

SELF-CONTROL IN JODI PICOULT *SMALL GREAT THINGS*

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Received: 30 August 2022

Accepted: 01 September 2022

Published: 06 September 2022

Abstract: To revealed the self-control of Ruth Jefferson in Jodi Picoult's *Small Great Things*. This research was qualitative research which is represented in the form of words. The data source in this research was a novel of *Small Great things* by Jodi Picoult. In analysing the data the writer used psychological approach from Sigmund Freud who states that each individual's personality is made of three parts: The Ego, the Superego and the Id. In this study there are various findings that not only contribute to the research that is currently being made, but also provide many lessons for every human being, especially our social life which sometimes has a relationship with the problems in the *Small Great Things* novel. As raised in this study, namely Self-control which is reflected in the main character in this novel, namely Ruth Jefferson, how is Ruth's attitude and psychology in dealing with every problem, be it accusations, discrimination, humiliation and even the legal process that ensnares her which is not actually her. the mistake. There are 6 things related to self-control which are reflected in Ruth Jefferson's attitude, namely: Being Indulgent, High Self-esteem, Personal Qualities, High Self-Defense, Overcome, Low-Profile. Through these findings, it can be concluded that the inner emotional strength is a benchmark for how strong Ruth Jefferson's self-control is in *Self-control in Jodi Picoult's novel Small Great Things*.

Keywords: **Self-Control, Id, Ego, Superego.**

INTRODUCTION

Universally, there are many life problems faced by everyone in the world, to deal with this, a special strategy is needed to have a positive attitude of self, one of the thing is self-control. Many people are faced with various negative attacks, both intentional and unintentional, whether it be envy, anger, hatred, slander or judging one another. (Hagger, Wood, Stiff & Chatzisarantis, 2010). Self-control is the same as human

conscious action in tackling and responding to every negative thing it faces with a stable emotional process, clear thoughts and actions that do not harm oneself (Pajow et al, 2021).

Novel *Small Great Things* from Jodi Picoult, tells of a midwife at a hospital in the United States who comes from African-American people, "This fact refers to the perception that white American culture was superior" (Rorintulus, 2018) she is the main character is Ruth Jefferson who is a labor and delivery nurse in a Connecticut hospital with more than twenty years of experience. During her shift, Ruth began routine check-ups on her newborn, only to be told a few minutes later that she had been transferred to another patient. His parents were white supremacists and did not want Ruth, who is African-American, to touch their child. The hospital complied with their request, but the next day, the baby had a heart attack while Ruth was alone in the nursery.

This is very important to be investigated in order to understand and have a theoretical and practical understanding of the self-control development that Ruth has dealing with her difficult times who actually wanted to help the baby but was accused of killing the baby just because white people were sensitive to African-American people in the United States. In addition, this research has a power as a part of fundamental messages of literature supported by Sabudu (2020) and Sigar & Rorintulus (2020) "Literature always reflects about the social and cultural phenomenon that happened in society. Whether it is personal or social phenomenon Literature always presents it in an interesting way". The Literary work is a very helpful for someone to express the feelings such as love, suffering, freedom pleasure, fear dependence, self-satisfaction, feeling, and lifestyle (Nanlohy, Rorintulus & Kamagi, 2021).

In addition, Self-control is a vital determinant of versatile working like adherence to ethics, laws, normal practices and different standards and guidelines. Effective poise lies at the core of mental and actual wellbeing, prevalence, and proficient and relational achievement, though an absence of restraint expands weakness to unfortunate practices, for example, dietary problems and medications and liquor misuse. As a human we need to have and primarily self-control as a positive way to overcome any problems and obstacles (Paparo, Wuntu & Maukar, 2022) and (Tangney, Baumeister, & Boone, 2004).

Thus, this research will focus on self-control reflected by Ruth Jefferson as a African-American Women who struggling in accusation as a murder towards baby in her hospital, how strong and obedient her to face many judgments through her self-control.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research was qualitative research which is represented in the form of words. "Qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem" (Creswell, 2014:

32)“Qualitative methods rely on text and image data” (Creswell, 2014:232). This book also said that Qualitative has characteristics, those are Natural setting: Qualitative researchers tend to collect data in the field at the site where participants experience the issue or problem under study and Researcher as key instrument: Qualitative researchers collect data themselves through examining documents, observing behavior, or interviewing participants.

