CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Nowadays, many people have a dilemma in their lives. There is not only few dilemma stories have been heard in this world. Dilemma is a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more alternatives, especially ones that are equally undesirable. What will we do when facing a situation that is very difficult to choose? All alternatives are not pleasant to have. There are consequences and risks that we have to bear on the decisions taken. Still lucky when among alternatives there is a choice that tastes sweet. What if everything is bitter? What if such a simalakama fruit, when we eat dead mother, father dead were not eaten. For example, we are faced with an emergency situation to help your wife or mother who drowned on the beach. We can not help them. Which will we choose? That's the dilemma. According Donagan (in MacIntyre, 2006: 91), when the drowning person is not the one we know, simply, select one to be helped.

In the play *Hamlet*, William Shakespeare’s leading character, Hamlet, struggles with his dilemma how could he carry out the orders of his father’s ghost to kill his stepfather to exact revenge because he married to his mother, and usurped the throne of his father. Ophelia also faces dilemma in the play, as her brother and father believes that Hamlet is not faithful to her, and would rather use her, whereas her heart is convinced that Hamlet loves her. Both of them could not reconcile to the situation following this ethical dilemma they got entangled in.
In 1842, a ship struck an iceberg and more than 30 survivors were crowded into a lifeboat intended to hold 7. As a storm threatened, it became obvious that the lifeboat would have to be lightened if anyone were to survive. The captain reasoned that the right thing to do in this situation was to force some individuals to go over the side and drown. Such an action, he reasoned, was not unjust to those thrown overboard, for they would have drowned anyway. If he did nothing, however, he would be responsible for the deaths of those whom he could have saved. Some people opposed the captain's decision. They claimed that if nothing were done and everyone died as a result, no one would be responsible for these deaths. On the other hand, if the captain attempted to save some, he could do so only by killing others and their deaths would be his responsibility; this would be worse than doing nothing and letting all die. The captain rejected this reasoning. Since the only possibility for rescue required great efforts of rowing, the captain decided that the weakest would have to be sacrificed. In this situation it would be absurd, he thought, to decide by drawing lots who should be thrown overboard. As it turned out, after days of hard rowing, the survivors were rescued and the captain was tried for his action.

So, there are many dilemma stories in this world. From those stories, we can take a look dilemma work in our lives. Dilemma always color our lives. Whenever it is and wherever we go we will have a chance to get dilemma. It is just like unpredictable shadows that always follow us and we must be ready for all the situations that we will have later.

In this study, the writer chooses a novel entitled “Officially Dead” written by Richard Prescott. Officially Dead is a kind of psychological novel. This novel presents a great story about dilemma of the two characters. He puts the two
characters, Colin Fenton and John Bentley, to choose a very difficult choice between
good and bad side. In choosing the good and the bad side, the id, ego, and superego
of the two characters reveals. And in this novel, the bad side is the winner. Then, this
novel is very interesting to be analyzed as object of study based on some
consideration. First, this novel reveals the simply family problem that usually occurs
in family’s life. Second, Prescott creates a complicated character that make story
more interesting.

It is the way how Colin Fenton tries to keep his business eventually he has
less money. Colin has identical features with John. Colin is asked by Bentley’s wife
to give alibi, and John is asked to rob he jewelry shop. Because of that, both of them
have a dilemma in their life. It makes the reader curious what will happen in the next.

An author applies psychological laws in creating characters in his novel. So,
psychology can enter into literature by the study of creative process, the study of
psychological types and laws present within work of literature, and also the study of
effects of literature upon its reader that can be analyzed by using extrinsic approach.

One of the most psychology of literature theories to approach novel as
literary work is psychoanalytic theory by Sigmund Freud. According to Sigmund
Freud, personality is composed of three elements: id, ego, and superego. Id includes
instinctive and primitive behavior as the source of all psychic energy. It is based on
pleasure principle which strives for immediate gratification of all desires, wants, and
need. Ego is based on the reality principle and it understands that desires and needs
are not always can be fulfilled. Ego controls Id to aware about the real world. While
superego is the aspect of personality that holds entire moral standards and ideals that
people acquire from families and society.
Fundamentally, all these become the reason for the writer to choose this novel to be analyzed and to discuss Colin Fenton and John Bentley’s id, ego and superego in solving their dilemma.

1.2 Problem of the Study

Related to the phenomena above, the writer formulated the problems as:

1. How are the main characters’ dilemma portrayed in the novel?
2. How they solved their dilemma portrayed in the novel?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In a relation to the previous problems, the objectives of this analysis are:

1. To find out how are the main characters’ dilemma in the novel.
2. To find out how they solved their dilemma in the novel.

1.4 Scope of the Study

Actually, there are many aspects of novel that can be analyzed in the aspects of the novel in the case of extrinsic study such as sociological, feminism and etc. But this study of Officially Dead novel by Richard Prescott is relating to the aspects of psychological the major characters (Colin Fenton and John Bentley) on novel by using the basic principle of Freud’s psychoanalytic theory (the id, ego, and superego) and the researcher limits the study to two major characters of Colin Fenton and John Bentley as the major characters of this novel.

1.5 Significance of the Study
In accomplishing this analysis, the writer hopes this analysis will enrich the knowledge about literature especially novel. This analysis is expected to make the readers more interested in understanding novel. Beside that, this analysis will add knowledge of the reader about psychology in general and Freud’s psychoanalytic theory that can be used to understand human characters.

Hopefully, the readers can get better understanding about dilemma. The writer wishes it can help readers in getting better knowledge about how to deal with dilemma in their life. And it inspires the readers in discussing a further analysis about dilemma.