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*To*  
*My beloved Parents*  
*My lovely brothers and sisters*  
*All my best friends*

Pada hari ini, Kamis, 02 Agustus 2007, panitia ujian skripsi menerima dengan baik skripsi yang berjudul:

**Domestic Violence**  
**Reflected In the Play The Father**  
**By August Strindberg**

Yang diajukan dalam rangka memenuhi salah satu syarat akhir guna memperoleh gelar sarjana sastra, Jurusan Sastra Inggris pada Fakultas Sastra Universitas Hasanuddin.

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# SKRIPSI

## Domestic Violence

### Reflected In The Play The Father By August Strindberg

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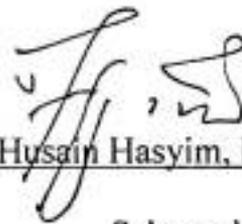
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Makassar, July 2007

**The writer**

## Abstrak

Skripsi ini berjudul *Domestic Violence Reflected in the play The Father by August Strindberg*. Dibimbing oleh Drs. M. Syafri Badaruddin, M.Hum dan Drs. Husain Hasyim, M.hum.

Tujuan penulisan skripsi ini adalah menjelaskan fungsi kedua orang tua dalam keluarga, menganalisis munculnya KDRT (Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga) yang terjadi dalam drama dan menjelaskan efek-efeknya bagi seluruh anggota keluarga.

Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif yaitu mengumpulkan data primer dengan melakukan pembacaan intensif objek penelitian agar dapat mengerti isi dan cerita drama. Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga (KDRT) yang terjadi dalam drama ditunjukkan dengan dialog yang diujarkan oleh para pelaku atau karakter dalam drama. Analisis ini dilakukan dengan cara mengkategorikan jenis KDRT dan menjelaskan efek-efeknya. Pendekatan yang digunakan untuk menganalisis objek penelitian adalah pendekatan strukturalisme genetik yaitu pendekatan yang menggunakan kedua unsur intrinsik dan ekstrinsik yang membangun karya sastra.

Hasil dari analisis penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa peranan kedua orang tua tidak berfungsi secara optimal nampak bahwa hubungan antara The Captain dan Laura tidak ada kerja sama dan saling memahami sehingga terjadi pertengkaran dan kekerasan dalam rumah tangga baik secara psikologis ataupun secara fisik. Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga muncul ketika adanya selisih paham antara The Captain dan Laura. Efek-efek yang dimunculkan oleh Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga yaitu gangguan secara psikologis, trauma, ketakutan, depresi hingga akhirnya meninggal. Dari hasil analisis ini menunjukkan bahwa The Captain adalah orang yang menderita kekerasan secara psikologis dan akhirnya meninggal, Laura adalah orang yang menderita kekerasan secara fisik, Bertha adalah anak perempuan dari Captain dan Laura yang mengalami kekerasan psikologis karena ancaman pembunuhan, Doctor Ostermark, pastor, the nurse dan beberapa pembantu rumah tangga adalah orang yang menyelesaikan masalah kekerasan yang terjadi.

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# Chapter I

## Introduction

### 1.1 Background

There are many definitions of literature. Every opinion or argument that is uttered depends on to the each people point of view concern with it. Furthermore, all definitions are accepted and corrected. Some people say that literature is the imaginative work, while other people argue that literature is the social document because literary work reflects events in which the fact that happened at the time. In other word, literature is the history which is in form of literary works.

Literary works consist of poetry, fiction and play. According to William Wordsworth (1988:93), the definition of poetry is the best words in the best order. Therefore, we can say that poetry is made by notice diction that is used so that the aesthetic value could be defended constantly. While, fiction is the literary work which form is story, arranged in several events that happened only on imagination or fantasy. Afterwards, the definition of play is the one of literary work which is in form of the story that is performed on the stage.

In this research, the writer chooses the play because it attracts emotion of audience means that the play gives strong emotional influence rather than other literary works because the events that is performed is watched directly by the audience. It is reason why emotional influence of

play more strong than fiction. In fiction, we just imagine the events without seeing it immediately. Moreover, the emotional influence will be stronger, if it is supported by the best figure and decoration of stage.