Data collection

The data source in this research was a novel of *Small Great things* by Jodi Picoult. Data in research are the subjects from which the data are obtained, Arikunto (1997). Data collection instruments are tools selected and used by researchers in collecting activities so that these activities become systematic and made easier by them, Arikunto (2000). Some of the work procedures in this research include:

1. Data will be analysis by reading thoroughly and repeatedly the novel.
2. Data grouping in this research is by classifying the data based on the characterization aspects that are told in novel and those that are contained in another related studies.
3. Grouping data by correlating each data with a formulizing the characterizations and personality from the object of research. Furthermore, it is described in detail, accompanied by evidence, reasons and exact examples through quotations.
4. Data analysis in this study was carried out after the data was collected and selected, data processing is done by drawing conclusions inductively.

Data Analysis

In analysing the data the writer used psychological approach from Sigmund Freud who states that each individual’s personality is made of three parts: The Ego, the Superego and the Id. These three together works to make complex human personality. Thus, Psychoanalysis is the procedure of applying what humans know about these three parts of one’s personality and to discover the ways how a person behaves. Literary critics often analyze the actions of literary characters in the work of literature by applying the three personality structures id, ego and superego which Freud identified. As critics explore the ego, superego, and id of characters in a literary work, they stress on the ways how these parts based the behaviors of the characters and consequently affect the work as a whole. This process is called psychoanalytic criticism. Psychoanalysis in this study will do the procedure of applying what humans know about the three parts of Ruth Jefferson's personality and of discovering the ways in which she behaves based on the structures of the id, ego, and superego identified by Freud. (Freud, 1996) There were three steps of analysis in this study:

1. First, read novels and other research related to this research
2. Second, look for the description of the id, ego and superego of the main character of the novel
3. Third, analyze the contribution of the id, ego and superego in shaping the personality of the main character
4. Fourth, reading the literature elements from the novel and reading the related chapters that discuss some of the existing research focuses
5. Fifth, quote a collection of words in the novel (paragraphs and phrases)
6. Sixth, reviewing the citation relationship with the sub-chapter which is the supporting element of the analysis
7. Seventh, that is to include all quotations within the scope of sub-chapters according to each element and provide an explanation for each quotation in the existing analysis

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The researcher took this *Small Great Things* novel as the object of study to analyze the Self-control used by Jodi Picoult after reading the novel at glance. So, the researcher analyze literature aspect, specifically characterization through psychological perspective. This study is conduct meaningful analysis about self-control consist which reflected from the major character in this novel Ruth Jefferson.

BEING INDULGENT

Being Indulgent is a part of Id where Ruth's attitude with Being Indulgent is what underlies her personality. The id can be represented as a natural basic need, namely the basis of his life personality which is full of patience with various problems, accusations and unfair legal policies against him. The id works by adhering to the pleasure principle. The id seeks instant gratification of human wants and needs. If these two are not met, a person can become tense, anxious, or angry. Indulgent is allowing someone to have or do what they want, especially when this is not good for them. Disposed or prone to indulge, humor, gratify, or give way to one's own or another's desires, etc., or to be compliant, lenient, or forbearing; showing or ready to show favor; favorable; indisposed to be severe or harsh, or to exercise necessary restraint: as, an indulgent parent; to be indulgent to servants.

"I start to rummage in my bag so that he can check mine, too, but he waves me away. "You are fine," he says dismissively, and he turns his attention back to

Ruth, matching the contents of the bag with what's been rung up. That's when I realize that Ruth didn't want me to come here with her because she needed help picking out a present for her mother. Ruth wanted me to come here so that I could understand what it was like to be her." (237-238).

