
Maslow's and Freud's Theories Reflected in Andrew Laeddis' Character

Friskila Yesika Novelia Hutagaol¹⁾, Agnes Widyaningrum²⁾

¹⁾Universitas Stikubank Semarang, Semarang, Indonesia
friskilayesianoveliah@mhs.unisbank.ac.id

²⁾Universitas Stikubank Semarang, Semarang, Indonesia
agneswidyaningrum@edu.unisbank.ac.id

Received: 15th May 2023| Revised: 3rd June 2023| Accepted: 9th December 2023
Email Correspondence: friskilayesianoveliah@mhs.unisbank.ac.id

Abstract

This research explores the portrayal of schizophrenia symptoms in the character Andrew Laeddis from the movie "Shutter Island". It examines how psychoanalysis and Maslow's hierarchy of needs can be applied to analyze his condition and coping mechanisms. The study aims to understand how Andrew deals with his schizophrenia and fulfils his needs as a person with a mental illness. The research adopts a psychological approach, using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis theory and Maslow's hierarchy of needs. This research uses the qualitative descriptive method and content analysis techniques to analyze Andrew's character. The data for analysis and interpretation are derived from the film's script and related theories. The study combines qualitative methods and content analysis to provide a detailed portrayal of Andrew Laeddis' psychological makeup and character traits. The findings reveal that Andrew exhibits symptoms representing the three aspects of Freud's psychological structure: id, ego, and superego. The id is evident in his violent and impulsive behaviour driven by a desire for revenge. The ego is seen in his desire for control and mastery over his mind and body. The superego manifests as his respect for authority and social norms. Additionally, the analysis based on Maslow's theory shows that Andrew's behaviour reflects his struggle to fulfil his basic physiological needs and his higher-level needs for safety, love and belonging, esteem, and self-actualization.

Keywords: Freudian Theory, Hierarchy of Maslow, Psychoanalysis, Schizophrenia

1. INTRODUCTION

In the world, one per cent of the population is schizophrenic (American Psychiatric Association (APA, 2017). Schizophrenia is a disease that affects the brain and causes disturbing thoughts, perceptions, emotions, movements, and behavior (Videback, 2018). According to NIMH (2019), there are four symptoms of Schizophrenia, namely the first positive symptom of hallucinations, exaggerated beliefs, and behaviors. Both symptoms are negatively decreased initiating planning, speaking, and emotional expression, the three symptoms of disorganization thinking and slurred speech, illogical thoughts and strange behavior, and four cognitive disorders, attention, concentration, and memory. Various factors influence the occurrence of Schizophrenia. Genetics plays a significant role. Then psychological factors

can also contribute to its development. Greene and Eske (2021) state that schizophrenia is a lifelong condition and includes a treatable disease. Psychopharmaceutical drugs are commonly used to impair neurotransmitter function and alleviate clinical symptoms. Different drugs may be more effective in targeting negative or positive symptoms but can also have side effects. Psychotherapy is another treatment approach for Schizophrenia.

Based on the literature above, the researcher chose *Shutter Island*'s movie to analyze Schizophrenia symptoms seen as literary work. The researcher analyzed the psychology of Andrew Laeddis, the main character in *Shutter Island* movie, who exhibits symptoms of Schizophrenia, including illusions and hallucinations resulting from his traumatic past. The researcher aims to explore how psychoanalysis can help individuals with Schizophrenia and how the main character in the movie fulfills his life needs as a person with a mental illness. Sigmund Freud's theory and Maslow's hierarchy of needs will be utilized to analyze Andrew's Schizophrenia and his coping mechanisms.

The aim of this research is to know how Andrew deals with his Schizophrenia in the context of treating a schizophrenic patient in the movie *Shutter Island*, then to analyze Andrew's schizophrenia problem based on Freud's Psychological theory and explore how individuals with Schizophrenia fulfill their needs according to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. It adopts a psychological approach and draws on the theories of psychoanalysis and humanistic psychology of this research. Psychoanalysis, developed by Sigmund Freud, aims to release repressed emotions and experiences through therapy. Freud divided this structure into the id, ego, and superego:

- a. Id: This personality is called by Freud an inborn personality. In it, there is a drive based on biological fulfillment for self-satisfaction. The distinctive character of this aspect is the absence of logical and ethical considerations as a decision-making principle. The id manifests in feelings of superiority.
- b. Ego: This aspect of personality occurs due to the influence he gets from what is happening in the world or environment. The characteristic feature of this aspect is that the ego regulates the id and superego to fulfill needs according to the interests of the personalities involved.
- c. Superego: This aspect of personality will be closely related to morals or life values. The superego realm contains boundaries to distinguish between good and evil. In other words, the superego is essential in mediating between the id and ego.

