

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

by Moh. Rizal. Awalul. Murrofiki

Submission date: 08-Aug-2021 08:55PM (UTC+0700)

Submission ID: 1629062641

File name: TRINITIN_THESIS_2.docx (53.3K)

Word count: 9675

Character count: 45854

BALRAM'S DEFENSE MECHANISM IN ARAVIND ADIGA'S

THE WHITE TIGER

Mo²⁹Rizal. Awalul. Murrofiki/1611403147

Fakultas Ilmu Budaya/ Sastra Inggris
Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya

ABSTRACT: This research describes defense mechanism of Aravind 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*

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The defense mechanism is a psychological strategy that a person uses to protect his ego. This mechanism appears consciously or unconsciously when a person tries to protect the ego from anxiety triggered by unpleasant social reactions. This process will work in protecting individuals by turning the facts around. *The White Tiger* is chosen because of the several reasons character in this novel is impressive. In this novel, each character presents strong characteristics, especially the main character Balram. It is published in 2008 by Atlantic Book London, the novel is about the first character Balram.

Balram comes from a poor family who wants to change his life to be better. He is dropped out of school and begins to be a rickshaw puller. When he decides to change jobs at a tea shop as a tea shopkeeper in his village, at that time he looks for a job vacancy information about the driver. Balram takes a driving course. However, being a driver is needed for struggles. He should pay for taking the course. When Balram can drive and control the car as well, he applies for a job at Stork's family as a second driver, and finally Stork family accepts him to work in his house as a backup driver as well as a

helper for them. because there is the main driver, Ram Persad. Balram is jealous and he has a desire to replace his co-worker who always gets more attention and work from his boss. Finally, Balram becomes the main driver by replacing Ram Persad. He wants his life to be successful in the future.

The Story above consists of personality problem. This problem relates to psychoanalysis, which is introduced by Sigmund Freud, in his research known as psychoanalytic theory. Defend mechanism is one of the self-defense efforts caused by unfavorable pressures.

Aravind Adiga is graduated from Colombia University and Oxford University. he has a career in journalism and interns in time finance and also becomes a freelance worker. Since he becomes a freelancer, he writes a novel entitled *The White Tiger*.

The analysis aims to elaborate on how the novel depicts Balram's defense mechanism in his consequences through the stories. This analysis is based on Freud's theory as well as the defense mechanism that Balram performs.

1.2 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Freud on Defense Mechanism

Id, ego and super ego are part of the personality triggered by Sigmund Freud. The first, Id According to Freud, id as the main element in the structure of personality. The id only consists of an element of pleasure in other words, its function is to create pleasure in a person and rejects everything that makes the id uncomfortable. It is an impulse that arises from the human unconscious. These impulses are usually biological regardless of logic, morality, or reality. Instinct is an example of hereditary psychology, which has existed since birth contained in the id. (Alwisol, 2009: 14-15). External factors that have directly affected the id will transform becomes the ego (Freud 1923). The decision-making component of personality is related to moral values. The ego works based on the principle of reality which contains logic and rationality. The third is Superego According to Freud superego is a determine between good and bad.

Self defense mechanism will works automatically when the ego is in danger, its function is to protect the ego. Both of them need each other in reducing anxiety, if one of them is weak then it is not impossible that it will be dangerous.

Anxiety is divides into three types they are:

Neurotic anxiety occurs without knowing the danger. This anxiety will usually develop unconsciously due to the pressure that occurs in the ego. The second is moral anxiety, it can occur because of the enmity that occurs between the ego and the superego. And the third, realistic anxiety is closely related to fear. This anxiety occurs as an unpleasant feeling, a non-specific feeling involving the possibility of danger.

One way to reduce anxiety is known as the defense mechanism. According to Freud's helps overcome anxiety and prevents threats from the ego is a function of defense mechanisms Indirectly when the ego gets excessive pressure either intentionally or unintentionally, this is called a defense mechanism. (As cited in Corey, 1986: 14). The psychological process that occurs without realizing it and as a reaction to reduce the pressures that exist within oneself both feelings and thoughts are called a defense mechanism they are:

1. *Repression*, it occurs when the ego is threatened by requiring impulses from the id. The ego protects itself by forcing these feelings into the unconscious

2. *Rationalization* is proof of an action that can be understood as a real reality and can be accepted by others
3. *Reaction Formation* is attitude disguises threatening impulses in the subconscious and shows the opposite behavior in the conscious.
4. *Displacement* Diversion of inappropriate impulses to another person or object is the redirection of the impulse into a substitute target.
5. *Regression* The defense mechanism arises when an individual's behavior shows the characteristics of a previous level of development.

Consequentialism theory

According to Fieser, consequentialism considers an action to be moral right consequent theory can be seen from good or bad of the action itself. This assessment depends on the aspects that have been carried out as moral formation. It can be said that morals are good if the consequences of the action are acceptable, in other words, if the action is good, it can be said to be favorable, but if the action on the moral is bad, it can be said to be unfavorable.

Consequentialists can be divided into three, the action can be called moral if the action minimizes suffering and maximizes personal pleasure. In other words, something

6. *Projection* According to Freud Projection is attributing a threatening urge, impulse, or aspect of oneself to someone else.
7. *Fantasy* The ability of the mind to create responses due to a desire that has not been achieved when wanting to be successful,
8. *Denial* According to Freud Denial is refusing to accept that something exists or happened.

can be said to be favourable if the action can acceptable for itself. It is called ethical egoism, the next, the action can be called moral if the action minimizes suffering and maximizes another person's pleasure, in other words, something can say to be favourable if the action can be acceptable for another person, it is called ethical altruism, and the last is, the action can be called moral if the action minimized suffering and maximizes everyone and himself pressure, in other word something can be said favourable if the action can be acceptable for everyone including the people who perform it. It is called utilitarianism.

1.3 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Literary Approach

This research is extrinsic approach that is out of the text on the novel *The White Tiger*. It only connects the literature to the social context and the previous growth.

Research Design

In the research is descriptive qualitative. The type of research focuses on describing the data analysis without numerical data and searching data interpretation from the sources by applying psychoanalysis specifically defense mechanism theory.

Source of The Data

The source of this research is the novel, *The White Tiger* by Arvind Adiga which is divided into eight chapters.

Research Instrumental

The writer becomes the main instrument by reading whole of story *The White Tiger* several times in the novel while, collect and analyze the data without recorder and questioner.

