

Thompson's Self-Efficacy in Katherine Anne Porter's *Noon Wine*

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Abstract

Every person has different state of psyche especially the state of self-efficacy. Self-efficacy is a person's belief that he has capability to do a particular task. In *Noon Wine*, Thompson, as the main character, plays a significant role because when interacts with the environment, his self-efficacy leads to his guilt. The aims of this study are to portray Thompson's self-efficacy in Katherine Anne Porter's *Noon Wine* and to reveal the way Thompson's "L-UR" leads to his guilt. This study is literary study which applies the concept of self-efficacy by Albert Bandura and the concept of guilt by Gershon M. Breslavs. Those concepts are well applied to answer the statement of the problems. Based on four sources of self efficacy by Bandura, Thompson is indicated as low self-efficacy. Thompson who has low self-efficacy, unfortunately, has to interact in unresponsive environment so that based on six factors which influence the subject matter and the duration of guilt by Breslav, Thompson suffers a long-term or chronic guilt caused by his low self-efficacy.

Keywords: *self-efficacy, guilt, Noon Wine*

Abstrak

Setiap orang memiliki kondisi kejiwaan yang berbeda khususnya kondisi *self-efficacy*. *Self-efficacy* adalah kepercayaan seseorang bahwa dirinya memiliki kemampuan untuk menyelesaikan suatu pekerjaan. Dalam *Noon Wine*, Thompson, sebagai tokoh utama, memainkan peran penting karena ketika berinteraksi dengan lingkungan, *Self-efficacy*-nya menyebabkan rasa bersalah baginya. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menggambarkan *self-efficacy* Thompson dalam novela *Noon Wine* karya Katherine Anne Porter dan untuk mengungkap bagaimana "L-UR" Thompson menyebabkan rasa bersalah baginya. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kesusasteraan yang menerapkan konsep *self-efficacy* dari Albert Bandura dan konsep rasa bersalah dari Gershon M. Breslavs. Konsep-konsep tersebut diterapkan dengan baik untuk menjawab rumusan masalah. Berdasarkan empat sumber *self-efficacy* dari Bandura, Thompson diindikasikan memiliki *self-efficacy* rendah. Thompson, yang memiliki *self-efficacy* rendah, malangnya, harus berinteraksi dalam lingkungan yang apatis sehingga berdasarkan enam faktor yang mempengaruhi pokok permasalahan dan durasi rasa bersalah dari Breslav, Thompson mengalami rasa bersalah jangka panjang atau rasa bersalah kronis yang disebabkan oleh *self-efficacy*-nya yang rendah.

Kata Kunci: *self-efficacy, rasa bersalah, Noon Wine*

INTRODUCTION

Katherine Anne Porter was an American writer who was born in Texas on May, 15th 1890. Her father was a farmer who relatively was a famous writer's cousin, O' Henry. As a writer's relative, writing seems flowing in Porter's blood and becomes her passion of life. One of her masterpiece is *Noon Wine* which was written and published in 1937. In 1939, *Noon Wine* also republished in Porter's collection short stories entitled *Pale Horse, Pale Rider*. *Noon Wine*'s popularity continues time by time since performed as a radio drama between 1948 and 1950

Porter gives a special touch to *Noon Wine* because she parallels the time and place of her own childhood to *Noon Wine* by setting the story in a Small South Texas Town. Besides, the story tells about a farmer's life which is also experienced by her father. In

1966, Porter won a Pulitzer Prize for her collection short stories in which *Noon Wine* is included.

Noon Wine tells about Mr. Royal Earle Thompson as the main character who owns a dairy farm. As a farmer, Thompson faces many difficulties in handling his farm. He can not handle the farm enjoyably. Furthermore, his wife who has been sick can not help him in the farm anymore so Thompson has to handle the farm by himself. Fortunately, a stranger named Olaf Helton comes to Thompson's farm to look for work. Unlike Thompson, Helton always works enjoyably and as time goes by, he successfully prospers Thompson's farm. Thompson and his wife are really satisfied by his capability in handling farm so that Thompson counts on Helton much.

Nine years passed, another stranger named Homer T. Hatch comes to the farm to return Helton to the asylum. Thompson tries hard to save Helton and suddenly raises his axe to Hatch's head till he die. By

Hatch's death, Thompson is considered as murderer. In that case, his neighbors label him as a murderer. Day by day, Thompson and his wife tell neighbors that he never killed Hatch on purpose, but nobody believes him. In guilty feeling, he commits suicide by shooting himself. In his letter, he also writes that he hopes it will justify him.

The issue of self-efficacy is really portrayed in the interaction between Thompson and the environment. However, Thompson, as the main character, plays a significant role because when interacts with the environment, his self-efficacy leads to his guilt.

