



People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Dr. Moulay Tahar University, Saida
Faculty of Letters, Languages and Arts
Department of English Language and Literature



**A psychoanalytic reading of Crime and Punishment by Feodor
Dostoyevsky**

Dissertation submitted as partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of *Master in
Literature and Civilization*

Presented by:

Miss. Rihi Leila Cerine

Supervised by:

Dr. Bessadat Latifa

Board of Examiners

Dr. Berrezoug	(MCA) Chair Person	University of Saida
Dr. Bessadat Latifa	(MCB) Supervisor	University of Saida
Dr. Kaddour	(MCB) Examiner	University of Saida

Academic Year: 2020/2021

Declaration of Originality

I hereby declare that this submission is my work and that, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which has been accepted for the qualification of any other degree or diploma of a university or other institution.

Date:

Name: Rihi Leila Cerine

Signature:.....

Dedication

I dedicate this humble work to my parents who have supported and encouraged me through this new experience.

To my friends and my cousin who pushed me forward and stood by me when I needed them.

Acknowledgements

First, I offer my sincerest gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Bessadat Latifa for her guidance and support in completing this research work.

I would also like to thank the members of the committee, Dr. Berrezoug and Dr. Kaddour who spared my work some of their valuable time and read and evaluated my humble work.

I am also grateful for the teachers who helped me in these past few years by offering new knowledge and helped me in becoming more mature.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to those who provided me with help and support during the process of making this research work.

Abstract

Between the late 18th and early 19th century, Russian Empire underwent major changes which did not only affect the economy, philosophy and religion but also society. Ultimately, these changes and their effect on people made the philosophers and writers break their silence and typify the people's struggles under the capitalist Russia. For that reason, this research paper is an effort to scrutinize the difficulties faced by people under the new system. Therefore, an analysis of Feodor Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment* is to be undertaken. It will depend on alienation concept to provide a psychological analysis of the main character representing the different parts of the Russian society. The method used will provide an answer to the difference in people's behavior and the variation in their psyche according to the social transformation and the external influences that triggered that behavior. This research paper will clarify that society, indeed, has a major influence on people's psyche.

Table of Contents

Declaration of Originality	II
Dedication	III
Acknowledgements	IV
Abstract	V
Table of Contents	VI
General Introduction	01
Chapter 1: A Socio-Psychological Background	
1.1 Introduction	04
1.2 Russian Reformations	04
1.3 The 1861 Emancipation Manifesto	05
1.4 Dostoyevsky and Reformations	05
1.4.1 Social Class	05
1.4.2 Political and Philosophical effects	06
1.4.3 Napoleonism	06
1.4.4 The Economical Influence	07
1.4.5 Existentialism	08
1.4.6 Nihilism	
1.5 Crime and Criminal	09
1.6 Dostoyevsky Through His Works	10
1.7 Dostoyevsky and Religion	11
1.8 Psychoanalysis Through Time	12
1.9 Psychoanalysis Issue	13
1.10 Conclusion	14
Chapter 2: Psychoanalysis and Literature	
2.1 Introduction	16
2.2 Psychoanalysis as a Literary Theory	16
2.3 The Division of The Mind	16

2.4	The Anxieties	17
2.5	The Defense Mechanisms	18
2.6	The Death and Life Drives	20
2.7	The Personality' Characters	20
2.7.1	The Oral-aggressive Character	21
2.7.2	The Anal-expulsive Character	21
2.7.3	The Phallic Character	21
2.8	Social Alienation as a Concept	22
2.9	Conclusion	26
Chapter 3: Crime and Punishment and Psychoanalysis		
3.1	Introduction	28
3.2	Raskolnikov and Psychoanalysis	28
3.2.1	Raskolnikov's Isolation	29
3.2.2	The Crime	29
3.2.3	During The Crime	30
3.3	The Motives Behind The Crime	33
3.4	Suicidal Urges	35
3.5	Sonia and Svidrigailov	39
3.6	Confession	41
3.7	Conclusion	42
	General Conclusion	44
	Glossary	48
	Appendices	49
	Works Cited	56

General Introduction

General Introduction

Literature has always been considered as a mirror to society. In order to gain information about a certain society or a period of time, deciphering a literary text through its context could be taken as an enough source.

Furthermore, literature is correlated to the context and while the world is constantly changing; economically, politically, philosophically, literature reflects people's experiences with those changes and the psychological side of the characters; which opened the path to several studies in the field of psychoanalysis and its effect on literary texts.

Additionally, the last century witnessed many events that had their influence on people's lives, and as a result also on literature. Amongst those events is the Russian transformation; from an empire to a capitalist government. That transformation resulted in the ignition of certain psychological tribulation within the individuals, and supplied literature with various works, resulting in the emergence of the psychoanalytical approach as a literary method.

Although many novelists attempted to represent the influence of the Russian society on people, *Crime and Punishment* by Feodor Dostoyevsky perfectly portrayed the struggle of the individual within Russia at that time, the injustice and the psychological impact on people. His work is an effort to investigate psychological tribulations from different perspectives with a huge emphasis on alienation. Thus, his work *Crime and Punishment* fits perfectly as a rich case study for this research work.

The aim of this research is to answer the following questions:

- How did the context of *Crime and Punishment* influence its creation?
- Are the mental disturbances of Raskolnikov linked to the crime or to his alienation?
- To what extent does alienation affect the characters of the novel?

The previous questions have provoked the following hypotheses:

- In order to find out about the novel's creation; the economical, social and political changes must be presented to give a feedback about the novel.

- It was hypothesized that the disturbed mental state of Raskolnikov and the commitment of the crime resulted from his alienation.

- Each character in the novel was affected by a different kind of alienation that resulted in their separateness from others.

To provide answers to the research questions previously mentioned and test the reliability of the hypotheses, a qualitative research method has been adopted. Documents, journals, and articles have been used to collect information as well as researchers' and theorists' works in the field of psychology and psychoanalysis.

This research work is divided into three chapters. The first chapter will be devoted to the historical context of *Crime and Punishment* and their relation to the author. The second will be a theoretical framework of the psychoanalytic theory together with theorists' perspectives and major aspects of alienation in literature. Whereas, the third chapter will analyse the novel mentioned above in the the capitalist Russia, through a psychoanalytic approach.

Chapter 1:
A Sosio-
Psychological
Background

Chapter 1**1.1 Introduction**

Between the 13th and 16th centuries, Russia was secluded from Europe and did not take part in the Reformation, a break from the Catholic Church, which led to the formation of the Protestant Church, or the Renaissance, and a resurrection of interest in art, science, and classical thought in Western Europe. Russian society was basically feudal, consisted of farm owned by lords and worked by serfs, and then it shifted to a modern, capitalist system.

1.2 Russian Reformations

In the 18th century, Tsar Peter I made vast changes almost to every feature of the Russian society and culture, he renewed the mouth of the Neva River and established Saint Petersburg in 1703. In 1712 it became the capital of the Russian empire, influenced by the art, architecture, philosophy, and commerce of Western Europe. For *Dostoevsky* the city felt new and artificial compared to the more traditional former capital of Moscow.

However, those cultural reforms dwindled, and by the 19th century Russia was far behind Europe. Tsar Alexander II also carried out wide reforms, most notable one is freeing the serfs in 1861 from their absolute slavery to landowners, and only two years before America's Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves in the United States. This was a defining moment for Russia and the most favorable one by Dostoyevsky.

In fact, the transformation of Russia's economic and social structure was accompanied with political uproar, specifically among the intelligentsia, but so did impressive developments in literature, music, the fine arts, and the natural sciences.

1.3 The 1861 Emancipation Manifesto

Under Alexander II, Russia emancipated the serfs bloodlessly in 1861 and put into action social and economic progressive reformation movements in order to catch up to Western Europe. At that time, st. Petersburg was filled with bankers, clerks, and intellectuals. For that reason, various writings about modern, politically liberal philosophies emerged, which there were similar movements to them in Germany and France. Those movements participated in the content of Dostoyevsky's work.

1.4 Dostoyevsky and Reformations

Feodor Dostoyevsky was born November 11, 1821 in Moscow and died in 1881 in st. Petersburg. A novelist and short story writer whose psychological comprehensions of the human psyche along with his unique moments of influence on the illumination had a vast impact on the 19th, 20th centuries fiction.