Data Collection Procedure

the data in the form of the quotation taken from the novel *White Tiger*. The first Collecting the data in the form of the quotation, the second getting information

about *The White Tiger* and theories, the third analysing defense mechanism by using the theory psychoanalysis through interpretation.

1.4 ANALYSIS

Balram's defense mechanism

Repression

When someone feels anxious, they will indirectly carry out defense mechanisms to reduce stress due to the problems that he has faced. In repression, defense mechanism is a way to reduce the level of anxiety. In this case feels very difficult to change life due to the influence of the caste system in India. As it has been told in chapter 1 that in his career Balram has passed experience unpleasant experiences and face many problems.

I am reluctant to watch Hindi movies again, the 786 cinema was once phenomenal in our place. This number is magical for those who are Muslim because it is a symbol of their god. or a woman appears in a white sari and is full of gold from her feet to the ends. One of the

Hindu goddesses called Lakshmi.
(Adiga, 2008: 8)

From the statement above, he is fed up with the Political Economic system, which includes religious differences that existed at that time. Building a business there requires struggle and courage. They even think it's not real either, in terms of religion or an established political system. The fears that exist without having discipline, like a politician who is a lot of freedom, The struggles of entrepreneur there can be proven by the following statement. In my country is the kind of where its plays to play it both ways: the Indian entrepreneur has to be straight and crooked, mocking and believing, sly and sincere, at the same time. (Adiga, 2008: 9)

It makes Balram want to forget his struggles in the past and proud of achievements. The way to eliminate or reduce his anxiety because, the curse of an entrepreneur for him is when he has to keep an eye on his business all the time, Balram feels bored and he wants to forget that he has been through about it. Another repression can be found we can be found when Balram asks Kusum to take him to black fort. It is portrayed in the following quotation below.

I bagged Kusum to take me to the top of the hill, through the entranceway, and into the fort but she said I was coward, I would die of fright if I went up there: an enormous lizard, the biggest in whole word live in the fort. (Adiga, 2008: 40)

The statement above explains Balram's desire to go to Black Fort, but he is forbidden. The defense mechanism works when Balram has to hide and forget his desires for going to the black fort. Balram asks Kusum for permission to take him to a place where there's a black fort, but Kusum refuses and forbids him to go there. Balram thwarts his intention to go to the black fort, then forget about that place. The few years later, he dares him selves to come there. Another repression is when Balram takes Madam Pinky to the Airport. She wants to come back to America since she is disappointed in Mr. Ashok's family and decides to go home. She asks Balram to drop her off, it makes Mr. Ashok angry at Balram for not asking him. It can be seen in the quotation below,

he was very angry and holding the sleeve of the shirt I was wearing

made it hard to breathe while I explained but my words were cut off because I was so scared and blamed me for not wake him up. ⁴ 'Why didn't you wake me up'. Sir...she said...she said... (Adiga, 2008: 182)

According to the statement above, Balram doesn't dare to talk to Mr. Ashok. At that time, Mr. Ashok is very sad with Madam Pinky for leaving him forever. Balram's fault happens because he does not wake Mr. Ashok up, it makes Mr. Ashok's anger, and make him anxious and scare. It can be proven when Balram does not dare to continue his talk to Mr. Ashok. Then, he chooses to remain silent and suppress it. Another defense mechanism is shown by the quotation below, ²¹ that night, I was laying in the bed, inside my mosquito net, thinking about these words. He was right, sir-I didn't like the way he had spoken about me, but he was right. (Adiga, 2008:10)

Actually, Balram does feels bad with Mr. Ashok's question, because he tells Madam Pinky about the big tragedy in his country that many people drop out of school. Balram is silent because he doesn't dare to deny the facts given by Mr. Ashok. The reality is true and Balram's position is employee and Mr. Ashok is his boss. He dares not answer Mr. Ashok's questions and chooses to hold it, while thinking about it

when Balram is getting ready for bed. Another defense mechanism is found in the following quotation below.

Our innate nature as maids is to always interfere in other people's affairs indiscriminately while we know them. it made me lose my confidence to tell again about my thoughts to anyone, especially to the people who have the same profession as me. (Adiga, 2008: 130)

Balram does not want to tell his secret to his driver's friend because his friend ever tells Balram's secret to another driver's friend so, his friend often mocks him. And he does not dare to be with his friend. He harbours his anger and promises not to tell his secret again to anyone. This defense mechanism occurs because Balram's friend looks fiercer than him. This incident happens when Balram takes Mr. Ashok to the apartment. Another defense mechanism can be seen from the quotation below, ¹ A whore, that for people like me? sir. are you sure you want this? I wish I could have told him this openly - but who was I? just the driver. (Adiga, 2008: 216)

This happens when Balram listens to Mr. Ashok and Fat Man as his business partner offer to date with women and his business partner forces Mr. Ashok to do. It makes Balram anxious because Mr. Asok is an innocent and kind person, but it is spoil by his business environment to recognize bad things. This defense mechanism happens when Balram wants to forbid Mr. Ashok but, he doesn't dare to say it because he is just a driver. Another mechanism following the quotation below.

I drove Honda city back to Gurgaon apartment at 3 am. I stayed in the car with my heart beating really fast. I immediately washed it and wiped it while throwing away the used bottle of the expensive drink, even the used bottle had a high price on the black market. The bottle is branded Johnny Walker Black. (Adiga, 2008: 272)

Balram is very angry when he hears the conversation of Mr. Ashok and Vijay as partner of Mr. Ashok. Because they are planning something. Balram overhears their conversation. They tells if he success in expanding his business area, they will be cunning by enslaving the poor by becoming

donors in the curry election season. This mechanism occurs when Balram feels disappointed with their bad intentions while Balram listens to Vijay's conversation with Mr. Ashok. But he couldn't fight back because the one in the conversation is his boss. He just keeps quiet and try to forget what he has heard earlier. He chooses not to leave the car when he come home and wash his car three times, which is a symbol of resistance to their cruelty.

Denial

The reality that happens when the minister says about the Ganga River in India. This fact is very counterfeit, the reality happens from how Balram has felt. It can be seen in the quotation below.

statements that are different from reality seem to be distorted by the actual facts that have been conveyed by our prime minister. if our prime minister says that the river of emancipation that tourists going there just to photograph the sadhu in Hardwar and Benaras areas is the ganga river that is wrong. (Adiga, 2008:15)

In this case, Balram tells the fact that the Ganga River is full of pollution isn't like what the Prime Minister reports. The river is cloudy, dirty and the water is black due to the impact of pollution, denying the facts by providing reality. In this case, he talks about the facts and denies that statement by the experiences of Balram, and see the reality of what has happened there. It can be seen in the following quotation below.

