CHILD ABUSE EFFECT ON MAIN CHARACTER'S MENTAL HEALTH IN MOVIE "JOKER"

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ABSTRACT

This research describes how Joker movie's portrayal of main character's mental health was affected by child abuse. Descriptive qualitative method was employed in this study. It concentrated on the effects of child abuse. The Joker movie and its script were used as the research data. The researcher obtained well-structured, conveniently analyzed research data by note-taking, documentation the investigation, and acquired still photos from movies. The psychoanalysis theory of Sigmund Freud (1960) provides the framework for the data analysis method employed in this study. The findings of the research showed that the effects of child abuse that main character got as a child were mental disorders, namely Pseudobulbar Affect and Schizophrenia. Arthur Fleck's id and ego were the basis for the effects of child abuse seen in this film. Arthur's id was evident when he believed that his life is unfairness. Arthur's ego was evident when he killed those who had wronged him. The manifestation of Arthur's superego was evident in his refusal to kill those who had no issues with him and in his parental upbringing.

Keywords: Child Abuse, Mental Health, Movie, Sigmund Freud, Psychoanalysis.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini menguraikan bagaimana penggambaran film Joker tentang kesehatan mental dari tokoh utama yang dipengaruhi oleh kekerasan pada anak. Metode kualitatif deskriptif digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Metode ini berkonsentrasi pada dampak dari kekerasan pada anak. Film Joker dan naskahnya digunakan sebagai data penelitian. Peneliti memperoleh data penelitian yang terstruktur dengan baik, dan menganalisis data penelitian dengan mudah dengan cara mencatat, mendokumentasikan menyelidiki, dan memperoleh foto diam dari film. Teori psikoanalisis Sigmund Freud (1960) menyediakan kerangka kerja untuk metode analisis data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa dampak dari kekerasan pada anak yang dialami oleh tokoh utama pada masa kanak-kanak adalah gangguan mental, yang disebut Pseudobulbar Affect dan Schizoprenia. Id dan ego Arthur Fleck menjadi dasar dari dampak kekerasan pada anak yang terlihat dalam film ini. Id Arthur menjadi bukti ketika ia percaya bahwa hidupnya terasa tidak adil. Ego Arthur terbukti ketika ia membunuh orang-orang yang telah berbuat salah padanya. Perkembangan superego Arthur terlihat jelas dalam penolakannya untuk membunuh orang-orang yang tidak bermasalah dengannya dan dalam pola asuh orang tuanya.

Kata Kunci: Kekerasan pada Anak, Kesehatan Mental, Film, Sigmund Freud, Psikoanalisis

INTRODUCTION

Literature is arguably the most inventive and widely distributed art form on the planet. It aims to communicate the deeply felt, intellectual, and passionate concerns of humanity. Sometimes, the majority of the students think that literature is a terrible subject that they are afraid to look into. Literature will be an interesting endeavor in any case. Literature conveys many facets of human existence through writing, making it a form of art. Literature, in the words of Nurgiyantoro (1998), is an activity that uses language as a fundamental ingredient to express thoughts, feelings, ideas, spirits, beliefs, and other emotions. One vital kind of communication in our social lives is literature.

Movies are one kind of literary work. A movie serves as a vehicle for introducing a message to viewers. A movie becomes a medium for educating, entertaining, and expanding knowledge. A movie is an acceptable arrangement of some life situations as a kind of entertainment. The film depicts an existence outside of reality. Movies are a tried-and-true medium that may provide an exciting form of entertainment, claims Brian McKernan (2005).. Movies depict real people's lives, and sometimes they show us a side of life we have never seen before. Most filmmakers base their motion pictureson genuine stories or personal experiences. Todd Phillips produced the Joker movie to highlight the growing issue of child abuse and the need for us to take notice of it.

Nowadays, most people agree that child abuse and neglect are significant social problems in Indonesia and throughout the world. Every child has the capacity to grow, develop, live, love, and communicate their needs and emotions in order to protect themselves. Adults that love, care about, and genuinely help children get ready for the future must treat them with respect and provide for their safety. On the other hand, some people hurt, neglect, or abuse children. Smaller kids might not even realize they are being harmed. The most severe child abuse situations have the potential to be fatal. Even after their physical injuries have healed, children who survive may also bear psychological scars for a considerable amount of time. Mistreated children are more likely to struggle as adults to establish and sustain relationships. The psychological effects, such as low self-esteem, trouble relating to peers, short attention spans, and learning challenges, can persist a lifetime for children who experience violence and abuse (Gelles, 2004). Violence can lead to mental health issues like depression, anxiety, or dissociative identity disorder in addition to raising the risk of suicide. Child abuse can take many different forms, including neglect, physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. This can have a bad effect on the kids because of their terrible life experiences. Child abuse is defined as a purposeful offense against a child by a parent, guardian, or stranger (McCabe & Murphy, 2017).

