



PSYCHOANALYTICAL APPROACH OF DAVID HERBERT LAWRENCE

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ABSTRACT

Human society has always been captivated by the norms and regulations of a few powerful reigners who have divided society and its ideologies into certain parameters. These parameters were supposed to be followed with strict adherence to the societal norms but where lies rules there arise rebeller, a person with inquisitive nature will never be able to typecast and constrain his beliefs or unknowingly follow the rules. Such rebels have been successful in breaking many myths and reforming the society which we call as dynamics of growing human society inclusive of human psychology.

Vivid field has marked their different pioneers in bringing out the hidden notions of their respective field. Literature has been the roots of human psychology, it's the written evidence of human emotions in different time and dimensions, distinct circumstances and spaces have allowed a person to think and react in certain ways which was either assumed or lived by authors and they have creatively jot down these beliefs as random characters, situations, places causing a reader to re-live those emotions. One such pioneer of breaking the societal taboo was David Herbert Lawrence who with much protest and multiple bans successfully brought out untouched topics like repressed sexuality liberation, human psychoanalytical approach, role of these emotions in shaping a person's individuality and a society therein.

This paper is a gist of such magnificent work done by D.H. Lawrence, a dig into his popular stories has led to the idea of this research paper and hopefully all the readers will notice the efforts too.

Index Terms - Psychoanalytical, Foresight, Taboo, Repressed, Ideologies, Psyche, Urge, Sexuality, Oppression, Subconscious, Society, Human mind

Introduction:

D.H. Lawrence, a well-known writer for his incomparable contributions to the field of literature, needs no introduction in his glorious and revered personality. A lot of researchers have already taken a dive into the attracting world of his theories and beliefs, yet each time a new perception arises well with a budding researcher. Such an effort is being laid by my intake into the “Psychoanalytical approach of D.H. Lawrence.”

Lawrence had this amazing foresight of dealing with human emotions, even in the period when many topics were to be dealt as taboo, Lawrence had this courage of explaining unnoticed or rather unrevealed emotions of humans, especially those of women. As we move further, we shall tap into the overlooked desires, repressed ideologies and brilliant psychological contradictions that shape our being today in purview of D.H. Lawrence and his creative sights, revolving around the Psychoanalytical theory laid by Sigmund Freud. The impact of this combination was an igniting outcome which was ahead of time in the past, let us get into this by further analyzing the literature of D.H. Lawrence.

Concept of Psychoanalysis and Indulgence of the same into Lawrence’s perception:

The human mind is a supremely complex matter of consideration for everybody, for ages people have been behind decoding lot of thought processes into different theories, multiple theories of prominent thinkers and scientists have been adopted by all. One such convincing theory given by Sigmund Freud, an Austrian neurologist and the founder of psychoanalysis, a clinical method for evaluating and treating pathologies seen as originating from conflicts in the psyche, through dialogue between patient and psychoanalyst, and the distinctive theory of mind and human agency derived from it.

Countless observations and experiments done by Sigmund Freud finally concluded into the acknowledgement of theory of Psychoanalysis, which concluded that the human psyche is composed of three elements:

