



مجلة فصلية محكمة تصدرها كلية
التربية للعلوم الإنسانية - جامعة كركوك



مجلة جامعة كركوك للدراسات الإنسانية

المجلد (20) العدد الاول - الجزء الثاني - ب - تموز 2025

مجلة جامعة كركوك للدراسات الإنسانية

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الأستاذ الدكتور

مراد إسماعيل أحمد

تموز 2025



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مقدمة

يشرفني أن أقدم لكم هذه المقدمة التي تسلط الضوء على الدور الحيوي والمهم للبحوث التي يقدمها الباحثون للمجلة، والتي تسهم بشكل فاعل في تعزيز وتطوير مجالات الدراسات الإنسانية. إن المجلة تهدف إلى توفير منصة علمية رائدة لنشر الأعمال الأكاديمية التي تتناول قضايا حيوية في مختلف فروع العلوم الإنسانية، بما في ذلك الفلسفة، وعلم الاجتماع، والأنثروبولوجيا، وعلم النفس، واللغة، والتاريخ، والفنون، وغيرها.

إن الأبحاث المقدمة للمجلة ليست مجرد نتائج لدراسات علمية، بل هي محطات فكرية تعكس تطور المفاهيم والنظريات في هذه المجالات. تعمل هذه الدراسات على طرح حلول للمشاكل المعاصرة، وفهم الظواهر الإنسانية في سياقاتها المختلفة، كما تساهم في تقديم رؤى جديدة لتطوير المجتمع وتعزيز الوعي الثقافي والعلمي.

إن الدور الكبير لهذه البحوث لا يتوقف عند نشر المعرفة فقط، بل يتعداه إلى تحفيز التفكير النقدي والإبداعي، ودعم الجهود الأكاديمية في بناء قاعدة معرفية متينة تُسهم في تحريك عجلة التغيير والتطور في المجتمعات الإنسانية. ولذلك، فإننا نعتبر هذه البحوث أداة أساسية في تطوير الفكر الإنساني، ودعم المساعي المستمرة لتحسين جودة الحياة البشرية عبر أبعادها المختلفة.

نتطلع في المجلة إلى استقبال مزيد من الدراسات الرصينة التي تثرينا وتوسع آفاقنا العلمية، مؤمنين بأن هذه الإسهامات العلمية هي حجر الزاوية في بناء مستقبل أكثر إشراقاً في مجال الدراسات الإنسانية.

رئيس هيئة التحرير

١. د. مراد إسماعيل احمد

شروط وقواعد النشر في مجلة جامعة كركوك للدراسات الإنسانية

1. تسلم نسخة الكترونية من البحث عبر الموقع (<https://kujhs.uokirkuk.edu.iq>)
تحت برنامج Microsoft Word بصيغة doc أو بصيغة .dox.
2. يطبع البحث بواسطة الحاسوب بمسافات واحدة بين الأسطر شريطة أن لايزيد عدد صفحاته عن 25 خمس وعشرين صفحة وبواقع (5000 الى 10000) كلمة، ونوع الخط Simplified Arabic بما في ذلك الجداول، مع تنسيق محدد مسافة 1.5، خط بحجم 14، على ورق A4. للبحوث الخاصة باللغة العربية، يُكتب البحث بخط (Times New Roman) للغة الإنجليزية و التركية بحجم خط (14) على ورق مقاس (A4). اما بالنسبة اللغة الكوردية فونت كوران Kurdfonts.
3. تقديم سيرة علمية مختصرة للباحث أو الباحثين مرفقة مع البحث وتكون منفصلة.
4. تكتب أسماء الباحثين الثلاثية باللغة العربية والإنجليزية كما تذكر عناوين وظائفهم الحالية ورتبهم العلمية.
5. إقرار من المؤلف يؤكد أن البحث لم يسبق نشره وليس قيد النشر في مجلة أخرى.
6. العناوين الرئيسية والفرعية تستعمل داخل البحث لتقسيم أجزاء البحث حسب أهميتها وبتسلسل منطقي وتشمل العناوين الرئيسية: عنوان البحث، الملخص، الكلمات الدالة، المقدمة، إجراءات البحث، الشرح، الاستنتاج، المراجع.
7. يرفق مع البحث ملخص باللغة العربية وباللغة الإنجليزية على أن لا تزيد كلمات الملخص عن (250) كلمة.
8. تكتب بعد الملخص الكلمات الدالة للبحث.
9. تطبع الجداول والأشكال والخرائط داخل المتن وترقم حسب ورودها في البحث وتزود بعناوين ويشار إلى كل منها بالتسلسل.
10. يجوز نشر البحث إذا كان مستقلاً من أطروحة أو رسالة دكتوراه أو ماجستير، بشرط ألا تكون هذه الرسائل منشورة أو مقبولة للنشر، ويجب الإشارة إلى هذا في الصحيفة الأولى وقائمة المراجع، والإفصاح عن ذلك في الإقرار والتعهد.

