

CHAPTER IV

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

This chapter consists of the analysis from Christian Grey who is a young rich entrepreneur in E.L. James's *Fifty Shades Trilogy*. Although he is a successful man who lives in a comfortable house and has a perfect family, his past life through lots of traumatic experience and struggling in his childhood and adolescence.

This chapter is based on Erik H. Erikson's (1977) stage of psychology development since Grey was born until he is an adult. The stages of Erikson compare two things, a normal or positive influence and an abnormal or negative experience by someone when he grows up. In analyzing Grey, these stages which proposed by Erikson will be used to notice whether Grey's experiences are positive or negative. From his experiences in childhood and adolescent, the writer will show in which stage of psychology development influences Grey's life and kind of traumatic experiences he gets in his life.

Thus, this chapter will be divided into three parts: (1) Grey's psychosocial development, (2) Grey's childhood's traumatic experiences, and (3) Grey's symptoms and effect of post traumatic stress disorder.

4.1 The Psychosocial development of Christian Grey.

The trilogy of *Fifty shades* tells about Christian Grey's psychosocial development from he was born until he is in the age of thirties. Based on

Erikson's theory, Grey's psychosocial development is analyzed into seven stages.

Those stages are explained by the table below:

Stage 1 Basic Trust versus Basic Mistrust	Grey was born from a prostitute woman and a pimp man
Stage 2 Autonomy versus Shame and Doubt	Grey's lack of love and full of violence
Stage 3 Initiative versus Guilty	Grey witnessed his birth mother's suicide
Stage 4 Industry versus Inferiority	Grey's symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder
Stage 5 Identity versus Identity Confusion	Grey's effect of post traumatic stress disorder in adolescence
Stage 6 Intimacy versus Isolation	Grey's effect of post traumatic stress disorder in adolescence in adulthood before meet Ana
Stage 7 Generativity versus Stagnation	Grey's effect of post traumatic stress disorder in adolescence in adulthood before meet Ana

The table above shows Grey's events of each psychosocial development stage. Start from the first stage, Grey's early life is lonely and lack of love because he was born from a prostitute woman who never expected him. The birth mother does not give him much love and attention and it makes him hard to trust

someone. The neglected continue in the second stage, so Grey's does everything by his own without his parent's control. In this stage, his memories are full of violence by his mother's pimp to him and his mother such as beating her mother with his fists or belting and snuffed out his cigarette to Grey's body. The violence makes him feel ashamed of himself and doubts everyone. In the third stage, Grey who is a four year old boy witnessed his mother's suicide and stayed beside his mother's dead body around four days. He feels guilty because he cannot protect his mother from the pimp's violence and stop his mother's commits suicide.

After his mother's suicide, Grey was rescued by Grace T. Grey in the scene of his birth mother's death and he is adopted by her and her husband, Carrick Grey. In the fourth stage Grey is not having traumatic disorder anymore, but he suffers some symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder as an effect of having traumas such as: disability of speak for two years, nightmares and fear of being touch. Since Grey does not go to school and makes other trainings, he automatically is not described as having a relationship with his peer or teacher in this stage. Even though the novels do not tell about Grey learning new knowledge or skill at school, the novels tell that Grey learns a new skill at home, which is playing a piano as a way to make his new mother happy and how to communicate with his new family. Instead of learning in the school, he learns skill in the house, it makes him becomes inferiority because he lacks social interaction between him and his peers and teachers.

Because of those symptoms, Grey has a difficult time to adapt to the contrast situations resulted from the transformation from the poor and messy

family into the rich and perfect family. He faces identity crisis and confusion in the fifth stage which makes him become a wild and rebellion teenagers. The rebellion actions are fighting, drinking alcohol and learning sadomasochism practice. Learning sadomasochism makes Grey meets with Mrs. Robinson and makes a relationship with her. In this sixth stage, she makes him stop doing his rebellion action and becomes focused on his future. With Mrs. Robinson help, Grey's has a desire to learn and establish his own company, *Grey Enterprises Holdings ,Inc.* As he is innocent, he mistakes Mrs. Robinson's attention and kindness as a kind of love for him. It makes him has feelings for Mrs. Robinson, but she only uses Grey to fulfill her lifestyle, which is a sadomasochism practice. Because of the denial and rejected, he feels betrayed and he isolates himself. Then, Grey meets Ana who substitutes her friend to interview him.

In the seventh stage, his meeting with Ana makes his life changes. He tries everything new that he never does with others submissive. With Ana's existence, Grey changes step by step and his stage of Erikson's psychosocial development change from the negative into the positive one. Grey and Ana become a happy family and Grey is finally succeeded to become generative in his life.

4.2 Grey's Childhood's Traumatic Experiences

In the novels, E.L. James describes Grey through lots of traumatic experience in his childhood. Thus, in the first sub-chapter the writer will discuss traumatic experiences that happened in Grey's childhood. To analyze this stage,

the writer uses the first until the third stage of Erik H. Erikson's psychology development (1977) as it stated in chapter II.

4.2.1 Grey was Born from a Prostitute Woman and a Pimp Man.

Erickson's first stage of psychosocial development is called Basic Trust versus Mistrust that starts from birth until 12-18 months in which Erickson says that:

Mothers create a sense of trust in their children by that kind of administration which in its quality combines sensitive care of the baby's individual needs and a firm sense of personal trustworthiness within the trusted framework of their culture's life style. This forms the basis in the child for a sense of identity which will later combine a sense of being 'all right', of being oneself, and of becoming what other people trust one will become (1977, p. 224).

The above quotation explains how normally a baby that was born needs his parents especially his mother to take care of him with lots of love adequately. In this early stage of human development, the baby builds its trust on someone who takes care of him/her such as giving him food, changing his diaper and making sure that he/she is in safe place.

