

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA
MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY ABDELHAMID IBN BADIS-MOSTAGANEM-
FACULTY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



Master

<<British Literature>>

Unconventional Relationships in D.H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers*' (1913) and *the Rocking-Horse Winner* (1926): The exploration of Oedipus complex

Presented by:

SMAINE Saliha

Board of examiners:

Chairperson: BELLAL Hanane

Supervisor: GHARNOUT Soumia

Examiner: OUALI Farida

Academic year 2016-2017

Dedication

To my father

To my mother

To my brothers

To my sisters

To my dearest friends

Asma and Chafia

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to thank Allah who gave me strength, power, and guidance to manage my professional and personal life, and to complete this work.

I want to express my profound appreciations to several people who helped me hard to accomplish this work.

My deepest gratitude returns to my supervisor Madam GHERNOUT Soumia, without her help, patience, guidance, this work could not be well accomplished. I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with her.

I want to thank the member of juries who contribute for this undertaking.

My heartfelt thanks go to my entire teachers who contributed and still contributing inspiring, and leading me to more successful life.

Abstract

The main goal of this dissertation is about analyzing the unconventional relationships in D. H. Lawrence's novel *Sons and lovers*, and the short story *The Rocking-Horse Winner*, the exploration of Oedipus complex. This study aims to step up the traces of unconventionality in both the Novel and the short story under the light of Oedipus complex, where it originated back to Greek mythology of Oedipus, as well as it is theorized by Sigmund Freud besides supported by his disciples Jaques Lacan and Carl Jung. In *Sons and lovers novel*, it is clear to see the unconventional relationship between Paul and his mother, where her possession and jealousy destroyed his personality and he failed in building relationships. *The Rocking-Horse Winner*, celebrated several themes, and tackled numerous notions such as greed, luck, love, and materialism, that contributed in developing the protagonist oedipal drama, as he was obsessed by his unlucky mother, who was in fact, obsessed by money. This work questions if D.H Lawrence's literary works *Sons and Lovers* and *The Rocking-Horse Winner* can be seen from a psychoanalytic perspective, and to what extent are Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers* and *The Rocking-Horse Winner* an exploration of Oedipus complex theory. In order to answer these questions, this dissertation depends on analytical methodology that provides the reader with clear image about the theme.

Key terms: D. H. Lawrence, Oedipus complex, Sigmund Freud, Jaques Lacan, Carl Jung, unconventionality, psychoanalysis, Sons and lovers, The Rocking-Horse Winner.

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General Introduction

The twentieth century appeared as a turning point in the history of Britain. Series of changes took place at different levels: philosophy, science, economics, politics as well as psychology. Moreover a shift in ideas and thoughts was highly remarkable, and it was depicted in numerous literary products by adopting new techniques and methods. These new conceptions and radical changes are called Modernism.

Numerous figures appeared with their debatable theories such as Isaak Newton theory of science, Rene Dicarte's and Immanuel Kant's focus on reason, as well as Sigmund Freud theory of Psychoanalysis. The field of psychoanalysis had a great position in that period, as psychologists started to discover the human mind and explore the unconscious issue and its role in building human beings personality.

Sigmund Freud is considered as the leader of this field, he was named as the founder of psychoanalysis. In his famous book *The Interpretation of Dreams*, Sigmund Freud highlighted numerous interesting theories, and he presented his theory of unconscious, he divided human brain into three main elements: Id, Ego and Super-ego.

Freud published huge works about psychology as he established the sexuality theory, and he re-visited the Greek mythology of Oedipus complex in which he associated it as Oedipus complex theory; he expressed how mainly the human being personality develops during the childhood period through out several stages, in which he declared that life built around tension and pleasure. He confirmed that boys first love was their mothers, and through their stages of development, they build great love and emotions towards their mothers, despite, they envy their fathers and hostile them.

Jaques Lacan , he is known by the French Freud, he had also great contributions in the psychoanalytic sector. Lacan career was progressed due to his seminars and participations in

international meetings, he presented reports about the *Mirror stage*, and his doctoral thesis in psychiatry, moreover, Lacan was known by his essay *Ecrits*, and his successful disagreements about the traditional psychiatry as well as, Lacan was Prominent disciple of Sigmund Freud.

Another pillar of psychoanalysis who acts as a follower of Sigmund Freud is Carl Gustave Jung. He was extremely interested about Freud theories especially the unconsciousness one. He published numerous books about unconscious and he believed that human being mind composed of; “ego”, “the personal unconscious” and “the collective unconscious”.

Theses thinkers and others had huge impact in changing British Empire during the 20th century where British setting characterized by loss of values and principles, as well as rejection of God as a significance response to the spread of unconventionality. Literature had the line share of these changes in that period. It witnessed huge arrange of changes in literature when new basis and norms were created and highlighted in modernism.

British Modernism characterized as a change in all aspects; it was conscious, intellectual, artistic, literary and artistic movement, it adopted also new styles and forms in order to establish new literature. Modernism celebrated new techniques of writings as stream of consciousness, unreliable narrator, chaotic instability, skepticism and the loss of identity. Furthermore, literary products such as novels and short stories tackled series of themes and issues such as: unconventionality, sexuality, obscenity, materialism, and rejection of God, and it emphasized social problems and conflicts which were the focal point of Modernism.

D. H. Lawrence is one of the prominent leaders of modernism, he pioneered and signalized by his way of writing, as he depicted very sensitive topics from society, which most of them related to his environment and family. D. H. Lawrence was famous by his literary products of sexuality, obscenity, and he treated the unconventionality as main topic.

His famous works that celebrated unconventionality were his novel *Sons and Lovers* and his short story "*The Rocking-Horse Winner*", these two literary works contained global translation of British Society.

Sons and lovers is regarded as Lawrence semi-autobiography, he gave to the reader a clear image about society and the pillar of it; the family, *Sons and Lovers*, portrayed unconventionality through the possessiveness of the mother to her child, it provided also how the mother exaggeration in her love and emotions towards her kid results a psychic disorder, and his failure in building relationships with other females. Mrs. Morel influence appeared on Paul when she died; he felt so sorrowful, and he was incapable in carrying his life.

The Rocking-Horse Winner bears the same problem of Oedipus complex; the opening of the story conceived the whisper of lack of money and the mother greed strain. This financial shortage impacted the child Paul, who's his mother absence of luck, and her over greed obliged him to replace winning bets, this latter finished his life.

The main goal of this dissertation is to study the unconventional relationships in D.H. Lawrence *Sons and Lovers*, and *The Rocking-Horse Winner*, as well as, the woman possessiveness influence man the protagonist life, in the light of Oedipus complex theory, besides the collaboration of Sigmund Freud, Jaques Lacan, and Carl Jung in developing Oedipus complex theory.

To achieve this aim, the following problematic should be answered:

- Can D.H. Lawrence's literary works, *Sons and Lovers* and *The Rocking-Horse Winner* be seen from a psychoanalytic perspective?
- To what extent are Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers* and *The Rocking-Horse Winner* an exploration of Oedipus complex theory?

Many hypotheses can be drawn from the preceded problematic:

-D.H. Lawrence's literary works *Sons and Lovers* and *The Rocking-Horse Winner* may be seen from a psychoanalytic perspective as D.H. Lawrence was influenced by Sigmund Freud psychoanalytic theories, and his two disciples Jaques Lacan, and Carl Gustave Jung.

- Throughout analytic reading, one can discover a kind of bound relationship between the mother and her son reflecting Oedipus complex theory.

This dissertation is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is theoretical part which includes philosophical overview and a historical background, and the second chapter however, discussed a brief overview about modernism and an analysis of Lawrence's novel *Sons and Lovers* in which the focus was on the main character Paul. The third chapter, draw up a literary analysis about the short story *The Rocking-Horse Winner* where the notion of Oedipus complex was highly shown.

1.1 Introduction

Any piece of literature under examination needs foundation and preparing ground. It is suitable to investigate the period and the condition of society, as well as it is preferable to review the author atmosphere in order to know his motivation and goals about his literary work. This chapter tends to look at the historical background and the philosophical overview of Oedipus complex theory, and it examines how personality is developed in “Sons and Lovers” and “The Rocking-Horse Winner”, through three main psychologists theories: Sigmund Freud, Jacques Lacan and Carl Jung.