¹⁶ One fact about India is that you can take almost any things. You hear about the country from the prime minister and turn it upside down and then you will have the truth about that thing. (Adiga, 2008: 15)

Actually, what the minister says is wrong, the reality that happens there is on the contrary. Such as dirty river that is very polluted, even the residents there call it the dark side of this. This can be assumed, Balram's anxiety about what is happening in India, the anxiety that exists when he sees inequality, the political economy, and the system of government that apply there. Balram's defense mechanism appears as a form of denial of the minister's statement. He is trying to explain the situation in there and what has been happened all this time.

Another defence mechanism exists on the following quotation below. ²³ People don't understand why other people don't buy chandeliers all the time and put them anywhere. Free people don't know the value of freedom, that is the problem. (Adiga, 2008: 117-118).

According to that quotation, Balram tells the facts about the value of freedom in India. He also describes that free people never value their freedom. In this case, one of the values of freedom is hiding in the light of this expression shown because many people are cruel but live free lives even, he is arrested by the police while still in the dark but he is dismissed because of money. The fact, there is darkness is not always comfortable, while the new fact is that freedom belongs to him, who can hide in the light and Balram believe it. Another defense mechanism happens in the following the quotation below.

³ Open our skull, look in with penlight, and you'll find an odd museum of ideas: sentences of history and mathematics remembered for school textbooks (nobody remembers his schooling like one who was taken out of school, let me assure you). (Adiga, 2008: 10)

In this sentence, Balram explains that drop out of school is not necessarily stupid. Even though Balram and many people drop out of school it doesn't mean they are stupid. They are hindered by destiny and the political system that exists in India. Even Balram is confident that he is such a smart person. However, his teacher gives him the nickname white tiger. The incident take place when Mr. Ashok explain about the life of poor society in India. In other words, Bahram denies the facts that Mr. Ashok talks about to Madam Pinky by giving new facts. The next, mechanism occurs when Balram describes the political system in India, like the following quotation below. (For this land, India, has never been free. First the Moslem then the British bossed us around. In 1947 the British left, but only a moron would think that only became free then). (Adiga, 2008: 22)

In this statement, Balram explains that most of his country looks independent. However, the reality is not independent yet. This is illustrated in Balram's story. There is still a lot of oppression in India. India looks already independent even though the reality that Balram is witnessing is not like that. He is still being colonized, and he feels that colonization is getting here the more it becomes the biggest problem. Another

defense mechanism is followed by the quotation below.

He opened his mouth but didn't speak. After sometimes he was silent, he finally said that the path of life he had taken was wrong, he realized but he felt he had no choice. It all takes courage. I just don't have...the balls. (Adiga, 2008: 238)

This statement begins when Mr. Ashok comes to Balram to see where the driver's room is this time. Mr. Ashok says that Bahram's way of life is wrong but, Balram doesn't dare to change his life. The defense mechanism is applied on Balram when he already knows his way of life is wrong but, he denies that he doesn't dare to change it for the better.

Displacement

Displacement is one of the most dangerous mechanisms. It is because this defense mechanism can be a link from one to another. A serious problem that is often encountering around us is when punishment will become hereditary in an environment. Then, this happens to Bahram like the following quote below.

I am like a donkey now, and that has indirectly changed my mind. it will make me educate my son like a donkey who also works hard for the rich. while I gripped the steering wheel tightly. (Adiga, 2008: 193)

It can conclude, that Balram would like to do the same if he had children. Then this is how poverty in India can ingrain according to their caste. This mechanism happens to Bahram because his grandmother tells him to get married. Then, how to educate his grandmother to Balram who does not want Balram's life to be changed, his grandmother believes that they come from a low caste in India so, they have to act like poor people. Another defense mechanism is followed by the quotation below.

on the bed mosquito net, there were a lot of cockroaches so I could clearly see. The black body contrasts with the white mosquito net. some of the cockroaches started to get squashed and died. makes me think that all the stupid people living in this city are so slow, while I close my eyes. (Adiga, 2008: 131)

In the statement above, Balram is very upset because there are many

cockroaches in that place, and he kills them. It is the answer to all his annoyance. It shows that the rest of the townspeople are so slow and stupid. In this case, Balram vents his disappointment on the cockroaches. Balram vents his disappointment on the cockroaches for the oppression that has occurred in Balram's city. Another consequence is followed by the statement below. The ³strangest thing was that each time I looked at the cash I had made by cheating him, instead of guilt, what did I feel? The more I stole from him, the more I realized how much he had stolen from me. (Adiga, 2008: 231)

This statement is about Balram's revenge against Mr. Ashok. because his freedom has been restricted by the landlord's family. He takes revenge by lying and deceiving Mr. Ashok by stealing his car's petrol, using his car for a taxi, and demanding an extra fee for car repairs. In this context, Balram doesn't want to vent his anger on the landlord, but he vents his temper by deceiving his master. Another defense mechanism of displacement is shown in the quotation below.

'five was enough for me but said seven and in the end, the jerk said six, I offered seven back finally he agreed, with an agreement if you

don't want to pay then we will destroy his business and also his family. That bluff made him very anxious and I know that he will keep his promise' (Adiga, 2008: 271)

Balram is devastated by what Mr. Ashok's family has done. It is illustrated that all his families owned by Balram are killed by the stork family. The disappointment becomes very strong in Balram's mind, especially if Mr. Ashok's business commits a lot of fraud in the tax sector, and he wants to take revenge on Mr. Ashok. This mechanism happens because Balram has a desire to take revenge on his family but, it hasn't been achieving yet so, his mind is full of anger. While he thinks of a way to get his revenge, Balram is nervous about what he is about to do by the following quotation below.

Are you sure? some people I sent to scare him; the sly rich man must be taught a lesson. It makes me happy. there will be another victim, it doesn't take much energy to do it at the Sheraton, we will carry out this mission. (Adiga, 2008: 271).

This fact is supported by the statement above. It can prove that Balram is planning something, but he still has doubts.

