

The Personality Structure of Perpetrators of Violent Theft Crimes from the Perspective of Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis: A Case Study of Three Prisoners at the Klaten Class IIB Prison

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Article Information:

Received: November 12, 2025

Revised: December 26, 2025

Accepted: January 02, 2026

Keywords:

Personality Structure,
Id, Ego, Superego, Violent Theft

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Abstract

Violent theft is a type of crime that still has a high incidence rate in Indonesia and causes complex social impacts. Criminal behavior in committing unlawful acts is not only influenced by economic factors, but also related to the psychological aspects of the perpetrator that affect their way of thinking, decision making, and control of behavioral impulses. This study aims to analyze the personality structure of perpetrators of violent theft based on Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic perspective, particularly the dynamics of the id, ego, and superego. This study uses a qualitative approach with a case study method on three prisoners at the Klaten Class IIB Prison. Data collection techniques were carried out through interviews, observations, and documentation to obtain a comprehensive picture of the subjects' backgrounds and psychological dynamics. The data obtained was then analyzed inductively using source triangulation to obtain the validity of the findings. The results showed that each perpetrator had a different personality structure. Subject 1 showed a weak superego function at the time of the crime, which was followed by the emergence of a post-event superego in the form of inner conflict and guilt. Subject 2 showed a dominant ego oriented towards realistic considerations in fulfilling life needs, while subject 3 tended to show weak ego control with a dominant impulsive id drive. However, all subjects showed an imbalance in the interaction between the id, ego, and superego in the decision-making process prior to committing the crime.

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INTRODUCTION

In social life, every individual is expected to be able to control their behavior in accordance with legal, religious, and social norms in order to create order, harmony, and social stability. Personality plays an important role in this process, because a healthy personality will be reflected in the ability to balance personal needs with moral values (McAdams & Mayukha, 2024), so that the behavior that emerges remains within the corridor of law and is socially acceptable. Personality is the way a person understands, assesses, and reacts to their environment (Lestari & Damayanti, 2024), so that differences in personality quality can affect how individuals adapt to social demands and deal with the pressures of daily life. These differences in personality traits become even more apparent when faced with the social dynamics in Indonesia, one of which is the result of continuous population growth. The

How to Cite this Article:

Puspitasari, L. I., Khairi, A. M., & Affum, P. K. (2026). The Personality Structure of Perpetrators of Violent Theft Crimes from the Perspective of Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis: A Case Study of Three Prisoners at the Klaten Class IIB Prison. *Al-Ihath: Jurnal Bimbingan dan Konseling Islam*, 6(1), 38-55. <https://doi.org/10.53915/jbki.v6i1.71>
Publisher: Study Program of Islamic Guidance and Counseling | Faculty of Da'wah | Institut Attanwir Bojonegoro, Indonesia

increase in population has led to higher living costs and limited job opportunities (Marlina et al., 2024), creating socioeconomic pressures that not all individuals are able to cope with. This situation often triggers illegal acts, one of which is violent theft (Putri et al., 2025). Violent theft is defined as the act of taking another person's property preceded, accompanied, or followed by violence or threats of violence, as regulated in Article 365 of the Criminal Code (Yusri et al., 2025).

Based on statistical data from the National Criminal Information Center (PUSIKNAS) of the Indonesian National Police's Criminal Investigation Unit for the period January 1 to September 15, 2025, violent theft crimes in Indonesia ranked 14th with a total of 3,847 cases (Polri, 2025). This data shows that violent theft is still a crime with a fairly high frequency. A similar phenomenon was also seen in a real case in Klaten Regency. In April 2025, three suspects were arrested in a case of robbery of an online taxi driver in Blimbing Village, Karangnongko, Klaten, which resulted in the victim suffering a 13 cm cut on his neck due to violence using a cutter knife. The case involved a repeat offender, a woman, and someone who provided the tools for the crime (Mulyana, 2025). Police reports indicate that one of the perpetrators had been living an unstable life, often wandering around, doing odd jobs such as busking or working as a silver man, and even spending the night before his arrest at a relative's house (Syauqii, 2025). Unstable economic conditions are an external factor that influences behavior, encouraging perpetrators to engage in criminal behavior (Raihan et al., 2025). This factor is compounded by life experiences that contribute to the formation of a deviant personality. Such cases not only cause material losses, but also leave psychological trauma for the victims and increase public unrest.

This case shows that violent theft is not only influenced by economic factors or opportunity, but also relates to the psychological condition of the perpetrator (Alifah et al., 2015). Criminal behavior cannot be understood solely from external factors, but also from the dynamics of an individual's personality (Dewi et al., 2025). From a Freudian psychoanalytic perspective, criminal behavior can arise when the personality structure is imbalanced. Freudian psychoanalysis emphasizes that human behavior, including criminal behavior, is driven by unconscious conflicts that arise from the dynamics between the three main components of personality, namely the id, ego, and superego (Kadir, 2024). According to Freud, every individual has an instinctive drive called the id, which demands instant gratification (Nuryana & Rohanda, 2025). This drive is controlled by the superego, which is a moral and ethical system that functions to limit behavior so that it conforms to norms. Meanwhile, adults develop the ego as a rational part that mediates between the demands of the id and the control of the superego. These three structures form the dynamics of personality that determine the direction of a person's behavior. If balance is not achieved, individuals can experience internal conflicts that trigger deviant behavior. Based on this idea, criminal behavior can be seen as a failure of the superego to control the id's urges (More, 2023).