Different from the theory of Erikson (1977) which is stated above, Grey's early life which is states in the novel is lonely and lack of love. He was born from a woman who does not want him to stay with her. His birth mother is a prostitute in her hometown. He calls her a crack whore when

Ana tries to dig his childhood memory, “The woman who brought me into this world was a crack-whore, Anastasia. Go to sleep”(James, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, 2011, p. 256). Grey sounds unhappy about his mother when he tells the truth about his birth to Ana who is curious about his childhood. He chooses to say that his mother brought him into this world instead of saying that his mother give birth to him. The word “brought” is very impersonalized, as if Grey is an object, not a human being. The word also shows that Grey realizes that he is never expected by both his mother and his father because both of them were not married couple who expected a baby in their life.

Not only lack of love, Grey is also lack of memory of his father except his violence. He only remembers the fact that his birth father is a pimp of her mother.

Your biological father . . . do you know who he was?” This thought has been bugging me. His brow creases, and then he shakes his head. “I have no idea. Wasn’t the savage who was her pimp, which is good” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 144).

Baby Grey which is extremely helpless can only depend his life on an adult around him. However, his birth mother who never wants him to come to this world does not give him much love and attention. That is why Grey never knows how to be loved by people around him, especially his mother who makes him mistrust people and live in fear of being abandoned.

From the analysis of the first stage, Grey undergoes negative influence. Grey is traumatized by the experience of being neglected by his birth mother. As a result, he starts mistrusting people around him as a negative outcome of psychosocial development.

4.2.2 Grey's Lack of Love and Full of Violence

The second stage of Erikson's psychosocial development theory (1977) is Autonomy versus Shame and Doubt. Parents, both mother and father, have a significant relationship to a boy in the age of 12-18 months until 3 years. In that age, a boy starts to try something by his own but in his parent's control such as using a toilet by himself, putting his own clothes, and eating by his own.

In Grey's case, since Grey never receives love from his birth parents, he does everything by his own without his parent's control. His parents never hold his hand but let him go by his own. He forces himself to be braver because he does not have someone to hold on.

Different from a boy in his age, Grey's memory is full of violence that the pimp did to his mother and to him. Because his birth mother does not love him and take care of him, she never protects him from the pimp's violence. How grey's mother fails to protect him and how she neglects him are not described in detail in the novel. The mother's failure and negligence are described by grey when he says: "She was neglectful. She didn't protect me from her pimp" (*James, Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 31).

The memories of his traumatic childhood always appear on his dream as a nightmare. Ana who witnesses Grey suffers from those nightmares tries to seek the information of Grey's childhood that makes him feel restless at nights.

Generally, those memories are the violence that the pimp did to his mother such as beating her with his fists or belting until she passed out because he beat her too hard. Grey who is too little and young at that time because he is still around three years only sits beside his mother and witnesses the violence without any defense. He is really scared because his mother does not move. He also feels hungry that moment. However, Grey only stays there and waits for his mother to wake and give him food. He cannot do anything because he is afraid that his father will do something terrible to him like what the pimp does to his birth mother.

“Sometimes in the dreams she's just lying on the floor. And I think she's asleep. But she doesn't move. She never moves. And I'm hungry. Really hungry.”

...

“There's a loud noise and he's back, and he hits me so hard, cursing the crack whore. His first reaction was always to use his fists or his belt” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 245).

Not only harasses his mother, the pimp also harasses him. The violence that his father does to him leaves some scars in Grey body. Ana finds that Grey's scars when they are taking a bath together.

... I notice again the small, round, white scars on his chest. They are not chicken pox, I muse absentmindedly. Grace said he was hardly affected. *Holy shit...* they must be burns. Burns from what? I blanch at the realization, shock and revulsion coursing through me. From cigarettes? Mrs. Robinson, his birth mother, who? Who did this to him (James, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, 2011, p. 299).

At first, Grey does not want to tell Ana about this scar. He is not ready to share the pain that he had when he was child. He makes Ana guess it by herself. Nevertheless, when he is ready to answer Ana's curiosity of his scars, he tells Ana everything about the scar. When Grey was a three year old boy, his birth father got angry and came to his mother and him. His birth father smoked lots of cigarette to make him relax and lessen his anger. Since his mother did not smoke, she did not have an ashtray in her room. So, his father snuffed out his cigarette on Grey's body. The adult Grey still remembers how hurt that pain created by the pimp and lets Ana know that terrible memory and pain.

"I must be about three, and the crack whore's pimp is mad as hell again. He smokes and smokes, one cigarette after another, and he can't find an ashtray." He stops, and I freeze as a creeping chill grips my heart.

"It hurt," he says, "It's the pain I remember. That's what gives me nightmares. That and the fact that she did nothing to stop him" (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 245).

Grey's feeling of abandonment gives big impact to his life. Autonomy and shame and doubt are worked on Grey. Autonomy works because he always does everything by himself and he behaves independently to perform his actions by himself. Shame and doubt also works on him. He is ashamed of himself and his past which is humiliating and hurtful to share with others. Grey also doubts himself and others since he never receives any attention and protection from people around him. It is hard for Grey to believe other people because he cannot trust them.

The analysis of the second stage of Grey's life shows that he has both positive and negative influences. The positive influence is that he is able to live independently. The negative influences are that he experienced harassment from his birth father and felt abandoned by his birth mother. Those make him feel ashamed and doubtful toward people around him. Even though there is a good thing learned by Grey such as being independent, the negative things affected Grey more than the positive one; it creates traumas. So Grey becomes independent, but he doubts people around him as a negative outcome of psychosocial development.

4.2.3 Grey Witnessed His Birth Mother's Suicide

The third stage of psychosocial development of Erikson (1977) is Initiative versus Guilt where a boy is expected to try new experience

without feeling guilty or worry. As stated by Click and Parker (2010, p. 83) in that period of age, a boy observes his parents or other adults on things they usually do and imitates it.

In the age of 3 until 6 years, a boy can explore everything without feeling worried and he can easily forget the failure quickly without feeling guilty. In contrast with Grey's experiences, in this stage he experiences things he never expects. He is a four-year-old boy who witnesses his birth mother who committed suicide.

Sometimes, he does not remember how his mother died but it does not mean that he forgets all about that day. He always remembers the day when she died. It is hard to forget the only person who is already gone but it is also hard to remember because it is too painful to keep that moment in his mind.

"She's dead."