11. يلتزم الباحث بدفع النفقات المالية المترتبة على إجراءات التقويم في حال طلبه سحب البحث ورغبته عدم متابعة إجراءات النشر.
12. يمنح الباحث مدة أقصاها ثلاثة اشهر لإجراء التعديلات على بحثه إن وجدت ومن حق المجلة بعد ذلك الغاء الملف البحثي تلقائيا في حال تجاوز المدة المذكورة أعلاه.
13. التوثيق (قائمة المراجع)
 - أ. يُشترط اتباع أسلوب الكتابة وفقاً لمعايير APA النسخة السابعة (الجمعية الأمريكية لعلم النفس)، ويجب الالتزام بالدقة في الاستشهادات وتنسيق القائمة المرجعية وفقاً لهذه المعايير، لضمان الوضوح والتناسق في تقديم البيانات والمعلومات العلمية.
 - ب. يشار إلى المراجع في المتن بالاسم الأخير للمؤلف وسنة النشر والصحيفة، مثال: علي عبد عباس العزاوي (العزاوي، 2008: 214) أو (العزاوي، 2008).
 - ت. يجوز في بحوث علوم القرآن والتأريخ الإسلامي توثيق المراجع من خلال تهميش المراجع باستعمال الأرقام المتسلسلة بين قوسين هكذا (1) ، (2) ، (3) وتبين في آخر البحث تفاصيل المراجع حسب تسلسلها وتوضع قبل قائمة المصادر والمراجع.
 - ث. توثق المصادر والمراجع في قائمة واحدة في نهاية البحث وترتب هجائيا حسب الاسم الأخير للمؤلف مثل:
(اسم العائلة، الاسم الأول للمؤلف، (سنة النشر)، عنوان الكتاب، رقم الطبعة، مدينة النشر، در النشر)، مثال:
شحادة ، نعمان 2011، التحليل الإحصائي في الجغرافية والعلوم الاجتماعية، عمان - الأردن، دار صفاء للنشر والتوزيع.
 - ج. أما الدوريات: فيبدأ بذكر الاسم الأخير للمؤلف، ثم بقية الاسم كاملاً، ثم توضع سنة النشر بين حاصرتين. ثم عنوان البحث. ثم اسم المجلة غامق، ثم مكان صدورها، ثم رقم المجلد، ثم رقم العدد، ثم أرقام الصفحات.
14. يستشهد الباحث ببحثين على الأقل منشورين في مجلة جامعة كركوك للدراسات الإنسانية
15. عمل استلال للبحث في مركز الحاسبة الصادر من رئاسة الجامعة.

16. على الباحث دفع أجور النشر البالغة: (150.000) مائة ألف دينار عراقي وإذا زاد عدد الصفحات عن (25) خمس وعشرين صحيفة فسوف يتم استيفاء الأجر بواقع (5.000) خمسة آلاف دينار لكل صفحة.

17. تجري هيئة تحرير المجلة التقييم الأولي للبحث، ثم يُعرض على محكمين من ذوي الخبرة العلمية في مجال التخصص، وتلتزم المجلة بإخطار الباحث بالقرار النهائي بشأن الموافقة على النشر من عدمها على أن يلتزم الباحث بإجراء التعديلات التي قد يطلبها المحكمون من أجل إجازة البحث أو الدراسة للنشر في المجلة.

18. ترسل البحوث وجميع المراسلات المتعلقة بالمجلة الى موقع المجلة.

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The Father's Presence and Absence in Frank O'Connor's My Oedipus Complex from a Psychoanalytic Perspective

Hikmat Khalaf Hussein AL Hussein

Abstract

Psychoanalysis evolved significantly and rapidly in the early twentieth century, intertwining with literature in most of its aspects. The story of the Oedipus complex was and remains the first spark for its declaration as an independent theory by Sigmund Freud, the psychoanalytic pioneer and Austrian neurologist. Frank O'Connor's story, "My Oedipus Complex," once again recaptures the fragrance and depth of the theory. This article aims to illuminate the psychological state of Larry, the male child, during the period of his father's presence and absence, as well as the ways in which these two binary oppositions influence and shape his personality, his perception of his father, and his relationship with his mother. It argues that the father's presence and absence have a direct impact on the development of the equal, symmetrical, and competitive relationship between the male child and his father. It concludes that the absence of the father gives the male son a sense of possession, control, and dominance over the space of his presence with his mother, his closeness to her, and the space of the home, as he is the only dominant male. The father's presence also disrupts the male child's state of mind and makes him feel that he is a competitor to his mother and the home. This leads to a difficult psychological environment that breeds domestic conflict, which is framed by the psychological conflict of the male child throughout the father-son relationship narrative.

Keywords: Psychoanalysis, Oedipus complex, Edmund Freud, Frank O'Connor, My Oedipus Complex, presence and absence.