Previous studies related to this research include a study conducted by Muhammad Rian Nuryana and Rohanda, entitled *The Dynamics of the Id, Ego, and Superego of the Main Character in Eddie Sindunata's Novel Proyek Maut*. This study uses Freud's psychoanalytic theory to examine the character's personality structure. The results of the study show that the dynamics of the character's personality are formed from the interaction of the id, ego, and superego, which conflict with each other and adapt to certain situations. This study shows that Freud's theory can be applied to analyze the behavior patterns and inner conflicts of characters in literary works (Nuryana & Rohanda, 2025). Another study was conducted by Gaby Aurora Felycia Pramesti, Berlian Hernika, and Eva Dwi Kurniawan entitled *Analysis of the Main*

Character's Personality in the Novel *Ananta Prahadi* by Risa Saraswati. The results of the study found that the dominance of one personality structure influenced the character's choice of actions, which then had an impact on the storyline. This study confirms that Freud's psychoanalysis is relevant for understanding the psychological dynamics of humans in facing life's pressures (Pramesti et al., 2023).

Furthermore, research conducted by Zul Khaidir Kadir entitled *Psychoanalytic And Crime: Is Freud's Theory Still Applicable In Criminological Research* examined the relevance of psychoanalytic theory in explaining criminal behavior. The results of the study show that Freud's theory can still be used to understand the psychological factors behind criminal acts, especially in terms of personality conflicts between instinctual drives (id), reality considerations (ego), and moral control (superego). These findings reinforce the importance of personality studies in the context of criminal acts, thereby providing a relevant theoretical basis for research on the personality structure of violent thieves (Kadir, 2024).

Based on initial observations at the Klaten Class IIB Prison, it appears that some inmates convicted of violent theft experience an internal conflict between the urge to fulfill their needs and feelings of guilt over their actions. This phenomenon illustrates the conflict between instinctual urges (id), rational considerations (ego), and moral values (superego), making Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory relevant for understanding their personality structure. This condition also shows a gap with previous studies, most of which still focus on fictional characters in literary works, thus not fully representing the personality dynamics of criminals in the context of real life. To date, studies that specifically examine the personality structure of real criminals using a case study approach in correctional institutions are still relatively limited. Meanwhile, violent theft is still a frequent occurrence in Indonesia, such as the case of the robbery of an online taxi driver in Klaten in April 2025, which involved three perpetrators from different backgrounds, including a repeat offender and a woman (Mulyana, 2025).

Seeing this condition, researchers consider it important to conduct a more in-depth study of the personality structure of perpetrators of violent theft through the perspective of Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis. This study is expected to provide a comprehensive understanding of the psychological factors behind criminal acts, particularly those related to the dynamics of the id, ego, and superego within the perpetrator. Therefore, the researcher is interested in conducting a study entitled "The Personality Structure of Perpetrators of Violent Theft Crimes from the Perspective of Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis: A Case Study of Three Prisoners at the Klaten Class IIB Prison."

METHODS

Approach

This research was meticulously conducted at the Klaten Class IIB Correctional Institution, employing a qualitative case study approach to provide a granular exploration of the subject matter. The decision to utilize a case study design was strategically rooted in the need to investigate the phenomenon of criminality through a particularized lens, specifically focusing on the perpetrators involved in the robbery of online taxi drivers within the Klaten jurisdiction. By adopting this methodology, the researcher is able to peel back the layers of complex reality surrounding these individuals ranging from their socio-economic vulnerabilities to the psychological triggers that precipitated their criminal actions within a

naturalistic setting. As emphasized by Creswell (2013), the case study approach is indispensable for researchers seeking an in-depth, holistic examination of a program, event, activity, process, or a specific group of individuals. This framework allows for the capture of rich, contextual data, ensuring that the findings are deeply embedded in the real-life complexities of the participants' experiences rather than isolated from them.

Research Subjects

The subjects in this study were three prisoners convicted of violent theft. The subjects were determined using purposive sampling, a technique for determining samples based on specific considerations so that the subjects selected are considered most relevant and knowledgeable about the issues being studied (Sugiyono, 2023). The three subjects were directly involved in the robbery of an online taxi driver in Klaten.

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of Subjects

Subject Name	Age	Gender	Sentencing	Role in the Case	Additional Information
LS	36	Male	11 years	Executor	Recidivist, previously involved in theft cases
DAP	20	Female	9 years	Ordered an online taxi and was involved	No previous criminal record
HAE	34	Male	7 years	Lent a box cutter	No previous criminal record

Instruments

In this study, the primary research instrument was the researcher himself, acting as the central figure responsible for the entire trajectory of the investigation from its conceptual planning to the final reporting of results. By serving as the human instrument, the researcher was able to adapt to the complexities of the field, performing the multifaceted roles of data collector, analyst, and interpreter of the nuanced findings. To bolster the reliability of this approach, the researcher utilized semi-structured interview guidelines and meticulous field notes as supplementary tools, ensuring that the qualitative data captured was both systematically organized and deeply reflective of the real-life context under observation.