Based on the passage above, Ruth hesitates before performing CPR and, as a result, is charged with a serious crime. Kennedy McQuarrie, a white public defender, takes her case but gives unexpected advice: Kennedy insists that mentioning race in the courtroom is not a winning strategy. Conflicted by Kennedy's counsel, Ruth tries to keep life as normal as possible for her family especially her teenage son as the case becomes a media sensation. As the trial moves forward, Ruth and Kennedy must gain each other's trust, and come to see that what they've been taught their whole lives about others and themselves might be wrong.

With incredible empathy, intelligence, and candor, Jodi Picoult tackles race, privilege, prejudice, justice, and compassion and does not offer easy answers. *Small Great Things* is a remarkable achievement from a writer at the top of her game.

"We get Rosa Parks and Dr. King and that's about it. You ever hear of a brotha named Lewis Latimer? He drew telephone parts of Alexander Graham Bell's patent applications, and worked as a draftsman and patent expert for Thomas Edison. But you didn't name me after him because you didn't know he existed. The only time people who look like us are making history, it's a footnote." (111).

Based on the statement above, Turk is 11 when his sibling Tanner is killed in a fender bender. After the other driver engaged with the mishap, a Black man, is absolved, Turk's family self-destructs: his folks independent, and Turk's mom starts drinking unreasonably. Turk, irate and angry about Tanner's demise, is brought into the racial oppression development. A white force pioneer named Francis Mitchum contacts him, and he experiences passionate feelings for Francis' little girl, Brit. They get hitched two years after the fact and have a child, Davis, at the Mercy-West Haven medical clinic.

In the interim, Ruth is the solitary Black work and conveyance nurture at Mercy-West Haven. She was raised by a single parent, Mama, who was a homegrown worker for an affluent white family. As a grown-up, Ruth feels like she's a regarded individual from her generally white local area. One October morning, Ruth is doled out to really focus on Brit and Davis. She plays out the infant test, however Turk requests that not be permitted to contact his child, which irritates Ruth.

"That black nurse killed my son, I saw her with my own eyes, beating at his chest. I told her supervisor I didn't want her to touching my baby, and what happened? My worst fear came true." "That nurse wasn't supposed to be taking care of my son." I say, "and she was left alone with him." "Why would you sue

the hospital." She repeats, "when everything suggests that Ruth Jefferson was the individual who killed your baby?" (86 - 87).

The following morning, Davis' medical attendant requests that Ruth watch him. Davis quits breathing, so Ruth attempts to help him however Ruth should contact him per Turk's solicitation, so she stops herself. All of a sudden, the charge nurse shows up, and a group attempts to restore Davis. Ruth does mouth to mouth, yet Davis passes on.

High Self-Esteem

High self-esteem is part of the Id where Ruth's way of behaving while maintaining her life principles and herself is the thing that underlies her personality. The id can be represented as a natural basic need, namely the basis of his personality, namely maintaining his self-esteem defense which can never be abused or injured by anyone, because the id is the initial process that underlies all attitudes of human personality, the high self-esteem of Ruth is the direction of how he tackles every problem for the sake of and to make himself calm and unaffected by anyone. Self-esteem impacts human decision-making process, for relationships, emotional health, and overall well-being. It also influences motivation, as people with a healthy, positive view of themselves understand their potential and may feel inspired to take on new challenges. Regardless the situation after fourteen days, Turk documents an objection against Ruth, asserting that she killed Davis. The province of Connecticut removes Ruth's nursing permit, and she's captured. At Ruth's arraignment hearing the following day, her public protector is Kennedy McQuarrie. During the meeting, Turk sits in the display and spits all over. Ruth goes to prison, however her adolescent child Edison can rescue her that evening. A few days after the fact, Kennedy persuades her manager to let her take Ruth's case.

"that nurse." Turk says. "I don't want her touching my son again" "I don't want her or anyone who looks like her touching my son." The father interrupts, and he folds his arms across his chest. For a moment, I honestly don't understand. And then it hits me with the force of a blow: they don't have a problem with what I've done. Just with who I am. (27).

Close to the furthest limit of January, Ruth is eating at Kennedy's home when she gets a call with the news that Mama suffered a heart attack and passed on. Days after the fact, at the burial service, Ruth understands that Mama attempted to cause Ruth to comprehend that the Black church local area would consistently be there for her. At the lunch thereafter, Kennedy and her mom, Ava, give their sympathies. Ava, who was

brought up in the South by a Black babysitter, reveals to Ruth that Mama didn't squander her life and shows Ruth a photo of herself and her own servant, Beattie.