This study aims to portray Thompson's self-efficacy in Katherine Anne Porter's *Noon Wine* and to reveal the way Thompson's "L-UR" leads to his guilt. This study applies the concept of self-efficacy by Albert Bandura and the concept of guilt by Gershon M. Breslavs.

Through this study, hopefully the reader will be able to understand that self-efficacy plays a significant role because it may lead to various possibilities both positive and negative state as suicide on guilt caused by low self-efficacy which is committed by the main character in *Noon Wine*. This study is also expected to contribute as an inspiration and reference to the other study related to Katherine Anne Porter's *Noon Wine* and the issue of self-efficacy.

METHOD

This study is literary study which employs a psychoanalytical approach to literature. In particular, this study uses concept of self-efficacy and guilt in Katherine Anne Porter's *Noon Wine*. The primary data source of this study is the novel *Noon Wine*, while the data are in the form of direct and indirect speech of the characters, dialogues, epilogues, and quotation which indicates the aspect of Thompson's self-efficacy and guilt.

Self-efficacy as the basic concept in Social Cognitive Theory by Albert Bandura will be used in this study to investigate self-efficacy of the main character in *Noon Wine* which further influences the interaction with the environment. The four sources to determine a person's self-efficacy and four predictive conditions as products of the interaction between two levels of self-efficacy (high and low) and two types of environment (responsive and unresponsive) are used to analyze the first statement of the problem. Then, the concept of guilt by Gershon M. Breslavs which consists of six factors that influence the subject matter and the duration of guilt are used to analyze the second statement of the problem.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Previous Studies on Katherine Anne Porter - *Noon Wine*

Many studies have been conducted by various researchers using *Noon Wine* by Katherine Anne Porter as the data. Therefore, this study is supposed to review the previous studies related to *Noon Wine* as references and to find out the research gaps.

There are at least three studies which analyze *Noon Wine* in various points of view. The first study is done by David Yost entitled *The Harm of "Swedening": Anxieties of Nativism in Katherine Anne Porter's Noon Wine*. Using perspective of post colonialism, this study finds that Thompson as the main character really proud of his nationality which is stated in Texas. It causes him to undersetimate people from other minority country in America such as Helton and Hatch who are Swedish.

The second study is done by Ru Wang and Yunyun Tian entitled *Between Good and Evil: Deconstructive Interpretation of Noon Wine*. Using perspective of deconstruction, this study finds that good and evil are related each other in some characters of *Noon Wine*. For instance in character Thompson, he lacks in managing farm, but he takes care much of his wife by letting her rest and does nothing to help him in farm.

The third study is done by Robert Batey entitled *Punishment by Family and Community in Katherine Anne Porter's Noon Wine*. Using perspective of law, this study finds that by the murder of Hatch, Thompson not only gets punishment from the community but also from his own family. It is proven by his wife and his sons who finally disbelieve and keep distance from him.

Based on those studies above, this study is more similar to Robert Batey's study entitled *Punishment by Family and Community in Katherine Anne Porter's Noon Wine* because there is a point which also discusses about the cause of Thompson's suicide. However, there are two differences between Batey's study and this study.

Talking about Batey's study, first, the scope is more general because it discusses Thompson's surroundings both private (family) and public (community), while this study is more specific and focus on Thompson's self. Second, Batey's study uses law approach reflected on the title which uses the word "punishment", while this study uses psychoanalytical approach reflected on the title which

uses phrase "self-efficacy". Thus, this study concerns much on Thompson's psyche.

Although many studies have been conducted by various researchers using *Noon Wine* by Katherine Anne Porter as the data, unexpectedly none of them link it with the concept of self-efficacy and guilt. Therefore, little research is available on the correlation between *Noon Wine* and these concepts.

Self-efficacy

The term of "self-efficacy" was firstly introduced by a psychologist named Albert Bandura in 1977. Self-efficacy is the basic concept in his Social Cognitive Theory as Locke and Latham's (2002) idea. Self-efficacy, according to Bandura which is cited in *Self-Efficacy and Social Cognitive Theories*, is an individual's belief in his capacity to perform behaviors for achieving a specific goal (Theories, 2010). By having belief on his own capability, a person will be more motivated to the positive performance in achieving his goal. Derya Erel develops the idea of Bandura that self-efficacy has a significance role in connecting goals, performance, and motivation concepts (Erel, n.d.).

Bandura when firstly introduced self-efficacy in his Social Cognitive Theory in 1977 states there are four sources which can be the indications to determine a person's self-efficacy. The first source is performance outcome. It deals with past experiences whether positive or negative which influence someone's capability to solve the given task. The experience of handling the previous task will increase self-efficacy, while experience of failure decreases it as Bandura's idea which is cited in *Self-Efficacy and Social Cognitive Theories*.

