

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON GRACE ADAM IN DANIELLE STEEL'S *MALICE*

Herlince Moto Malo

Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya

Kmelin138@Gmail.Com

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ABSTRACT

The title of this study is Domestic Violence on Grace Adam in Danielle Steel's *Malice*. The objectives of this study are to describe the kinds of domestic violence and the effects of the domestic violence on Grace Adam. This study uses Cycle Theory of Violence by Lenore Walker. The researcher applies psychological approach because violence relates to psychology. Descriptive and qualitative method is used in this research. The analysis shows that there are three kinds of domestic violence on Grace Adam such as physical violence, sexual violence and psychological violence. The effects of domestic violence on Grace Adam are found in four forms. They are anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, feeling of shame, and physical health. Grace feels anxious because she has shot her father. Grace feels post-traumatic stress disorder because she feels back in her dark past. Grace feels ashamed due to the fact that she has done bad things in the past. Grace suffers from asthma and other physical pain. The conclusion of the research is that Grace Adam experiences domestic violence but she can deal with all of them and she has better life in the end.

Keyword: *domestic violence, types of violence, effects of violence*

INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence is a complex system of abuse in social problem that happens to women in close social relationship based on Flury, Nyberg, and Rossler (2010). Domestic violence that include physical, sexual, and psychological violence occurs in domestic environment that maintains friendly or family relationship to the victim such as husband, intimate partner, family member, or friend.

The theme in discussing domestic violence is usually contained in many literary works. Literary works are expressions of personal human feelings in the form of ideas, thoughts, feelings, beliefs in life which are described in the form of literary works such as poetry, drama, fiction and novels. In this study, the researcher uses the novel by Danielle Steel entitled *Malice* as a data source.

The novel tells the story of Grace Adam, a woman has experience rape by her father every night since four years. When her mother die because of cancer, she is trying to stop the rape by her father. However, she accidentally shot her father to death and she has serve four years in prison. Grace adam is hurt so deep that she carries her past with her wherever she goes until she has a challenging career in New York. In healing the pain that she is experiencing, she reachout and embrace women who has experiences similar events until she finally meet Charlez Mackenzie, a New York attorney,

The reason the researcher is interested in analyzing this novel because the issue of domestic violence that exists on social problem especially that happens to women. This novel tells the struggle of an extraordinary woman, Grace Adam over the suffering she experiences with the power of living a dark past ending with happiness that is a blessing to others. This study analyzes the main character, Grace Adam in this case, domestic violence which happens to her.

Based on the description above, the problem statements are atated as follows: What kinds of domestic violence on Grace Adam are portrayed in Danielle Steel's *Malice*?, What are the effects of domestic violence on Grace Adam portrayed in DanielleSteel's *Malice*?

The objectives of the study are to describe the kinds of domestic violence and the effects of domestic violence on Grace Adam portrayed in Danielle Steel's *Malice*.

Cycle Theory of Violence

This study to analyze the problem, some reviews of related theoretical backgrounds are applied in the study. Cycle theory of violence is a theory by Lenore E Walker that states that there are three distinct phases associated in a recurring battering cycle : (1) tension building, (2) the acute battering incident, and (3) loving contrition (Walker, 1984: 95). The first phase is tension building, it is a frequency of continuous tension and accompanied by acts of violence. It can last for many years with incidents such as rejection screaming and coercion fighting. Victims usually experience mood changes-such as loneliness or even anger and disappointment. Yet, victims try to remain calm and try to help the perpetrator bring an end to such conflicts as the violence committed. The second phase is the acute incident, the phase of this incident resulting from the acute violence. Such violence is like physical, psychological, and sexual. The victims begin to feel lonely, helpless, anxious, insecure, and withdrawn. They usually wait for the situation and readiness to seek the help of others because they feel that they have no one else to trust. The third phase is loving contrition, on this phase the tension and anxiety feel has beginning to go. Although they has difficulty reporting the situation but at this stage they has begun to accept everything that is happening and to develop themselves properly.

Domestic Violence

According to Walker (2009 : 311), the philosophy surrounding domestic violence has certainly evolved in recent years. Most people agree that domestic violence is no longer a private matter, but a serious crime that plagues our society. There are 3 forms of domestic violence based on Flury, Nyberg, and Rossler (2010) such as physical violence, sexual violence, and psychological violence. Domestic violence can cause many impacts that occur if someone experiences it. The main impact that occurs when experiencing violence is mental health problems and physical health. There are many effects of mental health as a result of violence. In this novel, it will discuss the 4 effects endured by the main character, Grace Adam includes anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, feeling of shame and the last physical health.