*The Father* is the play which examines how the woman can psychologically destroy the stronger. It is a tragedy play which tells about the woman who drives her husband to insanity by making him doubt that he is not the father of their child. While, the father concerns for developing the child, he wants to rescue the child from environment of the mother who is interested to possession of the child. The father wants his daughter to be a teacher as a career for her future so she will be able to support herself although she unmarried, then if she marries she can use her knowledge in the education of her children. His wife is narrow, selfish and unscrupulous. She fights the man with every means at her command, even to the point of instilling the poison of doubt into his mind by hints that he is not the father of the child. Not only she seeks to drive her husband mad, but also through skillful intrigue she leads every one, including doctor, to believe that he is actually insane.

*The Father* is the kind of family play so that the writer concerns with the problem of domestic violence that happened in the play. Domestic violence is behavior that intimates or hurts partner, children and another member of family. Violence is done in several ways such as beat or speaks

rude to the partner. In this play the writer finds a behavior as mentioned above so that domestic violence becomes a title of this research.

## **1.2 Identification of Problem**

Based on the background mentioned above, then the writer has identified some problems relating to title of the research:

- The role of wife in household
- Wife makes husband become insane
- Decisions are dominated by husband
- Psychological depression that is suffered by husband
- Misunderstanding between husband and wife
- Disagreement between husband and wife concern with education of their daughter.
- A wife is suppressed by husband..

## **1.3 Scope Of Problem**

In this writing, the writer focuses on Domestic Violence which is reflected in the play. The Father is kind of family play. It tells about The Captain's family which has disorganized relation between family member so that violence at home appears easily.

#### **1.4 Statement Of Problem**

In relevance to the scope of the problem then the writer formulates some problems as follows:

- How is the role of wife and husband in household?
- How does domestic violence happen in the play?
- What are the effects of domestic violence to each characters in the play?

#### **1.5 Objectives Of The Research**

- To describe the role of wife and husband that is reflected in the play
- To analyze the appearance of domestic violence the play
- To find the effect of domestic violence in the play

After the writer explains a background and determines the identification of problem, scope of problem, statement of problem and objective of the research then the writer will use some base theories to complete this research. It will be explained in the chapter II.

## **Chapter II**

### **Literature Review**

#### **2.1 Previous Study**

1. Safril Natsir, Muhammad. 2005. His thesis entitled *The Study of Characters in August Strindberg's "The Father"*. His thesis focuses on how is the character in the story then identify how the main characters involved the plot.

The different between this thesis and Safril's thesis is scope of problem. He focuses on the studying characters in the play whereas this thesis explains about domestic violence which appears in the play.

#### **2.2 Theoretical Background**

##### **2.2 The Structuralism - Genetic Approach**

The structuralism genetic is the combination approach between structural approach and sociological approach. The structural approach or intrinsic approach is the crucial aspects to build up literary work, consist of plots, setting, theme and character. Whereas, Sociological or extrinsic approach is the supporting aspects to complete a work, including social, culture, religion and politic.

#### **2.3 Definition of Play**

Play is a genre of literary work which is different from fiction. Kennedy (1991:951) states that it is a work of story telling in which actors

represents the characters. It is addressed not to spectators and it is written to be presented on the stage.

As a genre of literary work, it also describes the life of human being and their activities by using the main elements so called action and dialogue among the characters. Another definition of play comes from Raske (1966:5) as follows:

*Play is a work of literary work or composition which delineates life and human activity by means of presenting various action of and dialogue between a group of characters. Play is furthermore designed for theatrical presentation that is although we speak of play as a literary work or a composition, we must never forget that play is designed to be acted on a stage.*

Related to the early history of play, the first play originated as the presentation of dialogue in religious celebration with some rituals, which was performed in church. In development play then performed its story outside the church with various story and theme.

There are elements that build up a play. They are theme, plot, setting, characters, dialogue and setting. They do not stand in isolation, in other word; they are related to another in building up the story in play. Therefore, we have to choose which elements to apply in our writing to get a good analysis.

