

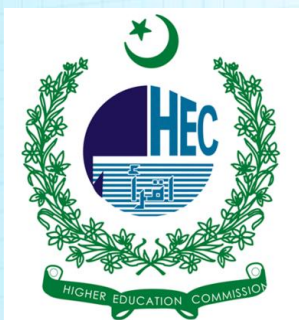
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**The Dark Mind: A Psychoanalytic Exploration of Voldemort in
J.K Rowling's Harry Potter**



¹Qasim Ali Kharal, ²Romeisa Iqbal, ³Mah e Kamil

¹Lecturer, Department of English, University of Sialkot, Punjab, Pakistan

²Scholar MS English Literature, University of Sialkot, Punjab, Pakistan

³Lecturer, Department of English, University of Sialkot, Punjab, Pakistan

Abstract

This article explores the psyche of Lord Voldemort and delves into his unconscious mind. It analyzes the roles of the Id, Ego, and Superego in his character and uncovers the transformation of Tom Riddle into Lord Voldemort, diving deep into his childhood, following his time as a student at Hogwarts, and his later years working at Borgin and Burkes, through flashbacks and memories originally taken from Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince. This article utilizes a qualitative method and descriptive research design and argues that Tom Riddle's character is heavily influenced by Id, which blinds him to his shortcomings. His obsession with power and quest for immortality ultimately lead to his self-destruction, despite his awareness of the fact that eternal life is unattainable. Additionally, his lonely childhood and twisted lineage as a half-blood contribute to his descent into evil and the development of his dark psyche.

Keywords: Unconscious mind, Id, Ego, Superego, Psychoanalysis, Half-Blood

Introduction

Psychoanalysis, originally developed by Sigmund Freud in the early 20th century, helps to understand the mind, personality, and psychological disorders and deals with their treatments. According to psychoanalysis, most human mental activity is unconscious, and to understand individuals requires interpreting the unconscious meanings behind their overt behaviors. Psychoanalysis explains the impact of unconscious forces such as suppressed impulses, internal conflicts, and traumas from childhood on an individual's psyche. Classical psychoanalysis highlights major concepts like (a) infantile sexuality, (b) the Oedipus complex; (c) the theory of instincts or drives; (d) the pleasure and reality principles; (e) the tripartite structure of the psyche; id, ego, and superego; and (f) the central role of anxiety and defense mechanisms in neurotic reactions.

This research applies Freudian psychoanalysis to explore the character of Voldemort from the Harry Potter series, particularly his transformation from the young Tom Riddle to the Dark Lord. Freud said that personality is significantly shaped during early childhood, and this paper examines how Voldemort's unhappy childhood experiences contributed to his psychological development. According to Freudian theory, personality consists of three key elements: the id, the ego, and the superego. The id, being inborn, functions on the pleasure

principle, driven by primal desires and instincts, seeking immediate relief without regard for consequences. The ego is concerned with reality, intervening between the id's demands and external reality, allowing individuals to navigate the world reasonably. The superego represents your moral conscience and internalizes societal norms, values, and ethics. It strives for perfection and judges your actions, which results in feelings of pride or guilt. Voldemort's character is predominantly driven by his id, with a functional ego and an underdeveloped superego.

Research Questions

1. How does Voldemort's id drive his quest for power and immortality?
2. What role do Voldemort's early life experiences play in shaping his psychological profile?
3. How does the psychological development of Voldemort transform him from Tom Riddle to the Dark Lord?

Research Objectives

- To analyze Voldemort's personality traits and behaviors through the lens of Freudian theory.
- To explore how Voldemort's id, ego, and superego contribute to his actions and motivations.
- To examine the impact of Voldemort's upbringing and early experiences on his psyche.
- To assess the moral and ethical implications of Voldemort's actions in the context of Freudian concepts.

Significance of Research

This research is significant as it provides a deeper understanding of Voldemort's character beyond a surface-level analysis. By applying Freudian theory, this study offers insights into the darker aspects of human behavior, such as the obsession with power, superiority complexes, and moral corruption. Additionally, this research examines how childhood experiences shape personality, using Voldemort as a case study. Understanding these dynamics can be valuable in real-world contexts where similar psychological patterns emerge.

