedom and compulsion, human spirit and nature, (2) religious issues, (3) problems of myth and magic, (4) problems involving human conception, human relationship with death and the concept of love, and (5) problems of society and family.

There are several things from the above opinions related to the objects in this study, it is related to freedom and compulsion, and also problems of society and family. The things mentioned above is related to the concept of Social Alienation indicated in *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*.

The novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* is a novel written by John Boyne, a writer from Dublin, the capital of Ireland. John Boyne began his career as a writer when he studied at the University of Norwich, a campus located in eastern England. The thing that makes this novel interesting is the children's perspective that the writer brings up. Apart from the contents of the novel which

contains abominations, murders, and massacres, this novel can be categorized as children's literature. Children's literature is literature that reflects children's feelings and experiences through children's views (Norton, 1993). The whole story of this novel refers to the point of view of a nine-year-old German boy as the main character. Published in 2006, this novel attracted many readers from various backgrounds and various countries. To date, *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* has won many international awards and has been translated into 46 languages.

*The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* is a novel that takes place at a time where Jews were arrested and isolated in a special camp in Austwitz, Poland. The main character in the novel is Bruno, Bruno is a 9-year-old boy living in Berlin, Germany. Bruno lives in Berlin with his family, he has an older sister named Gretel who is 14 years old. His mother was an ordinary household woman, on the other hand, his father was a Nazi commander who was close to Hitler. One time, Bruno's family found out that the Furry (a pun from Fuhrer / Hitler) and his wife, Eva Braunn, were about to visit his house to have dinner together. However, Hitler's arrival was not only for that purpose, he had a special purpose, namely to assign Bruno's father to be the commander of the Auschwitz camp. As a highly respected leader, Hitler's orders could not be denied or rejected, some time later, the Bruno family immediately moved to Poland.

When he arrived at the Auschwitz camp, that was where Bruno began to experience a life that was contradictory to his previous life in Berlin. Despite living in a large house and large yards, as well as complete facilities and security, Bruno soon realized that his life there would limit his social life as a child. Although this

novel takes the setting of the Auschwitz death camp, there is no exaggerated description of the suffering experienced by the Jews who were held captive there. Everything is described from the point of view of children. But this is where the specialty of this novel is.

Based on some events and circumstances in this novel. The author is interested in relating it to the theory of alienation by Erich Fromm. According to Fromm, alienation occurs when individuals feel separate from themselves, other people, nature, and society. This occurs when individuals lose a sense of connectedness with themselves, when they no longer feel they have control over their own lives, or when they feel like objects in the hands of others. Fromm also explained that alienation occurs when individuals are separated from their work and feel that their work has no meaning or value (Fromm, 1955).

Alienation, according to Fromm, is a consequence of an increasingly fragmented and alienated society. Modern society, he argues, tends to make individuals feel isolated and powerless. Fromm views alienation as a serious threat to mental health and social well-being. Therefore, he stressed the importance of creating a society that is more humane and oriented toward human values.

In the context of Social Psychology, "alienation" is often used to describe a situation in which a person feels alien from himself and turns away from his surroundings to encourage that person to be hostile towards other people or society. Thus, human alienation is a mental disorder in where a person loses control over himself so that it has the potential to have a destructive effect on himself and his surroundings. Alienation is a feeling of not being part of anything and a feeling that

no one cares about whatever happens to us (Henslin, 2007). Mann defines alienation as a state or experience of isolation from groups or activities where a person must have or where someone must be involved (In Johnson, 2011). Alienation means losing the urge to socialize, losing creativity, losing control over the act of losing autonomy, and in short destroying the individual's potential (Zwagery & Akbar, 2018). The definitions of conditions and general characteristics of alienation described above are reflected in John Boyne's novel, *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*, which is the object of this research. This research is different compared to some previous studies on the same object and the same topic.

The term "alienation" has a fairly broad definition, mostly used to refer to personal psychological states, and types of social relationships (Roberts, 1987: 346). Kalekin Fishman (1996: 97) explains, "The term alienation refers to objective traits, subjective feelings, and conditions that hinder participation", and states, "In modern sociology, alienation is a term that refers to people who experience binding alien conditions, either in the social world as well as in itself" (Kalekin-Fishman, 1998: 6). Therefore the focus in this research is on Seeman's theory, which is more applicable to current research in John Boyne's novel "The Boy in The Striped Pajamas".

This research is very interesting since this research is not only analyzes reasons and reactions, but also forms, factors, and effects of social alienation in each character. From the explanation above, the researcher assumes that this study



is different, and might complete some previous researches that have been conducted before.

### **B. Research Question**

Based on the background above, the research question of this study is : How are the causes of alienation described in the novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*?

### **C. Significances of the Study**

This research will be seen from the theoretical and practical aspects. Theoretically, this study is expected to be an academic contribution in analyzing phenomena in a literary work especially in using the alienation theory by Erich Fromm.

Practically, this study is also expected to give more understanding to the literature student about the application of alienation theory in a novel. They also could use this result of the study as a comprehensive source to analyze a similar study about the alienation phenomenon.

The aim of this study is to apply recent theoretical contributions to the literature originating from alienated individuals in order to achieve a better understanding of how alienation manifests in the characters in the novel. Therefore, this study provides details on different perspectives about alienation from a psychological perspective. The results of this study also aim to increase the treasury in various scientific fields

#### **D. Scope and Limitation**

In collecting the data for this study, the author will focus on how alienation experienced by characters in *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* and its impacts to them. About how these characters experience alienation in the lives they live, by using an approach following the study to analyze the novel. Fromm's alienation theory is a psychological theory that focuses on individual experiences in modern capitalist society. This means that this theory cannot be directly applied to different social and cultural conditions. There are several important concepts in Fromm's alienation theory such as "loss of self", "unsatisfied desire", and "existential anxiety". However, the researcher does not automatically associate these concepts with the characters in the novel, but instead examines how these concepts can be used to understand the experiences of the characters. The theory used will be adapted to the cultural and social context faced by the characters in the novel.