Psychoanalysis is a movement that displays a valuable human image different from the picture of human beings expressed by humanistic psychology. Humanistic psychologists emphasize each person's uniqueness and individual freedom, believing that individuals can change at any point in their lives.

Humans consist of the Id, Ego, and the three superegos that must be balanced in the implementation process. When unbalanced, the individual can experience various problems (Yurisca, 2018). Maslow's Theory will be used to analyze how Andrew, as a person with schizophrenia, fulfills his needs.

The following research reports are the previous findings related to the psychological approach. The first research entitled Analysis of Love and Belonging Needs in the Novel "Persuasion" by Jane Austen: Psychological Approach written by Aprisetwati Lumbantoruan, Winda Evyanto (2021). The analysis of the novel is based on structural elements and the problem of the need for Love and Ownership by using the theory of Abraham H. Maslow. The following journal is written by Nursaamah Lubis, Robby Satria (2021), entitled Hierarchy of Needs in Angie Thomas's Novel "The Hate U Give": Abraham Maslow. This research shows the influence of the hierarchy of needs experienced by the characters in the novel "The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas (2017), such as Physiological, Safety, Love/ belonging, Esteem, and Self-actualization. Other previous research is written by Devicha Lidya Asriningtyas, Ali Mustofa (2022), untitled Gregor Samsa's Self Alienation in Franz Kafka's Metamorphosis: Lacanian Psychoanalysis. Discovering why Gregor's family members are unconcerned about him and cannot see him as a complex "creature" with his requirements. Gregor has been distant from both his family and himself as a result.

The fourth previous journal was written by I Gusti Agung Ayu Ningrat Mayura Putri, I Gusti Agung Istri Aryani, Ni Ketut Widhiarcani Matradewi (2021), which analyze the main character mainly encountered external conflicts because he had many different opinions from other characters. Afterward, the id, ego, and superego are used in handling the conflicts he experienced. Ni Putu Dhea Kirana Setia Widnyani writes the last previous journal, I Gusti Agung Sri Rwa Jayantini, Ida Bagus Gde Nova Winarta (2022). From the analysis, the writer found there are six sub-characteristics of Asperger's Syndrome that Nathan has; impairment in multiple nonverbal behaviors, difficulty in building a friendship, a lack of sharing pleasure, readability, or achievement with others, having social or temperamental retaliation, routines or ritual which never changes, and having an interest in a particular subject.

Then the similarity of this journal with the previous studies is that the theories used are Freud psychoanalysis and Maslow. However, in this study, the researcher combines two theories. The first theory is Sigmund Freud's, and the other theory of Maslow analyzes Andrew, the main character in the movie, which deals with his schizophrenia and relates to treating a schizophrenic patient. Therefore, the researcher wants to analyze further how the main character in this movie fulfills his life needs as a person with mental illness by using the theories of Sigmund Freud and Maslow's hierarchy of needs.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The research method employed in this study is qualitative research. The subject of the study is Andrew Laeddis, the main character from the movie "Shutter Island," directed by Martin Scorsese. The data for analysis and interpretation is derived from related theories and the script of the "Shutter Island" movie. According to Moleong (2018), qualitative research intends to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the participants, such as behaviour, perception, motivation, action and others. In this research, the data collected is a qualitative data collection instrument. In this study, the researcher utilizes qualitative methods to capture the essence and intricacies of Andrew Laeddis' psychological makeup and character traits.

