

**THE PSYCHOANALYTICAL STUDY  
ON THE CHARACTERISTICS AND CAUSES OF ADOLESCENT  
DEVIANT BEHAVIOR FOUND IN *DIVERGENT* NOVEL  
BY VERONICA ROTH**

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**Abstract**

This research investigates how the major character described to get causes of Beatrice's deviant behaviors in Veronica Roth's *Divergent* Novel. This research used three different theories to answer two research questions. First, used the personality theory by Sigmund Freud and used the four ds of abnormality theory by Ronald J.Comer to define the deviant behavior of the main character, Beatrice Prior. This research also used behavior disorder theory by Harry Gottesfeld to analyzed the causes of deviant behavior which is performed by the main character. The data sources are literary data. The method of data collection of the research is library research. The technique of data analysis is descriptive qualitative method. The researcher served the data in dialogues, and narratives by Beatrice. Based on the analysis, the researcher draws two conclusions: First, this research shows that the failure to control personality can make a person being deviant. It is reflected in the major character's personality when she wants to leave her faction. The second, this research shows that there are four causes of Beatrice deviant behavior in six causes of behavior disorder, they are the physical, biological factors; the family; and the self-concept, and natural support systems.

Key words : psychoanalytical study, deviant behavior, *Divergent* novel.

**Abstrak**

*Penelitian ini menyelidiki bagaimana karakter utama dijelaskan untuk mengetahui penyebab perilaku menyimpang Beatrice di novel Divergent karya Veronica Roth. Penelitian ini menggunakan tiga teori yang berbeda untuk menjawab dua pertanyaan penelitian. Pertama, menggunakan teori personality oleh Sigmund Freud dan menggunakan teori the four Ds of Abnormality oleh Ronald J.Comer untuk menentukan perilaku menyimpang dari karakter utama, Beatrice Prior. Penelitian ini juga menggunakan teori behavior disorder oleh Harry Gottesfeld untuk menganalisis penyebab perilaku menyimpang yang dilakukan oleh karakter utama. Sumber data adalah data sastra. Metode pengumpulan data dari penelitian ini adalah studi pustaka. Teknik analisis data adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif. Peneliti menyajikan data dalam dialog, dan narasi oleh Beatrice. Berdasarkan hasil analisis, peneliti menarik dua kesimpulan: Pertama, penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa kegagalan untuk mengontrol kepribadian dapat membuat seseorang menjadi menyimpang. Hal ini tercermin dalam kepribadian karakter utama ketika ia ingin meninggalkan faksi nya. Yang kedua,*

penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa ada empat penyebab perilaku menyimpang Beatrice dalam enam penyebab gangguan perilaku, yaitu fisik, faktor biologis; keluarga; konsep diri, dan sistem pendukung alami.

**Kata kunci:** penelitian psikoanalitik, perilaku menyimpang, novel *Divergent*

## A. INTRODUCTION

Kennedy states that one branch of literary works is novel (1). Nowadays, novel is very popular. The story of a novel about love and adventure has attracted readers. The language used in novels is usually simple and denotative. It contains a little complexity and ambiguity. Therefore, the novel is easier to read than poetry or play.

In this research, the researcher chooses *Divergent* novel to be analyzed. *Divergent* novel was written by an American novelist named Veronica Roth. This novel was published by Harper Collins Children's book in 2011. *Divergent* is trilogy novel, consist of *Divergent* published in 2011, *Insurgent* published in 2012, and *Allegiant* published in 2013. This novel is a kind of fiction novel because all the characters and settings are not real. Although the setting described in the novel is very similar to Chicago, but actually Roth indicated that she did not originally intend to use Chicago as the setting of the *Divergent* novel.

The researcher has some reasons to choose *Divergent* novel as an object of this research. The first reason is about the story. The story in this novel has genre about adolescent, family, and society. This novel has a complex story and has point of view about the deviant behavior of Beatrice character, although she gets pressure by her social rules, especially the pressure for adolescent to choose the faction. She follows the rules, but always shows her disagreement. For example, she sues the freedom to act, to choose, to do everything without following the rules of society.

