

DEFENSE MECHANISM IN SARAH J. HARRIS' *THE COLOUR OF BEE LARKHAM'S MURDER*

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ABSTRACT: This research focuses on how a person with mental illness uses defense mechanism which the condition is perfectly seen in Jasper Wishart in the novel *The Colour of Bee Larkham's Murder* by Sarah J. Harris. This study aims to find and explain about mental illness that affects the main character's life and defense mechanism that the character uses. The methods used in this research are library research and psychological approach that are applied to analyse psychological problems of the main character. The result shows that mental issues make Jasper have difficulties throughout his life. Autism and synaesthesia conditions have made him incapable to communicate and to recognize people. He has two ways of defense mechanism: repression and regression, repression by forcefully forgetting his problems, regression by reversing psychological movement.

Keywords: *mental disorder, autism, synaesthesia, defense mechanism*

INTRODUCTION

Mental disorder is very popular to discuss since it becomes a social phenomenon in this modern time. Modern people with their complex problems have created unpredictable conditions which should be elaborated and explained scientifically. Mental disorder has become very important to study, moreover it attacks not only to adult people but also children. Mental disorders are diseases that infected emotion, behavioral and cognitive control, and disturb children learning ability and dysfunctional of the adult to society or even to the family. Mental disorders usually appear in the early stages of life. (Kendler et al., 2003: 607).

Autism is part of mental illness or mental disorder. Autism means a difficulty of making social interaction or dealing with other persons in a normal way. This kind of mental disorder comes at a very early age. The kids may have difficulties to understand or even using eye contact, facial expression, gestures, intonation when they have social interaction with other persons or kids. The child who suffers from autism may have a delay in language development and also engaged in the same activity that they love repetitively (American Psychiatric Association, 2000: 495).

There is another mental disorder that causes the same difficulties in human being as autism, namely synaesthesia. Autism and synaesthesia cause difficulties in communication capability, synaesthesia is the type of mental illness that causes

the sensation of colours through the sound or tone. Mental disorder people with their specific problem as individuals have distinctive psychological problems that need to be explained specifically to be understood. As mental disorder infects emotion, in this case, the writer focuses on defense mechanisms in the main character of Harris' *The Colour of Bee Larkham Murder*, Jasper Wishart as an autistic child who also suffers from synaesthesia.

Defense mechanisms are psychological techniques that are unintentionally used to shield a person against anxieties arising and against unwanted thoughts or emotions through blocking and sorting through certain impulses or even a dangerous circumstance to make them reasonable and less harmful (Freud, 1997: 7). Cramer's theory says that defense mechanism protects the ego by warding off anxiety and guilt feelings. When the ego can anticipate the possibility of instinctual impulse discharge, a judgment of danger (the experience of panic) is expressed in the form of an anxiety signal. And if this ego fails to control, anxiety becomes overwhelming and a panic reaction ensues. The defense mechanism that is used by children is based on their understanding, the more they understand about the defense the lesser they will use the defense mechanism. (Cramer and Brilliant, 2001: 300).

The main character of *The Colour of Bee Larkham's Murder* is Jasper Wishart, 13 years old, who lives with his father. The defense mechanism that is used by Jasper Wishart is very variative. He uses a lot of types of defense mechanisms when he has to deal with a problem or in an unhappy situation in his life. Jasper Wishart is an autistic boy who becomes an unexpected murderer of a woman who lives near his house. Bee Larkham who becomes the victim of the murderer. Jasper Wishart uses any form of defense to forget, to cover, and to make himself less guilty for the murder that he does not commit (Aras, 2014).

