BALRAM'S DEFENSE MECHANISM IN ARAVIND ADIGA'S *THE WHITE TIGER*

A THESIS

Presented
in a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Completing the Sarjana Degree in Department of English Literature

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Surabaya, 7 Agustus, 2021

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ABSTRACT

This research describes defense mechanism of Arafind Adiga's *The White Tiger*. Therefore, this research is focused on the description of Balram's defense mechanism and the consequences as portrayed in Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger*. This research uses qualitative method and psychological research This research conducted with an applied psychological approach.

Based on analysis, it can be concluded that eight defense mechanisms are used to reduce the anxiety of Balram's problems, they are repression, denial, displacement, projection, fantasy, regression, rationalization, and reaction formation. Repression often arises because Balram is a person who is born from the lower caste and works in the Landlord's place where he is an upper caste. Balram uses fantasy to reduce his anxiety when he sees his boss starts to change his life since being left by his ex-wife. Balram is always in denial to tell about the condition in India. The mechanism of the projection is often used by Balram, to take revenge on the landlord's family.

The researcher also shows data on the consequences of the defense mechanism carried out by Balram. When the prime minister says that India is a developing country, the opposite is happening there. As a consequence, Balram believes in himself for the struggle to face inequality.

Keywords: ***defense mechanism, anxiety, psychoanalysis***

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