"How long?"

He sighs. "She died when I was four. I don't really remember her.

Carrick has given me some details. I only remember certain things.

Please go to sleep." (James, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, 2011, p. 256)

Grey sighs when he answers Ana because he does not want to remember the memory which really hurts him. For a four-year-old boy who is too little to witness someone dies in front of him, especially his birth mother, that incident leaves a huge trauma to Grey.

When Grey's memory works to answer curious Ana, he tries to remember how his birth mother died. She was tired with her life and her pimp's violence to her and decided to end her life by killing herself. Without thinking about her son, she decided to die and left her son alone. The child, Grey, did not know anything but just stayed beside his mother's dead body alone and waited for four days for someone to find them and rescue him.

He snorts. "I think it was me who looked after her. When she finally killed herself, it took four days for someone to raise the alarm and find us . . . I remember that." (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 31)

The one who discovered them was the pimp, Grey's birth father. Although the man is Grey's birth father but the fact that he was Grey's mother's pimp make him ignorant of Grey's deceased mother and Grey. He just called someone who had an authority and asked to manage that dead body. He left him and locked the door. He did not even care with Grey who had already stayed there for four days alone and without food.

"The pimp discovered the crack whore's body and phoned it in to the authorities. Took him four days to make the discovery though. He shut the door when he left . . . left me with her . . . her body" His eyes cloud at the memory. (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 145).

The analysis of the third stage of Grey's life shows that Grey has a negative experience. A witness of his birth mother's death another traumatic experience that happened in his childhood, Grey experiences the

feeling of guilt. That feeling has been growing on Grey since he did nothing when he saw his mother who is harassed by his father. That guilty feeling reached the peak when he found his mother dead. Grey who was young, weak, and scared could not do anything to save his mother. He only stayed beside her without any food and drink to show his guilt as a negative outcome of psychosocial development because he could not save or protect her since he was too young in that moment. This guilty feeling led him to think that he was a bad boy who did not protect his mother. His guilty feeling even made him think that he did not deserve to get a present from Santa as seen in the excerpt below:

Santa never brought me presents before. I was bad. Santa doesn't bring presents to boys who are bad.

...

Santa has been here. Santa does not know I have been bad. I am glad Santa does not know (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, pp. 527-528).

His repeatedly saying that he was 'bad' in 'I was bad,' '...boys who are bad', '...I have been bad,' implies how deep the guilty feeling that Grey felt for not able to help his mother.

4.3 Grey's Symptoms and Effect of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

4.3.1 Grey's Symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

In this sub-chapter, the writer uses Erikson's fourth stage of psychosocial development (1977) which is called industry versus inferiority. In this stage, a child age 6 until 12 years old, generally, is able to bind in an exercise for having fun, and receive an attention and praise. As said by Cherry (2016), a boy becomes competent to accomplish a complex task; that he will master a new skill during this stage. He receives encouragements from people around him especially parent and teacher to develop his competence and belief in his skill. If he does not receive encouragements, in the future they will doubt his ability and skill.

Normally, in this stage a boy needs to learn knowledge and skill in a school and create a relationship with peer and teacher. However, learning new knowledge and skills as required by a person in the fourth stage is not experienced by Grey. Grey does not learn anything new because he stays at home all the time. His staying at home is caused by his traumatic experiences.

Grace T. Grey was a doctor on duty when the pimp called someone to handle Grey's birth mother's body. Grace found Grey in the scene of his birth mother's death. She found Grey in a horrible state, starved and dehydrated, showing that no one cared about him. Out of pity, Grace rescued Grey.

Grey's mother's suicide really traumatized him that he did not utter a single word for two years. Ann gets that information when Carrick feels thankful to see Grey become happier when Grey meets her. Carrick cannot

believe that Grey can be happy because Grey had terrible traumatic experience when he was in his childhood. Ana learns the details about Grey's traumatic experience from Carrick:

“Christian's early childhood sounds hideously traumatic, from what he's told me.”

Carrick frowns, and I worry if I've overstepped the mark.

“My wife was the doctor on duty when the police brought him in. He was skin and bones, and badly dehydrated. He wouldn't speak”
(James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 118).

Carrick's story tells Grey's poor condition when he was found by Carrick's wife, Grace.

In this stage, Grey is not having traumatic experiences anymore, but he is having the effect of the trauma. That effect is called Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. It is an anxiety disorder marked by recalling the horrible past memories. The disorder occurs with symptoms like disability to speak for two years, nightmares which consist of flashbacks of his early childhood memory, and fear of being touched.

4.3.1.1 Disability to Speak for Two Years

Grey that feels uncomfortable and unfamiliar with his life changing stays in quiet; not saying anything even one word. Carrick tells Ana the

condition of Grey after they adopted him, when his wife found him and he did not utter any word around two years with this statement “In fact, he didn’t speak for nearly two years” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 118). His foster parents try to make him feel comfortable but he keeps silent. He starts speaking when he meets Mia, his new younger sister. His first word is “Mia”.

And then there’s Mia’s arrival with my mom and dad. My mom was worried about my reaction, but I adored baby Mia immediately. My first word was *Mia* (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 207).

Mia is the reason Grey can carry on living in that house. She is just like him and his brother, Elliot, who was found and adopted by Carrick and Grace in a terrible state. She was very little when they found her. She was six months old when Grey met her.

4.3.1.2 Nightmares

As a result of his traumatic experiences, Grey has nightmares.

...“What are your nightmares about?”

His brow creases and his grin fades. *Shit—my stupid curiosity.*

“They’re flashbacks of my early childhood, or so Dr. Flynn says. Some vivid, some less so” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 207).

The nightmares that Grey has since he was a child make Grey has difficulty to sleep. As Grey’s difficulty to sleep occurs continuously, Grey

does not really like sleeping on the bed especially with someone else as shown in the excerpt from this statement “I find it difficult to sleep, and I’m not used to sleeping with anyone,” (James, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, 2011, p. 88)

That traumatic event appeared when he came to his new home. In the last sequel of this trilogy, the author tells about Grey’s memory of his first Christmas based on Grey’s point of view. In that chapter, Child-Grey tells that he had his own big room in that house. Sometimes, he was scared to sleep in that big and dark room by his own. He had bad dreams that remind him how terrible his life with his birth mother was. Aware of this situation, Grey’s foster mother, Grace tried to comfort Grey by accompanying him and by singing a lullaby to him until Grey falls asleep.