The Joker movie depicts the story of Arthur Fleck, a man whose extremely bad mental health has an impact on his life. When Arthur was a child, her own mother and her lover constantly mistreated him. The researcher focuses into the effects of child abuse, particularly on mental health, as depicted in the movie Joker. Considering the goal of the research, the subsequent research question was created:

- How does the main character in the Joker movie deal with the impact of child abuse on his mental health?

METHODS

Research Method

The descriptive qualitative method was applied in this research. In Metode Penelitian Kualitatif (Kusumastuti & Khoiron, 2019), Moleong states that descriptive qualitative research elucidates the process of summarizing the findings in words and sentences as well as how to understand the phenomena of the research topic, behavior, perception, motivation, action, etc., holistically. In addition, qualitative research is descriptive anduses words rather than numbers to obtain data.

Data Collection Method

Documentation is used as a tool for data collection in this research. A document is an account of past occurrences (Sugiyono, 2018). Documents can be written pieces of art, paintings, or enormous compositions created by an individual. A document is an account of something that has happened or someone's work regarding it. In qualitative research, documents pertaining to an individual or group of individuals, events, or occurrences in a suitable social setting and relevant to the research topic are highly valuable (Yusuf, 2014). The researcher gathered information from conversations, stories, and many screen grabs that were utilized to bolster the findings in Todd Phillips' Joker movie.

In order to collect data for qualitative research, researchers also used the note-taking technique to document their observations, feelings, noises, and ideas (Moleong, 2011). Taking notes is a practice that incorporates both written and vocal language usage (Mahsun, 2005). Concurrently, the note-taking method involves jotting down scene fragments that contain dialogue and narrative in the form of words or sentences that relate to the study question. The method of viewing involves repeating watching portions in the Joker movie that correspond with the issue.

Data Analysis

In this study, the researcher used qualitative analysis techniques, which means data processing techniques used to understand complex phenomena. The steps in analyzing data are to present data to be analyzed, grouping data based on psychoanalytic theories through id, ego and superego (Sigmund Freud, 1960) and adapted analysis procedure by examined the movie dialogue and pictures, examined the movie's main character's mental health as the result of child abuse, used psychological technique based on Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis to assess the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Researchers found 2 mental disorders that the main character got as an impact of child abuse that he received as a child in the movie Joker and its impact on his life in adulthood which will be analyzed based on Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory:

a. Uncontrollably laughing/Pseudobulbar Affect (PBA)



Data 1 (0:03:43-0:04:34)

According to the incident above, Arthur was depressed when he was harassed by some teens when a store used his services to advertise. The teenagers gave Arthur a hard time, and he had a terrible day's end. He then saw his psychiatrist. Although he was seen smiling hysterically, his PBA was evident in the sorrowful expression on his face.



Data 2 (0:08:28-0:09:15)

Woman : "Can you please stop bothering my kid?"

Arthur : "I wasn't bothering her, I was—

Woman : "Just stop"

AND SUDDENLY ARTHUR STARTS TO LAUGH. LOUD. He covers his mouth trying to hide it-- Shakes his head, laughter pausing for a moment, but then it comes on stronger. His eyes are sad. It actually looks like the laughter causes him pain.

Woman : "You think this is funny?"

ARTHUR SHOWED HIS LAUGHING CONDITION CARD TO THE WOMAN TO MAKE HER UNDERSTAND HIS CONDITION

The evidence that Arthur experienced on his bus ride home is shown in the scene above. When riding the bus. He made an effort to amuse the youngster seated across from him. The youngster laughed heartily, but regrettably it did not please his mother. He requested that Arthur cease troubling her child. Then Arthur started laughing hysterically, but the woman didn't hear him. To help her comprehend, Arthur presented her the card that explained his laughing ailment.



Data 3 (0:30:32-0:32:00)

Men 1 : So, buddy, tell us, what is so fucking funny?