#### **E. Definition of Key Terms**

The researcher describes the words used in this analysis to prevent misunderstanding. The results are the words most used in this analysis.

1. Alienation: Alienation is a way of life experience in which a person experiences himself as an alien. In short, it can be said that people no longer do things on the basis of their own will, but are driven by something outside themselves (Fromm, 1955)

2. Social Isolation: Social isolation is a condition in which an individual has decreased or is even completely unable to interact with other people around (Damaiyanti, 2012).
3. Power: Power is the ability to control others, events, or resources; to make happen what one wants to happen in spite of obstacles, resistance, or opposition (Webber, 1978)

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

In connection with the analysis that will be done on the novel by John Boyne, the author will present several theoretical studies to strengthen arguments about the causes of alienation to Bruno & Shmuel. In this case, the author will use a psychological approach concerning alienation to examine the relationship between the contents of the novel and alienation, while to strengthen the analysis, the author will use the concept of alienation by Erich Fromm as the main theory.

#### **A. Psychological Approach**

The relationship between psychology and literature has existed for a long time, since the age of science itself. Robert Downs (1961: 1949) via Abdurrahman (2003: 1) explains that psychology itself focuses on an area that is dark, mystical, and most sensitive to scientific evidence, and that dark area does exist in humans. It is from that dark area that various behaviors and activities emerge, including good, bad, creative, literary, and other behaviors.

Psychology is a field of science and applied science that scientifically studies human behavior and mental functions. Practitioners in the field of psychology are called psychologists. Psychologists seek to study the role of mental functions in individual and group behavior. In addition, they learn about the physiological and neurobiological processes that underlie behavior.

This in line with Fitriyah and Jauhar (2014: 1-6) who said that psychology is taken from the word psyche which means soul and logos which means science. Psychology as a science cannot be separated from the developmental aspect of

psychology itself and other sciences. Psychology can be defined as a science that talks about individual activities. This activity includes motor and cognitive activities, such as walking, talking, seeing, hearing, thinking, emotional activities such as laughing and crying, and feeling sad. Therefore, the science of psychology also has a relationship with the science of humans as its object, namely literature. Literature is a science that discusses human life which is often told in the form of literary works, such as novels, short stories, and novels.

The psychological approach in literary research is based on personality psychology. That is, the application of literary psychology to literary works is often applied based on the character's character, behavior, and actions of the character (Sangidu, 2007: 30). This can be analyzed when looking at the psychological aspects of characters in a literary work.

Psychology and literature are not new things, because the characters in literary works must be brought to life, given a soul that can be accounted for psychologically as well. A good writer, conscious or not, will incorporate the human soul into his work. It will be represented by the character of the story where the story takes place (Wellek and Warren, 1989: 41).

Semi (1993:76) explains that literary psychology is a discipline that views literary works as work that contains various events of human life played by imaginary figures that are in it or may also be played by factual figures. While psychology itself is a science that discusses human problems from a psychological aspect.

A psychological approach is a counter approach to the assumption that literary works always discuss the events of human life. Literary psychology is the analysis of texts taking into account the relevance and role of psychological studies. By focusing on the characters, it will be able to analyze inner conflicts that may be contrary to psychological theory. In this relationship, researchers must find symptoms and aspects that are hidden or deliberately hidden by the author, namely by utilizing psychological theories that are considered relevant.

The literary psychology approach can be interpreted as a way of analysis based on a psychological point of view. This is a different point of view from the assumption that literary works always discuss the events of human life which are reflections on examining and responding to life. However, studying literary works can be seen in the psychological elements of the characters. The function of psychology itself is to explore the inner soul that is carried out by the characters contained in literary works and to find out more about how human actions and responses to other actions (Harjana, 1991: 60).

This opinion was reinforced by Wellek and Warren (1993: 81-93), who stated that literary psychology entered the field of literary criticism in several ways, including discussions about the process of literary creation. Discussion of the psychology of the author (both as a type and as a researcher), or discussion of the teachings and principles of psychology that can be taken from literary works. Literary psychology is an approach that considers psychological aspects and concerns matters related to the human mind (Hardjana, 1985: 66). Through a psychological review, it will be seen the function and role of literature to present



human images to radiate the beauty of literary works and describe human life as a whole.

According to Schott (1962, in Sangidu, 2007: 30), there are three kinds of literary psychology methods that can be used to analyze a literary work. First, it describes the accidental relationship between the author and the 39 readers. Second, understanding the author's life to understand his work. Third, describe the character of the characters in the work under study.

Meanwhile, in Endaswara's view (2003: 97-98), there are three kinds of approaches in literary psychology. The first is a textual approach that examines the psychological aspects of characters in literary works. Second, a repressive-pragmatic approach examines the psychological aspects of the reader as a connoisseur of literary works, which is formed from the influence of the work he reads, as well as the reader's reception process when enjoying the work. Third, an expressive approach examines the psychological aspects of the writer in the creative process embodied in his work.

Research on literary psychology is based on basic assumptions that are influenced by, first, the notion that literary works are a product of a psyche, second, the study of the psychology of literature examines 40 character traits psychologically as well as aspects of thought. Perceptions and feelings of the author when creating the work (Edrawsrara, 2003:96).

All humanitarian issues related to the psyche have long been recorded in literary works. Trace the track record of human psychiatric problems can be done through literary psychology research. Psychology and literature have a functional

relationship, both of which study human psychology. The difference is that psychiatric symptoms in literary works are reflected by imaginary humans, whereas in psychology are real humans (Roekhan in Aminuddin, 1990: 93). Ironically, literary psychology research has been slower in development compared to another literary research. This can be proven by the least number of the thesis, theses, dissertations, and other scientific papers that utilize the approach of literary psychology (Ratna, 2013: 341).