Data Collection Techniques

Data collection in this study was conducted through interviews, observation, and documentation. The interviews used in this study were semi-structured interviews, which were compiled based on interview guidelines that referred to specific topics. The purpose of using semi-structured interviews was to explore issues more openly (Sugiyono, 2013), meanwhile, the observation used in this study is non-participant observation, in which the researcher is not directly involved and acts only as an independent observer (Sugiyono, 2023). In addition, documentation is used to collect various secondary data sources such as archives, reports, daily records, photographs, and various other documents relevant to the research (Putri & Murhayati, 2025). The interviews were conducted face-to-face at the Klaten Class IIB Correctional Institution, with each interview session lasting approximately 30–60 minutes. To establish rapport, the interviews began with small talk and general questions before moving on to more sensitive topics. The researcher used an empathetic and non-

judgmental approach so that the subjects felt safe and comfortable in sharing their personal experiences, including inner conflicts and moral reflections related to the events they had experienced.

Research Ethics Procedure

This research was conducted in accordance with the ethical principles of qualitative research involving vulnerable subjects. This research was conducted after obtaining approval from the Directorate General of Corrections, Central Java Regional Office, Ministry of Immigration and Corrections of the Republic of Indonesia, as well as permission from the Klaten Class IIB Correctional Institution before data collection was carried out. Each subject was given an explanation of the research objectives, interview procedures, and participant rights, including the right to refuse or withdraw from participation at any time without consequences. Participation consent was obtained through written informed consent, and the subjects' identities were disguised to maintain data confidentiality.

Data Analysis Techniques

The data collected in this study underwent a rigorous inductive analysis process, a method where the researcher derives broader patterns, themes, and hypotheses directly from the empirical evidence gathered on the ground rather than relying on pre-existing theories. This approach, as conceptualized by Sugiyono (2023), ensures that the findings remain authentic and deeply rooted in the specific realities of the participants' experiences. The analysis was executed through three systematic and interconnected stages, beginning with data reduction to distill vast amounts of raw information into manageable and relevant themes. This was followed by data presentation, where the organized information was mapped out to visualize relationships and patterns, and culminated in conclusion drawing, where the researcher interpreted the synthesized data to provide a comprehensive answer to the research questions.

Data Validity Techniques

To ensure the integrity and trustworthiness of the findings, this research employed source triangulation as a primary technique for maintaining data validity. This process involves a meticulous cross-examination of the accuracy of information by gathering and comparing data from a diverse range of origins to minimize bias and subjectivity. As highlighted by Nurfajriani et al. (2024), this technique was operationalized by systematically comparing and confirming the information obtained through multiple qualitative methods, including the results of in-depth interviews, direct field observations, and relevant documentation. By triangulating these various streams of evidence, the researcher was able to build a more credible and robust narrative that accurately reflects the complex social phenomena under investigation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

In a study conducted at the Klaten Class IIB Correctional Institution, researchers interviewed three subjects who were perpetrators of violent theft against online taxi drivers in Klaten. Data was obtained through semi-structured interviews related to personality structure and supported by non-participant observation involving correctional officers and cellmates of each

subject, as well as documentation. The following are the results of the study and discussion of the personality structure of each subject:

Table 2. Research Matrix Related to Subject 1's Personality Structure (LS)

Personality Structure	Interview Findings	Psychoanalytic Analysis
Id	"...her husband, DPA, said let's get drunk, so we ended up getting drunk there..."	The id operates based on the pleasure principle.
Id	"...because I was already out of control, I said I'd rather just help with the car..."	Impulsive urges are acted upon immediately.
Id	"It was a momentary impulse, because I was drunk and under the influence of alcohol."	Weak ego control due to alcohol.
Id	"...I actually had control of the car, sis, I was in control..."	The id's urge is to dominate.
Id	"...Upon arriving at the scene, DPA signaled three times to look back. Three signals, I thought that was enough, so I cut it off there. DPA ran, ran in the direction that I thought was wrong because it was toward the field. I called out but didn't hear anything, so I also ran, already panicking, I ran too..."	The id's urge to dominate because it has already received the code; the weak ego simply follows the reality of the situation.
Ego	"...DPA said, 'Sir, I want help. What kind of help? I want to steal a motorcycle.' I said, 'Don't steal a motorcycle. You could get beaten up by a lot of people...'"	Realistic assessment and risk consideration.
Ego	"...Well, what can you say when you've already been caught? Just go through with it. After that, we'll just go through with it like this..."	Dominant ego, the subject shows an attitude of accepting reality.
Ego	"...Personally, I think the punishment I received for doing this is unfair, ma'am. That's why I appealed, ma'am..."	The existence of rational assessment and consideration of reality.
Ego	"...The victim said there was brain swelling. Well, we've already made a mistake, so we can only stay quiet, right, ma'am? I stayed quiet and just said 'yes, yes' because the important thing is that the problem is over and I've dealt with it..."	The subject shows an attitude of accepting reality.
Ego	"...there's fear, and there's confusion too..."	There is consideration of reality between risk and consequences.
Ego	"Actually, I can still think. I can still think about not doing it, so there's still consideration about whether to do it or not..."	There is consideration of reality between risk and consequences.
Ego	"...I'm unsure, yes or no, yes or no. But then I opened the door and ran away, leaving my car behind..."	The existence of rational consideration.
Ego	"My consideration is just this: will it work, sis? If it works, what then? If it doesn't work, what then..."	There is consideration of the consequences of success/failure.
Ego	"...I was hesitant, ma'am. Yesterday, I had my doubts because the person next to me was not a man but a woman. So halfway through, I was already hesitant. I wondered, 'Is this DPA for sure? How could a woman	The existence of rational consideration.

