

THE CHARACTERISTIC OF SELF-CONSISTENCY IN RACHEL KIM IN JESSICA JUNG *SHINE*

Difa Amanda Putri

divamanda9@gmail.com

Cahyaningsih Pujimahanani, S.S., M.Si.

cahyaningsih.pujimahanani@unitomo.ac.id

Abstract

The research title is The Characteristics of self-consistency in Rachel Kim in Jessica Jung *Shine*. The study aims to find out the portrayal of self-consistency in Rachel Kim. Using a descriptive method, the thesis writer uses a qualitative approach to analyze self-consistency in Rachel Kim and obtain the data from the novel. The theory used for the characteristics of self-consistency is by Prescott Lecky. The thesis results are: 1) Rachel Kim shows self-consistency characteristics, which are self-enhancement, self-esteem, and self-evaluation.

Keywords : Jessica Jung, Rachel Kim, Self-consistency, Shine

A. INTRODUCTION

In this world, every human being has a personality. Each human being only has one personality. However it has many identities. Personality and identity are a unity. The change of identity influences from individual's experience, it could be from how many individual's meet people and get the experience not only from one person. The multiplicity of unconsciously changing identities in each human being influences every action and thought of the person. Sherman (1994) in Robert A Baron and Don Byrne (2003: 162-163) state that everyone tries to from a social identity which is a form of self-representation that can help conceptualize and evaluate themselves to know the difference between themselves and other.

According to Lecky, 1961, The self-consistency theory predicted various cognitive-phenomenological theories of personality and continues to be applicable to modern personality and clinical psychologists. Unfortunately, Lecky provided less information regarding the structure, processes, and personality development.

Self-enhancement tends to be weaker in a collectivist culture. It does not serve as a motivating factor for interdependent self-system. In order for the desired trait to fit in to an

individual's profile, people tend to choose the important characteristics that is needed to be fit in their own specific characteristic (Kurman, 2002). Those three modesties are used to strengthen identities by re-examining own condition towards common sense of wider communities.

In further analysis of human self-consistency, self-esteem may become an indicator to emphasize in-depth understanding of human mind. There are always motivational elements that underlies someone's behavior or actions. Self-esteem become a trigger for someone's behavior or action, but somehow it depends on the level or their self-esteem. High self-esteem may increase self-confidence and reduce the chances of being depressed. Initially, it falls into two categories there are 22 enhancing initiative and pleasant feelings as it may increase happiness either (Rosenberg, 1965).

Self-evaluation is a fundamental task of self-regulation. Feedback is needed to understand where someone stands and how they respect someone's goals in life. The lateral social comparisons can be explained on how subject compare themselves to others that probably have similarities with them without calculating their performance to be outperformed or underperformed them (Taylor et al., 2015).

B. RESEARCH METHOD

The researchers take a qualitative approach, in which numerical data and tables are insignificant. The data comes from the *Shine* novel written by Jessica Jung.

C. ANALYSIS

These quotes are from the *Shine* novel written by Jessica Jung, showing the characteristics of Self-consistency throughout the novel. The characteristics include self-enhancement, self-esteem, and self-evaluation.

1. Self- enhancement

Self-enhancement tends to be weaker in a collectivist culture. It does not serve as a motivating factor for interdependent self-system. The level of selfenhancement implies as weak or even absent in those cultures. There are findings that support the line of thinking on how self-

enhancement in collectivist yet modest cultures are lower than the one that is not modest. People's sensitivity of selfenhancement can work as a tool to measure the eminent requirements of modesty.

“Head up, legs crossed. Tummy tucked, shoulders back. Smile like the whole world is your best friend. I repeat the mantra in my head as the camera pans across my face”(Jung, 2020: 5)

She feels nervous when in front of the camera so she convinces herself that the one in front of her is her friend camera. She has a line of encouragement when he appears in front of the camera in an interview session. She convinced herself that the one in front of her was her best friend. She has to behave perfectly to look good on camera because that is a demand from the agency. Because of the demands from the agency, she was able to improve herself.

“The spotlight falls on me. I can just imagine how my splotchy, half-made-up face looks in the glare. But I shove the insecurity aside and plaster a smile on my face, just like I've been trained to do.” (Jung, 2020: 49)

She panicked when the trainers gathered to evaluate the trainees and she convinced herself not to appear weak in front of them. She was worried about her appearance when she was in an interview, she felt that there was something missing in her makeup because of the harsh spotlights which made her insecure, but she remained calm enough to overcome it with a beautiful smile that she had practiced when she was a trainee.