This research uses content analysis technique to analysis Andrew. Technique of content analysis is a research technique to create a good replica and translation of the text to the context that needs to be studied. Method content analysis provides a new outlook and improves the researcher's understanding of a particular phenomenon or informs a practical activity (Krippendorff, 2004). This method allows for a deeper exploration of Andrew's experiences, motivations, and the impact of his mental condition, contributing to a better understanding of the character and informing practical applications in the field of psychology. By combining qualitative and content analysis this study offers a detailed portrayal of Andrew Laeddis as a character in the "Shutter Island" movie. The research process involves identifying, classifying, analyzing, and interpreting data from the movie and related theories, ultimately leading to a broad conclusion based on the described and analyzed data.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Psychoanalysis of Sigmund Freud is Found in Character Andrew in Movie

According to Minderop ((2013) 21–23), Freud compares the id to a king or queen, the ego to a prime minister, and the superego to a chief priest. He must act like an absolute ruler, be respected, be spoiled, be arbitrary, and be selfish. The Prime Minister likened the obligation to do all the work accompanying reality to go against the community's will. Like the superego, always compassionate priest, the greedy id, and the greedy person, they should remember that the meaning of this action is wise. Based on explanation above, there are various findings in the writings based on the categories. The research results can be seen below:

Table 1. Freudian Theory Analysis

Id	Ego	Super Ego
Andrew's violent and impulsive behavior desire for revenge.	Andrew's ego's desire for control and mastery	Andrew's can respect for authority and social norms
Andrew's can't control his mind and body.	Andrew develops a close relationship with his partner	Andrew can maintain a sense of rationality and self-awareness.
Andrew's fear and insecurity drive his behavior.	-	-
Andrew begins to act out in increasingly reckless and dangerous ways.	-	-
Andrew has overcome with guilt and despair	-	-

From the table 1, Sigmund Freud defined three types of psychology: Id, Ego, and superego. The researcher found 5 ids, 2 egos, and 2 superegos in Andrew's character from the dialogue in the movie. The researcher has written a more detailed analysis below :

a. Id

Dialogue 1

Billings: Do you?

Andrew: I get it!

Chuck: Go! No! What are you doing? Jesus Christ, Teddy. Jesus!

Warden: You got Billings? What's the matter with you guys? Catch them, not kill them!

Analysis :

From the dialogue above, Andrew is in a scene where he attacks the man, he believes is responsible for his wife's death. This scene shows Andrew's violent and impulsive behavior, driven by his desire for revenge. His actions are impulsive, violent, and driven by his unconscious desires and impulses.

Dialogue 2

Dr. Cawley: Take these pills, Marshall.

Andrew: No. Not want.

Dr. Cawley: It will stop the pain. Take pills. You will need to lie down carefully. All right

Analysis :

Andrew refuses to take his medication and becomes increasingly agitated and aggressive towards the hospital staff. His impulsive behavior is driven by his desire to control his mind and body.

Dialogue 3

Chuck: I am from Seattle.

Andrew: Seattle? I will go alone. Alone

Chuck: Come with you, partner.

Andrew: I said, alone

Chuck: Fine.

Analysis :

From the dialogue above, shown in the scenes, Andrew becomes convinced that the hospital staff is conspiring against him and begins acting out paranoid and aggressively. He refused Chuck's invitation to go with him because he was suspicious of his colleague. His fear and insecurity drive his behavior.

Dialogue 4

Andrew: But we are here to talk to Rachel Solando, OK?

Peter: Rachel Solando. Could you stop that, please? Stop that! Please. Stops!

Andrew: You know a patient by the name of Andrew Laeddis?

Peter: No! No! I want to go back. I will never get out of here.

Analysis :

Andrew becomes fixated on finding the patient known as "Rachel Solando," which turns out to be Rachel, the name of Andrew's daughter whose her mother drowned, and he is also looking for a person named Andrew, even though his name is Andrew. Teddy was just a name he made up in his imagination to be Marshall. Andrew begins to act out in increasingly reckless and dangerous ways in his pursuit of her. His behavior is impulsive and driven by his desire to solve the mystery and gain control over his situation.

Dialogue 5

Rachel: Why did you not save me?

Andrew: I tried, I wanted to, but by the time I got there, it was too late.

Dolores: See? Is it not beautiful?

Analysis :

From the dialogue above, Andrew has flashbacks of his wife drowning their three children and is overcome with guilt and despair. He lashes out in anger and frustration because he can not save his three children.

b. Ego

Dialogue 6

Andrew: This is not a request, Doctor. This is a federal facility and a dangerous prisoner.

Dr. Cawley: Patient

Andrew: Patient has escaped now. You can comply. I will see what I can do. Doctor, we'll need to speak with the staff. Do you understand?

Analysis :

Andrew conducts his investigation of the hospital methodically and logically, using his knowledge and expertise as a U.S. Marshal. He is focused on uncovering the truth and solving the mystery, showing his ego's desire for control and mastery.