### **2.3.1 Kinds Of Play**

Basically, the play is divided into two kinds such as, comedy and tragedy play. Each play tells about the problem or conflict. The theme of

tragedy play is gloomy and serious while the comedy play is funny, bright and clear. However, the structures that arrange are the same. Every play is to begin with "introduction" to explain the first situation on the play. Second, "complication" this part showing the complicate problem that is happening then "climax" the condition are determined where tragedy play has an aggravating condition while respectable condition in comedy play. After that getting way for "solving problem" to come out from the conflict. Finally, "ending story" where this part is determined it is happy or unhappy.

### **2.3.1 a. Tragedy Play**

Tragedy play is the play sad ending. The story is serious and ending in death. Tragedy play makes audience being washed away to the strength and enthusiasm of character which is struggle for life. In tragedy play, the action is running naturally without coincidentally act. In other word, the act that performed is natural, everything is going orderly.

### **2.3.1b. Comedy Play**

The main function of comedy play is to entertain and make the audience happy to feel it. The appearance of this play because serious act make into funny act so that the audience become laugh and glad.

## **2.4 Gender and Violence**

Nowadays, there are many a mass materials that is written by women and men who identify as feminist. This material is diverse and it

is more appropriate to talk about feminist theories than refer to this material as homogenous. Despite the complexity and diversity of feminist thought, literature does refer to feminist theory or state that a position is a feminist one. This may be due to not wishing to interrupt the text with qualifications or it may be because 'feminists' are seen to have some common ground or share at least some assumptions.

Basically, feminist position starts with a validation of women's experience, expresses anger at the range of victim-blaming stances and is determined to locate the abuse of women in its historical and political context as part of the systematic subjugation of women" Walker (1990:83). He said that there are three themes common to feminist approaches to knowledge regarding domestic violence, as follow:

1. Authority to speak is given to women who have *experienced* the abuse.
2. There is a focus on the social context and the personal is politicized in this context
3. In generally, domestic violence is understood to be intrinsic to a system of male supremacy or patriarchy.

The researchers in the field of domestic violence who identify as feminist focus on gender to explain the problem of violence. Some feminists in the field view unequal relationships between men and women to be the most important cause of violence while accepting that other

causes exist. Others, however, convey that violence is caused exclusively by male dominance in the home and that 'a feminist approach' sufficiently explains domestic violence

#### **2.4.1 Feminism**

The reason feminism rises because woman realizes that they are suppressed by man in all matters. Nancy F. Cot wrote in her book "The Grounding of Modern Feminism" (1987:5) about definition of feminism contains of 3 (three) components, they are:

1. Right inequality based on sex
2. Social construction that harmful woman
3. Abolished sex and gender difference.

#### **2.4.2 Feminism Thoughts**

A feminism thought explains about oppression to the woman, the reason, effect and solve the problem to get freedom from violence against woman. Rosemarie Tong in her book *Feminist Thought* (1989:125) that make difference about each thought, as follow:

1. Liberal Feminism, this movement demanded equality in education.
2. Marxist Feminism, demanded an equality in a occupation or job
3. Radical Feminism, demanded an equality about sex biologically
4. Psychoanalytic Feminism, rejected a label which is claim that woman is uncompleted human (Sigmund Freud)

5. Social Feminism, combination movement of Marxist feminism, radical feminism and psychoanalytic feminism
6. Existential feminism, rejected a human difference
7. Post Modern Feminism, rejected patriarchy system in society

## **2.5. Family**

Family is the basic unit in society that consists of father and mother as a parent to rear the children. A classic definition of family, according to anthropologist George Murdock (1949:1) is a social group characterized by common residence, economic cooperation and reproduction. It includes adults of both sexes, at least two of whom maintain a socially approved sexual relationship and one or more children, own or adopted of the sexually cohabiting adults.

Family has the primary function of reproducing; biologically, sociologically or both society. From the perspective of children, the family functions as a family orientation: the family serves to locate children socially, and plays a major role in their enculturation and socialization. From the point of view of the family serves as a family of procreation with the goal of producing, enculturation and socializing children.