The relationship between psychological perspective and alienation lies in the 'isolated' state itself, essentially alienation is a feeling felt by a person in a given situation. This is due to man's feelings of incompetence and helplessness of something inside or outside him that cannot be controlled. It is also part of the scope of psychology.

In this study will examine the alienation of characters in the novel. The alienation experienced by the characters in the novel is related to psychology. Psychology is known as a science that discusses the other side of humans. In psychology, human attitudes are discussed in self-control. Self-control is an individual's ability to be sensitive in reading the situation of oneself and the environment. In addition, it is also the ability to control and manage behavioral factors in accordance with situations and conditions to present oneself in socializing the ability to control behavior, the tendency to attract attention, the desire to change behavior so that it is suitable for others, pleasing others, always in conflict with people others, and cover up their feelings (Ghufroon and Risnawita, 2010: 21-22).

## **B. Alienation**

Alienation can be interpreted as a feeling of foreignness that is experienced or owned by an individual. An individual can be said to be alienated if he feels uncomfortable, or feels ostracized when he is in an association, either a friendship group or in a family environment.

This is in line with Petrovic (in Widodo 2005: 14-15), alienation refers to the basic understanding, of someone or something that becomes alienated or separated from someone or something else, because of a certain action, or because of the consequences of his actions. Alienation is often interpreted as a separate state, separated and isolated from society, nature, other people, or even himself. The study of psychology at this time is often used as a tool to examine various studies related to alienation.

In the opinion of Maran (2007: 189) said that alienation refers to feelings of being left out of the social environment with other people. In this case, people can feel alienated from other people or their social environment. There are even those who feel alienated even though they are in the midst of a crowd of people. It's called modern loneliness. Modern loneliness can occur because the subject (human) does not meet himself as a subject.

Modern loneliness can be described through life in a family environment. Even a child at home can experience alienation, even though he meets his parents and siblings every day. So it can be said that daily meetings cannot be said that there are meetings between human beings who have personalities, which require intensive communication.

Petrovic (in Widodo 2005: 15) said that the term self-alienation means the process of human action itself or the result of this process which causes oneself to be alienated from self, personality, and human nature. As Notowidagdo (2002: 207) says that alienation originates from the word alienated, which is taken from the root word "foreign". The word foreign has its meaning and is not recognized by other people, it can be said that the word alienates the meaning of being excluded from society, separated, or secluded from others. So it can be concluded that alienation means things that cause a person to be excluded from the association, secluded, or separated from other people.

Alienation is a part of human life, with people from all walks of life and various age ranges. Everyone will experience alienation in their lives, but whether or not people experience alienation for a long time depends on their conditions. Living in isolation or living in seclusion has also been experienced by Indonesian freedom fighters, who were later arrested by the colonialists and exiled.

In this case, Widodo (2005: 17) said that an alienated human is not a real human because he is not aware of his abilities, which have been created long ago. Humans who are not alienated will reach their full human potential, namely humans who realize themselves fully as "exists", and "free and creative". Based on the description above, alienation is a condition of a person's soul that feels alienated, isolated, and excluded from society, nature, work, or himself. Someone will experience alienation at some point in themselves, but the period is different, it can be a long or short time depending on the individual himself, whether he wants to

try to eliminate the alienation within himself or instead allows it to develop with his thoughts and feelings.

### **C. Erich Fromm's Alienation Concept**

Fromm's thinking in discussing the issue of alienation quite a lot develops the theory of alienation that was previously brought up by Karl Marx. This is because Fromm believes that in psychology which is his scientific domain, psychology is not only in the individual sphere but also social. The following is a further explanation of alienation according to Fromm.

#### **1. Alienation Caused by Other People**

Alienation originating from other people is a human condition that experiences alienation caused by someone around him. This alienation is usually caused by differences in social class, for example, workers and employers, but it can also be caused by disputes that occur between one individual and another individual.

Fromm (in Widodo 2005: 44) says that human relations in the capitalistic period caused humans to be alienated because humans at that time could feel powerless within themselves, this was because communication relations between humans were indirect, used each other, ignorant or did not care and were controlled by market law.

Human relations that use each other are shown in the example of workers and employers. In addition, the characteristics of humans in this form of alienation are humans who objectify themselves. That is, this human being has used himself

to become a commodity material. As a result of a relationship like this, in the true sense of love, humans are no longer able to love other humans. To love others, the most important condition is that the person must first love himself, the person must be able to respect himself and not degrade what he already has.

One of the manifestations of someone loving himself is not considering himself lower than other people, instead, humans must think that the shortcomings that exist in him may be an advantage for others. Fromm (in Widodo 2005: 45) says that the notion of self-love is different from the love that "acquires" or is usually called never satisfied with oneself, jealous when seeing other people's success, people like this whose life will not feel safe, their heart is always confused and full of worries.

Alienation caused by fellow human beings is related to destructive character. The character of the destructive form is an escape from alienation. Humans in this character will be more violent to destroy objects. This is done to maintain a person's life and integrity, but what he does is irrational and pathological. This person is always looking for an object to hurt, damage, or even kill.

Widodo (2005: 50) said that destructive characters arise because of emotional and intellectual, life intake, and sensuality that is not channeled. Fromm distinguishes between the instinct for life and the instinct for destruction. The ferocity to destroy someone is part of a blocked life instinct so it is inversely related to emotional, life intake, sensuality, and intellectual inhibition.

## 2. Alienation Caused by Society

Same as Hegel, Fromm stated that society is an alienated thing. When Hegel spoke of society concerning social substance as alienated, Hegel was thinking of a situation where individuals value social substance as alien to them. Unlike Hegel, Fromm does not characterize separation from society (social, economic, political, and cultural order) in the sense of alienation. Fromm said that society is alienated because society is structured in such a way that it tends to make individuals alienated in various aspects.