حضور الأب وغيابه في قصة فرانك أوكونور "عقدة أوديب" من منظور التحليل النفسي

حكمت خلف حسين الحسين*

الملخص

تطورت النظرية النفسية قبل ولادتها لتلامس وتمازج الأدب بكل تفاصيله. ف قصة عقدة أوديب كانت ولا زالت الشرارة الأولى لإعلانها نظرية مستقلة من قبل سيجموند فرويد، رائد التحليل النفسي وطبيب الأعصاب النمساوي. فهي قصة فرانك أوكونور عقدة أوديب خاصتي تسترجع عبق وعمق النظرية من جديد. تهدف هذه المقالة إلى تسليط الضوء على الحالة النفسية للطفل لاري خلال فترة حضور والده وغيابه، وكذلك الطرق التي تؤثر بها هذه الثنائيات المتعارضة على شخصيته وتصوره لأبيه وعلاقته بأمه. إذ تجادل المقالة أن حضور الأب وغيابه لهما تأثير مباشر على تطور العلاقة الندية المتناظرة التنافسية بين الابن الذكر وأبيه. وتصل المقالة الى نتائج مفادها أن غياب الأب يعطي الابن الذكر الشعور بالامتلاك والسيطرة والهيمنة على مساحة الأم والبيت. كما أن حضور الأب أيضاً يؤثر على اضطراب حال الابن الذكر وشعوره بحضور منافس له لأمه وللبيت. هذا يُفضي إلى بيئة نفسية صعبة تولّد صراعاً أسرياً، يُؤطره الصراع النفسي للطفل الذكر طوال قصة علاقة الأب والابن.

الكلمات المفتاحية: التحليل النفسي، عقدة أوديب، سيجموند فرويد، فرانك أوكونور، عقدة أوديب الخاصة بي، الحضور والغياب.

Introduction

In 1899, Freud used the term “Oedipus complex” in his work *The Interpretation of Dreams*. It signified an important cognitive and philosophical transformation. This word elucidated numerous inquiries on the dynamics between father and son, as well as mother and son, and the origins of the difficulties and issues stemming from these relationships (Freud, 1913). Although the word “Father Complex” has no precise definition, it is often used to explain how an infant-father

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relationship might affect a person in adulthood, especially if the father is absent or emotionally distant. It is necessary to make use of something that is known as the Oedipus complex in order to comprehend the function of the father from the perspective of psychoanalysis. In the course of his investigation of the Oedipus complex, Freud arrives at an understanding of the function of the father and his position within the triangle family connection, which consists of the father, the mother, and the child (Qarachatani, 2011). The Oedipus complex pertains to the disclosure of the conscious and unconscious facets of personality in psychoanalytic theory, and from Freud's viewpoint, it encompasses both aspects. Psychoanalysis has yielded significant outcomes in the examination of artistic works, particularly literature, prompting several critics to embrace it as a method of literary criticism. The term psychoanalysis is linked to Sigmund Freud, who, through his practical experiences as a psychiatrist, developed this theory and its connection to everyday human behaviours, as well as their relationship with human nature, time, place, and circumstances. Freud delineated the mind into two domains: the conscious mind, referred to as the ego, and the unconscious mind, which he further subdivided into the id, representing instinct and motivational drives, and the superego, embodying conscience (Schultz, 2005, p. 54-56). This perspective posits that the unconscious mind encompasses mental processes of which a person remains unaware (Friedman and Schustack, 2014, p. 78-79). Freud's views are thus inseparably connected to his examination of literature. In contrast to previous methods of literary criticism, psychological analysis investigates the subjective and psychological aspects of literary texts (Abdullah, 2022). This paper aims to analyze the impact of paternal absence and presence, along with the arrival of a new male sibling, on Larry's conscious and unconscious psyche. It also examines the influence of the

characteristics and intensity of his Oedipus Complex, the three personality structures—id, ego, and superego— on his personality. Furthermore, it investigates the psychological mechanisms of conscious and unconscious defense in *O'Connor's* “My Oedipus Complex”.

Theoretical Framework

One of the theories that falls under the umbrella of the field of psychology is known as psychoanalytic theory. This theory investigates the unconscious mind and the ways in which it can either directly or indirectly influence their behavior. Sigmund Freud is credited with being the founder of psychoanalysis. Freud proposed that human conduct is influenced by the deep-seated wants that are unconscious and the conflicts that arise from events that occur throughout childhood. In the field of literature and literary criticism, psychoanalytic theory has been applied extensively for the purpose of highlighting and interpreting the relationship that exists between the text and the unconscious imagination of the author (Hindawy, 2023). In psychoanalysis, this topic is highlighted, and an attempt is made to explain the role of the relationship between identity and mental factors and the extent of their influence on the course of events in a literary work (Mahroof, 2017).

Fiction, including prose, novels, and short stories, often provides a literary medium for conveying examples of literary theories, especially those proposed by Sigmund Freud. The short story is among these expressive literary vessels. Writers use it for its brevity, ease of reading, and its rapid circulation among readers of all times. The father may be physically absent, but he is spiritually present, and vice versa. In the story, “My Oedipus Complex” the father may be physically absent, but he is spiritually present, and vice versa. Therefore, the father’s absence and

presence in the story create a tense atmosphere that ignites competition between father and son over the wife and mother, respectively.

Methodology

The study relies on an in-depth analytical reading of the selected text to present the conflict between the son, Larry, and his father, both in the presence and absence of the father due to work. It presents these unconscious conflicts and explains the psychological motives and causes within the framework of the natural development of the son's personality. This article uses psychoanalytical theory because it helps the researcher understand the son's unconscious behavior regarding the presence and absence of his father. The study relied on primary sources of the story as well as secondary sources of psychoanalysis from relevant books and articles.

