COUNT OLAF’S ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY DISORDER IN HANDLER’S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS

Fadhilah Atikah

INTISARI

Riset ini mendiskusikan kondisi psikologis seorang tokoh di dalam novel Daniel Handler, The Series of Unfortunate Events. Fokus di dalam riset ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi dan menganalisa gangguan kepribadian yang dialami Count Olaf.

Riset ini menggunakan teori psikologi dari Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, fourth edition (DSM-IV-TR). Metode riset kepustakaan dan metode analisis deskriptif digunakan untuk mendukung keseluruhan analisis bersamaan dengan artikel, wawancara, serta situs pendukung.

Hasil penelitian riset ini menunjukkan bahwa Count Olaf mengalami gangguan kepribadian yaitu gangguan kepribadian antisosial. Gangguan kepribadian antisosial juga dikenal dengan sebutan psikopat, sosiopat, atau kepribadian disosial.

Kata Kunci: Gangguan Kepribadian Antisosial, psikoanalisis, Tokoh, A Series of Unfortunate Events.

ABSTRACT

This research discusses the psychological condition of the central character of Daniel Handler’s novel The Series of Unfortunate Events. The focus on this research is to identify and analyze Count Olaf’s personality disorder.

This research applies psychological theory from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, fourth edition (DSM-IV-TR). To support the analysis, the library research method and analytical descriptive method are applied alongside with supported articles, interviews, and reliable website.
The result of this research shows that Count Olaf has a personality disorder called antisocial personality disorder. Antisocial personality disorder is also known as psychopathy, sociopathy, or dysocial personality.

Key Words: Antisocial Personality Disorder, Psychoanalysis, Character, A Series of Unfortunate Events.

INTRODUCTION

Handler wrote A Series of Unfortunate Events under the pseudonym Snicket in 1999. This novel consists of thirteen books which were published from September 30, 1999 to October 13, 2006. He also wrote some other canon and companion books which were published later still under the pseudonym Lemony Snicket. The novels concern three siblings: the Baudelaire orphans. They lost their parents in a great fire at the family mansion. Violet Baudelaire, the eldest, Klaus Baudelaire, the middle child, and Sunny Baudelaire who is just a baby at the beginning of the series. The children inherit the wealth of their parents. Because they are still underage, their fortune is kept by a banker named Poe and could be legally claimed when Violet is eighteen years old. Mr. Poe then sends them to live with a distant relative named Count Olaf. Count Olaf has evil intentions; he wants to seize the Baudelaire fortune and fulfills his revenge. As the story goes, the children uncover more and more of the mystery of their parents’ death and it is also revealed that Baudelaire parents were in a secret organization, V.F.D. (stands for Volunteer Fire Department), along with several of their guardians.

Count Olaf who has the strong bond with Baudelaire children and he is the one who is really persistent in making the Baudelaire children’s life in suffering. He also has an eccentric character and continuously disguises himself, finds the children wherever they are and, with help from his many accomplices, tries to steal their fortune, committing arson, murder, and other atrocities along the way. His unusual personality and behavior can be considered as a disorder, thus Count Olaf is chosen as the main subject in this research.

This research attempts to analyze what symptoms that could be seen from Count Olaf’s actions, behaviors, and motivations and what his disorder is. This paper focuses only on Count Olaf’s psychological condition in A Series of Unfortunate Events.

The data are taken from the written materials in the library. The primary data of the research is the literary work itself. There are thirteen novels; The Bad Beginning, The Reptile Room, The Wide Window, The Miserable Mill, The Austere Academy, The Ersatz Elevator, The Vile Village, The Hostile Hospital, The Carnivorous Carnival, The Slippery Slope, The Grim Grotto, The Penultimate Peril, and The End. The secondary data are taken from some necessary books and the internet sources. Some books are used because they are relevant to the analysis, such as The Beatrice Letters and The Unauthorized Autobiography which contains Count Olaf’s past, The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th edition Text Revision (DSM-IV-TR), a manual that is referred by mental health professionals when diagnosing mental illnesses.
ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY DISORDER

According to Gordon W. Allport “personality is the dynamic organization within the individual of those psychophysical systems that determine his unique adjustments to the environment” (1937) and Allport also said that “Personality is the dynamic organization within the individual of those psychophysical systems that determine his characteristic behavior and thought” (1961). Furthermore, Ngalim Purwanto said that personality is determined by biological, social, and cultural factors (2006). It means a character’s personality can be analyzed through his environment, his parents, his childhood and his past experiences.