## 3. Alienation Caused by oneself

From all the scope of Fromm's concept of Alienation, the most important of these various forms of separation is the separation of the individual from himself. Repeatedly explained by Fromm in his writings that the main problem of alienation is a problem with oneself. The center of alienation is a person's self when confronted with nature, other humans, or society.

Alienation originating from oneself is someone who feels alienated in any situation and place. This alienation belongs to the class of humans who are alienated because of their nature, nature, and essence of humanity. This alienation is an alienation that can be congenital since childhood and is left until adulthood.

This statement was added by Fromm (in Widodo 2005: 38) mentioning that human nature has two parts, namely a fixed part and a flexible part – adaptable. The fixed part is the part that has a function to satisfy physiological urges such as hunger, thirst, sleep, and sex and these urges are carried out to avoid isolation from isolated morals, such as the inability to deal with death, illness, old age, and so on.

The character of the alienated human person is discussed by Fromm concerning modern phenomena that affect the individual character. In his critique, Fromm consistently discusses alienation concerning advances that ultimately shift the human mindset itself. If humans cannot overcome the forces outside themselves, they will find themselves powerless, worthless, or lose their passion for life (Koeswara, 1987: 16).



## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

Research as a scientific activity requires methods. Because with the presence of methods, the work of researchers can run effectively and efficiently. This chapter presents the research method of this study. There are research design, data sources, data collection, and data analysis.

#### **A. Research Design**

Research design consist of a systematic process of study or research that is applied in a manner as to learn deeper something about (Sheppard, 2020). The research design provides the context to understand the function of information at each of the analyzed the point of literary criticism. This study employs literary criticism, which focuses on analyzing literary work as the research method in the form of the novel by using a psychology approach. This approach is appropriate to analyze literary works which focus on the alienation experienced by the Character Bruno & Shmuel in novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* novel. Therefore, to get a better to an understanding of the literary criticism in the two characters, the researcher applies psychological approach.

#### **B. Data Sources**

The primary data were taken from *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* novel written by John Boyne. It is published by David Flicking books on 5 January 2006. It is consists of 216 pages. The data are in the forms of words, phrases, sentences, or discourse of the novel that indicate social alienation on the characters in

novel. Besides, the data is taken from many sources which are proper with psychological approach especially alienation such as a journal, theses, etc.

### **C. Data Collection**

Data collection in this research conducted by doing some steps to understand well the information about the story in the novel. First, Reading and understanding the text of the novel, in this step, researcher doing comprehensive reading. After having the data, researcher tried to understand the content of the novel. Identifying data supported to the problem of study. After reading and understanding the novel, the researcher chooses and identifies the dialogues, quotations, and sentences that related to social alienation. The last step, selecting appropriate data to the study, when the general data has relation to the topic of study, the researcher tries to select the data and take the evidences that related to the study.

### **D. Data Analysis**

In analyzing evidence, the researcher concentrated on analyzing some characters in the novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*, using Erich Fromm's Theory of Alienation and using the social psychological approach as a support for the research process.

The data analysis is handled in several steps. The steps are begun by checking the collected data. This procedure is done to know whether the data which have been collected are right or not.

The next step is reviewing and identifying the data. In this step, the researcher reviews and identifies the data which are related to the formulated statement of the problems by marking the statements or paragraphs in the novel.

The third step is organizing the data. The researcher organizes and separates the required data. The fourth step is analyzing and interpreting the data. The researcher did a deep analysis and found what are the causes of alienation on the two characters in *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*.

The last step is concluding. The researcher concludes and rechecks the data whether it is appropriate to answer the statement of the problems or not. This part is important because after analyzing the data, the researcher has to explain the conclusion. This conclusion must be appropriate to the statement of the problems.

## CHAPTER IV

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter contains the analysis of this research. The analysis in this chapter is determined by the objectives of the study. This chapter analyzes the factors causing the alienation of Bruno and Shmuel as main characters in *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*. Each analysis in this chapter will be based on the theories that have been discussed previously and the important points in this analysis will refer to the novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*.

#### **A. The Alienation of Bruno**

##### **1. The Alienation of Bruno Caused by Others**

Fromm said that the existence of love is the reason why relationships between humans are intertwined. However, Fromm also stated that love also requires alienation, because to fall in love, the other person must be a stranger. In this context, Bruno is alienated because of the conditions that separate him and his friends.

*“The house in Berlin was enormous, and even though he'd lived there for nine years he was still able to find nooks and crannies that he hadn't fully finished exploring yet. There were even whole rooms - such as Father's office, which was Out Of Bounds At All Times And No Exceptions - that he had barely been inside.” (p.12)*

In the quotation above, it is described that Bruno is a stranger to his father, his father's office is something beyond his reach. The relationship between the child and the father is an important aspect of the family. Bruno's tenuous relationship with his father was the initial trigger for how Bruno behaved towards other people

and his environment. The inquisitive nature of Bruno's child certainly required a father's role in it, but he did not get this, it became one of the early indications of alienation in Bruno.

Bruno has a very good attitude, he is a polite boy and appreciates others. This was due to his mother, who always told him to respect anyone. When he faced a situation he didn't like, getting tired after school and finding Maria, the maid at their house, packing all his personal belongings from his room, Bruno was still behaving in a good way, "... He asked in a polite tone as he could muster even though he was unhappy" (p.1).

*'But what about school?' said Bruno, interrupting her, a thing he knew he was not supposed to do but which he felt he would be forgiven for on this occasion. 'And what about Karl and Daniel and Martin? How will they know where I am when we want to do things together?' 'You'll have to say goodbye to your friends for the time being,' said Mother. 'Although I'm sure you'll see them again in time. And don't interrupt your mother when she's talking, please,' she added, for although this was strange and unpleasant news, there was certainly no need for Bruno to break the rules of politeness which he had been taught. (p.7)*

The quotation above explains Bruno questioning their sudden move and making Bruno have to lose his friends and need to adapt to a new environment and friends, even if there are any.