Arthur: Nothing. I have... I have a condition.

Men 1: I'll tell you what you have, you asshole.

Men 2: Whoa!

Arthur: Please, stop!

Men 1 : We got a kicker, huh? Hey, hold him steady. Hold him steady.

Men 1 : Stay down, freak

In the aforementioned incident, Arthur rode a subway train home following a difficult day. He observed three young males making advances on a girl in the subway. The three young guys assumed Arthur was making fun of them when he chuckled, but his expression was sorrowful. They then confronted Arthur and questioned him about the source of his laughter. They intimidated and physically assaulted Arthur when he attempted to explain his condition. Because of Arthur's tendency to laugh, the three young men misinterpreted him.

b. Schizophrenia/Delutional Disorder





Data 4 (01:18:36-01:18:45)

According to the scene above, Arthur got to know Sophie, the neighbour who lived next door. She took care of Arthur and was his pillar of support, going everywhere with him—to the coffee shop to spend time with him, to Pogo's to watch him do a stand-up routine, and to the hospital to visit his mother. However, it was later discovered that Arthur's hallucinations were only a result of his schizophrenia. The images above show the difference between Arthur's real state and his hallucination

According to the psychoanalysis of Sigmund Freud, the researcher discovered multiple manifestations of Arthur's id, ego, and superego.

a. Id



Data 5 (00:06:03)

Arthur: "I think I told you I'm pursuing a career in stand-up comedy"

When Arthur first saw his psychiatrist, he informed her that he intended to pursue a career in comedy. Because he believed himself to be a humorous person, Arthur's Id proven from his greatest ambition to become a successful comedian.



Data 6 (00:06:24)

Arthur brought his journal when the psychiatrist requested him to. Many dark jokes that were based on Arthur's life were written in his journal, which she read.



Data 7 (00:41:00)

Arthur: You don't listen, do you? I don't think you ever really hear me. You just ask the same questions every week. "How's your job?" "Are you having any negativethoughts?" *All I have are negative thoughts*.

The same questions were asked of him by his psychiatrist each week, which made Arthur feel bored. When asked whether he had any bad thoughts, Arthur responded thatthis was the only thing he had in mind.



Data 8 (00:29:22)

Arthur committed an error at work when he took a gun into the hospital's children's ward. Then Arthur received a phone call from his supervisor. Arthur's boss decided to terminate him because he was furious with him. Arthur abruptly crushed his head in disappointment after learning of his boss's decision.



Data 9 (00:31:00-00:32:27)

Because of the misunderstanding of his PBA, Arthur was harassed. He attempted to explain his condition to them, but they seemed uninterested. Arthur was simply kicked and beaten by them. Arthur's expression conveyed both anger and rage at what they had done to him. He desired revenge from them for that.



Data 10 (00:48:43-01:15:33)

When Arthur discovered that his mother had lied to him. According to his mother, Thomas Wayne is his father. When he finally saw Thomas Wayne to get explanation, he became disillusioned after learning that his mother was insane and that he wasn't his father. After that, he visited a hospital to learn the truth about his mother and his origins. He felt depressed since Thomas Wayne was correct. It caused him to despise his mother.



Data 11 (00:59:51-01:00:57)

In addition to watching Murray's show, he saw that the audience laughed at his standup comedy video due of his peculiar PBA condition rather than his delivery. In the program, Murray also made much fun of Arthur. Arthur took revenge on Murray as a result of it.

b. Ego



Data 12 (00:32:30-00:32:46)

When Arthur was being bullied by the three young males. Arthur desired to combat them. It dawned on him that he had a gun. He could not contain his rage for what they had done to him, so he shot and murdered them all at once. As we can see, Arthur's desire for vengeance is at its height, leading him to consider killing them.



Data 13 (01:19:55-01:21:45)

Arthur discovered that the laughing ailment he had was caused by the abuse he had received as a child from both his mother and her boyfriend. Arthur visited his mother at the hospital. He proceeded to exact revenge on his mother for her treatment of him. Then he used a pillow to murder his mother. From Arthur's words, it is evident that he was unable to control his rage and killed his mother in retaliation for everything she had done to him in the past and up until this point.