But if he remembers murder and bullying, it makes him even cruel and hates the murderous family of the Balram, and Mr. Ashok as his son as his boss where Balram works. This mechanism happens because Balram has a strong desire to take revenge on his family. Another defense mechanism of displacement exists in the quotation below.

It occurred to me why I didn't just leave him in the bush while keeping his mouth shut and walking away from him. I will be able to run away when he can't do anymore while I can run away. I always sit at the table and think about it by looking at the crystal chandelier almost every night. (Adiga, 2008: 285)

Balram always remembers the murder when he sees the chandelier. Every time he sees it, he feels guilty. Despite that, he has to keep doing it because he hates Mr. Ashok and his family so much. This mechanism occurs because Balram's revenge does not feel guilty because Balram is already disappointed with his ex-employer.

Projection

A kind of mechanism is Projection, which defends against unpleasant urges by

denying and showing to others. According to this story, Balram is worried about what his friend is doing when his friend tries to tease Balram. This story illustrates that Balram is very afraid of lizards but, his friend jokes with Balram by holding his hand and bringing the animal closer to him

Someone ¹ caught the thigh on his hand, and began walking toward me with slow, exaggerated steps, making no noise only flicking its red tongue in and out of its mouth the lizard came closer and closer on my face. The laughter grew louder. I couldn't make noise. The teacher was snoring at the desk behind me. The lizard's face came right up on my face; and then it's opened its light green mouth, and then fainted for the second of my life. (Adiga, 2008: 28-29)

That statement is strengthening when Balram decides to drop out of school. The defense mechanism applied is projection because Balram's friend is not necessary seriously enough to scare him. He decides not to go to school at that time. So, that makes him have to work as a tea shop keeper. That statement is a strength when Balram decides

to drop out of school. The following statement is below.

I couldn't move because my hands were being pulled behind my back and holding my head. Slowly but surely the other child's caught the lizard and came closer to me, they did that to scare me the lizard was seen close up sticking out its tongue in front of my eyes. I was so scared and they were so happy they could scare me. Behind me is the teacher who is sleeping. The beast began to approach and its mouth opened it made me ⁴ fainted for the second time in my life. (Adiga, 2008: 29)

This statement of the mechanism occurs when Balram begins to feel uncomfortable about the incident. It is one way the mechanism works in Balram when assuming that he is in a bad situation. Another defense mechanism of projection is when Balram is a fugitive for theft and murder cases exposed on following quotation below.

⁸ Red bag, they should have said. Without the colour, the information of all but useless, isn't it? O.. I wonder I was never spotted. Certain

quantity of cash. Open any newspaper in this country, and it's always this crap: 'a certain interested party has been spreading rumours', or a certain religious community doesn't believe in contraception.' I hate that. (Adiga, 2008: 32)

In this case, Balram shows that the news will be useless without a clear subject. It also shows that it is not Balram who made a mistake, as spread in the announcement. The police are wrong in making the news. Since Balram steal the red bag, he feels that the police are not serious about looking for the suspect in the theft case. Another defense mechanism quotation below.

¹² But they weren't really angry. For the first time I can remember, I got more attention than the water buffalo. Most lavish in her fussing, naturally, was sly old Kusum, who kept grinning at me and rubbing her forearms. (Adiga, 2008: 83)

The statement describes when Kishan reminds Balram that it has been several months since Balram has not sent money to the village. Here the mechanism comes into play when Kishan throws the

statement at Balram. In this statement, Balram explains that they are not angry. The one who must be angry is Kusum, his grandmother. Another defence mechanism is shown by the quotation below.

Mr. Ashok changed before I was all changed by the situation of Delhi a good man who came home from America already demoralized. if the boss Honda City changes then it will change the morally of the driver and make him not as innocent as before. (Adiga, 2008: 197)

The quote above explains that first, Mr. Ashok was kind and innocent. He was also very friendly and very patient with Balram but, that changed in a short time. Mr. Ashok used to look good but, now he is spoiled over the situation in Delhi city. The projection mechanism occurs because of Balram's anxiety about his past when he has to change being cruel when he starts building his business. In this statement, it can conclude that it is not Balram who is at fault but, Balram blames Mr. Ashok as his former employer who has changed his life to be cruel.

⁹ I drop past the red wall of parliament house. A guard with a gun was

watching me from a lookout post on the red wall – he put his gun down the moment he saw me. why would I stop you I'd do the same, if I could? (Adiga, 2008: 245)

According to the following quote, it shows that Balram is thinking of devious things. It happened while Balram was listening to Mr. Ashok and Mukesh sir, talking about giving money to parties in India. To escape the expensive taxes, because Mr. Ashok has a coal business. Whereas, Mr. Ashok doesn't like what they both are going to do. because the taxes imposed on entrepreneurs are to be paid for people like Balram. The mechanism occurs in Balram expresses is to imitate their cunning actions because he feels they are also doing the same things.

²⁰ The sirens of the coop were ringing – its wheel turning – its red-light flashing! A rooster was escaping the coop! a hand was thrust out – I was picked up neck and shoved back into the coop.³ My heart began to sweat. I sat down on the floor. think Balram. Think of what the buffalo did to his servant family. (Adiga, 2008: 249)

In the above statement, Balram remembering his past for the oppression carried out by the stork. He was very nervous when he thought about it. Because the way he oppressed his family was cruel, Balram hates the landlord's family. Here the mechanism is applied when Balram's desire for revenge gets stronger when he remembers what the landlord's family did to him and to the small community in the village where Balram lives.

Fantasy

The ability of the mind to form an image or a new response. Reduced stress against unfulfilled desires. It can be seen in the quotation below.

I know that a car with luxurious facilities such as speakers, leather seats, and equipped with a spitting holder made of stainless steel is the hallmark of a luxury car at a fantastic price. a car as good as that is sure to be a lot of fun to drive. different from me, who is an old Suzuki Maruti driver whose driving feeling is normal and it can be seen only from the outside. (Adiga, 2008: 69)

According to the statement above, Balram imagines a car that looks luxurious. It is different from the car he used to take his boss. This part of the fantasy mechanism is because it imagines an object. In this case, Balram was jealous of Ram Parsad, who was the main driver in the family. He always takes his boss around the city by driving a Honda City car, which was different from Balram, who only drove his master using a Suzuki Maruti. Balram only imagines but does not feel like an important driver and uses a luxury car. Another mechanism is following the quotation below.