The second source to determine a person's self-efficacy is vicarious experiences. Simply, vicarious experience is modeling. People observe and imitate others, compare anything they have including their capabilities. People tend to compare their capabilities with those who have the same position with them. By observing those who are successfully doing the same task, a person will have belief that he has the same capability. But if he observes those who are failing, he will believe that he fails too.

The third source to determine a person's self-efficacy is verbal persuasion. Redmond (2010) as cited in *Self-Efficacy and Social Cognitive Theories* argues that encouragement and discouragement from others also influence self-

efficacy (Theories, 2010). In certain condition, those who are burdened with pressure or problem will need other to be their motivator. They need other to rise them up. It seems trivial to motivate and give support only in verbal, but it really works. The best motivator usually is the closest relative such as family and friend. The more motivation a person get, the higher his self-efficacy is.

The fourth source to determine a person's self-efficacy is physiological feedback. Bandura (1977) as cited in *Self-Efficacy and Social Cognitive Theories* argues, "People experience sensations from their body and how they perceive this emotional arousal influences their beliefs of efficacy" (Theories, 2010). Physiological feedback is how someone perceives in facing a specific task. Those who have high self-efficacy will pass the task enjoyably without anxiety because they have belief in their capabilities to do it, while those who have low self-efficacy may get their palm sweat as the symptom of anxiety.

Based on those four sources of self-efficacy determination, human's self-efficacy can be divided into two levels—high self-efficacy and low self-efficacy. Albert Bandura, who found the term of self-efficacy in 1977, develops his idea in 1997. He argues that two levels of efficacy (low and high) when interact with two types of environment (responsive and unresponsive) will produce four predictive conditions (Theories, 2010).

Table 2.1 Interaction between self-efficacy and environment

		Self-Efficacy	
		H (High)	L (Low)
Environment	R (Responsive)	H-R	L-R
	UR (Unresponsive)	H-UR	L-UR

Table of interaction between self-efficacy and environment above shows four predictive conditions. The first condition is high self-efficacy (H) interacts in responsive environment (R). People who have high self-efficacy, when interact in a responsive environment will achieve to a success

because they will be more positive thinking toward their capabilities. They believe they have capabilities. This belief will lead them to the positive performance by feeling motivated to try hard. The responsive environment and their positive performance will support each other and rise them up to be successful.

The second condition is low self-efficacy (L) interacts in responsive environment (R). People who have low self-efficacy, when interact in a responsive environment may feel depressed because they will be more negative thinking toward their own capabilities. They do not believe they have capabilities. This lack of belief will lead them to the negative performance by stopping their effort to try. As time goes by, environment changes, but those who have low self-efficacy do not, instead of depressed.

The third condition is high self-efficacy (H) interacts in unresponsive environment (UR). People who have high self-efficacy, when interact in an unresponsive environment will try to improve their effort, but if there is no improvement, they will make changes because they are more positive thinking toward their capabilities. They believe they have capabilities. This belief will lead them to the positive performance. The environment may unresponsive, but they have belief which becomes power within themselves.

The fourth condition is low self-efficacy (L) interacts in unresponsive environment (UR). People who have low self-efficacy, when interact in an unresponsive environment will be apathy and helplessness because they will be more negative thinking toward their capabilities. Derya Erel develops the idea of Albert Bandura in his study *The Concept of Self-Efficacy and Self-Efficacy - Performance Relationship* that people with low self-efficacy give up easily on failure and difficult task or problem. They do not believe they have capabilities. This lack of belief will lead them to the negative performance by stopping their effort to try. The unresponsive environment makes their conditions worse. Finally, they feel helpless because they think their efforts are useless. Soon, this kind of people will inactivate themselves or escape from the society as the impact of their stress and depression.

Guilt

Everybody has mistakes and may experience failure in their life. This mistake or failure generally

leads people to reform. Those who successfully reform the mistake will feel better than before, but those who fail to reform will feel worse. This worse feeling even causes feeling guilt. Guilt is one emotion which comes when someone did something wrong. The standard of wrong and right absolutely deal with values or norms in society. One's action is considered wrong when it does not appropriate with the available norms.

Breslav, a Russian psychologist, in his study cites that in The American Psychological Association's, sense of right and wrong is called "conscience", while in psychoanalysis this conscience is called "superego" or component of personality which judge one's action (Breslavs, 2013). Everybody has conscience or superego, but the 'activation' between one another is not the same. Some people may have more sensitivity which leads them to feel guilt easily, but the other may not.