- Id,
- Ego, and
- Superego

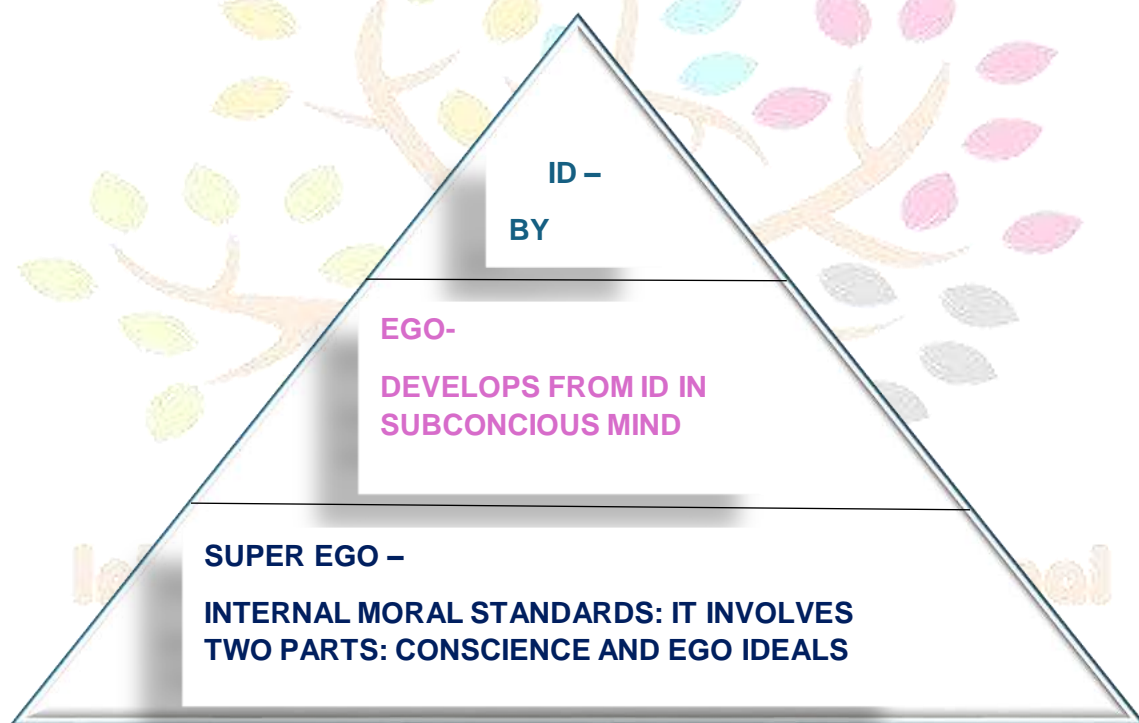


FIG. 1 Sigmund Freud’s theory of Psychoanalytical Behaviour

Wherein, Id discloses primitive, instinctual drives, including urge for food, sex, and pleasure. Ego represents our rational, conscious self that links between the id and the external world. And the superego represents our moral and ethical sense, as well as our sense of right and wrong. At a stretch used together these elements create a strong web of human behavior as interaction or influencing one another.

In Lawrence’s perspective, the unconscious mind was a tremendous powerful drive that can influence one’s action and thus shape experiences. His approach even surpassed Freudian theories, however, as he seeks to explore the nuisance of human desire. He believed that by getting into the depths of one’s subconscious mind, the true meaning of existence and

understanding of our place in the world would be unveiled.

Lawrence's insights into the field of psychoanalysis led him to question societal norms and traditional views of sexuality, gender, and relationships. His contributions were often met with controversy and censorship, as he without fear exposed the subjugated urges and oppressed passions that had been ignored hard beneath the surface of human existence. Through his literature and unique style of bringing taboo topics into mainstream, a new realm of understanding was paved for the future generations of writers and thinkers.

D.H. Lawrence's Psychoanalytical Approach in his Literary works:

From his record setting novel, "Sons and Lovers" to his controversial masterpiece "Lady Chatterley's Lover," Lawrence writings are a valuable cache of psychoanalytical insights.

In "Sons and Lovers," Lawrence hunts into the fragile and intricate dynamics of family relationships and the strong impact of a mother's influence on her son. Through the character of Paul Morel, Lawrence explores the Oedipus complex, a concept that centralizes Freudian psychoanalysis. Paul's complex relationship with his mother and his struggle to form healthy romantic relationships does bring into the light Lawrence's understanding of the psychological conflicts that arise from oppressed and ignored desire and unresolved childhood traumas.

Similarly, in "Lady Chatterley's Lover," Lawrence handles tint of sexuality, desire, and social class. The character of Lady Constance Chatterley embarks on a fervent affair with her husband's gamekeeper, avoiding societal conventions and norms, exploring her own sexual liberation. Through this write up, Lawrence challenges the repressive, orthodox sexual norms of his time, offering into a future where sexual expression and liberation would be embraced with much needed dignity and not looked down as a symbol of taboo.

