

An Analysis of Sociopathic Attributes of Sherlock Holmes in *A STUDY IN SCARLET*

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ABSTRACT

Sherlock Holmes is a prominent fictional character in detective fiction that has inspired many literary works. However, there are debates nowadays concerning whether or not Holmes is categorized as a sociopath, and the present study was done to find the answer. The present study aims to investigate the extent to which sociopathic characteristics are attributed to Sherlock Holmes in *A Study in Scarlet* (2013). The data used in the study comes mainly from the narration of Dr. Watson concerning the behaviors of Sherlock Holmes. The theories applied in the data analysis are Genette's Focalization (1980), Minderop's Characterization (2005), Hare's Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R) (1998), and Scarlet's (2011) categorization of Hare's PCL-R items. The study reveals that the sociopathic attributes are constructed through the assumption of Dr. Watson and Stamford. The findings also show that the score of Hare's (1998) PCL-R of Holmes is eleven, which is lower than the minimum score of a sociopath (22-29) and higher than a normal person (0-6), thus he cannot be classified as both. For this reason, further studies concerning the topic are needed to identify the suitable category of Sherlock Holmes.

Keywords: *characterization, focalization, Hare's psychopathy checklist-revised, Sherlock Holmes, sociopathic attributes*

INTRODUCTION

Detective fiction is one of the most popular genres in literature. It is a narrative where the principal action concerns the attempt of an investigator to solve a criminal case and bring criminals to justice (Rzepka & Horsley, 2010). There is one person that is considered to be the top author of detective fiction, and his name is Sir Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle. Doyle is a person who has played a big role in making crime novels popular among the public.

Conan Doyle has a notable character in his various works. He created a fictional private detective figure of the late 19th and early 20th centuries named Sherlock Holmes. Holmes's first appearance is in the novel *A Study in Scarlet* (1887). In all of his stories, Sherlock Holmes is often described as a brilliant detective based in London, who is famous for his great ability in using logic and clever observation to solve many cases. For these reasons, Sherlock Holmes becomes the most well-known fictional detective figure ever created.

Nowadays, there are many debates that concern whether or not Sherlock Holmes has sociopathic characteristics. The discussion concerning this topic has been spreading widely on the internet, and Konnikova (2012) is one of the people who contribute to the debate. In her article, she discusses how Holmes's statement of being a sociopath and his cold behaviors toward others character in the TV series entitled *Sherlock* (2010) lead to the current debate. She believes that Holmes's behaviors are not even close to being associated with either sociopath or psychopath since he still shows his concern toward two important people in his life, Dr. Watson and Mrs. Hudson. Different from Konnikova, Lewis (2016) and Gragert (2016) in their article covers more about whether Sherlock Holmes is categorized as a primary psychopath or a secondary psychopath (sociopath). They argue that Holmes is a primary psychopath as he is portrayed to be antisocial, lacking emotion, and having little concern for others' feeling. Thus, Holmes's quote on the new Sherlock

Holmes in the TV serial entitled *Sherlock*, which is “I am not a psychopath. I am a high-functioning sociopath” causes people to question whether it is true or not that both the original and the new version of the detective have the mental illness.

Similar to psychopath, the term sociopath has a negative connotation in today’s society. Peterson (2016) explains that the word ‘sociopath’, simply defined as someone who is very antisocial and does not have a conscience. She further argues that sociopaths can be dangerous toward other people, because they can cause harm and damage, such as hurting people physically, emotionally, or financially; manipulating, cheating, or lying to people to make fortune; and many more. On the contrary, Lykken (1995) claims that not all sociopaths harm other people’s lives. He further elaborates that sociopaths can be further categorized into four main types: common, alienated, aggressive, and dissocial. However, most people might have little knowledge regarding the types of sociopath, which makes them think

that there is only one type of sociopath with harmful attitudes. Therefore, by doing an analysis concerning sociopathy, it will broaden the knowledge of the readers regarding the types of sociopath.

Aside from the debates, there are two reasons why the character of Sherlock Holmes is chosen as the subject of the research. Firstly, Holmes himself is one of the most iconic characters in detective fictions. Up until today, many people still recognize him as the world’s greatest detective character. Secondly, the story of Sherlock Holmes is continuously maintained and made famous through many adaptations. All of the adaptations show that the influence of Sherlock Holmes has spread widely throughout the world through various kinds of media, such as movies, stage plays, and animations, and the adaptations have been watched and enjoyed by people starting from children up to adults. For these reasons, it is therefore intriguing to analyze the sociopathic attributes of Sherlock Holmes, since the character might affect the psychology of the readers.

Looking at how much influence that Sherlock Holmes has, it would be worrisome if he is truly classified as a sociopath, since people who admire him might imitate his behavior. It is true that Holmes is just a fictional character in literature, but literature itself can be a reflection of reality. Therefore, it might affect particular aspects of people's lives. Koopman and Hakemulder (2015) maintain that reading literature can also affect an aspect of a person's life, which is empathy. This happens when the readers are absorbed into the narrative of the literature and their empathetic imagination gets stimulated. At this point, they are imagining themselves in a certain character's shoes in a particular event and under specific circumstances. In addition, Kaufman and Libby (2012) suggest that people can also be influenced by a fictional character and change their beliefs, attitudes, and identity into the ones similar to those adopted by a particular character. Kaufman and Libby (2012, p.2) called this phenomenon 'experience-taking.' Both statements show that literature can influence particular

aspects of life. As such, by reading literature, people's attitudes might change, whether it is for the better or worse. As in the present research's case, when the readers read the literary works with a sociopath as the main character, they will be involved in seeing the world from the perspective of a sociopath. As a result, the readers might be influenced to mimic the characteristics of a sociopath. This provides all the reasons to conduct the present study.

As stated before, the goal of the research is to examine the original Sherlock Holmes' character and compare it with the sociopathic traits listed in Hare's Approach (1998). Hence, the following research question has been formulated:

- To what extent are sociopathic characteristics attributed to the character of Sherlock Holmes in the novel *A Study in Scarlet* (2013)?

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Hare (1998) creates his own method of assessing psychopath and sociopath called 'Hare's Psychopathy Checklist-Revised.' The approach

includes a list of 20 items of sociopath and psychopathic traits which as follows:

1. Glibness/superficial charm
2. Grandiose sense of self worth
3. Need for stimulation/proneness to boredom
4. Pathological lying
5. Conning/manipulative
6. Lack of remorse and guilt
7. Shallow affect
8. Callous/lack of empathy
9. Parasitic lifestyle
10. Poor behavioral control
11. Promiscuous sexual behavior
12. Early behavioral problems
13. Lack of realistic, long-term goals
14. Impulsivity
15. Irresponsibility
16. Failure to accept responsibility for own actions
17. Many short-term marital relationships
18. Juvenile delinquency
19. Revocation of conditional release
20. Criminal versatility

In measuring the possibility of having psychopathic or sociopathic

traits, Hare (1998) also explains that each item on the PCL-R list will be given a score from 0 (zero) to 2 (two). The score of 0 means that the patient does not correspond with the item, 1 implies that the attribute is in the patient, but not dominant, and 2 signifies that the trait matches with the patient's attitude. The total score of the test ranges from 0-40, with 0-6 points for normal people, 22-29 points for sociopath, and 30-40 points for psychopath.