	be so brave?' I considered that right there..."	
Ego	"...The victim ran away covered in blood. I thought, 'Oh no, what should I do?' After that, I couldn't think straight. I was just panicking, panicking, and panicking. So, I just ran away too."	Awareness of reality, resulting in panic due to realization of the consequences of one's actions.
Ego	"...The thought of committing another crime crossed my mind, but I thought, 'If I commit another crime, I'll go to jail again.' That's happened over and over again, but it never actually happened, because whenever I start thinking like that, I just find something else to do—like fishing or visiting a friend's house—so I don't think about it anymore."	Rational consideration.
Superego	"...I felt sorry for this DPA's child, I felt pity, so I asked if he had eaten yet, and he said no, sir, so I thought, it's already nighttime and he hasn't been fed..."	Moral impulse and empathy arise.
Superego	"...but in my heart I actually said, okay, that's their business, but I still couldn't do that..."	Moral impulse and empathy arise.
Superego	"...When your mother asked if I had any problems, I said there were a few, but I wasn't being honest. After that, I told her the truth, that I had just cut someone up..."	Moral impulse to be honest and remorse arises.
Superego	"...This really broke me, so I really wanted to repent. I couldn't do this anymore, I really couldn't take it..."	Feelings of devastation, regret, and desire to repent arise.
Superego	"...firstly, the economy, and secondly, my compassion for others. I still have compassion for others because I truly helped, even though it was in the wrong way. I helped because I saw DPA with her child, who was the same age as my child, around three years old. I was shocked at midnight to see a 3-year-old child not being fed, just left alone while his parents were drunk..."	The emergence of moral impulses and empathy.
Superego	"How should I put it, ma'am? Since I made a mistake by helping the wrong person, I should have helped someone who deserved my help. This is a crime, ma'am. If I had been aware of my position, I probably wouldn't have done it."	Moral judgment of the events that occurred.
Superego	"...so helping him wasn't really helping the DPA, ma'am. I just felt sorry for him and wanted to help so he wouldn't be on the streets, but what can I do, ma'am? Those above have other plans, so what can I do? I ended up doing something this stupid. I regret it, ma'am. I always regret why it happened like this yesterday. Every day I feel like that. Maybe I'm a repeat offender, people think I'm strong, but actually I'm not. I'm just trying to be strong, ma'am..."	The emergence of empathy and feelings of regret.

Superego	"I regret it, yes. I feel guilty, yes. I regret it very much, and I feel very guilty. Every day, there's this shadow of guilt, sis."	The emergence of feelings of regret and guilt.
Superego	"...Sometimes at night, well, you know, humans cry sometimes, sis. Sometimes I cry alone by the door..."	The emergence of guilt, regret, and moral awareness.
Superego	"...Here, I truly regret it, and I truly regret it. I've been separated from my parents and my child."	The emergence of feelings of regret.
Superego	"...I panicked, thinking, what if I die? That's what I thought from the bottom of my heart, and I ran away. I said, 'Oh no, I'm going to die,' and I stopped in the middle of the road to think, 'What if I die? What will happen then?' That's how I felt. If I regret it, then yes, I regret it very much because I hurt people."	The emergence of moral awareness and empathy.

Based on the results of the observation, it appears that subject 1 tended to appear calm during the interview, sitting upright. Occasionally, the subject looked down when recounting the theft he had committed. The subject was quite open in expressing his disappointment in himself, especially because he had repeated his mistake as a repeat offender. However, the subject tried several times to defend himself, saying that he did it out of pity and with the intention of helping his friend, even though it was the wrong way to do so. According to the social guidance officer and NCM, his cellmate, during his 5 months in detention, the subject behaved well, obeyed the rules and activity programs at the prison, and had good relationships and communication with his friends and officers at the prison.

General data documentation shows that Subject 1 is 36 years old and was convicted of aggravated theft (Article 365 paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code). The subject has served 5 months in prison and is currently appealing the 11-year sentence handed down by the Klaten District Court. Based on daily records, Subject 1 behaves well towards officers and fellow detainees/prisoners. He also actively participates in various guidance activities, such as religious lectures, gymnastics, Friday prayers, reading books in the library, prison rules counseling, health screening from the Health Office, and cleaning activities in the living quarters.

Tabel 3. Research Matrix Related to Subject 2's Personality Structure (DPA)

Personality Structure	Interview Findings	Psychoanalytic Analysis
Id	"It was an urgent need, because of the economy."	Primitive drives focused on biological needs.
Id	"Yes, the important thing was the need."	Primitive drives focused on biological needs.
Id	"...it was really urgent, tomorrow morning I had to transfer my child in Semarang, and the other one would be pitiful if he slept on the street."	The id dominates due to urgent needs.
Id	"...at that time, my child asked for a transfer to Semarang, but I didn't have any money, and it was difficult to earn money on the streets, so we just took it."	Primitive drives focused on biological needs.