For that, he is regarded as one of the greatest psychological writer in the history of literature. It can be said that his analysis specialty was pathological mental states, which lead to insanity, murder, and the examination of emotions like humiliation, self-destruction, guilt, shame, dictatorial authority and lethal rage. His novel *Crime and Punishment* was published in 1867 and was met with praise. The story happens during the 1860th century in st. Petersburg under the reign of Tsar Alexander.

1.4.1 Social Class

The different classes in Russia in the 1860s could be noticed, because the higher classes were severely separated from the peasantry. In fact, the different social groups did not speak the same language; the higher classes spoke French in addition to their original

one. However, in the nineteenth century, and with the rise of the so-called intelligentsia, sophisticated classes began to view that division as a big historical calamity.

1.4.2 Political and Philosophical Affects

Dostoevsky wrote *Crime and Punishment* five years after Russian serfs were freed. Young intellectual Russians, like Raskolnikov, the novel's protagonist, were deliberating new ways of thinking about society and doubting the traditional ideas of morality.

Poverty and the inequality that occurred in Europe during the Industrial Revolution extremely influenced philosophers like; George Wilhelm, Immanuel Kant, Friedrich Hegel and Karl Marx which the Russian intellectuals were fascinated by these thinkers' theories of drastic social change. Marx, for example, believed that the struggle between different social classes lies at the heart of society and that one day society would no longer be based on class system.

The conventional prospective of morality found in the law and religion were defied by many of these new ideas. For example, utilitarians believed that the morally right action is the action that produces the most good," even if it violate the conventional moral boundaries. Additionally, nihilism discarded the authority of the state, religion, and family to define moral boundaries. Some nihilists, like Raskolnikov, believed that the only way to create true change was by the destruction of the entire society.

1.4.3 Napoleonism

From the reign of Peter the Great, French culture heavily influenced Russian society. French political thoughts constantly influence the Russian society, in spite of the restriction of traveling from Russia to France after the 1789 French Revolution. Before the

French Revolution, Russia was unwilling to support Napoleon I who helped to overthrow the French monarchy and was expanding throughout Europe in the early 19th century.

In 1812, Napoleon subjugated Russia for he was furious about Russia becoming less cooperative. In the end, the harsh Russian winter, disease and the lack of funds, Napoleon withdrew after losing an enormous number of his men. Nevertheless, the late 1880s, Napoleon was regarded as a legendary leader with great ambitions. Napoleon was being idealized by many people, Raskolnikov was one of them. As illustration, Raskolnikov's theory of extraordinary people can trespass the law, was taken from Napoleon.

1.4.4 The economical influence

Raymond W. Goldsmith stated that at the time of the agricultural reform Russia was a dominant agricultural country with the slightest early stages of industry and still almost with no railroads, a banking system, or business corporations which are the main elements of 19th Century industrialism. Nevertheless, the standard of living was incredibly low compared to Western Europe and the United States. Methods of manufacture and distribution, chiefly in agriculture, were generally pre-capitalistic. (441)

The rapid increase of the population was one of the main forces in the economic development of Russia in the pre-revolutionary period; from 74 million in 1860 to nearly 170 million in 1916. He clarified that the high rate of growth of 1.5 percent per year was due, primarily, to natural increase which in turn reflected a high birth rate. (441)

The increase in population may be a main force of economy but Agriculture was the most important sector of the economy; both as a source of employment and as a

participant in the national income. In 1913, nearly 2/3 of the population was attached to agriculture and almost 1/2 of the national income was obtained from it.

At the time of the agricultural reform Russia was a predominantly agricultural country with only the barest beginnings of industry and still almost without railroads, a banking system, or business corporations, the important characteristics elements of 19th Century industrialism. Additionally, the standard of living was very low compared to Western Europe and the United States. Methods of production and distribution, particularly in agriculture, were generally pre-capitalistic.

Economically, Russia's manufacturing capability and human capital foundation bear a resemblance to those found in the wealthier developed countries, yet its economy is highly dependent on unstable commodity exports like; oil, gas, ferrous metals, aluminum, and timber and households face tremendous economic risk owing to a weak market infrastructure.

1.4.5 Existentialism

In spite of his involvement in radical socialist politics, Dostoyevsky is known for his existentialist views. That appeared in any of his works which adopt existentialist principles such as; *The House of the Dead* (1860), *Notes from the Underground* (1864), *The Gambler* (1866); *The Idiot* (1868); *The Devils* (1872) and *The Brothers Karamazov* (1880). In his works, he ignites the concept of free will or freedom.

Thus, he refuses to allow the law of nature and science to operate, because as long as the laws of nature, which are defined by reason, really exist, free would be an illusion that will be dismissed by reason. For that reason, Dostoyevsky did not believe in the existence of the laws of nature; for him, reason did not exist as an objective entity.

According to Dostoyevsky (1972), “there is no reason, but only reasoners; behind every rational formula there is a formulator; behind every generalization there is generalizer”. He stated that the universe does not make sense and that there are no evident rational patterns in it. Nevertheless, to him, order is a deceiving and a weak aspect that the universe holds on to and which may falls apart at any time. Moreover, according to him reason only leads man off course; one would depend on it only to be let down by it.

It is only sufficient to say that in Dostoyevsky’s novels the reader clashes with the combination of the philosophies of Sartre, Nietzsche, Hegel, Heidegger and Marx, these philosophers were all existentialists except for Marx.

In his novels, Dostoyevsky focuses on the individual as a subject of his environment. His novels can be viewed as a means to dig into the depth of the human psychology and peel the layers that conceal his real essence. And that was precisely what he did in *Crime and Punishment*; he indicated that *Crime and Punishment* is not about the crime, but the motive behind the crime.

1.4.6 Nihilism

Nihilism was a philosophical position developed in Russia in the 1850s and 1860s. It rejected family, societal bonds, emotional and aesthetic concerns in favor of a strict materialism, or the idea that there is no mind or soul outside of the physical world. Linked to it is utilitarianism which is based on the idea that the moral decisions established on the rule of the greatest good for the largest number of people.

1.5 Crime and Criminal

The understanding of crime and the criminal was prominent after the enlightenment in Europe. During that period, Scholars from different areas of study were impelled to deem the crime problem as a result of the operation of the legal system. Punishment, at that time, was arbitrary and barbarous.

This led to the development of different schools for the understanding of crime and the criminal like the classical school, the biological and the sociological. The Chicago school and Critical school of criminology, with its labeling theory, lay within the sociological school. Most serious crimes are violations of traditions, the customs of behavior that are considered crucial to preserve the society.

Several attempts were made to understand the nature of the criminal mind and based on a nature-nurture discussion; some psychologists believe that the criminal behavior is hereditary, while others believe it is gained from the environment. In other words, human beings are genetically prepared.

It is believed that people, as they proceed in life present unchangeable course. To elaborate, a person is the way he is because nature made him that way; a predetermined path. On the other hand, people are viewed as the products of their environment; one's conditions, such as birth, and status, eventually determine what and how one thinks and who he is.

From a sociological perspective, the origins of crime and violence lie within the social construction defined by poverty, unequal opportunities for the minorities and the underclass, cultural emphasis of being on top and lording it over others, exploitation and deceit on the part of the ruling class and so on (Marx, 1984).

1.6 Dostoyevsky Through His Works

Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment* is founded on the writer's petrifying experience with the cruel penal system of Tzarist Russia. The novel can be viewed as a detective novel but not one usual to the detective novels, rather the reasons behind committing the crime. Moreover, it is also a novel that centers on psychological observations and analyses.

Dostoyevsky has uniqueness in his form of writing since he focuses on the use of devices and techniques in addition to his relation to and use of existentialism. On top of that the author relies on the use of psychological realism. In the process the complicated relationship between psychology, sociology, and literature is showed in his works. Furthermore, Dostoyevsky's manipulation of the former three areas made him a high-levelled master in the world of literature.

Dostoyevsky reflects the behavioral patterns of different people from different paths of life. The previous description can be sighted in Dostoyevsky's *The Possessed*, which employs many characters in order to present all classes of the Russian society. The "plot is exceedingly complex but this very complexity tends to emphasize a similar quality in the nineteenth century Russian life" (Welleck).