METHOD

In analyzing Danielle Steel's *Malice*, the descriptive and qualitative method are applied. According to Creswell J.W. (2009:1), qualitative research explores a human or social problem and focuses on individual meaning and complexity of a situation. In this process of research involving questions, collecting the data and interpretations the data based on questions. It is used to analyze and describe the data of this study logically because this study is focused on the statement of the study. Then conduct the study statements, the types and the effects of domestic violence of the main character with using cycle theory of violence by Lenore E Walker.

The data of this study are the printed version of the novel *Malice*. There are two techniques used in data collection. The first is documentation obtained from articles, e-books, and journals that will be used as references in this study. The second is note taking which is used to write down everything related to the research topic and can help in the data analysis process. There are several steps to collect the data such as (1) reading the whole novel in depth and repeatedly, (2) identifying the sentences, quotations, and dialogues that are included in the type

of violence on women, (3) selecting the data by give the code and highlight to the sentence in the pages where are located in the novel.

After collecting the data, the writer starts to analyze the data to answer the formulation of the problem to analysis data. They are reviewing the data which has been collected based on the statement of the problem, interpreting the data based on writer's point of view and drawing the conclusion as the result of this study.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Kinds of Domestic Violence on Grace Adam

The novel *Malice* from Danielle Steel tells the story of a girl named Grace Adam who is raped by her father and she is serving a sentence in prison for fighting for herself. She experiences physical violence, sexual violence, and psychological violence.

Physical Violence that Experience by Grace Adam

When Grace is 17 years old, she loses her mother to cancer. After her mother's departure, Grace tries to stop her father's actions that has been raping her for four years. When she tries to fight her father, she is subjected to physical violence and coercion.

Grace rejects her father's enticement, she has a headache but he doesn't care and keep insisting on her. She tries to refuse but her father angrily grabbed grace's arm.

"I can't . . . I . . . I have a headache."

"Come on." He leaned down and grabbed her by the arm, and pulled her from where she sat. "We'll talk in my room." (Steel, 1997: 14)

"I don't want to . . . I . . . no!" She snapped at him, and pulled her arm out of his hand. "I can't!" (Steel, 1997: 15)

Grace pleas with her soft voice, still her father pays no attention to her. He drags grace to bed. It is shown in the following quotation : "Dad, please . . ." Her voice was a thin whine, as he dragged her from the bed, and she followed him unwillingly into his bedroom." (Steel, 1997: 15)

Sexual Violence that Experience by Grace Adam

Based on the story in the novel *Malice*, the main character Grace Adam has been sexually abused by her father since she is thirteen years old. This is because her mother doesn't want to be left by her husband and tries everything her husband wants, including having sexual intercourse with his daughter.

The first time her mother tells Grace to please her father by asking Grace to have sexual intercourse with her father, does not understand what her mother means, therefore her mother explains what is happening to her and finally, she understands and she cries.

"He made her do anything he wanted just so he wouldn't leave her. And as Grace grew up and grew more beautiful each day, it was easy to see what he wanted, what would be required of her, if she really wanted to keep him. And once Ellen got sick, and the radiation and chemotherapy changed her so dramatically, deep penetration was no longer possible. He told her bluntly then that if she expected to stay married to him something would have to be worked out to keep him happy. It was obvious that she couldn't keep him happy anymore, couldn't give him what he wanted. But Grace could. She was thirteen, and so very lovely." (Steel, 1997: 17)

Her father often comes to her but not every night. She feels shame and hurt but there is no other choice not to do it. She wants to do this because her mother is not for her father. If she doesn't do what her father asks then he will beat her mother. It is shown in the following quotation: "The girl sagged at the weight of it, and the horror of what was expected of her. But they didn't wait to hear her answer. That night, they came into her room, and her mother helped him." (Steel, 1997: 18)

She does whatever her father asks to continue for four years. Her mother keeps Grace from getting pregnant by giving her pills and she wants to keep her mother from getting hurt by her father.

"For over four years now, he had done everything he could dream of with her, she was his very own love slave, his daughter. And the only thing her mother had done to protect Grace from his was get birth control pills for her so she wouldn't get pregnant." (Steel, 1997:18)

Psychological Violence that Experience by Grace Adam

Grace has missed her mother, she feels sad because there is no one to help her anymore. She thinks there is no longer any reason for her to stay here, and that it would be a good thing if she could go to college in September.

