ABSTRACT

This study examines the main character, Erica, in Neil Jordan’s *The Brave One*. This study discusses the process from anxiety to posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which is then developed in Erica’s behavior, caused by the traumatic experience. Two basic problems are, about the process from Erica’s anxiety leads her to posttraumatic stress disorder. Second, about how posttraumatic stress disorder is developed in Erica’s behavior. Jon G. Allen’s concept of posttraumatic stress disorder will be used as the main theory. This will be a qualitative research, where the most of the data is taken from the movie of *The Brave One* itself. Library research is done by searching journals, and also other resources appropriate in guiding the analysis. This study discovers that anxiety is triggered by the traumatic experience, with the absence of support and failure of mentalizing, so that PTSD occurs. PTSD development is identified through several stages. The reexperiencing stage is identified when Erica kills the man in minimarket. The 90/10 reaction stage is also identified when she kills the men in subway station, and a man who kidnaps a girl. The hyperarousal stage is identified when she kills Mercer’s case. The avoidance and numbing stage is identified through Erica’s accomplishment of revenge. It is then considered as the posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which gives the significant influences towards her personality.

Key words: Anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), mentalizing, reexperiencing, 90/10 reaction, hyperarousal, avoidance and numbing.