1.7 Dostoyevsky and Religion

The worth of Russian Orthodoxy exposed itself to Dostoevsky during his exile in Siberia. At that time, he realized that apart from the high society of st. Petersburg, there existed other people who appreciated far superior values. Eventually, the contact with this new world began to change him. Understanding the people, he wanted to love what they loved and believe in what they believed. (Letter from F. Dostoevsky to Doctor A.F, 258)

By the time of his release from prison, the acceptance of faith was more a gratitude of the ideal for which Christ presented. To explain, it was Christ the man whom he respected rather than the Divine nature that he is. His faith was narrowed to the love of Christ, because he had seen in Christ the expression of the highest ideal the mankind capability and to which human beings could aspire. However, Dostoyevsky separated truth from god in *Letter from F. Dostoevsky to N. D. Fonvizina*, Dostoyevsky stated:

"About myself I must tell you that I am a child of ~he age, a child of unbelief and doubtChrist is outside the truth, and if it were a fact

that the truth excludes Christ, I would rather remain with Christ than
the truth ... (72)

Dostoyevsky was raised in a religious household and was acquainted with the content of the bible. His mother only used the old and new testaments to teach her children reading and writing. In spite of the religious background of Dostoyevsky, he could not help but doubt the existence of god.

Later on in his adult hood, Dostoyevsky became involved with the *Russian Utopian Socialists* due to his rough upbringing and the influence of Belinsky, a famous literary critic. The partnership between the two shook Dostoyevsky's faith because his teacher believed that a socialist have to destroy Christianity, a revolution must begin with atheism.

After that, he was arrested for the transmission of a private letter full of disrespectful expressions against the Orthodox Church. While in prison, he reflected on his action and reemerged as a believer. His faith can be traced in many of his novels such as; the Idiot, The Brothers Karamazov, Devils and Crime and Punishment.

1.8 Psychoanalysis Through Time

Psychoanalysis is a method to treat mental disorders, founded based on the psychoanalytic theory, that emphasizes on the process of the unconscious and own it works. The movement was originated under the observations and formulations of Sigmund Freud, who crafted the term *psychoanalysis*. During the 1890s, Freud worked along with the physician and physiologist Josef Breuer in Studies on Hysteria.

He evolved the technique of free association of ideas when he observed that most of his clients talked freely without being under hypnosis. Freud came up to the conclusion that certain agonizing experiences were repressed, or hidden from the conscious mind after noting that some patients had difficulty in expressing themselves in free associations.

He also stated that the most repressed experiences were related to the disturbing sexual experiences, according to the majority of the patients seen during his early practice.

Thus he theorized that anxieties were a consequence of the repressed energy attached to sexuality. Later on, the concept of anxiety was extended by Freud and his followers to include feelings of fear, guilt, and shame which were resulted from violent behavior, resentment and to fear of loneliness caused by the alienation from the person on whom the victim is reliant.

The free-association technique provided him with materials for studying the slips of the tongue, poor memory, and other errors that occur in the daily life. These investigations led him to a new theory which is the structure of personality: the id, ego, and superego, and their level of function; conscious or unconscious.

After that, Freud hypothesized that the patient's attachment to the psychotherapist reflected a conversion of the patient's connection to parents or their substitute. Then he noted that those emotions were influenced by the patient's capability to make free associations. objectively speaking, by observing those responses, the conflicts they provoked and bringing the patient to consider the origin of those feelings, Freud came to an assumption that the examination of the conversion and the patient's resistance to the analysis were the grounding of psychoanalytic therapy.

1.9 Psychoanalysis's Issue

There was a debate about the issue related to the role that Freud credited to genetic instinctual progressions that caused the creation of new psychological theories by Carl Jung, Alfred Adler and Otto Rank. Other significant theorists introduced some noteworthy variations from Freudian theory and technique, including; Harry Stack Sullivan, Karen

Horney, Donald Winnicott, Melanie Klein, Erich Fromm, Erik Erikson, Ronald Fairbairn and Heinz Kohut.

Later developments were made the Freudian psychoanalysis that included theory of psychoanalysis of children and the work on technique, that were established by Melanie Klein and Freud's daughter, Anna Freud. The Freudian tripartite division of the mind into id, ego, and superego became progressively detailed, and at the same time problems of anxiety gained a worthy attention. Plus, investigations of female sexuality were undertaken. Through time, the purpose of psychoanalysis found extra applications in other areas of social thought that went beyond its therapeutic role, specially in anthropology and sociology, arts and literature.

1.10 Conclusion

To sum up, the great reformation of Russia was due to many aspects like adopting the western ideologies, philosophy, economy and religion. For the reason to give an overview about the major factors that reshaped Russia and affected the creation of the novel, this chapter has provided the essential data. The next chapter shall explain psychoanalytic theory that is most fit to examine *Crime and Punishment*.

Chapter 2:
Psychoanalysis and
Literature

Chapter 2**2.1 Introduction**

Psychoanalysis is an endeavor to scrutinize the psyche of its subject. It uses methods to approach the psychosomatic productions like speech, actions, dreams, and literary works. Therefore, it provides a deep understanding of one's mental state or psyche. In the other hand, according to oxford dictionary; alienation is the estrangement or withdrawal from society or family which can be a manifestation of a mental disorder of social or political disaffection. In other words, psychoanalysis aims to decipher the purpose behind the human behavior while social alienation tends to discover the social circumstances that affect the individual. This chapter aims to provide an overview about psychoanalysis as a literary theory and social alienation as a concept.

2.2 Psychoanalysis as a Literary Theory

Although the originality of psychoanalysis cannot be associated with Sigmund Freud, his devotion for the approach contributed greatly in providing a detailed knowledge about the branch. One of his outstanding theories is the personality theories, in which he identified the three parts of the mind the Id, the Ego and the Superego. Furthermore, this approach cannot be only applied on real life cases, but it can also be used to scrutinize literary works, characters and even writers.

2.3 The Division of The Mind

In the ego and the id 1923, Freud identified the Id of the nervous system as the translation of the organism's needs into motivational forces which are called *instincts* or *drives*. They present the somatic demands upon the mind. The Id works by the pleasure principle. According to Freud, the infant Id is pure and it is a representative of the psychic

biology. And it is completely unconscious and biological. Hence, it is hereditary. However, deluding the Id by mere images to satisfy it, does not mean it will work on the organism. To put it simply, the need grows stronger and stronger by the time until it has whole attention. For that, it breaks from the unconscious into the conscious.

George Boeree stated that a conversion from the unconscious to the conscious is a transfer from the Id to the Ego. That process in itself connects the organism to reality and starts to work on solution that is both convenient to the self and the outer world. The Ego is a part of the Id which went through a development. It works with the reality principle and it is self persevered. It deals with the external world through gaining experiences(i.e. the influence of the individual's experiences). And unlike the Id, the ego is psychological. Though, sometimes it struggles to attain the gratification of the Id under the contemplation of reward and punishment put forth by the social rules. (5)

He also clarified that these contemplations and strategies that should be taken soon becomes the superego, which falls under the social conception. This part has two features to it. One it plays the conscience which is internalization of punishment and warnings. The second one is the ego-ideal that derives from rewards and ideal models; in other words, the influence of the social morals. The two of them converse their necessities to the ego through feelings like pride, shame and guilt.(6)

2.4 The anxieties:

Boeree mentioned in his work that, in order to have a better grasp of one's mental health, maintaining a good care and a control over one's psychological, social and biological side is necessary. According to Freud, the synchronization of the three builds a healthy and stable state of mind. Conversely, the imbalance between them leads to

overwhelming anxieties: first, the realistic anxiety is what everyone call 'fear', for example, when confronted with a lion or fire. Second, the moral anxiety is what comes from the internalized society of the superego like shame, guilt and fear of punishment. And lastly the neurotic anxiety is the verge of losing the temper or rationality. It is a nervous anxiety. (6)

2.5 The Defense Mechanisms

When the anxiety becomes overpowering, the ego becomes aware that it should defend itself. It does it unconsciously in order to block the threatening impulses or twists them into an acceptable or a less threatening form. The procedures it uses are called *Defense Mechanisms*. Boeree simplified them as follow:

First is *denial* which is blocking a horrifying events or experience from the awareness. For example; a child who lost a parent he/she holds dear, his/her mind would block that moment as it never happened. However, that process cannot be for eternity and eventually the memories and feelings would arise again. This defense mechanism is considered a dangerous one because it functions by itself. Second, *Repression* is what causes the phobias but with no hint of the event that caused them. For example, someone who is extremely afraid of heights and cannot go anywhere near those for unknown reason however people keep on telling him he almost died when he was a kid because of falling from a high place, he cannot remember the event.