Since the research concerns the field of literature, it must include at least one of the literary theories. In the novel *A Study in Scarlet*, the story is mostly seen through the point of view of Dr. Watson as the narrator of the novel. Therefore, because most of the evidences might be from the narration of Dr. Watson, the focalization theory is the most suitable literary theory for the analysis. Genette (1980) introduces the new approach of narrative analysis through narrative perspective called focalization. The theory itself is divided into three categories, which are:

1. Zero focalization

In this type of focalization, the focalizer has a very vast knowledge regarding the protagonists than other characters in the story. It means that he or she knows exactly everything about the main characters, including their facts, their gestures, and their thoughts. According to Genette (1980), this type of focalization is considered as the most common focalization found in narrative texts.

2. Internal focalization

Character focalizers who are included in this category have equal knowledge with other characters when it comes to the protagonists. The job of the focalizer here is to filter the information provided in the text to the reader, which means that the focalizer can describe only what he or she feels, thinks, and sees.

3. External focalization

The external focalizer knows less than other characters. Basically, he or she can only follow the actions and the gestures of the protagonists from outside of the story, or rather, the focalizer acts similarly to the lens

of the camera that follows the protagonists.

Lastly, this research also utilized the characterization approach by Minderop (2005). According to him, characterization is divided into two main methods, and they are:

1. Direct Method

In this method, the characterization focuses on the direct description by the author. Here, the author will intentionally show the characteristics of the character. The direct method is further divided into three parts: the use of name, appearance, and characterization by the author.

2. Indirect method

This method focuses on the characterization shown by the character itself. The indirect method is further divided into five sections, they are: dialogue, the location or situation of the dialogue, mental quality of the character, the inflection of the voice, dialect, and the usage of words, and character's behavior.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

The research used a textual analysis method to analyze the sociopathic attributes of Sherlock Holmes that are mostly described through the narration of Dr. Watson and the description of Stamford in the novel *A Study in Scarlet* (2013). Textual analysis, according to Bernard and Ryan (1998), involves the examination of words, sentences, paragraphs, documents, ideas, meanings, paralinguistic features, and what is missing in the text. After that, the researchers interpreted, marked, retrieved, and counted the information that they obtain based on the text by applying interpretive and numerical analysis.

Data Collection

The analysis began with the close reading of the novel, specifically on the narrations from Dr. Watson's perspective and descriptions of the other major characters, which consist of their view of the personality and characteristics of Sherlock Holmes. After the data were carefully selected, Genette's Focalization theory (1980),

Minderop's Characterization method (2005), and Hare's Psychopathy Checklist-Revised theory (1998) were employed.

Data Analysis

The analysis was divided into three parts. Firstly, the data were examined in terms of their types of focalization based on the theory of Focalization by Genette (1980). The data were discussed by finding out through which focalizer the data came from. After that, the present study analyzed what kind of characterization that appears in the data by using the theory of Characterization by Minderop (2005). This part explains which types of characterization the data fall into. Next, the study analyzed and related the obtained data to the twenty items of sociopathic attributes that are listed in Hare's (1998) PCL-R theory and Scarlet's (2011) classification of Hare's PCL-R items (see Section 2.3). As Hare (1998) explains in his book, all of the PCL-R items are also given a score from zero to two. A score of zero means that the items do not match the diagnosed person, while a score of one shows that the items

partially correspond with the attitudes of the patient, and a score of two implies that the items perfectly match the diagnosed person.

Thus, all of the sociopathic traits that appear in the texts were also investigated carefully by seeing how they are related to the data of Sherlock Holmes's attitudes and personality. Then, the data were measured based on the extent to which they match the items on the scale. Lastly, after all of the data have been investigated, a conclusion was made based on the analysis in order to show to what extent the sociopathic characteristics are attributed to Sherlock Holmes.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The chapter presents the findings and discussions of the analysis of the research that concerns the sociopathic attributes of Sherlock Holmes. The analysis was done by examining all seven chapters of the first part of the novel of *A Study in Scarlet* (2013), which includes the interactions of all major characters with Sherlock Holmes by focusing on the internal focalization and the elements of characterization, and then relating

them to the 20 items of Hare's Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (1998). The elements of characterization used in the analysis are adopted from Minderop's (2005) method of characterization. Next, the theory of focalization proposed by Genette (1980) is utilized to examine the sociopathic attributes of Holmes that lies in the focalization of Dr. Watson and Stamford. Lastly, the sociopathic attributes are analyzed with Hare's (1998) PCL-R and Scarlet's classification of Hare's PCL-R items. The findings indicate how the focalization of Dr. Watson and Stamford build the sociopathic characteristics of Sherlock Holmes to the extent to which those traits are attached to him.

Focalizing the Characteristics of Holmes through Dr. Watson's Narration

The findings show that the sociopathic traits of Sherlock Holmes are shown through the focalization of the narrator, Dr. Watson. From the three types of focalization by Genette (1980), the novel only uses internal focalization of the narrator as the

medium in explaining the attitudes of Sherlock Holmes.

Dr. Watson filters all the information, which concerns Holmes's attitudes, from what Watson feels, hears, sees, or thinks. For example, the excerpt below shows the way Dr. Watson tells the readers about an assumed sociopathic characteristic of Holmes, which is need for stimulation/proneness to boredom, through Dr. Watson's perception:

Nothing could exceed his energy when the working fit was upon him; but now and again a reaction would seize him, and for days on end he would lie upon the sofa in the sitting-room, hardly uttering a word or moving a muscle from morning to night. On these occasions I have noticed such a dreamy, vacant expression in his eyes, that I might have suspected him of being addicted to the use of some narcotic.

(p. 22)

Here, Dr. Watson gives the details of one of Holmes's sociopathic characteristics, which is need for stimulation/proneness to boredom,

specifically, using drugs, by visualizing what he sees and sharing what he thinks.

