

EGGSY'S DEFENSE MECHANISM IN MATTHEW VAUGHN'S KINGSMAN:

THE SECRET SERVICE MOVIE SCRIPT

WAHYU DWI HARIANTO
dwiwahyuyanto@gmail.com
ANICLETA YULIASTUTI
anicleta.yuliasuti@unitimo.ac.id

This research focuses on Eggy's Defense mechanism in Matthew Vaughn's *King's Man: The Secret Service*. The purpose of this research is to find out Eggy's defense mechanism, the causal factors, and the effects of Eggy's defense mechanism. In this study, the theory used is Freud's theory and the research method used is a descriptive qualitative research design. The result of this study shows that The portrayal of Eggy's defense mechanism are denial, reaction formation, and intellectualization. There are for data in denial, 4 data in reaction formation, and three data in intellectualization. The causal factor of Eggy's defence mechanisms is agreement with one data. The effect of Eggy's defense mechanism on himself is that his action leads him to meet someone who changes all of his life's point of view and sees through his potential and this person believes he can change the world to a better place study and the effect of Eggy's defense mechanism toward his mother is that After Eggy successfully saves the world and has a good life, Eggy comes back to his mother to free her from Dean'

Keywords: *Defense Mechanism, Kingsman: The Secret Service.*

A. INTRODUCTION

A defense mechanism is any group of mental processes that enables the mind to reach compromise solutions to conflicts that are unable to resolve. The process is usually unconscious, and the compromise generally involves concealing from oneself internal drives or feelings that threaten to lower self-esteem or provoke anxiety. The concept is derived from the psychoanalytic hypothesis that there are forces in the mind that oppose and battle against each other. Sigmund Freud in the book [*The Neo-Psychoses of Defense*](#) states that "Defense is an unconscious psychological mechanism that reduces anxiety arising from unacceptable or potentially harmful stimuli" (Freud 1894:45).

Self-defense mechanism is one way for some individuals to reduce feelings of depression, anxiety, stress, or conflict to face a conscious or unconscious. According to Sigmund Freud: such defense mechanisms are put into operation whenever anxiety signals a danger that not acceptable original impulses may reemerge (Berteens, 1986). One of the unconscious activities of the Ego in psychoanalysis are run by defense mechanism. The ego is a duty for maintaining its personality and ensuring the compatibility with the surrounding environment, as well as to resolve conflicts with reality and conflicts between desires that do not match each other. In psychoanalytic theory, a defense mechanism (American English: Defense Mechanism), is an unconscious psychological operation that functions to protect a person from anxiety-producing thoughts and feelings related to internal conflicts and outer stressors.

Defense mechanisms may result in healthy or unhealthy consequences depending on the circumstances and frequency with which the mechanism is used. A defense mechanism is a psychological strategy brought into play by the unconscious mind to manipulate, deny, or distort reality to defend against feelings of anxiety and unacceptable impulses and to maintain one's self-schema or other schemas.

Sigmund Freud argues that when placed in a psychologically dangerous or threatening situation, the patient was likely to resort to defense mechanisms for protection. In a psychoanalytic context, a dangerous threat is something that challenges the patient's self-concept or self-esteem (Baumeister, Dale, & Sommer, 1998). Freud states that the theory by shifting the focus toward self-esteem preservation. Specifically, he posits that when the patient's self-esteem and self-image were challenged or threatened, they would rely on certain cognitive or mental strategies to protect their self-esteem (Baumeister et al., 1998).

Dealing with the movie, It is interested in analyzing the defense mechanism of the main character whose name is Eggsy because it can understand Eggsy's defense mechanism as a secret service. As a man, it is not easy for Eggsy as an agent of the secret service to keep their identity a secret, He carries out a mission in the secret service and his life.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This study applies a qualitative research and descriptive analysis method. the source of data is taken from the text movie script of *The Kingsman: The secret service*. Written by Matthew Vaughn- The technique of data collecting is close reading and The technique of data analysis is deductive and inductive technique of writing. (garis garisnya dihapus nggih)

C. DISCUSSION AND FINDING

In this part, the researchers would like to answer the problems. They are Eggsy's defense mechanism,, the causal factors and the effects of Eggsy's Defense mechanism. The detailed analysis can be seen below:

a. Eggsy's Defense Mechanism

1. Denial

Eggsy conducts a denial defense mechanism as seen in some data.