Third, *Isolation/intellectualization* is separating the emotion from a difficult memory or a threatening impulse. Like surgeon, fire fighters....do in a situation of life and death. Fourth, *Displacement* is redirecting an impulse onto a substitute target. For instance, someone who is frustrated by his/her boss may unleash their frustration on children outside. Fifth, *Turning against the self* is a form of displacement where a person becomes

his own substitute. Freud linked hatred, anger and aggression to many other feelings like inferiority, guilt and depression.

Sixth, *Projection* is seeing someone's own unacceptable desires in others. For example, someone who is excessively aggressive yet he does not acknowledge it in himself but link it to another person. Seventh, *Reaction formation* is reversing an unacceptable impulse into its opposite. For example; donating stolen money. Eighth, *Undoing* includes gestures that are meant to annul an unacceptable thought after their occurrence. For example; someone frown whenever he sees a person who shares his stealing habits.

Ninth, *Introjections or identification* is taking someone else's characteristics into another's own personality in order to solve some emotional difficulties. As an example, a child who is frequently left alone takes the role of the parent and soothes his/ her toys. It is an important to the Freudian theory because it is a mechanism in which the person develop his superego. Tenth, *Regression* according to Freud's theory, it is the movement back in the psychological time when a person is faced with stress. When he is troubled or frightened, the behavior becomes more childish or primitive. For Freud, the person goes back to when was the last time they felt safe and secured. Eleventh, *Rationalization* is the distortion of facts in order to make an event less threatening. In other words, making excuses in order not to get hurt. (7-12)

All the defenses are lies even if they are unconsciously activated. That, however, does not make them less dangerous but increase their danger. Because lie after lie, the ego becomes neither capable of fulfilling the ID's demands nor attentive to the superego. Then, the anxieties come rushing back and eventually they lead to mental breakdown. However, Freud saw them as a necessity because it is hard to expect someone to take the painful and sorrowful events of life all at once. As for his followers, they thought that the defenses

could be used positively. He, in the other hand, suggested only one positive defense which is sublimation. According to Freud, sublimation is “the origins of artistic activity” all positive and creative activities were sublimation and extracted from sexual desires.(1558)

2.6 The Death and Life Drives

The life desire can be divided into two sections. The first is the life of the individuals which pursue needs like food and beverage. The second is the life of the species which seeks the need to cultivate. The motivational force of these life instincts is called the LIBIDO which means *I DESIRE*. Afterwards the word, psychologically, became to mean not any drive but the sex drive. the sex drive, according to Freud, is the most motivating force. As a matter of fact, he thought it was the primary motive not for only adults but children and infants as well. By sexuality, Freud did not only mean orgasm but all pleasurable sensations from the skin. Under the evidence that people (adults, children) enjoyed tactile experiences like kisses, hugs...etc.

The death drive and its Nirvana Principle which means nothingness can be visualized in forms like; the attraction to escapist activities such as book, films, sleep and so forth. And also the attraction toward alcohol and narcotics, sometimes it represents itself as suicide or suicidal wishes. When driven out from suicidal wishes it becomes aggression, cruelty, murder and destructiveness.(6-7)

2.7 The Personality's Characters

As Boeree stated in his work *Personality Theories* (1997-2006), traumas related to the stages development may result in what is called fixation in the personality. What is recorded of them are as follow:

2.7.1 The Oral-aggressive Character

Between 5 and 8 months the baby begins teething which can be greatly uncomfortable for mothers and it may lead to precipitated weaning. Consequently, the person develops an oral-aggressive personality. This person retains the habit of biting on things like pencils, people, nails...etc. this kind of people tend to be verbally aggressive, argumentative and sarcastic.

2.7.2 The Anal-expulsive Character

This is resulted from the subtraction of the anal pleasure. This kind of personality becomes sloppy, disorganized and makes a lot of mistakes. They may become cruel, destructive and given to vandalism.

2.7.3 The Phallic Character

A boy rejected by his mother and threatened by his manly father may develop a poor sense of his self-worth when it comes to his sexuality. He may withdraw from heterosexual interaction, or become a book-worm. However, if the boy was favored by other over his father, giving no reason to take after his father, the boy develops a certain opinion about himself and may appear a little overly feminine, which might lead to great suffer in the real world where no one loves him like his mother.

A girl rejected by her father and threatened by her mother's femininity is likely to feel poorly about herself, and becomes extremely feminine. Conversely, a girl who is her father's princess and best companion while the mother's only role is to take care of the chores, then the girl may take after her father and may become masculine and self-centered. These various characters may be deeply engraved within a person. In spite of this, these characteristics can be easily reversed. (13-14)

In other words, if the infant was frustrated in one of the stages development, and that in turn affected the character development that would definitely affect the shape of the persons's character when he grows up.

2.8 Social Alienation as a Concept

According to C. Wright Mills (1959) Sociology aims to elucidate the connections between history, society, and the individual. For years philosophers and sociologist like Marx (1844) made it their aim to understand those relationships. Therefore, the question for that matter arises: How do vast historical events which transform entire social structures affect the individuals within them? An answer was provided by several sociologist and philosophers which is alienation that occurs in the transformation of long-established society to modern society; alienation, the severing of the social bond; a feeling and cognizance of one's separateness from others, of one's powerlessness in the face of immense bureaucracies and political systems, of anonymity and meaninglessness, of self-estrangement. The term "alienation" itself comes to be seen as encircling historical, sociological and psychological affiliation.

According to these philosophers, capitalistic economy, urbanization and industrialization are some of the issues responsible for the development of psychosocial alienation among human kind. They believe that capitalistic and materialistic modernizations undoubtedly elevate the standard of living; as a consequence, these aspects basically shackle the true fundamental nature of human beings by making them more mechanical and artificial. As an effect, feelings of isolation, anguish, impatience, worthlessness, bitterness and hatred infect the inherent morals or values of human beings creating a psychosocial susceptibility in them.

Gradually, along with the philosophers, different psychologists, artists and literary figures have recognized this undignified feature of alienation and therefore made the effort to raise awareness among the masses about its catastrophic effects or consequences through their works. Dostoevsky is one of these profound scholars who have not just explored the inside story of human psychosocial disorders, but also evaluated the manipulation of materialistic advancement through the character portrayals and themes of his works. For that, Marx clarified in *the Grundrisse* (1857): “Society does not consist of individuals, but expresses the sum of interrelation, the relation within which these individuals stand”.

As it was mentioned, psychosocial alienation is a dehumanizing aspect which poisons human conscience with extreme pessimism, provokes people to do unlawful deeds, makes them hate their existence; the tragic accounts of Dostoevsky’s character, Raskolnikov, successfully highlight these notions with his representations. Raskolnikov highlights how the intellect of an individual gets tormented after observing the socio-political disorders; like class conflicts, poverty, injustice, and the personification of the distorted concoction of Russian culture and traditions under western influence in the nineteenth century.

To elaborate more, the ever-growing process of urbanization has boosted capitalism which eventually made the human societies more materialistic and more competitive. As a result, all the morals, values and ethics have become materialized and humans become like automaton who only know how to struggle hard in desire of money and power. While it is more important to emphasize upon the aesthetic or psychic demands of their souls as they are the roots of rationalization, intellect and moral judgment; humans decide to do the exact opposite under the influence of capitalism. It was derived from Marx's writings that the emergence of the capitalistic societies is the cause of alienation.

The contemporary literature tends to substitute "modernization" in general for the flexible term of capitalism. It is modern society in general that brings about alienation.

The classical writers like Durkheim, Simmel, and Weber devoted much of their efforts to alienation through developing their theories from Karl Marx,. These writers were concerned about alienation which was through their investigation of the influence of industrialization on the social order of the European Feudal societies. To many of these writers, alienation was one result of the degenerating feudal system and its replacement by the capitalist system of the bourgeoisie.