Another example is indicated on the occasion when Holmes is suspected to own a characteristic of being a sociopath that is callous—lack of empathy, which is shown in the excerpt: “Holmes is a little too scientific for my tastes—it approaches to cold bloodedness” (p. 11). Here, Dr. Watson reports Stamford's speech that characterizes Holmes with the sociopathic trait of callousness and lack of empathy, which can be indicated from the words above. From these excerpts, it can be seen that Dr. Watson, as a narrator, only delivers any information about Holmes through his own perception, and his knowledge is equal to that of the other characters' in the story. Thus, he is categorized as an internal focalizer, as he narrates the narrative from inside the story, and the type of focalization used as the tool to describe the sociopathic characteristics is internal focalization.

Characterizing Holmes through Dr. Watson's and Stamford's Descriptions

Based on the characterization method by Minderop (2005), Conan Doyle mostly employs indirect characterization in explaining the sociopathic attributes of Holmes. The characters that are involved in describing the assumed traits of a sociopath are mostly Dr. Watson and Stamford, on some occasion. There are mostly two sub-methods of indirect characterization that are used in characterizing Holmes in the text, and the first one is dialogue. The following excerpt shows how the characteristic of Holmes is described through dialogue:

“Yes, but it may be pushed to excess. When it comes to beating the subjects in the dissecting rooms with a stick, it is certainly taking rather a bizarre shape.”

“Beating the subjects!”

“Yes, to verify how far bruises may be produced after death. I saw him at it with my own eyes.” (p. 12)

In the evidence, Dr. Watson is having a conversation with Stamford concerning Holmes's behavior. Through this dialogue, Dr. Watson

informs the statements of Stamford that signify Holmes lacks empathy toward others, which is similar to a sociopathic attribute named callousness and lack of empathy. Therefore, Dr. Watson filters the description of Holmes's attitude, which is related to the sociopathic attribute of callousness and lack of empathy, based on his conversation with Stamford.

The second method of characterizing Holmes is through character's behavior. The excerpt from Dr. Watson's narration below indicates that the characterization is also revealed by Holmes's own action:

Nothing could exceed his energy when the working fit was upon him; but now and again a reaction would seize him, and for days on end he would lie upon the sofa in the sitting-room, hardly uttering a word or moving a muscle from morning to night. On these occasions I have noticed such a dreamy, vacant expression in his eyes, that I might have suspected him of being addicted to the use of some narcotic (p. 22).

In the excerpt, Dr. Watson gives information to the reader about Sherlock Holmes's attitude, which is classified as a sociopathic characteristic, namely need for stimulation/proneness to boredom, based on the observation that Dr. Watson do toward Holmes's activities.

The Sociopathic Characteristics Assumed to be Possessed by Holmes and Their Scoring

As the narrator of the story, Dr. Watson has a big role in showing or explaining the characteristics of the protagonist, which is Sherlock Holmes. In most occasions, Dr. Watson keeps raising suspicion of Holmes being a sociopath. Some of the sociopathic traits that are revealed through his narration can be compared to the twenty items of Hare's (1998) PCL-R theory to see whether or not Holmes is a sociopath.

1. Grandiose Sense of Self Worth

At the beginning of the story, Dr. Watson tries to understand more about Holmes and his job as a consulting detective. Because of that,

Dr. Watson asks Holmes about what the term detective means for him, and the conversation starts with the comparison between Lecoq, a fictional detective, and Holmes himself. The excerpt of the dialogue is shown below:

“Does Lecoq come up to your idea of a detective?”

Sherlock Holmes sniffed sardonically.

“Lecoq was a miserable bungler,” he said, in an angry voice; “he had only one thing to recommend him, and that was his energy. That book made me positively ill. The question was how to identify an unknown prisoner. I could have done it in twenty four hours. Lecoq took six months or so. It might be made a text-book for detectives to teach them what to avoid.”

(p.39)

So, instead of explaining the meaning of detective, Holmes focuses on the question of Watson that compares him with Lecoq. Holmes dislikes being compared to Lecoq because he thinks that Lecoq is not even of the same level as Holmes in terms of detective skills. When hearing

Holmes's complaint, Dr. Watson notices that Holmes answers his question in an angry tone, which means that he is seriously angry being compared to Lecoq. Furthermore, the excerpt above also shows that Holmes brags himself when it comes to his detective skills. Based on Holmes's action, Dr. Watson begins to speculate that Holmes has one of the traits of being a sociopath, which is grandiose sense of self worth since he is bragging a lot and narcissistic. This is shown in the following excerpt:

"I felt rather indignant at having two characters whom I had admired treated in this cavalier style. I walked over to the window, and stood looking out into the busy street. "This fellow may be very clever," I said to myself, "but he is certainly very conceited." (p. 39)

In the evidence, Dr. Watson is angry toward Holmes because he insults two favorite fictional detectives of Dr. Watson. Dr. Watson then realizes that Holmes brags himself a lot.

Another occasion where this sociopathic trait appears is in the event where Dr. Watson asks Holmes

about Holmes's investigation method, which is shown in the excerpt below:

"I'm not going to tell you much more of the case, Doctor. You know a conjuror gets no credit when once he has explained his trick, and if I show you too much of my method of working, you will come to the conclusion that I am a very ordinary individual after all." (p.70)

In the conversation, Holmes does not want to tell Dr. Watson about how he can get so much information on Enoch's murderer by only examining the crime scene in a matter of minutes. Holmes does that because he thinks that if he reveals his technique, people around him will consider him as an ordinary person. From the statement of Holmes, it can be seen that he has the attribute of narcissistic since he loves being praised by other people. This trait of Holmes is similar to the sociopathic trait of grandiose sense of self worth. Thus, it can be interpreted that Holmes is narcissistic since he loves the event where people admire him.

So, Dr. Watson assumes that Holmes has a similar trait of being a sociopath, namely grandiose sense of

self worth. There are two indications that make Dr. Watson raise his suspicion. First is because Holmes brags about having the capabilities of being the best detective, and the other one is because Holmes is shown to be narcissistic since he wants people to adore his detective skills. Judging from the explanation of Dr. Watson, Holmes's attitude fits with the description of the sociopathic attribute of grandiose sense of self worth as Holmes keeps praising himself, and this annoys everyone around him, mostly Dr. Watson. Thus, the score for this item is two.

2. Callousness and Lack of Empathy

Besides Dr. Watson, there is also another character that is suspicious of Holmes having a trait of being a sociopath, and that character is Stamford. Stamford is an acquaintance of Dr. Watson who has been working with Sherlock Holmes for a long time. Based on his experience with Holmes, Stamford assumes that Holmes's attitude is similar to the sociopathic trait of Callousness and lack of empathy.

