CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Literature is the mental comprehension or expression of an author's desires, sentiments, and emotions as a person or type, brought on by the experiences of life (Wellek and Austin, 1977–1989). Psychology is also entangled in many branches of study. Furthermore, while discussing humans in literature, the topic of psychology frequently arises and becomes the primary focus. Many literary works are created by human thought, and it is connected with their own lives, so psychological conditions come as a result of the author itself. Literary works, for example, are commonly used to describe how people feel and observe the social life they live. According to Gove, it thus has a variety of meanings when taken as a whole: the first is how to know through feelings or inner sensitivity; the second is the understanding and confession through the beautiful value, depending on the author's background, which expresses the precise condition that the author tries to convey using their perspective.

Meanwhile, psychological issues can be related to toxic masculinity. Masculinity is not something that a man is born with; rather, it is a social and cultural construct that defines what it means to be a man (Pleck, 1993). According to Terry A. Kupers in Journal of Clinical Psychology, toxic masculinity is “the constellation of socially regressive male traits that serve to foster domination, the devaluation of women, homophobia, and wanton violence” (2005,714) and is also constructed of socially destructive aspects of hegemonic masculinity (2005, 717). Toxic masculinity refers to masculine traits associated with traditional male stereotypes such as dominance, homophobia, and violence, and it can be deemed toxic. The last one according to Psychology of Men & Masculinity. 2015;16(2), 234–237 “A 2015, study found that men who bought into traditional notions of masculinity held more of a negative attitude about seeking mental health services compared to those with more flexible gender attitudes.” Men who have an archaic mindset experience more loneliness, isolation, and depression.

In relation to the relationship between literature and psychology, the author is interested in conducting a study related to the problem. In this paper, the author attempts to do research in this work on one of the psychological movie scripts related to toxic masculinity, namely *The Power of the Dog* directed by Jane Campion. This movie script which is set in the twentieth century in Montana depicts the story of a wealthy rancher named Phil Burbank and his stolid brother George. The two have drifted apart over time, and while Phil wants to patch things up, George is losing interest in the brotherly bonding of working on the ranch with his brother. Phil is recognized as a domineering, brutal, and charismatic figure. Phil Burbank is also stern, gaunt, attractive, and cruelly seductive. Phil and George go to a restaurant owned by a lovely, depressed widow named Rose, who has a skinny, effeminate son named Peter, a medical student, in a subtle and overt manner. To Phil's snooty displeasure, George sets his sights on Rose. After a brief courtship, they married. Due to his envy, sexism, and hypermasculinity, Phil taunts Rose and Peter when they move into the ranch, setting off a complex chain of events that will unavoidably result in violence. Because Peter had to go to school, Rose was left alone when they moved in. Phil merely makes fun of Rose's daily existence because he dislikes her. Phil and Peter's relationship strengthened once Peter returned. Phil, of course, taught Peter the banal thing about being a man, for example how to ride. Rose becomes even more upset upon witnessing Peter and Phil's friendship, and Peter comes to the conclusion that his mother was disrespected by Phil all along. Every day, Phil is being friendlier to Peter, and Peter takes advantage of this kindness to strike back at him.

Regarding the description given above, this study entitled *Toxic Masculinity and Its Impacts in the Movie Script of Jane Campion's The Power of the Dog*. The writer chose *The Power of the Dog* because the script reflects toxic masculinity traits that has several impacted other characters and also Phil Burbank's himself, inadvertently creating a defensive mechanism in him, which are represented in the movie script.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem described above, I arranged the identification based on *The Power of the Dog* movie script, afterward, I observed the problem and I identify problems such as family and toxic masculinity. The theme of family can be seen from the character Phil and George as brothers, the character Rose and Peter as Mother and Son. The theme Toxic masculinity and its impacts can be seen from the character Phil Burbank, George, Peter, Rose. Phil is unable to express his true self to anyone. Despite his attempts at stoicism, Phil Burbank was a weak, emotional guy dominated by irrational fears and self-loathing which is also one of the reasons he taunts other characters throughout the movie script which ultimately affects his psychological condition of Phil which has toxic masculinity and its impacts to himself and other characters.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem in the main character of *The Power of the Dog* movie script, I limit this research by applying the concept through an intrinsic approach such as character and characterization, plot, and setting, as well as through the extrinsic approach which is the psychoanalytic perspective that focused toxic masculinity traits and its impacts.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem above, this research is intended to analyze the problem of the character Phil Burbank based on *The Power of the Dog* movie script by Jane Campion is about toxic masculinity traits and its impacts. I formulate the focus of this research on these matters:

1. How is toxic masculinity reflected in *The Power of the Dog* movie script through its character and characterization, plot, and setting?
2. How are the impacts of toxic masculinity reflected in *The Power of the Dog* movie script through its character and characterization, plot, and setting?

1.5 Objective of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problems above, the objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To analyze toxic masculinity through character and characterization, plot, and setting in *The Power of the Dog* movie script
2. To analyze the impact caused by toxic masculinity in *The Power of the Dog* movie script

1.6 Benefit of the Research

The author believes that by conducting this research, everyone who read it will get something from it. This study can be utilized as a guide while studying the psychoanalytic perspective, particularly with regard to the impacts of toxic masculinity traits. It is anticipated that it will support in raising awareness of mental health issues and help those who need it, regardless of the lack of attention is provided because it means a lot to them.

The benefit of this research is the use of research results later, both for the benefit of program development and the interests of science. Specifically, the benefits of research in any field include two aspects:

a. Theoretical Benefits

This theoretical benefit is based on the purpose of verification research, to check existing theories. Whether to strengthen or invalidate the theory. This theoretical benefit arises because of dissatisfaction or doubt about the existing theory so that an empirical reinvestigation is carried out.

b. Practical Benefits

Practical benefits are benefits that are useful for solving practical problems. So, for example, there is a problem with low student scores, the practical benefit is to increase student scores.

1.7 Systematic Organization of the Problem

The presentation systematic is the order in which the research discussion is carried out intended to facilitate understanding of the research results. The following is divided into five chapters:

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

It consists of the Background of the Problems, Identification of the Problems, Limitations of the Problems, Formulation of the Problems, Objective of the Problems, Methods of the Research, Benefit of the Research, and Systematic of the Research

CHAPTER 2: FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES

It consists of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches, the intrinsic approach includes character and characterization, plot, and setting. The extrinsic approach includes a definition of psychoanalysis theory and a defense mechanism

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHOD

It contains several sub-chapters that provide detailed information related to research approaches and methods used by students in the preparation of thesis, namely Time and Location, Research Approach and Method, Research Object and Data, Data Collection Technique, and Data Analysis Technique

CHAPTER 4: TOXIC MASCULINITY AND ITS IMPACTS IN THE MOVIE SCRIPT OF JANE CAMPION'S THE POWER OF THE DOG

It consists of a brief explanation of this chapter's content, an analysis of the main character through intrinsic and extrinsic approaches such as toxic masculinity traits and its impacts.

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION

It consists of an evaluationof of previous chapters and the implications of research results. In the conclusion of the researcher or constituent is open because it is possible that this conclusion can be continued with the next research.