Id	"...It's difficult to earn money here, and I'm the only one working. I also have to take care of my children. If no one works, who will earn a living?"	Instinct to fulfill family needs.
Ego	"...If I don't agree, how will we meet our needs..."	Realistic considerations.
Ego	"...If it works out, it could help the family..."	Realistic considerations.
Ego	"Yes, there was. At first, I was still unsure. If I agree, it might be wrong, but if I don't agree, what will happen to my economy?"	Considerations between moral values and consequences.
Ego	"...then yes, no, yes, no, in my heart, like that, over and over..."	The existence of realistic considerations.
Ego	"Yes, I thought that if it worked, it would help my finances, but if it didn't work, I would go to jail."	Consideration of the reality between risk and consequences.
Ego	"I considered it while I was showering and cleaning the silver, while thinking about it again."	The existence of realistic considerations.
Ego	"...when I saw LS slitting his throat, I immediately got out of the car, got out and then ran..."	A defensive reaction due to panic.
Ego	"...at first I was scared. Yeah, I was shaking at first..."	Response to consequences.
Superego	"...seeing the child being taken to the street, I felt sorry for him..."	The emergence of moral impulses and empathy.
Superego	"...I thought it was a pity if the child was taken to the street, so I agreed, I wanted to. We were going to rent a car at first, but LS suggested taking an online taxi..."	The emergence of moral impulses and empathy.
Superego	"I feel regret and guilt because I caused harm, even though I wasn't the one who did it, but I still feel it. Then taking something that wasn't ours."	The emergence of guilt, regret, and moral awareness.

Based on the observation results, it was seen that subject 2 appeared calm during the interview, but spoke softly when recounting his experiences. The subject occasionally looked around, showing regret and guilt. According to the correctional officer, during the 5 months of detention, the subject behaved well, obeyed the rules and activity programs at the prison, and had good relationships and communication with friends and officers at the prison. Meanwhile, VF, a cellmate, provided similar information, adding that the subject sometimes chose to be alone when he missed his family, especially his children, who had never visited him. VF also added that the subject was a friendly person, polite to elders, and willing to compromise in resolving problems, but tended to be passive when it came to working together with others.

General data documentation shows that Subject 2 is 20 years old and was convicted of aggravated theft (Article 365 paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code). The subject has served 5 months in detention, with a sentence of 9 years imprisonment from the Klaten District Court. Currently, the subject is still pursuing legal appeal because he objects to the verdict. Based on daily records, Subject 2 has shown a positive attitude while in prison, behaving well towards officers and fellow prisoners/convicts. He also participates in various guidance activities while in prison, including religious studies, gymnastics, reading books, prison rules

counseling, routine health checks by the Health Office, and cleaning activities in the living quarters.

Tabel 4. Research Matrix Related to Subject 3's Personality Structure (HAE)

Personality Structure	Interview Findings	Psychoanalytic Analysis
Id	"...I didn't really think about it, ma'am, because at that time I was sleeping in my boarding house and then I was woken up. I thought at that time I would just agree to everything so I could go back to sleep. That's what I thought yesterday."	Spontaneous impulse.
Id	"...I didn't think anything, ma'am. I just thought they would leave quickly so I could go back to sleep..."	Spontaneous impulse.
Ego	"Yeah, I just lent them the cutter and gave them the tethering, sis. Then LS said that if they got the car, they'd take it to Kediri. I just agreed."	Passive attitude without consideration.
Ego	"...After DPA was caught, I started thinking that I would definitely get caught too..."	Realistic consideration.
Ego	"...I just lent it to them because I thought they weren't really going to do it. It's up to you, as long as I'm not involved. That's what I thought at first."	Realistic consideration.
Ego	"...When I thought about it again, what if I get caught? But I didn't participate, ma'am, so I was relaxed. They did it, I didn't do anything, so that's it."	Rational assessment and realistic consideration.
Ego	"...they borrowed it yesterday when they were all drunk, so I thought, oh well, maybe they'll drop it off along the way. Drunk people probably don't really mean it..."	Rational consideration.
Ego	"...yesterday, after DPA was caught, I was also caught, ma'am, then I was sent back because LS hadn't been caught yet. That's when I was torn between whether to run away or not..."	Rational consideration.
Superego	"...that's why I didn't go, ma'am, because I felt guilty for lending him the cutter."	Feelings of guilt and moral awareness arise.
Superego	"...I also felt guilty for lending him the cutter to slit someone's throat."	Feelings of guilt and regret arise.

Based on the results of the observation, it was seen that subject 3 appeared calm and tended to be passive during the interview. He only answered when necessary and showed signs of discomfort and seemed to be a quiet person, but his gestures showed that he was remorseful and felt guilty. According to the correctional officer and BAH, his cellmate, during his 5 months in detention, the subject behaved well, obeyed the rules and activity programs at the prison, and had good relationships and communication with his friends and officers at the prison. BAH added that the subject was known as a diligent, polite, and quiet person in his daily life.

General data documentation shows that subject 3 is 34 years old and was convicted of aggravated theft (Article 365 paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code). To date, the subject has served 5 months in prison. The subject filed an appeal because he objected to the Klaten District Court's decision to sentence him to 7 years in prison. According to daily records, subject 3 behaves well towards officers and fellow detainees/prisoners. He also actively participates in various guidance activities, such as religious lectures, gymnastics, Friday prayers, reading books in the library, prison rules counseling, health screening from the Health Office, and residential room cleaning activities.

