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Napoleon's Power Abuse in Animal Farm by George Orwell

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ABSTRACT

The study's goal is to investigate what influences a leader's abuse of power. The study focuses on the main character of the story, Napoleon. The researcher focuses on Napoleon from his acts, speeches, narration, and dialogue that focuses and the implication of power abuse. The Eysenck diagram includes choleric, melancholic, phlegmatic, and sanguine to categorize personality. To help this research further, the researcher uses a qualitative method. The purpose of the qualitative method is to understand the act behind several actions that a character takes, which helps to understand Napoleon as a character. Besides the methods explained before, the researcher also uses the character and characterization methods to understand further what kind of person or animal Napoleon is in terms of his character in the story. The result of this research shows that in abusing power, Napoleon's personality is affected by several "things", but the most favorable option is Napoleon's desire. This research goal is to encourage people not to abuse their power because it will make problems for everyone.

Keywords: Power abuse, Napoleon, personality, leader

ABSTRAK

Tujuan penelitian ini untuk menyelidiki apa yang mempengaruhi penyalahgunaan kekuasaan seorang pemimpin. Penelitian ini berfokus pada tokoh utama cerita, Napoleon. Peneliti berfokus pada Napoleon dari tindakan, cara berbicara, narasi, dan dialog yang fokus serta implikasi dari penyalahgunaan kekuasaan. Diagram Eysenck terdiri dari kolerik, melankolis, apatis, dan sanguinis. Untuk mempermudah penelitian ini lebih lanjut, peneliti menggunakan metode kualitatif. Tujuan metode kualitatif adalah untuk memahami tindakan yang dilakukan oleh karakter, untuk membantu memahami Napoleon sebagai karakter. Selain metode yang sudah dijelaskan sebelumnya, peneliti juga menggunakan metode penokohan lebih dalam agar memahami seperti apakah Napoleon dari segi karakter dalam cerita. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dalam penyalahgunaan kekuasaan, kepribadian Napoleon dipengaruhi oleh beberapa “hal”, namun opsi yang paling memungkinkan adalah keinginan yang dimiliki oleh Napoleon. Tujuan penelitian ini untuk mendorong masyarakat agar tidak menyalahgunakan kekuasaan karena akan menimbulkan masalah

Keywords: Penyalahgunaan kekuasaan, Napoleon, kepribadian, pemimpin

INTRODUCTION

In the present day, people have to face a problem that can affect their future in a company, nation, house, or organization. The problem is, who will lead? They need a leader to guide them. They need a leader to make things work because a leader is important in a company, nation, or even an organization. Besides, the leader itself is a role that everybody wants to be. However, a leader must go through and bear many obstacles, and one of the example is that leader must be adaptive, responsible, and decisive in making choices or decisions (Ryan, 2019). There is another reason why everybody does not want to become a leader. Being a leader is a tough job, and people feel like they do not have the requirements to lead.

On the other hand, what about the leader itself? Is it a gift from birth or not? Leaders are not natural-born; leaders are built through many experiences that they have learned, honed, and nurtured through time. Several qualified researchers argue that they agree with leaders are not natural born. Maxwell (2009) stated that no individual is born with the capability of a leader; that trait is built over time and by experiences. Giulio's research (2014) made a point that there is a possibility that a person yet has individual traits that eventually lead to leadership. Still, leadership can also be learned from people who want to take an interest in it, which means that a leader is born through experience that he or she knew and wants to become one. However, a leader who uses leadership as leverage for personal benefit will likely abuse power in the long run.

Power abuse comes in different forms, places, and times. The object of the study is an allegory novel to criticize the Russian government in that era (Fajrina, 2019). The research explains the connection between the story and real-life events at the era when Joseph Stalin rises to power. Other of abuse of a place can be found in the workplace, usually when a person with higher authority can make other underlings or subordinates feel uncomfortable by bullying or asking for sexual favor, which resulting their work will be inefficient, making their morale go lower that eventually leads to spreading negativity that can give harmful effects (Bhasin, 2019). Things like sexual abuse, negligence, and physical abuse are most common in the workplace and it is happening most of the time. Other than "workplace" it can be in society, groups, news, and many more places. In a case a mayor in Davenport abused parking authority. The news tells that a mayor was caught using a parking space for disabled people by using a deceased person's identity (Chambliss, 2017). The journal titled *The Abuse of Power by "Indonesian Leader"* by Nuah interviewed Basuki Tjahaja Purnama as an intern he learned that people that hate certain leaders want them to fall and ruin the trust between a leader and others.