This is shown in the following excerpt:

“It is not easy to express the inexpressible,” he answered with a laugh. “Holmes is a little too scientific for my tastes—it approaches to cold bloodedness. I could imagine his giving a friend a little pinch of the latest vegetable alkaloid, not out of malevolence, you understand, but simply out of a spirit of inquiry in order to have an accurate idea of the effects. To do him justice, I think that he would take it himself with the same readiness. He appears to have a passion for definite and exact knowledge.” (p. 11)

The excerpt indicates that from the perspective of Stamford, Holmes possesses the trait of ‘cold-blooded’ or basically having little concern toward other people. From the speech given by Stamford, Holmes might do anything that has the possibility to harm others, even though he does it purely for his thirst of knowledge. Stamford assumes that Holmes is heartless and ignorant towards other people when he has the opportunity to gain exact knowledge. In addition, Stamford tells Dr. Watson about

Holmes's method that is considered cruel. The mentioned conversation is shown in the excerpt below:

“Yes, but it may be pushed to excess. When it comes to beating the subjects in the dissecting rooms with a stick, it is certainly taking rather a bizarre shape.”

“Beating the subjects!”

“Yes, to verify how far bruises may be produced after death. I saw him at it with my own eyes.”

(p. 12)

In this dialogue, Stamford explains that Holmes always takes things too far whenever he wants to gain definite knowledge, and it is seen from the way Holmes beats dead bodies with a stick with the sole intention of analyzing how many bruises that a dead body can produce. The readers can infer the detail of this behavior of Holmes's based on the textual evidence above. According to Stamford, Holmes does not feel any empathy toward others, and he sees people as an object to gain more knowledge. Therefore, Stamford assumes that this behavior of Holmes is related to the attribute of a sociopath called callousness and lack of empathy.

Aside from the doubt of Stamford, this sociopathic trait is also manifested through Holmes's action. The excerpt that shows this event is as follows:

“There's a half-sovereign for you,” my companion said, standing up and taking his hat. “I am afraid, Rance, that you will never rise in the force. That head of yours should be for use as well as ornament.” You might have gained your sergeant's stripes last night. The man whom you held in your hands is the man who holds the clue of this mystery, and whom we are seeking. There is no use of arguing about it now; I tell you that it is so. Come along, Doctor.” We started off for the cab together, leaving our informant incredulous, but obviously uncomfortable.” (p. 78)

This excerpt takes place when Sherlock Holmes is prepared to take a leave after his interrogation with Rance. Instead of thanking Rance for the information that he gets, Holmes mocks Rance psychologically by saying that the officer is unintelligent and will never be promoted in his job, Holmes is actually insulting Rance because the officer cannot satisfy him

with any significant information or leads concerning Enoch's killer. Based on the action done by Holmes, it can be interpreted that he becomes heartless toward people who cannot give him satisfying information that he requires. This evidence shows that Holmes's attitude is comparable to the sociopathic attribute of callousness and lack of empathy.

Thus, Dr. Watson reports the speech of Stamford which characterizes Holmes as possessing a trait similar to the attribute of a sociopath named callousness and lack of empathy. Holmes is shown to be attributed with the characteristic of having less empathy towards people since he uses them as objects when he wants to obtain definite knowledge. Another occasion that points out the proof that Holmes has a similar trait with callousness and lack of empathy is when he mocks a police officer named Rance. Holmes's action showed in the event reflects the characteristic of having no concern toward people who cannot satisfy him with what he wants. However, the sociopathic attitude of callousness and lack of empathy are not entirely

similar to Holmes's behavior because his behavior is not purely evil. Even though Holmes seems to have little empathy for others, but Holmes's intention is based on his desire to seek out knowledge that can be helpful in the future. So, the score given for this sociopathic attribute is one as it is only partially matched with Holmes's behavior.

3. Glibness/Superficial charm

This sociopathic attribute is being suspected by Dr. Watson to be owned by Holmes. The occasion where Dr. Watson asks Sherlock Holmes concerning how he knows about Dr. Watson's background as a former army doctor who is recently back from Afghanistan. The event is shown in the excerpt "You appeared to be surprised when I told you, on our first meeting, that you had come from Afghanistan." You were told, no doubt." (p. 37). In the dialogue, Dr. Watson does not believe that Holmes can tell the exact background of Dr. Watson by only looking at him for several minutes. Because of that, Dr. Watson raises his suspicion that his background is told by Stamford to

Holmes and then it is used as a medium to make Dr. Watson impressed with Holmes's explanation. However, Holmes clarifies that the conclusion of Watson's past is purely from his observation and deduction, which is pointed out in the following excerpt:

“Nothing of the sort. I knew you came from Afghanistan. From long habit the train of thoughts ran so swiftly through my mind, that I arrived at the conclusion without being conscious of intermediate steps. There were such steps, however. The train of reasoning ran, ‘Here is a gentleman of a medical type, but with the air of a military man. Clearly an army doctor, then. He has just come from the tropics, for his face is dark, and that is not the natural tint of his skin, for his wrists are fair. He has undergone hardship and sickness, as his haggard face says clearly. His left arm has been injured. He holds it in a stiff and unnatural manner. Where in the tropics could an English army doctor have seen much hardship and got his arm wounded? Clearly in Afghanistan.’ The whole train of thought did not occupy a second. I then remarked that you came from

Afghanistan, and you were astonished.” (p. 37)

Here, Holmes tells Dr. Watson concerning the detail of the observation that he does when both of them meet for the first time, and it includes some aspect like Dr. Watson's skin color, expression, and wound that makes Holmes reach the conclusion of Dr. Watson being a veteran army who recently comes back from Afghanistan. Readers can interpret the details of how Holmes can deduct Dr. Watson's background based on the following words:

“I knew you came from Afghanistan...The train of reasoning ran, ‘Here is a gentleman of a medical type, but with the air of a military man. Clearly an army doctor, then... He has just come from the tropics, for his face is dark... He has undergone hardship and sickness, as his haggard face says... His left arm has been injured. He holds it in a stiff and unnatural manner. Where in the tropics could an English army doctor have seen much hardship and got his arm wounded? Clearly in Afghanistan.’” (p. 37).

Based on Holmes's speech, it can be seen that Dr. Watson's suspicion of Holmes's traits of being a sociopath, namely glibness/superficial charm, is not proven to be true. Holmes is telling the truth, although indeed he does the guess to impress Dr. Watson since Holmes does not even explain first of how he can reach that conclusion.