Based on the analysis of the three subjects, it appears that each subject's personality structure has different tendencies, but shows an imbalance between the id, ego, and superego. All three show that deviant behavior does not only arise due to a lack of moral values, but also due to weak control functions resulting from the instability of the ego's role in mediating the id's impulses and the superego's demands.

In subject 1, the superego appears to be most dominant in terms of moral values. This can be seen from the results of interviews and observations, which are marked by numerous expressions of regret and guilt. However, when viewed from the phase before and during the incident, the subject's behavior was actually controlled by the id due to the influence of alcohol and impulsive urges to obey his friends' invitations. The ego, which should mediate between the id's urges and social norms, did not function optimally because the subject's consciousness was under the influence of alcohol. As a result, the id became dominant during the action phase, while the superego only became active after the incident occurred. Thus, it can be concluded that the superego in subject 1 was dominant in terms of moral values but was not functionally effective in preventing deviant behavior. In the phase before and during the incident, the subject's behavior was actually more controlled by the id due to the influence of alcohol and impulsive urges, while the ego was in a weak state, failing to mediate these urges with social norms. The dominance of the superego only emerged significantly after the event in the form of regret and moral awareness. This shows that the dominance of the superego in subject 1 is retrospective or active in the post-event reflection phase, rather than preventive at the time of decision making.

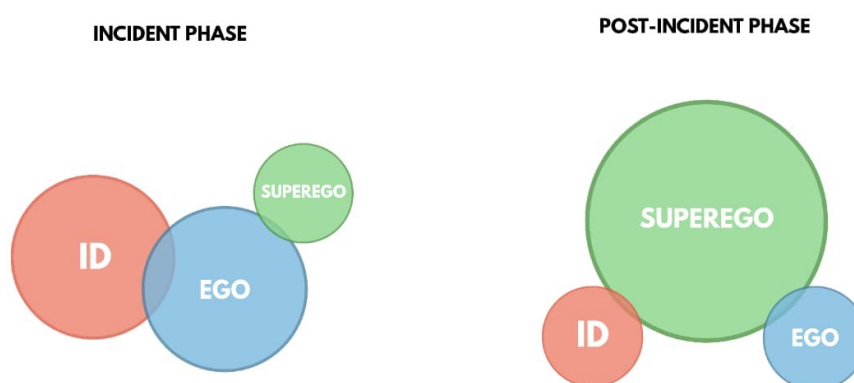


Figure 1. Interaction diagram of subject 1's id, ego, and superego

Subject 2 exhibits a personality structure that is more controlled by the ego, which attempts to balance economic needs (id) with moral values (superego). The ego is adaptive but weak in controlling impulses. The ego seeks a middle ground between economic reality and moral demands, but under pressure, the ego tends to justify the actions of the id. After the action has

taken place, the superego comes into play through the emergence of remorse and moral awareness. This shows that the ego of subject 2 functions adaptively cognitively, but is weak morally and in impulse control because it fails to maintain a balance between drives and moral values.

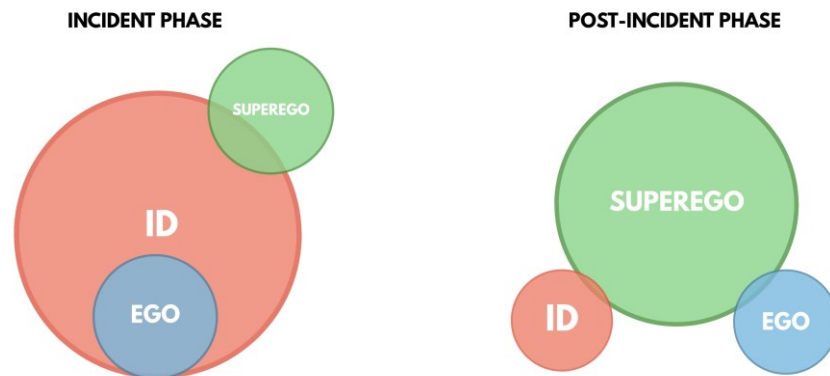


Figure 2. Interaction diagram of subject 2's id, ego, and superego

Meanwhile, subject 3 also showed ego dominance, but it was passive and less assertive. Subject 3 used logical considerations before acting, but lacked the moral courage to reject wrong behavior. The id drive in the subject appeared in the form of a desire to avoid tension and seek comfort, while the superego was active after the event through feelings of guilt and responsibility. This shows that the subject has moral awareness, but their personality control function is weak in the early stages, failing to direct behavior in accordance with norms. Subject 3's behavior is not driven by criminal intent, but by ego indecisiveness and the weak role of the superego in prevention.

