

## The Psychopathic Character of Carl in Joyce Carol Oates' *Tone Clusters*

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### Abstrak

Psikopat adalah salah satu dari banyak penyakit mental yang selalu menarik untuk diikuti oleh masyarakat. Isu tentang pembunuhan sadis yang menunjukkan tanda-tanda karakter psikopat di awal tahun 2016 dipilih sebagai topik untuk diulas dalam penelitian ini. Salah satu karya sastra asal Amerika yang menggambarkan isu ini adalah drama berjudul *Tone Clusters* yang ditulis oleh Joyce Carol Oates. Karakter psikopat yang digambarkan dalam drama ini bernama Carl, yang berperan sebagai narapidana tertuduh dalam pembunuhan sadis seorang gadis berusia empat belas tahun. Penelitian ini difokuskan pada penggambaran sifat kepsikopatan Carl dan penyebab dari penyakit psikopat itu sendiri. Landasan teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah teori psikopat yang dikemukakan oleh Hervey Cleckley. Melalui pendekatan psikoanalisis, data diambil dari transkrip drama *Tone Clusters* yang ada dalam buku berjudul *Introduction to Literature: Prose, Poetry, Drama* yang ditulis oleh Barnet. Data dipilih berdasarkan konsep yang ditulis Cleckley mengenai 16 ciri-ciri dari psikopat. Kemudian data dianalisa demi mendapatkan pemahaman lebih dalam tentang karakter Carl. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa Carl memiliki tiga belas dari enam belas ciri-ciri psikopat. Kepsikopatan Carl disebabkan oleh adanya kombinasi dari faktor genetik dan pengalaman buruknya di masa lalu sehingga memicu sifat agresif yang membahayakan. Karena penyebab-penyebab inilah, Carl menjadi pembunuh sadis yang dianggap memiliki gangguan mental berupa psikopati.

**Kata Kunci:** Psikopat, Psikopati, *Tone Clusters*, Gangguan Mental, Joyce Carol Oates

### Abstract

Psychopath is the one of the mental disorder that always be interesting to be follow in society. The issue about the sadistic homicide that showing the symptoms of psychopathic character in the early 2016 is chosen for the topic to be reviewed in this study. One of the American literary work that depicting this issue is *Tone Clusters* written by Joyce Carol Oates. The psychopathic character in this drama is depicted by Carl as a convict charged in savage slaying of fourteen years old girl. This study is focused on the depiction of Carl psychopathic and the causes of his psychopathy. The theory that used in this study is the theory of psychopath by Hervey Cleckley. By using the psychoanalysis approach data were taken from the transcript of the drama *Tone Clusters* in a book entitled *Introduction to Literature: Prose, Poetry, Drama* written by Barnet. The data were classified based on the Cleckley's concept about 16 traits of psychopath. Then the data were analyzed to get deeper understanding about Carl's character. This study found that Carl has thirteen of sixteen characters of psychopath. Carl's psychopathic is caused by the combination of genetic factors and his bad experiences in the past that triggering his dangerous aggressiveness. Because of these causes, Carl became the sadistic killer that reputed has mental disorder as a psychopath.

**Keywords:** Psychopath, Psychopathy, *Tone Clusters*, Mental Disorder, Joyce Carol Oates

### INTRODUCTION

Psychopath is a person that has a kind of mental disorders which always being an interesting topic into a discussion. People who have a mental illness such as psychopathy always looked different and being an attention on the society. Moreover if that mental illness is suffered by a person that entangled in a legal case such as murder. The issue about the sadistic homicide showing the

symptoms of psychopathic character of the early 2016 appears the curiosity for the society. The curiosity makes them follow the review of the investigator to uncover the truth of the case and real character of the killer. It has the similarity with the topic in this study. Reviewing the psychopathic character of a legal case is chosen as the main topic in this study.

The one of American literary works that depicted this phenomenon is a drama entitled *Tone Clusters* by Joyce

Carol Oates. *Tone Clusters* is a drama about the riddle of murder case of fourteen-years-old girl. The character named Carl is accused as the killer. The whole scenes of the drama show the investigation process of Carl's parents. The differences on the witnesses of Carl's parents and the evidences found by police show Carl's psychopathic.

From the paragraph above, this study is focused into two questions as the topic for discussion. The first, how is Carl's psychopathic character depicted in the drama Joyce Carol Oates' *Tone Clusters*? The second is what are the causes of Carl's psychopathic?