Presence and Absence in Frank O'Connor's "My Oedipus Complex"

In December 1950, "My Oedipus Complex" was published. The story was later collected in 1963 as "My Oedipus Complex and Other Stories". It is the story of Larry, a young boy who is forced to deal with his negative feelings and unhappiness. It aptly portrays the stages in Larry's life when consciousness develops and his superego experiences some disappointments. Larry comes to terms with the fact that he has a father and a younger sibling to contend with. When Larry's father, whom he did not know very well, returns from the war, Larry is forced to face these challenges through a succession of times, different places and under different conditions, causing him to experience various conscious, and unconscious actions, reactions, and behaviours associated with the revelation of his personality (Steinman, 1990, p. 22). O'Connor's "My

Oedipus Complex” depicts Larry’s ‘Oedipus stages’ in constant and witty allusion to Freudian psychoanalysis. It is called “Oedipus Stages” because the chronological sequence of the story shows the various stages that Larry’s personality passed through according to the time, place, and conditions of his life. The narrator of “My Oedipus Complex” exhibits a high degree of self-awareness by sharing his early memories with the reader. O’Connor links Larry’s Oedipal stages to the chronology of the story and to the development of the story’s plot structure. In this way, the story consists of three stages: the first stage is the stage of the father’s absence from home, which can also be considered the exposition and rising action of the story; the second stage is the stage of the father’s return from the war and his presence, which can also be considered the climax of the story; and the third stage is the stage of the presence of a new male child in the family, which can also be considered the falling action and resolution of the story.

In considering the triangular structure relationship; Larry, father and mother, the absence and presence of Larry’s father has had an impact on Larry’s conscious and unconscious. Although the absence or slight presence of Larry’s father in the first part of the story seems very brief in contrast to the second part with the presence and direct confrontation between Larry and his father, it has the meanings, connotations and implications that explain the nature of the relationship between Larry and his father before the actual face-to-face conflict. As a result, Larry’s personality and behavior show some evident actions and reactions, such as his frequent closeness to his mother, which are influenced by the time he spent apart from his father. Due to the importance of this period in providing more details about Larry’s personality as well as the characters surrounding him, it contributes to the refinement of the character on the

one hand and is also related to events that directly affect the character on the other. Therefore, O'Connor followed a precise chronology in arranging the events in the story, thus focusing on the importance of time in the lives of the characters in the story. A more fundamental point is the fact that Freud takes the father into account when describing the various stages of the Oedipal phase in which the father's position changes from that of a provider to an idealized figure and finally to a guardian. So to speak, Freud asserts that the father is the one who stands in both a prohibitive and a rival position, which is related mainly to the son-mother relationship (Jones, "The role of father", 2005, p. 16). In this regard, Jacques Lacan (1901-1981) places a great deal of emphasis on the father in his research model. It is the conflict that the child has with the love of the mother arises from the identification with the father. He sees the father as the symbol of social structure and authority. Only through interaction with him in the Oedipus complex, the boy moves from an external sense of order to a conceptual understanding of the symbolic structure of his relationship with his parents. For this reason, the absence of the father is a crucial component within the theme of influence (Evans, 2006, p. 62).

Although the title of the story betrays its content, which specifically refers to the concept designed by Sigmund Freud "Oedipus Complex" in which a man develops an unhealthy love for his mother followed by a hatred for his father (Ewen, 2014, p.20). At the beginning of the story, O'Connor uses the time when Larry was away and close to his father at the same time to express the phases that Larry's character goes through. In this regard, it is worth noting that O'Connor uses this time period to portray the first signs of Larry's Oedipus complex. Although Larry has only seen his father a few times or for a limited

amount of time, his description of the nature and level of their relationship “Naturally, I disliked her looking anxious, because it destroyed her good looks, so I interrupted him.”, “It was nothing of the sort. Father and I had quite different notions of a walk in town.”, (O’Connor, 2011, p. 164). It is through the inclusion of specific references to time implies the first signs of this complex and also the level of it depending on the time and condition. Since the “Oedipus complex” is a complex that builds a person’s personality, it describes the stages of a child’s growth and development both psychologically and sexually, and helps in the formation of the “superego,” which in turn aids in adherence to laws and morals (Ibid, p.24). In this way, Larry reveals that he is in the early stages of his Oedipus complex for two reasons: his age of only five (Ibid) and the fact that he rarely sees his father. For this reason, when a child misses his father at home, the balance in his sexual development may be disturbed, sometimes manifesting itself in the form of an Oedipus complex (Jones, “The role of father”, 2005, p. 24). It is also according to Freud, the father plays a prominent role in the stages of child development before and during the Oedipal phase. Similarly, he states that the Oedipus complex develops with the child’s developmental stage between the ages of three and five, characterized by the child’s desire to take advantage of his mother, but it clashes with the reality that she belongs to his father (Ewen, 2014, p.47). Larry’s first words, “Father was in the army all through the war - the first war, I mean - so, up to the age of five,” (O’Connor, 2011, p. 161), convey that he is already labeled as someone with an Oedipus complex at the beginning of the story. This can be defined as an association with the idea of worrying about his mother, as he says, “I never saw much of him, and what I saw did not worry me.” (O’Connor, 2011, p. 161). At this stage of his life, it causes Larry to carry a contradictory feeling towards his father. So, he hates his

father and loves him at the same time. He hates him because of his jealousy towards his mother on one hand, and he carries positive feelings which includes the father for his son on the other hand.