"Marie says "Honestly, this isn't about you Ruth." "How many other African American personnel are on this ward?" we both know the answer to that. A big, fat zero. When I open the folder, there's a hot-pink post-it on the paper work "No African American Personnel to Care for this Patient." (45 - 46).

As Ruth's court date draws near, Kennedy discovers that Ruth's case will be attempted by Judge Thunder, a crabby adjudicator who doesn't care for Kennedy. Howard, a youthful legal counselor in the workplace, can get rid of conceivably bigoted legal hearers during the choice interaction. That weekend, Kennedy meets with Ivan Kelly-Garcia, a neonatologist. He glances through Davis' lab results and notification that Davis has MCADD, a condition that might have killed him if his glucose dropped.

On the primary day of the preliminary, the examiner Odette's initial assertion projects Turk's solicitation that Ruth not touch Davis as an individual inclination. Kennedy demands that Davis had an ailment and may have kicked the bucket paying little heed to who really focused on him for sure treatment he got. After lunch, a few specialists, including the pediatrician, Dr. Atkins, affirm. Dr. Atkins surveys Davis' infant screening, telling the court that the outcomes recommend no one could've saved him.

"I may not have much say here, but I still can make the choice to not be a victim. The whole point of this examination is to make me feel lesser than, like an animal. To make me ashamed of my nakedness." (162).

The clinical analyst, Dr. Binnie, affirms the following morning. She says that the wounds on Davis' body could've been the consequence of restoratively important CPR, and that Davis was at that point in danger due to MCADD. Then, at that point, Turk affirms and winds up shouting and reviling at Kennedy. Kennedy considers this to be a success, and during a gathering with Judge Thunder and Odette, Judge Thunder consents to toss out the homicide accusation against Ruth and think of her as development for exoneration. Ruth, nonetheless, still demands affirming and reveals to Kennedy that she lied: she did really contact Davis. Yet, Kennedy realizes that if Ruth talks, they'll lose.

She does not wait to have a conversation with this nurse any more than she'd have a conversation with a goat or any other animal. (Turk POV. Picoult, 2016: p. 39) "I think you and I both know I'm not objecting to her experience." I reply (43).

The violence that Ruth experienced as a black person was not only conveyed in the way society discredited black people, but verbal violence was also received by Ruth especially when Turk said he was just like an animal, and Ruth responded in a positive

way while planning to find space to speak fully about the balance of life between blacks and whites so that there is no difference in the next generation.

Personal Qualities

The ego deals with reality, trying to fulfill the desires of the id in a socially acceptable way. For example, by delaying gratification and helping to relieve the tension the id feels if a desire is not fulfilled immediately. Therefore, how does Ruth fulfill her qualities through affective and cognitive? namely through various positive understandings of himself, loving people and not hating but each with personality qualities that have been highlighted during the legal process. Personal qualities are the qualities, properties or character attributes of a person. Instances of individual credits incorporate being straightforward, having a fair of humor or being reliable. As reflected to this novel especially as Ruth's court date approaches, Kennedy learns that Ruth's case will be tried by Judge Thunder, an irritable judge who doesn't like Kennedy. Howard, a young lawyer in the office, is able to weed out potentially racist jurors during the selection process. That weekend, Kennedy meets with Ivan Kelly-Garcia, a neonatologist. He looks through Davis's lab results and notices that Davis has MCADD, a condition that could have killed him if his blood sugar dropped.

But when the day was over, I'd walk into a convenience store to buy a Coke and the owner would follow me around to make sure I didn't shoplift. I'd sit in the train as elderly white women walked by without making eye contact, even though there was an empty seat beside me. (159).

"Do you have any ID?" the cashier asks. Ruth pulls out her license and Social Security card. The cashier looks at her, then at the picture on the license, and rings up the items. As we leaving the store, a security stops us. "Ma'am," He says to Ruth "can I see your receipt?". (237).