Sydney Joy Jackson (1983) stated: "the Marxist oriented writers argue that reduction of the term "alienation" to psychological dimensions transforms its meaning and severs it from its classical roots in Hegel and Marx. It thus shifts analysis away from historical-structural levels to social-psychological levels" (17). In other words, they argue that it should be treated as a societal condition. This, in turn, deprives the concept of much of its analytical and basic focus. Fundamentally, to shred the term of its basic designations is exactly what the writers of a social-psychological orientation have attempted to do. The issue of whether the term should refer to subjective or objective evident fact is perhaps one of the more crucial among the researchers in the alienation field.

Seeman's (1959) work is an attempt to specify the psychological dimensions of the alienation phenomenon: powerlessness, meaninglessness, normlessness, isolation and self-estrangement; but the problem has occurred as to whether the term should refer to all of these concepts as a set of interrelated aspects or whether each is to be considered as a type of alienation independent of the others. Accordingly, Eric Fromm (1972) added that alienation is very widespread. People are said to be alienated from nature, society, society and culture, others, and considerably, from himself.

According to sociologists, capitalism created social stratification which exploited the lower classes under the higher, wealthy class. Adam Smith mentioned that in many cases the different talents that people use in their different professions are not the cause as the effect of the division of labor. He explicated the theory of social stratification and social inequality occurrence by exemplifying with the dissimilarity between a philosopher and a street porter.

By provoking the idea, Adam Smith had a purpose in mind; the division of labor is not due to the different faculty but the setting ground of the different carriers is what leads to the development of the different capacities. To elaborate, the different talents which human possess like strength, intellect and so on, are what explains the social distance between the different ranks of society, precisely, the different in wealth and power. Adam Smith in *wealth and nation* said: “in a country which had acquired that full complement of riches both the wages of labour and the profits of stock would probably be very low....”(84)

Furthermore, the theory of alienation plays a major role in decoding the criminal behavior. It explains the criminal behavior through digging into the psychological and the sociological concepts of criminality. For psycho-sociologists, psychological factors play an important role in the criminal behavior; it explains the crime of passion and why a person with no history of crime commits a crime, and it retains emphasis on social interactions, while emphasizes on the emotional contents of that interaction. To elucidate, crime rates appear to be high where social interactions are characterized by isolation, anonymity, and impersonalization. The criminal is seen as to be emotionally isolated, aggressive and has a sense of insecurity. For that the criminal does not have to be poor or any of that sort in order to carry out a crime.

2.9 Conclusion

To sum up, psychoanalysis is the branch that is used to decipher the psycho-somatic relation and the human behavior, while social alienation is a concept that helps to understand the relation between history, society and the individual and how the former two affect the latter. Although psychoanalysis and social alienation can be considered different, the two have an interlinked relationship; because one can lead or be used to understand the other. Thus, the third chapter is a sample of how psychoanalysis and social alienation function.

*Chapter 3: Crime and
Punishment and
Psychoanalysis*

Chapter 3**3.1 Introduction**

Although psychoanalytic approach was prominent years after Dostoyevsky's works, the author showed no difficulty to delve inside the mind of his characters and submits them to the masses. The reader cannot but notice in Dostoyevsky's works that they focus on the individual's personal life and his interaction with his surrounding and society, presenting his mental health's issues and struggles in correlation with his environment.

3.2 Raskolnikov and Psychoanalysis

Personality theory can be said that it comes hand in hand with Dostoyevsky's character *Raskolnikov*, who is a twenty three years old former student who isolated himself from the outer world after he fell into poverty. Raskolnikov is a person with a paradoxical personality hence for the name Raskol which means split and schismatic. He is philanthropic, moralistic and sophisticated, yet a sadist, egoistic, impulsive and bad-tempered; the contradictory characteristics represent his two personalities in the novel.

To elaborate, he is kind and compassionate at a moment and at the next he becomes cruel and unsympathetic. The part in *Crime and Punishment* when Raskolnikov saw the drunken girl followed by the "dandy" is the best example to be taken. After all he did to the girl; he simply abandoned the situation leaving even the policeman flummoxed (71-78).

Furthermore, the monologues Raskolnikov always have with himself are a reflection of the arguments his Id and Superego have. Going back to the previous example, as if he was following his morals, principles, and the social norms he rushed to the girl's

aid, doing his best to keep her from harm, but his Id soon took over him and he regretted helping and giving money for the girl's sake. Then his compassionate self reappeared. Knowing that, the reader cannot but assume that Raskolnikov is either a confused character or he cannot control his self.

3.2.1 Raskolnikov's Isolation

Raskolnikov's isolation and poverty is what led him to develop neurotic drives. Due to his pride, he isolated himself after he fell into poverty and in his isolation he came up with a theory that divides the humans into two kinds: the ordinary and the extraordinary. He believed that the latter are people who can trespass the law as long as it is justifiable. Including himself with the extraordinaries, he committed a cruel crime which he thought it would not affect him. However, that was reversed soon afterwards. In fact, His mental state deteriorated and he fell into psychological punishment.

3.2.2 The Crime

Furthermore, the scheme is like an obsession; it is a defensive declaration of unconscious conflict and a representational statement of that same conflict. , Raskolnikov's fear and guilt centered on the crime the moment it was committed. But the analyst cannot but detect the isolation, anger, fear and guilt that were all present before the murder. The crime in itself is a symbolic act, and it needs to be interpreted.

The crime could not be committed if there was not a lack of control which led to psychological tribulations. In order to prove that he is in control of his superego, Raskolnikov put his project into action just to find out afterward that his moral principle is much dominating than he thought. The state he became after the crime is apodictic.

Nevertheless, the crime is considered as a displacement; his financial circumstances, the stressful letter of his mother that mentioned the unpredicted and unacceptable situation of his beloved sister, and the landlady, played a tremendous part for the crime to take a place. Hence, the substitute for all the previously mentioned were the pawnbroker and, unexpectedly, her sister.

For that reason, he needed someone who gives him justification and diminishes his feeling of fear and guilt, and that was granted soon after, by reasoning that Ivanovna was a terrible and abusive person which did him good because he thought the world can be better without a person like her. His action was ignited by the conversation between the student and the officer in the tavern (97-101). The conversation seemed to nourish his determination and provides him with excuses and reasons for the crime.

Furthermore, execution of the crime can be related to Rodion's death drive. That is concluded from Raskolnikov attraction to sleep and surprisingly to alcohol. For further explanation, his death drive dominates him more than his life drive. Plus the destructiveness Rodion possesses can be linked to his nirvana principle (i.e. nothingness). His cruelty and aggression reflect the death drive within him which eventually took the form of murder.

3.2.3 During The Crime

By the time he put his project into action, his intellectualization seemed to take over. He separated his emotions from the murder and he did not have a problem going through her belongings under the rationalization that she was a horrible and an abusive person. In other words, he reasoned his unacceptable impulse.

However, the fear of being discovered when Lizavita saw him activated his primitive instincts and without a second thought he exterminated her. And unlike Ivanovna's death, Lizavita's affected him, causing him to turn against himself. Afterwards, Loathing, frustration and regret conquered him. As much as he regretted the unexpected death, he thought of turning himself in.

Under the proof that the main characteristics of the moral anxiety are shame, guilt and the fear of punishment, it can be said that he was going through a moral anxiety for the unforeseen murder. The fear of punishment was the most palpable when he was detached from reality and focused on the details to cover his trails. As an illustration, in crime and punishment:

“Fear gained more and more mastery over him, especially after this second, quite unexpected murder. He longed to run away from the place as fast as possible. And if at that moment he had been capable of seeing and reasoning more correctly, if he had been able to realise all the difficulties of his position, the hopelessness, the hideousness and the absurdity of it, if he could have understood how many obstacles and, perhaps, crimes he had still to overcome or to commit, to get out of that place and to make his way home, it is very possible that he would have flung up everything, and would have gone to give himself up, and not from fear, but from simple horror and loathing of what he had done. The feeling of loathing especially surged up within him and grew stronger every minute. He would not now have gone to the box or even into the room for anything in the world.”(121)

After covering his traces, the neurotic anxiety he went through was so strong that it impinged on him and weakened his body. The concoction of fear, confusion, guilt and

loath drained him entirely that he goes to his cup-board like room like a shell. His psychological tribulation drained his somatic energy. Life could not be traced in him and he seemed to lose the power to cover his crime; reflecting how much he was, psychologically, shattered.

