

A CONFLICT IN J.D SALINGER'S *THE CATCHER IN THE RYE*

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Artikel ini berjudul "A conflict in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*". Masalah dalam kajian artikel adalah, Apakah jenis konflik yang muncul di dalam novel, mengapa konflik muncul diantara karakter novel, dan apakah pengaruh konflik terhadap karakter di J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*. Kajian artikel ini menggunakan pendekatan *descriptive qualitative method*. Hasil temuan menunjukkan bahwa karakter utama menghadapi konflik internal dimana dia takut menjadi pribadi dewasa dengan terus bersikap kekanakan. Tokoh utama juga menghadapi external konflik a). *man vs man*, b). *man vs social* and c). *man vs nature*. Karakter utama menganggap pribadi orang dewasa adalah pribadi yang pura - pura, materialistis, dan munafik. Tokoh utama juga menderita kehidupan mental yang tidak berimbang karena saudaranya meninggal dunia walaupun dia sangat berharapnya untuk hidup lebih lama. Semua hal tersebut menyebabkan tokoh utama dalam novel mengasingkan diri dari lingkungan dan konflik ini menyebabkan dia menderita depresi dan harus dirawat di rumah sakit.

Kata kunci: *Internal, External, Conflict, Man vs Man, Man vs Social, Man vs Nature.*

The Background of the Study

Literature and psychology are concerned with human life. Psychology refers to human behavior directly from the object of the man. Human behavior often shows the psychological symptoms of each individual, which will vary from one individual to another. To examine the psychological problems, then the field of psychology is used. Literary works are made often associated with the field of psychology, because consciously or not, the writer uses the psychological aspect to create his work.

Psychological conflict refers to a situation in which a person is motivated to engage in two or more mutually exclusive or incompatible activities. It occurs when the overt, verbal, symbolic, or emotional responses required to fulfill another. (<https://brocku.ca/Medproject/Znaniecki/>) Conflict is a natural thing

that is faced by every human being and it is a common thing that cannot be separated from human life. Human behavior has a big role when conflict begins. Challenge comes from the other people or from themselves to disturb them and fights their mind. A conflict, one of the elements of plot, plays as an important role in fiction, whether it is a drama, a novel or a short story. Conflicts are even more important than the plot itself since it provides the elements interest and suspense.

(<https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/conflict>)

There are many conflicts that appear in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*, it is very interesting to analyze the conflict but the analysis is focused on the conflicts of the main character because it talks about a 16-year-old boy named Holden Caulfield. He is a very depressed young man, he cannot connect with his peers, he has no real friends at school. He fights with

everyone around him. When gets expelled for failing all of his classes he decides to loiter in New York City rather than go straight home and admit his failure to his parents. Holden becomes very anxious after he fights with his roommate when Stradlater over his date with Jane. That is why he leaves Pencey Prep without permission. He is afraid to grow up, he does not want to be an adult. He would rather remain a child. He dreams of being a catcher in the rye, catching the children when they fall off a cliff that is a symbol for childhood. Holden wants to keep children in the innocence of childhood. Adulthood is too scary, too phony, and not for Holden. Therefore, this study will be completely interested in finding the kinds of conflict, why the conflict occurs to the main character and the impact of a conflict that is curiously comprehended to be a comparative study in life.

The Problems of the Study

Based on the statement of the background the study above the problems of the study are formulated as follows:

1. What are the kinds of conflict found on the main character in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*?
2. Why do the conflicts occur to the main character in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*?
3. What is the impact of conflict on the main character in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*?

The Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objectives of the study are as follow:

1. To find out the kinds of conflict found on the main character in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*.
2. To find out why the conflicts occur to the main character in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*.

3. To find out the impact of conflicts on the main character in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*.

The Scope of the Study

The study without a scope will appear vagueness. The scope is useful to avoid the reader's confusion in understanding the analysis and achieving good results. It is also too difficult for us to analyze all aspects of the novel without giving limitations. So, the writer limits the topic of discussion. The analysis is focused on the main character's conflicts and the impact of the conflicts. The writer does not discuss any other problems except the main character conflicts.

The Theoretical Approach

There are two kinds of theoretical approach in the literature that can be used in conducting research, namely intrinsic approach, and extrinsic approach. The intrinsic approach focuses on the text of the literary works, without the help of other descriptions of knowledge. While the extrinsic approach is used to analyze literary work which is not only based on the text itself but also based on the field of studies such as history, biography, religion, and psychology.