The suitable theory for the first question is the psychopathy theory to depict the psychopathic character of Carl. Before discussing about the characteristic of psychopath, it is very important to know what psychopathy is. Psychopathy is a kind of mental disorder. A people who suffer this disorder called psychopath. A part of psychological science that addresses issues about psychiatric and mental illness is known as psychopathology. In psychopathology field there are a lot of mental illness that is very interesting to discuss such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and psychopathy. But, this study only chooses psychopathy as the basic theory to discuss the character of the murder case.

Psychopathy is a theory proposed by Harvey Cleckley. Psychopathy is a mental illness (Malatesti, 2014: 1139). According to Cleckley (1988:10), psychopath is the sick mind people with the mental disorder who considered from psychosis and psychoneurosis. Skodol said that the term of psychopathy is irresponsible and morality weak caused of the sense illness of the mind (in Theodorakis, 2013: 47). Theodorakis (2013: 49) also argued that psychopathy is described as people who have constitutional inability to establish relationships with constitutional deficiency in volition and emotion.

Cleckley also said that the definition of psychopath at the first time was not as well as the psychiatric use at this period. During nineteenth century various psychiatrists tried to classifier the term of psychopath. In 1801, Phillipe Pinel as a psychiatrist seemed the psychopath as people who have crazily behavior called '*manie sans delire*'. In 1812, Benjamin Rush diagnosed his psychopathic patient with 'inmate preternatural moral depravity'. In the 1891, Robert Koch first used the term 'psychopatic' to describe people who have mental disorder (Theodorakis, 2013: 47). In the early of twentieth century, the physician agreed with the clergyman that psychopathic personality was the abnormal behavior influenced from devil or witches that cause mental disorder to have bad heredity (Cleckley, 1988:12). The origin of modern psychopathy theory is traced by Cleckley's work in 1988, entitled *The Mask of*

*Sanity* that diagnosed the psychopath as mentally ill individuals (Theodorakis, 2013: 49).

The character of psychopath needs to be deeper identified by psychiatric in psychoses or psychoneuroses to get the specific result of the patient. Because the character of psychopath cannot be identify from the outside. The development of psychopathology study did a lot of research to prove the cause and the diagnostic criteria of psychopath. One of the result of the research found that the symptomatology and hereditary of people can be trig the psychopathic personality (Cleckley, 1988: 12). To diagnostic the personality disorder, psychiatry should examine the criteria of patient with the psychotic, the mentally defective and the psychoneurotic. The research of psychopathy, antisocial personality, and sociopathy has the conceptual basic in formal diagnostic and classification the patient.

Using psychoanalysis framework, Hervey Cleckley writes the different ways to analyze a person who has psychopathy. Traditionally, the character of the psychopathic or antisocial personality always placed in general diagnostic categories, such as many other deficiencies, deviations, disorders or abnormalities (Cleckley, 1988:11). According to Cornell et al. (in Glenn et al., 2011: 372), Psychopathy is a type of personality which individuals demonstrate a lack of remorse, guilt, and concern for others. Psychopaths appear like people who lack emotional and impervious distress in others. Sometimes the psychopaths demonstrate antisocial behavior and poor behavioral control. The Individuals with psychopathy have the impulsive control abilities to have mask to cover their truth identity. Based on Cleckley's concept of psychopath (1988: 338-367) there are 16 personality traits of psychopath, such as:

- a. Superficial Charm and average Intelligence
- b. Absence of delusions and other signs of irrational thinking
- c. Absence of nervousness or neurotic manifestations.
- d. Unreliability
- e. Untruthfulness and insincerity
- f. Lack of remorse or shame
- g. Antisocial behavior
- h. Poor judgment and failure to learn from experience
- i. Pathological egocentricity and incapacity to love
- j. General poverty in major affective reactions
- k. Specific loss of insight
- l. Unresponsiveness in general interpersonal relations
- m. Fantastic and uninviting behavior with drink, and sometimes without
- n. Suicide threats rarely carried out

- o. Sex life impersonal, trivial, and poorly integrated
- p. Failure to follow any life plan

So those personality traits of psychopath can be the basic concepts to analyze Carl's psychopathy on the drama. Although the character of Carl is not depicted all of those personality traits but Carl's personalities have thirteen of sixteen personality traits of psychopath. It means that Carl almost has the criteria of psychopath. In this study the character of Carl is reviewed into four the most dominant personalities of psychopath. The character of Carl is being explained in detail to get the deeper understanding about his psychopathy.