To that point, and among the most important symptoms which may indicate the presence of this complex are: The child's tendency to be possessive and to claim the mother's monopoly, the child's insistence on sleeping between parents, the child's desire for the absence of the father compatible with his sex so that he may possess the other parent and remain alone with him. Larry ironically states, "The war was the most peaceful period of my life." (O'Connor, 2011, p. 161), an allusion to his struggle with his father, as it does not begin until the second part of the story when the father returns from the war and settles in the house. He can no longer be pushed out of his consciousness. Burgner believes that the absence of the father before the age of five creates fear in the child for the things he possesses, and so he considers his mother to be one of those things, which is why he always tries to keep her (Jones, 2007, p. 46). Therefore, the sight of someone usurping his place in his mother's affections simulates in an unconscious action the long-suppressed urge to do so himself, especially if that someone is a family member, which means that Larry's conflicted feelings can be better understood in light of this explanation.

Larry spends his time exclusively with his mother, which strengthens his bond with her. Accordingly, it is an established fact that with the onset of an individual's life, social factors interact in shaping his psyche, the influence of the environmental aspect, and the related factors of time and place. For the social elements, he seems to be primarily detached from others and overly close to his mother. Therefore, following the development of Larry's personality at its individual level is not

enough to understand it, but it is necessary to follow the medium in which it develops. It is because each personality is a summary of the social, educational, cultural and historical reality in which they live. When Larry says "The war was the most peaceful period of my life." (O'Connor, 2011, p. 163), this asserts his closeness to his mother only away from people even his father. Moreover, at the beginning of the story, Larry is the older and only child, which makes him more exposed to this complex. This is because his mother pays a lot of attention to him. She has no other children to distribute her attention to and take care of, and therefore she is particularly attached to her son in the absence of her husband.

Another point to consider is that Larry's feigned conversation during his father's absence is a fantasy defense mechanism. He creates his own fantasy world in his mind:

I put my feet out from under the clothes – I called them Mrs. Left and Mrs. Right "and invented dramatic situations for them in which they discussed the problems of the day. At least Mrs. Right did; she was very demonstrative, but I hadn't the same control of Mrs. Left, so she mostly contented herself with nodding agreement. (O'Connor, 2011, p.165)

Thus, he visualizes a story of his mine to satisfy the repressed desires of his id of being the only male at home and the dominant male as well, which in the state of consciousness or unconsciousness is more like daydreaming. However, although Freud assumes that some unconscious fantasies might be "completely unconscious," he believed that most fantasies arise from preconscious or conscious daydreams and can then be suppressed. So, when people do not gain what they want, the solution is to engage in imaginative defense (Spillius, 2001, p. 362). Similarly, what Larry is doing is an attempt to satisfy himself and use a defense

mechanism for what is suppressed in his unconscious. In this sense, Larry uses his feet to help himself by discussing some of the problems he encounters throughout the day, calling them Mrs. Right and Mrs. Left. Although Larry was very attached to his mother, this does not prevent his invention of the dramatic situation in the story he narrates about his two feet, which has four dimensions: In the first, he expresses his love for his mother by choosing female characters in this situation; the second may indicate his desire to imitate his father's role of controlling and taking over all affairs since he is male. The third is identification, the first defense mechanism, where the person resorts to autism with the threat of being the leader. It is also that he tends to unconsciously embody the other person's thoughts and feelings. And the fourth is that his mother's refusal to have a child at this time is a repressed desire that Larry is trying to express by inventing this position.

It is one of the most important parts in which Larry invents the dramatic situation more than once when he says:

I put out my feet and invented a long conversation in which Mrs. Right talked of the trouble she had with her own father till she put him in the Home. I didn't quite know what the Home was but it sounded the right place for Father. (O'Conner)

He, thus, for him the first step into a new phase of the emergence and maturation of his ego. According to Freud, in some people there is a set of thoughts, memories, feelings, and desires that reflect a stage called precociousness, which is buried beneath the conscious mind and can be easily retrieved (Schultz, 2005, p. 54). Through the dramatic situation, Larry expresses his withheld desires in his unconscious as he dreams that he is taking his father's place, in accordance with the Oedipus complex on one hand and his desire to have a brother to play with on the other. In

this regard, when a child reaches the age of five or six, they receive many deterrents for his pleasures from parents and society. Thus, this causes them so much anxiety that they have to suppress them to the unconscious. However, they do not disappear, but rather stay temporarily to indirectly resurface in time (Freud, 2018, p.13).