Ram Parsad slept snoring that night while I couldn't sleep, I supported my chin and looked up while thinking of the earth and sky as the difference in the nature of the two children of the stork. the cruel mongoose and Mr. Ashok Generous. (Adiga, 2008: 75).

The fantasy mechanism is related to this quotation. Balram thinks of the difference in character son between Mukesh sir and Mr. Ashok. They are different. one inherits his father's thinking, the other his body inherits his father's body. This statement illustrates that Balram flashback at

night. This mechanism occurs when Balram thinks about the incident, which forms new responses about the differences like these two brothers. Balram was comparing them. It happens according to Balram's experiences who feel anxious about their treatment. One is good and the other is cruel. Balram used this fantasy mechanism to reduce his anxiety. Another mechanism following the quotation below.

The feelings of guilt of the Indian government can be illustrated by the appearance of thin children and their relatively short lifespan as well as their short stature which is typical of a prosperous village in our country. I even had to visit China to compare the prosperous villages there with the prosperous villages in India. (Adiga, 2008: 20)

In this statement, it can conclude that Balram wants to go to China in the future. It happens When Bahram lives in Laxmangarh's to see villages in developed countries if their lives were better. In this quote, Balram used this fantasy for his anxiety about living in India. After witnessing a lot of inequality in his country. He also often witnesses the oppression that

occurred between the upper and lower castes which, made him restless and had a desire to compare his country with China. Another mechanism follows with.

I thought that the landlord saved me, but it turned out to be different, opposite what I had thought. he was thinking about other things more important than my life while he was sitting with his legs stretched out and smiling when he saw me. (Adiga, 2008:178)

In this statement, Balram thinks that the landlord is proud to have saved him. But the fact that the landlord only asked him to massage his feet. Balram only imagines reducing his anxiety when called by the landlord. When the landlord called him for a massage, but before the incident, he felt that the landlord had helped him save his life. He used this mechanism when the landlord called him. It happened because Balram was happy. It gave to make a new assumption in his mind. Another mechanism is the following quotation below.

What was Mr. Ashok doing inside, it made me wonder when I was outside the building. I guessed if it was a

discotheque because it could be seen from the flickering red lights that I saw at the top of the building. I also saw men and women there lined up neatly wearing skimpy city girl clothes and the sight made me shudder when I saw it. (Adiga, 2008: 198)

The quote above described that Mr. Ashok asked Balram to take to a place they called the mall. After arriving there, Balram did not know what place it was. Because Balram is an innocent person, His driver's friend told him the palace was a discotheque. The statement above explains that Balram guessed and imagined what Mr. Ashok was doing there. So, what palace it is. It can assume that Balram is using a fantasy mechanism while he is anxiously waiting for Mr. Ashok to come out of the palace.

Mr. Ashok is not a typical masher, his degree is high and he is a better person than me, then I punish myself by pinching my left palm, I eavesdrop again at the door on the phone the conversation stopped for a while then I heard Mr. Ashok say that "it's the sound of cuddles and puddles. they always call me to try

you listen to this". (Adiga, 2008: 209)

The quote above explains that there was a woman who invited into Mr. Ashok's room. They entered the room a long time ago. That's where Balram's curiosity arose, and he tried to find out by eavesdropping on the bedroom door. The fact that happened the woman turned out to be Mr. Ashok's ex-girlfriend. She was there to apologize. In this situation, it can assume that the fantasy mechanism was used by Balram when he became suspicious of Mr. Ashok's ex-girlfriend and suspected that Mr. Ashok was playing a girl. and Balram feels guilty and punishes himself by pinched the palms.

I waited outside for half an hour, I've been waiting while holding the steering wheel, I bit the steering wheel while watching the little monster hanging. I imagine Mr. Ashok running away asking to be saved by me shouting "Balram I almost repeated my mistake - save me and let's leave this place!" (Adiga, 2008: 219).

Another mechanism occurs in the statement above when Mr. Ashok meets a

woman on the persuasion of his friend. Balram is worried because he sees his boss, whom he thinks is good, must do this in the pursuance of his friend. While he was worried and hopes that Mr. Ashok will wake up and get out of that palace. After all, Balram doesn't like seeing his employer broken because he thinks Mr. Ashok is the boss, which has a good attitude.

Rationalization

Rationalization is an effort to prove that his behavior is acceptable and reasonable. This statement contains a defense mechanism in which Balram explains to Mr. Ashok that it is not him who has wrong. Madam Pinky asked to take her to the airport. It can be seen in the quotation below. ¹⁵ You can't blame me sir, sir!' I shouted. 'I'd never heard of a woman leaving her husband for good! I mean, yes, on TV, but not in real life! I just did what she told me to.' (Adiga, 2008: 182)

The incident made Mr. Ashok very frustrated when his wife left him to go back to America and blame Balram. This mechanism happened to Balram when he felt cornered by the situation. In the quote above, Balram feels he is not guilty of the incident. Because he was invited by Madam Pinky. Mr. Ashok was very angry and Balram

became a victim of Mr. Ashok's anger who saw his wife going back to America. The function of this mechanism is a form of defense by proving that his behavior is acceptable. Balram decides to tell the truth when Mr. Ashok gets angry with him. Another mechanism is following the quotation below.

6
Munna? that's not real name.' he was right: just means 'boy'. 'that's all I've got sir,' I said. It was true. I'd never been given a name. didn't a mother name you? 'she's' very ill, sir. She lies in the bed and spew blood. She's got no time to name me.' and your father?' 'he's rickshaw-puller, sir. His got no time to name me.' (Adiga, 2008: 13)

This happened when the teacher asked Balram at his school. At that time, Balram did not know his name. The teacher was confused, Balram explained to his teacher that when he was born his mother was sick, and his father was busy working. Balram gives a reason to make his teacher believe. The previous mechanism is when Mr. Ashok asked why did Balram touch his eyes while passing by the sacred tree following the quotation below.

7
That seemed to have impressed the two of them, so I put my finger to my eye a moment later, again What's that for, Driver? I don't see any temples around. 'er..., we drove past a sacred tree, sir. I was offering my respect.' Did you hear that? They worship nature. It's beautiful, isn't it? (Adiga, 2008: 90)

This statement explained that Balram touched his eyes because they were passing through a sacred place. He gave that explanation so that Mr. Ashok and Madam Pinky can accept what he did. It happened when they were gone to Balram village, and Balram remembers that they were passed a shrine tree. Balram touches his eyes as a symbol of politeness because the place is a shrine area for Balram. It is different with Mr. Ashok and Madam Pinky because they are born in different environments and beliefs. This mechanism explains to them that what he is doing is acceptable and makes sense to Madam Pinky and Mr. Ashok for being protected from different pressures or badness assumptions from Mr. Ashok and Madam Pinky to Balram. Another mechanism is the following quotation below.