Sigmund Freud acts as the founder of psychoanalysis and he serves science with his theory of Oedipus complex through drawing the psychological stages of human development. Moreover, Jaques Lacan has great contribution in developing the psychology domain besides Carl Jung who created the concept of Electra complex as a description of female desire.

1.2 History and Origin

Sigmund Freud is considered an elegant figure that emerged during the twentieth century as he was famous by his debatable ideas and theories; he sparkled in the field of psychoanalysis when he serves humanity by numerous theories such as: Unconscious mind, Interpretation of Dreams, id¹, ego² and super ego³. Freud presented also a debatable theory where it was about stages of psychosexual development, that emphasized the personality stages of development during the early age of persons, it insisted also on pleasure and tension. These are standards of main thrust of the id that search for moment fulfillment of all needs, and desires. With a

¹Contains a reservoir of unconscious psychic energy that, according to Freud, strives to satisfy basic sexual and aggressive drives.

²The largely conscious, part of personality that according to Freud, mediates among the demands of id, super ego and reality. The ego operates on the reality principles, satisfying the id's desires in ways that will realistically bring pleasure rather than pain.

³ The part of personality according to Freud, represents internalized ideals and provides standards for judgment and for future aspirations.

specific end goal to assemble a sound and a typical identity, the stages must be very much expert, yet the confusion of a phase prompts an obsession; which Freud characterizes it as waiting concentration of joy looking for energies at a prior psychosexual stage, in which clashes were uncertain. This issue ought to settle by knowing the difference (Myers. 535).

Oedipus complex originated back to the Greek Mythology as it is explained in the book *The Greek Myths*, Robert Graves narrates that the king of Thebes Laius and his wife Jocaste gave birth to a son who was Oedipus. The king visited the Delphic Oracle who informed him that he will be murdered by his son Oedipus, and he will marry his wife Jocaste. When Oedipus came to life, Laius took him from the nurse's arms and pierced his feet with a nail and, bound them together; send him to Cithaeron's mountains (Graves. 218). Laius throws his son Oedipus as a solution to avoid his death by his son.

One day, a shepherd found Oedipus and took him to the king Polybus and Queen Periboea in their city of Corinth where They raised him and named him Oedipus, which in Greek means 'swollen footed' due to his leg deformation. Later in his youth, Oedipus was taunted by Corinthian youth that he did not resemble his supposed parents and visited the Delphic Oracle, who told him that he would kill his father and marry his mother (Graves .218).

Oedipus decided to leave Corinth searching for his real parents, once, in the narrow defile between Delphi and Daulis he met Laius, who ordered him to step off his chariot's road. Oedipus started a fight with Laius, Oedipus killed Laius in this fight without knowing whom he killed. (Graves.218). When he arrived to Thebes, he found the city under the compassion of the Sphinx, a monster recognized by woman's head, lion's body, serpent's tail, and eagle's wings. This monster killed every one who did not know the answer of the subsequent riddle: "What being, with only one voice, has sometimes two feet, sometimes three, sometimes four ». Oedipus guessed the answer which is man, then he became the king of Thebes and he married his mother Jocaste without knowing that. (Graves: 219).

Oedipus made large investigation about the murder of the king Laius, and he wanted also to end the plague that the city suffered from. Finally, he discovered that he who killed the late king, his true birth father, and he had married his true birth mother, who hanged herself and Oedipus pierced his own eyes becoming blind and exiled himself from Thebes. (Graves: 220). This legend prepared the ground to the birth of a new concept which is Oedipus complex. It is the portrayal that any person can be under the destiny of having a sexual relationship with the opposite sex parent and having hostile, jealousy and rivalry towards the same sex parent. Oedipus legend performs as a tragedy of several contradictions between man and fate; acquiescence to the divine force, and the insight of one's own weakness. Oedipus had an inner voice that pushed and compelled him to his destiny. The latte was his sexual desire towards his mother, and his detestation and aggression towards his father.

1.3 Freud's Theory of Oedipus Complex

The expression "Oedipus Complex" was first presented by Sigmund Freud's psychosexual hypothesis of improvement in his book Interpretation of Dreams, distributed in 1899; Freud proposed that the mental advancement in youth happens in a progression of settled stages called psychosexual stages, and he trusted that life is worked around this idea of pressure and joy; and that the development of strain could bring about a considerable measure of contentions. In this way, this strain developed and the obsession was because of the idea of Charisma; be that as it may, the Drive is a characteristic vitality source that fills the components of the brain, and when this Drive is loaded or, on the other hand focused it can have a deep rooted influence well into adulthood. Consequently, Freud's hypothesis focus on the significance of identity improvement in youth, in this way, the obsession happens at a particular organize in youth; it could have an enduring impact well into masculinity, each of these stages related with a specific clash that must be settled all together for the individual to

successfully progress to the following stage (Loewald 238). Freud focused on that the initial five years of life are significant to the development of the grown-up identity. The possibility of the Drive or as it is generally known the sexual senses and obsession are based on various ranges of the body at an alternate phases of development. That is the reason it brought about the psychosexual advancement; these stages are requested by James S. Fleming in his book *Freud and the psychodynamic Approach to development* as take after:

1.3.1The Oral Stage :(Birth-18 Months)

It is the primary stage of personality development which takes place from birth to 18 months of age, the libido of this stage is the baby's mouth and sucking or feeding from breast or bottle, the child obtained both nourishment and satisfaction from the act of nursing or sucking. The child's oral eroticism extends as well to sucking of the thumb, or even to other objects. (Fleming, 26) The baby is totally reliant on his parents who are in charge for feeding him, which make him progresses a sense of trust and comfort through oral stimulation that the pleasure is derived through it. Oral stage accomplishes its pinnacle point in the prime conflict of weaning, which both precludes the kid of the sensory pleasures of nursing and of the psychological pleasure of being cared of. Several fulfillments can produce in an Oral Fixation or Oral Personality which is proved by a preoccupation with oral activities. This kind of personality may have specific habits such as: smoking, , over eating, or biting nails. They become enormously naive typically following others and never guide or take decisions.

1.3.2The Anal Stage :(18-3 Years)

It happens between the 18 months to three years old, which can be alienated into two sub-stages, the primary anal sadistic or anal expulsive stage and the second one is anal erotic or anal retentive stage. Freud considers that the central apprehension of the child's pleasure is on eliminating and retaining feces. Under the parent's control, the infant is indebted to learn how to manage his anal stimulation. For example the child develops his capacities to learn

crawling rather than walking and manipulating objects with his hands as well as the toilet or potty training. The outcome of this anal fixation may result into two types; the initial is when the parents responses are severe, the anal would be retentive and the child will control himself and he seeks perfection and clearness; the second is when the parents are compassionate the result would be anal expulsive in which the child's personality will be improvident, wasteful, chaotic and harsh (flaming, 27-28).The resolution of this stage is learning to use toilet properly, permanently affects the individual conflicts to possession and manners towards authority.

1.3.3The Phallic Stage :(3-6 Years)

This stage is the most debatable stage in the course of the sexual development. It starts from 3 to 6 years of age where libido was centered on the penis (or phallus) in both sexes. Freud declares that at this stage, the infant develops an unconscious sexual attraction towards the parent of the opposite sex with the genitals as the pleasure zone.

Male's Oedipus complex happens when the boys develop sexual attraction to their mothers, and they increase hostile and rivalry against their fathers. This attraction happens when boys discover that their mothers have no penis, and their fathers own one. This knowledge lead boys to fears and panic of their fathers 'punishment and threat of castration anxiety because of their desire towards their mothers; the child will be scared that his father will castrate his penis for desiring his mother, because he already aware that his mother has no penis. On the other hand, females have also a complex famous by Electra complex; girls enlarge penis envy because they remarked that males have penises. They turn out to be attracted to their fathers and extremely jealous of their mothers. Frequently, these complexes happen as the result of the alternation of Libido: from anal zones to genital one. As well as, in this period, children

started to differentiate between their parents at the level of sexual organs known by identification⁴(Flaming, 29-30).

Freud asserted that both males and females complexes cannot be solved completely, he declared that boys knew their sexual roles by incorporating with their fathers, and girls knew their sexual roles by incorporating with their mothers, in which males grew fears about fathers castration, and girls increased fears about losing their mothers love. Freud gave alert about Fixation at this stage. He said that the fixation in this stage leads to several mental and psychological disorders as the person became reckless, resolute, self-assured, and narcissistic, and the non-recantation of this fixation contributes also in the spread of abnormal personalities which they fail in making love relationships, as well as it helps in building illegal relationships such as homosexuality and unconventional relationships.