Analyzing the figuration, symbolism, and imagery in Lawrence's novels:

Lawrence's psychoanalytical perspective is cautiously woven into the symbolism and imagery that constructs his novels. Through vivid descriptions and evocative language, he invites readers to dig beneath the surface of his stories and expose the hidden meanings that lie within.

In "Women in Love," he employs powerful imagery to explore the complexities in human relationships. The symbol of the serpent, for example, represents the primitive desires and instinctual urges that lurk beneath the pretence of civilization. Lawrence uses this symbolism to expose the tensions and conflicts that arise when societal presupposition clash with our innate desires.

In "The Rainbow," Lawrence employs the symbol of the rainbow to represent the unattainable ideal, the requisite for something beyond our hold. This symbolizes the longing for fulfillment and the agitation with aggression that comes from the inability to achieve it. Lawrence's use of symbolism adds weight and complexity to his works, aligning uniqueness simultaneously allowing readers to explore the subconscious depths of the human experience.

Exploring the themes of sexuality and desire in Lawrence's works:

Sexuality and desire are the core themes in Lawrence's works, as he believed that they were powerful forces that helped in shaping our existence. Lawrence's dive into these themes goes beyond mere titillation or shock value; rather, he seeks to understand the profound psychological and emotional impact that sexuality has on individuals and society.

In "The Fox," for example, Lawrence explores the complex dynamics of a love triangle, delving into the depths of passion, envy, and desire. Through the characters of Banford and March, Lawrence exposes the psychological complexities that arise when suppressed desires and societal expectations collide.

Lawrence's exploration of sexuality and desire is not limited to heterosexual relationships. In "The White Peacock," he explores themes of same-gender relationships and sexual repression, challenging societal norms and offering a nuanced portrayal of same-sex desire which was a great hype of the time but into the ears not open enough for the people to discuss. Lawrence's fearless exploration of these taboo topics paved the way for future generations of writers to delve into the complexities of human sexuality – the available combinations, psyche, and mechanism thus finally portraying as a challenge unto traditional views.

Unraveling the role of the unconscious mind in Lawrence's writing:

The subconscious mind plays a pivotal role in Lawrence's writings, as he believed that it held the key to unlocking the true essence of human existence. Lawrence saw the unconscious as a reservoir of repressed desires, unfulfilled dreams, and unresolved conflicts. Through his works, he established efforts to bring these hidden aspects of the psyche into the light, offering readers a glimpse into the depths of the human mind.

In "The Plumed Serpent," Lawrence explores the role of the unconscious in shaping our beliefs and ideologies. The character of Kate Leslie undergoes a transformation as she becomes captivated by the ancient rituals and practices of the Indigenous people of Mexico. Through this journey, Lawrence highlights the power of the unconscious to challenge and reshape our conscious beliefs, forcing us to confront our own prejudices and preconceived notions.

Lawrence's portrayal of the unconscious mind is not confronted with individual experiences; he also explores its impact on collective consciousness. In "The Rainbow," for example, he delves into the collective unconscious of society, exposing the hidden desires and oppressed emotions that shape our cultural norms and values. Lawrence's exploration of the unconscious mind adds depth and complexity to his works, offering readers a unique perspective on the human condition in different time and era along with the strong hustle of defying all ancient beliefs, myths, conventions with evolving time and growing human psychology and advancement of execution even in once ignored fields like societal acceptance of vivid human comprehensions.

The influence of psychoanalysis on Lawrence's personal life and relationships:

Lawrence's psychoanalytical point of view impacted his compositions as well as significantly affected his own life and connections. His investigation of the oblivious psyche and the profundities of human longing prompted a turbulent individual excursion, set apart by energetic connections and a consistent quest for self-disclosure.