Another occasion where Dr. Watson has a suspicion of Holmes owning a trait that resembles the sociopathic trait of glibness/superficial charm is indicated in the excerpt "You amaze me, Holmes...Surely you are not as sure as you pretend to be of all those particulars which you gave." There's no room for a mistake," he answered (p. 66). This conversation takes place after Dr. Watson and Sherlock Holmes leave the crime scene of Enoch's murder case. Here, Dr. Watson gives his impression concerning the very detailed features of how the murder of Mr. Enoch's takes place, which Holmes explained when he investigates the crime scene. However, Watson feels suspicious toward Holmes's explanation since he

gives the statement after he investigates the crime scene only for mere minutes. So, Dr. Watson assumes that Holmes is faking his explanation in order to raise the impression of people that were with Holmes in the crime scene. However, Holmes gives a clarification that in investigating criminal cases, he must not leave a gap that can create mistakes in the future. He further explains with the detailed analysis of how exactly he reaches the conclusion of what happened in the crime scene, which is shown in the following excerpt:

"The very first thing which I observed on arriving there was that a cab had made two ruts with its wheels close to the curb. Now, up to last night, we have had no rain for a week, so that those wheels, which left such a deep impression, must have been there during the night. There were the marks of the horse's hoofs, too, the outline of one of which was far more clearly cut than that of the other three, showing that that was a new shoe. Since the cab was there after the rain began, and was not there at any time during the morning—I have Gregson's word

for that—it follows that it must have been there during the night, and, therefore, that it brought those two individuals to the house.”

“That seems simple enough,” said I...” (p. 66)

This dialogue shows that Holmes gets the conclusion of how the murder happens simply by carefully observing the crime scene. It can be seen that Holmes examines the environment in the entrance of the crime scene, which makes him notice that there are some marks of wheels from a cab and footprints left in there. The details of how Holmes examines the crime scene thoroughly can be interpreted from the following excerpts:

“...a cab had made two ruts with its wheels close to the curb. Now, up to last night, we have had no rain for a week, so that those wheels, which left such a deep impression, must have been there during the night. There were the marks of the horse’s hoofs, too, the outline of one of which was far more clearly cut than that of the other three, showing that that was a new shoe. Since the cab was there after the rain began, and was not there at any time during the morning.” (p. 66).

After he processes what he found, he begins to deduce that two people come to the house with a cab in the night the murder takes place. After hearing that explanation, Dr. Watson approves that the identification given by Holmes is not something that he makes up on his own and this makes Watson’s assumption of Holmes owning a trait that resembles a sociopathic attribute, namely glibness/superficial charm, is not true again. However, even though Holmes is not lying, he still intends to make Lestrade, Gregson, and Dr. Watson impressed by his explanation since he does not give any detailed information of his observation in the murder scene.

Overall, the assumption of Holmes owning a similar attribute to a trait of a sociopath called glibness/superficial charm is partially correct. In the mentioned event above, Holmes does not lie when he gives his deduction of the murder case to Dr. Watson and police investigators. Yet, when he gives the information, he never tells about the long process of reaching the definite conclusion, which makes him look as if he wants

others to be amazed by his explanation. Therefore, the score given to this item is one because the sociopathic attribute is partially attached to Holmes.

4. Shallow Affect

This sociopathic behavior is suspected to be possessed by Holmes from the perspective of Dr. Watson. He makes this assumption in the event where he and Sherlock Holmes investigate Enoch's murder scene, and this is shown in the following excerpt:

As he spoke, his nimble fingers were flyin here, there, and everywhere, feeling, pressing, un buttoning, examining, while his eyes wore the same far-away expression which I have already remarked upon. So swiftly was the examination made, that one would hardly have guessed the minuteness with which it was conducted. Finally, he sniffed the dead man's lips, and then glanced at the soles of his patent leather boots. (p. 55)

In the dialogue, Dr. Watson explains that when Holmes examines thoroughly the dead body of Enoch, the first victim that is murdered by

Jefferson Hope, he notices that Holmes only makes a distant expression that he usually puts on in his daily activities, while people in the room show the expression of terror. Based on the explanation of Dr. Watson, the readers can infer that Holmes does not even look disgusted or afraid, even when he examines a dead human body. Thus, Holmes seems to be lacking the ability to show normal emotion, like fear or disgust as in that situation, which makes Dr. Watson suspects that Holmes's attitude is similar to the sociopathic trait of shallow affect.

Another event where Holmes shows similar behavior like this is on the occasion where he returns to his room after he investigates a person that is suspected to be an accomplice of Enoch's killer. This is indicated in the excerpt below:

It was close upon twelve before I heard the sharp sound of his latch-key. The instant he entered I saw by his face that he had not been successful. Amusement and chagrin seemed to be struggling for the mastery, until the former suddenly carried the day, and he burst into a hearty laugh. (p. 92)

Here, Dr. Watson spots the expressions in Holmes's face indicates that the investigation is not successful. However, shortly after Holmes shows his sad expression, his emotion suddenly changed into joy which is indicated by how Holmes laugh heartily in a second after he felt sadness. At this point, Dr. Watson suspects Holmes to have a difficulty in expressing an emotion that matches with the situation that he is in. So, this makes Dr. Watson strongly believes that Holmes posses similar behavior of being a sociopath called shallow affect.

Therefore, looking at the evidence provided through the explanation of Dr. Watson, Holmes is portrayed to possess a characteristic that corresponds with a sociopathic attribute of shallow affect. This is revealed by how Holmes is lacking the ability to show the emotion that matches the situation where he is in. Based on Holmes's action, the readers can infer that he is showing a similar attitude compared to the sociopathic attribute of shallow affect. Since the sociopathic quality of shallow affect

matches the attitude of Holmes, the score given for this attribute is two

5. Need for stimulation/proneness to boredom

This sociopathic trait appears in one event where Dr. Watson starts to share a room together with Sherlock Holmes. In order to get closer with his roommate, Dr. Watson carefully observes every action of Holmes. After living together with Holmes for a while, Dr. Watson finally grasps the daily attitudes of Holmes, which is shown in the excerpt below:

“Nothing could exceed his energy when the working fit was upon him; but now and again a reaction would seize him, and for days on end he would lie upon the sofa in the sitting-room, hardly uttering a word or moving a muscle from morning to night. On these occasions I have noticed such a dreamy, vacant expression in his eyes that I might have suspected him of being addicted to the use of some narcotic, had not the temperance and cleanliness of his whole life forbidden such a notion” (p. 22)

Here, Dr. Watson becomes suspicious of Holmes being a sociopath because

he has a trait similar to a sociopathic attitude named need for stimulation/proneness to boredom. The reason for Dr. Watson's conclusion is because the usual Holmes characterized as always being energetic, but there are times where he does not do anything besides lying in the sofa without moving or speaking from mornings to nights. Aside from that, Dr. Watson also notices that the expression which is shown by Holmes when he is in that state looks so distant and dreamy. According to Dr. Watson's experience from being a medical doctor army, this behavior of Holmes is similar to a symptom of being addicted to narcotics. Based on the evidence, Holmes is depicted as a drug user and this corresponds with the sociopathic quality of need for stimulation/proneness to boredom.

