

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains background of the study, scope and limitation, research questions, objectives and significances of the research, and the definition of the key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Losing irreplaceable one can ruin someone's life psychologically and it is represented in *Southpaw* which tells a story of Billy Hope who had good life and career but it all changed after his wife was shot died. He felt emptiness and loneliness. Then it caused a situation where he lost his career, his house, his wealth, and his daughter. However, he finally tried to struggle for his life. This is the basis why this research starts with the problem of loneliness and emptiness experienced by Billy Hope and how he struggles for it as the moral value behind the film.

There are two important experiences in Billy's difficult life. It is experience of emptiness and experience of loneliness. Feeling of emptiness is not feeling of nothing. It is not empty space or powerless for feeling (May, 1953: 24). The experience of emptiness comes from feelings of powerlessness toward the events that are out of control. In the story, it is known that Billy lost his wife in front of his eyes. Of course, Billy cannot help her. Billy cannot make his wife come back to life. It is something beyond Billy. It is something out of control. This moment makes Billy feel emptiness.

In its relation to emptiness, there is also loneliness. It happens when someone does not know what he wants or feels. Loneliness happens when someone is in the middle of confusion about himself and about what value of life he has (May, 1953: 27). This happens mostly after someone lost

something important in his life. The one feels like losing everything in life.

Billy experiences it after losing his wife. It is followed by losing his wealth and career. Then, he lost custody of his daughter, and he lost everything. In this condition, Billy feels separated from others because nobody cares of him. The more he tries to reach out to others to solve his feelings of loneliness, the lonelier and more desperate he becomes.

Emptiness and loneliness become serious problem in psychology because it can cause someone to death. But these feelings can be solved. It depends on what people respond against it. Feeling of loneliness and emptiness can cause feelings of anxiety (Ryckman, 2008: 488). Someone should solve the anxiety. If someone cannot solve the anxiety, he cannot be better one. Individuals cannot fulfill their potentialities if they cannot control their anxiety. Their anxiety is in their unconscious, if they are afraid of the anxiety, "individual cannot or will not actualize" (May, 1983: 18). Actualization here refers to consciousness of being who we are. The more impulsive and creative we will be and the more capable we will be what we plan and reach our goals (May, 1953: 94-104).

Billy feels anxiety after experiencing the emptiness and the loneliness. It is very important and interesting to see the process how Billy fights back and gets his life back. He shows that a man can be defeated but cannot be destroyed. Emptiness and loneliness are the most dominant aspect to see as the problem that is shown in *Southpaw*. Of course, this is the interest of this research to analyze.

B. Scope and Limitation

The scope of the study is about psychoanalysis. Psychoanalysis talks about the human mental condition. Because psychoanalysis is too wide, there is limitation of this

research. The limitation is Rollo May's psychoanalysis. In May's theory, there are concepts of Emptiness, Loneliness, Anxiety, and Expansion of Consciousness.

C. Research Questions

From the background, it shows that this research tries to discover Billy Hope's struggles. There are two questions in this research:

1. How are Billy Hope's emptiness and loneliness portrayed in *Southpaw* film?
2. How is the portrayal of Billy Hope to gain his life back in *Southpaw* film?

D. Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions, it shows that this research tries to answer the questions. Here are the objectives of the research:

1. This research aims to describe how Billy Hope's emptiness and loneliness are described in *Southpaw* film;
2. This research aims to describe how Billy Hope gains his life back is portrayed in *Southpaw* film?

E. Significances of the Study

Based on the objectives of the research, this research describes its significances in these below points:

1. For students, this research can be comparison of research and source of study to give understanding about the psychoanalysis in Rollo May's perspective;
2. For teacher and lecturer, this research can be a sample to give understanding about the psychoanalysis in Rollo May's perspective and the moral value.

F. Definition of the Key Terms

Definition of key terms functions to make the reader get easy way to understand the point of this research context. Here are the key terms and each definition.

1. *Southpaw*. It is an American sports drama film produced in 2015. The film tells a story of a boxer, Billy Hope, who tries to get his life back after losing his wife in an accident and his young daughter to protective services.
2. *Existential Psychoanalysis*. Study of human mentality in focus on asking fundamental questions about human existence (Ryckman, 2008: 481).
3. *Emptiness*. It is not feeling of nothing. It is not empty space or powerless for feeling (May, 1953: 24). The experience of emptiness comes from feelings of powerlessness toward the events that are out of control
4. *Loneliness*. Loneliness happens when someone stands in the middle of confusion about himself and about what value of life he has (May, 1953: 27).
5. *Normal Anxiety*. It is “anxiety that is proportionate to the threat to our values. It does not involve repression and can be confronted constructively on the conscious level” (Ryckman, 2008: 489).
6. *Neurotic Anxiety*. It is “a reaction that is disproportionate to the threat and involves repression” (Ryckman, 2008: 489). It develops when individuals cannot to address the normal anxiety arising at the time of the actual crisis in their growth and the threat to their values (May, 1967: 80).
7. *The Expansion of Consciousness*. It is a process of self-actualization based on the consciousness of being who we are. The more impulsive and creative we will be and the more capable we will be what we plan and reach our goals (May, 1953: 94-104).