On the first day of the trial, the prosecutor Odette's opening statement casts Turk's request that Ruth not touch Davis as a personal preference. Kennedy insists that Davis had a medical condition and may have died regardless of who cared for him or what treatment he received. After lunch, several doctors, including the pediatrician, Dr. Atkins, testify. Dr. Atikins reviews Davis's newborn screening, telling the court that the results suggest nobody could've saved him.

"No offense, but my parents would not be cool with my sister dating a Black guy. Like it's okay to have a black friend who comes on family vacations but it's not okay for that friend to get involved with your daughter." (53).

The medical examiner, Dr. Binnie, testifies the next morning. She says that the bruises on Davis's body could've been the result of medically necessary CPR, and that

Davis was already at risk because of MCADD. Then, Turk testifies and ends up screaming and cursing at Kennedy. Kennedy sees this as a win, and during a meeting with Judge Thunder and Odette, Judge Thunder agrees to throw out the murder charge against Ruth and consider her movement for acquittal. Ruth, however, still insists on testifying and tells Kennedy that she lied: she did actually touch Davis. But Kennedy knows that if Ruth speaks, they'll lose.

The next morning, Ruth testifies and tells the truth. Odette yells at Ruth, working her up, and Ruth snaps and says that Davis was better off dead than raised by Turk. Though Kennedy is upset, Ruth feels like she's finally had the chance to speak, and she fires Kennedy. When Kennedy gets home, she decides to walk through a poor Black neighborhood to feel how Ruth feels. She thinks that if she were braver, she'd bring up race in the courtroom and do her part to fix the system. That night, unable to sleep, Kennedy looks over Davis's screening results again and notices that he was a carrier for sickle cell anemia. She contacts Black television personality Wallace Mercy and has him look for Brit's birth certificate.

"So that means you are slave," she states matter-of-factly "In school," Violet announces. "Josiah told Taisha that people who look like her used to wear chains and their history was that they were slaves." (251).

That Monday, during closing arguments, Kennedy speaks about how racism is largely invisible to white people. Odette maintains her stance that Ruth didn't do her job. As everyone leaves the courtroom, Wallace Mercy and a Black woman approach Turk and Brit. The woman says that she's Brit's mother. Turk is flabbergasted and looks to Francis, who looks shocked and calls the woman Adele. Brit runs off. As Turk and Francis look for her, Francis explains that he and Adele were in love, but she left him. Francis became a white supremacist after this, and he never told anyone that Adele was Black. Francis and Turk eventually find Brit at Davis's grave, cutting her arms in an attempt to get her mother's blood out of her body. They take her to a hospital, and Turk tries to reconcile his racism with his love for his wife and son, who he now knows were part Black.

High self-defense

Ruth's high self-defense is the implication of how she faces various legal problems, this includes the Ego which understands that other people also have needs and wants. Therefore, being selfish in the long run is not a good thing. However, the selfishness that exists refers more to the emotional power that Ruth has while she is undergoing the legal process that the Turks put against her. It shows the setting of space in the novel happens on the road and the researcher finds several data in which Law in America which at that time did not see justice but prioritized the interests of

various parties and without having sound considerations in overcoming every problem or mostly white people and it happens when Ruth walks on the edge of the road.

“When we finally emerged at Seventy-second street, the world was white. It was not just that Central Park was caught in a snow globe. The faces of the men and women shuddering through the storm to get to work looked nothing like mine, or like my cousins or my neighbors.” (13)

Ruth feels marginalized again. All she sees only white people around her mother work. Nobody looks like her. The only thing that she learns or she knows is there is no contrast between a snow and the black one. Only Ruth, her sister and her mother really are showed up on that snow because of their skin color. Another case is a black man just walks like other people do on the street. Suddenly, he is hit by a stranger that is a white person. That white man blames a black guy for making his car is broken.

“I hit a nigger with my car today,” she announced. Frances reared back in his seat. “Well, whats was he doing in front of your car?” “I have no idea. Walking, I guess. But he dented the front fender.” (147)

Even when black people are in the street there are no rights for them to live with peace. Some white people treat black people as gadfly and also as the troublemaker that always do something that harm them. In public places black people quite often gets unpleasant treatment from white people, even they think if that is a normal thing in daily life.