According to Breslav (1977), there are six factors which influence the subject matter and the duration of guilt. The first factor is the agent of the transgression who can be oneself, a friend, a relative or members of a group. The second factor is the burden of the transgression which can be in sports, lie, mockery, or violence. The third factor is how reversible the transgression is which can be seen through the availability of opportunities to correct the mistake.

The fourth factor is whether the transgression is intentional or unintentional. The fifth factor is how particular or general the transgression is which can be seen whether the mistake is caused by lack of skills in a particular field or indeed general disability. The last factor is the victims and observers of the transgression. The closer the victims or the observers are, the more guilt someone get.

Breslav also develops the idea of Quiles and Bybee (1997) that a long-term or chronic guilt causes depression because those who feel guilty will fixation themselves on negative self-image and do self-punishment. Furthermore, Base on Wolf (2010) whose the idea developed by Breslav, feeling of guilt which has no compensation for the inflicted harm especially when this harm is irreversible such as death or loss of health, the effect of guilt will be so destructive (Breslavs, 2013). Therefore, people should not take guilty feeling easy because it may lead to a serious condition.

Self-efficacy and Guilt

Guilt is one emotion which comes when someone did something wrong. Guilt even causes someone feeling bad as Tracy and Robins' statement which is developed by Irina and Sergey that guilt leads to negative feeling toward a specific behavior which someone has performed. Someone who is feeling guilt will focus on his wrong performance or action. This idea is also supported by Miller who express that guilt focus on a specific action or series of actions (Miller, 2010).

Since guilt focus on a specific performance or action, the emotional process when someone has guilt, according to Breslav, has connection with cognitive process in which the base concept is self-efficacy. Breslavs states that cognitive processes connect the involvement of emotions in a person's performance in which self-efficacy is depicted through goal achievement and through the correction of a person's failure (Breslavs, 2013).

Guilt is characterized by regret and feeling of distress. Tangney argues that guilt is caused by self-reflection and self-evaluation which supports self-regulation in one's self (Makogon & Enikolopov, 2013). Self-regulation and self-efficacy are two of four concepts in Social Cognitive Theory.

Some students from university in Italy, in their study, who develop the idea of Bandura (1997) reveals that self-efficacy is closely related to guilt because it concerns on specific performance in which guilt does so. Moreover, they add, "Basically, guilt and self-efficacy impact our reactions to and interactions with others, are centrally related to the concept of self and require a person to have a sense of self." (Sapienza, 2015)

In a social interaction, a person and an environment influence each other and self-efficacy plays an important role in connecting them. Adam M. Grant and Amy Wrzesniewski, in their study about the relation between self-efficacy and guilt on employees, develop the idea of Hollenbeck and Klein (1987) that those who do not feel capable or have low self-efficacy to prevent guilty feeling prefer to reduce their effort to achieve their goal. (Grant & Wrzesniewski, 2010)

Someone who is feeling guilt especially those who are in long-term or chronic guilt, if he has no high self-efficacy, will feel depressed. They will feel hopeless as Seligman's idea that depressed person feel helplessness because their effort in social interactions have little or no influence on the outcome (Version, 2017). Therefore, self-efficacy

has connection with emotions such as guilty feeling. In other words, increasing self-efficacy is the best way to avoid failure on a specific performance or goal.

ANALYSIS

1. Thompson's Self-Efficacy

Mr. Royal Earle Thompson or known as Mr. Thompson is the main character in Katherine Anne Porter's *Noon Wine*. The story which mainly tells about his life as an owner of a dairy farm in Texas really portrays how his self-efficacy in managing farm and the interaction with the environment.

As mentioned in the previous chapter that self-efficacy, according to Bandura which is cited in *Self-Efficacy and Social Cognitive Theories*, is an individual's belief in his capacity to perform behaviors for achieving a specific goal (Theories, 2010). There are four sources which can be the indications to determine whether a person's self-efficacy is high or low. Those are performance outcome, vicarious experience, verbal persuasion, and physiological feedback.

The first source to determine self-efficacy is performance outcome. It deals with past experiences whether positive or negative which influence someone's capability to solve the given task. The story of *Noon Wine* begins when Thompson is pushing a big churn till a stranger named Helton approaches him. The purpose of Helton comes to his farm is to look for work. Helton introduces himself as a Swede who previously worked at wheat fields and hired dollar a day. By his experience and skill, he convinces Thompson that he is a good worker. Unfortunately, Thompson can not hire him as much as his previous job because he does not make that much from his farm.

