

CHAPTER IV

DATA ANALYSIS

This chapter presents data analysis with using related theories which has been explained in chapter II. The data analysis of this research only focuses in the main characters of the underground man in the novel the note from the underground by Fyodor Dostoevsky, the internal conflict which influences the main character in his events of story.

4.1 The Internal Conflict of the Underground Man

The character of the Underground Man is lonely, spiteful, and sickly man. Underground man is often grotesque, generally cruel, intensely independent and completely isolated from other human beings. The character of the Underground Man is traits person and write the note based on his imaginary, with the way he has deliberately. Furthermore, the Underground Man is a self-invented individual. It can be seen when the Underground Man constantly lies to the readers, hesitant when do some acts in his life, such as he attempts himself to justify his in actions, and pretends himself to be something. He recognizes if he have makes himself into a fictional character, though an unpleasant one, by deliberately sequestering himself in the underground.

When the main character struggling against himself it can be called internal conflict. According to Burhan statement “conflict internal is the conflict occur in his heart and soul the character (2002: 124).” It is also occurs in the underground. Where

the underground man occurs in himself that is the dilemma in himself arises when he wants to take some action or make decision in his life. The underground man in his story has internal conflict in himself where the underground man in this conflict cannot do some actions related with consciences and inability to act. There are the quotes when he is hesitant about his disease;

“I believe my liver is diseased. However, I know nothing at all about my disease, and do not know for certain what ails me. I don’t consult a doctor for it, and never have, though I have a respect for medicine and doctors. Besides, I am extremely superstitious, sufficiently so to respect medicine, anyway (I am well-educated enough not to be superstitious, but I am superstitious).” (Page 3-4)

Furthermore the underground man gets hesitance again, when he thinks if he is rude to official people, actually not like that.

“I was a spiteful official. I was rude and took pleasure in being so. I did not take bribes, you see, so I was bound to find recompense in that, at least”. (Page 3)

The underground man cannot decide what he is going to do and says the fact in his life this is internal conflict in his life.

The second conflicts are the “underground man” struggling to define himself.

“It was not only that I could not become spiteful, I did not know how to become anything; neither spiteful nor kind, neither a rascal nor an honest man, neither a hero nor an insect.” (Page 5)

In (page 5), he tries to understand himself but he cannot. Because, he has inability to act and indecision to do something, it is to be true or wrong actions and to be bad or good character.

The third conflicts are the “underground man” struggling to develop an understanding of the nature of his being. His makes nature of his being and he believed it such as the Underground Man thinks and then tells us he is very proud, when he slapped in the face by other people although the underground Man does not crimes and not makes guilty to other people which is it embarrassed incident from other. But, in this conflict he also get pleasure from humiliation.

“I, for instance, have a great deal of AMOURPROPRE. I am as suspicious and prone to take offence as a humpback or a dwarf. But upon my word I sometimes have had moments when if I had happened to be slapped in the face I should, perhaps, have been positively glad of it. I say, in earnest, that I should probably have been able to discover even in that a peculiar sort of enjoyment—the enjoyment, of course, of despair; but in despair there are the most intense enjoyments, especially when one is acutely conscious of the hopelessness of one’s position.” (Page 5)

Furthermore, in the moments when he finds pleasure even in a toothache in himself;

‘Ha, ha, ha! You will be finding enjoyment in toothache next,’ you cry, with a laugh.

‘Well, even in toothache there is enjoyment,’ I answer.

Moreover, the underground man cannot blame law of nature, and it made him sick;

‘For that one could not blame even the laws of nature, though the laws of nature continually all my life offended me more than anything. It is loathsome to remember it all, but it was loathsome even then. Of course, a minute or so later I would realize wrathfully that it was all a lie, a revolting lie, an affected lie, that is, all this penitence, this emotion, these vows of reform.’ (Page 24)

The Underground Man describes and imagines these emotions that are with the proud feels. It different with what other feels and law of the nature, because he has nature his being and he believed it.