According to Kasim (2003:60-61), in his book *Introduction to Literature*:

"Intrinsic approach is analyzing the literary works without relating it to other disciplines of knowledge either social or political condition. While the extrinsic approach combines the analysis by using the text on literary work and other disciplines such as philosophy, psychology, history, social and politics, etc."

Dealing with the topic discussion, intrinsic and extrinsic approaches are used to analyze the text of the novel but also some books and some materials which were taken from the internet to support the data and complete this study.

The Definition of Literature

Literature is a personal expression of man, which comes from experience, thinking, spirit, and conviction in the real description. The literature describes human life, this is arranged by the author to influence the readers. Sometimes, the author describes that situation and some characters so it can make the readers as if the cast who are in that situation.

Sinha in his book, *The Study of Literature* (1997:1) says:

“Literature is the true sense of the term is that kind of the writing charged with human interest and characterized by the permanent, coloring of imagination and artistic embellishment. It deals with the life of man and his destiny on earth. It expresses thoughts, feelings, emotions, and attitudes towards life, which are permanent and universal which in other words, do not change with time and place.”

It can be concluded that literature is a work of art which used by humans to apply their feeling and thoughts that happen in their life, so they make it in sense of writing. The feeling is an abstract thing, people cannot see it but literature makes them sense. The literature will give the information in this world and usually, they will use a symbol to describe their works.

The Definition of Conflict

In life, the problem is a complete package that must exist in living life. As human beings, we cannot escape from problems. Most people think that the problem is a misfortune or a disaster. Yet if examined more deeply, the problem is a problem constraint that must be solved, the problem can be used as a form of an opportunity to improve the weaknesses that exist within the self. We must understand that the problems encountered can mature, but not infrequently also the problem can make people become worse because it cannot solve the problem well.

A conflict, one of the elements of literature, plays as an important role in

fiction, whether it is a drama, a novel or a short story. The conflict affected by the difference in trite that brought individuals in an interaction. The differences among them are concerning physical characteristics, intelligence, knowledge, customs, beliefs, and so on.

In Wikipedia, it is stated that the word conflict is taken from the Latin words “*contra*” means against, “*fligere*” means to strike. It is a struggle that grows out of the interplay of two opposing forces in a plot. There are three types of conflict, they are elements or physical, social, and internal or psychological. Elements or physical conflict is a struggle between a person and a physical world or person versus mature. (<http://en.wikipedia.com/conflict/types-of-conflict>).

The Types of Conflict

According to Riskin (2012:24-25), there are two kinds of conflict that will be discussed in this study, they are Inner and outer conflict.

Internal Conflict

Internal conflict or inner conflict is the conflict that appears in the character's mind. Internal conflict is the dilemma facing the character inside and it is the impact on that character. Inner conflict is a private war within oneself. It could be anything from deciding between two or more choices, to decide many things in our personal life. There is an inner conflict between good and evil, strength and weakness, love, and have, etc. Inner conflict refers to emotional or analytical struggles a character has due to his values, his roles, and society, or the company he finds himself with.

Internal conflict is the issue a character faces, an issue that requires a personal opinion or decision. These difficult decisions must be concluded with a definite conclusive decision, for example,

an alcoholic struggling to abstain for a public speech.

External Conflict

External conflict indicates conflicts affecting two or more parties in the physical world. External conflict is the conflict between two persons or groups, in one of which the hero is the kind person.

External conflicts are divided into three types:

Man vs. Man

Man vs. Man is when there is a conflict between two forms of like beings. An example is the hero's conflict with the central villain of a work, which may play a large role in the plot and contribute to the development of both characters. There are usually several arguments/disagreements before the climax is reached. The conflict is external. A person vs. person can usually be expressed by when a child is being ridiculed by a bully.

Man vs. Society

Man vs. Society is a theme in fiction in which a main character's or group of main characters', the main source of conflict is social traditional or concepts. In this sense, the two parties are a) the protagonist(s); b) the society of which the protagonist(s) are included. Society is a whole. For example, Martin Luther King Jr. speaking out against segregation, Mahatma Gandhi encouraging non-violent protests and a loner struggling to fit in at school.