Data 14 (01:26:28-01:28:15)

Following their news of Arthur's mother's passing, Gary and Randal paid him a visit. The assassination of three young guys, which Randal also got involved in, was what set Arthur off when they were visiting him. Arthur felt he had been wronged by Randal, and he recalled that it was Randal who had stabbed him in the back, earning him a job termination. With scissors, Arthur took Randal's life in retaliation. Arthur's retaliation toward Randal for betraying him is evident.



Data 15 (01:45:07-01:45:24)

Arthur: (pointing Randal's gun to Murray) "I'll tell you what you get. You get what you fucking deserve" (Arthur shot Murray's head)

After his stand-up comedy video went popular on television, Arthur was asked to Murray's show. He attended Murray's show and used a gun to murder Murray as payback. Arthur's desire to kill Murray for insulting him in the previous episode is evident.

c. Superego



Data 16 (00:14:02-00:14:10)

Arthur: "She (Arthur's mother) always tells me to smile and put on a happy face. She says I was born to spread joy and laughter"

Arthur had a delusion that he was invited to Murray's show. He said to Murray that his mother has always advised him to put on a happy face and smile. It is evident that Arthur received excellent parental affection as well.



Data 17 (00:51:57-00:53:27)

Bruce, the son of Thomas Wayne, was the person Arthur met when he attempted to meet Wayne. When he spotted Bruce, he performed some magic tricks for his amusement. It is evident that Arthur will never harm the person who has never wronged him.





Data 18 (01:29:11-01:30:11)

Gary : (after watched Arthur killed Randal) "What the fuck, Arthur?"

Arthur : "What? It's okay, Gary. You can go. I'm not gonna hurt you.

Don't look, justgo"

Gary: "Hey Arthur can you get it (door) unlock?"

Arthur: "Gary, You're the only one who ever nice to me" (kissing Gary's head)

Gary was horrified and outraged alongside Arthur when Arthur killed Randal. Arthur went on to say that Gary has always been kind to him and that he will never hurt him. It is evident that Arthur will never take the life of someone who has shown him kindness—in this example, Gary.

DISCUSSIONS

Lawson (in Sitohang, 2004) demonstrated that maltreatment of humans during childhood is a contributing factor to all forms of mental problems that affect children. The main character in the Joker movie, Arthur Fleck, came from a difficult and incomplete family. His mother suffered from a mental illness, and he was abused both physically and psychologically as a child. He never received love or attention from anyone, and he felt as though no one cared about him. As a result, Arthur's life seemed meaningless. As a result, Arthur had two severe mental illnesses, including:

a. Pseudobulbar Affect

The pseudobulbar affect (PBA). Terms like Pathological Laughter and Crying (PLC), Emotional Lability, Emotional Incontinence, and Pathologic Emotionality are also frequently used to describe this illness. Pseudobulbar affect (PBA) is characterized by abnormal brain function or neurological disorders. It is exhibited by a person who

is compelled to laugh or cry uncontrollably, which is not consistent with his original feelings. These uncontrollable emotions may also occur at inappropriate times.

Using Data 1 (0:03:43-0:04:34), The moment Arthur met his psychiatrist, his PBA became apparent. His laughter became uncontrollable. He appeared to be holding the soreness in his throat from laughing too much, and then, when he was able to stop laughing altogether, he also appeared to be crying.

In Data 2, the researcher discovered an additional version of Arthur's PBA (0:08:28-0:09:15). Arthur attempted to amuse and pleasure the youngster sitting in front of him on the bus. However, Arthur's mother asked him to stop since she was upset with him. Arthur burst out laughing for no apparent reason. The woman misinterpreted Arthur's laughter and said, "You think this is funny?" Arthur clarified his laughing problem condition by presenting her with his card.

Following his dismissal from his position as a party clown, Arthur took a train subway in Data 3 (0:30:32-0:32:00) to his house. Three young males he encountered were making jokes with each other. He realized that Arthur had PBA and was depressed, so he burst out laughing in the metro. However, the three young men mistreated Arthur, and when they confronted him, one of them said, "So tell us, buddy." Arthur answered, "What's so fucking funny?" with, "Nothing, I have a condition". The criteria for the pseudobulbar affect (PBA) are as follows: emotional reactions that don't fit the situation; no clear correlation exists between the patient's mood at the time of the emotional reaction and the emotions expressed; the patient finds it difficult to control the intensity and duration of the emotional reaction; no mood shift occurs in tandem with the reaction, which could or might not be in line with the mood; and there isn't any sense of relief as a result of the expressed emotions (Peck 1969).

b. Schizophrenia

Data 4 (01:18:36-01:18:45) indicates that Arthur also experienced schizophrenia. In this scenario, Arthur comes to the realization that nothing he has done with his lover, Sophie Dumond, a curvaceous woman, is real. Arthur encounters Sophie, his neighbor and a young mother of one child, on the elevator. Schizophrenia patients find it difficult to discriminate between reality and their own illusions. Arthur at last understood in this scenario that his connection with Sophie had been nothing more than a hallucination for him all along. When the person suffering from hallucinations reacts negatively to the stressors in their life, signs of the disorder manifest (Aldam, 2019).

Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis

The id, ego, and superego are the three components of personality that the researcher used to explain how child abuse affected Arthur Fleck's mental health using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis (Sigmund Freud, 1960).

a. Id

When Arthur spoke with the psychiatrist who was caring for him, the id was visible. Athur thought that his life was unjust and had a deep desire to become a comedian in order to receive happiness and attention. A few passages from the conversation reveal Arthur's id. "I think I told you pursuing my career in stand-up comedy." Data 5 (00:06:03): Arthur wrote, "I just hope my death makes more cents than my life," in his journal. The mental patient asked Arthur the same question each week during their most

recent meeting (see Data 6 (00:06:24)), to which Arthur responded, "All I have is a negative thought, but you do not listen anyway," see Data 7 (00:41:00). These two dialogue passages demonstrate that Arthur's id has always craved attention and consideration from others in addition to happiness, in line with what Putri Wulandari (Putri Wulandari, 2021) and Ario Sasongko (Ario Sasongko , 2021) have researched in their research named *ID*, *EGO*, *SUPEREGO TOKOH UTAMA DALAM FILM THE MESSAGE (AR RISALAH) 1976* and *Proses Penyelerasan Id*, *Ego*, *dan Superego dalam Film Life of Pi* on human desires in doing something comes from the Id personality component. However, he expressed in the last chat that he felt his life was unfair and that all he had to think about was negativity.

After coworker Randal stabbed Arthur in the back, Arthur was fired. To vent his fury, he banged his head against the wall (Data 8, 00:29:22). Id behaves in an unconscious and illogical manner.

Arthur once experienced an incident as a result of his laughing ailment, also known as the pseudobulbar affect. The incident he had on the metro was caused by a misunderstanding (Data 9, 00:31:00-00:32:27). Three men tormented Arthur without offering him a chance to make sense of why he could not stop smiling. When Arthur wanted to murder them for what they had done, his ID activated.

According to the information in Data 10 (00:48:43-01:15:33), Arthur felt deeply let down by Penny Fleck, his mother, since she had concealed his father's identity for a long time. Arthur went to Thomas Wayne to get more information after learning about it. Regretfully, he refused to acknowledge it. He claimed that his mother was insane and that he was adopted. He visited the Arkham mental health facility and looked through his mother's records to substantiate it. It came out that there was evidence, and the archive's findings demonstrated that his mother suffered from a mental illness and was responsible for some of the severe head damage he endured as a youngster. Arthur's PBA was successful, and while he laughed, he secretly sobbed, especially after learning the truth about his origins. After discovering the whole truth about what actually occurred to him in the past, Arthur's irrational hate of his mother intensifies.

Murray Franklin was a talk show host that Arthur looked up to. He once had a delusion that he appeared on Murray's talk show and was proud of Arthur, willing to do anything to have a child like Arthur, because he longs for a father role. In Data 11 (00:59:51-01:00:57), Arthur's id activates as he is ready to exact revenge on Murray for treating him in a way that degraded and embarrassed him, after he watches on TV as Franklin and the crowd at the concert make fun of his stand-up video due to its strange content. Arthur was given the chance when he received an invitation to appear as a guest on Murray's talk program.

b. Ego

When Arthur killed people who had wronged him, it was evident how big his ego was. Because of his inflated ego, Arthur feels compelled to kill those who have wronged him in order to appease his Id. As the decision-maker, the ego exists between the Id and the Superego. Arthur's first act of irrational enjoyment was to murder three people on

the Subway right away since they were harassing him Data 12 (00:32:30-00:32:46). At the height of their persecution of Arthur and his Id, Arthur's ego was activated, and he used a gun to murder the three men. Arthur did not appear to feel guilty about killing them since he believed that what he had done was right.