The fourth conflicts are the Underground Man struggles in himself because he is unable to define himself; when he thinks, it will be good, if he has identity than did not. Laziness is a defining feature, something that one can identify with symbol. On the other hand, The Underground Man cannot define himself in any way. He feels that he lacks an identity as a result of being very cultured. He wants to establish such an identity for himself, but recognizes that this is impossible.

“Oh, if I had done nothing simply from laziness! Heavens, how I should have respected myself, then. I should have respected myself because I should at least have been capable of being lazy; there would at least have been one quality, as it were, positive in me, in which I could have believed myself.” (Page 29)

Furthermore, when he found his face repulsive, but wanted it to be noble and intelligent. He feels discontent over himself, and even if his disgusting thought.

“My face may be ugly,’ I thought, ‘but let it be lofty, expressive, and, above all, EXTREMELY intelligent.” (page 203)

He finds it repulsive when his friends found his face ugly, furthermore, he makes an assuming when everyone else must also find his faces good and then he wants to appear his is an intelligent.

Furthermore, the Underground Man quickly proceeds to invite himself to Zverkov’s farewell party. His friends and conscience does not want him in the party. There are happen struggles in himself with conscience when he goes to the party;

“What possessed me, what possessed me to force myself upon them?” I wondered, grinding my teeth as I strode along the street, ‘for a scoundrel, a pig like that Zverkov! Of course I had better not go; of course, I must just snap my fingers at them. I am not bound in any way. I’ll send Simonov a note by tomorrow’s post’ But what made me furious was that I knew for certain that I should go, that I should make a point of going; and the more tactless, the more unseemly my going would be, the more certainly I would go.” (Page 102)

The Underground Man realized will go, because he will makes some actions in the party are tactless and bad indecent. Actually his consciences not want it.

4.2 The Underground Man faces his internal conflict

The first conflicts are the “underground man” cannot decide what he is going to do in his life. Internal conflict occurs in the underground man when hesitant rises in his mind, when he wants to consult a doctor about his diseased. He refuses to treat this ailment because he says he is a spite person, although he understands that keeping his problems about his diseased from the doctor just makes him in harm conditions.

“No, I refuse to consult a doctor from spite. That you probably will not understand. Well, I understand it, though. Of course, I can’t explain who it is precisely that I ‘am mortifying in this case by my spite: I am perfectly well aware that I cannot ‘pay out’ the doctors by not consulting them; I know better than anyone that by all this I am only injuring myself and no one else. But still, if I don’t consult a doctor it is from spite. My liver is bad, well—let it get worse!”. (Page 3-4)

The internal conflict of the Underground man is hesitant rises in his mind when he said his heart sick, but then he immediately tells us that he was not sure it his heart. He knew his sick, but he refused to consult a doctor because of spiteful in his heart, he believed if traditional social values no foundation in nature, and that make human existence is essentially useless, so he does not trust others. It does mean

if he does not need helps of a doctor and does not goes to the doctor about his diseased. Although he knows the diseased that just hurt him but he still not goes to the doctor.

Furthermore contrast with the fact before, there he explains if he not in conditional spiteful and will open minded for everyone when shown signs of friendship to him but his faces his conflict whit says about himself;

“I was lying when I said just now that I was a spiteful official. I was lying from spite. I was simply amusing myself with the petitioners and with the officer, and in reality I never could become spiteful. I was conscious every moment in myself of many, very many elements absolutely opposite to that. I felt them positively swarming in me, these opposite elements”. (Page 5)

The underground man cannot decide what he is going to do and says the fact in his live, he never to be a rude official. Actually he lied to the reader if he spiteful person. He instantly says when he cannot to be anything, even he tries to be spiteful person but he cannot. He believed if law of nature will not allow him to become anything. But in this cases he always positive thinking with his condition, although it is a contras conditions of normal person when faces conflict.

The second conflicts are the “underground man” struggling to define himself. Here, he faces his internal conflict with tries to understand self but he cannot. Because, he has inability to acts and indecision to does something, it is to be true or wrong actions and to be bad or good character. But, for all he still confident if he intelligent people because he believed if cannot to become anything it is an intelligent man.