So, the suspicion of Dr. Watson concerning Holmes having a trait similar to the sociopathic attribute of need for stimulation/proneness to boredom seems to be true. This is supported by the proof of Holmes's behaviors that Dr. Watson sees directly, which are

classified as the indication of being a drug user such as stays silent for days and showing dreamy expressions when he is in the silent state. Thus, the score provided for this trait is two as it matches with Holmes's behavior.

6. Conning/manipulative

This sociopathic trait is issued in the event where Sherlock Holmes introduces a group of homeless children who worked for him, namely 'Baker Street division.' The dialogue between Dr. Watson and Sherlock Holmes concerning this event is shown in the excerpt below:

"It's the Baker Street division of the detective police force," said my companion, gravely; and as he spoke there rushed into the room half a dozen of the dirtiest and most ragged street Arabs that ever I clapped eyes on.

"Tention!" cried Holmes, in a sharp tone, and the six dirty little scoundrels stood in a line like so many disreputable statuettes.

"In future you shall send up Wiggins alone to report, and the rest of you must wait in the street. Have you found it, Wiggins?"

“No, sir, we hain’t,” said one of the youths.

“I hardly expected you would. You must keep on until you do.” (p. 100)

In the point of view of Dr. Watson, the children look very obedient to Holmes, which is indicated by how they react fast to the orders given by Holmes as if they have worked with Holmes for a while. Looking at Holmes’s orders given to the children, it seems that he manipulates the children to work for him and give him any useful information that can help him solve the case. Through the perspective of Dr. Watson, Holmes seems to be manipulating the children to work for him unofficially with the intention of personal gain, which is to get information that can make him solve the case faster than the police. This trait of Holmes is related to the sociopathic attribute of conning/manipulative,

Thus, the attitude of Sherlock Holmes show in this event is suspected to be related to the sociopathic trait of conning/manipulative. The reason for this is because Holmes appears to be making homeless kids working for

him with the intention of getting handful information related with Enoch’s murder case. Yet, Holmes is also doing this for good reason since it will also contribute to the process of solving the case of Enoch’ murder. Thus, the points for this item is one, as it does not fully correspond to Holmes’s personality.

7. Poor Behavioral Controls

The event where Dr. Watson brings up this trait is when he and Holmes questioning Rance, the police officer who was patrolling the area near the crime scene in the night where the murder takes place. In the interrogation, Dr. Watson notices that Holmes seemed to be different with his usual self. What he recognizes is that Holmes is getting more and more impatient during the interrogation, as it is indicated in the excerpt below:

“What sort of a man was he?” asked Sherlock Holmes.

John Rance appeared to be somewhat irritated at this digression.

“He was an uncommon drunksort o’ man,” he said. “He’d ha’ found hisself in the station if we hadn’t been so took up.”

“His face—his dress—didn’t you notice them?” Holmes broke in impatiently.

“I should think I did notice them, seeing that I had to prop him up—me and Murcher between us. He was a long chap, with a red face, the lower part muffled round—”

“That will do,” cried Holmes.” (p. 77)

From this dialogue, Holmes seems to interrupt Rance’s explanations about the murderer of Mr. Enoch before he finishes his lines. By looking at Holmes’s action, it can be inferred that Holmes becomes easily impatient when he does not get what he expected, as in this case is significant information of Mr. Enoch’s killer.

After Holmes and Dr. Watson leaves Rance’s house, Holmes looks annoyed because the information that Rance gives do not help his investigation, and then he begins to mock and blame Rance. This is shown in the excerpt: “The blundering fool,” Holmes said, bitterly, as we drove back to our lodgings. “Just to think of his having such an incomparable bit of good luck, and not taking advantage of it.”

(p. 79). Based on words, readers can infer that Holmes starts to insult Rance because he cannot satisfy Holmes with the information that he wants.

So, from the perspective of Dr. Watson, Holmes shows two characteristics that are related to the sociopathic trait of poor behavioral controls, which easily becomes impatient and annoyed. This is shown in the event where Holmes shows sudden annoyance toward Rance just because he does not have the significant detail of Enoch’s murderer, and also Holmes becomes verbally abusive toward Rance. Seeing how match the sociopathic attribute with Holmes’s behavior, the point given for this sociopathic attribute is two.

8. Lack of Realistic Long-term Goals

There are evidences which indicate that Holmes’s behaviors are contrasted with sociopathic traits listed in Hare’s PCL-R (1998) theory. The first one comes from the event where Dr. Watson brings up his thought about Holmes’s knowledge. This narration of

Dr. Watson is pointed out in the excerpt below:

He was not studying medicine. He had himself, in reply to a question, confirmed Stamford's opinion upon that point. Neither did he appear to have pursued any course of reading which might fit him for a degree in science or any other recognized portal which would give him an entrance into the learned world. Yet his zeal for certain studies was remarkable, and within eccentric limits his knowledge was so extraordinarily ample and minute that his observations have fairly astounded me. Surely no man would work so hard or attain such precise information unless he had some definite end in view. (p. 24)

In the excerpt, Dr. Watson explains that the knowledge that Holmes possess is considered astonishing although he never follow the mentioned studies in any formal institutions. Reflecting on this information, Dr. Watson becomes certain that Holmes is looking forward to the future, which means that Holmes always prepared himself by learning and broadening his knowledge for future events that

might involve his job as a detective. Based on the evidence, it can be interpreted that Holmes plans to carry out his long-term goal of being a detective.

Another occasion that depicts Holmes's attitude as the opposite of the sociopathic traits of lack of realistic long-term goal is shown in the following excerpt:

"I'm a consulting detective, if you can understand what that is. Here in London we have lots of Government detectives and lots of private ones. When these fellows are at fault they come to me, and I manage to put them on the right scent. They lay all the evidence before me, and I am generally able, by the help of my knowledge of the history of crime, to set them straight." (p. 35)

Here, Holmes explains that as a detective, he always has a big goal to put the clients into ease by solving the cases that they offer to him. Holmes also emphasizes that whenever he does his job, he is being supported by his own knowledge of criminal history and it has a big role in helping him solving each case that he takes. As stated before, Holmes has been

doing self-learning to gain more knowledge, and the result is that it becomes a significant supporting tool for his job as a detective, whose main goal is to solve clients' cases. Therefore, looking at Holmes's statement above, it can be concluded that the effort that Holmes does in the past, which is self-learning of criminal history, has been supporting him in executing his long range plan of cracking difficult cases.

Thus, Holmes's attribute is a contrast to the sociopathic behavior named lack of realistic long-term goals that is characterized by an inability to accomplish long-term goals. This is proven by how Holmes carries out his main goal as a detective, which is to solve criminal cases and bring the culprits to justice. In addition, Holmes keeps looking forward and prepares for what may come in the future, as shown by the way Holmes learns some studies that could help him solve criminal cases that his clients gave to him, and thus it makes the point given for this trait is zero.