On the contrary, after his father's presence at home and after the first confrontation between Larry and his father, Larry changes the nature and content of the dialogue in the above dramatic situations he invents between Mrs. Right and Mrs. Left, in which they discuss the problems of the day. Because of the conflict between the id and the superego, the ego resorts to raising the level of dialogue to discuss Larry's confrontation with his father and the importance of the father in the house and his presence there and that it is the appropriate place for the father. This fact, rejected by the id, shows the conflict's intensification and the id's regret in praying for the father, which is why he returned home. In addition to Larry's focus on the word "father" and "home" in the dramatic situation, "I didn't quite know what the Home was, but it sounded the right place for Father." (O'Connor, 2011, p. 164-165). It becomes clear that Larry strives to be the one who runs the house and who should be loved by his mother and not by his father, thus being the father.

An interesting point is that Larry's ego automatically activates defense mechanisms through the presence of his father when confronted with an unpleasant event that might prevent the id from fulfilling its desire. Larry employs protective mechanisms to combat his fears. The successive fractures, the non-fulfillment of his wishes and desires are all repressed and lead Larry to use more effective defense mechanisms to defend his place in loving his mother, which also give him the strength to continue on his path to win her alone. Psychological defense mechanisms

are the defense mechanisms that individuals use when they feel anxious because their desire has not been fulfilled. The purpose of these defenses is to reduce stress, maintain self-balance, manage self-esteem, and deal with anxiety caused by the conflict between the id's desire and the superego's reality (Schultz, 2005, p. 58). Since Larry feels that his father is just a strange man, just a bored visitor, just Santa Claus, and that he is losing the love of his mother, this causes him to use various defense mechanisms. His compelling desire and id constantly drive him to use all the weapons at his disposal to defend himself. It is thus, in order to fulfill his desires, Larry must face many obstacles. Therefore, he has fears of loss, from which psychological defense mechanisms arise to calm him down. This feeling drives him to the projection mechanism several times when he blames his mother and also points out that God was not fulfilling his wishes and that they were the reason for his father's homecoming by saying, "I couldn't help feeling that if this was how God answered prayers, he couldn't listen to them very attentively." (O'Connor, 2011, p.163). The projection mechanism, according to Schultz (2005), is a defense mechanism that many people engage in without realizing it, as well as the position of imposing sin on others as if it is not his fault, as he thinks (60). Performing this mechanism makes it clear that Larry cannot accept that what happened to him was not a sin.

Larry continues to follow the available defense mechanisms without considering the rules of the superego. So, he resorts to the rationalization mechanism to get into the warmth of his mother's bed and sleep, to whom he has promised to stop coming to bed. Yet, he resorts to justifying that he has fulfilled his promise (Schultz, 2005, p.60), by saying, "But I did, Mummy," I wailed, caught in the very act. "I was quiet for ever so long." (O'Connor, 2011, p.167). Thus, he sees that if the

purpose is good and useful, the work may be done in a wrong way, and he assumes that what is happening to him now is the result of his father's actions and not his fault. Larry also resorts to the mechanism of reaction formation by doing things that are contrary to what the id is doing or asking for (Schultz, 2005, p.59), he speaks loudly, "And after that I want to go up the Rathcooney Road," I said loudly, afraid I'd forget something in all those interruptions.", (O'Connor, 2011, p.166), Larry defends reaction formation in an attempt to prevent dangerous desires by exaggerating his attitudes and acting in the opposite direction. Although his mother asks him to be quiet so as not to wake his father, he continues to speak and even intentionally raises his voice.

Another point to note is that from the first day of the father's return from the army after the end of the war, some evidence of the development of Larry's Oedipus complex emerges. Then, since the Oedipus complex is directly related to the components of personality; id and superego, a quick and somewhat strange conflict seems to begin. The conflict this time relates to the stereotype of the father in Larry's view, which is a conflict between the superego in the absence of the father and the superego itself after the presence of the father. The superego in the absence of the father associates the strength and courage of his father with the uniform he wore in the army, while the superego in the presence of the father was not yet accustomed to the new image of his father without the uniform (Perelberg, 2015, p.41). Larry says, "I saw nothing to be pleased about, because out of uniform Father was altogether less interesting" (O'Connor, 2011, p.163), because to him he saw his father as he saw Santa Claus in uniform, coming and going quickly and bearing gifts, not as the person who came to stay in their home and compete with him for his mother's love. At this phase, the stage of his father's presence at home, rapid

updates began to occur in Larry's superego, including that his prayer with his mother was the reason for his father's return.