Literature Review

The psychoanalytic lens has been used to highlight different characteristics of Voldemort as it dives deep into his behavioral attributes. Brigitta in her research paper *Voldemort's Anxiety and Defense Mechanism in Rowling's Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince and Harry*

Potter and the Deathly Hallows: A Psychoanalysis Study, discusses the Anxiety and the defense mechanism of Voldemort. She has identified the kinds of anxiety experienced by Voldemort and the causes of the anxiety. She also explored Voldemort's defense mechanisms to overcome his anxiety and its impact on himself and society. Neurotic and Moral anxieties are the most disturbing anxieties experienced by Voldemort. The anxiety of death is Voldemort's greatest anxiety concerning neurotic anxiety. Voldemort's ego forms several kinds of defense mechanisms to overcome this anxiety. The most important is repression, which excites him to murder and threaten people who resist him, internalization by being extraordinary and superior to protect himself from his weaknesses, excusing and denying the facts he does not want to believe, ridging by hiding from the disasters he creates, and replacing his source of anxiety.

Ida Swärd, in her research paper *The Significance of the Unconscious: A Literary Study of Fear Factors and Psychological Blockings in the Harry Potter Series*, discusses how various fear factors within the Harry Potter series can reveal characters' psychological blockings. Voldemort's psychological blockings about fearing death can be connected to his past of being abandoned and unloved as a child, which has shaped his core issues of fear of abandonment and fear of intimacy. He wishes to control his future for that reason, he is not confronting his fears and allows his unresolved experiences from the past to influence him badly. By psychoanalysis, the strategy to face and eventually overcome fears and anxiety is to change destructive behaviors. Brandy Isaacs discusses Kristeva's theories of abjection in her research paper *I May Not Know Who I Am, But I Know Who I'm Not: Self-Awareness and Actualization in the Harry Potter Series* Kristeva explains abjection is the relationship between the subject's identity and something from one's social environment describing it through *Power of Horror* (1982). The abjection arises when something from an external environment threatens the subject's identity, which he considers an internal threat or fear. The abject character also recognizes that the external threat is a reflection of one's ill-conceived notion of self-identity. For example, Voldemort feels liable to Harry because Harry is a half-blood wizard, Voldemort considers it as inferior. Because Harry makes Voldemort remember his half-blood status, therefore; he attacks Harry, symbolically attacking his own perceived weaknesses. Voldemort's social environment and his family history play an important role in shaping his personality, just like any abject subject.

Monirul discusses the characters of Voldemort and Snape through the psychoanalytic lens in

her research paper *A Comparative Study of Voldemort and Snape in the Harry Potter Series: A Psychoanalytic Perspective*. The main similarity is that both Snape and Voldemort had experienced a troubled childhood. The main difference between them is that Snape is not completely controlled by his id. He does not act upon his instincts for the good. But Voldemort spent his whole life under the influence of his instincts. Eva discusses the egocentric and narcissistic nature of Voldemort in her research paper *Fascination with Evil in Anglophone Literature: Lord Voldemort*. By quoting lines from the text the moment Tom Riddle came to know that he has powers. "I knew I was different." Riddle also loves the feeling of having everything under his control and does not hesitate to go even further, as he can move things without touching them. He can make animals do what he wanted them to do without training them. He can make bad things happen to people who annoy him. He can make them hurt if he wants to.

All these researches are really helpful in analyzing the character of Voldemort, but they haven't discussed the character of Voldemort through Freud's concept of Id, Ego, and Super Ego. We shall try to discuss these points and fill this gap.

Research Methodology

This research uses a qualitative research method and descriptive design to analyze the data. The primary data is collected from J.K Rowling's Harry Potter series, and the secondary data is collected from different journals, websites, and interviews. The procedures of the data analysis involve reading and comprehending the *Harry Potter* novels by J.K. Rowling and analyzing the character of Voldemort through a psychoanalytic lens using Freud's concepts of the Id, Ego, and Superego *Beyond The Pleasure Principle* (1920).