Family in societies has also differentiated between nuclear and extended families. A nuclear family is composed of two parents and their offspring living together. An extended family includes the nuclear family plus other members of one or both parent's family. The nuclear family

typifies the middle class because the breadwinner earns enough to support the family without the financial help of other family members; the extended family is more commonly found among the working class and poor, since several generations or the members of the same generation tend to live together out of economic necessity. Many middle class families lived in some form of extended; particularly those including two married members, their children and one or more grandparent

## **2.6. Domestic Violence**

According to the free encyclopedia such as (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/d-v> 2007) define domestic violence is physical, sexual, economic or psychological abuse directed towards one spouse, partner or other family member within the household. Domestic violence as abusive behavior- emotional, psychological, physical or sexual that one person in an intimate relationship uses in order to control the other. It takes many different forms and includes behaviors such as threats, name – calling, preventing contact with family or friends, withholding money, actual or threatened physical harm and sexual assault.

Domestic violence sometimes referred to as domestic abuse occurs when a family member, partner or ex-partner attempts to physically or psychologically dominate or harm the other. Popular emphasis has tended to be on women as the victims of domestic violence although with the rise

of some advocacy for men as victims, the statistics concerning the number of male victims in domestic violence.

Violence grow up in society especial in family as domestic violence because of hierarchy system, is the system with grades of authority or status from the lowest to the highest ( Oxford Dictionary 1995:580 ). In this system a highest group has potential to do violence act to suppress a lowest group. This structure rises in variety aspects such as economy, social- politic, social-culture, religion aspect, old aspect and sexual aspect.

### **2.6.1. Types of Domestic Violence**

According to free encyclopedia (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/D-V#Defenition> retrieved at March 17 2007) divided that there are three major types of intimate partner violence:

1. ***Physical violence*** is the intentional use of physical force with the potential for causing injury, harm, disability or death, For example: hitting, shoving, biting, restraint, kicking or use of weapon.

#### **2. *Sexual Violence and Incest***

Sexual violence and incest are divided into three categories:

- Use of physical force to compel person to engage in a sexual act against their will whether or not the act is completed.
- Attempted or completed sex act involving person who is enable to understand the nature or condition of the act, unable to decline participation, or unable to communicate

unwillingness to engage in the sexual act. For example: because of illness, disability or the influence of alcohol or the drugs or because of intimidation or pressure.

- Abusive sexual contact

### *3. Physiological Violence*

- Threats of physical, psychological or sexual or social violence that use words, gestures or weapons to communicate the intent cause death, disability, injury, physical or psychological harm.
- Psychological or emotional violence involves violence to the victim caused by acts, threats of acts, or coercive tactics. Psychological or emotional abuse can include, but is not limited, humiliating the victim, controlling what the victim can and cannot do, withholding information from the victim, deliberately doing something to make the victim feel diminished or embarrassed, isolating the victim from friends and family, and denying the victim access to money or other basic resources. One partner uses violence along with emotional and physiological abuse to maintain control over the other.

- Relational aggression is a form of psychological or social aggression that uses various forms of falsehood, secrecy and gossip to commit covert violence.
- Parental alienation is another form of covert violence where children are used as a weapon of war by one parent to alienate the other parent.

### **2.6.2. Causes of Domestic Violence**

There are many different theories as to the causes of domestic violence. As with many phenomena regarding human experience, no single approach appears to cover all cases. Identified and proposed causes include a need for power and control, a form of bullying and social learning of abuse. Abusers' efforts to dominate their partners have been attributed to low self-esteem or feelings of inadequacy, unresolved hostility and resentment toward women, hostility and resentment toward men, personality disorders, genetic tendencies and social-cultural influences, among other possible causative factors. Most authorities seem to agree that abusive personalities result from a combination of several factors.

Factors associated with domestic violence also include substance abuse, mental illness, class, various political and legal characteristics such as authoritarianism and dehumanization. Abuse relates to men's capacity to devalue women. If we can stop a man devaluing his partner

he will stop abusing her. Devaluation is defined as seeing someone in negative ways as not being attractive, as being vicious, dangerous, threatening.

