

ABSTRACT

Martini, Fransisca T. 2010. Children's Defense Mechanism in Brother Grimms Tale *Hansel and Gretel*. A Final Project. English Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Semarang State University. Advisor 1: Dwi Anggara Asianti, S.S., M.Pd. Advisor 2: Henrikus Joko Yulianto, S.S., M.Hum.

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This final project deals with children's defense mechanism. Many people thought that children are weak human beings who cannot protect themselves. In fact, children have had self defense mechanism which comes naturally when they need it, this phenomenon is captured in "Hansel and Gretel". Defense mechanism is actually a term that still related to Freud's psychoanalysis theory. This defense mechanism works as the reaction and relation of id, ego, and superego inside of the body and mind.

Hansel and Gretel is a classic fairy tale with a simple theme. And this study emphasizes on three main objectives. First, is to explain the definition of children defense mechanism in *Hansel and Gretel* by Brother Grimms based on theory of psychoanalysis and how this children defense mechanism works, and also the advantages of having children's defense mechanism.

I used a descriptive qualitative research as a method of this final project since the data were in the form of written utterances, phrases, and words, those data were descriptively analyzed. In answering the statement of the problems, there were several steps. First, I read the fairy tale repeatedly to understand them. Second, I selected the data that answered the statement of the problems and inventoried them. And the last, the data selected are interpreted based on its function to the topic.

After analyzing the data, I found several data that prove and support my argument about children's defense mechanism. The data prove and show that children do have defense mechanism. It is limited and focused on three ideas and statements that are defense mechanism has worked in children's stage and it comes naturally and automatically as the interaction of id, ego and superego inside our mind and body, and children's defense mechanism does help us to overcome problems and challenges in our life.