After knowing about what psychopathy is, and how Carl's character depicted on the drama is, it is very important to know the real causes of psychopathy. So, several journal researches are used to support the answer of second question about the main causes of psychopathy. Hare noted there are two causes of psychopathy. The first is genetic factor as the inside factors of psychopath. The second is environmental factors (eg. Evertsson and Meehan, 2012: 6, MacKenzie, 2014: 8).

Discussing about the genetic factors of psychopathy, Glenn and Raine research (2008: 463-465) said there are four biological factors that can be causes of psychopathy. The first is **Neurotransmitters**. The neurotransmitter disorder is thought to be an indicator that produces shame aggressive impulses. This factor is also associated with the causes of Psychopath character that is very difficult to localize a particular system which increases the likelihood of violent aggression.

The second is **Neuro-endocrinology**. This factor is happened because the hormones imbalance that can influence energy during times of stress, a state of fear, sensitivity to punishment and withdrawal behavior. In this case, the psychopaths have ability to suppress and manipulating their anxieties and look like calm people to cover their real characteristic.

The third is **Brain Structure Subcortical**. Dysfunction in the amygdala is central to the pathology associated with psychopathy. In particular, the amygdala function disorders impair the ability to care for the pain and suffering from others. So it can make them lack of remorse. The disruption of neural development process can also lead to affect dysregulation, poor contextual fear, and insensitivity of psychopath.

The last of genetic factors is **Brain Structure Cortical**. This factor is the main causes of the antisocial traits of psychopath. Lesion studies have shown that damage to the orbitofrontal cortex often causes pathological lying, irresponsible, promiscuous sexual

behavior, shallow affect, and lack of guilt or regret, those all the characteristics of psychopathy.

The second cause of psychopathy is environmental factor. Blatt (1997:351) said that the cognitive and developmental psychology of person influence their behavior in the future. This psychology is affected by the interaction of early care of children. Bowlby's research (in Blatt et al, 1997:351) proved that the personalities of the children depend on how their mother communicates and behaves to them. Whereas a father will be a model in a child's personality and complement interaction that was built during first few years by influence of child's cognitive structure.

*The children's relationship with the family will create deeper in their memory. The experiences of the past will affect the child's social skills and confidence since the age of 10 years. However, a mistake or act negatively on parents recorded will cause anxiety in children until they are teenagers.* (Blatt et al, 1997: 354-355)

When the child is required to develop according to his age, cognitive structure evolves to accommodate the disorder of experience (Blatt et al, 1997: 352). Aggression instrumental forms of bullying, discrimination causes pain that led to intimidate, antisocial and aggressive (Blair et al, 2005: 12). In this case, the characters Psychopaths will affect their life in the scope of Antisocial, dysfunction and emotion (Blair et al, 2005: 17).

It is comparable to argumentation of G.E Partridge (1930) about sociopathic personality that is the important of environmental influences. Sociopathy is a disorder caused by social conflict that makes someone become an antisocial (MacKenzie, 2014: 8). sociopathy is the condition where a person is in state of inability to adjust to the demands of the society.

Refer to mental disorder, Fulford said that failure in acting experience influence reduced control abilities. Lack of control will thus trigger danger to the people around him. Inability to have an organized plan of life, they are impulsive, emotional and make them into a dangerous attacker (Malatesti, 2014: 1149-1150).

Related with the causes of psychopathy, the causes of Carl's psychopathy are also explained into two categories. The first is the innate factors means genetic factors. The second is the environmental factors as the outside factors. Those two categories are used to reveal Carl's real personality.

## METHOD

This study is discussing about the mental disorder of an indirect character that has been convicted of killing a fourteen-years-old girl in a sadistic way. The focus of the review is on the psychopathic traits of the killer, named Carl and the causes of his psychopathy. Data is taken from

the transcript of the drama *Tone Clusters* in a book entitled *Introduction to Literature: Prose, Poetry, Drama* by Barnet et al (1989). The data involves words, phrases, dialogues and sentences that depicted the psychopathic of Carl. Psychoanalysis is chosen as a method beginning with the data collection from the texts.