According to Fromm, how a person can achieve a new harmony with fellow human beings even though there is alienation is the goal in describing it. (Fromm, 1955).

*'I wonder if you are being very brave,' he said quietly after a moment, as if he was debating the matter in his head, 'rather than merely disrespectful. Perhaps that's not such a bad thing.'*  
*'I didn't mean—'*

*'But you will be quiet now,' said Father, raising his voice and interrupting him because none of the rules of normal family life ever applied to him. 'I have been very considerate of your feelings here, Bruno, because I know that this move is difficult for you. And I have listened to what you have to say, even though your youth and inexperience force you to phrase things in an insolent manner. And you'll notice that I have not reacted to any of this. But the moment has come when you will simply have to accept that—' (p.51)*

In the quotation above, it is clearly described again the relationship between Bruno and his father, how a 9-year-old boy dared to express his opinion against his very strict father. Bruno's father ordered Bruno to simply accept the decisions taken by his father without the slightest protest, this shows the initial symptoms of alienation described by Fromm, when someone's life is completely driven by someone else, then he can be said to be an alienated person. In this context, an authoritarian family, which teaches a child to always obey everything that is ordered by parents, will certainly have an impact on the child's process of recognizing the environment so that he will be easier to alienate.

*'I don't like it here,' insisted Bruno.*

*'Bruno ...' said Father in a tired voice.*

*'Karl's not here and Daniel's not here and Martin's not here and there are no other houses around us and no fruit and vegetable stalls and no streets and no cafes with tables outside and no one to push you from pillar to post on a Saturday afternoon.'(p.48)*

The quotation above is an indication that Bruno was alienated by circumstances where he had to follow everything his parents ordered, which resulted in him losing his friends and immediately feeling alien to his new environment. At that moment Bruno said that the conditions in their new home were inversely proportional to their previous residence, there were no other houses, no

other small children, and no situation as he usually saw at his house in Berlin. From the evidence above, it can be said that other people's decisions (his father) in his life path, as well as the loss of figures who were with Bruno usually, made him alienated. Bruno with his nature is still a child and is still dominated by the desire that all his requests can be fulfilled. Limited access and confined conditions have prevented Bruno from fulfilling his wishes. Knowing that his wish was not fulfilled, Bruno showed an expression of fear, anger, and disappointment. This can be seen in Bruno's conversations with his father, older brother, mother, and also Maria. Bruno's feelings were especially shown through the various questions and opinions he showed to his father.

Judging from the problem, alienation from what or from whom can be distinguished between alienation from things, from other people, or alienation from oneself. What can be alienated from him is only human beings, it can't be things. The self can be alienated either from something or other people or also from oneself. In the context of the quotation above, Bruno is alienated by other people, more precisely by the decisions made by his father.

## 2. Alienation of Bruno Caused by Society

Same as Hegel, Fromm speaks of society as something alienated. Hegel spoke of society in terms of social substance as alienated. Hegel thought of the situation when the individual values social substance as alien to him. Unlike Hegel, Fromm does not make a separation from society (ie social, economic, political, and cultural order) in the sense of alienation. Fromm said that society is alienated

because society is structured in such a way that it tends to make individuals alienated in various aspects (Schacht, 2007).

From the various aspects mentioned in the explanation above, this analysis focuses more on its relation to the psychological aspects of the characters in *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas* novel.

*"We don't have the luxury of thinking," said Mother, opening a box that contained the set of sixty-four glasses that Grandfather and Grandmother had given her when she married Father. "Some people make all the decisions for us."(p.14)*

In the quotation above, Bruno's mother says "some people make all the decisions for us", this is related to the power relations that exist around Bruno's family. Bruno's father was managed by his commander, while Bruno's father managed his wife and children. Both of these relationships have an impact that is directly related to the alienation experienced by Bruno. The power relations around Bruno indicate a destructive social environment, this destructive character-forming environment can come from many parties, including the media, school, and family. Family is the main factor in shaping the character of children or adolescents. The condition of parents determines how a child grows and receives good socialization. Family conditions full of love will grow teenagers with healthy, happy, and free personalities. Meanwhile, authoritarian family conditions are believed to cause bad behavior or conditions for children, so children tend to behave negatively or have feelings of alienation.

*"Did you do something wrong?" he asked after a moment. "Something that made the Fury angry?"*



*'Me?' said Father, looking at him in surprise. 'What do you mean?'*

*'Did you do something bad in work? I know that everyone says you're an important man and that the Fury has big things in mind for you, but he'd hardly send you to a place like this if you hadn't done something that he wanted to punish you for.'* (p.50)

It can be seen from the quotation above that Bruno has interacted a lot with the environment around him, as evidenced by the information he knows about his father, his father's work, and his father's important role in that work. When a 9-year-old child interacts with a social environment full of sensitive matters such as war, soldiers, and racial and class hatred, the more vulnerable he is to the effects of alienation caused by society.

In human development, the level of human awareness of himself as a separate I from others depends on the extent to which a person breaks away from his clan and how far the process of individuation has progressed (From, 1955).

Various aspects above made Bruno feel that he was in a different social environment from the friends around him, so he failed to form an identity. Self-identity is formed with the help of the surrounding environment. By having a sense of attachment to the social group where a person is, then that person will be able to form his social identity which helps in the formation of his identity. Because Bruno did not have a sense of attachment to his social group (in this case his family), his social identity could not be formed and ultimately influenced the formation of his own identity. To be able to connect with the surrounding environment, openness is needed from the parties involved, in this case, Bruno and his surroundings. So

individual openness to the outside world is very important in forming self-identity.

If an individual cannot be open then his identity cannot be formed.