The psychoanalytic lens is a theoretical framework used in literature and psychology to analyze and interpret human behavior, thoughts, and emotions through the principles of psychoanalysis, originally developed by Sigmund Freud. The psychoanalytic movement originated in the clinical observations and formulations of Sigmund Freud, who coined the term psychoanalysis *Britannica*. The psychoanalytic theory of the human personality was formulated by Freud. The key points of the psychoanalytic theory of the human personality include individuals' behavior that is influenced by unconscious processes through dreams and mistakes like slips of the tongue; individuals put efforts to satisfy their instincts either aggressive or erotic being at an internal conflict with themselves and their societal standards. The symptoms arise from such conflicts. Often the individuals express their wishes and hopes

by taking the memories from their childhood lives and by relating them to their current lives highlighting the process of transference. They show Resistance by denying and not acknowledging aspects of themselves because of the traumatic memories and the fears associated with their past childhood experiences or from their internal prohibitions. They move towards the repetition compulsion by trying to master these early conflicts repeatedly. These things will emerge in their present relationships. Here comes Psychoanalytic/dynamic theory that attempts to help such individuals by making them understand the meaning of their behaviors or emotions, thereby freeing the person from the chains of one's unconscious forces. There have been modifications of the original Freudian theory over time placing greater emphasis on wishes for relationships, rather than as satiation of instincts. *Walter N. Stone, in Encyclopedia of Psychotherapy, 2002*

Psychoanalysis mainly focuses on every single person has unconscious thoughts, feelings, desires, and memories. In Literature, the Psychoanalytic lens is used to explore the unconscious mind of the character. Freud divides the mind into three parts: Conscious, Subconscious, and Unconscious. The unconscious mind is the place of all suppressed emotions and desires. Sigmund Freud's concept of the unconscious mind is a fundamental element of his psychoanalytic theory.

According to Freud, the unconscious mind is the part of the mind that consists of thoughts, memories, desires, and feelings that are not within our conscious awareness but still significantly influence our behaviors, emotions, and decisions. Freud also believed that these are all of a distressing or traumatic nature. These are kept out of conscious awareness because they are too painful or socially unacceptable to confront directly. Mostly the content of the unconscious mind tends to be unpleasant. A topographical model of the mind was developed by Freud in 1900-05 explaining the features of the mind's structure and function. The most famous analogy of an iceberg was developed by Freud to describe the three levels of the mind: conscious, subconscious, and unconscious. The theory of Iceberg is related to the unconscious mind and defines the big role of the unconscious mind in influencing the individual's behavior, even if they are unaware of it. The theory of iceberg is considered a good example of analogy. It explains that everything underneath the water is the unconscious, whereas whatever is above the water is the conscious mind. The unconscious mind, according to the iceberg analogy, holds more content. Freud compares his conception of consciousness to an iceberg because, much like an iceberg, the majority of an individual's mind exists below

the surface, hidden from immediate view.

Unconscious desires and fears can manifest through dreams, slips of the tongue (known as Freudian slips), and neurotic behaviors. *The Interpretation of Dreams, 1900*. The psychoanalytic lens also explores defense mechanisms to handle internal conflict or trauma like repression, denial, or projection. Voldemort used all these three, like Voldemort repress his traumatic childhood experiences; his denial is evident in his refusal to accept the possibility of his mortality and his projection of his fear of death and weakness onto others, particularly onto Harry Potter. *Wibiana (2018)*

Various fear factors in the Harry Potter series can be explained through psychoanalytical criticism using it as a theoretical framework. Ida Sward discusses them in her research paper *The Significance of the Unconscious: A Literary Study of Fear Factors and Psychological Blockings in the Harry Potter Series*. Psychoanalytical criticism is based on psychoanalysis which is mainly about understanding a person's behavior and feelings, by examining what is beneath the surface and by looking into a person's deepest levels of thoughts *Freud 41*. Within psychoanalysis, the concept of the unconscious is frequently used, which Freud explains as something related to a person's past, where unhappy events or memories affect a person's behavior. According to Freud, the Mind, through the process of repression, blocks those unhappy events, and they stay unresolved. This is an unconscious way of protecting oneself from feeling anxiety *Freud 327-43*

This research revolves around analyzing the character of Voldemort through the concepts of Id, Ego, and Superego. Freud defines these concepts in his essay *Beyond the Pleasure Principle, (1920)*. According to Freud individual's subconscious is composed of the id, ego, and superego and these forces dominate one's actions. The id is mainly unruly and irresistible desires, the superego refers to the moral conscience and the ego intervenes as a tension between the id and superego. As Voldemort's ego and superego were never properly developed during his childhood, he does not hold the same types of moral standards that others deem to be appropriate. Voldemort is only concerned with quenching his desires of the id. *Rodrigues, Psychoanalytic Analysis of Voldemort (2016)*. In simple words, Id is known as a part that wants what it wants right now. The basic desires and instincts, like hunger, anger, or pleasure. The ego is the part that tries to be realistic and makes decisions rationally, understanding the need of hour. It balances what someone wants with what's possible in the real world. The superego is the part that knows right from wrong, the voice in the head that

reminds the rules and values of society and upbringing.