In this step, the data is analyzed with the theory of psychopathy by Hervey Cleckley to get deeper understanding about Carl's character. The concept of psychopath's personality traits is applied to depict Carl's psychopathy. Then, the theories from several other journal researches are also used to support in analyzing the causes of the psychopathy. After the study provides a deep analysis of the problem, the result of this study will be appeared automatically.

## DISCUSSION

In drama text of *Tone Clusters* Carl as an indirect character on the play is depicted as the character who has the unique personality. As convict charged in savage slaying in the death of fourteen years old girl he shows any discrepancy in his behavior when he was investigated by police. The medical examiner was also become the strong evidence to show his abnormalities. It raises the confusion on both Carl's parents. But the confusion is finale answered by the evidence showed by voice and Carl's past experience. Those explanations are reviewed as follow.

### The Depiction of Carl's Psychopathic Character in Joyce Carol Oates' *Tone Clusters*

In the drama *Tone Clusters*, Carl's personality is depicted as two opposite characters, the two characters is described by his parents and voice. But the confusion oh Carl's personality can be answered by the revealing on the study. The revealing of Carl's character is reviewing into four dominantly of psychopathic personality.

First is superficial charm. Superficial charm is the one of the most dominant psychopath's personality traits. The word charm is used to describe something that has a power of pleasing or attracting people. Based on Cleckley's research on his book entitled *The Mask of Sanity* (1988:66), psychopaths are always superficial charm. Before digging about the superficial charm of psychopath deeper, it is very basic to know what superficial charm is. Superficial charm is a behavior to make a good image to the other person, while inside of their heart they are the different. It is looked like they will be an angel in the outside but in the inside they are an evil. This charm behavior is showed to appear a good image in front of others. A psychopath will cover his real personality to get empathy from the others so she/he will

deem not dangerous to the environment. This ability of covering is the nature of a psychopath. This nature make the psychopath can be easier to manipulate their real personality to the other.

In this case, the charm behavior can be looked from the witnesses of his parents. Based on the witnesses, Carl is a person who has good personality. The ability to manipulate his bad habit makes Carl has good image in front of his parents. His charm successfully makes his parents believed that he was innocent. So, he will not probably be involved in this murder case. This belief is showed through on this dialogue:

Voice: "*Frank and Emily Gullick you remain adamant in your belief in your faith in your twenty-two-year-old son Carl that he is innocent in the death of fourteen-year-old Edith Kaminsky on February 12, 1990?*"

Emily: "*oh yes..*" (Barnet et al, 1989:1129)

In this interrogation, Voice uses the word '*..you remain adamant in your belief..*' to clarify a imaginary of Carl's characters in front of his parents. The word '*innocent*' deliberately included before the sentence of this case '*in the death of fourteen-year-old Edith Kaminsky on February 12, 1990*' to show the possibility of Carl's '*innocent*' nature in this murder case. The word '*innocent*' is often mentioned by Carl's parents in the dialogue of the play. Frank: "*But you have to find the right, the actual murderer*". Emily: "*not some poor innocent, poor innocent*" (Barnet et al, 1989:1132). The word '*innocent*' is always used to describe a character of person who are harmless and not guilty. The use of this word on the dialog expresses the belief of Carl's parents that Carl is a good so it won't likely do sadistic murder.

The ability to cover the real personality is the way of Carl to charm the other people. This charm is not only expressed by the word '*innocent*' on several dialogues, but also it is described in the other dialogue of his parents. Emily and Frank as Carl's parents also said, "*He always been cheerful, optimistic,.. a good boy, of course he has not forgotten.. He is innocent.*" (Barnet et al, 1989:1134-1135). The sentences show that Emily and Frank want to show to the investigator that their son is really good boy. Their way of describing their son that frequently mention about '*innocent*' and '*good boy*' without explain what innocent they mean shows that they might not really know about Carl. If Emily and Frank know their son well, they will not only frequently mention the same word. They also have to give the other fact and the specifically explanation of Carl personality. Carl's effort as a charmer in front of his parents is also shown by his nature of the religious in the family.

Emily: "*All our Children,*"

Both: "*they believe.*"

Emily : *"God sees into human heart."* (Barnet et al, 1989: 1122)

Those dialog shows that how much the religiously have been applied in their family. The word 'god sees into human heart' shows that the religiously of Frank and Emily make them believe that everything they taught to their children will hold fast to God's teachings to always love each other. The religiously of Carl is also mentioned by Frank that said, *"He is a religious boy on heart"* (Barnet et al, 1989:1152). The ability to dissimulation of Charm owned by Carl is always able to make his parents believe what pointed out Carl in everyday life is actually the original character of him.