"Why, Mama? Why . . . why did you leave me? . ." It was the final betrayal, the final abandonment. What would she do now? Who would help her? The only good thing was that she could leave and go to college in September. Maybe. If they'd still take her. And in her father would let her. But there was no reason to stay here now. There was every reason to leave, which was all she wanted." (Steel, 1997: 10)

When Grace experiences rape from her father, he sends her words of satisfaction. Before that, Grace will try to fight her father. It is shown in the following quotation : "You little bitch!" he shouted at her, still shaken by the strength of his orgasm." (Steel, 1997: 21)

While trying to fight her father, she accidentally shoots her father. She panicks and thought of her mother's words that she has to be kind to her father.

"Oh my God . . . oh my God . . ." she said, still gasping for air, and clutching her own throat now as she stared at him. She could still taste his blood on her tongue, and she didn't want to touch him. There was blood all over her and the bed, and all she could think of were her mother's words . . . "Be good to Daddy, Grace . . . be good to him . . . take care of him . . always take care of your father." (Steel, 1997: 22)

After Grace shoots her father, she is arrested and interrogated by the officer. When interviewed, Grace does not explain anything that has happened, she only replies that she doesn't know why she shoots her father. It is shown in the following quotation : " I don't know. I wasn't thinking anything. I was just trying to . . I . . it doesn't matter." (Steel, 1997: 36)

Effects of Domestic Violence on Grace Adam

In Danielle Steel's *Malice*, Grace Adam as the main character in this discussion experiences the effects of the violence endured. The effects of the violence are mental health including anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, feeling of shame and the last physical health.

Anxiety that Experience by Grace Adam

Anxiety disorders suffered by a person are not widely understood by others, therefore they feel alone. Grace is frightened when her father wants to force her door open because her father would do anything for her to follow her father wants. There is Grace's trembling voice pleading with her father not to come near her.

“Don’t come in, Dad.” There was a tremor in her voice, as she looked at the door. It was as though she knew he was all-powerful, and she feared him. “Dad don’t.” She could hear him forcing the door, as she put her feet on the floor, and sat on the edge of the bed, waiting to see if he could force it. But she heard him walk away then, and she sat shaking on the edge of the bed. She knew him too well. He never gave up on anything that easily, and she knew he wouldn’t now.” (Steel, 1997: 14)

Anxiety occurs again when Grace contacts the operator that she needed an ambulance because of her father's condition, which is already lying on the ground because she shoots her father. It is shown in the following quotation : “I need . . an ambulance . . . ambulance . . . my father’s been shot . . I shot my father. .“ (Steel, 1997:23)

Post – Traumatic Stress Disorder that Experience by Grace Adam

Grace feels back in her dark past when she recounts her bad childhood to Charles. She takes a deep breath before telling him everything, then Charles listens to her until the tears welled up in his eyes. Charles feels sad for what happens to Grace in her childhood.

He took her hands in both of his, before she started and looked her in the eyes squarely. "I want you to know that whatever happened, whatever they did to you, whatever you did, I love you. I want you to hear that now ... and later." ... "I love you too, Charles," she said, holding him, with her eyes closed, and tears rolling down her cheeks. "But there's a lot you don't know about me." She took a deep breath, felt for the inhaler in her pocket, and started at the beginning. (Steel, 1997 : 287)

Grace grieves Charles of her past. She tells Charles how every night her mother gets abused by her father. Her mother would lie and say that she is fine. However, the fact is there are a lot of bruises on her body. No friends to tell about what her mother feels because it has pressure from her father.

"When I was a little girl, my father beat my mother all the time ... I mean all the time ... every night as hard as he could ... I used to hear her screams, and the sound of his fists on her ... and in the morning I'd see the bruises. ... she always lied and pretended it was nothing. But every night he'd come home, he'd yell and she'd cry and he'd beat her again. After a while, you stop having any kind of life when those things happen. You can't have friends, because they might find out. You can't tell anyone, because they might do something to your daddy," she said sadly. (Steel, 1997 : 287)

Feeling of Shame that Experience by Grace Adam

Grace is not like other children, she's not interested in anything including fashion. Her appearance is very simple and doesn't look at anyone. She seems determines not to wear makeup, perhaps to reduce the interest others might have in her.

But unlike other girls her age, Grace had no interest in clothes, or boys, and if anything, she seemed to diminish her looks, rather than enhance them. She wore no makeup at all, and she wore her long coppery auburn hair straight down her back, with long bangs that hid her big corn flower-blue eyes. She never seemed to look straight at anyone, or be inclined to engage them in conversation. (Steel, 1997 : 4)

Grace choose to wear her mother's old black dress with a pale face and strong hair ties behind her back. She looks old when she looks like that even if she looks around a lot.