*'Don't you like it here then?' she said finally. 'Like it?' replied Bruno with a slight laugh. 'Like it?' he repeated, but louder this time. 'Of course I don't like it! It's awful. There's nothing to do, there's no one to talk to, nobody to play with. You can't tell me that you're happy we've moved here, surely?' (p.51)*

From the quotation above, Bruno conveyed his anxiety at that time. He said that he disliked them being in Out-with because he had no friends to interact with, and no friends to play with. Alienation has a psychological impact on children, including children who become irritable and rebellious. Another impact is that children cannot socialize with their surroundings and peers. This will have an impact on the child's development so that he becomes afraid of the outside world and strangers. Family figures should be the most trusted party and can help shape a child's self-identity, but Bruno did not get it. Because in his family he has an unfavorable relationship with his father and older sister, practically he can only complain to his mother where her mother is also indicated to have experienced alienation, because there is a part in the novel when Bruno's mother opposes Bruno's father's decision regarding their move. This made Bruno independently search for his identity. Even though Bruno had met several new people at Out-With, from Bruno's observation, he could not immediately trust these new people. Bruno still has a crisis of confidence. Bruno still feels alienated because he doesn't recognize the new world around him.

### 3. Alienation of Bruno Caused by Himself

In the character of Bruno, even though he is a child who is only 9 years old, in the story in novel there are several attitudes and thoughts of Bruno that make him appear older than his actual age. It is those attitudes and thoughts that indicate the alienation of Bruno's character from himself. Of all the scope of Fromm's concept of alienation, the most important of these various forms of alienation is the individual's alienation from himself. Fromm repeatedly mentions that the main problem of alienation is a problem that concerns a person's personality or a person's position with something outside himself. The center of self-alienation is a person's self when faced with nature, other humans, society or himself.

*He imagined that there were insects living in the spaces between the paint and the ceiling itself which were pushing it out, cracking it wide, opening it up, trying to create a gap so that they could squeeze through and look for a window where they might make their escape. Nothing, thought Bruno, not even the insects, would ever choose to stay at Out-With.*

*'Everything here is horrible,' he said out loud, even though there was no one present to hear him, but somehow it made him feel better to hear the words stated anyway. 'I hate this house, I hate my room and I even hate the paintwork. I hate it all. Absolutely everything.'* (p.56)

In the quotation above, there is a form of spontaneous emotional outburst uttered by Bruno, he feels hatred for everything in his new place. At that time, a child as small as Bruno certainly couldn't think much logically, he could only express everything he felt without first looking at the conditions around him. This shows that Bruno felt himself very foreign out there, seeing the outside world that he had never imagined before. From this evidence, it can be analyzed that children who rarely see strangers, and see the surrounding environment that they have never

seen before, in their condition will feel afraid and try to protect themselves. There are indications that Bruno is alienated from himself, he feels that no one else feels what he feels, even though his mother and older siblings feel the same alienation as Bruno. It's just that they understand that arguing with Bruno's father won't change anything, it will only make things worse.

Fromm explained that the current structure of a society affects humans in two ways simultaneously: humans become more independent, self-confident, and critical, or even isolated, lonely, and afraid (Fromm, 1955). In Bruno's case, this alienation from himself made him feel lonely and isolated.

*Bruno's mouth dropped open and he tried to remember the way you used your mouth if you wanted to say the word 'yes'. He'd never seen anyone look so terrified as Shmuel did at that moment and he wanted to say the right thing to make things better, but then he realized that he couldn't; because he was feeling just as terrified himself (p.172)*

In the quotation above, there is a fear within Bruno that he cannot control because of the alienation that dominates other parties as well as himself. Bruno lost his social sensitivity to protect himself, and the lie that Bruno showed was one of the results of the alienation he experienced.

In his personal life as an individual, humans suffer from isolation and solitude which are the consequences of social forces that require humans to be able to work well together in large groups. Fromm calls it an activity 'following a rhythm that has been measured. All humans work together, helping each other. Humans carry out activities that are carried out in quick succession without specific reasons (Fromm, 1955).

*“But there were no other streets around the new house, no one strolling along or rushing around, and definitely no shops or fruit and vegetable stalls. When he closed his eyes, everything around him just felt empty and cold, as if he was in the loneliest place in the world. The middle of nowhere.” (p.13)*

The quotation above describes the lonely and empty situation Bruno felt. It is indeed a natural thing when a small child feels lonely when forced to be in a new place and situation.

In dealing with this situation, it was Bruno himself who should understand and read the situation as quickly as possible. In the quote above, Bruno seems to be in "the loneliest place in the world", especially by living next to Auschwitz and so on. But he is still young, so instead of understanding his environment, he prefers to sink down with problematic feelings inside his head, while these feelings reflect and originate from the place where he lives, he doesn't have the maturity to make all of this happen. Instead, everything feels "empty and cold." It is his preferred, rather than intellectual, response to the terrible world in which Bruno lives.

## **B. The Alienation of Shmuel**

### **1. The Alienation of Shmuel Caused by Others**

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, the title depicts a boy named Shmuel. Shmuel was a Jewish friend of Bruno who was held at Auschwitz. Born on the same day as Bruno, he and Bruno became best friends, although Bruno never understood enough about the horrors of Shmuel's staying at Camp. Shmuel is described as a very thin, unattended child, with a grim face. He understood more about the situation that was happening there than Bruno.

In chapter 10, when Bruno first roamed the Camp fence and met Shmuel, Shmuel's appearance is depicted,

*“The boy was smaller than Bruno and was sitting on the ground with a forlorn expression. He wore the same striped pajamas that all the other people on that side of the fence wore, and a striped cloth cap on his head. He wasn't wearing any shoes or socks and his feet were rather dirty. On his arm he wore an armband with a star on it.*

*When Bruno first approached the boy, he was sitting cross-legged on the ground, staring at the dust beneath him. However, after a moment he looked up and Bruno saw his face. It was quite a strange face too. His skin was almost the colour of grey, but not quite like any grey that Bruno had ever seen before. He had very large eyes and they were the colour of caramel sweets; the whites were very white, and when the boy looked at him all Bruno could see was an enormous pair of sad eyes staring back.” (p.106)*

In the quotation above, it can be observed that Shmuel is a person from the oppressed group. There are several factors behind the occurrence of social isolation in Shmuel's character.