1.3.4 The Latency Stage :(6-To Puberty)

This stage starts from the age of 6 to the puberty which is about 12 years old. It is considered as the resolution of the phallic stage as it is mentioned in the phallic stage explanation. Although the sexual energy was present, Freud suggested that sexual development goes into dormancy in this stage and there was an absence of libido activities in specific areas as a result of the parents' restrictions and sexual desire repressions. Both sexes in this stage turn to social interest such as intellectual recreation and pursuit (school learning, learning social skills and athletics) as well as social and professional interaction as it is a period of creativity and rethinking. (Fleming: 31).

1.3.5 The Genital Stage :(Teenage Years)

It occurs from 12 years old forward, this stage paralleled with the physical and sexual alteration where the libido returns to his habitual energy and the adolescents focused on their erogenous sexual areas. It is the stage of strong sexual desires and urges which were dormant

⁴ The process by which, according to Freud children incorporate their parents' values into their developing superegos.

throughout Latency stage and they become active due to youth. In this stage, both males and females want independency from their parents and they seek sexual affairs and relations with partners of the contrary sex. This period is considered as the most difficult stage in which teenagers were under the control of their sexual desires. (Flaming, 32)

To conclude, Freud's theory about Stages of Psychosexual Development can result in both successful completion which means healthy personality, or can result in failure, leading to a harmful personality. His theory knew a large resonance from the very beginning of his appearance, yet, it becomes debatable and controversial among critics such as Karl Popper and Michel Juffe. The first one declared that Freud's psychosexual development theory lacked to be experienced and it could not be tested. While, Juffe said that the Oedipus parents should be blamed not Oedipus as the father is warned before and Oedipus has no sin.

1.4 Jacques Lacan's Theory of Oedipus Complex

Jacques Lacan (1901 -1981) is considered as a well-known figure and an extremely active person in the twentieth century. Lacan was seen as "The French Freud" because of his great contributions in the field of psychoanalysis. He has got his license and worked as psychiatrist on Saint Anne's Hospital and a clinical trainer at different psychiatrist institutions. His career was established due to his seminars and public participations; his first analytic report at the Congress of the International Psychoanalytical Association in Marienbad on the Mirror Phase, the publication of his doctoral thesis in psychiatry, *On Paranoid Psychosis in its Relations with the Personality* and in 1966 he published his most important essays, the so-called *Ecrits* (Homer:4). Moreover he was very successful in showing his disagreements about the traditional psychiatry domains and he performed as a notable disciple of Sigmund Freud psychoanalysis, unconscious and interpretation of dreams theories. The concept of a "return to Freud" or revisiting Freud psychoanalysis theories emerged where Lacan started re-reading Freud works with linguistics, Philosophy (such as Descartes, Kant, Heidegger and Sartre)

Ethnology, Biology, and Topology(as Claude Levi-Strauss) perspectives. Lacan claimed that psychoanalysis must be scientifically proved, and he asserted that Freud's theories contributed in changing several issues among them desire, subject and knowledge. Lacan is debatably the most important psychoanalyst and the most controversial where his ideas converted the concept of theunconscious mind as structured language and he theorized the issue of sexuality by using linguistics, Ideology and sociology. He emphasized that language created self and psychic and sexual life. Lacan in his first publication of *Écrits: about The Four Fundamental Concepts of Psycho-Analysis* which introduced The Mirror Stage, The Signification Of The Phallus, The Imaginary and The Symbolic.

The Oedipus complex theory had great position for Lacan as it was for Freud. Lacan described it as symbolic structures as the intimate relationship between married couples expand to all society members as their friends, families and others. In order to understand this complex Jaques Lacan has created psychosexual development stages and he draws them under two main tasks: the language acquisition and the iconic signs. These are the following detailed stages (Homer: 51):

1.4.1 From 0-6 Months

At this early stage, the child is not aware and conscious about the atmosphere around him/her; he performs as absent and with confused feelings and emotions. The child at this age is extremely dependent on his parents, especially the mother, because he/she is weak and fragile creature and not responsible. At that time the mother performs great role and takes care about her baby body that contains specific erogenous zones (mouth, anus, penis, and vagina) as well as she fulfils her child lacks by feeding him/her from her breast, in addition, her gaze and touch and her voice also contribute in securing him/her. These actions from the mother pleasure and satisfy the baby unconsciously and lead to identification and establishing dynamic. (Homer: 44)

1.4.2 From 6-18 Months of Age

This is the focal period in human being stages of development where Lacan conceptualized it as the “Mirror Stage”, this stage is characterized by Libidinal Dynamism as a result of child identification with his image which is the ideal ego. This recognition of self is an “I”, the reflection in the mirror is regarded also as recognition of the “Other”, where the subject is present and contributes in understanding the self social order. The infant in this period feels himself isolated and related to different emotions such as hating the real self or loving the image of the mirrored self. This mixture of feelings established the disorder and the misrecognition of the self which leads to severe and continuous psychological problems.

(Hook: 03)

1.4.3 From 18 Months to 4 Years

During this age, the child starts to develop his way of speaking and interacting with others through the acquisition of language. Lacan depends on how Ferdinand de Saussure theorizes and examines, he explains the idea that language can be clear and meaningful through comparing it with their opposite meaning. He illustrates by giving the concept of “Father” as it is meaningful while comparing it with other terms such as “Mother”, “Me”. This stage performs as a mirror of the Symbolic order where the child becomes aware and accepts the society rules, laws, and restrictions. As the symbolic stage is about the person desire, so, these laws and restrictions contribute in controlling the person desire, which pave the way to the Oedipus complex appearance. (Declerk:06)

1.4.4 The Question of the Mother Desire

Lacan claimed that the child’s psychological and physical needs make him extremely dependent on his mother in an early stage. As these needs satisfies by the care and attention of his mother. The infant at this early age, he starts questioning everything around him, more especially his mother behaviors, movements, desire, and whim. These rationales happen

before the symbolic order: language world as a reaction of the child's lacks and absences. The infant shows love, care, and tendency towards his mother, this desire called the Phallus which is defined by Lacan as the imaginary object of the mother's desire as Lacan asserted that the relationship between the mother and the child expands to a triangular one as the object of desire enters. The child performs as an object of desire for his mother as seducing her in order to satisfy her whim. This is called the imaginary phallus.

The existence of the Name-of-the-Father breaks the imaginary relation between mother and her son. As the father possesses the Phallus that the mother desires, and the child lacks it, this absence paves the way to the emergence of substitution of the son by the Name-of-the-Father. Then the child enters the Symbolic Stage. Freud suggested in his theory that the Phallus is linked to the penis castration existence, Lacan create the issue by declaring that the Phallus is about penis and recognition of lack. Moreover, the Phallus acts as a coin with two faces: it is the desire of the mother, and the signifier of the lack.

To sum up, the Phallus is considered as something absent in each one and each person wants to reach the Phallus. This Phallus breaks the relation between the mother and her son in the moment of the symbolic established. This realization from the imaginary to the symbolic regards as the foundation of the Oedipus complex theory.

1.5 Carl Gustav Jung and the Conflict of Oedipus Complex

Carl Gustav Jung acts as one of the followers of Sigmund Freud as their relationship was highly related; he is interested of his most theories as the unconscious one. He has several publications concerning the field of psychology; he published the book *The Structure of The Psychic* 1927, *On Psychic Energy* 1928, *Archetypes of Collective Unconscious* 1934, and *The concept of Collective unconscious* 1936. Jung believed about the idea of that human mind is composed of 3 main elements: Ego, the personal unconscious and the collective unconscious.

(Adamski: 02)

Ego defined by Jung as the conscious mind which performs as the leader of person's identity, emotions, and thoughts. And the personal unconscious is presented by Jung as several complexes, which is a series of attitudes, feelings and beliefs that focus on a single concept.

Jung created the notion of unconscious under the so-called Collective unconscious; it is about the relations between personal unconscious and other people. These shared feelings have cultural dimensions and ancestral past. Jung named them *Archetypes*.