After going through his plan, Raskolnikov began to doubt himself and his senses and confusion drew on him. Though Nastasia and the porter's visit was simply to deliver a police summoning letter, fear rose again within him. Then there was the letter from the police which was a summoning for the landlady's complaint. But at first, he thought that he was discovered and mirrored his demoralization about it and his readiness to confess beforehand. In other words, his paranoia possessed him.

Freud in his *Dostoyevsky and Parricide* said: "two traits are essential in a criminal: boundless egoism and a strong destructive urge." (2). The two qualities mentioned previously both exist in the character's personality and from that the analysts can conclude that Raskolnikov's crime was not due to his slip only, but due to the criminality that exists within him. Seeing himself as an extraordinary and giving himself the right to surpass the law in order to achieve his goals, taking no consideration for others welfare in the process, are what define his boundless egoism and make him the narcissist criminal he is.

The destructive urge he possesses is directed toward others but mainly to harm his own self. For example, he does his utmost to ruin his relationships with his surrounding like his mother, his sister and Razumikhin by treating them sadistically. On another scale, the urge appears in another façade which is a violent side of his self. To illustrate, the murder of Ivanovna and Lizavita in which he used a cruel and a savage way to kill them by.

3.4 The Motives Behind the Crime

When he confessed to Sonia, Raskolnikov stated that he did not know the reason why he killed the pawnbroker. But at that time, he gave five motives for his action. First, he justified the crime with his need of money. This motive falls under the social justification of poverty. Secondly, he argued that it was for the majority's good and he wished to benefit the society by eliminating a hideous person like the pawnbroker. This motive as a whole is utilitarianism. These two first motives can be linked because they functioned on the level of consciousness.' As he mentioned in the novel:

“What do you think, would not one tiny crime be wiped out by thousands of good deeds? For one life thousands would be saved from corruption and decay. One death, and a hundred lives in exchange—it's simple arithmetic! Besides, what value has the life of that sickly, stupid, ill-natured old woman in the balance of existence!”(100)

The third motivation falls under the psychological level, seeing how he killed the old lady out of subconscious instincts. After that, he claimed as a fourth motivation that because his will was above good and evil therefore law and order, he had the right to step over the limits of the ordinary human laws. Unlike utilitarianism this issue is moralistic, a matter of sovereignty and extended ego, in other words, Napoleonism. Lastly, Raskolnikov said to Sonia:”was it the old hag I killed? No, I killed myself, and not the old hag. I did away with myself at one blow and for good. It was the devil who killed the old hag, not I”. By that Raskolnikov posed the question of man's relation to god.

That statement showed that Raskolnikov killed because he could not place himself and his personality under the vague structure of the entity outside the self. In the same

confession scene Raskolnikov rejected these motives that are a reflection of the different sides of his personality which are connected to his experience and cannot be overlooked.

Giovacchini (1972) noted that an external object was necessary for someone like Raskolnikov to project his inner destructiveness, death drive, for that he found the pawnbroker as a suitable substitute. To elaborate, Raskolnikov's self hate was projected and unleashed on the pawnbroker and, mistakenly, her sister. By killing her, he committed a symbolic suicide. It was not her death which was needed to escape the unbearable rage at the bad narcissist mother from which he learned the concept of bad self and self disdain.

In that matter, Brody (1965) argued that the mother's own needs were projected on the young Raskolnikov; she cuddles him when she felt the need for comfort and fed him when she, herself, felt an inner hunger. For that reason, an inadequate differentiation grew between the two of them, leading to the conclusion that the infant was none other than an extension of the mother's representation, existing solely to satisfy her needs

Furthermore, as a guess, it can be said that as an infant, Raskolnikov's oral desires were not satisfied. If that was not the case, he would have been able to link the satisfactory feeding to a good, complete self. Instead, he was not complete because he was dependent on his mother whose her oral needs were not satisfactorily in his early life. Plus, the lack of emotional aspect together with the intrusion and invasion of his private life started the development of his aggressive impulses. With the concept of bad mother resulted a bad self, he introjected those aggressive impulses and which appeared from his early experiences. He loathed his mother and raged on her intrusive behaviour.

Unable to differentiate himself from her, Raskolnikov developed an innate self-hatred which interfered with his future life. For example, his major fears were

abandonment and annihilation, emotions which his narcissistic mother can easily convey and promote. For that, He keeps his rage directed at himself, since it is less dangerous. Later then, he spends so much time trying to atone for his double sin; first one that of being furious at his mother; and the second that of being greedy child who does not deserve anything more.

3.5 Suicidal Urges

The murders are considered as a representation of represent an explicit suicide and a defense against possible suicidal drives. In that prospect, Kilpatrick (1948) stated that in order to understand Raskolnikov's potential for suicide, it would be useful to look at the personality of the suicidal person. On the other hand, Tabachnick (1961, b) identified three major elements in the personality the suicidal person which are; infantile dependence, masochism, and a history of sado-masochistic relationships.

Firstly, Raskolnikov's behavior is full of signs of infantile dependence. To demonstrate, Raskolnikov regresses when the others fail to take care of him, he does not eat, change his clothes, or socialize. In that account, his presence in St. Petersburg was the result of two women, his mother and his sister, who sacrificed their time and money in desire for him to continue his education.

When they did not send him money, he became lethargic and passively waited for the next portion of funds rather than finding ways of earning money to support himself. His infantile dependence is also traced in his relationship with the landlady; she fed him and saw to his room's tidiness. However, when he stopped paying his rent, and she stopped bringing him food, he did not take actions to defend himself. In contrast, He resorted to

rationalize his passivity. For example; he couldn't continue his education because he was destitute, and also he couldn't give lessons because he had no books or boots.

Secondly the masochism within Raskolnikov, he was unable to straightforwardly express his anger and frustration toward his mother and the landlady, so the selfish and dependent self endured agitation toward them. However, seeing how Raskolnikov spent his early years in abandonment, this situation can be only considered as reasonable. In this case Brody (1965) stated: "For the child, the mother's deafness and blindness to his spontaneous, non congruent behavior verify his terror of abandonment". (183)

In the other hand, stating bluntly his agitation for his mother directly to her requires an ego maturity and independency which Raskolnikov only began to work on. For that, it was jeopardizing for him to be that conscious of his rage. That was yet Again an inward direction of his anger which made him suffer instead of the original responsible target for his wretched circumstance. That is the reason behind his choice of loneliness and isolation rather than others companionship.

Lastly, Tabachnick (1961, b) noted that suicidal people enter into sadomasochist relations. For Raskolnikov, he deals with people who allow him to depend on, his abnormal and the cold attitude is a way to sadistically punish them, and also to let them know that they made him to suffer. To elaborate, he treated and reacted to his friends in a way that he would probably do to his mother. His desires were unappeasable and he conveyed them to his close friends, Razumihin and Sonia, and indirectly to his mother in coldest way he saw it fit.

Tabachnick (1961) clarified that Razumikhin was being manipulated by Raskolnikov by taking care of him. Although his condition (regression, confusion, and depression) drained his friend's resources, Razumikhin, willingly, did his utmost to take

care of Raskolnikov and accepted him without protest, wasting no effort to satisfy the unappeasable person. As for Sonia, she played an extensive therapeutic role with similar function to Razumikhin's role in Raskolnikov's ego growth.

Taking into consideration that Raskolnikov's psychological and physical deprivations along with the introjected aggression and self-contempt goes back to his infancy. As Blos (1962) notes:

“The onset of puberty brings with it a quantitative increase of instinctual drive energy. A recathexis of pregenital instinctual positions occurs which in many ways resembles drive diffusion. Component instincts come blatantly to the fore, the attempt to control them is evidenced by . . . shyness, embarrassment . . . sadomasochistic trends to impassivity and indifference. . . . All pregenital impulses, in their aims of incorporation, seem to possess a certain destructive component . . . experience of frustration greatly increases the destructive element. There is a massive attempt by the ego to tame the aggressive drive during early adolescence” (173)

Furthermore, the letter that arrived from his mother, which announced the deficiency of allowance and his sister's marriage from the older, rich, and sadist Svidrigailov, serves as channel between his past and present; it ignited and put into action the unresolved conflicts between him and his mother. The adolescent process unleashed the frustration, rage and the buried old feeling towards the mother.

Later on as the story progresses, Raskolnikov finds himself obliged to respond to the unconscious demands for an “idealized image”, In order to put an end to his “bad self”

(Kilpatrick, 1948). Thus Raskolnikov tries to restore his self- pride. And for that reason, he tested his Napoleonic which is a representation of the “idealized self” that is above the law and beyond his mother’s hold.