Data 1

Harry: Doesn't explain why you give up your hobbies. First prize in regional under 10s gymnastics two years in a row. Your coach had you pegged as Olympic team martial.

Eggsy: Yeah. Well when you grow up around someone like my stepdad, you pick up new hobbies pretty quickly. (Matthew Vaughn : 2015)

The quotation above shows that Eggsy experiences denial. It is because Eggsy becomes athletics gymnastic, but their stepfather's bad attitude will affect Eggsy's life. He has a high IQ, great physical condition and easily gets a job around here but Eggsy

didn't have a job around here. It can be proven by the quotation below as the third proof of Eggsy's denial.

Data 2

Harry: Huge IQ, great performance at primary school and it all went tits up
Drugs petty crime, never had a job.

Eggsy: Oh, you think there 's a lot of jobs going around here, do you?

(**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

It means that he has a high IQ and great physical condition and easily gets a job but he says that he does not find any job. It is because he does not try to look for it. It proves that Eggsy does a denial. It is due to the fact that Eggsy asks about his father to Harry, Harry answers his question and Eggsy said is not Answer. It can be proven by the quotation:

Data 3

Eggsy: But my dad save your life, yeah?

Harry: The day you died, missed something. And if it weren't for his courage, my mistake would have cost the lives of every man present. So I owe him. Your father brave man. A good and Having read your files, I think he'd be bitterly disappointed in the choices you've made. Eggsy: you can't talk to me like that.

(**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

He said Harry does not answer his question, Eggsy didn't his Father because when he was five years old father died. He disguises himself as Chester king to get into Valentine's headquarters, to fail the plan Valentine and save the world. It is seen in the following quotation:

Data 4

Merlin: Eggsy were on (Eggsy gets off the plane and hands his phone to Valentine's assistant)

Eggsy: Chester King.

Assistant: Mr. King. Welcome, I'm sure you have adhered to Valentine's strict no- weapons policy, but if you don't object.

To thwart the mission of destroying half of humanity on this earth is Valentine's plan, Eggsy must disguise himself as Chester King (chairman

of Kingsman), and Eggsy succeeds to sneak into Valentine's headquarters and he saves the world.(**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**

2. Reaction Formation

When Rottweiler is trying to chase away Eggsy and his friends. Eggsy politely asks for an apology from Rottweiler which is contradictory to his feeling and his friends as shown in the following quotation:

Data 1

Rottweiler: You boys have overstayed your welcome. Leave.

[suddenly Eggsy stands and Ryan and Jamal leave]

Rottweiler: What?

Eggsy: I'm sorry about that, bruv

[he turns and starts to leave]

Rottweiler: Yeah. Mug.

Ryan [referring to Dean's thugs as they walk out of the pub]: They weren't fucking worth it, boys.

Eggsy: It's freezing. Why are we walking?

[he holds up car keys]

Jamal: You jacked his fucking car keys, bruv?

Eggsy: Yeah. Now we're gonna nick his car (**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

The conversation above shows that Rottweiler is displeased with Eggsy, Eggsy tries to ask for an apology to him but Eggsy does that because of another reason. He does that so that he could steal Rottweiler's car key without being noticed and take revenge on Rottweiler by taking his car.

Eggsy's defense mechanism is also shown by his reaction formation by changing all of his personality, starting by leaving his hobbies of gymnastics, leaving his military training, and start doing bad things like petty crime, being a jobless person, and taking drugs. His main reason for that action is because his mother does not want Eggsy to end the same fate as his father as portrayed in the following quotation:

Data 2

Harry: Of course, Always someone else's fault. Who's to blame for you quitting the marine? You, are halfway through training Doing the military but you give up.