"My wife, she was set on a dairy, she seemed to like working around with cows and calves, so I humored her. But it was my mistake," he said [...] "Now just speakin' as one man to another, there ain't any money in it. Now I can't give you no dollar a day because ackshally I don't make that much out of it." (p.224)

The quotation above reveals that Thompson has negative experience in managing farm because first, his wife who used to set the farm can't help him anymore so that he just earns little. By this

condition, he can not give Helton dollar a day, but Helton agrees.

Beside, Thompson also has negative experience in employing worker for his farm. "I had two niggers but they got into a cutting scrape up the creek last week, one of 'em dead now and the other in the hoosegow at Cold Springs." (p. 223) This negative experience also causes Thompson's wife worries and doubts with his capability in running their farm.

She did wish he would be more considerate, and take a little trouble with his business. She wanted to believe in her husband, and there were too many times when she couldn't. (p.226)

The quotation above shows Mrs. Thompson's worry because her husband just accepted a new worker, Helton, in their farm. He accepts him without tries his skill. She just thinks that her husband employs people without further consideration because he used to employ two niggers who end up trouble, while this time he employs a Swede who makes she thinks, "Heaven, he looked lazy and worthless." (p.226) Moreover, because of Thompson's negative experience, he himself worries whether Helton can handle when the market is slack or not. He worries if Helton will be handicap as he was, as the quotation below:

He would sometimes in the slack season sit for hours worrying about it, squirting tobacco on the ragweeds growing in a thicket against the wood pile, wondering what a fellow could do, handicapped as he was. (p. 234)

None of Thompson's past experiences in handling farm is positive. Based on bandura, experience of failure decreases someone's self-efficacy so that person will have low self-efficacy. Thompson's first source of self-efficacy shows that his self-efficacy is low. Moreover, his reason to own farm is only to make his wife happy. It is not based on his will. That is why since his wife has been sick and he has handled the farm by himself, the problems come and he can not solve it.

The second source to indicate self-efficacy is vicarious experience which simply known as modeling. People observe and imitate others, compare anything they have including their capabilities. In the story, Thompson compares his capability to his wife because at the first time, they

manage the farm together. Unfortunately, she can not help him anymore since she has been sick as the quotation below:

"My wife, she was set on a dairy, she seemed to like working around with cows and calves, so I humored her. But it was a mistake," he said. "I got nearly everything to do, anyhow. My wife ain't very strong. She's sick today, that's a fact. She's been porely for the last few days." (p.224)

The other poor fact is that Mrs. Thompson, as her husband's model, also has no belief that she can conquer her sickness. In her conversation discussing about Helton with her husband, she says that her condition will never be better, as the quotation below:

"Got a feller out there says he's a Swede, Ellie," said Mr. Thompson; "says he knows how to make butter."

"I hope it turns out to be the truth," said Mrs. Thompson. "Looks like my head never will get any better." (p.225)

Furthermore, "She wished now she had died one of those times when she had been so sick, instead of living on for this." (p.257) Thompson is modeling her wife who fails in conquering her sickness and fails running the farm together with him. According to Bandura, by observing those who are successfully doing the same task, a person will have belief that he has the same capability, while by observing those who are failing, he will believe that he fails too. The positive model increases self-efficacy, while the negative model decreases it.

Thompson's second source of self-efficacy shows that his self-efficacy is low because his model is negative. For his wife's health, Thompson even does everything in farm by himself before Helton coming. The quotation below shows that he can not count on his wife anymore because she is too fragile.

Mrs. Thompson, to whom so many forms of work would have been becoming, had simply gone down on him early. He saw, after a while, how short-sighted it had been of him to expect much from Mrs. Thompson. (p.234)

That is why, after Helton coming, Thompson also counts his farm on him. Helton is indeed a good worker as he said when he introduces himself. He can handle the farm well. He becomes the key of the farm growth. "Mr. Helton was the hope and the prop of the family, and all the Thompsons became fond of him..." (p.241)

Nine year passed since Helton has been working hard in Thompson's farm, a stranger named Hatch suddenly comes to the farm and look for Helton. He meets Thompson and says that he will catch Helton because he is an escaped lunatic. Thompson, when hearing his loyal worker will be caught, tries to save Helton.

Mr. Thompson saw it coming, he saw the blade going into Mr. Helton's stomach, he knew he had the ax out of the log in his own hands, felt his arms go up over his head and bring the ax down on Mr. Hatch's head as if he were stunning a beef. (p.255-256)

The passage above reflects Thompson's dependence toward Helton which leads him to save Helton from Hatch. In his mind, he even sees as if Hatch's blade is going into Helton's stomach so that he raise his axe to Hatch's head till he die. By Hatch's death, Thompson is considered as murderer. In that case, indeed he is free from the trial by reason of self-defense, but his neighbors still label him as a murderer.

