



Reading Stream of Consciousness and its Relation with Dark Psychology in the Select Works of Oscar Wilde and Virginia Woolf

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The concept of dark psychology and its relation with human thoughts play a vital role in manipulating and taking access to another human mind. In general, we understand dark psychology as a predator whose work is to exploit others with their psychological power of mind control, and this can be encountered in Oscar Wilde's psychological novel "The picture of Dorian Gray". This novel is about the power of manipulating techniques in such a way that the manipulator acts as a predator, and through the dark psychological tools, he takes control of other human minds with no personal harm. Through literature, we understand the work of dark psychology on the human mind and, apart from this, our thoughts, stream of consciousness, and interior monologue itself act as the predator, and this bunch of powerful thoughts take access to the human mind and start its own function in the face of persuasion itself. In the post-pandemic period, people's thoughts were acting as dark psychology against them only and taking the place of the manipulator, and as a result, the victim gets trapped in their own mind and sometimes chooses the path of violence or death as the way of happiness. Virginia Woolf is also the victim of dark psychology through her own multitudinous thought. In one of her celebrated novels, "Mrs Dalloway", she stated that "Death was an attempt to communicate". This paper looks at the relationship between the stream of consciousness and dark psychology and its dangerous impact on the human mind.

Keywords: Manipulation, Dark psychology, Predator, Stream of consciousness, Psychoanalysis, Oscar Wilde, Virginia Woolf.

In today's generation, stream of consciousness has its importance in the mind game as the mind is very multiplex. "Stream of consciousness is a narrative mode or method that attempts to depict the multitudinous thoughts and feelings which pass through the mind of a character, and this technique was first encountered by William James" in 1890 in his work "The principle of psychology". The technique was famous in Virginia Woolf's novel "Mrs Dalloway" in which the protagonist was always in his utopian world, and Virginia wanted readers to take a deep bath in the flow of thought as Mrs Dalloway was going through. Stream of consciousness or interior monologue is deeply connected with dark psychology. As per James William, "Dark psychology explore that aspect of human nature that allows us deliberately and wilfully take action that brings action harm to our fellow humans" (William,2019) or, in other words, dark psychology in the face of the manipulator. It's like a spider web where the manipulator had developed his web thought in another human mind and taken remote control of his mind.

In the novel “Mrs Dalloway” and “The Picture of Dorian Gray”, the characters in each novel suffer the same but in different situations. In “Mrs Dalloway” novel, the Septimus was in his stream of consciousness most of the time, but he did not know that he was being manipulated by her toxic thought of World War I and, on other hand “The Picture of Dorian Gray” novel, the protagonist is being manipulated by Lord Henry Wotton thought and after sometime Dorian Gray the protagonist is being manipulated by his thought. Each novel character, Septimus and Dorian Gray was not aware of dark psychology as their interior monologue had taken the place of dark psychology and was being manipulated in their scientific world, and this manipulation of the mind by the thought had taken the face of persuasion. As Mrs Dalloway expressed her inner feeling as she mentioned, “Death was an attempt to communicate” (Woolf,1925) through this statement, Dalloway was not in her hallucination process but in her interior monologue; her bunch of thought was controlling her mind and giving the solution as death is the only path towards communication, now her thought taken the place of Dark psychology, and she was being manipulated by her thought and started thinking beyond death. Dorian Gray was first being manipulated by his Lord Henry, but after his thought had taken his life.

Sometimes depression and repression are all being created inside our minds which is very difficult to encounter by psychologists. The inner world is like a spider web as the spider gets trapped in the same web human gets trapped in his utopian world. When this happens, our mind acts according to our thought and thought start manipulating the mind. This is the reason in this post-pandemic situation; many people commit suicide. These people were helpless because their minds had created a wall-like structure that stopped the outer thought from entering the inner world, and our inner is being occupied by the dark psychological tools named manipulation, where everything is being manipulated inside by our thought, and slowly it becomes so dangerous that it is very difficult to come out of it. The consequence of Dark psychology has been acknowledged by both predator and the sufferer; here, the predator is our toxic thought, and the sufferer is the mind.