In New Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis (1933), Freud described the id as the "dark, inaccessible part of our personality." The study of the content of dreams and neurotic behavioral clues is the only real way to observe the Id. According to Freud's concept, the Id is the accumulation of instinctual energy that is mainly driven by the pleasure principle that works towards fulfilling our most basic needs. The Id is also compared to the "cauldron of seething excitations" and is described as having no real organization. Here, the question arises: how do the Id and Ego interconnect? The relationship of Id and Ego is compared to a horse and a rider by Freud. The horse mainly provides energy that moves forward, but it is the rider actually that uses that energy and guides those powerful movements to seek direction. Well, it can happen that sometimes the rider may lose control and is bound to simply get along for the ride. By way of explanation, sometimes the ego becomes the directive force and simply directs the id in the direction it wants to go. While analyzing the character of Voldemort through a Psychoanalytic lens, this research attempts to answer questions like how Voldemort's id drives his quest for power and immortality. It also tries to explore how Voldemort's id, ego, and superego contribute to his actions and motivations.

Data Analysis

Transformation of Tom Riddle into the Lord Voldemort

Voldemort is the main antagonist of the *Harry Potter Series*. In the series, the transformation of Tom Riddle into Lord Voldemort is depicted through flashbacks of Dumbledore's memories recollection. Tom Riddle first emerges in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* through his diary and comes to life in *Harry Potter and The Half-Blood Prince* through the flashbacks and provides us a peek into the childhood of Lord Voldemort. The passion for power and the fear of death are mainly rooted in the childhood experiences of Voldemort. He comes from the Gaunt family, the last descendants of Salazar Slytherin, born to a pure-blood mother, Merope Gaunt, and a Muggle father, Tom Riddle Sr. The entire gaunt line marks individuals with violent and unstable personalities, also having a history of inbreeding. Merope lacks magical abilities and grew up poor, abused, and ridiculed by her father and brother as she was unable to express her magic which seems to be more the result of trauma than anything else. Merope magical abilities were suppressed because she was mentally tortured and physically abused by her father. He mainly called her 'disgusting little Squib,' and also gave her other degenerating nicknames. However, Merope's magical abilities were

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suppressed largely because of her father's abuse. She was able to express her magical abilities after her father and brother were imprisoned in Azkaban. With little to offer and uncomely and unlovely, she used the love potion to trick Tom Riddle Sr. Her son Tom Riddle was born under the effect of the Love potion, so he never truly understood the idea of love. Merope Gaunt gave birth to Tom Riddle at a lonely and deserted orphanage and died. She only wished his son to be the mirror image of his father. Tom never got a chance to have motherly affection and love. He also inherited some of the complexes from his mother. Plus, he felt abandoned as nobody ever came to see him. When Dumbledore comes to meet him Mrs. Cole, (the orphanage's director) recounts, "But no Tom nor Marvolo nor any kind of Riddle ever came looking for him, nor any family at all." (Rowling, 2005, p. 254-255)

As Tom Riddle, he was obsessed with the idea of power by traumatizing other children. The first of which was when he killed his friend's rabbit at the orphanage where he was raised following a disagreement. Another example is when he requested his two partners to accompany him into the cave, which they did, but afterward, they remained no longer the same individuals; they had changed. Tom Riddle is capable of doing magic; he can make things move without touching them. He can make animals do what he wants them to without training them. He can punish the people who annoy him. He can make them hurt if he wants to (Rowling, 2005, p.270-71). He is a bully to the other orphans and possibly even the adults in his environment. Mrs. Cole informed Dumbledore in this quote of his strange behavior, as well as the incidents that have occurred in the orphanage. "You mean he's a bully? Dumbledore inquired. I believe he is, Mrs. Cole responded, frowning slightly, but it's very difficult to catch him doing it. Nasty things have happened in the past". (Rowling, 2005, p.345)