“Now, I am living out my life in my corner, taunting myself with the spiteful and useless consolation that an intelligent man cannot become anything seriously, and it is only the fool who becomes anything. Yes, a man in the nineteenth century must and morally ought to be pre-eminently a characterless creature; a man of character, an active man is pre-eminently a limited creature. That is my conviction of forty years.” (Page 5-6)

The inability to act and indecision of the underground man, it makes him to be an irrational person and different from others. So, it makes him not to be a really characterful as he wants. But in these cases, he always acts of caring himself, when he says cannot be anything but he still gives an opinion in self, if he is an intelligent man because he is also extremely analytical and acutely conscious of every thought, urge, and feeling that crosses in his mind in every conflict in his life. It is heightened consciousness that makes him aware of all of the opposite elements inside him, he never to be a decision person or to act confidently in his desires, but he still feels intelligent man. It is that the underground man does contrast acts in his life from other people.

When the underground man in conditions cannot define himself, he continuously thinks about his problem with the extremely analytical ways that makes him do some acts of caring himself and give some arguments with the nature his being and then if he does something to be like what he wants. In his mind, although these acts are different from other humans. He has a good thought of himself to be intelligent man with nature his being, however other people do not think so.

The third conflicts are the “underground man” struggling to develop an understanding of the nature of his being. In this conflict, the Underground Man tells

us he is very proud, if he slapped in the face by other people although the underground Man does not crimes and not makes guilty to other people. He probably will feel pleasure from despair and humiliation, because of slapped in his face that. But, he thinks it is determined not by him but by the law of nature, he is still guilty for it when he does not mistake to other people. Out of the case that, he always thinks smarter than others around him and can see him for what he is. Because, he still get the pleasure when he get the despair and humiliation.

“And when one is slapped in the face—why then the consciousness of being rubbed into a pulp would positively overwhelm one. The worst of it is, look at it which way one will, it still turns out that I was always the most to blame in everything. And what is most humiliating of all, to blame for no fault of my own but, so to say, through the laws of nature. In the first place, to blame because I am cleverer than any of the people surrounding me. (I have always considered myself cleverer than any of the people surrounding me, and sometimes, would you believe it, have been positively ashamed of it. At any rate, I have all my life, as it were, turned my eyes away and never could look people straight in the face.) To blame, finally, because even if I had had magnanimity, I should only have had more suffering from the sense of its uselessness. The underground man knows if he abnormal person, he despises himself but he also considers himself more intelligent than everyone around him, and therefore feels responsible for everything that happens to him. This sense of responsibility, of course, also increases his misery, and makes his pride in his own intelligence a source of shame which makes it a pleasure”. (Page 11-12)

The different of view in his mind and it is makes him different from other, because he believed nature his has being. He cannot understand law of the nature. Because, he cannot analyze obstacles any more than he analyzes their own motives, so when he find to an obstacle he can feel of enjoyment. It is contrast with conditions human behavior.

Furthermore, he can get enjoyment when he can find pleasure even in a toothache. It is explained when he moans in every time, then other people pay attention about it, but other people cannot feel sick from toothache otherwise it is a pain from moans which is he has made. According to him it is an embarrassment and a humiliation because of toothache. Although it is the whole law of nature and should be that. But, it is contrast with in the nature of the Underground Man being.

“I had toothache for a whole month and I know there is. In that case, of course, people are not spiteful in silence, but moan; but they are not candid moans, they are malignant moans, and the malignancy is the whole point. The enjoyment of the sufferer finds expression in those moans; if he did not feel enjoyment in them he would not moan (page 21).”

The next quote he develops his example about pleasure from humiliation;

“It is a good example, gentlemen, and I will develop it. Those moans express in the first place all the aimlessness of your pain, which is so humiliating to your consciousness; the whole legal system of nature on which you spit disdainfully, of course, but from which you suffer all the same while she does not. They express the consciousness that you have no enemy to punish, but that you have pain; the consciousness that in spite of all possible Wagenheims you are in complete slavery to your teeth; that if someone wishes it, your teeth will leave off aching, and if he does not, they will go on aching another three months; and that finally if you are still contumacious and still protest, all that is left you for your own gratification is to thrash yourself or beat your wall with your fist as hard as you can, and absolutely nothing more. Well, these mortal insults, these jeers on the part of someone unknown, end at last in an enjoyment which sometimes reaches the highest degree of voluptuousness”. (Page 21-22)