The characteristics of Antisocial Personality Disorder in the DSM are described as follows:

Individuals with Antisocial Personality Disorder frequently lack empathy and tend to be callous, cynical, and contemptuous of the feelings, rights, and sufferings of others. They may have an inflated and arrogant self-appraisal (e.g., feel that ordinary work is beneath them or lack a realistic concern about the current problems or their future) and may be excessively opinionated, self-assured, and cocky. They may display a glib, superficial charm and can be quite voluble and verbally facile (e.g., using technical terms or jargon that might impress someone who is unfamiliar with the topic). Lack of empathy, inflated self-appraisal, and superficial charm are features that have been commonly included in traditional conceptions of psychopathy that may be particularly distinguishing of the disorder and more predictive of recidivism in prison or forensic settings where criminal, delinquent, or aggressive acts are likely to be non-specific…These individuals may be irresponsible as parents, as evidenced by malnutrition of a child, an illness in the child resulting from a lack of minimal hygiene, a child’s dependence on neighbors or nonresident relatives for food or shelter, a failure to arrange for caretaker for a young child when the individual is away from home, or repeated squandering of money required for household necessities. (American Psychological Association 702)

In short, a person with ASPD is indicated by three (or more) of the following:

1. Shallow Emotions, Lack of Remorse and Empathy
2. Cynical and Contemptuous of the Feelings, Rights, and Sufferings of Others
3. Arrogant, Self-appraisal, Cocky
4. Display a Glib, Superficial Charm and Can Be Quite Voluble and Verbally Facile
5. Deceitfulness, Repeated Lying, Use of Aliases, Conning Others for Personal Profit or Pleasure
6. Irritability and Aggressiveness
7. Reckless Disregard for Safety of Self or Others
8. Early Behavior Problems or Juvenile Delinquency

SHALLOW EMOTIONS, LACK OF REMORSE AND EMPATHY

People with ASPD often show being indifferent towards other person’s feeling, rights and sufferings. They may rationalize why they have hurt people and have no feelings of remorse and guilt. They also tend to blame other people for any bad situations and make themselves blameless. In The Reptile Room, when Count Olaf’s disguise has been uncovered by the children and Mr. Poe, he remains calm and easily admits that he had done two murders. Count Olaf’s
confession shows no remorse and it seems that slaughtering people is not a big deal. When Klaus asks him about Gustav, Uncle Monty’s real lab assistant, he casually tells how he murdered him:

"I wonder what happened to Gustav, Uncle Monty's real lab assistant?" Klaus wondered out loud. "If Gustav hadn't quit, then Uncle Monty never would have hired Count Olaf."

Count Olaf had been quiet this whole time, ever since the tattoo had appeared. His shiny eyes had darted this way and that, watching everyone carefully the way a lion will watch a herd of antelope, looking for the one that would be best to kill and eat. But at the mention of Gustav's name, he spoke up.

"Gustav didn't quit," he said in his wheezy voice. "Gustav is dead! One day when he was out collecting wildflowers I drowned him in the Swarthy Swamp. Then I forged a note saying he quit." Count Olaf looked at the three children as if he were going to run over and strangle them, but instead he stood absolutely still, which somehow was even scarier. "But that's nothing compared to what I will do to you, orphans. You have won this round of the game, but I will return for your fortune, and for your precious skin." (Snicket, The Reptile Room 47)

People with ASPD do not see others around them as people, but only as targets and opportunities, just like Olaf who describes as a lion who watch a herd of antelope. Instead of making friends, people with ASPD have victims and accomplices who also end up as victims. Olaf himself has a troupe of accomplices that helping him in his villainous scheme. His accomplices are described as a bunch of weird and villainous people. Along the series, Olaf lost his accomplices one by one, mostly by death and betrayal. Olaf does not show remorse toward his dead accomplices by saying that their death were ‘worth it’ (Snicket, The Slippery Slope 15).

People with ASPD have shallow emotions, they are outraged by insignificant matters, yet remaining unmoved and cold by what would upset a normal person. Since they are not genuine, neither are their promises. There is no reliable treatment for ASPD and people with ASPD may not realize they have it. In Penultimate Peril, when Olaf cannot find the Sugar Bowl (something that he also desires besides the Baudelaire fortune), he is in extreme rage and said that he will kill everybody in the hotel. He said that everybody has failed him, even though Olaf has also failed them more than they have failed him. He makes himself blameless by making an excuse that because everybody has failed him, he has rights to hurt them.