Previous studies on defense mechanisms have been done by Khairul Fuad entitled *Jilly's defense mechanism as seen Phyllis A. Whitney's the singing stone* and also Anggi Andyaningsih entitled *Clifford Chatterley'S Self Defense Mechanism in D.H. Lawrence'S Lady Chatterley'S Lover*. The reason why the writer conducts the research because it is different from the others. The character that is analyzed in previous studies is a normal person while the character that will be analyzed in this study is a child who suffers from autism and synaesthesia.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study makes use of qualitative research presented in descriptive form. It relies on word-power or explanatory reasoning. Qualitative research is an activity situated to locate the observer in the world. It is composed of interpretative asset. It means that qualitative researchers study things in the natural settings, trying to make sense, or interpreting phenomena in terms of the meaning people bring to them.

The data for this research is taken from the novel written by Sarah J. Harris entitled *The Colour Of Bee Larkham's Murder* that contains of 437 pages in 65 chapters. This study focuses on defense mechanism that is performed by a child with mental illness (dos Santos, dos Santos, da Silva, 2018).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The result will talk further about how autism and the synaesthesia reflected in the novel especially from the main character. Synaesthesia is a condition which person experiences sensation in one sense is being stimulated but feels one more additional sense. (Cytowic, 1997:17). Autism is a neuropsychiatric disorder that disturbs human ability to do social interaction and also the abnormality in development of language which makes them difficult to communicate. (Kanner, 1992:5) In this chapter the writer will talk about how Jasper practices the defense mechanism with his condition.

The Portrayal of Autism in Jasper Wishart

Jasper Wishart is not an ordinary boy. He is different from other children since he is born. He is a boy with autism and synaesthesia. Because of the autism that he owns he has difficulties when he has to deal with other people as well as in social condition. It is not only having a hard time when he has to communicate with others, even he has also difficulties to recognize them. Jasper also loves parakeets so much that he even flaps like parakeet when he gets into trouble. Autism is a neuropsychiatric disorder that disturbs human ability to do social interaction and also the abnormality in the development of language which make them difficult to communicate (Kanner, 1992:5). Jasper loves parakeets so much in his life until his obsession brings difficulties when he has to talk with others. Because he rarely understands what somebody says to him.

“They’re incredibly intelligent and musically colorful like a vibrant orchestra. They’ve already got me into trouble with the police and our neighbors but are still my favorite birds in the world” (Harris, 2018: 8)

This condition is portrayed as how Jasper loves parakeet so much in his life. At the beginning of the novel, it is told that Jasper has to attend and being interrogated by the police because of the death of his neighbor named Bee Larkham. He is interviewed by the police because he keeps record on everything happened in Bee Larkham’s house where all the parakeets are nesting. He does not only write down the record about the birds but also about everyone that passes or even goes to Bee Larkham’s house.

“I know twelve parakeets are dead. Thirteen, if you count the baby parakeet, which died on 24 march but that was an accident. The other deaths were deliberate” (Harris, 2018 : 16)

The police asks him about the murderer of Bee Larkham but he keeps telling the police about the bird’s death. Jasper even tells the police repetitively in the interview when the police asks him about the murder scene. The interview must be stopped because Jasper shows no sign. He bears witness of the murder but he only tells the police about the murder of the parakeets. Jasper’s oddity and his lack, when he has to communicate with others, are very clear even his father has difficulties when he has to speak with him because he is not focused about the things or order that his father says.

“I don’t want to find out from one of our neighbour you’ve been feeding the parakeets after the school. Do you understand?” (Harris, 2018: 54).

His obsession about the parakeets shows how autism disturbs Jasper’s mind “I’m planning to disobey him and feed the parakeets” (Harris, 2018: 61). The curiosity and confusion of the reader since the beginning of the novel is answered in this part. At the beginning of the novel it is very confusing on what Jasper’s role in the murder scene; the witness or the murderer himself but this confusion is answered here. The reason why his father does not allow Jasper to go near to Bee’s house because it will attract the police’s attention or even make his stomach hurt.