¹ It makes me happy to see a chandelier. Why not, I'm free man, let me buy all the chandeliers I want. For one thing, they keep the lizards away from this room. It's the truth, sir. Lizard don't like the light, so as soon as they see chandelier, they stay away. (Adiga, 2008: 117).

According to her statement above that when Mr. Ashok took Balram. He felt fortunate. He likes lights because according, to him, they can make the lizards away. In this context, it can be assumed that he can prove that his behavior is correct and acceptable by giving ideas why he likes chandeliers. Another mechanism is the following quotation below. ¹³ I tell you could have heard the grinding of my teeth just then. I thought I was making plans for him; he'd been making plans for me! The rich are always one step ahead of us-aren't they. (Adiga, 2008: 268)

The above statement happened when Balram drove Mr. Ashok and Mr. Ashok joked to Bahram that he would change his driver while listening to music in the car but at that time, Balram had already drawn up a plan to kill Mr. Ashok. The conversation above shows that Balram feels the lives of the poor people are always one step behind. Self

defense mechanism was described as rationalization because according to Balram, he does not lose and imagines, the rich people are better to have freedom.

Regression

This reaction works by going back to the past for his psychological needs. Balram's life was full of struggles and demands which changed the way he thought the side of the things for his past. This mechanism happened when Mr. Ashok asks his age. ¹⁴ He looked at me and said, 'I think you're eighteen. I think you turned eighteen today. You just forgot, didn't you? I bowed to him. 'that's correct, sir. I forgot. It was my birthday today.' (Adiga, 2008, 96)

The mechanism that occurs here is that Balram goes back to his childhood when Mr. Asok asked his age when he was a driver, he was an adult. he seemed to act like a child who forgot his age, even though it is true that when he was born his mother and father did not give him a gift name but he should be able to tell his age as an adult by looking for information. Balram is already an adult when he works as Mr. Ashok's driver. Another mechanism following the quotation below.

⁵ The way I had rushed to press Mr. Ashok's feet, the moment I saw

them, even though he hadn't asked me to! Why did I feel that I had to go close to his feet, touch them and press them and make them feel good – why, because the desire to be a servant had been bred into me: hammered into my skull, nail after nail, and poured into my blood, the way sewage and industrial poison are poured into Mother Ganga. (Adiga, 2008: 193)

In this statement, Balram talks about the reason Balram being in a hurry to offer a message to Mr. Ashok because he was applied to his past when he was still a servant before he worked with Mr. Ashok. Here also tells that his house is close to the Ganga River. The condition is dirty and polluted. Balram's life in his past who was born from the lowest caste in India makes him work hard for fulfil daily needs. It is related to when Balram massages his feet.

vitaligo lips did not wait for me, I decided to go home by bus. my hair was messy because I regretted it all the way home from that place, I felt like crying when I remembered that seven thousand rupees just ran out, a lot of buffalo that can be bought with that much money and grandma

seemed to come suddenly and pinch my ears. (Adiga, 2008: 236)

Balram feels sorry after he goes on a date with whore, He felt guilty for his actions and cries considered the price most expensive and made him run out of money. This mechanism occurs when Balram crying and imagines his grandmother pinching his ear because of what he has done. This mechanism goes back to when he was a child who could cry when scolded and was also shadowed by his grandmother when giving punishment.

25
There is no water in our taps, and what do you people in Delhi give us? You give us mobile phone when he is thirsty? Woman work for miles every morning to find bucket of clean 'Do you want to become prime minister in India, 'don't ask me such question. I have no ambition for myself. I am simply the voice of the poor and the disenfranchised. (Adiga, 2008: 269)

This conversation happened while in the car when Mr. Ashok asks Bahram about his wish when they listen to the radio and the prime minister is a guest on the radio station. Balram replied that he didn't want to be prime

minister and assumed that for his life. He had no ambition where the rationalization mechanism took place because Balram was an only poor person and worked as a driver for Mr. Ashok. Another mechanism is following the quotation below.¹⁸ There was still some blood on my palm: three small red drops had formed on my flesh, like a row of ladybirds on a leaf. Sucking my palm like a boy, I want to sleep. (Adiga, 2008: 273)

The quote above illustrates that Balram is worried that it is symbolized by killing a cockroach in his room. In killing a cockroach so that it makes the cockroach's blood on his hand and clean it by sucking the blood on his finger, the mechanism that occurs here when he is anxious and is planning to kill, she eased that anxiety by acting like a baby sucking her palm while sleeping on her bedroom floor and back to childhood.

Reaction formation

Defensive action by replacing impulses. Impulse is a desire that must be fulfilled to do something.¹⁹ Here's strange fact: murder a man, and you feel responsible for his life – possessive, even. You know more about him than his father and mother; they

Sew his foetus, but you know his corpse. (Adiga, 2008,46)

Balram likes his boss. he kills him and he has stolen his money. This statement shows that behind love, there is hatred that he feels. This quotation illustrates that Balram is very loyal to Mr. Ashok but behind that Balram also harbours hatred for what Mr. Ashok has done to him and relates to his wife leaving him. It makes him frustrated and abuses Balram. This kind of triggers Bahram's anger. It was including the defensive action taken by Balram as revenge for his disappointment with Mr. Ashok. Balram has killed Mr. Ashok. The boss does he likes following the quotation below. the other mechanism is following the quotation below. I bathe the cuddles and puddles every morning when I dry them with a blow dryer ram bahadur suddenly comes and asks me a question⁴ "have you ever been to Delhi" I just shook my head. (Adiga, 2008: 106)

According to this statement, Balram answered that he didn't understand about New Delhi by shaking his head. It pretended not to be interested in it. In the fact, Balram knows about Delhi. Furthermore, Balram hears from Ram Bahadur as security, the driver who takes²⁷ Mr. Ashok and Pinky madam to New Delhi will get a salary of three

thousand rupees. Formation reactions take place by following the quotation below.