Apart from killing and bullying, he is also involved in stealing. He kept other children's belongings as rewards in a box in his closet. When Dumbledore came to meet him, he noticed that:

Is there anything in that box you ought not to have?" asked Dumbledore ----- "Yes, I suppose so, sir," ----- "You will return them to their owners with your apologies," said Dumbledore quietly. (Rowling, 2005, p.255-256)

The untimely death of his mother and the harsh conditions at the orphanage made him selfish and self-centered. This is one of the factors that leads Tom to develop insecurity and become the person he is today, with an inability to form or maintain friendships, defiance

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toward authority, anti-social and violent behavior, and a lack of compassion or remorse for others. The moment he came to know he is a wizard, “I knew I was different. I knew I was special. Always, I knew there was something” (Rowling, 2005, p.271). Tom’s urge to kill, manipulate, and torture others has been with him since his childhood. Going to Hogwarts earned him more magical power and a curiosity to find out his lineage. He dwelled on the ways to become powerful and find out the ways to become immortal. He dug deep into his lineage and found that his father was a muggle and left her mother. He despised his father and him being muggle he despised his name, too:

I, in whose veins runs the blood of Salazar Slytherin himself, through my mother’s side? I keep the name of a foul, common Muggle who abandoned me even before I was born just because he found out his wife was a witch? No, Harry. I fashioned myself a new name, a name I knew wizards everywhere would one day fear to speak when I had become the greatest sorcerer in the world! (Rowling, 1998, p.314)

After being abandoned as a child, the next important thing that twisted the psyche of Tom Riddle was the discovery of his father as a muggle. He always considered himself pure blood, which turned out to be a half-blood. This incident occurs during his sixteenth year; it is summer when he goes out of the orphanage to which he returns every year and sets out to find his gaunt family to understand more about his lineage. Tom meets his maternal uncle Morfin Gaunt on the way, who reveals to him that his father is a muggle, as the next quote shows;

I thought you were that Muggle, whispered Morfin. You look mighty like that Muggle. What Muggle? said Tom sharply. That Muggle what my sister took a fancy to, that Muggle what lives in the big house over the way, said Morfin, and he spat unexpectedly upon the floor between them. You look right like him. Riddle. But he’s older now, He’s older than you, now I think on it. . . . (Rowling, 2005, p.472)

Tom cast a Stupefy spell on his uncle and stole his wand and the family ring. Then, Tom goes to the family house, where he discovers his grandparents and his father in the sitting room. It’s unclear whether the Riddles spoke to Tom, but he uses his uncle’s wand to perform the Killing Curse on them. He then rushes to his uncle and modifies his memory, making him believe he is the murderer, before handing over the wand to the knocked-out man, who is eventually arrested and charged with the Murder of the Riddle Family. (Rowling, 2005, p.474-475).

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The seven years at the school are characterized by various crimes, especially the death of Myrtle Warren and the discovery of the chamber of secrets. Tom was clever as he was never found guilty, and he and his crew were never identified or associated with the crimes, as this quote says:

They were never detected in open wrongdoing, although their seven years at Hogwarts were marked by several nasty incidents to which they were never satisfactorily linked, the most serious of which was, of course, the opening of the Chamber of Secrets, which resulted in the death of a girl (Rowling, 2005, p.468).

At Hogwarts School, Tom is known for being a bright and brilliant student. As a result, everyone had high expectations for him, particularly the school teachers, who believed Tom had a bright future upon him due to his abilities and accomplishments. Tom, on the other hand is running after his evil ambitions. Professor Dumbledore in a conversation with Harry about Tom's past tells him; that several teachers like Professor Slughorn suggested that Tom should join the Ministry Of Magic and also offered to set up appointments and even tried to put him in touch with useful contacts. He refused all the offers. The next thing the staff knew was that Voldemort was working at Borgin and Burkes (Rowling, 2005, p.559)