Count Olaf turned to face the Baudelaire orphans, who had never seen him look this frightening. His eyes had never gleamed as brightly, and his smile had never been as peccant, a word which here means "so hungry for evil deeds as to be unhealthy." It was not unlike the face of Dewey had been as he sank into the water, as if the villain's own wickedness was causing him great pain. "He won't be the only volunteer who dies today," he said, in a terrible whisper. "I'll destroy every soul in his hotel, sugar bowl or no sugar bowl. I'll unleash the Medusoid Mycelium, and volunteers and villains alike will perish in agony. My comrades have failed me.
as often as my enemies, and I'm eager to be rid of them. Then I'll push that boat off the roof, and sail away with." (Snicket, The Penultimate Peril 112)

CYNICAL AND CONTEMPTUOUS OF THE FEELINGS, RIGHTS, AND SUFFERINGS OF OTHERS

Count Olaf is not only doing physical abuse, but also verbal abuse. He seems to enjoy watching other people suffering. He calls the children with ‘orphan’, instead the fact that he is also an orphan. In The Bad Beginning, Count Olaf makes the children do many hard and unusual works, such as chopping the wood, cooking dinner for his troupe, repainting the back porch or repairing the window. However, those orders are not for any purpose, it is only for Olaf’s amusement:

Violet looked around the small, scraggly yard, in which she had not been since she and Klaus had been forced to chop wood. The pile of logs they had made was still lying there untouched, as if Count Olaf had merely made them chop logs for his own amusement, rather than for any purpose. (Snicket, The Bad Beginning 29)

Count Olaf always calls the children with unpleasant names, but probably the most obvious and intense verbal abuse is in The Slippery Slope when Sunny is kidnapped by Olaf and his troupe. Remembering the fact that Sunny is only an infant, Olaf’s treatment to her is very rude, cruel, and almost inhuman. He orders Sunny to unload everything from the trunk and set up the tents for him and his troupe. They are in the highest peak of the Mortmain Mountains, but he orders Sunny to sleep in a large covered casserole dish. She also has to cook a warm meal for Olaf and his troupe.

A warm meal means she needs fire, and it is impossible for an infant to make a fire in a very cold place like that.

During the kidnapping, Olaf calls Sunny with many harsh names, such as ‘toothy’, ‘little monkey’, ‘saber-toothed papoose’, and probably the harshest is:

"I'll be right back, darling." Esmé said. "Tell that baby to take a nap so she won't see what we're up to. "Esmé's right," Olaf said, giving Sunny a cruel smile. "Get in the casserole dish. You're such an ugly, helpless creature; I can scarcely stand to look at you." (Snicket, The Slippery Slope 72)

ARROGANT, SELF-APPRaisal, COCKY

There are numerous evidences of Count Olaf’s self-assured and arrogant personality. In The Bad Beginning, Olaf said that a man like him can get any beautiful women (Snicket, The Bad Beginning 28).

In The Reptile Room, Count Olaf, who disguises as Stephano and murders Uncle Monty with venom, pretends that he does not know anything about snakes. However, Count Olaf cannot resist his own greediness to show off that he knows everything and ruins his own plan. Klaus describes his expression as:

Klaus recognized a look on his face he remembered from living at Count Olaf's. It was a look of sheer vanity, a word which here means "Count Olaf thinking he's the most incredible person who ever lived." When the Baudelaire orphans had been under Olaf's care, he had often acted this way, always happy to show off his skills, whether he was onstage with his atrocious theater
company or up in his tower room making nasty plans. Stephano smiled, and continued to speak to Mr. Poe, eager to show off. (Snicket, The Reptile Room 40-41)

In The Wide Window, Olaf claims that he loves to brag especially when he manages to deceive people with his evil plan.

"I don't like to brag – actually, why should I lie to you fools anymore? – I love to brag, and forcing that stupid old woman to write that note was really something to brag about. What a ninny Josephine was!" (Snicket, The Wide Window 55)

Count Olaf has poor hygiene but yet he still feels that he is very handsome. In The Carnivorous Carnival he said that he is smart and unbearably handsome (Snicket, The Carnivorous Carnival 75), while in The Penultimate Peril he said that he is handsome and has youthful glow (Snicket, The Penultimate Peril 80).