At the beginning of chapter 12, there is a story about how Shmuel and his family were taken by Nazi soldiers, the alienation of Shmuel and his group begins at that time, when they are captured and put in a prison that is very unfit for human habitation.

*“Then one day the soldiers all came with huge trucks,’ continued Shmuel, who didn't seem all that interested in Gretel. ‘And everyone was told to leave the houses. Lots of people didn't want to and they hid wherever they could find a place but in the end I think they caught everyone. And the trucks took us to a train and the train . . .” (p.129)*

From the quotation above, it can be seen that the Shmuel family could only surrender when they were arrested, the initial signs of alienation were very clear at that moment. When one party surrenders to the orders and power of another party,

alienation occurs at that moment. Shmuel and his family are racially and socially hierarchically inferior, so whatever form of resistance they take is meaningless, the choice is between surviving and obeying orders or death.

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In the quotation above, Shmuel's physical condition and appearance are described as very terrible and not like the appearance of children in general, a sight that Bruno had never imagined. It is clear from these descriptions that the alienation experienced by Shmuel is far more varied and profound than the alienation experienced by Bruno. Many external aspects affect the alienation experienced by Shmuel. In this context, Shmuel is a victim of materialistic human relations. At that time, against the backdrop of the holocaust incident which is the backdrop for this novel, people who are dominant and have power see each other as mere material objects. People are no longer seen for their uniqueness, but as objects that can be observed and manipulated based on certain systems. The location of important problem here is how people, as subjects, view other people as objects, of course,

this presents a tendency towards exploitative orientation towards fellow human beings because other humans are considered only as objects of exploitation. Shmuel and his group are victims of the manipulation of the system.

*Do you have many friends?' asked Bruno, cocking his head a little to the side as he waited for an answer. 'Oh yes,' said Shmuel. 'Well, sort of.' Bruno frowned. He had hoped that Shmuel might have said no as it would give them something else in common. 'Close friends?' he asked.*

*'Well, not very close,' said Shmuel. 'But there are a lot of us - boys our age, I mean - on this side of the fence. We fight a lot of the time though. That's why I come out here. To be on my own.'* (p.69)

In the quotation above, Shmuel asked whether he has friends there, of course, there are many people there, children around Shmuel's age, and old people, but in reality, they are people who have the same fate as Shmuel. During the conversation, Shmuel said that he chose to sit there alone because he avoided getting in trouble with the other kids at the Auswicz camp. Shmuel's reasoning is evidence of the alienation he is experiencing caused by other people.

The alienation that Shmuel felt was caused by other parties, namely the Nazis and their soldiers, and those who had the same fate as him in the Auswicz camp. The existence of many people in the Auswicz camp could not get rid of his feeling of loneliness as if Shmuel did not feel the presence of other people and was immersed in his solitude. This proves that Shmuel feels alienated even though he is in the midst of many people.

*"One day Bruno asked why Shmuel and all the other people on that side of the fence wore the same striped pyjamas and cloth caps.*

*'That's what they gave us when we got here,' explained Shmuel. 'They took away our other clothes.'*



*'But don't you ever wake up in the morning and feel like wearing something different? There must be something else in your wardrobe.'*

*Shmuel blinked and opened his mouth to say something but then thought better of it." (p.151)*

In the quotation above, when Shmuel is asked by Bruno about the striped pajamas that Shmuel and the people who were with him in the camp are wearing, Shmuel replies that these are the only clothes they got when they were held captive in the concentration camp.

Clothing is a mode of self-expression, a means of introducing one's identity to others. Taking people's clothes and forcing them to wear unfit uniforms is a way to attack their individual identity. It literally takes away a person's ability to visually represent who they are. The Nazis certainly had other ways of controlling their prisoners, but the striped pajamas were one that Bruno found strange. They were a clue to him that something was wrong on the other side of the fence, even if he couldn't make out what it was.

The loss of self-expression mode in Shmuel caused by others, is a clear form of alienation caused by other people. This arbitrary form of visual control became the beginning of other forms of control, control and coercion which were much more torturous.

## 2. Alienation of Shmuel Caused by Society

In alienation, all thoughts, attitudes, or actions will be followed by loneliness, emptiness, and anxiety. This happens because individuals experience a disconnect with themselves, each other, and the outside world. If humans cannot

overcome the forces outside themselves, they will find themselves powerless, worthless, or lose their passion for life (Koeswara, 1987: 16).

If Bruno thought his life was ruined, it pales in comparison to the life Shmuel lived. While Bruno went from a five-story house to just three, before being detained in a concentration camp, Shmuel explains:

*"All I know is this [...] before we came here I lived with my mother and father and my brother Josef in a small flat above the store where Papa makes his watches."(p.126)*

From the explanation above, it can be seen that even before life became truly terrible, Shmuel's life was already suffering from not being as luxurious as Bruno's. Given his background, this stems from their father's position in the social strata of society, a position that seems fair to attribute to their ethnoreligious identity: Bruno's father was a German working for Hitler, while Shmuel's father was a Jew trying to survive in the anti-Semitic world, even before the Holocaust began.

If a comparison is made between Bruno and Shmuel, the bad thing that is known about Bruno is that he is separated from his friends, and he moves from a luxurious house to a less luxurious one, life is easier for Bruno than for Shmuel. If Bruno describes life in terms of childhood, Shmuel explains that the Jewish children around him did not have this happy experience at all. No wonder Shmuel always looks gloomy.

The concept of alienation implies a (special) self-identity that is alienated from social (universal) identity. Self-identity is based on the uniqueness of a person's characteristics that are different from others, such as abilities, talents, and

choices (Liliweri, 2005: 42), while social identity is a concept derived from individual knowledge about membership in a social group along with the significance of values and emotional aspects of the membership.