In the night when Bee Larkham is killed by Jasper he accidentally slashes his stomach. In this part it also can be seen that Jasper is the murderer of Bee Larkham and his father tries to conceal the truth to save Jasper. But Jasper seems unaware of the situation. The reason why Bee Larkham gets killed is also because of the parakeet. In the night when Bee Larkham is dead when she has dinner with Jasper saying that she wants to apologize for her mistakes. But actually she wants to spoil her anger to Jasper after he refuses to send her message to her boyfriend. In that night she makes a pie for Jasper that is filled with chicken. But after few minutes, she tries to ask Jasper again to send the message to her boyfriend and Jasper refuses. The situation gets worse and Bee tells Jasper that he has already eaten parakeet pie. Jasper is shocked because of her statement and he takes a knife trying to cut open his own belly to get the birds out of it. Then Bee tries to stop it but unfortunately the knife stabs Bee’s belly and she dies because of it. He loves the birds so much until he will hurt himself to save them. His habit and obsession towards the birds are very unusual or abnormal.

“he put his *real* book behind the cover of Lee child’s. understanding your child’s autism and other learning difficulties. I expect he is studying it right now” (Harris, 2018 : 118).

Jasper’s father already understands about his son’s condition but he does not understand how to handle him. The autism happens to Jasper is also stated and acknowledged by his own father. His problems in communication with others or even with his father have been noticed. His father cannot understand him well, this is the reason why his father tries to learn about Jasper’s difficulties and differences. It makes Jasper to feel better being with his father and also it amuses Jasper from the loss that Jasper feels. (cf. dos Santos, dos Santos, da Silva, 2018).

The Portrayal of Synaesthesia in Jasper Wishart

Jasper Wishart does not only suffer from autism but he also inherits synaesthesia from his mother. Synaesthesia is a condition which person experiences sensation in one sense is being stimulated but feels one more additional sense (Baron-Cohen & Harrison, 1997). The type of synaesthesia that Jasper has is constitutional synaesthesia or strong synaesthesia in which a person feels the issue of synaesthesia everyday in their live. Jasper suffers strong synaesthesia which makes him feel and see colours everyday in his life when he hear sounds. Jasper does not only hear the sounds but also see the colour of the

sounds. This condition makes life harder for him because he is not able to recognize people face but only by the colour of their sounds or voice. This condition also makes his relationship with his father not getting any better because his father hardly understands him.

“number four’s carrot orange and sneaky!’ I said. ‘It can’t go on top of dusky pink and friendly number six. They don’t even remotely belong together’ how can you not know that by now? I want to add: why can you see what I see ? there was no point, there never is. Dad’s blind a lot of things, particularly about me. When I was a little it was always mum who understood my colours” (Harris, 2018: 4).

In this situation Jasper is in the police office after the interview with the detectives. Before they get home his father arranges the paintings that the police want for the evidence or even clue about the murderer. When his father arranges it and puts it in his car boot, Jasper is angry because his father puts the paintings in a wrong composition. He is angry and shouts at his father because he does not understand how to put or arrange them properly and even think why his father cannot see what he is able to see. Jasper only paints the colours of the voice and sounds therefore it seems abstract for other people but only him could see the colours of it. This makes him uncomfortable with his dad because he does not understand him properly. His synaesthesia makes his relationship with his father harder.

“I’m glad I’m not like most other teenage boys because I get to see the world in it’s full multi-coloured glory. I can’t tell people’s faces apart, but I see the colour of sounds and that is so much better” (Harris, 2018: 6).

Jasper cannot see the faces of people because when he talks to them he only sees the colours that they make from their mouths. The sounds that people make when they talk are things that he uses to recognize people that he remembers people not by their face but by the colours of theirs sounds and voices.

“... focus on a person’s face and make eye contact otherwise you’ll look shift. If this too difficult, fake eye contact by starring above a person’s eyebrows“ (Harris, 2018: 9).

This request is very easy for a normal person but for Jasper this request is too much because when he tries to focus on the person’s eye he will get distracted by the colours of the voice that the person make. Trying to look above the eyebrows is also difficult for him because when a person speaks, Jasper will only see colours and sounds without noticing their faces.