DISPLAY A GLIB, SUPERFICIAL CHARM AND CAN BE QUITE VOLUBLE AND VERBALLY FACILE

People with ASPD have high charisma and tend to attract a following just because other people want to be around them. They are master wordsmiths. They have a ‘glow’ about them that attracts people who typically seek guidance or direction. Just like Count Olaf who has many accomplices that help him in his scheme. They obey his orders faithfully.

Count Olaf is very good on persuading people to believe and even do what he says. He deceives the Baudelarie’s guardian easily only with his words. In The Reptile Room, Uncle Monty is swayed by Olaf’s sweet words until he does not notice the children’s gloomy face and how Olaf is threatening the children with a knife (Snicket, The Reptile Room 17)

In The Wide Window, Aunt Josephine is easily fluttered by Olaf’s compliments and eventually falls into his trap. Olaf compliments her by saying that she looks young, a simple compliment but it is a compliment that every woman loves to hear(Snicket, The Wide Window 13). People with ASPD know people weaknesses and uses it for their own advantage.

In The Austere Academy, Olaf knows that Nero, the vice principal, is a narcissistic. He uses this knowledge to gain Nero’s trust and convinces him to give the Baudelaire’s custody to Olaf who disguises as Coach Genghis (Snicket, The Austere Academy 27).

DECEITFULNESS, REPEATED LYING, USE OF ALIASES, CONNING OTHERS FOR PERSONAL PROFIT OR PLEASURE

Olaf has done many treacherous schemes and to avoid the authorities he uses many disguises with many aliases too. When he is disguised as another person, he has to lie in order to cover up his true identity. Count Olaf repeatedly uses aliases, disguises and cons many people in order to get the Baudelaires’ fortune. Count Olaf always has a new disguise as someone who works under the guardians or works near the area, usually murdering the person who had the occupation previously and usually fools everyone but the Baudelaires. Here is the list of Count Olaf’s disguises as happens throughout the series.

In The Reptile Room, Count Olaf disguises as Stephano, a new assistant of Uncle Monty (Snicket, The Reptile Room 12-13). Count Olaf’s next disguise is Captain Julio Sham in The Wide Window(Snicket, The Wide Window 13).
In *The Miserable Mill*, Count Olaf disguises as Shirley T. Sinoit-Pecer, an optometrist’s feminine receptionist of Dr. Orwell. She is in cahoots with Olaf and helps him to catch the Baudelaire and their fortune (Snicket, *The Miserable Mill* 32). In the fifth book, *The Austere Academy*, Count Olaf is disguises as Coach Genghis, a sweatsuit wearing gym teacher with a turban, covering his one eyebrow, and expensive looking shoes, covering his ankle’s eye tattoo (Snicket, *The Austere Academy* 19).

Next, in *The Vile Village*, Count Olaf disguises as Detective Dupan (Snicket, *The Vile Village* 41). By the end of seventh book, it is no longer necessary for Olaf to use any disguises as he murders a man, Jacques Snicket, who was believed to be Count Olaf (or Omar, as the newspaper misspelled his name) at the time, due to him also having one eyebrow and the eye tattooed on his ankle. Count Olaf even dares to use his own name when he introduces himself to the townspeople.

**IRRITABILITY AND AGGRESSIVENESS**

Count Olaf is not only cruel and abusive, but also bad-tempered and very aggressive. People with ASPD tend to easily get angry from insignificant matters and often results in extreme violence.

In *The Bad Beginning*, Count Olaf orders the children to cook for his troupe and gives them a little money. Thus, the children could only make puttanesca sauce, a very simple dish and they make it with much hard works. When Count Olaf comes back and finds out that there is no roast beef, he becomes furious. He never mentions that he wants roast beef for dinner, so the children do not know. He confronts the children and they confront him back. When Violet argues with him, a sudden shout from Sunny makes Olaf very angry. He violently grabs her and raises her up in the air (Snicket, *The Bad Beginning* 13).

Later, also in *The Bad Beginning*, Olaf commits a physical abuse to Klaus. He slaps Klaus hard when Klaus said that the Baudelaire fortune is not to be spent until Violet is of age. It gives Klaus a big bruise for few days (Snicket, *The Bad Beginning* 15).

In *The Slippery Slope*, Sunny who is kidnapped by Olaf gets a very bad treatment as Olaf orders her to cook a warm meal for him and his troupe. Because they are in a high and freezing mountain, Sunny thinks and works really hard to cook something from nothing without a fire. With his little tiny feet and arms, she prepares everything in order to satisfy Olaf. Finally, Sunny could only make cold meals with cold drinks (Snicket, *The Slippery Slope* 30). Sunny had done the best she could, and she hoped that Olaf and his troupe might appreciate her efforts, but unfortunately they did not.