The second reason is related to the character. The main character in this novel is an adolescent, she is sixteen years old, and she is the main character of this novel. She has a family who loves her so much but they always remind her about the rules of their faction. It makes her feel uncomfortable with the environment, so she tried to show her disagreement.

The third reason is about deviant behavior. There are many cases that are committed by adolescent. According to Erich G, deviant is a behavior that does not comply with the various rules of social values and norms. He said that deviant is not an inherent character in themselves, but the reaction from others how it is seen, regarded, judged, evaluated, and the way to treat the person who engages in that act (6). There are so many examples related to these cases and some of them even inspire some producers in making some movies based on these cases. These kinds of movies represent the deviant behavior, performed by adolescent to themselves or others, such as the scrappy, ditching, taking people's property without permission, and even doing drug abuse. This happens because they have their unique characteristics, namely in time of instability, or being at the level of search identity, which is in transition from adolescence to the adult status, and so on. This novel also consists of dialogues among the characters, especially between the main character and her society.

In conclusion, the aim of this research is to analyze the characterization and causal factors of Beatrice "Deviant Behavior".

From the previous part above, the questions which are raised to be discussed in this research are described as follows: (a) How is the deviant behavior of the main character described in this novel? (b) What are the causes of the deviant behavior of the main character?

Based on the questions above, the objectives of the research are: (a) To get a clear description about the character which indicated deviant behavior as described in this novel; (b) To identify the causes of Beatrice deviant behavior.

## **B. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS**

### **1. Personality Theory**

According to Robert B. Ewen in his Book “*An Introduction to theories of personality*”, Sigmund Freud is the first person who developed the modern personality theory, and is known as psychoanalytic theory (17). Freud’s theory of personality argues that human behavior is the result of the interaction among three component parts of the mind: *the id*, *ego*, and *superego* which affect our mind and then are reflected in our behavior.

#### **a. The *Id***

Freud said that the *id* is totally unconscious, that human beings are unaware of its workings. The *Id* is not rational, it imagines, dreams, and invents things to get what they wants. Freud said that the *Id* operates according to the pleasure principle. It aims to satisfy human's biological urges such as hunger, thirst, sex, and other natural body desires aimed at deriving pleasure (284). From the definition of *Id* above, it can be concluded that the major goal of the *Id* is to reduce the pressure and maximize the satisfaction.

#### **b. The *Ego***

Freud said that the *Ego* works partly conscious and partly unconscious. The *Ego* operates according to the reality principle. It attempts to help the *Id* get what it wants by judging the difference between real and imaginary. Like the example, when a person wants to eat an ice cream, *Id* might begin to imagine about ice cream. Here, the *Ego* will try to help a person determine how to get some real food. The *Ego* helps a person satisfy their needs through reality. Feldman describes that *Ego* is the part of the personality that provides a buffer between the *Id* and the outside world, balance the desire between *Id* and realities. *Ego* can make decisions, control actions and problem solvers of human life (qtd.in Khadroh, 15).

#### **c. The *Superego***

The *Superego* is the final personality structure developed; it represents the right and wrong actions of society as handed down by parents, teachers, and other important figures. According to Feldman, the *Superego* consists of two major components that are conscience and ego-ideal (qtd.in Khadroh,15). The conscience prevents individual from doing bad attitude and makes individual feel guilty after doing bad attitude while the ego-ideal represents the image of “perfect person” that motivated individual to do the right attitude.

## **2. Abnormal Psychology Theory**

There are two theories of Abnormal Psychology used in this research. Those are The Four Ds of Abnormality by Comer and also Behavior Disorder by Gottesfeld. Comer states in his book titled "*Abnormal Psychology*" that abnormal psychology is often called "the four Ds", those are Deviance (different, extreme, unusual, perhaps even bizarre), Distress (unpleasant and upsetting to the person), Dysfunction (interfering with the person's ability to conduct daily activities in a constructive way), and Danger (2). He said that this definition offers a useful starting point from which to explore the phenomena of psychological abnormality.