After years of collaboration and working together for developing the field of psychoanalysis between Carl Gustav Jung and Sigmund Freud, a break down was happened in their relation as a result of Carl Jung who contradicted Freud in the task of Libido origin. Freud emphasized that Libido is driving force of human conscious and personality however; Jung asserted that collective unconscious issue is the leading energy and the source of building personality. He believed that Libidou is the psychic energy and life force, and he ignored the idea of Freud that human life build around tension and sexuality. In his book *the collected works of C.G.Jung*, he claimed that *The Libidou*, already sexually developed, pours into the oedipal "mould" and gives rise to feelings and fantasies who prove beyond doubt the effectiveness of the complex, which tell then had been unconscious or more or less inoperative (Gustav:154.)

Jung asserted that the relation between mother and her child is a result of the mother as she is the source of caregiver and love for her children. The child at his early age, he/she is not aware about his/her Ego complex that is the responsible of making the child conscious and controls his/her desire and whim to be more conscious. The parents perform a great role for their children, as their huge demands and love are going to them. As this age is extremely sensitive of children because of their unawareness and naivety, they build a sense of possessing their parents and they develop such abnormal feelings (Gustav, 152). This is known as Oedipus complex for boys and Electra complex according to girls. These two complexes are very important for psychology domain as it highlights the issue of the

development of unconscious fantasies as Jung claimed that Oedipus complex is the fantasy of childhood (Gustav: 153). Boys are the most involved division in the oedipal stage as they feel love and intimacy towards their Mothers; however, Carl Jung presented the concept of Electra complex which is the psycho-sexual theory that shows the female desire towards their parents during the same stage. Electra complex is derived from the Greek Myth when the mother of Electra, Clytemnestra killed her husband Agamemnon who is in fact the be-loved father of Electra. So revenge was planned from Electra and her brother Orestes to kill their mother and Clytemnestra was murdered. Electra complex acts as the rivalry of the girl toward her mother and attraction and passion to the father. As the girl grew up, she became closer to her father and developed hatred, jealousy, and competition with her mother. This action especially appears when the girl discovers she lacks the penis that her father possesses and that penis is a symbol of the absolute power, in this case, the girl want to make a sexual relationship with her father to make her pregnant in order to possess a penis that her mother is the cause of her castration.

1.6 Conclusion

Twentieth century was as fruitful period in British history, in which he emerged as a prominent and rich era with several changes and shifts. The field of psychoanalysis was the pioneer among the other fields as it witnessed the emergence of Sigmund Freud as the leader of psychoanalysis, he was the most controversial and debatable figure who enriched the humanity by his disputable theory of psychosexual developments.

Sigmund Freud was encouraged by his two pillars disciples, Jaques Lacan, the French Psychologist who gave great contribution to this field, he described Oedipus complex from linguistic perspective, and the second one was Carl Gustave Jung, who presented the concept of Oedipus complex as female complex, besides his interest on unconscious and the origin of Libido.

The next chapter will be an analysis of “Sons and Lovers” with psychoanalytic perspective. It will be a detailed analysis that seeks the traces of Oedipus complex and unconventionality.

2.1 Introduction

D.H. Lawrence pioneered in depicting the twentieth century British society, as he treated numerous interesting issues dealing with very sensitive themes such as sexuality, obscenity and unconventionality.

Sons and Lovers is considered as one of the important literary works. It is a reflection of Lawrence's real life as well as, it stepped further in portraying the hard conditions and the

severe problems of the British society during the new wave of thoughts and ideas of modernism. This novel provides the reader with a social phenomenon which is the spread of unconventionality in relationships between the mother and her son Paul. It showed also Paul's mother over control and possession on his professional and personal life. This possession acts as a significance response to the failure of Paul in making love relationships.

2. 2Modernism

The twentieth century witnessed the emergence of a new period in English literature called Modernism; this movement broke all the bounds with the preceded movements, creating its own characteristics, aspects and themes, and mainly focusing on the individual. The origins of Modernism were highly debated among critics. Some scholars related it to World War I and II, and they believed that it begun in 1890 and finished in 1945 the date of the end of the Second World War.(Hooti, Omrani :254).

In his book *Modernism and Postmodernism: an overview with art example*, Terry Berrett mentioned that Modernism originated back to the age of Enlightenment(1687-1789) as several figures emerged like Isaac Newton who believed that science is the savior of the world, together with Rene Dicartes (1596-1650) and Immanuel Kant(1724-1804) who focused on the use of reason.

Modernism was also supported by political and social leaders who emphasized on reason as a source of justice and social order, as a result, numerous events happened like the American and French revolution and the two First and Second World Wars as a turning point of human life.

Modern English literature was seen as a sudden and unexpected breakdown from traditions, rules and conventions as well as Modernists were alienated from Victorian morality. It appeared as a reaction against rebellious ideas and thoughts. Among these thinkers was Charles Darwin (1809-1882) and his theory of evolution, Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900), Karl

Marx (1818-1883), Albert Einstein's theory of relativity as well as the psychoanalytic theories of Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) who believed that the unconscious mind has a great role in human beings life

Modernism acts as a conscious, intellectual, literary, artistic and cultural movement that is characterized by the shift from Victorian traditions and adopted new styles and forms for the creation of new literature. It concerned with aesthetic issues and supported individualism and subjectivity. As Georg Simmel claimed:

"The deepest problems of modern life derive from the claim of the individual to preserve the autonomy and individuality of his existence in the face of overwhelming social forces, of historical heritage, of external culture, and of the technique of life." (Qtd. Hooti, Omrani, 02).

Modernists adopted numerous techniques and styles of writing, as the most of them applied the technique of Stream of consciousness as it focused on language and its role in forming human mind. In addition, narration through unreliable narrator who presented alternative views, it is also characterized by the spread of chaotic instability which contributed to the birth of skepticism, faithfulness and the loss of identity. The emergence of cynicism⁵ and isolation, Experimentation with genre and form, Allusiveness, and intersexuality. The modern authors build their works plotless and they rejected the common building of the literary works, as they gave more attention to the banality ordinary life, and meaninglessness of life. They also make their works open-ended as they supported their readers to expect and create. Modernism was a rejection of its preceded movements as its characters were anti-heroism, against Romanticism and Realism rules. The end of that period is characterized by new wave of ideas in literature which the Absurd literature as a result of the hopeless, miserable and

⁵an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest; scepticism.

unwanted life of people. This new style of literature appeared with Samuel Beckett with his masterpiece *waiting for Godot*.

Modernism characterized by numerous figures that emerged and contributed in establishing several literary works in all literary genres (novels-poems-plays). Major figures was T.S.Elliot and his great work (poem) *The Wasteland*(1922), Virginia Woolf and her huge experimental novels , *Mrs Dalloway* (1925), *To the Lighthouse* (1927) and *The Waves* (1931), James Joyce who published his masterpiece *Ulysses* (1922), The Irishman poet W. B. Yeats (1865–1939)

The modernist authors, as D. H. Lawrence who pioneered and privileged in applying the breakdown from the Victorian values and principles, he shifted far away from social conventions by using debatable theories of psychoanalytic in his literary works. D. H. Lawrence created new forms and styles and he adopted different ways as a result of his rebellious ideas which made him an extremely distinct figure and a main representative of Modernism.

D.H. Lawrence was fascinated by feelings, mythology and he supported the idea of symbolism during the late ninetieth century and twentieth one, he was against industrialization and he hated the industrial machinery society as it was according to him as dehumanization and a serious attack to men. As he said in describing the use of human mind scientifically in treating numerous theories: “our civilization...has almost destroyed the natural flow of sympathy between men and men, and between men and women. And it is this that I want to restore into life”.

2.3 D.H. Lawrence's Biography

David Herbert Richard Lawrence, an English Novelist, poet, literary critic, essayist and painter. He was born in 11 September 1885 in a pit village Eastwood close to Nottingham. He was the fourth child of his family as he lived a poor life and harsh worse conditions. His

mother Lydia Beardrall, was extremely intellectual and highly educated woman who worked as a school teacher. She suffered about her children and she was obliged to leave work in order to care about David and his brothers, while, her husband, the father Arthur John Lawrence was a heavy drinker, he worked as coal miner in Brinsley Colliery.

D.H. Lawrence started his studies in Beauvale Board School, as he was clever and smart; Lawrence got a country council scholarship. In 1901, he endured from a severe disease Pneumonia in the moment he was working at Haywood's surgical appliances factory. This situation obliged him to leave his job for taking a rest. During that period, David visited the Hagg's Farm where he met Jessie Chambers and the two became friends: she was interested in reading and he was teaching her.