Furthermore, Larry associates his peace with the war of others, as he comments, "feeling myself rather like the sun, ready to illumine and rejoice." (O'Connor, 2011, p.161) to describe his state when his father was in the army, that he woke up full of energy and compared himself to the sun shining in the sky, and that his life was easy and clear. For this reason, human action is generated by unconscious drives and impulses, and Freud ascribes the highest importance to the unconscious because it contains the source of all hopes, desires, and desired outcomes (Schultz, 2005, p.54). Larry's ego now acts as an intermediary between his id, superego, and reality, resolving their claims, demands, and disputes. When Larry's id, superego, and reality clash violently in his mind, the ego acts on the reality principle with the goal of delaying the discharge of its energy. Inner contradictions cannot be promised and instead serve to demotivate and suspend Larry. Thus, for Larry, the question in the realm of feelings and passions is closely and deeply connected to his unconscious. His father's absence seems to have had a positive effect, as he believes, that he felt the release and recreation and enjoyed absolute freedom. He was free to wake up and go to his mother's bed, he was free to jump into his mother's bed and talk to her until he fell asleep. The difference is evident in Larry's behaviour, activities, and feelings during his father's absence, which means that almost all of his id's desires were answered and received the approval of the superego, he says, "That showed how simple she was." (O'Connor, 2011, p.161). Since the id is bound by the rules and habits of the superego (Friedman and Schustack, 2014, p.213), Larry's superego was also subject to the time factor in terms of the quality of the response during this time, that is, during his

father's absence. Moreover, it was also subject to the environmental factor that surrounded Larry, and the decisions it imposed corresponded to the circumstances of the presence of a certain fortuitous condition that constrained or even hindered those decisions. Therefore, it can be said that some decisions with which the superego corresponds to the id are subject to several factors, the most important of which are timing and surrounding circumstances. Similarly, Larry's psychological well-being exemplifies the flow of life within him and the clarity of his mind because there is no accidental condition (his father) that distracts his attention or helps to develop the state of rejection of the superego, thus cultivating it with the desires of the id.

In addition to his depressed morning mood due to his father's presence, Larry now faces the precipitous illegal seizure of his mother, which he feels is a new disaster piled on top of his complex. His id is responsible for his envy of these deprivations, he comments, "I didn't feel in the least like the sun; instead, I was bored and so very, very cold!" (O'Connor, 2011, p.167). Instinctively, his id creates envy by urging him to rejoice in his father's return, which drives him to fight out of desperation. Larry, thus, demonstrates his understanding of the unjust truth of his mother's devotion to his father, and for the briefest moment he is overcome with resentment. He is subject to the pleasure principle, which acts as an intuitive desire that is completely satisfying and self-gratifying. The primary id is to successfully defend himself, regardless of realistic confrontations or real crises. For this reason, his complex is based on this powerful emotion controlled by his id. Thus, prior to his father's presence, his superego was refined and developed by his mother on the premise that his father's return from war was of interest to them all, so his id was consistent on this basis, namely that his father's

presence will satisfy his id's desires. Within this frame of reference, the id was inconsistent with the superego, and the rational decision was made by the ego in agreeing to pray for his father's return home when he felt that this would satisfy his desires.

It is worth considering further that, in the case of Larry, who becomes more aggressive and ties into Freudian theory, these impulses are initially associated with the caring mother, yet they eventually give way to "the boy's assurance that he will marry his mother and make her proud of him." (Erikson, 1993, p.90). It is evident that Larry's recourse to aggression implies Oedipal behavior, as he kicks his father more than once in bed, "[...] so I gave him several kicks that made him grunt and stretch." (O'Connor, 2011, p.165), in this sense the child brings his sex and aggression based drive energies, which Freud called libido (Evans, 2006, p.10). This is the kind of message Larry wants to send to his father; therefore, he continues his aggression and throws words at his father by yelling, "'Shut up, you!' I bawled, beside myself." (O'Connor, 2011, p.168). Herzog also mentions that despite this type of confrontation between father and son, it is a fact that in the case of a male child, the father is absolutely necessary to modulate the child's libidinous and especially violent instincts (Davies and Eagle, 2013, p.576). As for his desire to marry his mother when he grows up, "'I'm going to marry you,' I said quietly." (O'Connor, 2011, p.170), this is evidence of his desperation to have her now, and so he has become certain that she belongs to his father. As Freud says, "One has the impression that the Oedipus complex is then gradually given up because the wish is never fulfilled"; therefore, boys resolve the Oedipus complex by identifying with their fathers, adopting the father's superego norms, and suppressing their sexual longing for their mother (Fear, 2016, p.20).

Since the id is associated with the desires of pleasure and enjoyment for the individual (Rennison, 2015, p.38), most of Larry's id in the absence of his father did not differ in whether they emanated from and were subordinate to his superegos, but were first subject to his desires. He believed that his father's presence in the house would fulfil his wishes and not interfere with his relationship with his mother. Also, in regards to Larry's prayer and request to God to send his father home safely, which is expressed by Larry as, "Little, indeed, did I know what I was praying for!" (O'Connor, 2011, p.162). This suggests that the action is motivated by the fact that he has acquired the content of the superego from his mother. She repeatedly tells him that his father's return home is in the best interest of the family. Thus, his superego's ignorance of the consequences of his father's presence or absence has led it to fulfil the id's desires, since it is only a prayer that does not affect the id's future desires, or it would not do so.