“The room dissolves into giggles as my face areas in anger and embarrassment. I should bite back, but I do not. I never do. I like to pretend it's because I'm taking my mom's advice to heart—you know, be the bigger person, always take the high road, never let them see you sweat, the mantras of strong, American minded feminists everywhere—but the huge lump that's returned to my throat knows that's a lie.” (Jung, 2020: 9-10)

She received insults from her friend but she did not want to reply because she remembered what her mother said. Because she gets other people's talk she does not care about it, according to her it is a motivation so that she remains excited to debut. Whatever other people say that could hinder him, he doesn't care about it, so it increases his self-enchancement.

“Will this be the end for me? Will I get kicked out of the trainee program? I try to tell myself to calm down, that they have to take my past performances into account, but I’m lying to myself.” (Jung,2020: 50)

She thinks bad things but her is still positive thinking that her can debut. Rachel is stressed out because she thinks she might be kicked out of the training program. She tells herself to calm down and thinks about her past achievements to find reasons to be happy. She keeps holding on to the hope that she can launch, even though she has bad thoughts about it. This shows how much she wants to succeed. Rachel is having a rough time right now, but she is trying to stay positive and keep working towards her goal of making it in the entertainment business.

“Do better, Rachel. Get comfortable in front of the camera, Rachel. K-pop stars must be lovable, eloquent, and perfect at all times, Rachel.” (Jung, 2020: 8)

She is convince before preparing to appear for the first time in front of the camera. She convinced her to be even better than her before performance. So she does not want any mistakes to happen on her first day, because being a Kpop star must be multitalented and perfect so as to make herself confident. Rachel tries to be ready and prepare for the interview which requires her to increase her self-enhancement.

2. Self-esteem

In further analysis of human self-consistency, self-esteem may become an indicator to emphasize in-depth understanding of human mind. There are always motivational elements that underlies someone’s behavior or actions. Self-esteem become a trigger for someone’s behavior or action, but somehow it depends on the level or their self-esteem.

“play over and over in my head as my legs go totally numb. I don’t know how I do it, but I somehow manage to walk down the aisle and up to the stage, my knees wobbling like Jell-O, barely registering the cheers that echo across the auditorium.” (Jung,2020: 236)

She successfully debuted as the main vocalist in his group. Rachel Kim has some great news she has been chosen as the lead singer for her group. She is very emotional because this is a big deal for her. As she walks to the stage, her legs go numb and she feels shaky, but the cheers from the crowd make her realise that she is doing well. Rachel has reached a turning point that proves she is made it, even though people had questions before. This success makes her feel better about herself and boosts her confidence.

“The path to get here has turned out to be harder than anything I could’ve ever imagined, but here I am. Despite it all, I made it to my debut moment.” (Jung,2020: 241)

She has struggled and convinced himself that her can get through the difficult trainee period. Rachel Kim talks about how hard it has been to get to her first album release. She says it was even harder than she thought it would be. Even though things have been hard, she's happy to say, "Here I am." "Despite it all" means that she kept going even though things were hard. Rachel is happy that her big moment has come and she says, "I made it." This quote shows how determined she is by recognizing the problems she faces but focusing on how she can get past them and reach her goal. She feels good about herself and her confidence after achieving something.

“Sweat pours down my forehead as I take another swing at the sagging punching bag in front of me. Thud. Mina’s smug smile. Thwack. Umma’s strict rules. Bam. Me, walking away from all those girls in media training instead of standing up for myself. Ugh. I beat them all to a pulp, everything that annoys me, everyone who stands in my way—even me.” (Jung,2020: 21)

She is an anger by playing boxing with a sandbag in her father's gym. Rachel Kim is very angry and upset. She's getting rid of her anger by hitting a punching bag at her dad's gym. The things that are bothering her are a girl named Mina, her mom's strict rules, and a time when she left a fight with other girls. Rachel is mad at herself as well as other people. She is attempting to get rid of all the things that bother her by hitting the punching bag, which includes her own anger. Like a way for her to feel better and handle her feelings. This scene shows that Rachel is having a hard time finding out who she is because of problems inside and outside of herself.

“I straighten up. It’s now or never, Rachel. “Right,” I say slowly.
(Jung,2020: 32)

She gave herself the confidence to choose it. She is confident in what he chooses to do, she made a decision to herself that she had to decide quickly, otherwise she could lose her dream. Rachel couldn't just sit there and think about it for too long, it would make her less confident about moving forward with her debut.