## **3. Behavior Disorder**

In this research, the researcher identified the causes of deviant behavior of the main character in *Divergent*, named Beatrice. To answer the second research question, the researcher used 6 major causation of deviant behavior according to Harry Gottesfeld's theory. He states that there are six causations in behavior disorder, those are; a) physical, biological factors, b) psychological, social factors, c) early development, d) the family, e) the self-concept, and f) natural support systems. (215-222).

## **C. RESEARCH METHOD**

In this research, the researcher used descriptive qualitative research. According to McMillan and Schumacher, qualitative research is defined as, "primarily an inductive process of organizing data into categories and identifying patterns (relationships) among categories" (qtd.in Astalin,118). A descriptive study determines and reports the thing that analyzed by clear explanation without using the graphic calculation. It means that in a descriptive study the research happens naturally and is supported by the theory, and the researcher has no control over the condition and the situation, and can only measure what already exist. Within this research, the researcher focused to analyzed the characteristic of Beatrice Prior as the main character and the causes of deviant behavior happen in the main character.

### **1. Data and Sources Data**

In this research, there are several data sources to support the research. The researcher collected the data by using library research methods. The data sources in this research consist of primary data and secondary data. The primary data of this research are taken from Veronica Roth's *Divergent* novel. The data is the words that were taken from the sentences, dialogues, and paragraphs of Beatrice character. Secondary data sources are some literature that support and related of this research. The secondary data sources that were used by researcher are from books references, electronic articles, journals and internet which are available and related to this research.

### **2. Data Collection**

The data for this research are obtained through some steps in order to get all the right data to be the materials of the identifications. The first step is read the *Divergent* novel carefully and intensively. While reading the novel, the researcher focused on the characteristics of Beatrice Prior as the second step of collecting the data, especially the

whole part of the dialogue of Beatrice Prior and the setting of place where she did her activities. Through this way the researcher understand and also found the problems of Beatrice. Then the third step, the researcher analyzed the structural element of the novel. While analyzing, the researcher collected some related research such us about deviant behavior. The last step, the researcher analyzed the data about Beatrice Prior's character through the related theory.

### 3. Research Instrument

The instrument of this research is the researcher herself. The researcher focus on observation from the main character dialogue as the main object of this research, also the novel itself is the main data of the research. Theory of Sigmund Freud, Ronald J. Comer and Harry Gottesfeld and some articles and journals are used to help the researcher in conducting the research.

### 4. Data Analysis

In this study the researcher analyzed the data that have been collected. The analysis aimed to get a valid data which appropriates with the research problems.

There are some steps in doing data analysis as follows:

1. The researcher review the data after the data have been collected.
2. The researcher classified the data that dealing with the research problems.
3. The researcher analyzed the data that explained the deviant behavior and the causes of the main character perform deviance in *Divergent* novel.
4. The researcher drew conclusion after the data have been analyzed.

## D. RESEARCH FINDING

In this research finding, the researcher analysis some points in order to analyze *Divergent* novel.

### 1. Deviant Behavior of main character, Beatrice Prior.

#### a. The *Id*

Beatrice had a desire to leave her Abnegation faction. Even before election day, and she was already thinking to move. Like what Beatrice said

**“We walk together to the kitchen. On this mornings when my brother makes breakfast, and my father’s hand skims my hair as he reads the newspaper, and my mother hums as she clears the table- it is on these mornings that I feel guilties for wanting to leave them”** (Roth, 3)

The word “*wanting to leave them*”, as Beatrice said had already given a proof that she has an imaginery to leave her faction.

**“I wanted to be Dauntless I saw at school. I wanted to be loud and daring and free like them.** But they were not members yet; they were just playing at being Dauntless. And so was I, when I jumped off that roof. I did not know what fear was" (Roth, 263)

Beatrice imagination about being a Dauntless. She has a desire to be a Dauntless.

**“Once, I’m dressed and the urge to cry is gone. I feel something hot and violent writhing in my stomach. I want to hurt them. I stare at my eyes in the mirror. I want to, so I will”** (Roth, 170).