Eggsy: Because my mum went mental. Banging on about losing me as well as my dad. Didn't want me being cannot fodder for snobs like you! Judging people like me from your ivory tower with no thought about why we do, what we do. We ain't got much choice. Do you get me? And if we was born with the same silver spoon up our arses, we'd do just as well as you. If not better (**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

It shows that Eggsy starts leaving his hobbies of gymnastics, leaving his military training, and start doing bad things like petty crime, and being jobless.

Eggsy's reaction formation is seen when his Mom is insulted by the act of Eggsy's friend. It is portrayed in the following quotation:

Data 3

Ryan If Dean treats your mum so badly, why doesn't she leave him?

Jamal: Low self-esteem, that's his problem.

Ryan: fuck of f, why would she have low self-esteem? Eggsy's mum is well-fit (Ryan and Jamal laugh)

Eggsy's; It's all right. One of these days, I'm gonna smash face in.

It is seen that Eggsy is doing reaction formation because his mother has low self-esteem. Eggsy pretty much cares about his mother but he does not do well with the dean (Michelle's boyfriend). It is because Dean treats Eggsy's mother so badly. **Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

It means that he wants to continue the struggle for Harry to fail Valentine's Plan and save the world. It is the following quotation:

Data 4

Chester (over speaker): Sadly, I am. Assemble the Kingsman. (back at Harry's place, still, in shock Eggsy remembers Harry's words to him)

Harry: Can't you see that everything I've done has been about trying to repay him? (Eggsy pours himself a drink and sits down as he continues to remember Harry's words).

Harry: I see a young man with potential, who wants to do something good in his life. (**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

Based on the quotation above, it is seen that Eggsy is doing reaction formation after witnessing Harry's death, Eggsy has an idea join to King'sman and fail Valentine's plan that wants to wipe out half of humanity from the earth.

3. Intellectualization

When Eggsy is inside a room where water fills out their bedroom and they must find a way out, to escape the water chamber Eggsy breaks the window to save them. by analyzing their clue. As shown in this quotation:

Data 1

“Eggsy’s: Hey hang about, what’s wrong with fucking door? (Eggsy swims over to the door and tries to open it but fails, he then swims to the mirror on the opposite side of the room and smashes it, releasing the water into the next room where Merlin was overseeing them)”.

we can see that while everyone trying to escape through the door, Eggsy finds there is a mirror inside their room ad it’s pretty odd for him and then he decided to smash it. He was right, there is a room where the Kingsman member is watching them. (**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

Eggsy intellectual when All recruits of King’sman Sky diving one of them has not parachute. Eggsy has an idea to land all recruits in make a circle, holding each other hands and opening the parachute. Is following quotation

Data 2

Eggsy: we pull our cords one by one! When we know who’s fucked, the person on there grabs them.

Roxy: Okay, Eggsy

Merlin: Good plan. Eggsy, you have 30 seconds come on now, Hurry. (**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

Eggsy shows intellectual even though he is in a dangerous position but he has an idea to save himself and other recruitment, whereas other recruitment panic and have no idea.

Eggsy intellectual when he knows the chairman of Kingsman has become an artificial human Who's is the idea of Valentine that has planned to wipe out half of humanity? of the earth. Whereas members of King'sman do not know it. It is the following quotation:

Data 3

Eggsy; Kingsman taught me a lot, but sleight of hand..(we as Eggsy distracted Chester Earlier with the paintings behind his back, and he quickly switch their brandy glasses)
Eggsy:... I had down ready.

Chester: You're dirty little fucking... pick(Arthur dies, Eggsy then uses the tip of the pen to cut the SIM out at the same time Eggsy sees the message on Arthur's phone showing Valentine starting the countdown to when he will active the SIM Card around the world). (Matthew Vaughn : 2015)

Eggsy shows intellectual he knows Chester becomes an artificial human by looking at Chester. Chester neck embedded SIM Card and Eggsy cut SIM out. These SIM Cards can kill humans If SIM Cards will active.

b. The Causes of Defense Mechanism.