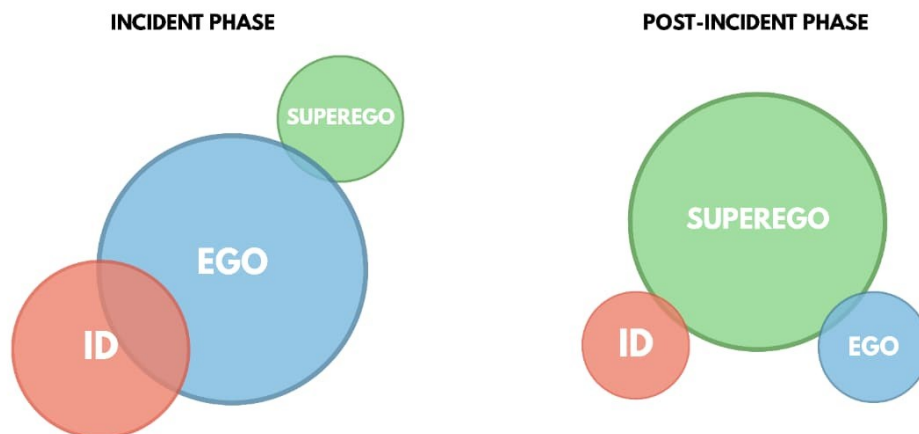


Figure 3. Interaction diagram of subject 3's id, ego, and superego

Overall, all three subjects exhibited the same pattern, namely the dominance of certain structures that were not balanced with other functions. Subject 1 was more dominated by the id at the time of the incident despite having a morally strong superego, while subject 2 exhibited an active ego but failed to restrain the pressure of the id, and subject 3 had a dominant but passive ego and a superego that only functioned after the action was taken.

Discussion

Based on the personality analysis of subject 1, it shows that in terms of moral values, the most dominant personality structure is the superego. However, the dominance of the superego did not appear functionally at the time of the incident, but rather strengthened in the post-incident phase. The superego is formed from the internalization of values and norms instilled by parents, teachers, and society (Nuryana & Rohanda, 2025). The superego represents the moral and ideal aspects of the personality and is controlled by moralistic and idealistic principles, which differ from the pleasure principle of the id and the realistic principles of the ego (Feist & Feist, 2010).

This can be seen from the subject's statement, which shows moral consideration and compassion for the child of subject 2, for example in the statement "...firstly, economically, and secondly, I still feel compassion for others, because I really helped, even though it was in the wrong way....". This statement shows that the subject has compassion and empathy for subject 2's child.

However, at the time of the incident, the subject's superego was not yet functioning effectively in controlling behavior. The empathy that arose was instead expressed through deviant behavior. In other words, during the action phase, the subject's behavior was more controlled by the id due to the influence of alcohol, so that the ego was unable to perform its control function optimally. Meanwhile, the dominance of the superego only emerged after the incident occurred.

In addition, the superego is also evident in the subject's expressions of regret and guilt, as in the quote, "I regret it, yes, and I feel guilty, yes. I regret it very much, and I feel very guilty. Every day, I am haunted by feelings of guilt." This condition shows that the subject considers his actions to be inconsistent with the norms he believes in. The superego is essentially the source of ethics and conscience, consisting of two main aspects: the ego ideal, which is the benchmark for ideal behavior that should be carried out, and conscience, which causes feelings of guilt when individuals violate these moral standards (Nuryana & Rohanda, 2025).

On the other hand, the subject also showed the role of ego, namely when he realized the risks and consequences of his actions (Aini & Raharjo, 2024). This can be seen in their statement, "My consideration is just this, how will this work out, if it works out, how will it be, if it doesn't work out, how will it be...", which reflects a rational consideration between desire and the consequences. The ego itself functions as a mediator between the id and reality, which is divided into two, namely fulfilling the demands of the id while obeying the principles of reality (Tyas & Widagdo, 2025). This shows that the ego helps the subject weigh the consequences before acting.

Meanwhile, the id impulse in subject 1 appeared strong at the time of the incident, especially when the subject was involved due to the influence of alcohol and persuasion, without much thought. Nurulina & Pratisti (Utami & Asih, 2021) mention that alcohol consumption can reduce self-control, thereby increasing the tendency to commit crimes. This is consistent with the condition of the subject who admitted to being out of control due to the influence of alcohol. An example of this can be seen in the statement "...because I was already out of control, my sister said it would be better if I just helped with the car...". This shows that the id was present during the act, but the superego became dominant after the act in the form of remorse and moral awareness.

Based on the personality analysis of subject 2, it shows that the most dominant personality structure is the ego. The ego acts as the decision maker or an exclusive branch of the personality. However, because the ego is partly conscious, partly subconscious, and partly unconscious, it can make decisions at all three levels (Pramesti et al., 2023). This can be seen from subject 2's rational reasoning, which emphasizes economic factors as the main driver of his actions during the decision-making phase and when the action was carried out. For example, in his statement, "Yes, there was. At first, I was still unsure. If I agreed, it would be wrong, but if I didn't agree, what would happen to my finances?".

This statement shows that the subject is trying to balance their needs with the reality they face, even though the path they are taking is wrong. According to Utari (Adinda & Mahadewi, 2022), economic factors are one of the most common causes behind theft, because economic limitations often push people to commit these acts. In this case, the subject's efforts can be linked to the principle of reality, which is the ego's ability to think realistically, make plans, and assess whether the action will produce the desired outcome (Lestari & Damayanti, 2024). Furthermore, the ego is a form of concrete action resulting from the id, which is dominated by the superego. However, if the id dominates, the ego may eventually incorporate the id's thoughts (Septiani et al., 2022). In this case, during the action phase, subject 2's ego was more likely to be dominated by the id, due to urgent economic needs.