Dialogue 7

Andrew: I had a friend. He was with me yesterday, but we got separated. Have you seen him?

Dr. Cawley: Marshall. You have no friends.

Analysis :

From the dialogue above, it is clear that Andrew develops a close relationship with his partner, Chuck Aule, and relies on him for support and companionship. He can form healthy attachments and maintain interpersonal connections.

c. SuperEgo

Dialogue 8

Mr. McPherson: You are now asked to surrender your firearm

Andrew: Mr. McPherson, We are duly appointed federal marshals, we are required to carry our firearms at all times

Mr. McPherson: Executive Order 319 of the Federal Prison Code states that when living in a Correctional Institution, the head of the institution's office has final authority. Gentlemen, you will not be allowed through the gate with your firearms

Andrew and Chuck surrendered their firearms.

Analysis :

From the dialogue above, Andrew follows the rules and regulations of the hospital, even when they are inconvenient or uncomfortable. He understands the importance of following procedures and maintaining order, showing his superego's respect for authority and social norms.

Dialogue 9

Dr. Cawley: Why are you here?

Andrew: Because I killed my wife.

Dr. Cawley: And why did you do that?

Andrew: She murdered our children and she told me to let her go

Chuck: Who is Teddy Daniels?

Andrew: He does not exist. Neither Rachel Solando. I made them up.

Analysis :

Andrew refuses to give in to his delusions and hallucinations and instead confronts them head-on. He can maintain a sense of rationality and self-awareness, showing his ability to exercise self-control and resist his unconscious impulses.

3.2. The Influence of Real-life Humanistic Psychologists on Movie

According to Maslow's theory, individuals must fulfill their basic physiological needs before moving on to higher needs, such as safety, love and belonging, esteem, and self-actualization. Once people have met their lower-level needs, they can focus on achieving their higher-level needs. That is related to whether they want to try or not for human beings to reach the self-actualization stage. However, if individuals cannot develop and actualize themselves to face challenges, they become individuals with mental disorders. There is the explanation below:

Table 2. Maslow's Analysis

Physiological Needs	Safety Needs	Social Needs	Esteem Needs	Self-Actualization
Andrew's character is shown to have basic physiological needs such as food, water, and shelter.	Andrew never feel safety because his trauma	Andrew can have a close relationship with his partner Chuck, but due to his past trauma he made a fortress on himself not to trust people	Andrew traumatic past and guilt create a sense of self-doubt and low self-esteem	Andrew can't actualize himself because he feels not safe every time he does something

From Table 2. Andrew's character can be understood through the lens of Maslow's hierarchy, as his behavior and motivations are influenced by his basic needs, needs for safety, love, self-esteem, and self-actualization. However, his character is also complicated by his past traumas and the events of the plot, which add layers of complexity to his psychological make-up and makes it unable to meet the needs of the other hierarchies.

Dialogue 10

Andrew: Soda and ice, please, thanks.

Mahler: You do not indulge in alcohol? I am surprised.

Analysis :

From the dialogue above, physiological needs are shown throughout the movie. Andrew's character is shown to have basic physiological needs such as food, water, and shelter. However, his circumstances often disrupt these needs, such as when he is drugged or deprived of sleep.

Dialogue 11

Andrew: Who is that?

Chuck: He? That is the warden. Do not worry about him, all right?

Analysis :

Andrew's behavior is driven by his unfulfilled needs, particularly his need for safety and security, which is the second level of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Andrew's traumatic past experiences have left him feeling trapped and powerless, and his journey in the movie is one of self-discovery and coming to terms with his past.

3.3. The Causes and Related Treatments for Schizophrenia

Table 3. The Causes and Treatments

Causes	Treatments
Because Andrew killing many people in wartime.	Andrew is given antipsychotic medication
Andrew shock when his wife kill their children, also he kill his wife.	Andrew is undergoing psychotherapy
	Andrew choose to executed

Table 3 shows the cause and related treatment of Schizophrenia, the researcher found 2 causes and 3 methods in the treatment that Andrew did in the movie. There is more explanation dialogue that shows a scene where it is explained what causes it and how the treatment is given to Andrew:

a. The Causes of Andrew's Schizophrenia That Researcher Found in The Movie

Dialogue 12

Dolores: Jesus, are you ever sober anymore?

Andrew: I killed many people in the war.