The covering of his personality is not only demonstrated by Carl in daily life in front of his parents, but his good nature also shows Carl in front of police. Even in the day of Edith Kaminsky is loss, Carl joins along with police seeking her and led them to the downstairs. *"he cooperates with them,"* (Barnet et al, 1989:222). That sentence is revealed by Frank to reveal the awareness of Carl with the loss of their neighbor's daughter. Frank also indirectly want to show to the investigator that courage Carl in that night will not likely happen if Carl is the real killer of that girl.

Although Carl has a charm to cover up his original personality, but the nature of his psychopathy can appear anytime without even realizing it. *"Oh it's true he wasn't him self sometimes."* (Barnet et al, 1989:1139) the quote that was said by Emily seems to reveal that Carl sometimes is not unusual. That may just demonstrate his psychopathy that never known his parents before. This is the depiction of Carl's superficial. The emergence of psychopath's superficial charm can be known when he shows the change of two different characters in the short times. The same thing also happen when Carl work in the butcher shop. Confusion of Carl's behavior is revealed by Frank, *"... ever since the, the butcher shop he wasn't himself but who he was then, I don't know."* (Barnet et al, 1989:1157) The word 'he wasn't him self' and 'but who he was then' shows the condition when Carl cannot cover his instinct of psychopaty. The word 'then' shows how quickly his behaviors change. The changing nature of the unexpectedly occurs at Carl makes parents Carl confused. This indicates that the Frank and Emily do not know well the character of Carl. They only understand the nature of Carl as what they teach without ever caring with the change and the nature of the hidden inside of Carl. In fact, they also don't really monitor the behavior of Carl in school. It shows through this dialogue:

Frank: *"Giving interviews! His own teacher from the school"*

Emily: *"Telling lies cruel nasty"* (Barnet et al, 1989:1146)

In this case the police also interviews Carl's teacher on school. The word 'cruel nasty' on the quotes showed that Carl's teacher might feel that Carl has a mischievous nature. But ignorance of Carl's parents about their son's behavior assumed that this testimony is a lie for the sake of dropping the character Carl in front of law.

The belief of Emily and Frank to his son make them do not want to accept the real fact from the other evidences. It shows how Carl's charm successfully makes his parent believe to him. And his superficially can be looked from the change of his character that caused by his psychopathic instincts.

The second depiction of Carl's psychopathic traits is Absence of delusions and other signs of irrational thinking. Delusion is a human's belief or thinking of something that influence their anxiety of that thing. Each person has ever had delusion in their life. But only a person who has psychopathy is absence this delusion in their life. Cleckley said that the intelligence of psychopath can make them easier to control not only their emotion but also their personality changes associated their ordinary psychoses included hallucination and delusions (Cleckley, 1988: 32). It means that psychopath always have irrational thinking that would never make them anxious.

This impulsive control ability makes a psychopath is absence of delusion and become stronger and lack of anxiety. One of the examples is when Carl worked in a butcher shop.

Emily: *"...it isn't easy, at that age"*

...

*"He's a sensitive boy, his stomach and nerves he lost his appetite for weeks, he'd say 'oh if you could see some of the thing I see' 'the insight things' and so much blood"*

...

*"When they took him away he said, he was so brave he said Momma I'll be back soon.."* (Barnet et al, 1989:1136-1137)

The word 'isn't easy', 'a sensitive boy', 'nerves', and 'so much blood' show how difficult Carl adapted with his job. It was very impossibility of Carl starting his work young age. The word 'sensitive' and the sentence 'it isn't easy, at that age' showed that at that age, Carl is less mature to feel the difficulties in the workplace. He had really fright of doing sadistic way to kill an animal. The sentences 'they took away' and 'I'll back soon' are the opposite things that make his parents confused. Firstly, his frightened of this make him disturbed. He said to his mother that he wants to resign from that place. However in the short time, suddenly he told that he will not resign from his job. The sentence 'When they took him away' and word 'soon' shows that Carl wants to cancel his



desire to resign on his workplace has happened at the time adjacent to the time when he felt the trouble in facing his job. It means that the two events here happened at a young age of Carl.