Man vs. Nature

Man vs. Nature is the theme in literature that places a character against forces of nature. Many disaster films focus on this theme, which is predominant within many survivals in remote locales. Sometimes all the characters in the book are good and the guys and the conflict in the book are between all the people and forces of nature that are out of the characters control. In this case, the

character faces a problem with some forces of nature such as cold, storm, radiation. The world seems to be outside, and people seem to be a stranger in the world. The world is not going to be reconciled; if they are not going to obey its laws. Because of conflict in our individuality with the universal nature, people suffer various pains hunger and thirst, heat and cold, life and dead. For example, someone tries to summit Mount Everest while situation and temperature do not support to do it.

Research Design

There are two kinds of research; they are field research and library research. Field research is the research conducted in field or in a particular area, while library research is a research conducted in the library (Semi, 1993:8). Library research will be used to complete this study. Not only that, but the data will also be taken from the internet and some books related to the analysis.

The Object of the Study

In this study, the writer only analyzed the conflict of the main character in the story so the object of the study is novel *The Catcher in the Rye*, by J.D Salinger.

Data Analysis

The Catcher in the Rye is the story about a young man, Holden Caulfield. He is kicked out of other schools, he continuously fails time after time. Holden is a very depressed young man. He is suffering from deep grief over the death from leukemia three years ago. He cannot connect with his peers, he has no real friends at school, he keeps fighting with everyone around him. Holden becomes very anxious after he fights with Stradlater over his date with Jane, he leaves Pencey Prep without permission, days before he is supposed to, not letting his parents know where he is or where he is going. He goes to New York City and gets lots of trouble.

He sneaks into his own apartment when his parents are out, he enjoys seeing his little sister, Phoebe, the only person whom he really trusts. He is afraid to grow up, he does not want to be an adult. He would rather remain a child. He dreams of being a catcher in the rye, literary catching children as they fall a cliff that is a symbol for childhood. Holden wants to keep children in the innocence of childhood. Adulthood is too scary, too phony, and not for Holden. All these chapters are focused on this analysis since there are a lot of conflicts in the characters' life.

Conflict of the Main Character in J.D Slinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*

Conflict can be divided into two parts; they are internal conflict and external conflict. Internal conflict refers to a character's internal struggle. A character might struggle with an emotional problem such as fear of intimacy or abandonment. While external conflict refers to the conflicts between one character and another or group. In **J.D Slinger's *The Catcher in the Rye***, internal and external conflict can be found from the first chapter until the last chapter. The main character has inner and outer problems. In this novel, there are three kinds of external conflicts that are found they are man vs man, man vs society, and man vs nature. The internal conflict of the main character does not want to grow up and to be an adult but part of him wants to act like an adult. The external conflict of the main character, Man vs Man; Stradlater and Holden are fighting in their dormitory. Holden also fights with Maurice in his hotel room. Man vs society; he alienates himself from the environment. While Man vs Nature; he cannot move on from the death of his brother, it makes him cannot run his life.

Internal Conflict

Internal conflict is within the character's mind. Internal conflict can be described as a struggle between opposing forces of desire or emotions within a

person. This type of conflict can be indirectly shared by other characters as supporters or simply as witnesses. Internal conflict can include troubles with decision making, personality traits, spirituality or physical disabilities. In this story, Holden Caulfield has an internal conflict that will be explained in this data. Holden Caulfield faces internal conflict with himself,

Holden has obsessed with preserving innocence, he is chosen to be the catcher in the rye. The field of rye symbolizes the childhood's world, which is full of children playing, while the cliff symbolizes adulthood. Holden does not want the children to struggle in life like he is dealing with his life. He wants children to be staying in children and preserve their innocence because he does not want them to fall in the corrupted, polluted and complicated world of adulthood.

"I thought it was if a body catches a body, "I said. "Anyway, I keep picturing all these little kids playing some game in this big field of rye and all. Thousands of little kids, and nobody's around-nobody big, I mean-except me. And I'm standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to catch everybody if they start to go over the cliff-I mean if they're running and they don't look where they're going I have to come out from somewhere and catch them. That's all I'd do all day. I'd just be the catcher in the rye and all. I know it's crazy, but that's the only thing I'd really like to be. I know it's crazy." (Salinger 1951:175)

Holden, who refuses to grow up and preserves his innocence because he is obsessed with childhood. Holden chooses to be stuck between the innocent world of childhood and the complex of the world's adulthood. He has been staying in internal conflict due to their responsibility and in consequence related to adulthood. When he is expelled from Pencey Prep school, he is more afraid of what his parent's reaction will be and afraid of facing the consequences of his expulsion. So, he refuses to go home and confront his

parents. This shows the immature side of Holden. Instead of explaining to his family why he flunks school, he chooses not to because he thinks that his mother will be hysterical to him.