The pawnbroker’s death is unavoidable because it is a way to kill the bad-self within him. On the other hand, although the pawnbroker’s step-sister’s death, Lizaveta, was not planned, or taken into consideration, it was also unavoidable. Unlike the pawnbroker’s death which symbolizes both his mother’s and his evilness; Lizavita symbolizes his weakness and his helplessness to blend in the real world, weakness like his rage which did not have a place in the “idealized image.”

Rykken (1966) informed that Suicidal behavior includes the components of hostility, with the wish to kill, and guilt feelings, with the wish to be killed. These components are represented in Raskolnikov. He, for a long time, could effectively control his conflicts and impulses; however, the degeneration in his life caused his suicidal behavior which was reflected in the murders, his depression, and his regression. In other words, his disintegration is marked by severe discontent with his life and circumstances, and the lack of self-protection instinct.

Dabrowski (1966) notes: “We may distinguish between positive and negative disintegration by the presence or absence, respectively, of self consciousness and self control, i.e., how the person handles his automatic responses”(249). Raskolnikov's self-control was apparent when he did not take his own life. Fugue states often block his consciousness, but from time to time, his awareness of his severe despair and his hope for transformation, surface.

Nevertheless, Rodion employs defense mechanisms, such as regression, to avoid lasting damage or his own death. Activity is substituted by lethargy, which enforce

restrictions upon the instinctual drives, like self-destruction. Through projecting his self-hate onto the pawnbroker and her step-sister, he controls the fear of death. This process in itself indicates a conflict about his desire to die. For that, his mind, frequently, goes into the fugue state which shields him from his death wishes.

“Raskolnikov walked straight to X—— Bridge, stood in the middle, and leaning both elbows on the rail stared into the distance...She soon recovered consciousness, raised her head, sat up and began sneezing and coughing, stupidly wiping her wet dress with her hands. She said nothing.” (243-245)

Raskolnikov, coincidentally, came across the agonized woman's suicide attempt. He witnessed and had an idea of what it would be like if he committed suicide, and took a decision about no matter how desperate his life is and how much discomfort he would feel, he would remain alive.

3.6 Sonia and Svidrigailov

In order to point out the dual personality of the main character *Raskolnikov*, Sonia and Svidrigailov were created by Dostoevsky. He formed them with the aim of representing the opposing sides of Raskolnikov.

Sonia, in one hand, influenced him positively. He felt comfortable around her because unlike the others, she accepted him for who he was; both his good and bad-self, showing neither disgust nor fear of his conflicting feelings or where he stood in terms of ego maturity. As an effect, he became able to establish a permanent and helpful relationship with another human being. Sonia represents a positive and an implicit expectation that in time would surpass the death wish and strive toward life force. She and Svidrigailov are two contradicted figures in the novel.

Svidrigailov reflect the unsympathetic intellectual side that stresses selfishness. As it is apparant in *Crime and Punishment*, All of Svidrigailov's actions are meant to provide him pleasure and to rank him above the common morality. For Svidrigailov, This simply means that he does not consent to minor human actions, morality, or law to prevent him doing things in his own way.

“Well, let me tell you Rodion Romanovich, I don’t consider it necessary to justify myself, but I would be grateful if you could explain to me what was particularly criminal about how I behaved in all this, speaking without prejudice, with common sense?”(397-398)

He always seems to try to convict Raskolnikov that both of them are greatly similar to each other, which in a way it is the case. However, unlike him Raskolnikov fought his suicidal urges. Being prideful, Svidrigailov commits suicide when Dunia rejects him after he tried to rape her.

“He went to Dunia and gently put his arm around her waist. She did not resist, but, trembling like a leaf, looked at him with suppliant eyes.....there were still two charges and one capsule left in it. It could be fired again. He thought a little, put the revolver in his pocket, took his hat and went out.”(695-696)

Svidrigailov is a demonstration of malevolence and somehow the “idealized image” that Raskolnikov wanted to be. He is a criminal who committed several crimes, yet none of them was met with justice. Indeed, he was above the law, something Raskolnikov wanted but failed to attain. In opposition to their similar personalities, the main difference between the two is that Svidrigailov could commit any crime without guilt and concern. Whereas

Raskolnikov was tormented after the murders and he accepted his punishment. Svidrigailov's attitude symbolizes Raskolnikov's pulling force toward destructiveness which is in Raskolnikov's case being suicidal.

In contrast, Sonia's orientation towards life wins over Svidrigailov's pull towards destructiveness. To elaborate, her pure and genuine concern makes it possible for Raskolnikov to overpower the strong drag toward his end. Thus, putting his fate in Sonia, Raskolnikov was able to reincarnate. Dabrowski (1966) noted that the demarcation between a positive and a negative disintegration can be seen only by assessment of the final outcome of the development.

3.7 The Confession

Putting his life in Sonia's hands, yet not trusting and believing in his own self, Raskolnikov accepted his eight-year sentence in Siberia. As for Prison, it is a representation of freedom, a discharge from his suicidal drives. He puts his conscience in peace after recognizing his crime and admitting that he had no right to kill the two sisters. As an addition, Sonia's conviction in his ability for reintegration granted the essential elements in his recover.

At one point during his prison sentence, Raskolnikov has a dream. The dream was filled with fighting, death, and abandonment. The dream was full of hints of superior race; Raskolnikov's consequential attitude with Sonia signifies that the dream represents a decrease in his illusion of supremacy; which indicates that he was not one of the extraordinary like Svidrigailov.

By giving up his obsession of the "idealized image", Raskolnikov has gained the ability to see beyond the constricted limitations of his conflicted self and began to deal with Sonia as someone separated from himself; like someone who was not an object to

unleash his self-loath and rage. He recognized his need for her and became distressed when she was not around, declaring his dependency on her and consciously accepting her. And after going to prison, he was fully independent of everyone.

For that reason, Sonia's appreciation could be for herself and not for what she offered him; because Raskolnikov did not need his intense, defensive egoism. Instead, he started to use his intellectual, theorizing self that allowed him to experience life. He began to feel and experience more of life. Sonia facilitated and played a big part in his revival by being constantly available for him, leading him to atone for his crime and run a free and peaceful life, even within jail.

3.8 Conclusion

To conclude, via the psychoanalytic approach, the researcher has granted a deep scrutiny of Raskolnikov's psyche, the motives behind the commitment of the crime and Sonia's impact on Raskolnikov's life that led to his confession. For these reasons, this chapter has linked the social changes and their impact on Raskolnikov by capturing the psychological angle.

General Conclusion

General Conclusion

This research work has fulfilled its role beginning in providing the essential information about the transformations that happened between late 18th and early 19th century in Russia. Thus, it presented the important data of how did Russia turned from an empire to a capitalist government like, economically, politically and pilosophically. However, those changes affected, mentally and psychologically, the Russian people. As a result, a statement of the situation had to be presented, for that the Russian writers fulfilled their duty, especially, Dostoyevsky.

Dostoyevsky is a writer who managed to provide a precise demonstration of the Russian society through his characters. Furthermore, in spite of the writer's mental state he perfectly submitted an accurate and a rich novel about the Russian society and its people at that period. He was capable of presenting the social injustice, social stratification and the behavior of different people of different classes.

This research paper examined the characters and themes relating to psychological issues as represented in *Crime and Punishment* through a psychoanalysis approach. It delved into the psyche of the main character and linked his internal struggles to his environment and the people around him .

This dissertation sought to present the Russian society and its transformation, and the effects of that transformation on the people's psyche and eventually their behavior. In order to answer these questions, it was hypothesized that an overview about the economical, political and philosophical changes must be conducted.

It also theorized that the mental turmoils and the commitment of the crime by the main character were connected to his alienation from his surroundings. Then, and in order

to show how much alienation affected the characters of the novel, this research paper presented the different types of alienation.

Therefore, the first chapter dealt with the history of the Russian transformation from an empire to a capitalist government and the Freudian psychoanalytic theory through time. It introduced the rise of Russian government economically, politically and philosophically. It also provided a short review about the psychoanalytic theory development through time.