Carl's ability in changes his delusion on his workplace makes him reversed. All his past difficulties that cause worry or uneasiness precisely make him stronger. The power that arises of the sudden is less common if experienced by normal people. This indicates the nature of psychopath that was able to suppress the imaginary of his anxiety into another nature in a short time.

The third of Carl's psychopathic traits is Absence of nervousness or neurotic manifestations. There are so many researches found that people with mental disorder included psychopaths never show the sign of psychosis or psychoneurosis activity. This psychosis disorder makes a psychopath became unexpressive. The hormone imbalance on his Neuroendocrinology influences their state of fear and neurotic manifestation. So, they can be easily built another character to cover their real personality.

Carl's neuroses disorder contributes to make him slipped out easily when did an honest test. *Frank: "He took that lie detector test voluntarily didn't he"* (Barnet et al, 1989:1135). Carl's father uses word 'didn't he' to show how confident him. Frank said like that because his son might be slip out from the test easier. The lie detector can not detect Carl's anxiety sign because of his hormones development imbalance. The body of psychopathic patient can not respond the anxiety. It makes them become calm and look like innocent. (Cleckley, 1988:71)

This absence of nervousness also makes Carl looked calm in front of police. In the day of Edith Kaminsky loss, he dined as usual as there were no big thing happened at his home. *Emily: "he'd been looking in help wanted ads"* (Barnet et al, 1989:1142). The normally murderer will be afraid to see a police. But it was different with Carl. His effort to cover his murder by contributing in finding Edith was successfully convincing others. The psychoneuroses disorder makes Carl absences of nervousness. It makes him easier to manipulating their anxiety and look like a calm people to cover the crime that he did before.

The fourth of Carl's psychopathic traits is an antisocial behavior. Antisocial is an aversion to the society of others. This aversion happened because of the past experience of the people that make them do not want to socialize with the other person. An antisocial personality disorder can be caused by the case of

bullying, discrimination or the other traumatic events. This antisocial disorder can make people to keep away from the society. They can be closed and will be angry if the other person or stranger who was nearby. But this behavior can be more dangerous if it experienced by people who has a psychopath innate. The psychopath can be dangerous because the growth of their personality will be separated from the attention of the other people.

Based on the testimony of his parents, Carl had ever gotten bad treatment at school. He was discriminated and bullied because of he was a white American student in Negroes School. That bad treatments then Carl were initially cheerful children turn into quite. *Emily: "He was always a quite boy"* (Barnet et al, 1989:1153).

The existence of a bad experience in school is indeed often a major indication of someone's turned into antisocial. It is also showed by the testimony of the Carl's parents. *Frank: "there was only one boy what was his name"* *Emily: "Carl's hasn't seen him in years he had friends in grade school"* (Barnet et al, 1989:1168). These quotes prove that Carl had never seen have friends other than a child who evens his parents ever forgotten his name. This indicates that Carl has long been aloof. He never tried to have friends. A bad experience in schools that make patients problematic with the environment also gained influential trigger the emergence of a psychopathic instinct (Cleckley, 1988:79).

Carl's antisocial behavior is also looked from his mother's statement, *Emily: "He was so funny, didn't want his mother and a map in his room he said"* (Barnet et al, 1989:1153) This Antisocial nature creates a psychopath with innate being individualists and closed. It thus makes a psychopath is becoming more dangerous. The solitude will turn out Carl to be more selfish and build a world where only he who is able to master it. If anyone else is trying make him annoyed Carl will not hesitate to act aggressively on a times.

Therefore the antisocial behavior always has a relation with psychopathy, where the main symptom that can be seen to the others is the antisocial behavior. The antisocial explained here is not only used for the people who has the problem with the society but also the relation inside of home. The antisocial is also happened because there is no trust of psychopath to the other people includes his parents itself. It also makes Carl lies to get the empathy to his parents.

## The Causes of Carl's Psychopathic

### a. Genetic Factors

Genetic factors are the one of the dominantly factors of psychopathic. The genetic factors of psychopath show the causes of psychopathy from the inside of the patient. It

means that the psychopathy is an innate disorder. Psychopathy is the mental disorder that has been around the person since he was born (MacKenzie, 2014: 8). The psychopathy is not always hereditary directly from parents but this disorder can be gotten of someone from the ancestries.