"I didn't want to go home or anything till they got it and thoroughly digested it and all. I didn't want to be around when they first got it. My mother gets very hysterical. She's not too bad after she gets something thoroughly digested, though. Besides, I sort of needed a little vacation. My nerves were shot, they really were.

Anyway, that's what I decided I'd do. So I went back to the room and turned on the light, to start packing and all." (Salinger 1951:52)

Holden is all alone in the adult world, he does not ready to be a part of it because of feeling alone in this world. Sometimes he orders the prostitutes just to talk with them. Holden tries to connect with the three girls in the Lavender room. By acting and pretending to be an adult.

"Also, there were very few people around my age in the place. In fact, nobody was around my age. They were mostly old, show-offs-looking guys with their dates. Except at the table right next to me. At the table right next to me, there were these three girls around thirty or so... (Salinger 1951:70)

Holden just wants someone whom he can talk and connect with and share his thoughts and feelings. He does not want to walk around New York alone so he wants someone whom he can call to make himself feel otherwise.

"The trouble was, though, my address book only has about three people in it. Jane, and this man, Mr. Antolini that was my teacher at Elkton Hills and my father's office number. I keep forgetting to put people's names in. So what I did finally, I gave old Carl Luce a buzz. He graduated from the Wheaton School after I left. He was about three years older than I was, and I didn't like him too much, but he was one of this very intellectual guys—he had the highest I.Q. of any boy at Wheaton and I thought he might want to have dinner with me somewhere and have a slightly

intellectual conversation. He was very enlightening sometimes." (Salinger 1951:138)

External Conflict

External conflict is a conflict between a character and an outside force. In this novel the external conflict has three categories, they are man vs man, man vs society, and man vs nature.

Man vs. Man

Man vs man, this conflict usually occurs between the protagonist and antagonist. The antagonist provides some forms of conflict that can be physically or mentally stressful to the protagonist. Holden faces many conflicts in this novel. Stradlater is upset that Holden writes the essay he asks him but Holden writes about a baseball glove. After Holden tears up the essay, he and Stradlater begin fighting. His hatred of Stradlater turns into physical violence, Holden is known to lie, and it is not likely that he would actually kill Stradlater but whether he will act on it or not, killing Stradlater crosses his mind and also he goes from trying to hit Stradlater, to hit him, to kill him in a short period of time. Holden and Stradlater fight because Stradlater has a date with Jane Gallagher. Stradlater is Holden's roommate at Pencey Prep. Holden gets angry and becomes aggressive because of his depression. He also thinks that everything is bad.

"Stradlater kept taking these shadow punches down at my shoulder. He had his toothbrush in his hand, and he put it in his mouth. "What you do?" I said. "Give her time in EdBanky's goddam car?" my voice was shaking something awful.

"What a thing to say. Want me to wash your mouth out with soap?" "Did you?" "That's a professional secret, buddy".

This next part I don't remember so hot. All I know is I got up from the bed like I was going down to the can or something, and then I tried to sock him, with all my might, right smack in the toothbrush so it would split his goddam throat open. Only, I missed it. I didn't connect. All I did was sort of get him on the side of the head or something. It probably hurt him a little bit,

but not much as I wanted. It probably would've hurt him a lot, but I did it with my right hand, and I can't make a good fist with hand. On account of that injury, I told you about it.

Anyway, the next thing I knew, I was on the goddam floor and he was sitting on my chest, with his face all red. That is, he has his goddam knees on my chest, and he weighed about the ton. He had hold of my wrists, too so I couldn't take another sock at him. I've killed him." (Salinger 1951:43)

Maurice works in the elevator at the hotel where Holden is staying. He is also a pimp and after talking to Holden briefly he sends a prostitute, Sunny to his room. Holden suggests that they just talk for a while because Holden is depressed but Sunny does not take his suggestion kindly and Holden tells her that he does not want to have sex with her. He offers her five dollars for her time but she demands ten, Holden does not give her any more than he has previously agreed upon, finally Sunny leaves the room and comes back with her pimp later. Maurice hits Holden because Sunny the prostitute asks for more money than is previously agreed and Maurice comes up to his room and beats him up to get the money.