I have a big room. Sometimes the room is dark and I have bad dreams. Bad dreams about before. My new mommy comes to bed with me when I have the bad dreams. She lies down and she sings soft songs and I go to sleep. She smells of soft and new and lovely. My new mommy is not cold. Not like . . . not like And my bad dreams go when she is there asleep with me
(James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 528).

Child-Grey said that his dream disappeared when his new mother came and accompanied him. It shows that he starts feeling comfortable with his new mother, the feeling which he never had with his birth mother. Grey felt secured and loved when he came to Grace and Carrick’s home.

4.3.1.3 Fear of being touched

Not only having bad dreams at night, traumatic events experienced by Grey is the fear of being touch. The pains and the harassments that Grey got from his childhood creates big trauma for the rest of his life. He never wants to be touched by anyone even by his foster parents since he was adopted. This fear is told in the same chapter of Grey's first Christmas. In that memory, he saw his foster father helped his foster brother, Lelliot or sometimes called Elliot, to put the star on the top of a Christmas tree by holding him up. Grey also wanted to put the star on the tree but he could not bear anyone else touching him or holding him, so he can only become a spectator of that moment.

And on the top of the tree is a big star. Daddy held Lelliot up, and Lelliot put the star on the tree. Lelliot likes putting the star on the tree. I want to put the star on the tree . . . but I don't want Daddy to hold me up high. I don't want him to hold me. (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 527)

The reason he cannot bear or is afraid to be touched is that the touch reminds him of the violence done by his birth father, who happened to be his mother's pimp. The memory of his birth father's violence is really dreadful. Grey states this reason twice in his conversation with Ana while she asks him why he dislikes being touched. Ana's curiosity leads Grey to remember how his birth father treats him cruelly. The first dialogue informs

the reader that Grey tries to explain to Ana that he has a horrible childhood and that being touch reminds him of his birth father.

“Touching is a hard limit for me, Anastasia,” he whispers.

“I know. I wish I understood why.”

After a while, he sighs, and in a soft voice he says, “I had a horrific childhood. One of the crack whore’s pimps . . .” His voice trails off, and his body tenses as he recalls some unimaginable horror. “I can remember that,” he whispers, shuddering (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 31).

In the second dialogue, Grey points out that his fear to be touched is caused by his father’s violence that he received when he was a childhood. He never receives a touch of love or affection from his parents since his was born. The only memory that he remember is harassment.

He sighs. “She didn’t love me. I didn’t love me. The only touch I knew was . . . harsh. It stemmed from there. Flynn explains it better than I can” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 245).

Whenever he answers Ana’s question about the matter, he always sighs or takes a deep breath that shows he does not want to be reminded of that horrifying memory. That also shows that he controls his emotion so that he does not fall deep in his sorrow. He thinks that his childhood memory is not appropriate to be shared to others because it makes him ashamed.

Since Grey does not go to school and makes other trainings, he automatically is not described as having a relationship with his peer or teacher in this stage. Even though the novels do not tell about Grey learning new knowledge or skill at school, the novels tell that Grey learns a new skill at home, playing a piano. Grey finds that his new house has a piano near a Christmas tree which interests him. He touches the tune on the piano, the white and the black. He likes the sound of it and touches it randomly. His new mother, Grace, realizes his interest and plays it for him in order to make him quickly adapt with his new situation in the house. She plays it and sings a song to entertain his sons, Grey and Elliot. By playing the piano, even though Grey does not have a relationship with peer nor teacher as required by Erikson's fourth stage which the writer state in the beginning of this sub-chapter, he tries to build relationship with new people who save him and adopt him, Carrick and Grace T. Grey.

In Grey's case, he learned to play piano not only because he was interested in it but also because he wanted to make his new parents proud of him. After seeing their reaction when he showed interested in playing piano, he decided to learn playing piano to get his parents attention and praise. "He plays beautifully. And he's accomplished so much, you must be very proud of him" (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 119). The praise that Carrick says in the dialogue above is what Grey wanted to hear in this learning stage. He plays piano well but he always plays a mellow tune that sound sad.

His intention of learning this new skill was not for his future, but to show that he fits in his new perfect family. In addition, he wanted to make his new mother happy and showed his gratitude to her because she saved him when Grey says “Anastasia, Grace Trevelyan saved my life. I owe her everything” (*James, Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 151). Not only to show how grateful he was, by learning piano Grey gets recognition from his foster parents and also his brother and sister. Playing piano is also a way to communicate with his new family because he has disability to speak for two years.

The analysis of the four stage shows that Grey experiences negative and also positive influences. The positive influence is that he learns a new skill even though he only stays at home. He learns playing piano from a private teacher, not from school. Erickson’s theory is required that this stage is successful if a child goes to school, learns some skill and knowledge and makes an interaction with his peer and teacher. The negative influence is that he does not have any interaction with peer or teacher which is important in this stage. Lack of interaction with others at makes him feel inferior. In general, although there is a good effect experienced by Grey such as learn playing piano as a skill, but the negative one is more influential in his Grey’s life. So, Grey becomes inferior in his social life and he is hard to interact with others as a negative outcome of psychosocial development.

4.3.2 Grey’s Adolescence’s Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

Erikson's fifth psychosocial development (1977) is called identity versus identity confusion. This stage happens when a person is in the age of 13 until 19 when he is in a development as a teenager or adolescent.

Adolescence is a stage of human that transforms a boy into a man. According Santrock, this stage is like a bridge to cross development from childhood into adulthood and biological; cognitive and socio-emotional changes are involved in that transition (2005, p. 176). This stage is also susceptible of positive or negative effect from outside in the process of finding his identity. A teenager spends his time more with his peers in this stage than when he is in his childhood. Enhanced time with his peers can give him positive or negative effect on adolescent development. Thus, the society is the important element for adolescent to build his identity.