I was shocked and dropped the blow dryer when I heard the salary was 3000 rupees. then I got up and asked " will they take me " with a pitiful face I asked Ram Bahadur to persuade me not with Ram Parsad they'll take Ram Parsad,' he said with a sneer of his Nepali lips. 'unless'. (Adiga, 2008: 107)

In this quotation we can be seen, Balram wants to take Mr. Ashok and Madam Pinky to New Delhi and get a bigger salary. In reality, that happened Balram wanted to take Mr. Ashok and Madam Pinky to New Delhi. Moreover, when he listens from Ram Bahadur will get three thousand rupees, The mechanism will respond when defending himself to face an event where this mechanism will be contrast opposite of behavior to the reality. As a form of self-defense when the situation threatens his identity. Another mechanism follows the quotation below.

² I thought, what a miserable life he's had, having to hide his religion, his name, just to get job as a driver-and

he is a good driver, no question of it, a far better one than I will ever be. Part of me wanted to get up and apologize to him right there and say, you go and be a driver in Delhi. You never did anything to hurt me. Forgive me, brother. (Adiga, 2008: 110)

In this story, it is explained that the relationship between Balram and ram bahadur is fine. He was jealous of Ram Parsad as the main driver in the family and was more often invited out of town to take Mr. Ashok in a luxury Honda City car from the car Balram was holding. It was the trigger for Balram to do the opposite to Ram Parsad by revealing the secrets of religion that had been hidden from the landlord families. Balram is regretful for Ram Parsa. Balram shows the opposite behavior and formation reaction takes place from the statement above. Another mechanism is following the quotation above. ² The main thing to know about Delhi is that the roads are good, and the people are bad. The police are totally rotten. If they see you without seat belt, you'll have to bribe them a hundred rupees. (Adiga, 2008: 124)

Balram tells about Delhi city. Delhi city has good roads but, he denies that society is a distraction. In this statement, it can be concluded that Balram likes the city of Delhi however, the way he looks at the city is like a person who doesn't like living in Delhi. On the other hand, Balram conveys in a different way he shows that he loves his city but, his delivery is not like people who stay in his country. he tells about a degenerate country. He also shows that he loves to live in the country even though the conditions are not like other developed countries. That's the formation reaction mechanism shown by Balram regarding the situation of the country.

we went to the old fort which is famous for its zoo. we went by bus I held Dharam's head during the trip to the black fort- I could feel for sure he was comfortable and thought that I was showing affection. even though I did that so my hands would stop shaking. like a lizard whose tail has been cut off, my hands are shaking all morning. (Adiga, 2008: 274)

The statement above shown when Balram asked permission, Mr. Ashok, for leaving home. He invited Dharam to go to

Old Fort by taking a bus, and he did because he felt sorry for Dharam to travel together by bus. Balram holds Balram's head. Formation reaction mechanism occurs when Balram though "Dharam must think that he did this because he wanted to show affection" Balram did it so that his hands stop shaking. This mechanism occurs because it changes the impulses. The quotation above shows that it all happened to entertain Dharam so that he wouldn't be afraid of what Balram will doing.

Consequences of Balram's defense mechanism

There are several consequences that Balram does for his defense mechanism. The first is he denied and try tried to go to the Black ford, to prove that he was brave. When Kusum forbids him to go there. The morality is not favorable because he has fought his grandmother forbidden it. Based on utilitarianism, it brings a good impact for him to keep fighting.

The consequence of repression occurs when Balram goes to sleep and remembers what the boss said when he was with Madam Pinky. Who said that Balram was one of the half-baked men in the country? Balram doesn't like the statement, which can help Balram to show his true identity. It is based on; egoism ethic the

morality is right. The attitude can be favorable it can because Balram can prove to be successful.

Another mechanism is denial occurred when the prime minister said that India is a developing country. In reality, the opposite is happening in that country. It concluded the consequences of authoritarianism because the morally is right and favorable. Because it happened, it makes Balaram believe in himself for the struggle to face the inequality.

Another consequence reaction formation When Balram was jealous of Ram Parsad, he deliberately leaked his religion to lord lands family. He could become the main driver who was invited out of town. The consequence of Bahram's actions is including authoritarianism because the morally right and the attitude is favorable. The moral right because he dared to explain the reality that happened.

1.5 CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis Balram uses defense mechanism to reduce his anxiety over what is happens in his country. the struggle of the common people who come from the lower caste, From the data analysis, it can be concluded that there are eight defense mechanisms that are used to reduce

anxiety of Balram's problem, those 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 land lord's place where he is the 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. Denial is often used by Balram to tell about the condition in India. The extreme mechanism is the projection used by Balram to take revenge on the landlord's family.

The researcher also shows data on the consequences of defense mechanism carried out by Balram. When the prime minister says that India is a developing country while in fact, the opposite is happening in that country. The consequences is Balram believes in himself for the struggle to face the inequality. The event of Balram's character is thoughtful in making decisions.

31

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Alwisol, 2009, *Psikologi Kepribadian*, Malang: UMM Press.

BritishCouncil. Aravind Adiga.

<https://literature.britishcouncil.org/writ>

er/aravind-adiga. Last accessed on:
March, 2021.

Corey, Gerald (1986), *Theory and Practice of
Counselling and Psychoterapi*. Third
Edition. Monterey, California: Brooks/
Cole Publishing Company.

²⁸ Feist, Jess, dan Gregory JF. 2013. *Theories of
Personality*. Ed.8. Singapore:
McGraw-Hill.

Fieser James. 2012 "ethics".
<http://www.iep.utm.edu/ethics/#SH2c>.
last accessed on Juni 2021

Iloveindia.com. Aravind Adiga.
<https://www.iloveindia.com/indian-heroes/aravind-adiga.html>, Last
accessed on: March, 2021.