According to him it is possible response to claim if he finds pleasure in humiliation. He can find it even in a toothache. The ailment truly is when he moans but other people cannot feel it in them too. The Underground Man responds that of course even this is possible. A toothache is a reminder that one cannot beat the laws

of nature: your teeth will hurt until nature decides to let them stop hurting. There is no reason for this pain, and there is not anyone to blame for it, but it is still painful. The consciousness of being powerless to stop this pain and it is absolute pointlessness of humiliating. The Underground Man sees this pain as an offence with no offender, and he finds pleasure when he gets the problem in his life, usually he makes different thinking because he believed with the nature his being.

Other internal conflict of the underground man is when he cannot blame law of nature, and it made him sick. The underground man cannot blame law of the nature because he has makes nature his being. He is an intelligent people according to him, with what he feels and some irrational acts like enjoyment in the moment when he despair by other people actually he does not mistakes, shamed, and toothache moments.

“Come, can a man who attempts to find enjoyment in the very feeling of his possibly have a spark of respect for himself? I am not saying this now from any mawkish kind of remorse. And, indeed, I could never endure saying, ‘Forgive me, Papa, I won’t do it again,’ not because I am incapable of saying that—on the contrary, perhaps just because I have been too capable of it, and in what a way, too. As though of design I used to get into trouble in cases when I was not to blame in any way. That was the nastiest part of it. At the same time I was genuinely touched and penitent, I used to shed tears and, of course, deceived myself, though I was not acting in the least and there was a sick feeling in my heart at the time.... For that one could not blame even the laws of nature, though the laws of nature continually all my life offended me more than anything. It is loathsome to remember it all, but it was loathsome even then. Of course, a minute or so later I would realize wrathfully that it was all a lie, a revolting lie, an affected lie, that is, all this penitence, this emotion, these vows of reform (page 24).”

It does mean the self-respect is impossible for him when finds pleasure in his own humiliation. He says, however, he is not saying this out of repentance, which is

he hates. When he child, he will apologize and repent sincerely to his papa, even he does not makes mistakes. But, this situation makes him disgusting if he remembered. Furthermore, he back to realized facts, In order to live, he has to invent some adventures for himself. Although, he still disgusts with his conditions because he cannot follow his conscience and cannot follow nature his being and then he still apologized to his papa actually he does not want it. It is always accompany his emotions and knows that it is just deceived himself.

The Underground Man describes and imagines these emotions that are with the proud feels. He explains the all of the emotional torment he has undergone in his live and he has to result of boredom. In an attempt to makes his life into something he could live. At least somehow, a little he convinces himself that someone has offended him, These is a ineffectual gestures toward living as compensation during he lived according to the Underground Man.

Moreover, he always says if he intelligent man, because the Underground Man says, he never managed to begin or finish anything in his life and this reason makes him consider if himself is an intelligent man. Even if we supposes he is just a babbler, then we see that babbling endlessly and going around in circles is the only option open to an intelligent man, because he believed with nature his has being.

The fourth conflicts are the Underground Man struggles in himself because he is unable to define himself, his faces his conflict to posit himself into the known universe. The underground man says he cannot do anything; it will be wonderful

when he did nothing, like to be lazy character. If he were lazy, he cannot respect himself: this will be giving him both a profession and an identity.

“Oh, if I had done nothing simply from laziness! Heavens, how I should have respected myself, then. I should have respected myself because I should at least have been capable of being lazy; there would at least have been one quality, as it were, positive in me, in which I could have believed myself. Question: What is he? Answer: A sluggard; how very pleasant it would have been to hear that of oneself! It would mean that I was positively defined, it would mean that there was something to say about me. ‘Sluggard’—why, it is a calling and vocation, it is a career. Do not jest, it is so. I should then be a member of the best club by right, and should find my occupation in continually respecting myself”. (Page 29)

The Underground Man here continues his thread from before. He imagines that it will be good, if he has identity than did not. Laziness is a defining feature, something that one can identify with symbol. On the other hand, The Underground Man cannot define himself in any way. He feels that he lacks an identity as a result of being very cultured. He wants to establish such an identity for himself, but recognizes that this is impossible.