The dangerous effect of dark psychology on any human mind can be seen as a powerful feeling of loss. The loss can be our relationship or friendship, and the person who is unlucky sometimes loses their life. If we consider all things, then the effect of dark psychology is heartfelt. Expert says if a person has the element of a dark personality, then it is a very high chance that he can exhibit the others. For some people who have become a victim of manipulation, then their psyche has been very effective, and their emotions make surface inside their mind, and even that can be seen as a personal loss to itself. Hypnosis is a strong tool to hypnotise the mind, even the victim's response to the hypnotist. This means when a person is being then his mind is being manipulated by the hypnotizer as Dorian was the victim of Lord Wotton and stated that “I don’t want to be at the mercy of my emotion. I want to use them, to enjoy them, and to dominate them” (Wild, 1890) this statement is being said by Dorian but as a manipulator of Wotton. Not every person is hypnotized as some used to be according to their wrong beliefs and become the victim of their thought. Stop giving other people the power to control your happiness, your mind, and your life. “If you don’t take control of yourself and your own life, someone else bound to try” (Bennett,2020) very well portrays that your mind is very powerful and if you don’t take control of it then it can be manipulated by some external force and that can be very dangerous for yourself and the body. We find the different characteristics of hypnotized these are when we went to a movie theatre, there we find ourselves that the external force for some time is controlling the mind as the different scenes of the movie is manipulation our emotions and feeling. This can be very dangerous if would manage the balance between the mind and the body and inside our mind, the thought that gets generated by different views starts manipulating our mind and that particular thought starts taking control of the mind and stop any external forces from enters our mind.

“Unexpressed emotion will never die. They are buried alive and will come forth later in uglier ways” (Freud,1899) according to Sigmund Freud, the emotion inside a human which is unexpressed becomes very dangerous for that particular person and even the mind is not working according to the person because he was under the control of his unexpressed thought or feeling. This happens because the desire has been repressed by his thought and encounters, again and again, this is the reason why the mind gets control under the unexpressed thought and these encounters again and again until he gets out of his world and this experiment can be seen in another work of Freud “The case study of Hysteria” in which Freud also failed in his work and the victim Dora committed suicide as “Dreaming, in short, is one of the devices we employ to circumvent repression, one of the main method of what may be called indirect representation in the mind”(Freud, 1905)

the repression, depression, depressed this all are the element where one itself gets trapped in his world which is not visible outside but inside they are acting like very strong element in a utopian world. Freud fail to save Dora because her mind had created a wall-like structure inside her brain where she was living according to her repressed dream or thought and at last it led to taking her life of herself. It is like the mind created a spider web inside the brain which is very difficult to understand by the psychologist and the same thing happens with Freud and Dora. Even in the book the power of your subconscious mind stated “Think good and good follows. Think evil and evil follows. You are what you think all day long” (Murphy, 1963) Joseph Murphy talks about the powerful thought that a person stored in his subconscious mind and that subconscious mind act as a tool of becoming what you think all day as it does not get vanish but stored in one corner of the brain and most time it gets activated when person asleep. If you think of something the whole day then the thought does not get vanished instead it is stored in your subconscious mind which appears again and again when your mind is in silent mode.

Literature Review

Virginia Woolf’s concept of stream of consciousness “is a narrative device that is written equivalent to a character thought process or a stylized way of thinking out loud” (Woolf, 1925), where the person in the process of thinking gets lost in his utopian world and very difficult to come back from their world. Even Freud talks about repressed emotions, feelings and dreams these elements are stored in the subconscious mind, and sometimes it led tonight to dream because, at night, our subconscious mind gets activated. The article written by J. Hills Miller talks about the manipulation of thought as a stream of consciousness

Dorian Gray's novel talks about Dorian, who always is in his own created world and started having the characteristic of hallucination where his interior monologue had taken his life and which he was not aware of that particular world. The world in which Dorian Gray lives was created by his mind.

While reading both the novel and articles by J Hills Miller, they discuss the flow of thought and the inner world which one is created inside his mind, but these all are linked with the dark psychology where our thought takes the face of manipulation and starts controlling his or her mind as we see in Mrs. Dalloway, the character Septimus was under the control of his own created utopian world where his thought acting as one of the element of dark psychology that is manipulation which is toxic and very difficult to get out of that particular world. Even Dorian was also first manipulated by Lord Wotton, but Dorian was being controlled by his thought and could not figure out what was wrong or what was right.

This research paper will help out to understand the relationship between the stream of consciousness, which is the thought acting as one of the tools of dark psychology is manipulation which is very toxic once controlled by his or her mind. It is very difficult to run out of it, and sometimes our minds choose death as the path of happiness as Septimus has chosen, and he was not aware of his thought taking the face of manipulation. This manipulation of thought creates a wall-like structure inside the human mind, and it stops any outer thought to enters the mind of that particular victim.

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