An identity is who a person thinks he is or what role he plays in a family, school, and society. He decides who he is, what he is all about, and where he is going in life. In other words, this stage demands a teenager to find his identity to know what he will do in the future. In the progress of finding and exploring his identity, frequently he will experience different roles that can make him confuse about himself. A teenager who is able to cope with conflicting roles or identities shows up with a new sense of self. However, a teenager who is unable to solve his problem with his society will suffer identity confusion.

In the novel, Grey that has traumatic experiences in childhood tries to find his identity in his adolescence. Grey has a difficult time to adapt to the

contrast situations resulted from the transformation from the poor and messy family into the rich and perfect family. The situation of Grey's life after being adopted is shown in the first novel when he tells Ana, "It's very hard to grow up in a perfect family when you're not perfect" (2011, p. 300). In addition, he undergoes lots of change in many areas in the process of finding identity during his adolescence such as a physical, a sexual, an intellectual and a social change. Schale (1991, p. 37) supports Grey's condition with a statement that "the adolescent who is overwhelmed by the changes which occurring the range of possibilities available experience identity diffusion".

So, as a result, in the novel which is stated that Grey who feels that he does not fit in his new perfect family tries to rebel; an action which is normally done by teenagers of his age. Thus, he faces identity crisis and suffers identity confusion in this stage. To overcome these issues, Grey becomes wild and rebellious teenager. He becomes out of control and does things that just harm his body and also his future if he does not stop what he is doing. He fights a lot, drinks alcohol and becomes an alcoholic, as well as learns kinky sex activity that makes him addicted, sadomasochism practice.

The three rebellion actions will explain more below:

4.3.2.1 Fighting

During their adolescence, it is normal if a teenager fights with others since he feels uneasy with changes which happen to him. Although fighting

is violence, violence is the “touch” that Grey can bear from others because violence is the “touch” or the physical contact, which the pimp left for him when Grey was a child. As Grey connotes touch with violence, this is why he can not bear and is afraid of the touch of attention or love.

“I just couldn’t bear anyone to touch me. I couldn’t. Couldn’t bear anyone near me. I used to fight . . . fuck, did I fight. I got into some god-awful brawls. I was expelled from a couple of schools. But it was a way to let off steam. To tolerate some kind of physical contact.” He stops again (*James, Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 480).

The fights result in his bruised eyes bruised and his cut lips. He came from school with many bruises on his face and made his foster family anxious. Since he fought with his schoolmates and injured them awfully, he dropped out from his school twice. This issue states in the conversation between Ana and Mia below.

“How long ago was Christian brawling?”

“Early teens. Drove my parents crazy, coming home with cut lips and black eyes. He was expelled from two schools. He inflicted some serious damage on his opponents” (*James, Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, pp. 108-109).

The reason Grey fights until his face and body are wounded is to overcome his fear to be touched. In his age, normally, teenagers starts to have a feeling for his opposite sex, “I was a walking hard-on, fifteen years

old, tall for my age, hormones raging. The girls at school...” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 480). Grey has a good looking face that attracts girls in his school. As a result, he is overwhelmed with social changes that happened on him. When he was child, no one pays attention to him, not even his birth mother. But since he grows up and becomes attractive, people around him begin to take interest on him and notice his existence. But with his psychological disorder, he feels uncomfortable with touch; he feels nervous “...I never know where you’re going to touch me. It makes me nervous. . .” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 79).

4.3.2.2 Alcohol

According to Seifert and Hoffnung, a teenager will face some problems when he enters adolescence life such as dramatic physical changes and experimentation, stressful life events and emotional problems (1991, p. 534). A teenager may use drug, smoke cigarette, or consume alcohol to deal with problems that come up from his society. The reason for using drug is to make a teenager feels more like a grown up. A teenager uses it to be accepted by his friends, thus, the activity of using drugs becomes popular in the teenager life. With regards to alcohol, it is popular because alcohol is greatly advertized and socially valued as a mark of adulthood and freedom, is available at low price, and is an effective short-term cure to decrease anxiety.

The consumption of alcohol by Grey is to escape the problem that the teenaged Grey has. Grey thinks that only alcohol can release his anxiety. One day, when he had arguments with Ana, Grey leaves his home and releases his emotion by drinking alcohol. He comes home drunk.

“The time for talking was yesterday, but instead you decided to rant and get drunk with the woman who abused you for years. Give her a call. I am sure she’ll be more than willing to listen to you now” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 413).

Earlier in the second book, he confesses to Ana that he had been a wild teenager.

“Do you get drunk?” I ask as I take his hand.

“Not since I was a wild teenager” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 369)

He got drunk when he was a teenager and became a wild one. With alcohol he can forget his problem as well as his traumatic childhood memory. Alcohol can help him endure his post traumatic stress disorder which he suffers since his childhood.

Grey kept secret of his drinking habit from his new family and tries to find his own money to buy some bottles of alcohol (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 478). He works in The Lincoln’s house by cleaning some rubbles and trash in its backyards. He does not want his new family to know his bad habit because he knows that they will try to cure this habit and stop

him from drinking alcohol. Grey as an alcoholic is an important part of grey's rebellion action, unfortunately is not told further in the novel.

4.3.1 Sadomasochism Practice

In adolescence stage, a teenager goes through puberty. A rapid increase in height and weight is only one part of a larger pattern of changes that leads to full physical maturity during puberty (Seifert & Hoffnung, 1991, p. 512). Puberty is surely experienced by human in adolescence stage, including Grey. In this stage, Grey goes through sexual and physical changes. His body changes as well as his hormones. However, he cannot act like other teenagers such as flirting, dating, or having physical contact with the opposite sex like other normal teenagers in their age. Grey reveals this stage in his statement: "I was out of control. I couldn't bear to be touched. I can't bear it now. For a fourteen, fifteen-year-old adolescent boy with hormones raging, it was a difficult time..." (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 132). Fear of being touched is the reason Grey cannot perform as a normal teenager in his age. He is afraid to approach or to be approached by girls in his school.