#### **2.6.2.1 Class**

Abuse in poor families low-income perpetrators are more likely to be arrested who have the social and financial wherewithal to evade public exposure. Domestic violence is more prevalent among poor families than wealthier ones, only that the population most readily available for study is predominantly low-income. It seems premature to conclude that poverty is an important *causative* factor in domestic violence or that domestic violence *causes* poverty.

#### **2.6.2.2 Power and Control**

Basically, domestic violence is the strategy to gain or maintain power and control over the victim.

An alternative view is that abuse arises from powerlessness and externalizing or projecting this and attempting to exercise control of the victim. It is an attempt to 'gain or maintain power and control over the victim' but even in achieving this it cannot resolve the powerlessness driving it. Such behaviors have addictive aspects leading to a cycle of abuse or violence. Mutual cycles develop when each party attempts to resolve their own powerlessness in attempting to assert control..

### **2.6.2.3 Sex and Gender**

Modes of abuse are thought by some to be gendered, females tending to use more psychological and men more physical forms. The visibility of these differs markedly. However, experts who work with victims of domestic violence have noted that physical abuse is almost invariably preceded by psychological abuse. Police and hospital admission records indicate that a higher percentage of females than males seek treatment and report such crimes.

Unless or until more men identify themselves and go on record as having been abused by female partners, and in a manner whereby the nature and extent of their injuries can be clinically assessed, men will continue to be identified as the most frequent perpetrators of physical and emotional violence.

### **2.6.2.4 Social Stress**

Stress may be increased when a person is living in a family situation, with increased pressures. Social stresses, due to inadequate finances or other such problems in family may further increase tensions. Violence is not always caused by stress, but may be one way that some (but not all) people respond to stress.

### **2.6.2.5 Dependency**

Woman who depends on to the spouses for economic well. Having children to take care of, she should leave the marriage, increase the financial burden and makes it all the more difficult for women to leave. Dependency means that women have fewer options and fewer resources to help them cope with or change their spouse's behavior.

## Chapter III Methodology

In this chapter, the writer is going to explain the method used to analyze the play *The Father* by August Strindberg. There are three methods that the writer uses namely; techniques of collecting data, techniques of data analysis and research procedure. Each of these methods will be explained as follows:

### 3.1 Research Design

Research design is the process that is needed in the implementation of research.

This process is preceded by comprehension to the result of research that is relevant to the novel, for example comprehension of the author that influences the story and he other aspects which related to the analysis. Then the writer formulates the method that is going to be used in analyzing of the play.

### 3.2 Techniques of Collecting Data

There are two kinds of techniques of collecting data such as primary data and secondary data, they are described below.

#### a. Primary Data

Primary data is the main data that resource of its in the play *The father* by august Strindberg. To make easy to

understand the data the writer takes some steps way as follow:

1. Reading data carefully then understand them.
2. Investigating the events in the play.
3. Determining the focus which is interest.

#### **b. Secondary Data**

Secondary data is any resources of information except of the novel. It can be reference from many other disciplinary, which might be used to get better understanding of the primary data. The data acquired by reading books related with the subject of study. Some articles of professional writer and scholar on history, literature and cultural studies were also obtained to make the study more reliable. In addition some selected internet files of trusted and reliable website, providing the latest issues on the study, were considered as one of the most important references.

### **3.3 Techniques of Data Analysis**

In analyzing data, there are three main techniques or methods used to reach the objectives. First, to categorize or classify the data according to the broad theme or topic. Second, to display the data on the table as seen in the appendix and the third is to draw a conclusion

### **3.3 Research Procedures**

The procedures of the research are as follows:

1. Doing closed reading as a primary data.
2. Making notes all problems and other supporting ideas of the play.
3. Making a note about the intrinsic elements related to the main objectives.
4. Making a formulation of problems and other supporting ideas based on the focus of the study.
5. Collecting related data then making a classification of them according to the objectives of the study.
6. Analyzing the data and answering the scope of problem that have been formulated in the first chapter.
7. Concluding the result of the study.