“But when the day was over, I’d walk into a convenience store to buy a Coke and the owner would follow me around to make sure I didn’t shoplift. I’d sit in the train as elderly white women walked by without making eye contact, even though there was an empty seat beside me.” (159).

“Do you have any ID?” the cashier asks. Ruth pulls out her license and Social Security card. The cashier looks at her, then at the picture on the license, and rings up the items. As we leaving the store, a security stops us. “Ma’am,” He says to Ruth “can I see your receipt?”. (237)

It has been a stereotype since a long time ago that black people are the class of people which always make a trouble, do crime or other criminal acts. Each of them or Ruth is in the shopping center, she is treated not equally. A worker will follow and always check her groceries because they suspicious about Ruth or another black people will steal their stuff. That kind of treatment that she gets is not something surprised because for all this time, it is really common to see it. When Ruth and Kennedy catch up together and decide to buy a gift for Ruth’s mother, an interesting event always appears to black and white cases.

“I start to rummage in my bag so that he can check mine, too, but he waves me away. “You are fine,” he says dismissively, and he turns his attention back to Ruth,

matching the contents of the bag with what's been rung up. That's when I realize that Ruth didn't want me to come here with her because she needed help picking out a present for her mother. Ruth wanted me to come here so that I could understand what it was like to be her. The manager hovering, in case of shoplifting. The wariness of the chasier. The fact that out of a dozen people leaving T.J.Maxxx at the same time, Ruth was the only one whose bag was checked". (237-238)

There is nothing new about treating white people with all privileges that they have. They are free to go anywhere without being judged or suspected as a criminal or a thief. They are free to go public places or store without needing to reveal their identity to be trusted. They feel peacefully and happy without knowing or not really care if there are other people (black people) who everyday have to go through many suspicions that surely would never do. Ruth as a black person is an educated woman gets many achievements which are not a benchmark that she is free from all the "special rules" for the black one.

Overcomer

Superego is a moral aspect of a personality that is obtained from parental care or norms and values in society and is based on morals and judgments about right and wrong. Ruth's overcomer is one that is part of the Superego because it is the output of parental upbringing and the influence of family and community culture at that time, although the superego and ego can reach the same decision about something, the superego's reason for making decisions is based on values. -moral values. While ego decisions are based more on what other people think. Black people often get a bad treatment from people who do not look like them. Even if they are rich, it doesn't change the perspective of others community towards it for a better life. Therefore, overcomer becomes a social habit of every black person in dealing with various accusations and difficulties that arise through legal processes and social problems that occur to individuals and groups.

"We left our apartment near the railroad tracks in New Haven, and after having multiple listings "disappear" when the realtor found out what we looked like, we finally found a tiny place in the more affluent community in East End." (50)

Discrimination against black people is common in America. Ruth and her family want to have a house with a majority of the white people in it. In this case, she wants a better environment for her only son but she has to go through many trials and 30 suddenly, the house for sale is completely gone.

"Then, Ruth ends up in a small dwelling in East End. Even when black people give their whole life to them as known as white people, the efforts and everything

suddenly do not become existing. So that what Mama had done for Ms. Mina became like everything else she did for the Hallowells: seamless and invisible. But I remember thinking it made no sense that Rachel and I had to put our snowsuits and boots into the tiny, cramped closet in the kitchen, when there were plenty of empty hooks and open spaces in the main entry, where Christina's and Ms. Mina's coats were hanging. (13-14)

"...Everytime I walk inside and see my mama in that shapeless blue uniform, with a white apron wrapped around her hips. You'd think that after all this time, Ms. Mina would just tell Mama to dress the way she likes, but no." (104)

Many years living with white family in a big house still make their existence only between a boss and a helper. White family is seemed futile and invisible. But Ruth's mother is still loyal to this family and still does every single necessity that they need to. It is called sacrifice. Also, no matter how long they have living there, there is still a different giant wall between the white and the black, or the rich and the poor. Another problem that occurs between black and white people is their "relationship". Black people fall in love with white people but the relationship is not approved just because of the skin color.