Analysis :

The scene shows that Andrew became a soldier during the war, killing many people. Then it made Andrew get mentally affected, which caused a mental disorder in him.

Dialogue 13

Dolores: Tomorrow we can take them on a picnic.

Andrew: If you ever loved me, Dolores. Please stop talking.

Analysis :

The cause of schizophrenia in Andrew was also caused by an incident when his wife killed his three children. Andrew then killed his wife due to a feeling of deep sadness. This caused Andrew's mental state to be even more shaken, so he always denied that he was in a state of mental disorder.

b. The Treatments of Andrew's Schizophrenia in The Movie

Dialogue 14

Andrew: Sorry, Dr would not have some aspirin?

Dr. Cawley: Prone to headaches, Marshal.

Analysis :

In the movie, Andrew is given antipsychotic medication to help manage his symptoms. The antipsychotic medication can help reduce delusions and hallucinations, which are common symptoms of schizophrenia.

Dialogue 15

Dr. Cawley: What we have done will be enough to stop it from happening again. That you have accepted the reality.

Analysis :

In the movie, Andrew is shown being hospitalized in a psychiatric facility on Shutter Island. Andrew is shown undergoing psychotherapy with his psychiatrist, Dr. Cawley.

Dialogue 16

Dr. Cawley: Andrew, listen to me. Everything we have tried to do here will be discredited if we fail you. We are on the first line of a war, Andrew, and right now, in this place.

Dialogue 17

Andrew: You know, this place makes me wonder

Chuck: Yeah? What is that, boss?

Andrew: Which one is worse? Live as a monster or die to become a good man.

Analysis :

From dialogue 16, it was shown that Andrew was believed to endanger other people related to his illness, which made the hospital take action and execute him because it was considered that Andrew could not be cured with all the methods available. However, in dialogue 17, it is shown that Andrew has recovered from his schizophrenia. However, he pretended to stay with his illness because he chose to be executed rather than have to live with his mental illness, which could harm other people.

The researcher found the intersection between Freud and Maslow theories as follows:

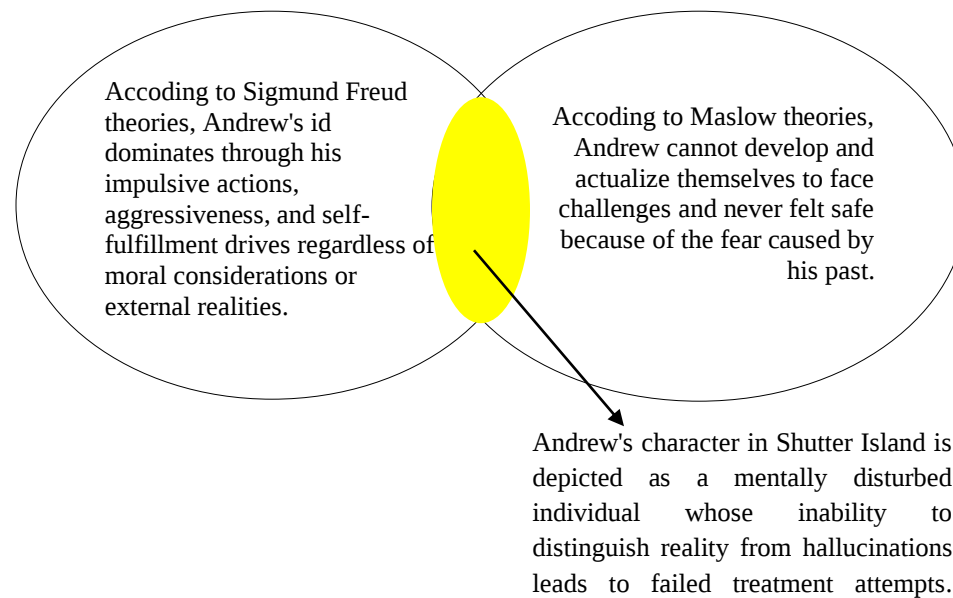


Figure 1. The intersection between Freud and Malow theories

4. CONCLUSION

From the analysis above, the researcher draws the following conclusions that Sigmund Freud defined three types of psychology: Id, Ego, and superego. The researcher found 5 ids, 2 egos, and 2 superegos in Andrew's character. Andrew's identity represents the darker, more primitive aspects of his psyche, driven by his unconscious desires and impulses. While his id is dominant in the movie, his ego and superego are also present, and he struggles to mediate and control his behavior. In Maslow's hierarchy, five levels must be fulfilled by each individual. Andrew can fulfill all his physiological needs, only occasionally being bothered when forced to take sleeping pills or have injections. However, to go up to the next level, namely to fulfill a safety need, Andrew could not fulfill it due to his mental illness. It was due to guilt over killing his wife in the past. Then Andrew cannot go up to the next level to fulfill Maslow's hierarchy because he has a mental illness. Andrew had schizophrenia caused by 2 psychological factors. First, Andrew was traumatized because he had killed many people during the war. Second, Andrew was shocked to find that his wife had killed his three children, so he killed her. The researcher found 3 ways of treatment carried out by the hospital. The first is by taking medication. The second is visiting with a psychiatrist, and the last is execution for patients who are dangerous and do not recover during hospital treatment. Furthermore, the researcher concluded that Andrew chose to be executed because he did not want to live with his mental illness and guilt. For everyone who reads this journal, the

researcher hopes that this journal can be useful as a reference for writers to learn about psychological by Sigmund Freud and Maslow, what are the causes of schizophrenia, how to cure the disease, and how schizophrenic patients live their lives. The researcher wants to give a few suggestions to the next researchers who want to do the same research with different research objects. The next researcher can combine two or more theories in analyzing a movie so that the results obtained are more detailed.

REFERENCES

- American Psychiatric Association (APA). (2017). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder Edition*. American Psychiatric Association. url: %0Ahttps://dsm.psychiatryonline.org/pb-assets/dsm/update/DSMUpdate2015.pdf
- Asriningtyas, D. L., & Mustofa, A. (2022). Gregor Samsa's Self Alienation in Franz Kafka's Metamorphosis: Lacanian Psychoanalysis. *Humanitatis : Journal of Language and Literature*, 8(2), 261–276. <https://doi.org/10.30812/humanitatis.v8i2.1912>
- Greene, N. dan Eske, J. (2021). *What To Know About The Stages of Schizophrenia*, *Medical News Today*. <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/stages-of-schizophrenia>
- K. Krippendorff. (2004). *Content analysis: an introduction to its methodology* (2nd ed.). London: Sage Publications.
- Lubis, N., & Satria, R. (2021). Hierarchy of Needs in Angie Thomas's Novel "The Hate U Give": Abraham Maslow. *Humanitatis : Journal of Language and Literature*, 8(1), 53–60. <https://doi.org/10.30812/humanitatis.v8i1.1342>
- Lumbantoruan, A. W., & Evyanto, W. (2021). Analysis Love and Belonging Needs in Novel "Persuasion" by Jane Austen: Psychological Approach. *Humanitatis : Journal of Language and Literature*, 7(2), 161–172. <https://doi.org/10.30812/humanitatis.v7i2.1245>
- Minderop, A. (2013). *Psikologi Sastra: Karya Sastra, Metode, Teori, dan Contoh Kasus*. Yayasan Pustaka Obor.
- Moleong, L. J. (2018). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*.
- NIMH, (2019). National Institute Of Mental Health. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/media/2019>. (5th May 2023)
- Ni Putu Dhea Kirana Setia Widnyani, I Gusti Agung Sri Rwa Jayantini, I. B. G. N. W. (2022). An Analysis of Asperger's Syndrome in a Brilliant Young Mind (X+Y) Movie. *Humanitatis : Journal of Language and Literature*, 9(Vol 9 No 1 (2022): Humanitatis: Journal of Language and Literature), 13–24. <https://journal.universitasbumigora.ac.id/index.php/humanitatis/article/view/1852/1180>
- Ningrat Mayura Putri, I. G. A. A., Istri Aryani, I. G. A., & Widhiarcani Matradewi, N. K. (2021). The Psychoanalysis of the Main Character in Handling Conflicts in Chernobyl TV Series. *Humanitatis : Journal of Language and Literature*, 8(1), 13–22. <https://doi.org/10.30812/humanitatis.v8i1.1284>
- Videbeck, S. L. (2018). *Buku Ajar Keperawatan Jiwa*. EGC.
- Yurischa Amanda. (2018). *Efektivitas Bimbingan Rohani dalam Meningkatkan Kesehatan Mental pada*

Bintara Remaja di Polda Sumatera Selatan. Palembang: UIN Raden Fatah.