This study analyzed Napoleon before and after Napoleon became a sole leader. In the story, Napoleon was portrayed as an abusive leader, and believed that Napoleon is portraying Stalin at that time. One studies the object through different points of view, where they focus on the language that leaders used in manipulating the ordinary people of the Soviet Union at that time titled "Abuse Practice of Power in Orwell's Animal Farm: A Historical Approach" (Hasan, 2020) Which tied to Napoleon do the same thing as manipulating the other animals in the story.

METHOD

Qualitative methodology is used in this research, the method aims to understand people as well as the social and cultural contexts in which they live (Myers, 1997), an interpretative approach is to gain context about specific behaviors, social structure, and shared beliefs in a specific group of people. The information will be provided from analyzing Napoleon himself, from the

observations of Napoleon, the story narrative, and his interaction with other people. Since the main focus objective toward Napoleon, the data collection come from Napoleon's action, speeches, utterances, and narration that talked or discussed toward Napoleon, after the researcher read the novel thoroughly and understood how the story goes. Other data collections come from journals, articles, and other sources. Finally, determine whether the data obtained provide an answer to the research question. In analyzing data, the researcher will use Eysenck's diagram to know what kind of personality Napoleon has, what is his personality leaning to which will come from how and what kind of emotion what Napoleon has.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The research's goal is to find factors that cause the leader in the story, which is Napoleon, to become uncontrollable with power and to find evidence that power is abused in the story; as the story goes. Napoleon shows signs of corruption using his leadership skills. In Animal Farm, Napoleon's power abuses are portrayed clearly in the story. The factor contributing to Napoleon's becoming uncontrollable with power is his desire, which also affects his personality as portrayed in the story. Napoleon is a large, fierce-looking Berkshire boar, not much of a talker, but with a reputation for getting his way. It can be interpreted as Napoleon willingly resolving any problem in his way as one of the examples in the story is to eliminate all things that in Napoleon's terms, are a "problem".

NAPOLEON PORTRAYED AS A DICTATORSHIP

Based on the research that Goldman references from Coolidge and Segal research, a dictator-like person has certain personalities that are sadistic, antisocial, paranoid, narcissistic, schizoid, and schizotypal, which are later combined into the "big six" of personality disorders that a dictator has. Napoleon possess four out of six of the "big six" of personalities disorder which is sadistic, antisocial, paranoid, and narcissistic. The way that Napoleon expresses it can be found through story, from the beginning of the revolution until the end. For example, Napoleon expresses his sadistic nature by executing animals because they are collaborating with the farm traitor, Snowball.

> "*And so the tale of confessions and executions went on, until there was a pile of corpses lying before Napoleon's feet and the air was heavy with the smell of blood*" (p. 91).

Meaning demonstrates Napoleon's ruthlessness; Napoleon will not show mercy to animals that betray him. Not only does Napoleon physically punish the animal, but also psychological punishment by instilling fear in the other animals about what will happen if they cross him. The antisocial aspect of Napoleon in the story is he rarely talked toward others, the one who spoke toward the other animals is Squealer, but Napoleon still talked during the weekly debate when both Napoleon and Snowball lead the farm.

> "*Snowball and Napoleon were by far the most active in the debates"* (p.34).

Napoleon's paranoid happening after Snowball's expulsion and Snowball's trace affecting Napoleon's mind that feared Snowball will be back to get revenge so he used other animals to protect him to keep him alive.

> "*a young pig named Pinkeye was given the task of tasting all his food before he ate it, lest it should be poisoned*" (p. 101), "*And using guard dogs to guard him so that Napoleon could not die", "Four dogs guarded his bed at night, one at each corner"* (p. 101).

After the windmill was constructed, Napoleon's narcissistic personality became visible.

> "*Napoleon himself, attended by his dogs and his cockerel, came down to inspect the completed work; he personally congratulated the animals on their achievement, and announced that the mill would be named Napoleon Mill.*" (p. 104).

Napoleon shows these personalities to show the other animals that Napoleon ruled over the farm. The way that he named the windmill is to remind the other animals that it was built under Napoleon's Commands; other things, such as how he protected himself from being assassinated, how he secluded himself from other animals to make the animal believe that he is important, and lastly how he murdered the other animals is to remind all animals who ruled the farm.