In this situation, unconsciously she had imagined about what action she wants to do.

Beatrice’s *Id* have a desire to leave her faction, it was because she was not able to follow the Abnegation rules in general. She has desires to satisfy herself, such as become a Dauntless.

#### **b. The *Ego***

The *Ego* of Beatrice showed her hesitation in choosing the faction. This was proof that Beatrice began think about the impact if she choose the other faction than Abnegation.

**“But choosing a different faction means I forsake my family. Permanently”** (Roth, 24)

The word "Choosing a different faction" means that all this time she does not like living in Abnegation faction, and already have plans to leave Abnegation.

**“I walk into my room, and when I close my door behind me, I realize that the decision might be simple. It will require a great act of selflessness to choose Abnegation, or a great act of courage to choose Dauntless, and maybe just choosing one over the other will prove that I belong.** Tomorrow, those two qualities will struggle within me, and only one can win. (Roth, 37)

Beatrice's *Ego* helped her give the control to decide action. Between choosing Abnegation or Dauntless.

**“I open my eyes and thrust my arm out. My blood drips onto the carpet between the two bowls. Then, with a gasp I can’t contain, I shift my hand forward, and my blood sizzles on the coals. I am selfish. I am brave.”** (Roth, 47)

Beatrice has shown her determination to choose a Dauntless faction than her original faction, which means she has to go from Abnegation and split with her family. Beatrice spent sixteen years of her life in Abnegation, but she has never felt fit to be there. Indirectly, life in Abnegation make Beatrice was not satisfied so she chose to switch factions in order to satisfy her desire during this time.

Beatrice’s *Ego* give her considerations that aims to make her understand more her desire. She will never be able to meet with her family when she choose other faction. In the process she thought about it, she was also shown the beauty images of the Abnegation factions. Although she loves the ways in Abnegation, she still cannot successfully absorb all norms of Abnegation. In this part, the *Ego* provide

her to understanding about the family and faction that would help her what faction she will choose in the election day.

### c. **The Superego**

In this case the superego acts to enhance and cultivate people's behavior, thus making Beatrice should follow the Tests.

**“I get up because I’m supposed to, but if it were up to me, I would stay in my seat for the rest of time” (Roth, 10)**

From the words "*Because I'm supposed to*" above mean that she know if she do the wrong attitudes, she would feel guilty because it is something that is not true.

**“I shiver, and goose bumps appear on my arms. My curiosity is a mistakes, a betrayal of Abnegation values”.** (Roth, 12)

Here she felt guilty, so this is also included in the indicator of superego about Appropriate norms.

### **Deviance**

According to Comer, judgement of deviance depend on specific circumstances as well as on cultural norms (3). It means that deviance is a condition where a person's current behavior, does not in accordance with norms and rules on the environment.

**“I have tried to explain to him that my insting are not the same as his. It didn’t even enter my mind to give my seat to the candor man on the bus – but, he doesn’t understand. “just do what your supposed to,” he always says. It is that easy for him. It should be that easy for me.”** (Roth, 10)

From Beatrice words "*is that easy for him, it should be easy for me*", this shows that Beatrice was still trying to follow the rules of her faction, although the fact that she did not immediately leave her seat to others.

## **2. The Causes of Beatrice’s Deviant Behavior**

The researcher used four causes of behavior disorder by Harry Gottesfeld to analyze the causes of Beatrice deviant behavior in the novel. There are four causes of behavior disorder theory: *Physical, Biological Factors; The Family; The Self-Concept; and Natural Support Systems*.

### **Physical, Biological Factors**

Biological factors is one of the important factors that affect a person's behavior. There is a statement explains that her mother was not a person who comes from abnegation, but from Dauntless.