"Actually, the coffee isn't bad," one of the white-faced women said, "even if it is a little bitter. Could someone pass the sugar, please?" 'Sugar?" shrieked Count Olaf, erupting in anger. He stood up, grabbed one end of the blanket, and pulled as hard as he could, scattering all of Sunny's hard work. Food, beverages, and dishes fell everywhere, and Sunny had to duck to avoid getting hit on the head with a flying fork. "All the sugar in the world couldn't save this terrible breakfast!" he roared, and then leaned down so that his shiny, shiny eyes stared right into Sunny's. "I told you to make a nice, hot breakfast, and you gave me cold, disgusting nonsense!" he said, his smelly breath...
making a cloud in the chilly air. "Don't you see how high up we are, you saber-toothed papoose? If I threw you off Mount Fraught, you'd never survive!" (Snicket, *The Slippery Slope* 30)

In *The Wide Window*, Aunt Josephine had to lose her life only because she corrected Olaf's grammar. Olaf, who almost spared her life from the leeches, suddenly changed his mind and callously pushed her out to be eaten by leeches (Snicket, *The Wide Window* 50-51).

**RECKLESS DISREGARD FOR SAFETY OF SELF OR OTHERS**

People with ASPD always do anything and everything to achieve their goal, even though they have to harm other people or even himself.

In *The Grim Grotto*, Sunny gets infected by Mycelium Medusa and she is dying because of it. Count Olaf who infiltrates Captain Widdershins’ submarine, Queequeg, shows his ignorant towards Sunny. When Fiona explains Sunny’s condition, Olaf replies that he did not care (Snicket, *The Grim Grotto* 56).

When Olaf and the children are stranded in an island, Ishmael, the facilitator of The Island, says that Olaf set fire to his home, murdered his parents, and that he locked him in a bird cage. However, Olaf says that he did not set the fire to his home. Count Olaf risks his own life when he intentionally provokes Ishmael to fire a harpoon at him only for it to hit the encased Mycelium against his stomach and causing it to burst so that its deadly spores are released into the air, contaminating all of the islanders as well as Olaf himself. Olaf started laughing, stating that Ishmael has murdered everyone on the island as he has just released a deadly fungus into the air. Olaf’s action is really reckless as he is also contaminated by the fungus, he even gets hurt by the harpoon and bleeding to death (Snicket, *The End* 254-255).

**EARLY BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS OR JUVENILE DELINQUENCY**

People with ASPD must have had a history of some symptoms of Conduct Disorder before age 15 years. The specific behaviors characteristic of Conduct Disorder has four categories: aggression to people and animals, destruction of property, deceitfulness or theft, or serious violation of rules. Three (or more) characteristic behaviors must have been present during the past 12 months, with at least one behavior present in the past 6 months (B. First 94).

Count Olaf's criminal youth is referenced several times over the course of the series, some in The Beatrice Letters and most obviously in The Unauthorized Autobiography. While never directly stated, it is hinted in the last two volumes that Olaf had a very troubling past and this may be the reason for his bitterness at the world.

Another reference to Count Olaf's childhood is mentioned in *The Penultimate Peril*. In Chapter One, Kit mentions that she was able to smuggle a box of poison darts to the Baudelaire parents before Esmé Squalor caught her (Snicket, *The Penultimate Peril* 6). Later in the book, when Olaf is confronting the Baudelaires and Dewey Denouement, he dares the Baudelaires to ask Dewey what happened that night at the theatre, implying that the Baudelaire parents, Dewey, and the Snickets were there for some sort of sinister purpose (Snicket, *The Penultimate Peril* 75). Finally, in Chapter Twelve, Olaf reveals that poison darts were the reason he became an orphan himself, implying that the Baudelaires and Dewey in murdering Olaf's own parents with the poison darts at the opera (Snicket, *The Penultimate Peril* 111). This was presumably done as Olaf's parents were enemies to V.F.D. and were killed to
prevent more treachery from them, explaining Olaf's personal fixation and hatred for the Baudelaires and the Snickets and his desire to murder them and steal their fortune.

In *The Beatrice Letters*, a young Snicket writes to Beatrice about someone he only identifies as 'O'. This letter shows that Olaf's villainous nature began to form in his early age.