The causes of defense mechanism is only agreement. The following is agreement

1. Agreement

Eggsy defense mechanism is caused by Agreement. Eggsy agrees with Harry for doesn't told that he was with Harry last night in the pub. It is proven by the quotation below.

Data 1

Eggsy; No, please, I won't say anything. I swear –if there is one thing I can do it's keep my mouth shut.

Harry: You won't tell a soul?

Eggsy: Ask the Feds, I've never grassed anyone up.

Harry: is that a promise?

Eggsy: On my life (**Matthew Vaughn : 2015**)

According to the quotation above, it can be seen that Eggsy is a defense mechanism because he promised Harry not to tell it.

2. The Effects of Eggsy's Defense Mechanism

The effect of Eggsy's Defence mechanism are on himself and on his mother.

The following is Eggsy's defence mechanism toward himself.

Data 1

Eggsy's defense mechanism can be seen from the start-up to the middle script (movie) where he denies all of his deceased father's inheritance skills in the military and starts causing problems for himself and his mother. Fortunately, his action leads him to meet someone who changes all of his life's point of view and sees through his potential and this person believes he can change the world to a better place.

Data 2. On His Mother

Eggsy's defense mechanism also gives benefit for Michelle as Eggsy's mother, after his husband died on his duty, she gets a new husband named Dean but Dean is rude. She and her son often get beat up by Dean because he is a leader of the Rottweiler group. After Eggsy successfully saves the world and has a good life, Eggsy comes back to his mother to free her from Dean's hand.

D. CONCLUSION

In this study, the researcher gives the conclusion about the analysis which is conducted in the previous chapter. The conclusion is about the portrayal of Eggsy's

defense mechanism, the causes of Eggsy's defense mechanism, and the effects of Eggsy's defense mechanism on himself and his mother.

The portrayal of Eggsy's defense mechanism are denial, reaction formation, and intellectualization. They are seen when he first encounters Harry. After Harry releases Eggsy from the police station and goes to the bar, Eggsy discusses Harry and his father if they are on the same team. Harry says that if his father sees Eggsy's condition, he must be disappointed. Eggsy refuses to admit all of Harry's words and makes an excuse for it.

The cause of Eggsy's defense mechanism is agreement. Before the secret service must be agreed to hide their identity, Eggsy before became a secret service delinquent and stole a car. After that, the influence of Harry also join to Kingsman or Secret service

The Third is the effect of Eggsy's defense mechanism. The effect of Eggsy's defense mechanism on himself and his mother are that After Eggsy successfully saves the world and has a good life, Eggsy comes back to his mother to free her from Dean.

REFERENCES

- [1] Advance Learner's Dictionary.2008.*Oxford University Press*.
- [2] Cherry, K. (2020). *Sublimation in Behavioral Psychology*. Very Well Mind, <https://www.verywellmind.com>.Accessed 15 July 2020
- [3] Freud, Anna. (1948). *The Ego and defense mechanism*. New York: international Univesity Press Inc.
- [4] Maress, B. (2018). 14 *Jenis Mekanisme Pertahanan Diri Paling Umum*. dosenpsikologi.com, <https://dosenpsikologi.com/jenis-mekanisme-pertahanan-diri>. Accessed on 9 may 2018
- [5] McLeod, D. S. (2020). *Defense Mechanisms*. Simply Psychology, <https://www.simplypsychology.org/defense-mechanisms>. Accessed on 10 april 2019
- [6] Parkinson, G. &Drislane, R. (2011). *Qualitative research*. In the online dictionary of the social sciences. Retrieved from <http://bitbucket.icapp.org/dict.pl>
- [7] Speciale, K. (2021). *What Is Regression? Psychology, Definition, And Applications For Your Relationship*. regain, <https://www.regain.us/advice/psychology/what-is-regression-psychology-definition-and-applications-for-your-relationship/>. Accessed on 15 September 2021