Grey's fear of being touched results in his involvement in sadomasochism practice in a hot summer Grey works hard to get some money by working at Mr. Lincoln backyard. When he takes a nap in his break time, Elena Robinson who is Mr. Lincoln's wife suddenly comes from nowhere and brought him a cup of lemonade. They have a small

conversation while he spends his break time. Suddenly, Mrs. Robinson slaps him hard and kisses him. After they have kissed, she slaps him again. It is his first kiss and his first experience of sadomasochism practice.

. . . and she slapped me. She slapped me so hard.”

Unconsciously, his hand moves to his face and he caresses his cheek, his eyes clouding at the memory...

“But then she kissed me. And when she finished, she slapped me again.” He blinks, seemingly still confounded even after all this time.

“I’d never been kissed before or hit like that.” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 480)

Elena Robinson’s slapping reminds Grey of the pimp’s violent treatment in his childhood which Grey subconsciously interprets as the expression of paying attention.

Mrs. Robinson is also the one who comes close to him and dares to do physical contact with Grey because she was older than he is.

“Well, naturally, I was confused and angry and horny as hell. I mean, a hot older woman comes on to you like that—” He shakes his head as if he still can’t believe it. .” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 480)

Mrs. Robinson’s approach not only leaves Grey confused and angry, but the approach also makes him sexually aroused. Those mixed feelings are the characteristics of sadomasochism practice. After she approaches Grey,

Mrs. Robinson goes back to her house like nothing had happened. At night Mrs. Robinson called him and asked him to come to her house the next day without mentioning the incident which happened in that afternoon. Grey agrees to come to her house and did something more than what happened in the previous day. The incident was the beginning of their relationship.

“One of my mother’s friends seduced me when I was fifteen.”

“Oh.” Holy shit that’s young!

“She had very particular tastes. I was her submissive for six years.” He shrugs. (James, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, 2011, p. 109)

Sadomasochism practice fulfills Grey’s need to be touched. The violence contains in sadomasochism practice makes Grey feels more comfortable. Grey’s comfortable feeling with violent “touch” is a result of the pimp abuse during his childhood.

Mrs. Robinson actually learns about Grey’s fear to be touched from Grey’s new mother. That is why Mrs. Robinson did not touch Grey while they had first kissed. She touches him indeed, but she limits her touch only on his face not his body. As soon as they have a deeper relationship, she starts to touch him.

“Mrs. Robinson could touch you.” I murmur the words before my brain registers what I’ve said. *Shit. Why did I mention her?*

He stills. His eyes widen with his oh-no-where’s-she-going-with-this expression. “That was different,” he whispers.

Suddenly I want to know. “Good different or bad different?”

He gazes at me. Doubt and possibly pain flit across his face, and fleetingly he looks like a man drowning.

“Bad, I think.” His words are barely audible.

Holy shit!

“I thought you liked it.”

“I did. At the time” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 304).

With Mrs. Robinson, Grey can tolerate the pain inflicted by the fear of being touched. Because Mrs. Robinson teaches him to overcome his fear and takes pleasure in physical contact. In the eye of normal behavior, violent physical contact that Grey and Mrs. Robinson have is a kind of maltreatment, however, in sadomasochism practice Mrs. Robinson and Grey consider it satisfactorily since they can get sexual pleasure from the violence they practice. Particularly for Grey who relates violent physical contact with “attention”, the idea that Grey gets from his childhood experience of being beaten by the pimp, the violent physical contact with Mrs Robinson is tolerable.

The analysis of the fifth stage shows that Grey experiences negative influence. The new situation that Grey experience after he was adopted by Carrick and Grace T. Grey which he thinks is too perfect for him makes him think that the new situation does not fit him. Grey in this stage shows that he undergoes identity confusion as a negative outcome of psychosocial

development which makes him seek his identity and do rebellious actions such as drinking alcohol, fighting, and learning sadomasochism.

4.3.3 Grey's Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in His Adulthood

In the novel, Grey is described as a successful person in his young age, therefore Grey is wealthy and famous in his adulthood. But, his wealth and his fame do not bring happiness for him. In this last sub-chapter, the writer will focus on Grey's adulthood when he still suffers from post traumatic stress disorder and lives as a new person after his rebellious adolescence.

The writer will divide this sub chapter into two parts: before and after Grey meets Ana. The first part will discuss Grey's adulthood before he meets Ana and analyze it with sixth stage of Erikson's psychosocial development (1977). The second part will discuss the time after he meets Ana. In this second part, the writer will analyze Grey's adulthood using seventh stage of Erikson's psychosocial development (1977). These stages basically discuss an adult male's relationship with someone.

4.3.3.1 Grey's Adulthood before He Meets Ana

The sixth stage of Erikson psychosocial development (1977) is intimacy versus isolation. This stage happens when a man is in the age of 19 until 24 years old. In that age, a man will face some conflicts of life and need to figure out the solution. A man who can solve the conflict can

accomplish psychological skill for the rest of his life. However, a man who fails to solve it will still continue to struggle. Erikson explains the meaning of intimacy as a relationship which is marked by closeness, honesty, and love (1977, p. 237).

In this novel, Grey's early adulthood undergoes some positive changes since he meets Mrs. Robinson in his adolescence. He starts to open a new mutual relationship with Mrs Robinson because he gets what he needs from her. Mrs. Robinson saves him from ruining his life, being an alcoholic, by forcing him to stop that habit "You were on the road to self-destruction, and I saved you from that, saved you from a life behind bars" (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 366). She persuades him to continue his school. She also allows him to feel the sensation of being touched, an experience he never thinks he can enjoy.

... And she did a lot for me. She stopped my drinking. Made me work hard at school . . . allowed me to experience things that I never thought I could."

"Touch," I whisper.

He nods... (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 480).

His life becomes focused and he had a goal in his life. Indirectly, Mrs. Robinson changes Grey's negative result on the fourth stage of Erikson psychosocial development by encouraging him to go to school to learn knowledge and skills. With Mrs. Robinson's help, Grey has desire to learn and get knowledge from school and establish his company, *Grey*

Enterprises Holdings Inc. He then becomes famous and wealthy at a young age.