He found his face repulsive, but wanted it to be noble and intelligent. He feels discontent over himself, and even if his disgusting thought

“It is clear to me now that, owing to my unbounded vanity and to the high standard I set for myself, I often looked at myself with furious discontent, which verged on loathing, and so I inwardly attributed the same feeling to everyone. I hated my face, for instance: I thought it disgusting, and even suspected that there was something base in my expression, and so every day when I turned up at the office I tried to behave as independently as possible, and to assume a lofty expression, so that I might not be suspected of being abject. ‘My face may be ugly,’ I thought, ‘but let it be lofty, expressive, and, above all, EXTREMELY intelligent.’ But I was positively and painfully certain that it was impossible for my countenance ever to express those qualities. And what was worst of all, I thought it actually stupid looking, and I would have been quite satisfied if I could have looked intelligent. In fact, I

would even have put up with looking base if, at the same time, my face could have been thought strikingly intelligent.” Page 66)

He thinks the face is embarrassing is when he looks stupid in front of his friends. He felt like people were alienated and different from his friends. The Underground Man has a strong concern with his face. He finds it repulsive, assuming that everyone else must also find it so. He wants it to appear intelligent. The face, of course uses to interact with the world. It contains the mouth and the eyes, both of which are, for the Underground Man, cut off. He cannot speak to the other. He also notes that he could never withstand anyone gaze. He would always look away, his eyes failing against other eyes. Though his face does not communicate directly, however, it is still seen. The Underground Man, believing in his own superiority to others, wants them to be able to see this superiority in his face.

The next conflicts occurs when, The Underground Man quickly proceeds to invite himself to Zverkov’s farewell party. His friends and conscience does not want him in the party. There are happen struggles in himself with conscience when he goes to the party. He claims if he never gets along with Zverkov and that this is really a private occasion for friends. However, his friends and conscience cannot stopped him comes to the party, but he refuse again when he comes to the party he did not have money.

“But what made me furious was that I knew for certain that I should go, that I should make a point of going; and the more tactless, the more unseemly my going would be, the more certainly I would go. And there was a positive obstacle to my going: I had no money (Page 102).”

In this conflict, actually he not wants to go the Zverkov party, but in his mind he makes a plan to deciding whether or not to attend the dinner party, it is contrast with his consciences. The Underground Man realized will go, because he will makes some actions in the party are tactless and bad indecent. The Underground Man does it because of spiteful. He knows that he himself has no desire to attend. As a result, he wants to attend even more, just so as to does something that will spoil the day for everyone.

The climax of conflicts in the story when Liza comes to underground man with love and rescue her from underground, but he refused. Underground man feels raging inside, why he could not accept love Liza and just away from underground. There find a situation in his self which is he cannot decide what he is going to do.

“She was sitting on the ground with her head leaning against the bed, and must have been crying. But she did not go away, and that irritated me. This time she understood it all. I had insulted her finally, but ... there’s no need to describe it. She realized that my outburst of passion had been simply revenge, a fresh humiliation, and that to my earlier, almost causeless hatred was added now a PERSONAL HATRED, born of envy” (Page 195)

Furthermore, there founds his continuous struggle with the consciences again. He cannot believe if he loves Liza. But not must be like that. In his mind he cannot love him because of spiteful and it is not his priority in him. He thinks if he is a despicable man because he just makes Liza hurt.