This play was not mention about the hereditary of Carl's psychopathy but some results of the medical examination of Carl deemed abnormal. These abnormally examination is not appears of a sudden but it is innate disorder. The genetic causes of Carl's psychopathic can be known from this dialog, *Voice*: "*'Premeditated' act arise out of a mysterious sequence of neuron discharged (in the brain) out of what source do 'unpremeditated' act arise?*" (Barnet et al, 1989:1139) The word 'premeditated' and 'unpremeditated' on that sentence are used in the medical term to show the possibility of a person in doing something. In this case the word 'premeditated' on that quote is used to show the possibility of the murder that has been done by Carl. The murder act is always 'unpremeditated' directly. This murdering is happened because of something trigged the brain activity that make him think to have to kill her. That brain activity create a sequence what he sound do next. This brain disorder can make the psychopath can do everything without worrying about the consequence included killing someone. It means that the act of killing a girl that has been done by Carl is a premeditated because of his genetic factors.

The other depictions of Carl genetic disorder are also showed by his neuroses disorder. The neuroses and brain disorder of psychopath are the main causes of psychopath's traits. These disorders cannot be detected by the psychological test machines for normal people. They have to do some complicated test to know the truth of their personality. Carl's neuroses disorder can be known from the examination of his father's witness. *Frank*: "*He took that lie detector test voluntarily didn't he*" (Barnet et al, 1989:1135). As a father, Frank tries to defend his son. The use of question tag 'didn't he' in that quote indicates that the event he revealed is indeed having passed. He wants also to show that his son has slipped off from that test. The lie detector cannot get sign of Carl's neuroses activity. The normal people will show the neuropathic activity sign if they lie on saying something. But it will not be happened to Carl. It is caused by his neuro-endocrinology influencing his hormones imbalance. It also can influence the ability to suppress and manipulating his anxiety.

The causes are also explained by voice when the result of Carl's neurological X-ray, medical diagrams, charts as of EEG and CAT-scan test showed on screen.

*Voice*: "*is it possible that in times of fracture, of evolutionary unease or, perhaps, at any time human behavior mimics that of minute particles of light? The atom is primarily emptiness the neuron dense-packed the circuitry of human brain circadian rhythms can be tracked but never, it's said comprehended. And then in descent from "identity"-(memory?) to tissue to cells-particles electrical impulses axon-synapse-dendrite and beyond, beneath.. where is 'Carl Gullick?'*" (Barnet et al, 1989:1148)

The sentence 'is it possible' is used by voice to suppress of Emily and Frank's opinion about the normality of their son. The word 'fracture of evolutionary unease' is used to explain the development of abnormal neuroses of someone that shows no sign of anxiety. Then the words 'human behavior mimic' and 'that of minute particles of light' show the possibility of the change of emotion on normally people in fast period like a light. The first sentence is used by voice to show the possibility neuroses disorder condition that influences the changes of human behavior in the short time. The sentence 'primarily emptiness the neuron dense-packed the circuitry of human brain' with the word 'can be tracked but never' are used to show the brain disorder of human that cannot be tracked like a normally people. This sentence also has the relationship with the explanation with the premeditated and unpremeditated of Carl. The use of the word 'identity' is shows that the psychoneurosis and the brain disorder can be influence his identity and personality. And the sentence 'cells-particles electrical impulses axon-synapse-dendrite and beyond, beneath' is used to describe the cases of the impulsive behavior of Carl.

The quotes has mentioned by voice when he looks at Carl's medical examination. Those questions is used by voice to shows how much Carl's parents can explain his son's personality after hear the medical examination from voice. From the explanation of voice in that quote, it can be concluded that the anxiety makes Carl threatened and trigged the neurological activity quickly. This results his brain respond unpredicted things. So unwittingly, this form created Carl personality become elusive by others. It is the one of psychopathic nature that makes them become aggressive if it is triggered by the aversion things. That quotes have explained clearly the genetic factors of Carl's psychopath.

The genetic disorders of Carl make him having several basic character of psychopath that showed by the medical examination. This disorder make him became an unresponsiveness, egoist and manipulating. These genetic disorders had been innate since he was born. But, these genetic factors of psychopath will not be turned up if it was not trigged by something else.