People who come from financially disadvantaged families tend to commit theft due to circumstances that force them to do so in order to survive, especially when they have families (Azzam et al., 2024). It is this economic pressure that then encourages the emergence of the id in the subject, namely the urgent need due to not having money to meet the needs of their child in Semarang. The id functions according to the pleasure principle, which demands immediate satisfaction of needs and desires (Wang & Jian, 2024). It is this urge that makes it easier for the subject to make quick decisions without considering the legal consequences.

The superego in subject 2 can be seen from the feelings of guilt and pity towards the condition of her child. This can be seen when she says "...seeing my child when I take him out on the street, I feel sorry for him...". Regret can also be seen in her confession, "I regret it, I feel guilty, because I have hurt him, even though it wasn't me who hurt him, but I feel it. Then taking what is not ours." This statement shows that moral considerations are at work within him. According to Nursholathiah et al. (2022), the superego is the personality structure most closely related to an individual's moral issues. This part functions as a controller of values and conscience, thereby influencing a person in determining whether an action is considered good or bad. Thus, in subject 2, the superego is evident through the pity and regret he expresses.

Based on the personality analysis of subject 3, it shows that the most dominant personality structure is ego. This can be seen from the subject's statements, which tend to consider logic and existing conditions. For example, in the statement, "...I'll just lend it to them because I don't think they'll actually do that. It's up to you, but the important thing is that I don't. That's what I thought at first." In addition, the ego is also evident when the subject states that they borrowed the cutter while drunk, so they assumed that the incident would not actually happen: "...they borrowed it yesterday when they were all drunk, so I thought, oh well, maybe they'll drop it on the way. Drunk people's thoughts may not be right..." This statement indicates that ego plays a dominant role in weighing situations rationally during the action phase, even though it ultimately leads to wrong decisions.

According to (Utami et al., 2022), the ego has an important task in providing space for

primary mental functions, such as reasoning, problem solving, and decision making, so it is considered the main leader in personality. In line with this, Mutyarani et al. (2024) explain that the ego is the end result of the interaction between the id and the superego. The ego functions as the implementation of thoughts in the form of realistic principles, namely actions whose results will determine whether the id or superego is followed.

Meanwhile, id appeared when subject 3 easily agreed to subject 1 and subject 2's request to borrow the cutter. He admitted that he did not think much about it, because he just wanted to go back to sleep immediately. "...I didn't really think about it either, because at that time I was sleeping in my boarding house and was woken up. I thought at that time that I would just agree to everything so that I could go back to sleep." This action shows that impulsive urges without consideration function effectively. The id works to relieve the tension caused by the pleasure principle by fulfilling the desires and needs felt at that moment (Syam & Rosaliza, 2020). In subject 3, this id urge is seen in his choice to prioritize personal comfort, namely going back to sleep, rather than thinking about the risks of his actions.

According to Suprpto (Saputra et al., 2024), the superego can be understood as the conscience or moral center that functions to recognize good and bad values and serves as a moral reference in personality. The superego also plays a role in limiting various uncontrolled id drives (Sadida & Septiyana, 2025). The superego in subject 3 can be seen from the feelings of guilt that arose after the incident. He did not choose to run away but remained because he felt responsible for his actions in lending the cutter: "...that's why I didn't leave, because I felt guilty for lending the cutter." This shows that subject 3 still has moral considerations, even though they are not as significant as the role of the ego. The superego essentially functions to reject and consider the impulses of the id, while also evaluating the considerations that arise from the id. Thus, even though each individual has an id, there is always an evaluation carried out by the superego, which functions to guide the ego according to moral principles (Jing & Chenglian, 2020).

CONCLUSION

Based on Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory, it can be concluded that every individual has a personality structure consisting of the id, ego, and superego. The id is present as an instinctive drive that has been embedded since birth, while the superego is formed as a determinant of an event that is influenced by the environment and moral values. Meanwhile, the ego acts as a controller that balances the id's impulses with the moral considerations of the superego. The id, ego, and superego ultimately manifest themselves in conscious and unconscious actions after consideration by the superego. In a study of the personality structure of perpetrators of violent theft in the Klaten Class IIB Prison, it was found that the three subjects had different personality dynamics in balancing the functions of the id, ego, and superego. Subject 1 had a morally strong superego but was ineffective in controlling behavior because the id was more dominant when the act occurred. The second subject showed a dominant ego that functioned rationally but failed to restrain the id's urges due to economic pressure. Meanwhile, subject 3 has a dominant but passive ego, with a superego that only becomes active after the action has taken place. The difference in the degree of dominance of these personality structures shows that deviant behavior is not solely caused by a loss of moral values, but rather by an imbalance in the ego's function of controlling id impulses and adjusting them to superego values.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors would like to thank all parties who provided support, assistance, and opportunities to successfully complete this research. Every contribution, whether in the form of guidance, information, or facilities, was invaluable to the author in the process of compiling this research.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

The authors confirm sole responsibility for the following aspects of the manuscript: study conceptualization and design, data collection, analysis and interpretation of results, and manuscript preparation. The authors read and approved the final manuscript.

COMPETING OF INTEREST

The authors declare no competing of interest.

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