Most people were surprised by how pretty she was, if they really looked at her, but if you didn't look twice, you never noticed her at all. Even today, she was wearing an old dreary black dress of her mother's. It hung like a today, she was wearing an old dreary black dress of her mother's. It hung like asack on her, and she looked thirty years old, with her hair tied back in a tight bun, and her face deathly pale as she stood beside her father. (Steel, 1997 : 4)

Many people tell that Grace is uncommunicative and seems shy. She would rather be alone than hang out with her friends. She just wants to talk to certain people, she even hurries away when other friends see her laugh. She seems to limit her association with friends to the violent factors she is experiencing. She is prone to fear and shyness to get along with others and always feels lonely.

People commented from time to time on how shy Grace was, and how uncommunicative. There had been a rumor a few years back that she might even be retarded, but anyone who had ever gone to school with her knew that that was a lie. (Steel, 1997 : 5)

When Grace is in school, her friends say that she is good girl but isn't nice to others. She is withdrawn, silent, and then decides to go home first because of her asthma.

She wasn't crazy, her classmates knew, but she wasn't friendly either. It was odd too, considering how sociable her parents were. But Grace never had been. Even as a small child, she had always been solitary, and somewhat lonely. And more than once as a child, she had had to go home from school with a bad attack of asthma. (Steel, 1997 : 5)

Physical Health that Experience by Grace Adam

As a result of her sexual abuse, Grace becomes a very frightened person. That's why she has asthma. She would have trouble breathing every time she remembers what has happened and every time she knows is in danger.

"Sorry ... asthma . . ."

"Oh poor baby . . . you take anything for it?" (Steel, 1997 : 107)

"... She has asthma, and she's having a hard time breathing." (Steel, 1997 : 24)

When grace is invaded by the other prisoners, they are violent by dragging, tying hands and feet, taking off the clothes that Grace is wearing, and they would silence her. She couldn't fight back but she couldn't breathe and looks with alarm at her inhaler in the pocket of discarded clothes.

"... But she could hardly breathe, and as she glanced anxiously toward the inhaler in the pocket of her discarded shirt, Brenda remembered it too. She reached for it, found it, and held it out to Grace tauntingly, but Grace's hands were tied, and Brenda dropped it on the ground next to her, as one of Jane's big boots came forward and stomped it onto splinters." (Steel, 1997 : 116)

Grace feels weak and physically powerless after taking a shoot with Marcus. She is passed out right after Marcus' wine. She'd never have a drink before and she consumes too much.

"Hey! ... are you okay?" Marjorie asked, jumping up and going to her, as Grace started to collapse in her arms. Marjorie helped her to her bed, and Grace lay there, feeling like she was dying. "I think I have the flu," she said, slurring her words again. "Maybe I've been poisoned." "I thought you were with Marcus," she said with a frown. "Weren't you going to shoot with him today?" Marjorie vaguely remembered. (Steel, 1997 : 191)

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the novel as the data of this study, the researcher finally comes to the conclusion of this study that Grace Adam as the main character of the novel *Malice* by Danielle Steel. In this study, there are two statements: what kinds of violence on women are portrayed in Danielle Steel's *Malice* and what are the effects of the violence on women portrayed in Danielle Steel's *Malice*.

Grace suffers from such violence as physical violence, sexual violence and psychological violence that experience by Grace Adam. It starts with Grace begins raped by her father, she tries to resist and protect herself from compulsion. Therefore, Grace experiences such violence as withdrawal, dragging, and coercion into sexual activity. Grace Adam also experiences psychological violence such as intimidating speech, insults, questions that makes for sadness, fear, loneliness, and worthlessness.

The effects to follow by Grace's violence is anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, feeling of shame, and physical health that experience by Grace Adam. Grace suffers from anxiety disorder in certain situations characterized by constant fear, anxiety, and sadness. Grace also experiences a reflective mind-reflecting on a painful incident in the past. Grace likes solitary and difficult to socialize with others. As a result of the violence, shame a rises to hide from others because of the discomfort of the toil or the personal life is widely known to others. The last is physical health, and Grace suffered the pain of sexual violence and coercion. Grace also suffers from an asthma attack that often recurs when fear strikes.

For the suggestion, the writer suggests the next writer who is interested in violence a woman discussion and can use Danielle Steel's *Malice* as the data or only as a reading reference. In this novel has various themes and subjects to use as research topics. With various themes and subjects available in the novel, providing many choices or references for the next writer.

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