NAPOLEON'S CHOLERIC PERSONALITY

To comprehend Napoleon's choleric Personality, the definition of personality must first be established. Personality is the identity of yourself (Padlyalpattani, 2015). It is a psychological system that creates a person's characteristics (Allport, 1961), and is the blend of characteristics that makes a person unique (Weinberg, 2014). Personality is the identity of yourself. The researcher applies Eysenck's personality diagram as a guide to learn about certain personalities based on the dominant emotion of a subject or target of this research. In this case, is Napoleon, Napoleon, has a restless, aggressive, impulsive, withdrawn, active, and quiet personality, according to the diagram.

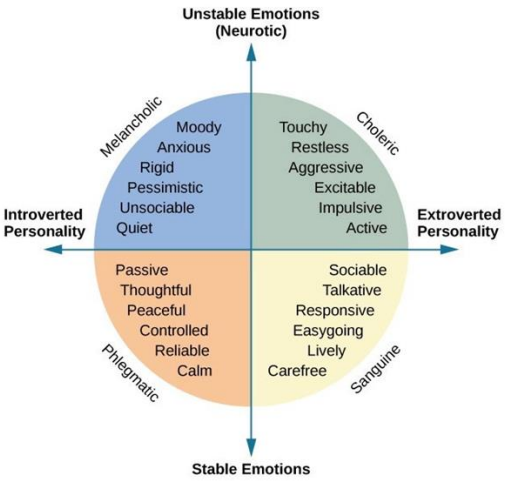

Figure 1. Eysenck Personality theory

On the diagram, Napoleon shows a dominant tendency toward a choleric type of personality while having a small amount of melancholy personality. Choleric. A choleric personality type can be considered an extrovert but built toward a leadership-oriented sense. They can be competitive, prideful, easily annoyed, manipulative, and narcissistic, according to Jaehnig and Miller. According to both studies, the choleric type is temperamental. If they are criticized or slightly opposed, they will confront and try to dominate through intimidation and an independent perspective, even using underhanded tactics to win. A choleric person wanted to be in charge and believed that anyone else did not deserve to be in order besides them. A choleric person needs to show at least to be seen to give their opinion, beliefs, or influence toward others. His choleric-type personality is also shown in the story.

> "*Snowball and Napoleon were by far the most active in the debates. But it was noticed that these two were never in agreement"* (p. 34).

As the quotation above, it demonstrates his deep hostility toward Snowball and most of the time, his hostility is displayed when in debate and after the first breakdown of the windmill and becoming restless because of snowball, and after Snowball's expulsion, there are "signs" that Snowball wanted to sabotage and oppress Napoleon as a ruler.

> "*Almost immediately the footprints of a pig were discovered in the grass at a little distance from the knoll. They could only be traced for a few yards, but appeared to lead to a hole in the hedge. Napoleon snuffed deeply at them and pronounced them to be Snowball's*" (p. 77).

Napoleon's impulsiveness is shown when Napoleon decides by himself that he would be engaging in trading with another farm, he does not think of the consequences later, and in the end, he is tricked by Pilkington.

> "*Napoleon announced that he had decided upon a new policy. From now onwards Animal Farm would engage in trade with the neighbouring farms: not, of course, for any commercial purpose, but simply in order to obtain certain materials which were urgently necessary*" (p. 69).

Napoleon's unsociable and quiet personality, just like before, shows in his character description that he is not much of a talker and is staying away from the other animals and making Squealer into a communicator between Napoleon and other animals. And lastly, he is active; his activeness was evident when, in the usual weekly debate, only Napoleon and Snowball were active toward each other in the debate. Snowball almost won over the animals there, building aggression toward him.

CONCLUSION

The finding of the result showed that Napoleon's personality is a choleric type personality which affects him as a leader that eventually builds toward a dictatorship, which the novel depicted him as. It comes from his desire itself, the way that he wanted to rule the farm alone by making Snowball disappear; ruling over animals is based on his desire and not affected by an internal factor. Although there are a small number of external factors too the most promising factor that makes Napoleon uncontrollable with power is his desire itself. The writer believes

that as long as the leader does not have most or all of the big six of personality, a leader will not abuse its power while maintaining a level of choleric personality.

Napoleon's power abuse is depicted in the story; he used any available means, like manipulation, and murder, to justify his action to take over the farm. Things happen on the farm because of power, which can transform a person's behavior into something else; in this case, it becomes the law, which can change according to a person's will.

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