**“She isn’t reacting the way some of the others transfers’s parents are – her neck bent, looking around at the Pit walls, at the Pit ceiling, at the chasm.”** (Roth, 184)

“My mother walks with me, fast, toward the dining hall. Just before she reaches it, though, **she takes a sharp left turn and walks down one of the dark hallways I haven’t explored yet.**” (Roth, 185)

*“And then she’s gone. I stand alone in the blue light coming from the lamp above me, and I understand: **She has been to the compound before. She remembered this hallway. She knows about the initiation process. My mother was Dauntless.**”* (Roth, 188)

This data shows that Beatrice mother's have a good relation with Dauntless, because mother’s reaction shows that she already know very well about Dauntless place before.

### **The Family**

There are proofs shown that Beatrice behavior influenced by her family.

“She holds me for what feels like a long time, even after I let my hands fall. Before she pulls away, she turns her head and whispers in my ear, **“I love you no matter what.”**”(Roth, 41)

The words *“I love you no matter what”* was said by her mother indicates that her mother look like supports Beatrice to choose every faction that she wanted. This is certainly will have an impact on the choice of Beatrice in choosing faction. From her mother's reaction to her, it made Beatrice feel more confuses to left Abnegation.

### **The Self-Concept**

The character Beatrice is more closed, because she lived for 16 years in Abnegation rules, which require that she is not selfish. *Self-Concept* is about a person's perception of herself, which means everything she knew about her, whatever she believed in, and what has happened in their life, *self-concept* are responsible for a person's behavior.

**“I pause by a window in the E Wing and wait for the Dauntless to arrive. I do this every morning. At exactly 7.25, the Dauntless prove their bravery by jumping from a moving train.”** (Roth 7)

It shows that Beatrice admired Dauntless way of life since childhood. Beatrice had a desire to choose what she wants, she did not want to stay any longer in Abnegation. She had tried to fight for love in Abnegation ways who has been taught by her parents, but she could not implement it. Beatrice behavior is always deviates from Abnegation. As part of the community, Beatrice had a chance to choose. She became an adolescent who loved Dauntless. So in other words, this factor also supports Beatrice's Id to go choose Dauntless.

### **Natural Support Systems**



In this novel also shows where Beatrice since childhood did not have support from environment, as shown in the following explanation of Beatrice:

“Caleb knows where he belongs, and as far as I know, he always has. My earliest memory of him is from when we were four years old. **He scolded me for not giving my jump rope to a little girl on the playground who didn’t have anything to play with.** He doesn’t lecture me often anymore, but I have his look of disapproval memorized.” (Roth, 9).

This indicates that Beatrice received less attention or support from the neighborhood or family. This shows that her brother did not support the behavior that she did because it was wrong according to Abnegation factions. Beatrice supposed to be concerned with other people, especially children did not have what Beatrice had. In this case, the environment failed in helping Beatrice handle emotional problems. Thus supporting her to search her identity.

## E. CONCLUSIONS

After conducting the analysis of the first research questions to the second research question, the researcher gained some points about this research. Based on analysis first research question in chapter four, the deviant behavior of Beatrice described that her Id showed her desire to leave Abnegation. Beatrice always could not follow the rules in Abnegation faction. Beatrice's Ego also have tried to help her, so Beatrice can achieve her desire to the right way with pay attention to the social values that exist. However, she did not have a good enough Superego to help her decide the right choice. She did not think about the social values that exist in the faction, because she was trying to be free from the pressure of Abnegation rule for any longer.

In addition, deviant behavior of Beatrice also shown when she has moved to the Dauntless faction. her big curiosity and her behavior that break the rules of factions still showed there. Make all people everywhere assume she had deviated from the norm. She seemed more happy when she live her life in her own way than follow the rules of her factions.

Then, based on the analysis of the second research question, the causes of Beatrice's deviant behavior is influenced by biological factors, the family and the self-concept. Evidence obtained are the fact that indicates biological factors that her mother was a Dauntless before Abnegation. The second causes is the family factors when Her mother and brother’s behavior also influenced her decision when she choose to leave Abnegation. Beside that, her mother seemed to support Beatrice who had moved factions. The third is because the self-concept which since Beatrice in Abnegation, she always admires Dauntless, so made her move to the Dauntless faction. Last is because natural support systems where Beatrice could not handled her emotional problems because there are no one could helped her in this case.

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