In 1908, he received teaching certificate from University College of Nottingham as well as he became a pupil teacher. This date marked as the beginning of David career. He travelled to London to teach in Davidson Road School. He also showed interest about writing, his first publication story was *Odours of Chrysanthemums*. In 1910, he published his first Novel *The white Peacock*, This year characterized by D.H. Lawrence great work which is the publication of his Novel *Sons and Lovers*. It was an autobiography novel where David's mother death was its foundations and inspiration. *Sons and Lovers* novel portrayed D.H. Lawrence grief and pains about his mother death and also it showed the great and heavily linked relationship between Lawrence and his mother which both of Ms. Morel and her son Paul played the same role in the novel, in addition, this novel emphasized on D.H. Lawrence love conflicts and affairs between him and his mother and Mirriam which is in fact his friend Jessie Chambers.

In March 1912, Lawrence made an intimate relationship with Freida Weekley, his professor Earnest Weekley wife, she was older than him and she had three children. They eloped together to Germany, but, Lawrence was arrested by German Army as a British spy, after that he was released.

In 1917, he published his collection of love poems under the title *Look! We Have Come Through*. After that, Lawrence travelled to Italy, in his journey he wrote an essay titled *Twilight in Italy*, in addition, he finished his version of his novel *Sons and Lovers*.

In 1913, both of Lawrence and Frieda returned to Britain, where they met several intellectual persons such as “Johns Middleton Murry”, “Katherine Mansfeld”, and “W.H.Davies”.

He and his wife went back to Italy, when he drafted and wrote his two famous novels *The Rainbow* and *Woman in Love*. These two novels were banned in UK because of its obscenity and its themes of unconventional relationships and females and also homosexuality.

After the end of World War II, both of Lawrence and Freida returned to Britain and married officially, in this period, D.H. Lawrence began work affairs with famous figures of that era such as “Ezra Pound”, “T.S. Eliot” and “Dora Madrsdon”. In 1925, he finished writing his novel *Woman in Love* as a great British literary work, and in 1923, he published his novel *Kangaroo*.

D.H. Lawrence lived a severe period and the most of his life was under wars, he spent years travelling from country to another as an exiled person. He went to Abruzzo in Italy and Taormina in Sicily. He visited also Sardinia, Malta, and Germany. Each place and each region was present in his poems and writings such as *The Lost Girl*, *the Captain's Doll*, *the Ladybird*, *England*, *My England*, and *The Fox*. And he won several presents like James Tait Black Memorial Prize.

As D.H. Lawrence confronted several serious illnesses like Malaria and Tuberculosis, he preferred to return to Europe where he settled in Italy. The same year is known by Lawrence writing of *The Virgin and the Gypsy*, and *the Lady Chatterley's Lover*. This novel made a rumor because of its obscenity and pornographic scenes. His last work was *Book of Revelation*. Because of Tuberculosis, he died on 2 March 1930.

2.4 The Summary of the Novel

Sons and lovers novel is considered as a story and autobiography of D.H. Lawrence. It is a depiction of Victorian era; its values and principles, the industrial society and the working class conditions.

This story tells the everyday life of Morel family, and the relationship between Mrs. Morel Gertrude and her son Paul which is in fact the real life of D.H. Lawrence and his relations and with his mother and two other females.

Firstly, Gertrude Morel started her relation with Walter Morel when she was twenty three years old, she met him at a Christmas party, he was twenty-seven years old and she was fascinated by him as he was very attractive that's why she falls in love with him. Morel also likes Gertrude and he was impressed by her behavior and physical appearances. Their relation developed and they married the next Christmas. The couple lived happily during the first three months, as he worked hard and engaged in a risky job as a miner for securing his wife life and he sacrificed to make her happy, however, there was a gap between them as she was an intellectual and well educated woman, but he was not; he was a miner and heavy drinker. (Lawrence: 01). The love between them started to reduced especially when Mrs. Morel discovered that her husband did not own their house as he told her, as well as she found suddenly the bills of the furniture not paid yet(02).

Mrs. Morel gave great attention to her child when she gave birth to him because of her feeling of loneliness and empty life as her husband spent most of his time outside (02).

Her child William grew up bigger and stronger (10) ,he was clever and ambitious, when he became thirteen years old, his mother sent him to work in an office in a factory while, she fought with her husband who want send him to work in mines. Mrs. Morel was extremely proud of her son who was a clerk and a teacher later on. When Paul was nineteen years old, he is offered a job in London , he was so excited about it, however, his mother did not welcomed the idea as she did not like her son to be far from her(11). During William settlement in

London he knew a girl and loved her, he proposed to her and they married without the agreement of his mother, moreover, William experienced a severe disease and died after few days (24).

After the death of her son William, Mrs. Morel turned attention to her second child Paul, he was so close to his mother as he admired to sleep next to her, feeling her warmth and love, they were such very closest as intimate lovers, he informed his mother about everything happened to him and he knew all detailed about him (Lawrence 19).

Paul loved his mother too much in the moment he built such violence and hatred against his father as he prayed for his death to realize soon. Paul acted as a dependent son to his mother and he was very simple person who wishing simple life with small salary and he hoped to live happy and secure life with his beloved mother

As Paul became older and matures enough, he made relationship with a girl named Miriam from Willy farm, she was a girl fascinated by nature and interested by literature, but she was careless about male sex (27). Miriam was ambitious and curious about learning; this was leading Paul to start teaching her Mathematics and French weekly when he visited her in her house (29). They were also met on Bestwood Library. Miriam was religious and very conservative girl, she wanted spiritual relationships with and she rejected physical intimacy with him; she was sexually repressed and frigid, in that moment Paul started to develop his feelings of sexuality (29).

One day, when Paul was drinking in a pub, he met Clara's former husband, Baxter Dawes, they fought and finally Baxter was fired out the pub. Paul proposed to Clara and he told her about his dream of having a house in London and lived with his mother peacefully, however, they separated as he recognized that Clara did not fit him as a lover. (54)

Mrs. Morel at that period affected by a severe illness which was cancer, and she was gradually worse, unhealthy and weak woman. She suffered a lot from pain, this lead her son Paul collected all the pills to end her life. The death of Mrs. Morel hurt Paul profoundly, made his life full of sadness, sorrow, and anger, he felt lonely and his life was dark and empty. Morel's children buried her near to her son William grave in a very sad funeral (65).

2.5 Relationships in Sons and Lovers

2.5.1 Unconventional Mother-Son relationship

The nature of human beings does not permit them to live a solitude life. They prefer to integrate in social life full of love, solidarity, passion and comfort through building different relationships. A man first relationship from his birth and early life is with his mother, as she controls his first steps when he is impacted by her thoughts and regulations. The mother influence is either positive leads to a good healthy personality, or negative which provokes mental and psychological troubles such as Oedipus complex.

D.H. Lawrence life was complicated and extremely abnormal, he endured a hard life from his father coldness and tough behavior, and this situation leaded him to be close to his educated and conscious mother when he was very dependent to her and was seriously influenced by her way of thinking and rules. Both of them built a bound linked relationship, which translated in his auto-biography novel *Sons and Lovers* .D.H. Lawrence views and interest were highly obvious about the psychology field, he wrote about Freud's theory of Oedipus complex as Paul love and intimacy to his mother, rivalry and hostile against his father.

Sons and Lovers was an auto-biographical novel which portrayed in details Lawrence life. Through a series of analysis, it was obvious that this novel highlighted and discussed a very interesting issue, its focal point is Paul's conflict; he refused to integrate into society as he

was not an ambitious person about life, he is satisfied by simple and peaceful life with small wages. In addition, Paul chooses to live unconventional life (McGee, 09).

The birth of the second son Paul was a turning point in Mrs. Morel life. Although her painful and miserable moments she passed with her careless, drunk husband, she loved and appreciated Paul's arrival from the beginning as she admired him deeply. This is shown in the novel as follows:

“It had blue eyes like her own, which seemed to bring out her most secret thoughts. She no longer loved her husband. She had not wanted this child and there it lay in her arms and pulled at her heart. A wave of hot love went out of her towards the child she held it close to her face and breast...she would love it all the more” (08).