The conflict between the id and the superego intensifies in the case of the Oedipus complex. Larry tries various means to keep his father away from his mother. He sees his father as a threat that must be destroyed (Schultz, 2005, p.65). When his father talks to his mother, Larry tries to interrupt more than once and ignores his mother's warnings to stop:

'Just a moment, Larry!' she said gently. This was only what she said when we had boring visitors, so I attached no importance to it and went on talking.", "'Do be quiet, Larry!' she said impatiently. "Don't you hear me talking to Daddy?'" (O'Connor, 2011, p.163)

He seeks help for this continuity and the importance of his action and effectiveness by invoking some of the contents of the superego which his

mother boycotted only in the case of a boring visit, and so he regards his father as a mere visitor who does not belong to the family and must be excluded. However, these attempts were of no use, as he began to realize how his father's presence at home affected his relationship with his mother expressing this that things were beginning to get complicated. Then the id insists and drives him to confront the superego through his conflict with his father, who represents the superego, since, according to the Freudian division of the soul, the father represents the superego in contrast to the basic component of the soul represented by what is called (the id).

The arrival of the newborn brother, the male child, Sonny, fills Larry's heart with jealousy and regret. It represents the third stage of Larry's story, turning everything upside down and ruining Larry's hopes and plans. Although he wished for a brother, the superego shows that he begins to blame the id for his wishes and to believe that he is the one who brings sadness, trouble, and problems upon himself, "Sometimes I wished I'd never mentioned the confounded baby-I seemed to have a genius for bringing calamity on myself." (O'Connor, 2011, p.171). In the past, he has begged God to bring his father back from the war and then begged his mother to bring another child into the family. So it is the id that wants pleasure without thinking of the consequences, as well as the instability of the superego. Adding to this is the dependence of Larry's superego on a single source to draw norms, traditions, and ideals, namely his mother. Larry observes himself through the superego in a largely unconscious way, and the superego grows as he grows, influenced primarily by his parents. Larry's superego is further refined by his life experiences, and it works in the opposite way to the work of the id; rather, it is a check on it and prevents it from satisfying its desires through the ego. Thus, the

arrival of Sonny does not satisfy the desires of the id as he had expected, but rather makes things worse. Therefore, Larry remarks, "The slogan now was "Don't- Wake-Sonny!" (O'Connor, 2011, p.171), affirming that instead of having one rival, he has two rivals, two obstacles to reaching his mother; nevertheless, this did not end his Oedipus complex, as he did not lose hope, but the conflict between the id and the superego over the fate of his relationship with his mother was most intense, as he was still waiting for his mother to come and be alone for him:

One night I woke with a start. There was someone beside me in the bed. For one wild moment I felt sure it must be Mother, having come to her senses and left Father for good, but then I heard Sonny in convulsions in the next room, and Mother saying: "There! There! There!" and I knew it wasn't she. It was Father. (O'Connor, 2011, p.172)

In the end, however, his id capitulated to the ego and resolved the conflict by improving his relationship with his father. According to Freud, the symbolic father interrupts the mother's bliss by creating a barrier between the child and the mother, helping the child to develop a triangular relationship that includes the father, which enables the child to accept the fact that he can never possess the mother (Dick, 2011, p.110). Thus, the boy overcomes his Oedipus complex not to alleviate castration fears, but to imitate the kindness and care of the father. That is, the boy's Oedipus complex is resolved through faith, not fear (Ewen, 2014, p.44), and can be resolved through the child's identification with the father's superego (Schultz, 2005, p.89). Similarly, Lacan, like Freud, argues that the superego emerges from Oedipal association with the father (Evans 122). That is why Larry feels pity for his father because they are in the same boat in terms of his relationship with his mother, especially after Sonny

comes home and attracts his mother's attention. This condition leaves Larry with no choice but surrender and submission to his superego.

Conclusion

To conclude, the extent of biological maturity Larry has experienced determines his transition from one stage to another, and it is his interaction with the environment that determines his psychological performance. It is also the extent to which he properly employs his reducing energies as he passes through the various stages of development. For this reason, according to studies in psychology and Larry's case, the absence of a father has a negative and positive impact on the child's personality development. This impact manifested itself in the form of abnormal growth of the individual's masculine, sexual, social, and intellectual abilities and daily behavioral habits. During the absence of the father, that is, during the war, there was hardly any conflict between Larry's id and his superego. The id did express its desires, but it was not in conflict with the superego. Moreover, Larry's Oedipal behavior was simple, and there were no symptoms or obstacles that exacerbated the psychological conflict. On the contrary, this was evident in the conflict between the id and the superego after Larry's father's return to the house. It explained the effect of the father's presence on the emergence of this conflict and its reaching advanced stages that extended to the exchange of blows between father and son. However, this is not indicative of a case of illness; on the contrary, it might be a positive sense because it contributed to the refinement of Larry's personality and the improvement of his superego. The father's presence in the house was not a threat to his relationship with the mother but strengthened it and helped him to recover from the Oedipus complex. It also demonstrated that the conflict gradually diminished as his mother gave birth to another male child to

distance both Larry and his father from the mother. This defused the conflict that had arisen between Larry and his father in the race for the mother, as the situation is now different; both are outside the arena of conflict, and the victory is for the new child, Sonny.

Finally, Oedipal competition affected the development of Larry in two ways: first, on the formative level, which refers to the growth and development of the personality, and second, on the structural level, which refers to the organization of the construction of that personality. In other words, it can be said that the significance of the Oedipal position is that in passing through this stage, the male child acquires the elements of metonymy as a man like his father.

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