## Chapter IV Analysis

### 4.1 Characterization

Most of us consider that plot is the most crucial element in a story, when everyone reading a story, they will enjoy all of the events that happened in the story. They are careless about the characters in story, whereas it will be known that the characters in a story have very important roles because it is portrayed human nature in action. Therefore, the characters must be the first concern before care about what happen to them.

Particularly, all elements in the stories have symbolic meaning, characters may also be symbols then our concern are directed those ideas or qualities that are represented. The characters are described in physical appearance, actions or conversations.

Before moving on to further discussion, the writer will give a little explain about the character. The characters persons or personified ones who act or appears, endowed with moral and dispositional qualities that are expressed in what he or she does or is referred to in a work of drama. There are eight characters that will be discussed in this writing they are The Captain, Laura, Bertha, Doctor Ostermark, the Pastor, the Nurse, Nojd and The Orderly.

## 4.2. Character Profile

### 1. The Captain

Captain is the major character. He is the cavalry captain and scientist. He is Bertha's father and Laura's husband. He is described as a man of ideas, an intellect and a freethinker. He is interested in researching an astronomical discovery, his time is spent to research than Army duties. It can be seen in dialogue below between Captain and Doctor Ostermark.

Doctor : *How do you do, Captain. It's great honour to meet such a distinguished scientist.*

Captain : *Oh please! Unfortunately, my military duties don't give me much time for research..... All the same, I do believe I am now on the brink of a rather exciting discovery.*

(Strindberg, 1887: I: 21 )

Besides can also see in another Captain's dialogue with Bertha about research which reflects his intellectual and his ideas below.

Laura : *That you can't work miracles.*

Captain : *I never said I could. You know meteorites are, don't you? stones that fall from other heavenly bodies. Well, I examine these and see if they contain the same elements as the earth. That's all I do.*

(Strindberg, 1887, I: 25 )

Another Captain's character is freethinker; a person who has not a faith. He believes in himself. He thinks that he can be independently; often he is ridiculous Pastor and old nurse's faith. It is reflected in dialogue below.

Pastor : *So now you want me to preach to him. How much impression do you think God's word is likely to make in trooper?.*

Captain : *Well, my dear in brother in law, it makes none at all on me, as you know, but.....*

(Strindberg, 1887,I:9 )

Nurse : *Aye, luckier than you, Mr. Adolf. Humble your heart and you will see how happy God will make you in your love for your neighbor.*

Captain : *Isn't it strange- as soon as you mention God and love, your voice grows hard and your eyes fill with hate. No, Margaret, I'm sure you haven't found the true faith.*

(Strindberg, 1887, I: 24 )

## 2. Laura

Laura is the one of minor character in the play. She is Captain's wife and Bertha's mother. She is an antagonism against to the Captain. She is described as an unscrupulous woman; unmoral people. She does everything to gains her ambition according to her mind. Her bad attitude rises when she and Captain are fighting about Bertha's future. She wants Bertha should not leave home for school because she wants Bertha to be an artist while the Captain wants Bertha goes out from home for school and to be a teacher so that she can support herself to live longer even though she does not getting married. Therefore, Laura finds out one way to make Captain falls down by spreading gossip that her husband is insane so that he is not having any rights for her children. This case can be seen in the dialogue below.

Captain : *Yes, you have a fiendish power of getting your own way, like all people who are unscrupulous about the means they employ. How, for instance, did you get rid of .....*

Laura : *Yes, how did I ?*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 27 )

Another Laura's character is strong-willed woman. It is reflected in Pastor's argument, when he persuades Laura to forgive her husband. It is reflected in dialogue below.

Pastor : *How strong-willed you are, Laura, how amazingly strong willed like a fox in a trap that would gnaw of its own leg rather than be caught like a master-thief working alone, without even a conscience for accomplice.....*

(Strindberg,1887,III: 47 )

The strong willed character of Laura is also reflected in the way she makes her husband drop, she talked their doctor family about Captain's mental condition, it appears in her dialogue with the Doctor Ostermark below.