“This is my time to shine. And I won’t let anyone stop me.”
(Jung,2020: 241)

She successfully debuted with satisfactory results. Rachel Kim is very sure of herself and determined about her their debut. She knows that now is her chance to shine and want not let anything or anyone stop her. Her cheerful outlook shows that she has faith in herself and her skills. As for Rachel, she is ready for anything that comes her way and is proud of how well her first attempt went. This moment shows how proud she is of herself and how much she has accomplished.

3. Self-evaluation

Self-evaluation is a fundamental task of self-regulation. Feedback is needed to understand where someone stands and how they respect someone’s goals in life. In order to guide a self-evaluation, there is a self-assessment that can be done to accurately obtain information about an individual. The lateral social comparisons can be explained on how subject compare themselves to others that probably have similarities with them without calculating their performance to be outperformed or underperformed them (Taylor et al., 2015).

“I deliver one last punch and take a few steps back, breathing hard. My ponytail is sticking to the sweat on the back of my neck. If this were DB, I would be embarrassed—trainers hate it when the trainees sweat, even after hours of practice, saying it makes us look unprofessional and sloppy. Plus, most of the girls practice in makeup, and runny mascara is never a good look. But at the boxing gym I revel in the sweat”
(Jung,2020: 21)

She felt annoyed that trainees were not allowed to sweat so she could do boxing freely without any restrictions. Rachel Kim says that she likes working hard and sweating at the boxing gym, but trainees are not allowed to sweat during practice at DB. Rachel does not like it because she likes being able to work out without having to worry about how she looks. She enjoys the sweat and feels more like herself at the boxing school, which is different from DB where she feels limited. Becoming more true to her own values and tastes, Rachel likes a more open and honest approach to training.

“Stung, I draw back. “What? Don’t try to make this about me! Every week you have some new group of girls over here—why don’t you try making some friends that like you for you for once, instead of for the gossip they think you can deliver?” (Jung,2020: 28)

She was offended when the weak one spoke that he told her to pretend to be good. But she doesn't want to be like that, he just wants to be what he is. Rachel Kim is afraid that she will let down Leah, a thirteen-year-old girl. Rachel does not want to let Leah down because she knows how excited she gets about little things. Rachel is thinking about whether to go after her dream of making her debut. She is not sure yet because she wants to be sure she has a good chance of succeeding. Rachel is taking the time to think about her choices because she cares about how they might affect the people around her, especially Leah.

“But I just... don’t want to disappoint them. Especially Leah. She’s only twill—thirteen! —and you know how excited she gets about the smallest things. Let’s just wait a little longer to see if I even have a chance at succeeding.” (Jung,2020: 23)

She wants to prove that at a very young age she can have the opportunity to debut. Rachel Kim is afraid that she will let down Leah, a thirteen-year-old girl. Rachel does not want to let Leah down because she knows how excited she gets about little things. Rachel is thinking about whether to go after her dream of making her debut. She is not sure yet because she wants to be sure she has a good chance of succeeding. Rachel is taking the time to think about her choices because she cares about how they might affect the people around her, especially Leah.

“But where would I be now—where would our family be—if I had given up everything for that dream?” “But that’s exactly what you’re asking me to do—to give up everything I’ve been working for just for some college seminar.” I shove a piece of chicken in my mouth, skin and all. To hell with the extra calories.” (Jung,2020: 31)

She argued with his mother that she should not waste the struggle she had gone through. Rachel Kim and her mother are having a fight about her dream. Rachel does not want to give up her dream for a college course, even though her mom tells her to. She asks them where they would be now if she had not given up everything for her dream and stands up for her hard work. Eating chicken with the skin on, even though it has extra calories, is a sign of her anger and refusal to follow social rules. Rachel refuses to give up on her dream, showing that she want not give in even when her family tries to get her to. This shows how determined she is to stay true to herself and her goals.

D. CONCLUSION

From the previous findings on previous chapter, a conclusion appear that Rachel Kim’s shows self-consistency by these three characteristics self-enhancement, self-esteem, and self-evaluation.

One of the examples of self-enhancement is when Rachel Kim decided to go to South Korea to become an artist. but it wasn't as easy as she thought, she had to be able to sing and dance in a very long time of training. She didn't give up because she had the support of her father and sister but not her mother and that didn't make her give up. She was able to convince himself with the motivational words she made up that she could survive.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- [1] Jung, Jessica. 2020. *Shine*. New York: Simon & Schuter, Inc.
- [2] Lecky, P. 1961. *Self-Consistency: A Theory of Personality*. The Shoe String Press.
- [3] Baron, Robert A., Byne, Don. 2003. *Social Psychology: Undersatnding Human Interaction*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.