“Yes, but perhaps the police officer who had grey-white whispers can come back? He seemed to get me. I don’t want Richard Chamberlain like the actor. I want the first detective from the waiting room silence. People say silence is golden. They’re wrong. It’s no colour at all. Rusty chrome orange speaks

again ‘that was me Jasper in the waiting room. You talked to me about colours’ (Harris, 2018: 11).

Jasper’s difficulty to understand and recognize people’s face is very bad. This is happened when he gets called by the police to the office for the second time. He waits in the waiting room and suddenly a detective comes to him and having conversation with him. He feels the detective’s colour is nice so he gets comfortable with him. He tells him about his colour and the parakeet. He builds trust in this detective and likes him even more when the detective listens to Jasper about the parakeet. After few minutes the detective leaves him and Jasper directly goes to interrogation room. There he meets Richard Chamberlain, the first detective that he meets previously when he attends the first interrogation.

He hates Richard Chamberlain because the colours of the voice and also the way he talks and asking him questions. Jasper names Richard as “Rusty Chrome Orange” (Harris, 2018: 11) because he hates orange and in his eyes this detective’s voice is orange. When Richard Chamberlain starts asking Jasper with some questions he gets uncomfortable and asks for changing the detective with the one that he meets in the waiting room. The detectives in the waiting room that he meets is actually Richard Chamberlain or Rusty Chrome Orange. When Jasper is in the waiting room there are a lot of people talking and making conversation, therefore he hears so many voices and sees so many colours then Richard Chamberlain’s voice is just blend with the other causing another voice until Jasper cannot see the true colours of the detective’s voice anymore. When he is in the interrogation room, the room is quiet so that is why he can see the detective’s voice and see the colour of it clearly.

“Dad’s muddy ochre voice says to richard chamberlain’ he does not recognize me if I turn up at his school unexpectedly’ He’s right I don’t remember dad’s face, Richard Chamberlain’s face” (Harris, 2018: 12).

The face blindness is not only felt for a person that he just meet or stranger, even when his dad comes to his school unexpectedly Jasper will not recognize him because he only sees voice. When people around him are quiet, he still can see their face but hardly remember how their faces look like. This is the proof that the closeness with Jasper does not affect the recognition of face by him. Richard Chamberlain is a stranger because Jasper only meets him twice but his dad has lived with him for a long time. They spend time together, only Jasper with his father but Jasper still fails to remember his face.

“I watched the light pink, almost translucent ribbons of high speed trains speeding past. The railway line was behind a fence close to the playground ... I looked to tell Nan i wanted to go home, but couldn’t find her. A group of five woman huddled to my right and three to my left. Three stood separately, studying their phones. I didn’t recognize any of them. ‘nan!’ I yelled. Where are you?’’Help! Help me! Where are you?’ ... A woman wheezed raspberry mousse zigzags as she knelt down besides me. ‘I’m here, Jasper. It’s Nan. Did you trip over?’” (Harris, 2018: 114-115).

Jasper cannot recognize people's faces properly. This situation happens in the park where there are so many unfamiliar faces or even voices that Jasper never see or hear before. He is brought there by her nan because she thinks that Jasper's father needs time to relax and time to think by himself. When he is brought to the park his nan suggests him to play with other boys. But Jasper refuses it and goes to other direction near the railway fence where he is used to hang out with his mom and hear the sounds and also the colours of the trains speeding by. After a few minute there he wants to go home and tries to find his nan who is near with him.

The park is not very far from his house and it is also not a very big park. He turns over and looks for his grandma. He tries to recognize the colours of women's voices near him but he does not know them and start to be panic when he thinks that he has loss his nan who actually stands near him. His nan passes few people to get him. Because of the inability to recognize people faces it makes him to find difficulties in public situation. He cannot differentiate who the person he goes with because in public situation there are so many voices and sounds. Jasper will see a lot of faces with the colours on it and make him worried or stressed. The difficulties are not merely found in the strange places or new places but also when he is in the school he gets the same problem.