## b. Environment Factors

This section analyze about the causes of Carl's psychopathy related to the environment factors. The environment is the outside factor of the psychopathy causes. The environment factors can be a trigger the psychopathic of person. This trigger factors can be a past traumatic, wrong education on family, social pressure, etc. When the child is required to develop according to his age, cognitive structure evolves to accommodate the disorder of experience (Blatt et al, 1997:352)

The environment of Carl growth up has influenced his psychological development. His past experiences of many things build his characteristic until he was adult. He has ever gotten bad treats from his friend and teacher at school,

*Emily: "... the teacher would laugh at him he said, girls laughed at him.. stared and pointed at him.. there was this pack of oh we're not prejudiced against Negroes.. "*(Barnet et al, 1989:1151)

The quote 'oh we're not prejudiced against Negroes' shows that Carl is different from his friend at school. He might be a white that study in the school dominated with Negroes. And the word 'laugh', 'stared', 'pointed' and 'pack' show that he was discriminated by his friends because he was different. That experience makes Carl become uncommunicative and antisocial.

A child can be psychopath because of the lack of his parents when know that their child being antisocial. (Cleckley, 1988:405). Carl's antisocial behavior can be shown from the statement of Carl's parents,

*Frank: "there was only one boy what was his name"*

*Emily: "Carl's hasn't seen him in years he had friends in grade school"* (Barnet et al, 1989:1168).

The word 'only one boy' and 'Carl's hasn't seen him' show how rare Carl has a close friend. It can be possible happened to a person who has traumatic experience like Carl. The treats of the parents to make him pleasant to the environment can prevent him to be an antisocial. But it does not happen on Carl.

The antisocial habit is the one of the environmental causes that makes him create his own world that everyone never known included his parents. Carl builds his own world in his room. This antisocial behavior can be looked from the evidence founded by the police,

*Voice: "...police officers confiscated comic books, military magazines, pornographic magazines a cache of more than one dozen knives including switchblades plus a U.S. Army bayonet (World War II) Nazi memorabilia including a 'souvenir' SS helmet (manufacture in Taiwan) a pink plastic skull with lightbulbs in eyes a naked Barbie doll, badly scratched bitten numerous pictures of naked women and women in fashion magazines, their eyes breasts crotches cut out with a scissors.."*(Barnet et al, 1989:1144)

The evidences such as military magazines, knives, U.S Army Bayonets, Nazi memorabilia and SS helmet show how much Carl's interest with Nazi and military life. As everyone knows that Nazi is the National Socialist of movement that controlled Germany in 1930s and 1940s. The people who have interest with Nazi agrees with the ideology of Nazism that was about opposition of the Treaty of Versailles and the resentment to the Jews and the Communists. His interest of Nazi can be the caused of his inspiration in doing violence and collecting knives. It can be the causes why he killed his victimsadistically.

Sense of maleness as belonging to men in general can not be realized directly because of his environmental problem. So, he realized it on images of posters, pornographic magazines and naked Barbie dolls. And it also can be indicate as the reason he did raped to Edith.

Carl's violence is not only influenced by his collections but also from his workplace. He has ever worked in butcher shop. The habit of cutting off the animal with sadistic way creates Carl ingrained bad habits in his memory. *Voice: "...the fact that the battered raped mutilated body of fourteen-year-old Edith Kaminsky"* (Barnet et al, 1989: 1146) the quote shows that Carl's habit makes him easily kill and cut someone just as much as he did on animals in his workplace.

The misunderstanding of parents in assess the behavior of the children is the main cause problem of environment factors in emergence of mental illness. The extra trust of his parents make Carl freely does his bad nature of psychopathic instinct. Therefore, psychopathic instinct of Carl continues to expand since he was child.

## CLOSING

### Conclusion

In the drama play, *Tone Clusters*, Carl as the character who is a topic on the dialogues is depicted as the character who has mental disorder. From the transcript of the play Carl has thirteen of sixteen characters of psychopath proposed by Hervey Cleckley (1988). But this study reviewed the four basic personalities of psychopath. Carl's psychopathic is caused by the combination of genetic factors and his bad experiences in the past that triggering his dangerous aggressiveness. Because of these causes, Carl became the sadistic killer that reputed has mental disorder as a psychopath.

### Suggestions

Depiction of Carl's psychopathic character shows the presence of psychological symptoms is indeed very interesting to review and know. However, the deepening of this research about psychopathic characters in Joyce Carol Oates' *Tone Clusters* still requires a lot of



refinement. Especially regarding deepening on the theory about psychopathic traits included its causes. The limited sources of psychopathy theory make this research unstable in understanding the psychopathic character in *Tone Clusters*. Therefore, if there will be a researcher, who raised the same topic and/or object, it is recommended to use the latest of the theories listed in this research.

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