CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Nowadays movie has become a very interesting work of entertainment world. Everyone enjoy watching movie and it also has become the part of our entertainment life. Compared to literature works which are printed such as novel and short story, people prefers to watch movie because they can see pictures, scenes, setting and characters in it. Appearance of kinds of movies now is as comedy, drama, horror, mystery, true story-movie, cartoon, etc.

Since movies are also literature works -because it has the elements of plays such as characters, setting, plot etc, and it is related to literature- this thesis will analyze the thriller movie *"From Hell"* using Psychology theory. The kind of movie that I would like to analyze is a horror movie. The scenes are loaded with crime, intrigues, and violence. The film was made in 2001, a production of 20th Century Fox, USA, directed by the Hughes brother, and based on a true story.

The movie has the same setting with its history in London 1888. Jack the Ripper who plays a figure of heartless killer had become the biggest mystery worldwide of being the world first serial killer. The history of mankind is littered with human monster, a heartless killer. Many suspects had been arrested but not a single evidence is strong enough to discover who the real Jack the Ripper was. He murdered six

prostitutes, dismembered them, ate their organs and drank their blood. For all that he has done, as far as we know Jack the Ripper never paid for his crimes.

During autumn months of 1888 in the East End of London, Whitechapel district became the place where horrifying murders of six women happened. The case was typically referring to a psychopathic and madness behavior of a well-educated man, who called himself as Jack the Ripper. He brutally kills the women and did operation on them and lifts their abdomen organs afterward. Then, he left the bodies on public streets and cause massive hysteria. From the way he killed those ladies and the way he treated him, there is an impression which the conspiracy to protect the royal family of England had become a horrible event. Jack the ripper had over the boundary and turned into a figure of heartless serial killer. These murders indicate that this man adapts personality disorders.

Personality disorders form a class of mental disorders. A specialist in criminal psychology can often show how factors such as personality disorders or childhood trauma can drive the offender to react violently. Madness and irrationality of Sir William Gull as Jack the Ripper were found out as a form of extreme obsession to keep his honor position as Queen Victoria's trusted people. These kinds of mental illnesses are related and influenced to Jack the Ripper as the sufferer of personality disorder. The psychopathic acting of Sir William Gull may evolve as the variety of his persistence sense of guilt of not being a capable doctor anymore. The comment about a psychopath not being able to plan and a serial murderer is false. Psychopath has the antisocial behavior- one of personality disorder kind. He may or may not commit murder, but most likely commits some type of crime. Psychopaths are completely having the power to

plan serial murders, which for some cases they also kill spontaneously for some reason-uncontrollable impulse, psychosis, etc. There are many problems that we can find in learning psychology or personality disorder in details. The characteristics, the symptoms, the effects, the sufferers, and the most interesting part are their behavior, which often lead to criminality.

The writer feels interested in analyzing this movie because the topic is very unique. Besides analyzing the psychopathic and madness characteristics of Jack the Ripper in this movie, I also analyze the factors which made Sir William Gull as a great doctor to Jack the Ripper, the cool blood killer. The background story behind this serial murder which is a conspiracy and an obsession of Gull about his work are the main factors of this personality changing.

The writer find this movie is worth analyzing because it is based on a true story and it has psychological elements, which are psychopathic and madness to become the analysis theme. The writer will use psychology approach in the third chapter. Theory of madness is introduced by a fame France philosopher Paul-Michel Foucault, theories of psychology and personality by three experts Erik Erikson, Carl Rogers and George Kelly. Pictures will be shown to support this analysis in order to give clearer description and information about the movie.

1.2. Statement of Problem

The problems can be seen on:

1. What are the characteristics of a psychopath and mad person?

2. What is the relationship between extreme obsessions and psychopathic attitudes?

1.3. Scope and Limitation

The writer chooses movie entitled "*From Hell"* as the thesis subject, and focused only to the story which has psychopathic and madness elements in the movie. This paper limitation focuses on personality disorder and madness characteristics of the main character. The scope involves psychological analysis in the movie.

1.4. Goals and Functions

The primary objectives of this paper are:

1. To explore the psychopathic and madness characteristics further.
2. To explain the relations between the causes and effects of psychopathic acting out

The function of this thesis is to help readers to be more open-minded about psychological disorder and insanity and the sensible explanations related to their attitude.

1.5 Methodology Research.

In writing this thesis, the writer used some theories to base the analyses in chapter three. These theories were found from some library research and internet sources.

To find those suitable theories, the writers watched the movie repeatedly and try to understand which part needs to be supported with psychological theory. And then the writer did some library researches, which are about finding and learning data of psychological structure of human being and the development connected to psychological

analysis. The writer find the data by reading, copying, comparing and selecting books related to the elements of madness in the movie. After selecting the related theories, the writer compiled and paraphrased them into theories in chapter two. And the writer uses these theories in analyzing the psychopathic and madness characteristics of serial murder of *'From Hell'* in chapter three.

The libraries that the writer visited were library of Bina Nusantara University, Pusat Kajian Bahasa of Atmajaya University, and library of Atmajaya University. The writer also visited the British Council in searching some information related to the true serial murder history in London.

For additional data which cannot be found in books, the writer searched them by browsing to internet sources regularly until this thesis is completed.