In this phase of life, Thompson comes to the the third source to indicate self-efficacy that is verbal persuasion. It deals with encouragement and discouragement from other. In a crisis phase, someone needs other to support and motivate him. So does Thompson. Day by day, Thompson asks his wife to tell neighbors that he never killed Hatch on purpose. In his crisis phase, he wants his wife to encourage him. Unfortunately, his wife never does so as reflected in the quotation below:

Even Ellie never said anything to comfort him. He hoped she would say finally, "I remember now, Mr. Thompson, I really did come round the corner in time to see everything. It's not a lie, Mr. Thompson. Don't you worry." But as they drove together in silence, with the days still hot and dry, shortening for fall, day after day, the buggy jolting in the ruts, she said nothing. (p.262)

Indeed Mrs. Thompson always accompanies his husband to visit neighbors and tell them that he does not kill Hatch on purpose, but in her deep heart, she herself does not believe in her husband so that she does not encourage him to face his problem. The situation is getting worse because his children also do not say anything to support him, but avoid him as described in the quotation below:

Mr. Thompson didn't like their silence. They had hardly said a word about anything to him since that day. They seemed to avoid him, they ran the place together as if he wasn't there, and attended to everything without asking him for any advice. (p.264-265)

Thompson fails to get encouragement from his nucleus family while family is the crucial relation in someone's life. As Bandura's idea that the more motivation a person get, the higher his self-efficacy is. Avoidance from his family causes him feeling hopeless. By this situation, his third source of self-efficacy does not support him to have high self-efficacy.

The fourth source to indicate self-efficacy is physiological feedback. It is how someone perceives in facing a specific task. Thompson, in handling his farm, shows a lot of worries.

But from the first the cows worried him, [...]. Calves worried him, [...]. Wrestling with a calf unmanned him, like having to change a baby's diaper. Milk worried him, [...]. Hens worried him, cackling, clucking, hatching out when you least expected it. (p.233)

The quotation above shows that Thompson has a lot of worries in handling farm. His worries indicate that he has no belief on his capability to do the task well. Bandura states that those who have high self-efficacy will pass the task enjoyably without anxiety because they have belief in their capabilities to do it, while those who have low self-efficacy may get their palm sweat as the symptom of anxiety. Thompson's fourth source of self-efficacy shows that his self-efficacy is low because he can not do his farm enjoyably.

Those four sources above indicate that Thompson has low self-efficacy because he has negative experience in handling his dairy farm, he models his wife who fails running the farm with him because of her sickness, his family does not

encourage him in his crisis phase, and he also worries much in doing farm tasks.

After finding the term of self-efficacy in 1977, Albert Bandura develops his idea in 1997. He argues that two levels of efficacy (low and high) when interact with two types of environment (responsive and unresponsive) will produce four predictive conditions (Theories, 2010). Thompson's environment in *Noon Wine* can be seen when he and his wife visit their neighbors to clarify that he does not kill Hatch on purpose as the passage below:

Since the trial, now, every day for a week he had washed and shaved and put on his best clothes and had taken Ellie with him to tell every neighbor he had that he never killed Mr. Hatch on purpose, and what good did it do? Nobody believed him. [...] Mr. Thompson saw something in all their faces that disheartened him, made him feel empty and tired out. They didn't believe he was not a murderer. (p.261-262)

Everyday Thompson and his wife visit every neighbor to tell the same thing. He also asks his wife to make sure that his husband is not a murdered, but still nobody believes him. This situation makes him feel empty and tired.

"We've been thinking of trying to get up to your place one of these days," said Mr. Albright, moving away trying to look busy. (p.263)

Not only the neighbors, Thompson and his wife also visit their relative, but they just the same as other neighbors. They even tries to look busy as the quotation above.

"Well, now," said the man, drily, scratching his ribs inside his shirt, "that sholy is too bad. Well, now, I kaint see what we've got to do with all this here, however. I kaintsee no good reason for us to git mixed up in these murder matters, I shore kaint. Whichever way you look at it, it ain't none of my business. (p.263-264)

The passage above portrays that what Thompson and his wife do seem useless because none of the neighbors believe with his clarification. What they know is only Thompson killing Hatch. They do not want to know his reason. They do not care what exactly happened.

If he had not seen straight that first time, then everything about his killing Mr. Hatch was wrong from start to finish, and there was nothing more to be done about it, he might just as well give up. (p.265)

The passage above represents that Thompson's environment is unresponsive because nobody tries to believe or at least calm him down. Katherine Anne Porter in *Noon Wine* sets the main character who has low self-efficacy in unresponsive environment and leads him to a tragic end of life. Based on Bandura, people with low self-efficacy give up easily on failure and problem. That is what happens to Thompson. His psyche is getting worse in unresponsive environment. He feels helpless because he thinks his effort is useless.