"No offense, but my parents would not be cool with my sister dating a Black guy. Like it's okay to have a black friend who comes on family vacations but it's not okay for that friend to get involved with your daughter." (53).

This event talks about Edison, the only Ruth's child in her little family. It happens at Edison's white areas school where he asks Bruce's sister who is his best-friend's sister to go to prom together. At first, Edison thinks Bruce will be angry because he doesn't ready for that, but the thing is way bigger than that. Even they go to holidays together, they are best-mate but still Bruce or even his parent does not want his sister to be with black people and they think he does not deserve her. She is too precious for people like Edison. Blacks are known as destroyers and troublemakers while whites are known as an educated and foremost person. If a bad deed happens, most of the cases are carried out by black people.

"Violence are rare, and when a mugging or a carjacking does happen, the online comments section of the New Haven Independent is full of East End folks lamenting how the "elements" from poor neighborhoods like Dixwell and Newhallville are finding their way into our perfect hamlet. By "elements," of course, they mean black people" (133)

The white region has always been associated with great attitude, educated and polite, while black people are associated with things like bad attitude, being retarded and violence everywhere. Then, most cases occur due to black people and white people feel their elite area is being disturbed by the black. Black people are known as a slave, subordinates and have no power since hundred years ago until now. Even a kid knows

about it.

"So that means you are slave," she states matter-of-factly "In school," Violet announces. "Josiah told Taisha that people who look like her used to wear chains and their history was that they were slaves." (251)

Even in the school, a child is not taught how to behave to others outside their skin color, background, ethnicity, and culture. Children are allowed to talk about a sensitive topic without knowing the meaning. The role of parents is limited to patronizing and not practicing it directly so children know how to respect and not offensive to others especially black people who always relent, also more often talk to their children about the differences, in case they grow as strong as their parents

Low-profile

Low-profile is part of the Superego which is a moral aspect of a person that is obtained from parental care or norms and values in society and is based on morals and judgments about right and wrong. Ruth's presentation as a Subaltern is low ranking and subordinates people who do not have power to the elite class so that makes her attitude has a humble attitude to the conditions and social status at that time. In Jodi Picoult's *Small Great Things*, there are several events that Ruth's character does as a sub-altern with her low self-esteem in the novel.

"That nurse," Truk says "I don't want her touching my son again." I can feel heat spreading from the collar of my scrubs up into my scalp. No one likes to be called out in front of her supervisor. "I don't want her or anyone who looks like her touching my son." The father interrupts, and he folds up his arms across his chest. Running from the wrist to elbow on one arm of is the tattoo of a Confederate flag. For a moment I honestly don't understand. And then it hits me with the force of a blow: that don't have a problem with what I've done. But with who I am." (27)

This happens in the infant room at the hospital when Turk who is White Supremacy does not allow Ruth as a nurse to touch the baby because she is black.

"It represents that Black with a properly job still does not have their rights to do their job well. It is the perspective a white supremacy Turk about a nurse Ruth Jefferson with twenty years experiences. She does not wait to have a conversation with this nurse any more than she'd have a conversation with a goat or any other animal." (39)

"I think you and I both know I'm not objecting to her experience." I reply (43)

It means how hard to be born with a colored skin. When Ruth treats other people equally, there are always some white people with all of their privilege still hate them.

This represents Black People living a life so unfair no matter how good they as a human. Being a black is not easy or even worst as people who live in a U.S because history makes people turn into such a cruel person. Ruth is a victim of it.

"We left our apartment near the railroad tracks in New Haven, and after having multiple listings "disappear" when the realtor found out when we looked like we finally found a tiny place in the more affluent community of East End." (50)

Ruth or people who look like her always get the same treat with white people, and it really happens in America as Jodi represents it as White American woman. Ruth Jefferson cannot do maximal for her job because that white supremacy father does not allow her to do a right action for his baby.