Paul arrival to life was a very happy and joyful event to Mrs. Morel; she felt that she gave birth to the man of the house, who will be an assurance to her future coziness. Moreover, Mrs. Morel treated her son in different way as a comparison to the other children. She gave him the line share of tenderness, warmth, passion, and love, numerous expressions translated her feelings as:“she looked at him with her blue eyes full of delighted love” (Lawrence, 14), “Mother and son walked down Station Street feeling the excitement of lovers sharing an adventure” (Lawrence, 14) yet, he experienced her selfishness and possessiveness (47). As Paul was very dependent on his mother to guide and control his professional and personal life; especially when he started to work as a junior clerk in Thomas Jordan Maker of Medical Appliances in Nottingham, he did not hesitate to inform her about all his details,“he loved to sit at home, alone with his mother at home, working and working” (Lawrence, 19), “then he told his mother the happening of the day. It was almost as if it was her own life” (Lawrence, 15).He found himself lost and handicap in carrying his responsibilities, especially when his mother died (McGee, page 14).

2.5.2. Unconventional Son-mother Relationship

Through the process of the development of the novel "Sons and Lovers", Paul increased continuously sensitive feelings and emotions to his mother; he felt sorrow about his mother suffer and miserable life, he did all his efforts to consolidate her physically and psychologically, he was besides in every moment as a baby: "Paul...followed his mother around like a shadow" (Lawrence, 10), also Mrs. Morel shared the same feelings towards her son as "Mrs. Morel's life now fixed itself on Paul"(Lawrence, 18)

Gertrude was presented as a materialistic person and dominated Paul's life at all levels, she took control over his professional life when she obliged and pushed him to work at early age in order to secure stable life (Lawrence, 63)as she asked him : "what do you want to be", he replied "Anything", " that's no answer", Said Mrs. Morel . Because Morel family was under financial crisis and depression, they passed their time waiting for Mr. Morel to return back home as a savior of their poverty, the father return was disappointing as he was violent and bad person spending all his time drinking and enjoying life in pubs "Gertrude Morel is a poor and unhappily married. Her husband Walter is rough and insensitive, spending much of his free time in the pub", (Lawrence: 04), because of his behavior, all Morel sons hated him and they did not respect him as a father especially Paul who wished his death sooner "the baby Paul hated to be touched by him...he went stiff in his father's arms and immediately started to scream" (10). These conditions lead Mrs. Morel to put all her focus into her son Paul as a solution to her financial problems (64),

As it is mentioned above that men first love and source of pleasure is their mothers, however, they develop hostile and envy against their fathers. In the case of Paul Morel, he was the second son of his parents and he was very reliant to his mother«the eldest is her favorite. But things happen, and Mrs. Morel turns all her love and attention to Paul, the second son"

(04).He was delicate, gentle boy and his mother devoted all her love and passion to him (Li Huiyan, 29), from Paul's early childhood, he was highly interested about his mother as he made great efforts searching for Blackberries for his mother. This dependency affected him negatively where he grew up and become adolescent, he failed in making love affairs with other women. He had a severe Oedipus complex and he was affected strongly (29).

2.5.3 Miriam as an Obstacle

Paul's first love was Miriam but their relation was not really bound. He could not live normal intimate relationship with Miriam due to his loyalty to his mother, and Miriam was for Paul the similar woman to his mother, when he was with her, he always missed his mother and felt sorrowful for her loneliness: "always when he went with Miriam and it got rather late, he knew his mother was worrying and getting angry with him. She did not like Miriam; she was not satisfied by her son relationship with her, she tried hardly to cut their relation as she expected that Miriam taking her son Paul far from her as it is mentioned: "She felt that the girl was leading Paul away from her" (Lawrence: 19). Mrs. Morel was very hostile and hated Miriam as she said: "I cannot bear it. I could not let another woman but not her. She'd leave me no room, not a bit of room..." (Lawrence: 73) and she was very scared and fearful about her Son personality and life; he did not believe about relationships between men and women "I don't say I don't like her. But I don't agree with young boys and girls staying out late and never did" (Lawrence, 19), moreover, she got very annoyed when her son was with Miriam and she thought that she will weakened his manhood as she said "she will never let him become a man, she never will" (Lawrence:19).

Mrs. Morel always complained about Miriam and Paul relation and meetings, she always provoke him to confront the reality "if I want you to go out on Friday night, you say you are too tired", "but you're never too tired to go if she come for you", (Lawrence :21)

"...hen why does she come? Because you want her"

“No, mother, I really don’t love her. I talk to her but I want to come home to you”

“It’s too much. I could let another woman but not her. And I’ve never-you know, Paul- I’ve never had a husband, not really” (Lawrence: 22).

When Paul returned back to Miriam, his mother did not agree at all, “it was a great bitterness to her that he had gone back to Miriam” (Lawrence: 28). The marriage of Paul’s sister Annie made the world empty for Mrs. Morel. She felt lonely and she hoped a comfortable life to her not like her own. Paul was with his mother to reduce her pains “I will never marry while I’ve got you-I won’t” “he kissed her and went to bed” (Lawrence: 25)

Paul made an end to his relation with Miriam obeying his mother wants and taking in account his mother hurt and sadness, he broke up with Miriam dramatically and he confessed to her that he could not feel her or be with her: as she was not the suitable girl, she failed in satisfying him. After a while, Paul developed relationship with Miriam’s friend who’s known as Clara Dawes (31). They had such physical intimacy, he felt comfortable with her and he was sexually filled from Clara (50-51). Unfortunately, Mrs. Morel possessiveness, jealousy, and selfishness made her son frigid and even handicap of making sexual physical relations (29)

“You’ll never believe I can’t- can’t physically, any more than I can fly”

“Can’t what? She whispered

“Love you”. (Lawrence: 23)

2.5.4 Clara as the Second Obstacle

Paul knew another girl; Miriam’s friend Clara, she was a married woman whose husband is Baxter Dawes when in fact she was separated from him during their first contact with Paul.

Paul did not hide his relation from his mother “At home he told his mother about Clara: that she was poor, that she lived with her mother, that she was thirty years old” (Lawrence: 24). Paul considered Clara as a tool of fulfilling his sexual needs especially when she was a married woman and did not hesitate to give her body to him, Paul discovered that Clara did not suit him and their love was just a lust and build up through sexual pleasure, “they made love a number of times after this. Afterwards Paul always had the feeling of failure and death” (Lawrence: 29). Paul was very passionate to his mother, when he returned back home after he fought with Clara’s husband, his mother looked at him surprising because of his worse situation, but when he saw her, his feelings were strong “Her blue eyes! They are all wanted to see. She was there, he was in her hands” (Lawrence: 34)

There was a long conversation between Paul and Clara before his mother died

“Will you always stay at Jordan’s? She asked

“No, I shall leave Nottingham soon and go abroad”

“go abroad? What for”

“I don’t know. I feel restless. I shall not go for long, while my mother’s there”

“And if you made a nice lot of money, what would you do? She asked

“Live in pretty house near London with my mother” (Lawrence: 32)

Paul lost his mother because a severe illness, he confronted a great shock where his tears fell without stop and his life destroyed “Paul’s life had fallen to pieces” (Lawrence: 38). His mother death hurted him a lot as he whispered: “My love-my love-oh my love...” (Lawrence: 64). Paul and Clara relationship ends due to the absence of spiritual love and passion.

Each oh Gertrude Morel, Miriam, and Clara Dawes played great roles in Paul’s life as they influenced his physical and spiritual development (McGee: 55). Clara position was possessing

Paul physically, and satisfied his sexual desires, Miriam was a conservative girl that had faith about spiritual love and legitimate relations, Mrs. Morel and her extreme control contributed in Paul's life where he lost his identity and personality which he became abnormal adult. This situation made Paul far away to love or to be loved.

When Paul and her mother were together, they shared the same bed and they expressed their love, feelings, emotions, and they exchanged their both their happiness and sorrow (LI Haiyan: 29), Lawrence portrayed Gertrude and her son Paul as lovers, rather than mother-son relationship. "Mother and Son walked down Station Street, feeling the excitement of lovers sharing an adventure" (Lawrence: 18).

Paul also was affected by family factors through the huge gap between Mrs., Morel as she was from middle class, educated woman, and her husband was from bottom class and not educated... both of them lived struggled life and each one could not understand the other one. This situation leads Mrs. Morel to pay her attention toward her son Paul whom she loved and admired. Due to Paul's family problems, Paul lacked masculinity, identity, and he failed to interact with boys.