The only other student in Code Class that I know is O., who is nothing but an annoyance. As I write this he is filling his notebook with anagrams of obscene words. I'm tempted to tell him there is no such thing as 'a wet viper perm' (thought to be an anagram of 'preemptive war', although this is never confirmed) but after the incident with the bottle of ink and the root beer float, I think it’s better to spend my time inside 'My Silence Knot' whenever that nitwit raises his ugly, one-eyebrowed head.

"The brightest star cannot shine through a cloud of dark smoke, and O is the darkest of clouds I have seen in our skies. One day the world will know of his treachery and deceit, of his crimes and hygiene, but that's far too late for us." (Snicket, *The Beatrice Letters 2*)

Olaf has been trained for years in VFD. *The Unauthorized Autobiography* reveals on how is VFD got and trained the members(Snicket, *The Unauthorized Autobiography* 39). It is implied on how the members were being brainwashed and were trained in various skills, such as secret coding and disguising. *The Unauthorized Autobiography* also revealed that Olaf had something to do with the schism that separated VFD into two opposing sides of volunteers and villains. In a letter Jacques Snicket wrote to Jerome Squalor where he explained that the organization had experienced a schism and it was caused by a member whom he referred as O was doing a great deal of vicious, unfair, and impolite acts (Snicket, *The Unauthorized Autobiography* 123)

There is also a statement about Count Olaf from its author, Daniel Handler. In an interview on the UK show, "The Entertainment Show," Daniel Handler who comes as a representative of Lemony Snicket, mentions that Count Olaf's evil is really a product of him being taught and encouraged to act in such a way. While not truly evil as a child initially, Olaf was mauled into a villain throughout his years at V.F.D. training school by an external party, most likely his parents, who have been hinted to being villains as well. This indicates that Olaf, who has shown admiration towards his parents, was taught to commit crimes and horrible acts on their behalf and eventually became consumed with his own greed and lust for vengeance against the organization that stood against his parents, holding a particular vendetta to those who killed them and anyone connected to the assassins (StudioTalk.TV).

There are several reasons why people may exhibit sociopathic behavior. It could be hereditary, wherein a family member may have suffered from a particular personality disorder. In such a case, the affected individual portrays certain innate behaviors such as anger and impulsiveness at a very young age. On the other hand, a sociopath may have normal behavioral traits as a child, which may slowly be altered over time due to the environment and different types of behavior he has been exposed to since childhood. A sociopath can also be the result of a mix of 'nature and nurture', part hereditary behaviors and part environmental situations (Lawlani). In Count Olaf's case, he was mix of 'nature and nurture' as his
parents taught and encouraged him to do villainous things.

**CONCLUSION**

From the analysis of Count Olaf’s actions, behaviors, motivations, and his childhood, it can be concluded that Count Olaf has antisocial personality disorder.

One of the main tendencies of sociopaths is the sole aim to win. They will do anything to get what they want and cannot afford to lose. They are very clever and convincing with their tricks to manipulate others. Sociopaths are shallow and empty from inside and are just playing a game to win. Thus, they get bored when there is nothing stimulating their calculating minds like drama, worry or anything negative enough to keep them active.

Count Olaf is a sociopath because he can commit vile actions and not feel the least bit remorse. He does not live by some moral code of ethics. On the other hand, he often skirts morality for personal benefit. Olaf can experience a highly emotional event without displaying the least bit of emotion; however Count Olaf can be very aggressive whenever something insults or dissatisfied him. He understands human weakness and exploits it maximally. Once determined, he can manipulate individuals to do just about anything. He also does not hesitate to harm or kill other people in order to satisfy his needs.

Count Olaf’s disorder begins from his childhood as he is being taught and encouraged to be a villain by his parents; a mix of ‘nature and nurture’. These symptoms have fulfilled the criteria of a person with ASPD in DSM and thus make Count Olaf has ASPD.

Count Olaf is a perfect example of a sociopath. It is very important to be able to identify a sociopath. People with ASPD do not always become a murder or become a serial killer, but a relationship with them cause distress, as their personalities are conflicting and dominant: especially in holding a position of power, dominance. A relationship with sociopaths also can be dangerous as they are very aggressive and manipulating. Sociopaths often know how to make others believe they are the victim while actually being the aggressor. This study hopefully can gain the awareness of ASPD as it is hard for people to admit and recognize a person with ASPD.

**WORKS CITED**


Count Olaf's Antisocial Personality Disorder In Handler’s A Series Of Unfortunate Events