"No African American personnel to care this patient. Glancing over my shoulder at the door of the nursery, I angle my body so that if someone were to come inside, they'd only see my back. They wouldn't see what I'm doing. Is simulating the baby the same as resuscitating him? Is touching the baby technically caring for him? Could I lose my job over this? Does it matter if I'm splitting hairs? Does anything matter if this baby starts breathing again? But even when I shove aside my doubts and try everything short of medical interaction, he doesn't resume breathing. Normally, I'd grab a pulse ox probe to get a monitor on his oxygenation and heart rate. I'd find an oxygen mask. I'd make calls. What am I supposed to do? What am I not supposed to do? Any moment now, Corrinne or Marie might walk into the nursery. They'd see me interfering with this infant, and then what? Sweat runs down my spine as I hastily wrap the baby up in his swaddling blanket again. I stare at his tiny body. My pulse throbs in my eardrums, a metronome of failure. I'm not sure if three minutes have passed, or only thirty seconds, when I hear Marie's voice behind me. "Ruth." She says. "What are you doing?" "Nothing." I respond, paralyzed. "I'm doing nothing." (63)

Ruth cannot do as best as she could do this time. There is a boundary among her, her supervisor and also the baby's parents. Ruth never feels this guilty as this for twenty years her work. Jodi represents a true story about the same tragedy that happens in Flint Michigan when a nurse cannot touch the baby because she is black. Something goes wrong and the only person that in the room a black woman, and absolutely the person that should be blaming is the black one. As it shows in the novel:

"That black nurse killed my son, I saw her with my own eyes, beating at his chest. I told her supervisor I didn't want her to touching my baby, and what happened? My worst fear came true." "That nurse wasn't supposed to be taking care of my son." I say, "and she was left alone with him." "Why would you sue the hospital." She repeats, "when everything suggests that Ruth Jefferson was the individual who killed your baby?" (86 - 87)

How poor become a black people, even when she only does what she is supposed to do, to help the baby. People still blame her. It seems Ruth kills the baby. It could be a destiny, but a skinhead parent is impossible to accept "a destiny" reason for this case but, it is a case murdered by black people. Jodi represents black people do not have prosperity to fight. A white public defender wants to be neutral, but it is not because of Ruth fail to do her job, but only she is black.

"The State just sees a dead baby. They're targeting you because they think you failed as a nurse." "You are wrong." I shake my head in the darkness, and I say the words I've swallowed down my whole life. "They're targeting me because I'm Black." (117).

Ruth becomes the only person that is blamed only because she is black. It is not because she fails as a nurse, but the only reason is about her colored skin. It also represents black people are the only people that should be blamed for bad events that happens, even though they do nothing. It happens when a White defender woman named Kennedy always gainsay if she actually realizes that she has a prejudice but indirectly.

"You say you don't see color... but that's all you see. You're so hyperaware of it, and of trying to look like you aren't prejudiced, you can't even understand that when you say race doesn't matter all I hear is you dismissing what I've felt, and what I've lived, what it's like to be put down because of the color of my skin." (215)

Ruth since a long time ago keeps her feeling by herself. She is always denial about the discrimination in her life. Then, this white defender makes it worse than ever because she is also denial about it not about race but actually it is. As Jodi represents it based on her experiences as white woman living in United States.

CONCLUSION

In this study, there are various findings that contribute to the research being conducted, but also provide many lessons for every human being, especially our social life which sometimes has a relationship with the problems in the novel *Small Great Things*. As raised in this study, namely self-control which is the main character in this novel, Ruth Jefferson, how is Ruth's attitude and psychology in dealing with every problem, be it accusations, legal processes, and even court decisions she faces. ensnared him who wasn't really him. error. There are 6 things related to controlled self-control in Ruth Jefferson's attitude which are divided into 3 personality types, namely the id includes Being Indulgent and High Self-Esteem, then the Ego includes Personal Quality and High self-defense and the last is the Superego, namely Overcomer and Low-profile which is a reflection of Ruth's self-control based on the psychological

understanding of the id, ego and superego personality. Through these findings, it can be concluded that the inner emotional strength is a benchmark for how strong Ruth Jefferson's self-control is in Self-control in Jodi Picoult's novel Small Great Things.

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