"All of a sudden, while I was lying there smoking, somebody knocked on the door. I kept hoping it wasn't my door they were knocking on, but I knew damn well it was. I don't know how I knew, but I knew. I knew who it was, too. I'm a psychic.

"Who's there?" I said. I was pretty scared. I'm very yellow bout those things.

They just knocked again, though. Louder. Finally, I got out of bed, with just my pajamas on, and opened the door. I didn't even to turn the light on in the room, because it was already daylight. Old Sunny and Maurice, the pimpy elevator guy, were standing there.

"What's the matter? Wuddaya want?" I said. Boy, my voice was shaking like hell.

"Nothing much," old Maurice said. "Just five bucks." He did all the talking for the two of them. Old Sunny just stood there next to him, with her mouth open and all.

"I paid her already. I gave her five bucks. Asks her," I said. Boy was my voice shaking." (Slinger 1951:102)

Conflict ensues when Ackley refuses to allow Holden to sleep in Ely's bed. Since it is well-known that Ely typically returns to school on Sunday evening, Ackley's claim about being unsure of when Ely will return is an obvious lie. Holden is offended by Ackley's refusal, to tell the truth, as well as his lack of hospitality. They are indications of the phoniness Holden constantly denounces. Although he is annoyed by Ackley, his anger is primarily directed at Stradlater who has just returned from a date with Jane.

"It's a long story. I don't wanna bore ya, Ackley. I'm thinking of your welfare," I told him. I never discussed my personal life with him. In the first place, he was even more stupid than Stradlater. Stadlater was a goddam genius next to Ackley. "Hey, I said, "Is it okay if I sleep in Ely's bed tonight? He won't be back till tomorrow night, will he?" I knew damn well he wouldn't. Ely went home damn near every weekend.

"I don't know when the hell he's coming back," Ackley said. Boy, did that annoy me? "What the hell do you mean you don't know when he's coming back? He never comes back till Sunday night, does he?"

"No, but for Chrissake, I can't just tell somebody they can sleep in his goddam bed if they want to." (Salinger 1951:48)

Holden adamantly disagrees with Spencer's comment and mentions that life is only a game if he is on the side of the shot-shot. Holden's jaded perspective on life is a game for shot-shot stems from the fact that he is an outsider. Holden is not popular, charming, or well-respected by his peers at Pencey, and he feels disadvantaged compared to the other successful student. In Holden's adolescent mind, he feels like life is unfair, and he believes that there are people with natural advantages who end up winners in the game of life. Holden views hot-shot as phonies who are not genuine individuals and manipulate others using their charisma and status. Essentially, Holden finds it difficult to play by the rules when life is in favor of the superficial hot-shot. He does

not feel like the additional effort that will help him win at life because he is an outcast.

“Oh...well, about life being a game and all. And how you should play it according to the rules. He was pretty nice about it. I mean he didn't hit the ceiling or anything. He just kept talking about life being a game and all. You know.”

Life is a game, boy. Life is a game that one plays according to the rules.”

“Yes, sir. I know it.”

The game, my ass. Some game. If you get on the side where all the hot-shots are, then it's a game, all right-I'll admit that. But if you get on the other side, where there aren't any hot-shots, then what's a game about it? Nothing. No game. "Has Dr. Thurmer written to your parents yet?" Old Spencer asked me." (Salinger 1951:9).

Man vs Society

In many stories, the protagonist battles an unjust form of government, culture, possibly a holiday or any society based group. The main character, Holden wants to alienate himself from others, he is anti-social and looks everybody as phony, materialism and hypocritical. In this case, Holden Caulfield is looking for a way out of human interaction. His sensation of disappearing as well as his reliance on his dead brother supports as evidence of incipient insanity rather than imaginative preservation of self. Holden himself refers to his behavior as crazy and madman stuff. Yet this craziness is not only the consequence at Holden's alienation from society but also the very expression of that alienation. In this fantasy of moving west, Holden is attempting to protect his innocence by physically moving out and away from the adults.