9. Impulsivity

This sociopathic trait is marked mainly with the inability to think carefully before doing something. In contrast with this, Holmes is shown to be a person that thinks cautiously before he acts, and this is shown in the following excerpt where he caught Mr. Jefferson, the killer of Mr. Enoch:

“...The fellow came forward with a somewhat sullen, defiant air, and put down his hands to assist. At that instant there was a sharp click, the jangling of metal, and Sherlock Holmes sprang to his feet again.

“Gentlemen,” he cried, with flashing eyes, “let me introduce you to Mr. Jefferson Hope, the murderer of Enoch Drebber and of Joseph Stangerson.”

The whole thing occurred in a moment—so quickly that I had no time to realize it. I have a vivid recollection of that instant, of Holmes' triumphant expression and the ring of his voice, of the cabman's dazed, savage face, as he glared at the glittering handcuffs, which had appeared as if by magic upon his wrists.” (p. 133)

In the narration, Dr. Watson tells the readers about Holmes's action of catching Mr. Jefferson. According to

Dr. Watson, Holmes executes his plan to apprehend the murderer successfully as it is illustrated by Holmes's fast acts in handcuffing Mr. Jefferson's hands in an instant without he realizes it. It can be interpreted from the excerpt that Holmes has been thinking his plan carefully and thoroughly before he executes it. As a result, he can bind Jefferson's movement easily and reduce the risks of endangering anyone in the room.

Therefore, Looking at Dr. Watson explanation, the action that Holmes does in this situation is not categorized as a careless action, but rather a carefully designed plan. Thus, the sociopathic trait of impulsivity does not match with Holmes's behavior shown in the excerpt above. With that consideration, the score given for this sociopathic trait is zero.

10. Parasitic Lifestyle

This sociopathic trait of parasitic lifestyle is described as having financial dependence toward other people, such as family, friends, or social aid. Sherlock Holmes, on the contrary, does not show any sign of having that characteristic since he

lives from the money that he gets from his clients, which is shown in the excerpt "They are mostly sent on by private inquiry agencies. They are all people who are in trouble about something, and want a little enlightening. I listen to their story, they listen to my comments, and then I pocket my fee." (p. 36). In this textual evidence, Holmes explains to Dr. Watson that he mainly works as a consulting detective, and he mostly gets clients through other private agencies that have given up in solving those clients' cases. Holmes also adds the detail that his job is listening to the story of his clients, gives them advice, and he will earn money from them eventually. Looking at the excerpt, Holmes has a stable job as a consulting detective and he does not financially dependent on others since he can make money from his occupation.

So, Holmes does not own similar attribute with the sociopathic attribute of parasitic lifestyle. This is indicated by how Holmes can manage his financial by working as a consulting detective who solves each of his clients' cases, so his attribute

does not match with the criteria of the sociopathic trait called parasitic lifestyle. Thus, the given score for this sociopathic attribute is zero.

11. Irresponsibility and Failure to Accept Responsibility for Own Actions

As both the name suggests, these behaviors are attributed by having little sense of responsibility toward other people and deny the consequence of what he or she has done. So, the reason Holmes does not possess this trait is that Holmes still cares and loyal to the people that he knows, such as Dr. Watson, Gregson, and Lestrade, which is shown in the excerpt below:

“I am bound to say that I consider these men to be more than a match for the official force, and that is why I have not asked your assistance. If I fail I shall, of course, incur all the blame due to this omission; but that I am prepared for. At present I am ready to promise that the instant that I can communicate with you without endangering my own combinations, I shall do so.” (p. 123)

Here, Holmes explains that he already executes his plan to catch the culprit of

Enoch’s murder case, and he thinks that capturing the killer will be dangerous as the murderer is expected to have more physical strength than the police officer. By realizing how dangerous his plan is, Holmes says that he is ready to be blamed if things do not work as he planned before. Based on Holmes’s utterances, it can be inferred that he designs his plan carefully since he also thinks about the outcome of his own action, and he recognizes the responsibility that he must bear upon if his plan does not go well. So, he intends to do his plan alone since he does not want anybody hurt because of that.

Therefore, Holmes’s trait shown in the excerpt above signifies that he does not possess the sociopathic attributes of irresponsibility and failure to accept responsibility for own actions. This is proven by how Holmes still feels responsible for his action and he prepares to be blamed if anything happens because of the action that he does. Consequently, the points given for each sociopathic attributes is zero.

Discussion

In the novel, the author uses two ways to depict the characterization of Sherlock Holmes. First is through the internal focalization. As Genette (1980) asserts, every narrative must contain a narrator in order to make the story alive, In *A Study in Scarlet* (2013), Dr. Watson, the sidekick of Sherlock Holmes, is the one who narrates the novel from inside its story, which makes him categorized as homodiegetic narrator. Acting as a homodiegetic narrator makes him mainly describe the attitudes and the personality of the protagonist of the story, which is Sherlock Holmes. Since the present study aims to investigate sociopathic attributes assumed to be possessed by Holmes, it focuses on the narration of Dr. Watson concerning the characterization of Holmes which is directed to the suspicion of him being a sociopath. In depicting the assumed sociopathic traits of Holmes, Dr. Watson does not only rely on his own senses but he also filters the information of Holmes from another character named Stamford, an old friend of Dr. Watson who has been

working for Holmes for a long time. So, looking at the explanation of Genette (1980), the focalization used in *A Study in Scarlet* (2013) to depict sociopathic characteristics of Holmes is internal focalization because the knowledge of the character-focalizers (Dr. Watson and Stamford) concerning Sherlock Holmes is even and the focalizers can only explain the information that they get from their own senses.

The other method of portraying the sociopathic qualities of Holmes is by indirect characterization. The sociopathic traits of the protagonist are characterized by the other characters within the story through two subtypes of the indirect method: dialogue and character's behavior. Via dialogue, Dr. Watson filters all information concerning the attitudes of Holmes that he gets from the conversation between him and Stamford, and even from the statement that Sherlock Holmes uttered himself. Thus, the characterization by character's behavior involves the point of view of Dr. Watson as the narrator who sees all the actions that Holmes does and

then tells them to the readers. Therefore, Conan Doyle implies the indirect method of characterization in order to make the readers focus on the description of Sherlock Holmes's behavior through the perspective of Dr. Watson.

The method of analyzing the sociopathic attributes of fictional character, Sherlock Holmes in this case, used in the research is different from other previous studies of Sollid (2016) and Angraini (2016). In both studies, Sollid and Angraini treat the subject of their research, which are Sherlock Holmes and Louis Bloom, as real people. This is shown by how they apply the Hare's PCL-R (1998) and Grossman's (2015) theory of psychoanalysis without employing any literary theory. In the current research, the author treats the character of Sherlock Holmes as none other than a fictional character, and thus the author chooses to utilize Minderops' (2005) characterization method and Genette's (1980) Focalization theory as media to investigate the sociopathic attributes of the character.