Arthur learned at Arkham Asylum that his mother suffered from a mental illness. He also learned that his mother had physically beaten and neglected him as a youngster, causing severe trauma to his skull and abrasions all over his body. Arthur's Id killed his mother because of his growing animosity towards him for what he had done. The immense and uncontrollable strain of his ego—the same ego that drove him to kill his mother—was also in accordance with his id. Using a pillow, Arthur choked his mother till she passed away, Data 003n (01:19:55-01:21:45).

When his two coworkers Randall and Gary come to Arthur's apartment to ask questions regarding the murder of three young men on the train, Arthur is also insulted by Randall's behavior and recalls that Randall set him up by giving him a gun to carry as a clown to shield himself from the influence of the troublesome kids who would frequently initiate him. As a result of being caught carrying a gun, Arthur was fired from his job as a clown. Due to his enormous ego and desire to exact revenge on Randall for his heartbreak, Arthur's vindictive Id planned to kill Randall by savagely slashing him in the neck with scissors, Data 14 (01:26:28-01:28:15).

When Arthur received an offer to appear as a guest on Murray Franklin's talk program, he accepted it with the intention of killing Murray Franklin, who had dehumanized and embarrassed Arthur by releasing a video of Arthur performing comedy. Because Murray Franklin had been treated so poorly at the time, Arthur's id was driven to exact revenge for his heartbreak. As his ego grew, Arthur shot Murray Franklin in the head and chest. I'll reveal what you will receive. Murray was shot in the head by Arthur after he told him, "You get what you fucking deserve," Data 15 (01:45:07-01:45:24). After killing Murray Franklin, Arthur chuckled arrogantly and without regret. The results of this research are also the same as the research of Putri Wulandari (Putri Wulandari, 2021) and Ario Sasongko (Ario Sasongko 2021) who stated that Ego is a decision between realizing id or not. This decision was taken by looking at reality and weighing which id was the priority of need, in this case Arthur did not kill everyone, only killed people who were evil to him

c. Superego

Morality learned from parental upbringing is one type of superego (Freud, 1920). Arthur's superego is revealed by something his mother said to him when he was a little child. Arthur claimed in Data 16 (00:14:02–00:14:10) that his mother often instructs him to put on a happy face and smile. She stated he was made to make people happy and laugh. In Putri Wulandari's research (Putri Wulandari, 2021), similar results were also found that Superego is an aspect of personality related to moral values. This aspect of personality refers to the moral values that have been taught by parents, teachers, or other figures in the childhood.

The goal of the superego is to exercise moral control over the id and ego. The third aspect of Arthur's superego is that he never killed anybody who were unproblematic or did not react negatively to him. Data 17 (00:51:57-00:53:27) described how Arthur encountered Thomas Wayne's son Bruce Wayne at the opposite side of the fence as he went to his home. He had no desire to murder him at all. Given that he was formerly a party clown, he actually entertained Bruce with a few magic tricks.

Another illustration is Gary, the former midget coworker of Arthur's who went to his apartment with Randal. Data 18 (01:26:28-01:28:15) claims that Arthur only had issues with Randal, that Randal was the only person he used scissors to kill, and that Gary was the only one who Arthur believed had shown him kindness.

These two instances should have been Arthur's chance to murder them all. Actually, Arthur decided not to kill them since they were good people. This instance supports Freud's idea that the superego functioned according to moral principles (Freud, 1962). This is also in line with the findings of Putri Wulandari (Putri Wulandari, 2021) and Ario Sasongko (Ario Sasongko, 2021) that the superego is a component of personality that functions to determine right or wrong.

CONCLUSIONS

Child abuse effect on main character mental health depicted in Joker movie include schizophrenia and uncontrollably laughing disorder, also known as pseudobulbar affect (PBA). According to the theory of psychoanalysis (Sigmund Freud, 1960), Arthur's id was that he wanted to be taken seriously and noticed. He also believed that people treated him unfairly due to his laughing disorder, that people misinterpreted him, and that his hallucination of Murray Franklin as a father figure left him feeling disappointed. Arthur's ego is revealed when he kills people who have wronged him. He took that action to appease his id, which has grown to the top. Arthur's superego was revealed when his mother advised him as a toddler to always put on a pleasant face and smile, adding that he was meant to provide happiness and laughter to others. The fact that Arthur spared the lives of those who did not do him evil is another example of superego.

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