Doctor : *You are making me most uneasy. Whatever your trouble, Madam, you can confide in me.*

Laura : *Taking out her handkerchief. My husband's mind is affected. Now you know, and later on you will be able to judge for yourself.*

(Strindberg,1887,I:19 )

### **3. Bertha**

Bertha is the Captain's daughter. She is the one of minor character. She is about seventeen. She is described as submissive girl; people who can accept advice other people easily without expressing her opinion. In

this case, she can accept any advice easily from other people without thinking her real willingness. As a child, she wants to make her parent have loved each other. She does not want her parents are in disagreement about her future. This case can be found in her dialogue when she and the Captain talked, she asked to Captain to make an agreement with her mother.

Captain : *My darling, my beloved child!*

Bertha : *But, father, listen. You must be kind to mother. She often cries.*

.....

Captain : *Hm! ..... well now, if you want this and I want it and she does not want it, what are we to do then ?*

Bertha : *Oh, then the fuse will begin all over again! Why can't you both.....*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 26 )

#### 4. Doctor Ostermark

Doctor Ostermark is the one of minor character, too. He is the Captain's family doctor. He replaces doctor Norlings. He is decent and reliable man. This fact can be seen in Pastor's opinion.

Pastor : *I caught a glimpse of him on my way here looks decent and reliable sort of man.*

(Strindberg,1887,I:14 )

There are other things about doctor Ostermark. He is a man with a high responsibility about his work and always puts his patient at the first

priority. He always beware and be careful in facing each problem which he faces. This fact can be seen in the following quotation.

Laura : *Yes, there is a lot of illness about just now, but I hope all the same that you will find this place suit for you.....*

.....  
Doctor : *You are too kind dear lady I hope, however, for your sake that my visits here will not often be of a professional nature. I take it that the health of your family is, on the whole good and that .....*

(Strindberg,1887,I:18 )

## 5. The Pastor

The Pastor is the one of minor character in the play. He is Laura's brother. He is a religious man. His physical appearance is not described enough. His personal description is mediator person; people who is being a peacemaker when conflict arises. He uses a religious knowledge to solve a problem. It can be found on his dialogue with the Captain when they solved Nojd's trouble, such as he does not recognized to marry with the one of the Captain's servant girl.

Pastor : *So now you want me to preach to him. How much impression do you think God's word is likely to make on a trooper ?*

Captain : *Well my dear brother in law, it makes none at all on me, as you knew, but.....*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 21 )

His mediator attitudes are showed in the other dialogue when he and the Captain talking about Captain's problem with his wife. The

Captain and his wife are in disagreement about Bertha's future; their daughter. Below is the Pastor's dialogue as a mediator in the Captain and Laura's fighting

Pastor : *What is it you want Bertha to do that's such a bone of contention?. Can't you come to some agreement?*

Captain : *Don't think I want to turn her into a prodigy-or into some image of myself.*

(Strindberg,1887,I:13 )

## 6. The Nurse

The nurse is the minor character, too. Her real name is Margaret. She had been working for the Captain since he was still child. The fact is that, Nurse has had a like a mother for the Captain, She has known the Captain very close and after the Captain married Laura, she still lived with him. Margaret loved and cared about the Captain and she always wanted the best for him. This case can be seen in her dialogue and Captain below.

Nurse : *Don't you believe I want what's the best for you, Mr. Adolf ?..*

.....

Captain : *Margaret, you are not my friend.*

Nurse : *Not your friend! Ah God, what are you saying, Mr. Adolf ? Do you think I ever forget you were my baby when you were little ?*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 23 )

Nurse : *.....Mr. Adolf, do you remember when you were my dear little boy, and I used to tuck you up at night and say your prayer with you?.....*

(Strindberg,1887,III: 52-53 )

More about Margaret, she is religious old woman. When the Captain put himself into the battle, Margaret felt that it was not important for both of them torment the lives out of each other because Margaret felt, Captain and his wife is a good and kind person and they should find other way to solve the problem. It is reflected in her dialogue with the Captain below.