The findings also show that the sociopathic attributes are constructed through the description from Dr. Watson and Stamford. Dr. Watson, as a person who just makes an acquaintance with Holmes, begins to observe Holmes's attitudes in both daily life setting and work situations. In the process of grasping the behaviors of his new colleague, Dr. Watson begins to suspect that Holmes might possess the characteristics of a sociopath. The reasons for this suspicion is that Holmes's actions resemble some attributes of a sociopath. Aside from seeing Holmes's activities directly, Dr. Watson's suspicion also comes from the description of Stamford, since he is already a colleague of Holmes for a long time.

Readers who may not be aware of the techniques of focalization and characterization will be more likely to follow Dr. Watson's and Stamford's speculation of Holmes being a sociopath without a second thought. Secondly, the traits revealed by Dr. Watson and Stamford are still on the surface since both of them act as internal focalizers who cannot follow

the thought of the protagonist of the story, that is Sherlock Holmes. Hence, further analysis is needed to reveal whether or not the traits belong to sociopathic attributes. In analyzing the assumed sociopathic attributes of Holmes, it is necessary to utilize theories of psychopathy or sociopathy, and one of the most reliable theories in those fields is Hare's (1998) Psychopathy Checklist-Revised. In order to see how the assumed sociopathic attributes are attached to the character of Sherlock Holmes, each presumed sociopathic traits that appear in the novel are evaluated with the scoring from the theory.

In the novel, only twelve sociopathic items from Hare's (1998) PCL-R theory that appear in the novel *A Study in Scarlet* (2013). The total score of the sociopathic attributes assumed to be possessed by Holmes is eleven, which is far below the points of twenty-two, the minimum score for a person to be categorized as a sociopath. Looking at the table, most of the sociopathic attributes that appear in the novel do not totally match with the personality of Holmes.

Thus, the assumption of Dr. Watson and Stamford concerning Holmes as a sociopath does not prove to be true. However, it seems that Holmes also cannot be classified as a normal individual either as the score for being in the 'normal' category is ranged from zero to seven.

The research also reveals new details of the related sociopathic attributes constructed in the novel of *A Study in Scarlet* (2013). First, the attributes of a sociopath are mostly constructed based on the suspicions of Dr. Watson and Stamford. Then, the results also point out that Conan Doyle, as the author of *A Study in Scarlet*, chooses to give Dr. Watson a vital role in characterizing Sherlock Holmes from his own perspective. This is shown by the way internal focalization and indirect characterization are implied to contribute in the character building of Sherlock Holmes.

The novel *A Study in Scarlet* (1887) is a popular fiction, as it contains the story of a fictional detective figure of Sherlock Holmes. Holmes is known as one of the most iconic figures in the literary world. It

can be seen from the character's frequent adaptation in many forms of work, such as films, stage plays, and animations (Imdb, 2016). Because of this, the emerging assumption of Holmes being a sociopath, which is based on the recent Sherlock Holmes's TV serial adaptation entitled *Sherlock* (2010), has stirred a controversy since the terms sociopath is commonly used with a negative connotation. This accusation might be dangerous because as stated by Koopman and Hakemulder (2015), literature can affect people in real life. Since Holmes is a famous the fictional detective, there is a big chance that he might influence his readers, and since Holmes is being suspected as a sociopath, this suspicion may be very dangerous for the people that admire him.

The dangers that might be posed to the readers if the stereotype of Holmes being a sociopath is proven true are either people may perpetuate the stereotype of sociopath or their minds may be affected by the idea that becoming a sociopath is a cool thing. This is attested to by Cooper and Hogg (2007, as cited in Koopman and

Hakemulder (2015 p. 4) who explains that "Observing a liked or admired individual ... engaging in attitude-inconsistent behaviors can trigger vicarious dissonance and motivate individuals to change their own attitudes to alleviate the resulting unease they experience." Consequently, people, especially Holmes's hardcore fan, might try to mimic the attribute of Holmes to cover up their true identity which they do not like. This occurrence is also what Kaufman and Libby (2015 p. 2) call as 'experience-taking', in which readers adopt particular aspects of the fictional character (such as personality, belief, and identity) and omit their attributes that they got since they were born. This can be classified as a dangerous situation if this happens to the fans of Sherlock Holmes, a character who is suspected to possess sociopathic traits. Even though Lykken (1995) said that not all sociopaths are risking others' lives, their attributes are still marked negatively. Therefore, in order to find the answer, the researcher utilized the Hare's (1998) Psychopathy Checklist-Revised as the main theory

since it is reliable in assessing a sociopath or a psychopath.

CONCLUSION

Drawing on the theory of Psychopathy Checklist-Revised by Hare (1998) and the categorization of Hare's PCL-R items by Scarlet (2011) in the analysis of the sociopathic attributes that are assumed to be owned by Holmes, the result shows that twelve traits of sociopath appear in the text. These sociopathic behaviors are: (1) grandiose sense of self-worth, (2) need for stimulation/proneness to boredom, (3) glibness/superficial charm, (4) parasitic lifestyle, (5) poor behavioral controls, (6) conning/manipulative, (7) shallow affect, (8) callousness and lack of empathy, (9) lack of realistic long-term goals, (10) irresponsibility, (11) failure to accept responsibility for own actions, and (12) impulsivity. Following the instruction of Hare's (1998) PCL-R theory, the scoring was done by looking at how relatable the sociopath items are attached to Holmes from the evidence in the text. Holmes's final score is eleven, which indicate that Holmes is classified

neither as a sociopath nor as a normal person. Nonetheless, he is an individual who is assumed to possess the characteristics that are related to the traits of being a sociopath, mostly by Dr. Watson and Stamford.

Overall, the assumption of Holmes being a sociopath is aroused from the suspicion of his new sidekick, Dr. Watson, and his old co-worker, Stamford. In *A Study in Scarlet* (2013), the assumed sociopathic attributes are indicated through the methods of internal focalization (Genette, 1980), which is from the perspective of a narrator and other characters within the story, and indirect characterization (Minderop, 2005), in the forms of dialogues and the character's behavior. Furthermore, the assumed attributes of a sociopath are proven to be nothing but excessive suspicion of Dr. Watson and Stamford because the Hare's (1998) PCL-R score of Sherlock Holmes is eleven, which is lower than the marked score of a sociopath, that is twenty-two. However, his score is also not in the category of normal person as it is above the score of a normal

individual, which is zero to six. Thus, it remains debatable whether or not Holmes can be considered as a normal person.

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