Borgin&Burkes; is an antique shop specializing in magic items specifically dark magic items. Tom served as a mediator at this store, he persuaded individuals to sell their magical items to it. At Borgin&Burkes, Tom met Hephzibah, a rich lady. She made a big mistake that cost her life, she showed her most prized possessions, The Hufflepuff's cup and Slytherin's locket to Tom Riddle. Afterward, he killed Hephzibah when she disclosed her two greatest possessions to him and exploited her death to turn the cup into a Horcrux. As a child, Tom Riddle used to collect other children's belongings as prizes or trophies and considered them as rewards. So, later on, he did the same to satisfy his soul. He eventually chose only those items with significant magical power and historical importance, using them as Horcruxes to protect fragments of his soul. Those magical items include Salazar Slytherin's locket which her mother had sold before his birth, Helga Hufflepuff's cup, and Rowena Ravenclaw's diadem. This practice reflects Voldemort's obsession with his lineage, exploration of his magical ancestry, and his relentless pursuit of immortality. By turning these valuable objects into Horcruxes, he believes he is securing his legacy and preserving his soul. This behavior gives Voldemort a sense of power and satisfaction, reinforcing his belief in his superiority and his destiny for greatness, aligning with his ultimate goal of living forever.

After killing Hephzibah, Tom Riddle didn't remain the same. He broke his soul into 6 parts creating Horcruxes to pursue immortality and the ways to come back. As in a conversation with him and Professor Dumbledore, Tom says; "they do not call me Tom 'anymore'" (Rowling, 2005, p.575). He picks the name Voldemort because it reflects his status as a dark wizard. Voldemort is derived from the French words 'voleur', which means thief, and 'mort', which means death, so Voldemort means the person who steals death. (Colbert, 2008, p.205) J K Rowling also described it as "Flight from the Death"

The Role of Unconscious Mind

In Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory of personality, the unconscious mind is defined as a reservoir of feelings, thoughts, urges, and memories that are outside of conscious awareness. Most of the contents of the unconscious mind such as feelings of pain, anxiety, or conflict are considered unacceptable or unpleasant. It is believed by Freud that the unconscious continues to influence behavior even though people are unaware of its underlying influences. According to Freud, the unconscious mind has an impact on human personality and behavior because people have secrets they prefer to keep hidden in the unconscious mind. The majority of the unconscious contents are negative feelings, including pain, anxiety, and conflict (Eagleton, 1996, p.437). Tom's life has always been affected by his childhood, so he seeks to get rid of his muggle thoughts. For instance, when he is studying at Hogwarts, there is an event in which Tom opens the Chamber of Secrets and ends up needing a person to sacrifice; he chooses Myrtle Warren, a half-blood witch, as his victim and murders her (Rowling, 2005, p.362); the fact that Tom murders a girl who is a half-blood the same as him. To achieve his purpose, he decides to murder that girl because she reminds him of his blood identity and the fact that he, too, is a half-blood. Tom just would not let his status go unnoticed, so he murders her. All of Tom's memories are buried deep within his unconscious mind and are the root of his crimes and an integral part of his evil persona.

His attempts to murder Harry Potter come from the prophecy that a half-blood like him will defeat him. In pursuit of power and immortality, he time and again tried to kill Harry Potter. Tom feels scared and anxious about losing to someone who is like him. Harry, Tom believes that he is a barrier to him. According to Freud, a variety of conflicts and challenges can block people's progress toward their goals, and it is one of the reasons for anxiety (Brenner, 1990, p.98). He is most afraid of death as his mother died despite being a witch. Moreover, his mother's death teaches him that even wizards and witches with great magical

powers are still mortal. This realization makes him anxious about his vulnerability and the possibility of dying. His view of himself as imperfect pushes him to overcome this weakness by defying the natural order and using dark, forbidden magic to achieve immortality. That's why he created Horcruxes to come back again from any source. He created his first Horcrux at the age of sixteen and began his quest to attain immortality between the years 1943 and 1998.

Well, you split your soul, you see, said Slughorn, and hid part of it in an object outside the body. Then, even if one's body is attacked or destroyed, one cannot die, for part of the soul remains earthbound and undamaged. But of course, existence in such a form Few would want it, Tom, very few. Death would be Preferable (Rowling, 2005, p.649).

He became cruel with every murder he committed. Tom's psychological problem is his obsession with immortality, even though he knows no one can live forever. Nonetheless, he urges himself to do so.