“Though I do not maintain positively that she understood all this distinctly; but she certainly did fully understand that I was a despicable man, and what was worse, incapable of loving her. I know I shall be told that this is incredible—but it is incredible to be as spiteful and stupid as I was; it may be added that it was strange I should not love her, or at any rate, appreciate her love. Why is it strange? In the first place, by then I was incapable of love, for I repeat, with me loving meant tyrannising and showing my moral superiority. I

have never in my life been able to imagine any other sort of love, and have nowadays come to the point of sometimes thinking that love really consists in the right— freely given by the beloved object—to tyrannise over her. Even in my underground dreams I did not imagine love except as a struggle”. (Page 196)

Shortly after his physical encounter with Liza, the Underground Man was running around the room waiting for her to leave. He was thinking about his conception of love as tyranny and about his inability to deal with reality. He realized Liza comes to him to bring love and save him from underground not for pity. But, he wanted her to leave him, because he wants to be alone again, to escape reality and remain in the underground. It can be shown in the quotes;

“I wanted ‘peace,’ to be left alone in my underground world. Real life with its novelty so much that I could hardly breathe (page 195-196).”

He feels nothing in the world, because of spite in himself and cannot accept the different conditions in his surroundings. Many struggles he finds in himself. In the fact, he cannot accept love from other people as must be in normal conditions. He is very disappointed about these conditions and his actions. But, he does not do anything and just follows nature. His being, according to him, is true and must be that finally he believed it.

Furthermore, The Underground Man breaks off his story and says if he is ashamed about the entire time he has written stories based on his memoirs, because it is just making these notes a corrective punishment rather than literature. He insists with his writing cannot be called a novel, because, a novel must have a hero and this one only contains the traits of an anti-hero. Finally, he claims his notes are unpleasant because

all of us, both he and his readers, are estranged from real life. He lives only in books and in fantasies, and is no longer capable of dealing with life. If the rest of us do not notice this, it is only he, because the Underground Man does not act normally like other people, immersing himself completely in the underground world of dreams. All of us, he says, now live in ideas and are ashamed of our own real physical bodies. He concluded this condition, by saying that he is tired of writing from the underground. The Underground Man continues writing after this but it is just as well that we stop here.

“Even now, so many years later, all this is somehow a very evil memory. I have many evil memories now, but ... hadn't I better end my 'Notes' here? I believe I made a mistake in beginning to write them, anyway I have felt ashamed all the time I've been writing this story; so it's hardly literature so much as a corrective punishment. Why, to tell long stories, showing how I have spoiled my life through morally rotting in my corner, through lack of fitting environment, through divorce from real life, and rankling spite in my underground world, would certainly not be interesting; a novel needs a hero, and all the traits for an anti-hero are EXPRESSLY gathered together here, and what matters most, it all produces an unpleasant impression, for we are all divorced from life, we are all cripples, every one of us, more or less. We are so divorced from it that we feel at once a sort of loathing for real life, and so cannot bear to be reminded of it. Why, we have come almost to looking upon real life as an effort, almost as hard work, and we are all privately agreed that it is better in books.” (Page 200-201)

Furthermore in the quotes;

“We are stillborn, and for generations past have been begotten, not by living fathers, and that suits us better and better. We are developing a taste for it. Soon we shall contrive to be born somehow from an idea. But enough; I don't want to write more from 'Underground.' [The notes of this paradoxalist do not end here, however. He could not refrain from going on with them, but it seems to us that we may stop here (page 202-203).”

Near from the ending of story, as the Underground Man writes about the entire work, he states if it is not a novel because a novel needs a hero. On the other hand, “all the traits of an anti-hero because this note just have assembled deliberately.” One on level, this is a masked reference to the fact that we are reading a novel and not a genuine confession.

Finally, the novel end with notes steps when he says this novel more than writing but there is no need to publish the rest. He refers to the Underground Man as a paradox list, which is an excellent way to describing him. Everything about the Underground Man is paradox or contradiction. He claims it. For example, while he is in conditions spiteful, at the same time, insisting that he is not spiteful. Furthermore, he claims that is he makes out of spite. The most important paradox is the Underground Man searches, with his reason, for an ideal that his reason will not allow him to accept.

In this novel, the underground man particularly facing his conflicts in the different ways like other human, because in his mind he has nature his being and it is different from law of the nature. Furthermore, the underground man is an extremely analytical about all of his conflicts in his life although this analytical also different with other, because he feels if he is an intelligent man with his argument according to him is true and then he believed it. In there, the underground man is individual people and life in the nature his being. He cannot accept new conditions or some alteration, because he happy with the conditions now.