“A guy’s got to earn a living.” He’s amused.

“Christian, you earn more than a living.” My voice is full of irony. He frowns and is quiet for a moment. I think he’s not going to divulge any secrets, but he surprises me.

“I don’t want to be poor,” he says, his voice low. “I’ve done that. I’m not going back there again. Besides . . . it’s a game,” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 363).

Having a company and being rich is a goal that Grey wants to reach after he meets Mrs. Robinson. The reason is a simple; he does not want to be poor like he was in childhood. The goals also help him to change the result of the fifth stage of Erikson’s identity confusion in society to understand and acquire his identity in his society.

Erikson’s sixth stage discusses a man’s relationship. As stated in the novel, in Grey’s early adulthood he has a relationship with Mrs. Robinson. However, like the writer states in the beginning, this relationship is a consensual but non commital sexual relationship. Mrs. Robinson only uses Grey to fulfill her lifestyle, sadomasochism practice. It is stated by Grey when he explains his relationship with Mrs. Robinson “For her that side of our relationship was about sex and control and a lonely woman finding some kind of comfort with her boy toy” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 482).

The advantage of this relationship as well as sadomasochism practice for Grey is that he can fulfill his sexual needs without afraid of being touched by his partner because in sadomasochism the relation is like a relation between an owner and a slave. In sadomasochism practice, the relationship is called dominant and submissive.

Sadomasochism practice sounds like an abuse to the partner because sometimes the dominant uses violence when they are having sex. But, for the followers, the violence is not considered an abuse. As the writer stated in chapter II about sadomasochism practice, this practice is done by a couple who has an agreement and rules to settle what they should do or not.

Grey thinks that Mrs. Robinson's attention and kindness toward him is a kind of love. He who is innocent and never receives any kind of attention makes him think that Mrs. Robinson did all encouragements because she loved him. However, he found that he was wrong. Grey expresses his feeling when his mother found out that he had that kind of relationship with Mrs. Robinson.

“You taught me how to fuck, Elena. But it's empty, like you. No wonder Linc left.”

...

“You never once held me,” Christian whispers. “You never once said you loved me.”

She narrows her eyes. “love is for fools, Christian.” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 366)

From the dialogue above, Grey expects Mrs. Robinson to love him and they will have a serious relationship. The word “you never once held me” shows that Grey counts on her to acknowledge his presence. However, she clearly states that love never existed in their relationship when she says that “love is for fools”.

With regards to Erikson’s sixth stage, at this stage Grey is able to solve the conflict related to his identity and his society, Grey is found that he cannot solve his relationship conflict with Mrs. Robinson. He fails to create an intimate relationship which is important to this stage. Because of his failure, isolation works on Grey in this stage. He isolates himself and never announce to a family or public that he has a relationship. The fact that Grey isolates himself from any public recognition on relationship is proven by Carrick Grey’s happy reaction when he meets Ana. Carrick says, “He’s always been such a loner. We never thought we’d see him with anyone” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 119).

Before he meets Ana, people around him and even his family never believes that he can have a relationship with someone else because Grey is too focused on his work. The worst thing is that people think that he is a gay who keeps his relationship secret. Mia’s friend expresses this idea to Ana in this dialogue “Of course we all thought Christian was gay,” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 98).

From the analysis of the sixth stage, Grey’s negative outcomes of fourth and fifth stage of psychosocial development are cured by Mrs.

Robinson. Grey becomes famous and rich because he has his own successful company. However, although it can be cured, Grey still experiences negative effect in this stage. Grey yearns for someone to love him, but he feels betrayed by Mrs. Robinson who does not have any feeling for him. The rejection and denial from Mrs. Robinson makes him isolated from the society as a negative outcome of psychosocial development. Therefore, Grey chooses not to try to have another relationship.

4.3.3.2 Grey's Adulthood after He Meets Ana

The seventh stage of Erikson's psychosocial development (1977) is generativity versus stagnation. This stage is started at an age 25 until 64 years. In this stage, a man has a partner for life and builds a family. Kroger explains that the most important events that give contribution in this stage are marriage and child-rearing(2007, p. 159). Work and carrier also contribute in this stage to extend the community and society. The meaning of Generativity is a making a man's mark on the world through creating and accomplishing good things in this world. While the meaning of stagnation is failure of this stage, a man does nothing to contribute in this world. Household and workmates are significant relationships which a man needs in this stage to achieve generativity.

Grey's contribution to society has already been fulfilled by him when he builds his own company, *GreyEnterprises Holdings Inc*. He has already created his mark on his society. However, he still struggles to have a real

relationship. It is hard to start a relationship when he has negative outcomes in the previous stages of Erikson's psychosocial development: mistrust, doubt and shame, guilty and isolation.

Everything changes in Grey's life when he finally meets Ana in his company when she substitutes her friend to interview Grey. Their meeting leaves good impression to both of them. Both of them are attracted to each other after their first meeting. After that interview, Grey tries to attract Ana. He stalks and seeks information about Ana. He does not approach Ana out of love; instead he wants her to be his submissive to fulfill his sexual needs. However, after Grey becomes closer to Ana, he feels that she is different from other submissives that he has had. He tries everything that he never does to other submissives:

“You know, Anastasia, it's been a weekend of firsts for me, too,” he says quietly.

“It has?”

“I've never slept with anyone, never had sex in my bed, never flown a girl in Charlie Tango, never introduced a woman to my mother. What are you doing to me?” His eyes burn, their intensity takes my breath away (James, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, 2011, p. 109).

He does lots of firsts with Ana since they met. The words “... what are you doing to me?” shows that he wonders what Ana does to him.

Although he becomes closer and tries to make a relationship with Ana, Grey who does not have love and trust since he was born underestimates

that kind of feeling when he is adult. He mistrusts a person around him really hard because he is unable to believe in anyone. His relationship is usually all business that he creates agreements to rule the relationship between him and someone whom he tries to approach.