The Influence of Id, Ego & Superego

According to Freud, The id is located in the unconscious mind. The id is a portion of the human personality with boss-like traits, and it is responsible for fulfilling its desires. The pleasure principle is the main force that derives the Id. Tom's behavior is influenced by his id. He wants to become the strongest, most powerful wizard and wants to dominate everything even death. In pursuit of all these, he cared for no one. The lives of others were worth nothing to him. Freud also adds that the id is lawless, asocial, and amoral; therefore, it can lead us to self-destruction (Duane and Sydney, 1998, p.46). It is evident from the plot that Id has been destructive, as Voldemort attempts to break his soul into parts and then Harry's efforts to find them and destroy them. "I, who have gone further than anybody along the path that leads to immortality. You know my goal to conquer death." (Rowling, 2005, p.464).

Aside from the Id, which is one of the parts of the human psyche, there is also the ego, which is another component. According to Duane and Sydney, The ego serves two masters the Id and Reality as it intervenes between the Id and the Reality. The ego is constantly bargaining and striking agreements between their conflicting demands. The Id and Ego can never be separated. The ego is aware of reality, thus, it decides when and how the id's instincts can be best satisfied. It satisfies the id impulses by choosing appropriate and socially acceptable times, places, and things to do. Through Tom Riddle's behavior, who likes murdering people just to seek pleasure and his desires, the domination of the Id in Tom's

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mind is demonstrated. Despite that, there is the ego in his mind that functions to control the desires of the id, but his ego is not developed nor mature enough to overcome the domination of the id in his mind. Tom's crimes and misdeeds are proof that the id has great domination in his mind. "I have stolen the real memory. I killed to get it." (Rowling, 2005, p.466).

The third component of the human psyche is the Superego. According to Duane and Sydney, the superego acts as the supreme judge of morality and is rigid, inflexible, and even brutal. It appears to be on a never-ending journey for moral perfection. It differs from the id. Its purpose is to eliminate the id's desire for pleasure. It is the moral system that plays a part in moral behavior and exercises control and power over it. Tom's superego is severely malfunctioning. Tom grows up in an orphanage with no one to guide him morally during his formative years. Duane and Sydney quote Freud as he explains a child's superego is developed by the age of 5 or 6 and it mainly consists of the parental norms and manners of conduct. As Voldemort lacked the affection of his parents at that age, he was unable to form such manners. And eventually, when he comes to know about his lineage, he goes on a killing spree. This can be seen in an example of murdering his father and grandfather and eliminating the bloodline of the Riddle family so that his truth of not being pure blood never comes to the surface. "There is no good and evil, there is only power and those too weak to seek it." (Rowling, 1997, p.211).

Conclusion

In conclusion, the research has attempted to explore the childhood experiences of Tom Riddle that turned him into an insecure adult, who seeks power and position and is obsessed with immortality. At the orphanage, he killed his mate's pet after arguing with him, he learned to steal at a young age, and the orphanage children were his first victims since he took their possessions. His whole life was influenced by his Id. Tom's ego was unable to overcome the dominance of his Id and for his superego, it barely existed due to his childhood isolation and the lack of parental guidance and love. Voldemort's ego defense mechanisms lead to other problems. On the whole, his personality was deeply affected by extreme defense mechanisms. Voldemort became a self-reliant, secretive, cruel, ruthless, and less caring person. He is infuriated with himself and is anxious about his blood standing because he desires to be a pure-blood sorcerer. Therefore, he links himself with Salazar Slytherin, the legendary founder, because they both have the same skills. Tom Riddle is traumatized by his past life, especially his childhood and the events of that time leaving a deep influence on his mind and leading to

the development of his evil characterization. His experiences of being isolated as a kid and being ignored by the people around him shaped Tom's personality, turning him into purely evil. After a certain point we don't see any growth in his character and his character is also categorized as the static one. Because he has been consistent on being a villain, dark character, from the beginning of the book till its end. The list of his wrongdoings continues to occur from his childhood to his transformation to the Dark Lord motivated by several factors stemming from his childhood and lack of love from his parents and also because of the psychological traumas that passed down from his mother as she was abused and ridiculed by her father and brother. Also being aware of his muggle father and his diluted bloodline, which also became a primary factor that he used to influence others to his cause concepts of racial cleansing and superiority. All these factors influenced his psyche and contributed to shaping his evil persona and he became a dark mind.

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