¹⁰ McLeod, S A. (2009). Defens Mechanisms.
Accessed December 1th 2015.
<http://www.simplypsychology.org/defense-mechanisms.html>

McLeod, Saul. Theory Of Personality. 2017,
from

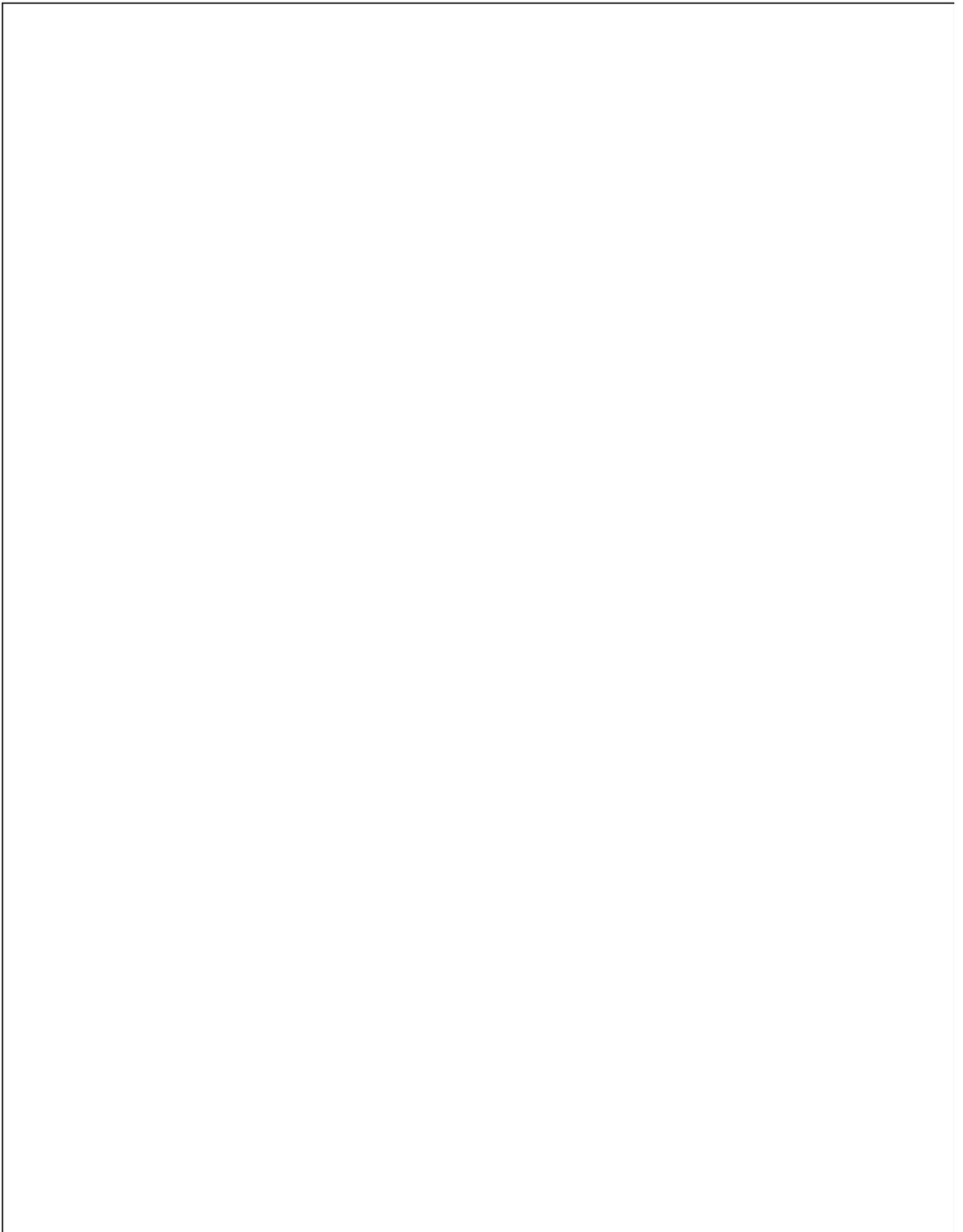
²⁴ <https://www.simplypsychology.org/personality-theories.html>.

McLeod, S. A. (2019, April 10). Defense
mechanisms. Simply Psychology.
<https://www.simplypsychology.org/defense-mechanisms.html>

²⁶ Minderop, Albertine. 2010. *Psikologi Sastra.
Karya sastra, Metode, Teori, dan
Contoh Kasus*. Jakarta: Yayasan
Pustaka Obor Indonesia.

SuperSummary. The White Tiger Summary.
<https://www.supersummary.com/the-white-tiger/summary/>, Last
accessed on: February, 2021.

Wikiwand. Aravind Adiga.
https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Aravind_Adiga. Last accessed on: March,
2021.



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

ORIGINALITY REPORT

15%

SIMILARITY INDEX

14%

INTERNET SOURCES

1%

PUBLICATIONS

14%

STUDENT PAPERS

PRIMARY SOURCES

1	Submitted to Miss Halls School Student Paper	2%
2	Submitted to Campbell High School Student Paper	1%
3	Submitted to Baltimore City College High School Student Paper	1%
4	www.scribd.com Internet Source	1%
5	Submitted to Oakland Technical High School Student Paper	1%
6	Submitted to St. Xavier High School Student Paper	1%
7	Submitted to Noble Network of Charter Schools Student Paper	1%
8	www.britishbookawards.co.uk Internet Source	1%

9	Submitted to Germantown High School Student Paper	<1 %
10	digilib.uin-suka.ac.id Internet Source	<1 %
11	Submitted to University of Melbourne Student Paper	<1 %
12	Submitted to De Anza College Student Paper	<1 %
13	Submitted to Longwood College Student Paper	<1 %
14	Submitted to Mt. Alvernia High School Student Paper	<1 %
15	Submitted to Texas A&M University, College Station Student Paper	<1 %
16	Submitted to University of the West Indies Student Paper	<1 %
17	Submitted to University of Westminster Student Paper	<1 %
18	joell.in Internet Source	<1 %
19	www.flipkart.com Internet Source	<1 %
20	Submitted to Brigham Young University	

Student Paper

<1 %

21

Submitted to Kokomo High School

Student Paper

<1 %

22

www.goodreads.com

Internet Source

<1 %

23

Submitted to St. Stephens/St. Agnes High School

Student Paper

<1 %

24

Submitted to Sheffield Hallam University

Student Paper

<1 %

25

Md. Abullais. "Corruption as Responsible Factor for Poverty in Aravind Adiga's The White Tiger", SMART MOVES JOURNAL IJELLH, 2020

Publication

<1 %

26

bagawanabiyasa.wordpress.com

Internet Source

<1 %

27

Submitted to St. Joseph's Preparatory School

Student Paper

<1 %

28

publishing-widyagama.ac.id

Internet Source

<1 %

29

Submitted to Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya

Student Paper

<1 %

30 www.simplypsychology.org
Internet Source

<1 %

31 pasca.unhas.ac.id
Internet Source

<1 %

Exclude quotes Off

Exclude matches Off

Exclude bibliography Off