“Row 1, seat 3: Susan taylor, dome-shaped skull,shoulder-length blonde hair. Row 2, seat 4: Isaiah hadad, acne scars on back of neck, short, black hair. Row 3, seat 1: Gemma coben, dandruff on blazer, greasy, mousy blonde hair. Row 3, seat 2: Aar chandhoke, grey turban. Row 3 seat 3: Jeanne boucher, black cornrows ... I can't remember what they look like I haven't been able to memorize their heads from this position (Harris, 2018: 58).

Jasper has to discover a new way that he creates himself to recognize people's faces in his school. Synaesthesia does not only take his happiness with his father but also make his life harder in the school with his difficulties to recognize people's faces. He has to adapt or create a new way that is difference with other children to recognize his friends. He has a new way to recognize his friends by sitting at the back row and when he does not look at their face, It will get easier for him to see the back of his friends and remember the names by recognizing the back of his friend's bodies.

When he wants to remember a girl he has to look at the color of her hair and how her skull are shaped from the back of the girl's head. Because when he sees her face it will get so hard to recognize. It is also happened when they speak in the class or writing using pen or pencil, he will not be able to see their face because the colour of the writing sounds has covered their face in Jasper's eyes. By understanding the back body of his friends he can look from the body characteristic of his friends to remember their names but still hard for him when they talk because Jasper will not recognize them. The synaesthesia that he has make him unable to remember and recognize his friends or even the face of the

teacher. He recognizes the teacher by judging the subject that they teach to. (cf. Aras, 2014).

The Portrayal of Defense Mechanism in Jasper Wishart

There are two defense mechanisms that Jasper use through the story. The defense mechanisms that he use are repression and regression. He often uses both of them to sort all the things happened around him to be more an acceptable situation. Although he is an autistic boy he uses the same defense mechanism as normal human being but he does it in his own way. His defense mechanisms are included colours that he sees from his synaesthesia and also autism. His defense arises and is affected by both issues that he has. To certain defense mechanism he uses his colour to defend himself. His ability to see colours also gives him strong defense to himself to cope up with his condition. The defense mechanisms that he use are repression and regression. Both types of defense mechanism are used by him daily throughout his life to sort out unacceptable condition and shelter him from it.

Repression

Repression is an unconscious form of protection used by the ego to avoid destructive thoughts aware of them or to inhibit them. (Freud, 1997). Jasper Wishart uses this kind of defense mechanism to shelter himself from the thoughts and the colour of the murder that he believes he does. Jasper wants to forget and force himself in forgetting the colour of Bee Larkham because the colours are terrible. He does not remember the face or event that he has been through but he remembers every colour that he sees. Almost all of defense mechanisms he uses are always related with colours.

“I close my eyes at night the pallete becomes even more vivid more brutal. That is because I can’t stop seeing the colour of murder” (Harris, 2018: 6).

The way Jasper remembers certain events and maybe a person is by seeing the colours of their sounds. Even in his defense mechanism he tries to forget the colours that he sees in the night when he thinks that Bee Larkham get murdered. The situation above happens in the police office when Jasper is interviewed by the police. At first his father wants him to keep silent and tell the police the statements that his father has prepared for him in order to save him. Because his father is understood that his son is innocent but he has no proof to say that. In the police office one of the detectives wants him to remember the murder all over again, but Jasper wants to forget all about that because he wants to obey his dad. At this point he tries to forget the colours that he sees that night and tries to forget the colours in that day. This defense he uses is not only to obey his father but also to sort all the things that happens around him that he can handle although the defense is not very successful but it can calm him for a while. The repression that he applies is by forcing himself to forget the colours of the murder. He does this several times even when he goes home.

The reflection of the repression that Jasper shows is when he goes to his house and tries to forger and force his mind to not remember the colours that pops up in his mind. “I screw my eyes tightly shut and curl a ball beneath the seat belt”

(Harris, 2018:21). On his way to his home he also tries to forget the colours of it. He is with his father in the car after the interview. The session with the police makes his condition even worse because after the interviews he cannot even forget it even more because in the police office the detectives force him to remember the scene and face that he might see in the night. Jasper keeps going with his story about the parakeet and the colours.