“I sat there, I guess, for about an hour. Finally, what I decided I'd do, I decided I'd go away. I decided I never go home again and I'd never go away to another school again. I decided I'd just see old Phoebe and sort of say good-bye to her and all, and give her back her Christmas dough, and then I'd start hitchhiking my way out West. What I'd do, I figured, I'd go down to the Holland Tunnel and bum a ride, and then I'd buy

another one, and another one, and another one, and in a few days I'd be somewhere out West where it was very pretty and sunny and where nobody did know me and I'd get a job. I figured I could get a job at a filling station somewhere, putting gas and oil in people cars. I didn't care what kind of a job it, was, though. Just so people didn't know me and I didn't know anybody. I thought what I'd do was, I'd pretend I was one of those deaf-mutes. That way I wouldn't have to have any goddam stupid useless conversations with anybody.” (Salinger 1951:201)

Holden is fear of the environment of phonies, Holden states that the headmaster at Elkton is ten times worse than the headmaster at Pencey. Holden says that one of his biggest reasons for leaving is because he is surrounded by phonies. He describes the headmaster Mr. Haas who is the phonies that he ever met in his life. On Sundays Mr. Haas would greet the students' parents when they drive up to the school but if a boy has old funny-looking parents he will spend little time with them and quickly go to talk to someone else for Holden Elkton Hills and other schools are representative of the corruption and hypocrisy inherent in the educational system and in the world.

Except if some boy and little old funny-looking parents. You should've seen the way he did with my roommate's parents. I mean if a boy's mother was sort of fat or corny-looking or something, and if somebody's father was one of those guys that wear those suits with very big shoulders and corny black-and-white shoes, then old Haas would just shake hands with them and give them a phony smile and then he'd go talk, for maybe a half an hour, with somebody else's parents. I can't stand that stuff. It drives me crazy. It makes me so depressed I go crazy. I hated that goddam Elkton Hills,” (Salinger 1951:14)

Holden isolates himself from the environmental community while watching the game. Instead of watching the game with the other spectators, he watches by himself on top of Thomsen Hill. Holden

watches people and the game instead of connecting with other people and he thinks it is silly for them to play so violently and he does not want to be a part of it.

that afternoon was standing way the hell up on top of Thomsen Hill, right next to this crazy cannon that was in the Revolutionary War and all. You could see the whole field from there, and you could see the two teams bashing each other all over the places. You couldn't see the grandstand too hot, but you could hear them all yelling, deep and terrific on the Pencey side because practically the whole school except me was there, and scrawny and faggy on the Saxon Hall side, because the visiting team hardly ever brought many people with them." (Salinger 1951:2)

Man vs Nature

This type of conflict portrays a story of a main character or characters against a natural force such as a natural disaster, a fire, an aggressive animal, illness or environmental issues. Holden's inability to deal with his brother's death makes Holden often depressed and he lives in the past. It has haunted him since Allie's death. He never wanted to lose Allie and could never have expected it, when Allie dies, he takes out all his anger on the windows of his garage. Holden is in the hospital because he breaks his fist and he is unable accepting death.

"I slept in the garage the night he died, and I broke all the goddam windows with my fist, just for the hell of it. I even tried to break all the windows on the station wagon we had that summer, but my hand was already broken and everything by that time, and I couldn't do it. It was a very stupid thing to do, I'll admit, but I hardly didn't even know I was doing it, and you didn't know Allie. my hand still hurts me once in a while, when it rains and all, and I can't make a real fist anymore-not a tight one, I mean-but outside of that I don't care much. I mean I'm not going to be a goddam surgeon or a violinist or anything anyway." (Salinger 1951:38)

There is an external conflict that is faced by the main character which

expresses his love for Allie by only complimenting him. Clearly, Holden is always depressed about Allie because he thinks about him continually and what he thinks about Allie is the only ~~the person~~ ^{the person} he is ever known. As a result, Holden does not trust or respect many other people in his life and suffers for it.

"I like Allie," I said. "And I like doing what I'm doing right now. Sitting here with you, and talking, and thinking about stuff, and-"

"Allie's dead-you always say that! If somebody's dead and everything, and in heaven, then it isn't really-"

"I know he's dead! Don't you think I know that? I can still like him, though, can't I? just because somebody's dead, you don't just stop liking them, for God's sake-especially if they were about a thousand times nicer than the people you know that are alive and all." (Salinger 1951:174)

The main character, Holden has an external conflict with nature. Finally, after leaving Mr. Antolini's apartment, He is walking around New York lonely and not knowing where to turn next. He thinks of Allie as he goes through a nervous breakdown. He is afraid of disappearing, dying being lost forever like Allie. With this experience, it is almost as if Holden is praying to Allie to save him from his problems because he is completely lonely, depressed and lost. This shows that everything is wrong with Holden because he can be traced back to Allie's death. Holden suffers his mental breakdown and envisions himself talking to Allie in a way that one might pray to God for help.