Moreover, in the end, "She stepped along the rough path holding her thin dress [...], leaving the barn because she could hardly bear to be near Mr. Thompson." (p.257) His wife and his children even keep distance from him. This situation proves Bandura's idea that people with low self-efficacy in unresponsive environment prefer inactivate themselves or escape from the society. Thompson, in the end of the story, ends his life by committing suicide.

2. The Way Thompson's "L-UR" Leads to His Guilt

Nobody has no mistake because that is the reason to be called human. A mistake especially which harms other often causes someone feeling guilt. In *Noon Wine*, Katherine Anne Porter interestingly shows that Thompson's low self-efficacy, when interacts with unresponsive environment, even leads him to commite suicide as the impact of his chronic guilt.

As Breslav's idea, there are six factors which influence the subject matter and the duration of guilt. Those are the agent of the transgression, the burden of the transgression, how reversible the transgression is, whether the transgression is intentional or unintentional, how particular or general the transgression is, and the victims and observers of the transgression.

The first factor which influences the subject matter and the duration of guilt is the agent of the transgression who can be oneself, a friend, a

relative or members of a group. In *Noon Wine*, the transgression is done by Thompson who has killed Hatch when he come to his farm to catch Helton, "I do hereby solemnly swear that I did not take the life of Mr. Homer T. Hatch on purpose." (p.268)

Before committing suicide, Thompson also writes a letter in which in his letter he confesses that he has killed Hatch, but he does not do it on purpose. In his opinion, Hatch comes to his farm for negative purpose so that he fails it by killing him. So the agent of the transgression in *Noon Wine* is oneself, as the quotation below:

"It was Mr. Homer T. Hatch who came to do wrong to a harmless man. He caused all this trouble and he deserved to die but I am sorry it was me who had to kill him." (p.268)

The second factor which influences the subject matter and the duration of guilt is the burden of the transgression which can be in sports, lie, mockery, or violence. As the quotation below, in *Noon Wine*, the burden of the transgression is in violence. Because of in Thompson's mind, he sees Hatch's blade in Helton stomach, he tries to save him by raising his axe to Hatch's head which causes his death.

Mr. Thompson saw it coming, he saw the blade going into Mr. Helton's stomach, he knew he had the ax out of the log in his own hands, felt his arms go up over his head and bring the ax down on Mr. Hatch's head as if he were stunning a beef. (p.255-257)

The third factor which influences the subject matter and the duration of guilt is how reversible the transgression is. It can be seen through the availability of opportunities to correct the mistake. In the story, Thompson has no opportunity to correct his mistake because his mistake is causing Hatch's death. In other word, he does a fatal mistake. Nobody believes that he does not kill Hatch on purpose as the quotation below:

Mr. Thompson saw something in all their faces that disheartened him, made him feel empty and tired out. They didn't believe he was not a murderer. (p.261-262)

The fourth factor which influences the subject matter and the duration of guilt is whether the transgression is intentional or unintentional. Actually Thompson does not kill Hatch on purpose because he does not know Hatch before. He even has no bussiness with him till he comes to his farm and annoys him by asking him to let Helton back to the asylum. He tells so many times to everyone that he does not kill Hatch on purpose, unfortunately nobody believes him, as the passage below. It leads him to committe suicide to prove that he is not a murderer.

"Before Almighty God, the great judge of all before who I am about to appear, I do hereby solemnly swear that I did not take the life of Mr. Homer T. Hatch on purpose. It was done in defense of Mr. Helton [...] I have told all this to the judge and the jury and they let me off but nobody believes it. This is the only way I can prove I am not a cold blooded murderer like everybody seems to think." (p.268)

The fifth factor which influences the subject matter and the duration of guilt is how particular or general the transgression is. It can be seen whether the mistake is caused by lack of skills in a particular field or indeed general disability. Unfoftunately, the transgression done by Thompson is caused by his lack of skill in a particular field which is in managing his farm. This lack causes him counting on Helton much. That is why he tries hard to save Helton from any danger as the passage below:

The Thompsons did not grow rich, but they kept out of the poor house, as Mr. Thompson was fond of saying, meaning he had got a little foothold in spite of Ellie's poor health, and unexpected weather, and strange declines in market prices, and his own mysterious handicaps which weighed him down. Mr. Helton was the hope and the prop of the family. (p.241)