2.6 Conclusion

To conclude, D. H. Lawrence portrayed in his great literary work, how the female (Mrs. Morel, Miriam, Clara) were the most influential figures in the protagonist personal and professional life, Paul experienced social, family factors that lead him to abnormal unhealthy personality; he lost his identity and suffered from unbalanced life.

D. H. Lawrence pioneered in depicting an important issue during Modern literature which is unconventionality between mother and her son. He put his touch in modern literature by tackling debatable topics. He appeared as an important and asteriated author.

3.1. Introduction

D. H. Lawrence appeared as an elegant figure in British literature as he sparkled in portraying the British society during the twentieth century. His literary products were extremely expressive about British people daily life in the twentieth century, where there were modern living systems under the domination of new principles and thoughts.

D. H. Lawrence in his writings, he tackled numerous sensitive social issues and he was singularized by his controversial themes and topics that translated the outcomes of both first and second world wars that changed the British policy, economics and legislations.

The Rocking-Horse Winner is a short story that took place in 1926, and it is considered as a celebration of sexuality, greed, materialism, selfishness, and disorder on family security. This story also focused on two prominent notions Luck and Love, which lead the Protagonist Paul

to his oedipal disorder. The main role of this chapter is to step up the traces of Oedipus complex in the story, and it will show how the family greed and misleading besides the lack of love from the mother, as well as the absence of the father as a house holder, impacted children negatively and contributes in developing unhealthy personalities as it happened with Paul.

3.2 The Summary of the Story

The Rocking-Horse Winner tells the story of a young boy called Paul who was in charge of searching luck in order to gain his mother's love. The story begun with the description of a beautiful mother who married after a love story, yet she lived miserable life with her husband because of financial problems. Mrs. Hester had three children two girls and a boy. They lived in a pleasant house and they shared a comfortable life in comparison to their neighbors, yet, the mother relation with her children was seemed as cold, absence of love, and it characterized by troubles and conflicts.

The family experienced the lack of money and both parents had short incomes, they were dissatisfied about their wages especially as they had expensive taste and they wanted luxury life, moreover, the mother was also warring about the insufficient money as her children were growing up and sooner will enter school. The house was whispering by famous expression "there must be more money! There must be more money!"(Lawrence, 01), this whisper became greater in occasions like Christmas and birthday parties when this expression repeated a lot and children attention focused on this expression.

Paul, the young boy, was very sensitive and intelligent and the favorite kid to his mother, and he loved her too much. He was extremely conscious about his family financial situation which appeared in his question and objection about why they don't own a car as the other. His mother asserted that the cause is that his father is not lucky that why they lack money. Paul

felt sorrow and painful for his mother particularly when she said that she was lucky before she married, and when she married the unlucky Paul's father, she became like him.

Paul told his mother that he is lucky and he decided to make her happy by fulfilling his mother dreams, he want to bring peace and coziness to the family which his father failed in; Paul felt the confidence that he can do what his father cannot. Paul showed a great interest about life conditions of his family and his mother specifically as a mature and responsible person.

Paul intelligence and consciousness pushed him to think about his mother problem, and he turned to his rocking-horse toy that he fancied a lot. He ride it and he believed that about his toy as a solution, he expected that his rocking-horse will lead him to know his mother problem and also will provide him with a successful to the economic crisis of the family. He was talking madly and violently to his toy asking it about where the luck exists and forcing it to take it to luck.

Oscar Cresswell, was the uncle of Paul who he was interested by his nephew. One day, he visited the family where Paul was riding his horse as usual, it was a long conversation between Paul and Oscar, the uncle asked him about his horse name, and Paul replied by a name of champion races, the uncle was surprised by his nephew answer. Paul had a great bound relation with his family gardener Mr. Basset, the person who taught him about racing. Moreover, Paul with Basset started making winning bets on horses in which Paul choose his favorite names and his toy rocking-horse. Both of them gathered some amount of money and Oscar like the idea and encouraged Paul as he him to the first race Lincoln. The day of race was such an exciting event to Paul where he showed his happiness and anxiety, his happiness completed as what he picked won *Daffodil*.

Paul's won in several times when he was very sure about a horse; his thoughts were such spiritual and related to his consciousness and cleverness. He carried on betting and winning in order to stop the family whisper about money and he had done that to make his mother happy and to win her love, as well as to stop the other people mockery about the family financial situation. Finally Paul won five thousands that were sent to his mother in her birthday and the situation seemed fine.

Paul lost numerous racing and this made him angry, his mother noticed that and she wanted to send him to seaside for resting and to stop him thinking about the racing. Both of them agreed and Paul insisted that he will go to seaside after the derby. At that time, he put all what they own as a bet on one horse because he was sure in order to finish the family whisper and suffer from poverty.

Two nights before the Derby, Mrs. Hester and her husband were outside for a party, she was anxious about her son when he did not stop asking the nurse about him. At 1 she returned back home where she was attracted by a noise coming from her son room. Curiously she went to him and she found him riding his rocking horse and saying "it's Malabar", he was extremely unconscious and ill. Both of Basset and Oscar placed winning bet on Malabar. After few days Paul told that Malabar won the racing when he was in sever conditions. Finally he died. Paul brought the luck to the family that won money and accumulated fortune, yet they lost a lucky son who scarify by his life in order to bring what his mom wanted.

3.3 Psychoanalytic Study of the Rocking-Horse Winner

D. H. Lawrence writings and literary products agreed up on portraying the 20th century British society, when series of events took place and dominated the British setting as a significant response to World War Two. These events were germane to religious atmosphere as it rejected British constitutions that were based on Christianity, this new notion of refusal

supported atheistic and agnostic ideas, and it witnessed a shift from preceded era's laws. This period was a great celebration by the loss of identity and instability, a breakdown from traditions as well as a huge interest about liberation.

These social factors were imposed in literary works and were highly depicted in literary pieces, D. H. Lawrence considered as the prominent figure in this sector where he was elegant by his style of writing in depicting unconventionality with in a mixture of psychoanalysis theories of Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, and Jacques Lacan. He tackled numerous psychoanalytic issues in his works as his both literary pieces "Sons and Lovers" and "The Rocking-Horse Winner" that experienced Oedipus complex theory.

The Rocking-Horse Winner was put under several examinations from critics, sociologists as well as psychologists. It mirrored the British society and clashes of lack of values and principles, the spread of greed and materialism that lead to the emergence of unconventionality. Numerous critics claimed that this story celebrated the sexuality as it included several sexual scenes, as well as symbols of obscenity in the light of Oedipus complex that was everywhere beneath the lines of the story, Paul was shown as a figure who lived a chaotic life, in a harsh, bad family conditions and members. Paul and his two sisters endured from failed parents who were unable to offer their children the enough love, warmth and tenderness; in addition, they were not really responsible in providing happy, acceptable living-standards. The parents justified their failure as a couple by the absence of the notion of luck. The father was already unlucky person, " the father, who was always very handsome and expensive in his tastes, seemed as if he never would be able to do anything worth doing") while, the mother claimed that she was lucky before marring, and she acquired her unluckiness from her husband Paul's father. (Lawrence 02).

3.3.1 Paul and his Mother

This milieu affected Paul and he became aware of his family conflicts and problems. Paul was extremely close to his mother, he was witty, intelligent, and he showed a big interest from an early age. After a conversation between Paul and his mother, he understood her feelings about having no luck, and luck is the key of making life easier and comfortable. Paul's sympathy towards his mother, together with his efforts seeking her love and compassion, motivated him to fight the life obstacles and he decided to bring and achieve his mother's whims:

"Mother" said the boy Paul one day, "why don't we keep a car of our own? Why do we always use uncle's, or else a taxi?"

"Because we're the poor member of the family", said the mother

"But why are we, mother?"

"Well_ I suppose", she said slowly and bitterly, "it's because your father had no luck".

The boy was silent for some time.

"Is luck money, mother?" he asked, rather timidly.

"No, Paul. Not quite. It's what causes you to have money." (Lawrence. 01).