The repression that he practices does not end in there, he also practices it when he meets Bee Larkham's ex-boyfriend and Bee's ex-boyfriend asks him about how the interview goes on. The reason why he closes his eyes whenever he wants to forget about the colours of Bee Larkham murder, because Jasper is suffered from synaesthesia which means he sees colours and he only remembers colours. When he wants to forget about all of the colours that he knows he closes his eyes to prevent the colours appear in his eyes.

“I need to hold on. I have to focus on the colour I love most in the world: cobalt blue” (Harris, 2018: 19).

He represses all kinds of bad conditions that he feels by pushing the colour of his mother into his mind to forget all the things that he sees and faces in reality. When he can see the colour of cobalt blue which belongs to his mum's voice he feels safe and calm. He does not only try to forget about the colours but he even prevents the memories in the police office to come into his mind again.

“... just don't tell the police the truth about the letters or the time you ...’ He stops. I can't look at him I don't want to think about that” (Harris, 2018: 71).

He always tries to forget the scene of the murder eventhough it is impossible for him to forget about it, but still he wants to try it to make him calmer. Because when he remembers the colour he feels terrible about himself and the colours become so vivid in his mind every time he close his eyes. The colours appear not in his eyes but he has them in his mind.

“I need to get rid of the picture in my head the baby inside bee Larkham's tummy, the baby I killed when I killed Bee Larkham. I'd murdered two people that day.” (Harris, 2018: 74).

The picture that he has in this part comes from his imagination. Therefore he can see the picture of a baby. In the night that Jasper thinks he has killed Bee Larkham, she is pregnant. Jasper can notice it because he sees that her tummy gets bigger. He tries to forget this thing because it makes him guilty and feel that he has made completely big mistake that able to make him go to the prison. Jasper repression is very clearly seen from the way he tries to forget about the colours in Friday night, the day of Bee Larkham's death with her pregnant condition. He uses the same defense mechanism but using difference object. If normal human being uses repression to forget uncomfortable conditions or events, while he tries to forget events and sort any uncomfortable situations by forcing himself to forget the colours in his mind. (cf. dos Santos, dos Santos, da Silva, 2018).

Regression

Regression is backward psychological movement. It is a movement back in psychological time when one is faced with stress. When we are troubled or frightened, our behaviors often become more childish or primitive (Freud 1997: 8). Jasper practices regression by remembering his mum and also pretending that she is there for him. The reason why his mum is the only person that can calm him, because she is the only one who can understand his colours above everyone. They share the same condition and feelings through times that is why every time he is in trouble, the memories with his mum always help him so well to cope up with everything that he deals with.

Jasper primary tool to performs regression is on his mother's cardigan button "I rubbed the buttons on mum's cardigan until I felt calmer." (Harris, 2018: 3) Jasper brings the button of his mum's cardigan everywhere he goes because this is the only thing that is able to make him calm. The memories with his mum make him feel that he is still a child that is being loved and understood well by his mother. By rubbing the button that he takes from his mum's cardigan, it makes him feel that his mum is there for him and he feels that he is happy to be a child again without any problems that he has to know. The rubbing also gives him calmness because when he is with his mum she spoils Jasper by giving to Jasper anything that he wants. By rubbing the button he feels to hope his mother will also fulfil his wish to get out from every problem that he feels in his life.

"... want her cardigan. I forgot to bring one of the buttons to rub because I was concentrating on making sure my boxes were correctly ordered" (Harris, 2018: 19).

The cardigan is like a very powerful thing that Jasper uses it to make him feel good. The cardigan of his mother brings the sense of happiness and also the warmness of his mum's hug and cares. He cannot or hardly survive in one or more uncomfortable condition if he does not bring the button of her mum's cardigan or even the cardigan itself. The second thing that can possibly make Jasper happy and calm is parakeets.