If it is related to social identity, it is certainly difficult for Shmuel to get this identity in isolation. A child who is born into a minority group and when grows up lives in an environment where the social situation is not good, apart from having difficulty understanding self-identity, will also lose social identity.

*Shmuel looked as if he wasn't really listening; instead his eyes were focused on the slices of chicken and stuffing that Bruno was throwing casually into his mouth. After a moment Bruno realized what he was looking at and immediately felt guilty.*

*'I'm sorry, Shmuel,' he said quickly. 'I should have given you some chicken too. Are you hungry?'*

*'That's a question you never have to ask me,' said Shmuel who, although he had never met Gretel in his life, knew something about sarcasm too. (p.169)*

The quotation above shows Bruno and Shmuel's conversation when they accidentally meet at Bruno's house. Lieutenant Kotler orders Shmuel to clean the glasses in Bruno's kitchen. A contrasting scene was drawn at that moment. Bruno with all his adequacy, and Shmuel with all his misery. Both experience alienation and are controlled by other people, but with different impacts. In that conversation, there was a form of sarcasm shown by Shmuel when he was asked if he was hungry, he answered *'That's a question you never have to ask me'*. As a child who was far from socializing with society since birth, this form of sarcasm was one of the impacts of the alienation that Bruno experienced.

As social beings, humans are required to adapt and be useful to others. Fromm acknowledged that humans are social beings with a need to share, help each other and feel like members of a community group (Fromm, 1955). This is what Shmuel did not find as a child who would enter society. In his community group, he cannot find a role and suitability for him to enter the group, because the system within the group itself is also not suitable due to certain situations and conditions.

### 3. Alienation of Shmuel Caused by Himself

From several quotes in the novel, it can be seen that Shmuel is a child with thoughts that are farther away from children his age, this has become more potential for Shmuel to alienate himself. The harsh social environment from the start shaped Bruno's character and thoughts about how he behaved towards other people. Returning to the main concept of alienation explained by Fromm, namely when a person experiences himself as an alien. He feels alien to himself and does not experience himself as the center of his world. Therefore, there are several quotes in the novel about Shmuel being alienated from himself.

While we marvel at Shmuel and admire his resilience in the face of forced adulthood, it's important to note that as admirable as that may be, the fact is he's still a child. The Holocaust may force him to deal with things far beyond his years, but that doesn't change the fundamental fact that Shmuel is still a child. This fact was described when a Nazi soldier named Kotler caught him eating the chicken that Bruno had just given him. When asked if he stole food from Bruno's kitchen, Shmuel answered :

*'No, sir. He gave it to me,' said Shmuel, tears welling up in his eyes as he threw a sideways glance at Bruno. 'He's my friend,' he added. (p.71)*

What Shmuel said was right, Bruno was his friend, and he had given him the chicken. But what's more interesting is that Shmuel failed to anticipate that Bruno would not support him at this time. What this shows is that for all his maturity, Shmuel is still a child, and while the Holocaust has done away with his family one by one, he can still trust a little German boy named Bruno who knows nothing about the terrible experiences and situations in the camp.

In this case, our attention is drawn to the expectations that Shmuel builds on others but ultimately suffers himself. This shows that Shmuel feels alienated from himself. As described by Fromm, an alienated person is possessed by irrational lust, his actions are no longer his own, and he is distorted by unconscious forces working within him (Fromm, 1955).

Perhaps surprisingly, in *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, freedom and restraint reign for Shmuel and Bruno. Both of them were where they were forced to go, and neither of them could leave. The big difference is that Shmuel is in a concentration camp and Bruno is in a house. Shmuel was locked up, with nowhere to go. Bruno, however, has the freedom to step out of his house whenever he wants and is not afraid for his life. The reason for this restraint, it was difficult for Shmuel to fight the alienation that was within him, his thoughts were only on how to survive without being tortured even more horribly by the Nazi soldiers in the concentration camp. Alienation has deformed into subject fragmentation, in which humans fail to connect with their environment because they cannot adequately connect with

themselves. The resulting subject is not only alien but "alien to his physical condition" (Bolton, 2012: 67).

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

The next chapter in this research is to provide conclusions and suggestions. After conducting the analysis in the previous chapter, the researcher tries to provide an explanation of the conclusions and suggestions for the analysis that has been done. This chapter will be divided into two parts, namely conclusions and suggestions. Conclusions are given on the results of the previous analysis. The second part is the suggestion given to the readers for the analysis related to this research.

#### **A. Conclusion**

Based on research that has been conducted by the author regarding the causes of alienation in the characters Bruno & Shmuel in *The Boy in The Striped Pajamas*. The researcher found that the causes of alienation are described through the relationship between Bruno & Shmuel, and their relationship with the society and the people around them. It highlights the destructive power of ideology and prejudice and shows how these forces can divide people and destroy lives.

Overall, *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* illustrates how social, cultural, and ideological barriers can lead to alienation and dehumanization. It emphasizes the importance of empathy, understanding, and the need to challenge prejudice and discrimination to overcome the barriers that divide us.

## **B. Suggestion**

Research that reveals the existence of alienation in the novel *The Boy in The Striped Pajamaas* is still limited to the study of the nature between the approach of psychology and sociology. Therefore, it is still very open the possibility to conduct further studies, especially those directed at the reader community. Studies can be done by utilizing the literary reception approach. Thus, it will be known the response of society to the form of social alienation featured in the novel.

The final results of this study can be expected to have use value for the community and researchers hope that further research can conduct a more in-depth and better analysis of this novel. The researcher realizes that this research still has many shortcomings.

Based on the result of this study, there are several things that the researcher wants to suggest every student majoring in literature. For the English Literature Students, research on literary work using psychological approach of literature is very important. Whoever majoring in literature must provide a broader analysis of the literary works they have read. It is one of many ways to understand what we are studying.



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## CURICULUM VITAE



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