Hints of Oedipus complex were obvious, and the story was full of them. Paul was portrayed as the protagonist of the story when the life and his mother's greed victimized him as he was obsessed by his mother. The atmosphere of his society and his familial factors contributed in developing his Oedipus complex. Paul was living in a society dominated by materialism, his unhealthy personality originated to the selfishness and gluttony of his parents, and his oedipal drama was due to his parents' frigidity and unconsciousness. Harsh feelings of Paul led him to challenge all the obstacles and he confronted all the conditions to satisfy his mother's desires.

Paul's life was fragmented between two notions "love" and "luck". His mother did not love him; she was tough and cold with him:

"only she herself knew that at the centre of her heart was a hard little place that could not feel love, no, not for anybody...only she herself, and her children themselves, know it was not so. They read it in each other's eyes." (Lawrence. 02).

This feeling from his mother hurtled him deeply. In another side, he was seeking the luck that guides him to the fortune for his mother in order to win her love (Ufuk Ege. 05). Mrs. Hester neglected to love her children and Paul, as she was under the obsession of money, and stylish luxurious living standards, Paul inherited this obsession, but he was not obsessed for himself, he was running over his mother wills by providing her with money that she seeks, as well as to prove that he is lucky as he declared to his mother:

"Well, anyhow," he said stoutly, "I'm lucky person."

"Why?" Said his mother, with a sudden laugh

"God told me," he asserted, brazening it out

"I hope he did, dear!" she said, again laugh, but rather bitter

"He did, mother!"

"Excellent!" said the mother, using one of her husband's exclamations (Lawrence, 04).

In his book "Lacan and literature: Purloined Pretexts", Ben Stoltzfus claimed that Paul enjoyed all of his time alone in his room riding his Rocking-Horse, this act of riding referred to sexual performance. It was obvious that this expression referred to Paul sexual exploration and the portrayal of masturbation (Stoltzfus, 33)

“Paul’s secret of secrets was his wooden horse... he had had his rocking-horse removed to his own bedroom at the top of the house”.

“Surely you’re too big for a rocking-horse!” his mother had remonstrated

“Well, you see, mother, till I can have a real horse, I like to have some sort of animal about”.
(Lawrence.12).

This act of riding was highly linked to the prediction of future in the light of unconsciousness and non-awareness from Paul. This was termed as the psychology of uncanny in W.S. Mark essays. Paul possessed the uncanny sight which permitted him to expect the next winners in the moment of his hard ridings. Paul’s ambitions were to be lucky person despite his parents who were unlucky, and he wanted also to stop the whisper around the house; the whisper of all the family members about the lack of money (Stoltzfus, 34), as they repeated the same expression: “There must be more money! There must be more money!” (Lawrence, 02).

Paul’s mother first and the absolute pleasure was huge sums of money. Money was her priorities and more important than loving her children, she adored luxuries and expensive styles, and Paul was obsessed by her way of thinking when he found the only way to win her love is to bring her money. He did his best looking for interesting objects that suits his mother wants and needs; he started placing bets on racing, (Saber, 01).

The Rocking-Horse Winner story is regarded as a manifestation of Oedipus complex when Paul started to play the role of the horse-holder of the family. Paul felt sorrow when his mother asserted to him that she and her husband are unlucky, so he found his toy that he received in Christmas as a solution and he was linked to her spiritual; the more he rides, the much he predicts the right horse winner, “he would sit on his big rocking-horse, charging madly into space, with a frenzy that made the little girls peer at him uneasy.” (Lawrence,04). This act of predicting helped the family to accumulate fortune and their conditions changed positively, in

the other hand, Paul's expectations contributed in eliminating his father's role as the head of the family, and it drew his wills in replacing the father who was absent in all the story, the only time that he was mentioned in the story, when he was presented as the expensive and luxurious person, in addition, his absence degraded his masculinity and manhood, especially when he was described as an unlucky person by his wife.

Paul's family were supporters to him in betting races, his uncle Oscar and the gardener Basset were extremely interested in Paul's spiritual expectations that provide huge amounts of money for his family, and he succeeded in defraying his mother's debts. Paul began his business with Basset, due to his search about racing, moreover, Oscar supported him by money in order to be able to bet. Both of Oscar and Basset were a part of Paul's mental disorder as his Oedipus complex grew remarkably.

Paul was a loser rather than a winner; he gained the fortune that his mother wants, about 80,000 pounds, as he expected the horse-winner Malabar: "It's Malabar!" he screamed in a powerful, strange voice. "It's Malabar!" despite, he lost his life in a dramatic way, Paul suffered from brain fever, and he fell down and died (Interesting Literature, 04May). Paul's parents failed as a married couple in achieving economic and financial satisfaction, this problem was the leading factor to Paul's betting and gambling on horses winning in order to skip the family financial crisis. The mismanagement of Mrs. Hester and her husband of their incomes made them sinking in debts, as well as they contributed unconsciously in developing Paul's Oedipus complex.

3.4 Conclusion

"The veiled sexual activity of rocking has a triple function: getting there, naming the winner, and winning the money which, in effect is winning the mummy" (Stoltzfus.42).

The Rocking-Horse Winner characterized Paul as a victim of irresponsible unlucky parents; a stone heart mother and a luxurious failed father. In his early age, he developed awareness about his family financial crisis, and he showed interest and sympathy towards his family, especially his mother greed and the whisper of the family about money.

Seeking luck, willing mother love, gambling and betting, the deletion of the father role, a great support from the family in the engagement of replacing bets, and playing the role of the house holder, all are factors which contributed in developing Paul's Oedipus complex.

General Conclusion

This dissertation is an investigation about the unconventional relationships in D. H. Lawrence's novel *Sons and Love*, and the short story *The Rocking-Horse Winner*: the exploration of Oedipus complex. Its main purpose is to step up the traces of unconventionality between the lines of both literary works in the light of Sigmund Freud theory of Oedipus complex, as well as the contributions of Both Jaques Lacan, and Carl Jung in re-visiting Freud's theory.

D. H. Lawrence depends on Freud's theory of Oedipus complex in his two literary works; he reflected the theory principles, he succeeded in portraying the core of it, where the protagonists experienced severe psychological disorder as a result of the possessiveness of their mothers. Lawrence in his works echoed Oedipus complex theory in a certain extent, yet, he diverged; in his novel and the short story, the protagonists did not experienced sexual affairs with their mothers as Freud achieved in his theory.

Sons and Lovers is a semi-autobiography of D. H. Lawrence, which mirrors his life in a mining, poor family and hard harsh social conditions, this novel treated Lawrence tragedy with his family and especially his relation with his mother, as he portrayed in his protagonist Paul Morel. It illustrates also the possessiveness of the mother and her over control towards her son professional and personal life. Gertrude Morel jealousy and fears of losing her son, lead Paul to fail in engaging in social life and building relationships. Paul endured from his mother laws and supervisions, he was a victim of woman legislation that influenced negatively his personality and limited his existence as an active person.

The Rocking-Horse Winner depicts the life of the protagonist Paul in a poor family that whispers from the lack of money. Paul suffered from his mother over greed and over

materialism, this situation pushed Paul to be aware in an early age, and he was conscious about his family clashes and problems.

Mrs. Hester showed great obsession in collecting money and gathering fortune, in other had she did not care about her children; she had stone heart and she did not gave them the enough love and warmth. Paul inherited this obsession, while he started replacing winning bets and gambling seeking money for his mother, for the sake to win her love and compassion. This story showed the hardship of the child Paul in his life in order to satisfy his mother desires and whims, which end by losing his life in dramatic way.

Both the novel *Sons and Lovers* and the short story *The Rocking-Horse Winner* mimicry the Oedipus complex theory, *Sons and Lovers* portrayed the protagonist as real victim of his mother possessiveness; who took control over his professional life as well as she paralyzed him in engaging and making relationships. His life ends with failure in both his personal and professional sides. *The Rocking-Horse Winner* reflects Paul, the child who endured from his mother obsession of money and luxuries with a support from his family members as Uncle Oscar and the gardener Basset who paved the way for him to engage in this profession of gambling. Paul worked hard seeking luck and money in order his mother heart. Mrs. Hester handicapped her son emotionally and spiritually that ends with his death.

This study investigates literary works with psychoanalytic perspective; it reflected the great link between psychology and literature in the case of Oedipus complex. This study applied Greek mythology of Oedipus, which theorized by Sigmund Freud and his famous disciples Jaques Lacan and Carl Jung, where a mixture of psychology, philosophy combined under the analysis of literary works.

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