Jasper's love of parakeets is overwhelming in the very uncomfortable condition that he tries to act like one of those birds and imagines to fly from the uncomfortable situation. "Concentrate. Act normal. don't flap your arms like parakeets" (Harris, 2018: 70). The second thing that can make him feel better is the parakeet. He love parakeets through his all entire life. He loves these birds because he enjoys the colours of the birds and they make him feel better and calmer. He uses to act like a parakeet bird when he gets into problem. In his mind he thinks that when he flaps his hand he will fly like parakeet and run from every problem that he has. But this method somehow is not as good as surrounding himself with his mum's cardigan because that is the most powerful thing that can make him feel better.

"I close my eyes and wrap my mum's cardigan around me and pretend she's lying next to me, talking about the colours and shapes she sees when she listens to classical music alone at night while dad's away" (Harris, 2018: 74).

In the situation above that is the only thing that is powerful to make him forget the problems. By wrapping himself with his mother's cardigan, he pretends that she is next to him. The problem appears when he does not bring any of his mother belongings, he will lose his control and start panicking. The only way to make him calm is by this way because his mum is the only one who could calm him.

"I'm holding my button: I didn't drop it when I fell. I turn the corner into Vincent Gardens and spot it immediately: the police car parked outside Bee Larkham's house" (Harris, 2018: 75).

Holding his mum button in very hard condition is the way that makes him survive. The defense mechanism that he practices are always included touching, rubbing and wrapping himself with his mother's belongings. This ways make him feel like a child again and bring himself to come back to the time when his mother there talking to him as if he is a child. He wants to be there again to be a child and not becoming a teenager in which he gets a lot of problems. There is also one place that he loves so much when he has to remember his mum, that is by entering his bedroom because in that place where his mum used to talk about the colours and sounds that they hear and see.

"I'm back in my den, entrance sealed shut by the forget me-not blue blanket, clutching mum's cardigan. It was a terrible mistake to leave my safe place ..." (Harris, 2018: 92).

The favorite place where he has to forget and calm himself to remember and wrap himself into his mum's cardigan is in his bedroom. This place is very safe to Jasper, by entering the bedroom he feels that he sees and feels his mother presence. He acts as if he is a child and tells the cardigan all the stories and problems that he has and he faces. Wrapping himself into the cardigan and rubbing the button are the ways Jasper practice the regression on defense mechanism. The regression that Jasper shows is very clear because he has done several actions and oddities when he has to face problems.

The oddity or certain action that he shows bring him back to the past when all the good things happened and he does this to settle and sort all the uncomfortable impulses that he gets from every problem in his life. He performs the defense mechanism with the help of his mum's belongings and acting like parakeets to reduce the intense situation around him. Although Jasper is autistic boy he can perform the defense mechanism like other people in his own way. (cf. dos Santos, dos Santos, da Silva, 2018).

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this thesis is even though Jasper Wishart has lack of recognizing people's faces but he sees colours because of his synesthetic condition, moreover that he suffers autism, incapability to communicate but he still be able to perform defense mechanism. Although it is different with other human being, but the defense mechanism that he shows is very clear. The

difference of defense mechanism that he uses is only on his using of colours that he sees. The repression that he practices is mainly about forgetting the colour of event of the murder and the regression that he practices is by recalling the cobalt blue colour or the memories that he has with his mother to overcome or calm him in hard situation.

Jasper performs regression by rubbing his mother's cardigan button and imagine as if he is a child and remembering the colours of his mother's voice. This way makes him less stress and calm. In all occasion the best way to regress any threats or uncomfortable condition is by rubbing and act like a child who plays with his mother. He also performs repression in his own way. He cannot remember faces but he does remember the colours of the voice. So Jasper represses any wrong or uncomfortable feelings by forgetting the colour that he has seen and made him feel uncomfortable. The kinds of defense mechanisms that he perform are common, they become different on how he uses it. (cf. Fokkema, & Ibsch, 1995).

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