"Every time I came to the end of a block and stepped off the goddam curb, I had this feeling that I'd never get to the other side of the street. I thought I'd just go down, down, down, and nobody'd ever see me again. Boy, did it scare me? You can't imagine. I started sweating like a bastard-my whole shirt and underwear and everything. Then I started doing something else. Every time I'd get to the end of a block I'd make believe I was talking to my brother, Allie. I'd say to

him, "Allie, don't let me disappear. Allie, don't let me disappear. Allie, don't let me disappear. Please, Allie".." (Salinger 1951:200)

The Causes of the Conflicts through the Main Characters in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*

Holden Caulfield is the main character in this novel that often appears in every palaces and time, from the beginning until the end of the story, he always faces many conflicts.

The internal conflict often happens to the main character because he thinks that an adult will have the responsibility and consequence that are reasons why he is afraid to grow up but sometimes he acts like an adult because he feels very lonely and more specifically to have a sexual encounter while external conflict that is related to social condition in society; man vs man, this conflict happens when Stradlater asks Holden to write an essay for him, but Stradlater does not like about the essay because Holden writes about baseball glove. Stradlater is furious and Holden tears up the composition. When Holden asks about their date, but Stradlater does not give much information and he just says that the answer is a professional secret. He starts to fight with Holden. Maurice also fights with Holden because Sunny the prostitute asks for more money. Man vs society, he wants to protect himself and his family from adults because the adults are phonies, cruel, and materialism. While Man vs nature, Holden's inability to deal with his brother's death makes Holden get depression.

The Impact of the Main Character Facing the Problems in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*

Every human has problems in their life, there is a nice ended peacefully and there is also a bad and depressing ending that makes them die. Holden's struggles

in internal and external conflict also give negatively impact for him. Holden's struggle to maintain his desire does not grow up but gives the impact for Holden's mental and well-being and there is no more enthusiasm in him to run his life. Holden spends his time in the hospital because he gets sick. He cannot accept the problems that he faces in his life so his parents put him in a hospital. He seemingly regrets madman stuff he has done but everything been past doing.

"If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where I was born, and what my lousy childhood was like, and how my parents were occupied and all before they had me but I don't feel like going into it, if you want to know the truth. In the first place, that stuff bores me, and in the second place, my parents would have about two hemorrhages apiece if I told anything pretty personal about them. They're quite touchy about anything like that, especially father. They're nice and all-I'm not saying that-but they're also touchy as hell. Besides, I'm not going to tell you my whole goddam autobiography or anything. I'll just tell you about this madman stuff that happened to me around last Christmas just before I got pretty run-down and had to come out here and take it easy." (Salinger 1951:1)

Conclusions

After analyzing the conflict in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*, some conclusions are found is related to the conflict viewed from the main character is Holden Caulfield.

1. The kinds of conflicts that are found in J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye* are internal and external conflict. The internal conflict faced by the main character is to refuse to be an adult because every adult has a big responsibility with remaining phonies. The adults will get married but Holden does not like it. While the external he wants to reject the adult world because they are great

contradictory, corrupt and cruel to him. He tries to isolate himself from the social community due to his unacceptability to the environment. The nature of his brother's death makes Holden often depressed and has haunted him since Allie's death.

2. Holden Caulfield as the main character in the story who always faces conflicts especially the two conflicts that make a bad impact on him in his life. When the internal conflict appears, they are really influencing his mental. The internal conflict often happens to the main character because he thinks that an adult will have the responsibility and consequence that are reasons why he is afraid to grow up but sometimes he acts like an adult because he feels very lonely and more specifically to have a sexual encounter while external conflict that is related to social condition in society

3. The impact that is faced by the main character, he suffers from madman stuff mentally due to his brother's death of leukemia that gives the impact for Holden's unbalanced mental and well-being and there is no more enthusiasm in him to run his life. That is why he wants to become the Catcher in the rye, a person who catches kids from falling into adulthood. He wants to protect their childhood innocence and prevent them from joining the corrupted society. He mentally feels a negative disposition toward practically everything he encounters in life and seems to live in the past because of thinking every adult are phonies, cruel, hypocrite and corrupt.

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