The second chapter provided a thorough explanation of psychoanalysis as a therapy and as a literary theory. The concept of alienation was also conducted, reflecting its role in the creation of feeling like shame, isolation and estrangement that at the end result in mental disorders.

Whereas, the last chapter analyzed the main character *Raskolnikov* of *Crime and Punishment*, by going through his psyche before the commitment of the crime, during the process of the murder until his confession, reflecting the mental turmoils that Raskolnikov went through. Nevertheless, it showed how his alienation affected him.

The analysis of the *Raskolnikov* revealed that in order to understand a psyche of a person and his behavior, a look to his environment must be tackled. For that reason, different characters and social events were used to grant a fathomable elaboration.

Moreover, research work exposed that the background of the author, unconsciously, affected his work. Hence, the use of sophisticated ideas and concepts in his novel; such as, nihilism, existentialism, Napoleonism and the use of a complicated method, psychoanalysis, to present his novel and its characters.

The present research work was confronted by many obstacles due to the unvalid research materials both in libraries and online. The second limitation was the complexity of both the theory and the novel used in this reasearch work. Finally, the depth of the field of psychology and its variations.

At last, a recommendation for further research may lie in the study of the influence of psychological approach on the literary works, and especially on Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment* that needs to be analyzed further. Moreover, a study of psychoanalysis may be beneficial for future researchers and specifically students of literature. Finally, complex works like Dostoyevsky's should be reviewed and analysed thouroughly and repeatedly.

Glossary

Glossary

State of Fogue: a state in which the individual wanders away from his home or place of work for long periods of time; hours, days, weeks..

Schismatic: division, separation, disharmony.

Epilepsy: a disorder in which the brain becomes abnormal, which causes seizures, an unusual behavior and sensations and sometimes loss of awareness.

Appendices

Appendix A: The writers' biography

Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky was born in 1821 and died in 1881. Unlike His father who was a firm and self-righteous man, his mother was a passive, kind, and charitable.

Dostoevsky's early education was in an army engineering school. Because of the boring routine, he spent most of his time dipping in literary matters and reading latest authors' works; he was obsessed with literature. While he was away for his study the serfs killed his father in his estate. The cruel and sudden death affected him greatly, therefore, the issue of crime, and murder specifically, was displayed in every new publication by him. This was the central focus of *Crime and Punishment*. Even at the end of his life, he chose to write about another terrifying and violent death *The Brothers Karamazov*. The latter represented the death of his father.

After two years in the army, Dostoevsky launched his literary career with *Poor Folk*, a novel that was a direct success and one highly praised by the critics. He was the first to thoroughly examine the psychological complications of human's inner feelings and the difficult process of the mind. Following *Poor Folk*, Dostoevsky wrote *The Double*; a short work dealing with a split personality and containing the origin of *Crime and Punishment*.

Dostoevsky's life became hectic after the publication of *Poor Folk*. At that period, Russia witnessed the most changing phases in all of the Russian history, which Dostoevsky had a palpable role in that era change. Using his influences which he acquired by his literary achievements, he became involved in political issues of a questionable nature. He was influenced by new and radical ideas that were gained from the Western society, after that he was associated with those who hoped to develop Russia with Western modifications.

After he became a rebel against the Russian empire, he was found guilty of treason and was placed in prison. After nine months, he and his associates were fated to be shot by a firing squad. At the last moment before being shot, a messenger from the Tsar arrived with an official pardon from the execution. The Tsar's intentions, in that matter, had this method to teach the rebels a lesson. However, this distressing encounter with death troubled Dostoyevsky for the rest of his life.

After that, Dostoyevsky was sent to Siberia and during the four years in prison there, he changed his entire viewpoint on life. At that period of time, while terrible living circumstances, he began to reconsider his principles. He experienced his first epileptic seizure and began to reject a blind recognition of the new ideas that Russia absorbed. He underwent religious rebirth of which he was so fascinated by. It was at that time, Dostoyevsky framed his famous theories about the necessity of torment. For him, torment meant salvation.

In his exile, Dostoyevsky married a young widow. And after his exile, he served four more years as an army private, was released, and left Siberia to continue his literary career. Later on, he became one of the great spokesmen of Russia. Then in 1866, he published his first great masterpiece, *Crime and Punishment*.

Appendix B: *Crime and Punishment* Summary

Raskolnikov, an impoverished student, considers himself as an extraordinary young man and then creates a theory of how the extraordinary men have a right to commit any crime if they have something of worthy to provide to humanity. In order to prove his theory, he murders an old, despicable pawnbroker and her half-sister who, unexpectedly, came upon him. Instantly after the crime, he falls sick and lies in his room semi-conscious for several days. After his recovery, he finds out that Razumikhin, his friend, took care of him. While he is recovering, he receives a visit from Luzhin, who is engaged to Raskolnikov's sister, Dunia. Raskolnikov insults him and sends him away because he resents Luzhin's dominant behavior toward his sister.

As soon as he gains little strength, Raskolnikov heads out and reads about the crime in the newspapers of the last few days. He meets an official from the police station and almost confesses his crime. He does go far enough in his snitching that the official becomes wary. Later, he witnesses the death of Marmeladov, a minor government official he met at the beginning of the novel, who is hit by a carriage as he stumble across the street in a drunken state of unconsciousness. Raskolnikov support the man and leaves all his money to the impoverished widow. When he returns to his room, he finds his mother and sister who have just arrived to prepare for the wedding with Luzhin. He denounces Luzhin and refuses to allow his sister to marry such a mean and nasty man. About the same time, Svidrigailov, Dunia's former employer, arrives in town and looks up Raskolnikov and asks for a meeting with Dunia. Previously Svidrigailov had attempted to seduce Dunia and when Raskolnikov had heard of it, he naturally formed a violent dislike for the man.

Raskolnikov hears that the police inspector, Porfiry, is interviewing all people who had ever had any business with the old pawnbroker. Therefore, he goes for an interview and leaves thinking that the police suspect him. Since he had met Sonia Marmeladov, the daughter of the dead man that he had helped, he goes to her and asks her to read to him from the Bible. He feels great compassion with Sonia who had been forced into prostitution in order to help her family while her father was constantly drunk. In her suffering, she becomes an entire symbol for Raskolnikov. He promises to tell her who murdered the old pawnbroker and her sister who was a Sonia's friend.

After another interview with Porfiry, Raskolnikov decides to confess to Sonia. He returns to her and during the confession, Svidrigailov was eavesdropping through the adjoining door. He uses this information to try to force Dunia to sleep with him. When she refuses he commits suicide later on in the night.

Porfiry tells Raskolnikov that he is aware of who murdered the pawnbroker and her sister. After talking with Sonia, Raskolnikov fully confesses to the murder and spends an eight years sentence in the Siberian prison. Sonia follows him, and with her help, Raskolnikov begins his renewal.

Works Cited

Works Cited

- Amy, Ronner, Dostoyevsky and the Therapeutic Jurisprudence Confession, 40 J. Marshall. L. Rev.41, 2006.
- Blos, Peter. *The Adolescent Passage: Development Issues*. New York: International Universities Pres, 1979. Print
- Boeree, George. *Personality Theories*. Sippensburg University, 1997-2006, <http://www.ship.edu/%7Ecgboeree/perscontents.html>
- Brody, Warren. *On The Dynamics of Narcissism: Externalization and Early Ego* 165-193.
- Dostoyevsky, Feodor. *Crime and Punishment*. Planet Ebook, 2008. Print
- Freud, Sigmund. *Beyond the Pleasure Principle*. Vienna: International Psycho-Analytical, 1922.
- Freud, Sigmund. *Dostoyevsky and Parricide*. Standar Edition, 1928, p .21, London ; Hogarth Press, 1961, pp. 175-196.
- Freud, Sigmund. *Further Recommendations in the Technique of Psycho-Analysis*. 1913.
- Freud, Sigmund. *The Ego and the Id*. Vienna: International Psycho-Analytical, 1923.
- Kilpatrick, Elizabeth. *A Psychoanalytic Understanding of Suicide*. Americab Journal of Psychoanalysis,8(1), pp.13-23
- Marx, Karl. *A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*. Moscow. Progress Publishers, 1984.
- Smith, Ivan. *Freud Complete Works*. 2000, 2007, 2010.
- Russia From 1801 to 1917*. General Survey. Encyclopedia. <https://www.britannica.com/place/russia/Russia-from-1801-to-1917>