The last factor which influences the subject matter and the duration of guilt is the victims and observers of the transgression. The closer the victims or the observers are, the more guilt someone get. The victim in *Noon Wine* is Hatch, while the observer or the witness is Thompson's wife. The transgression happens nine years since Helton has

been working in Thompson's farm. Thompson's wife who is inside, when hearing a strange sound from outside, suddenly go outside to see what happens as the passage below:

Mrs. Thompson had been listening uneasily for some time to the voices going on, one of them strange to her, [...] Mr. Thompson supporting himself on the ax handle was leaning over shaking by the shoulder a man Mrs. Thompson had never seen, who lay doubled up with the top of his head smashed and the blood running away in a greasy-looking puddle. (p.256)

Those six factors above indicate that Thompson suffers a long-term or chronic guilt. Both the neighbors who do not believe him and his own wife as the witness do not encourage him. A wife, the closest person, who should support a husband in every situation especially in his crisis phase, unfortunately does not do so till the last time. In the end, his children even see his father like a stranger.

The end of Thompson's life proves the idea of Wolf, who is developed by Breslav, that feeling of guilt which has no compensation for the inflicted harm especially when this harm is irreversible such as death or loss of health, the effect of guilt will be so destructive. He committed suicide because his transgression is irreversible. As he wrote in his letter before committing suicide that he hopes his suicide will justify him, "This is the only way I can prove I am not a cold blooded murderer like everybody seems to think." (p.268)

In Robert Batey's study, *Punishment by Family and Community in Katherine Anne Porter's Noon Wine*, which also discusses about the cause of Thompson's suicide, Thompson's surroundings both private (family) and public (community) are more exposed than Thompson's self. The use of law approach also supports and works well in the analysis in which Thompson's suicide is caused by his social punishment.

Meanwhile in this study, Thompson's suicide is analyzed more from Thompson's self especially his psyche in a crisis phase. The tragic ending of *Noon Wine* is portrayed by Thompson's suicide as the impact of his guilt. This guilt is basically caused by his low self-efficacy in handling farm. Guilt and self-efficacy impact his interaction with others as the idea of Bandura. Thompson, who has low self-efficacy in handling farm depends on Helton much, "For some reason he didn't want the

stranger to see or talk to Mr. Helton. It was strange, but that was the way Mr. Thompson felt." (p.248) That is why he tries to save Helton from any harm which ends with Hatch's death on his hand as the result of saving Helton.

Poorly, Thompson interacts with unresponsive environment which does not believe and support him so that he feels hopeless as Seligman's idea that depressed person feel helplessness because their effort in social interactions have little or no influence on the outcome. Finally, he justifies himself by committing suicide, instead of increasing his self-efficacy in handling his farm to make his life better.

CONCLUSION

In *Noon Wine*, Katherine Anne Porter successfully uses indirect characterization to portray Thompson's self-efficacy and the interaction with the environment. As the main character, Thompson's self-efficacy plays a significance role because when interacts with the environment, his self-efficacy leads to his guilt. As the result, two statements of the problems are available to reveal it.

The first statement of the problem is the portrayal of Thompson's self-efficacy and the interaction with the environment. In this section, this study finds that based on four sources of self efficacy by Albert Bandura, Thompson is indicated as low self-efficacy because first, he has negative experience in handling his dairy farm. Second, he models his wife who fails running the farm with him because of her sickness. Third, his family does not encourage him in his crisis phase. Fourth, he also worries much in doing the farm tasks.

Furthermore, Thompson who has low self-efficacy, unfortunately, has to interact in unresponsive environment. It is portrayed when he and his wife visit one by one of their neighbors, nobody tries to believe that he does not kill Hatch on purpose. The worst phase of Thompson is that not only his neighbors, but also his wife and his children even keep distance from him in the end.

Meanwhile, the second statement of the problem reveals the way interaction between Thompson's self-efficacy and the environment leads to his guilt. In this section, this study finds that based on six factors which influence the subject matter and the duration of guilt by Breslav, Thompson suffers a long-term or chronic guilt because first, the transgression is done by Thompson himself. Second, the burden of the

transgression is in violence. Third, the transgression is irreversible. Fourth, indeed the transgression is unintentional but nobody believes that Thompson does not kill Hatch intentionally. Fifth, the transgression is particular caused by his lack of handling farm. Sixth, the victim of the transgression is insignificant person, but the observer or the witness is Thompson's wife.

Thompson's suicide as the end of the story is the impact of his guilty feeling which basically caused by his low self-efficacy in handling farm. If only his self-efficacy was high, he believed that he has capability to handle his farm by himself, he would not count on Helton much and he would not kill Hatch to save Helton so he would not commit suicide because of guilty feeling. Everything would be fine if only Thompson had high self-efficacy. There was nothing to be guilty.

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