Lawrence's own experiences with psychoanalysis, particularly with the influential psychoanalyst Otto Gross, shaped his understanding of human psychology and influenced his writings. Gross, known for his radical views on sexuality and desire, encouraged Lawrence to explore his own hidden desires and embrace his true nature. This influence can be seen in Lawrence's fearless portrayal of sexuality and his exploration of unconventional relationships in his works.

Lawrence's personal relationships were also deeply influenced by his psychoanalytical perspective. His turbulent marriage to Frieda von Richthofen, for example, was marked by intense passion and emotional conflicts, reflecting the subjects and elements investigated in his books. Lawrence's own encounters filled in as material for his scholarly investigation of the human mind, permitting perusers to scrutinize the intricacies of his own internal world.

Comparing Lawrence's psychoanalytical perspective with other literary theories:

Lawrence's psychoanalytical perspective sets him apart from other literary theorists of his time, as his approach was getting into the depths of the human mind and explores the hidden motivations and desires that counts the happening and occurrence, shaping society, human ideologies, and so-called human psychology. While other literary theories focused on social and political contexts, Lawrence's approach offered a unique and deeply personal exploration of the human psyche.

In contrast to the Marxist literary theory, which emphasized the role of capitalist and economic structures in shaping literature, Lawrence's psychoanalytical perspective focused on the individual and the psychological forces that drive human behavior. He believed that literature had the power to tap into the unconscious mind and expose the hidden truths that lie beneath the surface of our conscious experience, giving an insight to an individual for choosing his/her series of actions, philosophies, and way of living.

Likewise, Lawrence's psychoanalytical point of view veers from the women oriented scholarly beliefs, which looked to uncover and challenge male centric power structures. While Lawrence's works frequently towards the areas of strength for inclusive characters who opposed cultural standards, his search for sexuality and urges went past the limits of customary women's activist discussions. Lawrence's depiction of female longing and sexual freedom tested cultural standards as well as customary women's activist viewpoints, offering a more nuanced and complex comprehension of female sexuality.

The relevance of Lawrence's Psychoanalytical perspective in modern literature:

Regardless of being a scholarly trailblazer of the early 20th century, Lawrence's psychoanalytical viewpoint stays pertinent in present day writing. His bold investigation of the human mind and his capacity to take advantage of the profundities of our oblivious cravings keep on enamoring perusers and researchers the same.

In a world where mental health and self-discovery are increasingly valued, Lawrence's psychoanalytical lens offers a unique perspective on the human condition. His understanding of the unconscious mind and its impact on our thoughts, emotions, and behaviors provides a valuable framework for exploring the complexities of modern life.

Lawrence's depiction of sexuality and want, especially his investigation of forward-thinking connections and sexual freedom, remains notable and provocative in the 21st century. As society keeps on debating and dwelling with issues of sexual personality and articulation, Lawrence's psychoanalytical viewpoint offers a focal point through which we can investigate and challenge cultural standards.

Conclusion: the lasting impact of D.H. Lawrence's Psychoanalytical perspective

D.H. Lawrence's psychoanalytical perspective continues to fascinate and inspire readers and scholars across the world. Even after multiple articles and research into the style of D.H. Lawrence, his comparative theories with other prominent thinkers, yet there lie immense phases which are untouched are explored by upcoming researchers. His ability to tap into the depths of the human psyche and presenting the hidden motivations and desires of human behavior which reemphasizes our being, his writing and literature is a testament for him being recognized as a literary genius.

Lawrence's psychoanalytical lens offers a unique and powerful perspective on the human condition, challenging conventional wisdom and forcing us to confront our deepest convictions. His exploration of sexuality, desire, and the unconscious mind remains relevant and thought-provoking in the modern world, offering us new insights into the complexities of human existence.

As we unravel the depths of D.H. Lawrence's psychoanalytical perspective, we gain a glimpse into the future of literature and psychology. His foresight and audacity continue to shape our understanding of the human mind, offering us a pathway to self-discovery and a deeper appreciation for the complexities and apprehensions of human experience and existence.

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