“You and I don’t have any rules. I have never had a relationship without rules, and I never know where you’re going to touch me. It makes me nervous. Your touch completely—” He stops, searching for the words. “It just means more . . . so much more” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 79)

Grey’s statement above clearly shows that he has a hard time to trust someone else, even with Ana whom he tries to have a real relationship with. Although at some point he does not apply rules to control his relationship with Ana, it does not mean that he can really trust her.

Grey who initially wants to recruit Ana to be his submissive introduces his lifestyle, sadomasochism practice. Ana who is a virgin does not understand any of that practice, but since she has already been attracted to him she is willing to try. She promises that she wants to enter and have sex in the red room which is full of dangerous sex tools. She comes to the red room to know more about his lifestyle and please him; the pain that Grey produces with his toy sex is bearable because Ana has a feeling to him.

Grey is startled when Ana confesses her feeling to him. He never thinks that someone will say “I’ve fallen in love with you” in his life.

“You can’t love me, Ana. No... that’s wrong.” He’s horrified.

“Wrong? Why’s it wrong?”

“Well, look at you. I can’t make you happy.” His voice is anguished.

“But you do make me happy.” I frown.

“Not at the moment, not doing what I want to do”(James, *FiftyShades of Grey*, 2011, p. 353).

According to Ana, her happiness is to give pleasure to him. But according to Grey, her feeling is wrong. His words “... I can’t make you happy” show that he is afraid to have a deep relationship with Ana. He is also afraid that he cannot respond to Ana’s love.

After having that conversation, Ana feels hurt. She decides to go from Grey’s apartment. Grey tries to stop her but Ana has been already hurt by Grey’s words.

“I don’t want you to go,” he murmurs, his voice full of longing.

“I can’t stay. I know what I want and you can’t give it to me, and I can’t give you what you need.” (James, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, 2011, p. 355)

The words uttered by Ana sound like a sarcasm in Grey’s ear. Her words make Grey realize that something is missing when Ana leaves his apartment.

“Ana, believe me. After I punished you and you left me, my worldview changed...When you said you loved me, it was a revelation. No one’s ever said it to me before, and it was as if I’d laid something to rest—or maybe you’d laid it to rest, I don’t know. Dr.

Flynn and I are still in deep discussion about it.” (James, *Fifty Shades of Darker*, 2011, p. 234)

After the parting moment, Grey feels guilty for asking Ana to deny her feeling to him. He also realizes that maybe he has similar feeling with Ana. He was unaware of that feeling because he never knows or experiences how to be loved, not even by his birth mother. He cannot trust anyone only by their words. His realization of his love to Ana makes him try to trust Ana’s feeling and learn how to love her.

Since that incident, Grey and Ana’s relationship goes well. Grey becomes more possessive to Ana. He is afraid that he will lose someone who is important to him again after he lost his birth mother. His possessiveness is challenged by Ana who thinks that she can handle everything by herself resists his protection because she thinks that she is different from his birth mother; she is stronger than his birth mother that she can protect herself;

“Christian, I know you loved your mom, and you couldn’t save her. It wasn’t your job to do that. But I’m not her.”

He freezes again. “Don’t,” he whispers.

“No, listen. Please.” I raise my head to stare into gray eyes that are paralyzed with fear. He’s holding his breath. *Oh, Christian . . . My heart constricts. “I’m not her. I’m much stronger than she was. I have you, and you’re so much stronger now, and I know you love me. I love you, too,”* I whisper. (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 247)

Grey's world changes when he meets and knows Ana. His actions and private life also change. "My world was ordered, calm and controlled, then you came into my life with your smart mouth, your innocence, your beauty, and your quiet temerity . . . and everything before you was just dull, empty, mediocre . . . it was nothing." (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 481). Different from the relationship with Mrs. Robinson which is not based of love, Ana gives more positive emotional influence to Grey.

Grey's negative outcomes in the previous stage of Erikson of psychosocial development; mistrust, doubt and shame, and guilty are changed by Ana into the positive ones. Grey trusts Ana; so, he gives permission to Ana to touch his body. Ana also tries to bury Grey's guilty feeling toward his birth mother and stop him to being over protective to her. She changes him step by step to be a good man.

After Grey realizes his feeling towards Ana, Grey asks her to marry him. Ana who also has the same feeling with Grey automatically answers yes. They have a happy family, which is connected to Erickson's psychosocial development is completed seventh stage. However, there is one obstacle to fully reach this stage, which is generativity. Having a child is another mark that a man should contribute to the world. Different from Erikson's theory, Grey does not want to have a child right after his marriage. Consequently, Grey is angry when Ana tells him that she is pregnant. He also blames on Ana because she forgot to have her shot to prevent the pregnancy. Grey does not want to have a child not because he

does not like children; he is just not ready to have it. Grey's reason is clearly explained in Grey and Ana's conversation when they talk about her pregnancy:

“What kind of father could I possibly be?” His voice is hoarse, barely audible.

“Oh, Christian.” I stifle a sob. “One that tries his best. That's all any of us can do.”

“Ana—I don't know if I can . . .”

“Of course you can. You're loving, you're fun, you're strong, you'll set boundaries. Our child will want for nothing” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 475).

His wondering about what kind of father he would be like is the main topic of the quotation above. Grey doubts he can be a good father to his future child. Grey's doubt is reasonable considering his lack of good parenting. The only memories of his birth parents are violence and abandonment. Grey is afraid that he will become like his birth father; he says “I'm scared I'll be a shitty father” (James, *Fifty Shades of Freed*, 2012, p. 478). Ana who believes that Grey has already changed makes sure that Grey will become a good father different from the pimp with his funny and strong personality.

With the encouragement from Ana, Grey tries to get rid of his doubt and accepts the baby. He starts to build his real family with Ana. They have two children, son and daughter. Since he has a life partner and children, the seventh stage generativity works for him.

In the analysis of the seventh stage, Grey undergoes positive influence in the last stage. He succeeds in leaving his mark in this world: he has a company, he is successful in his work, and he also has children. He has a positive outcome in his psychosocial development. In this stage he also gets rid of his traumatic events such as bad dreams and barely to being touched after he starts his relationship with Ana.