.....  
Nurse : *Then listen, Mr. Adolf couldn't you go halfway to meet mistress in all this bother over the child? Think of a mother....,*

.....  
Captain : *While you and the Baptist have found the one true faith, eh? You are lucky.*

Nurse : *Aye, luckier than you, Mr. Adolf. Humble your heart and you will see how happy God will make you in your love for your neighbor*

(Strindberg,1887, I: 23-24 )

Nurse : *Humble your stubborn heart, Mr. Adolf, and cry to God for mercy! Even now it's not too late. It wasn't too late for the thief on the cross, for our saviour said: "to-day shalt thou be with me in paradise*

(Strindberg,1887,III: 54 )

## 7. Nojd

Nojd is the one of minor character in the play. His personal description is stubborn man; people who difficult to persuade. He is the Captain's housekeeper. To solve a problem, he always found out the real reason which can support his behavior, he will make an agreement if he thinks that it is true. We can see it in his dialogue with the Captain. In

this fact he does not want to marry with Emma; the one of Captain's servant girl because he thought that he was not the only one who made her pregnant. He needed a logic reason to clear that case. Below is the dialogue

Pastor : *One moment, Nojd. Ahem. Don't you think it's rather a dirty trick to leave a girl destitute with a child like that ?*

Nojd : *Yes, if I knew. I was the father, it would be, but I tell you, Pastor, you never can know that. And it wouldn't be much fun slaving all your life for another chap's brat.*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 11 )

He is described as a troublemaker man; people who always make a trouble in all matters. Below is the dialogue.

Captain : *Oh, the ruffian's been at his tricks again with one of the servant girl! He's damn nuisance, that fellow!*

Pastor : *Was it Nojd you said ? Didn't he give some trouble back in the spring ?*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 9 )

## 8. Orderly

Orderly is the minor character in the play. His real name is Svard. He is the other Captain's housekeeper. He is an offensive man; a person who is never say objection for all matters. He always followed what his boss said although he disliked or uncomforted to do all commands. Below is the Orderly's dialogue with The Captain, it is happened when Captain was being mad with the Nurse so that the Captain called him.

Captain : Rising. *Get out woman! To hell with the hags! At hall door. Svard! Svard!*

Orderly : Entering. *Yes, sir ?*

(Strindberg, 1887, I: 29)

#### **4.3 Role of husband and wife in the play**

As the writer has explained in the second chapter that family consists of father, mother and children. In household, each member of family has to realize their role. The role of father in household is the head of family. In this case, he should lead and educate all member of family into right way. The other role of father is a breadwinner for family, father has to be able give a good life for family by working because a household will ruin and break if has not enough a financial support.

After the writer explained about the role of husband, now, the writer explains about wife function. As the writer has explained before that the father is the leader in family means that the other member of family has to obey with husband's command include wife but this function must run in the right way according to the law, religion and culture. It is because father has responsibility to protect family, care their safety, and provides sustenance for member of family. He could not command as he wishes. Wife function is caring husband, children and home. A wife has a big responsibility for home and family especially caring children because family is the first environment for developing children; character, attitude

and habit. However, nowadays the role of wife has changed when the woman movement risen which is purpose to free woman from man under press a wife also can be a breadwinner to support family financial but home duties for wife must be the first concerning with have an ideal family.

After the writer reading Strindberg's play which entitled *The Father*, the writer finds that Captain's family is an extended family that consists of Captain (husband), Laura (wife), Bertha (daughter), Captain's mother in law, Captain's old nurse, Nojd and Orderly. It means that the Captain has to have amount income for family because he is the one of breadwinner. It can be seen on Captain's dialogue with Laura (his wife), when she asked about housekeeping money.

Laura : Entering from the next. *Will you please.....*

Captain : *One moment!- Sixty-six, seventy one, eighty-four, eighty nine, ninety-two, a hundred. What is it?*

Laura : *Am I disturbing you?*

Captain : *Not in the least. Housekeeping money, I suppose?*

Laura : *Yes Housekeeping money.*

(Strindberg, 1887, I: 15 )

The mistake of husband and wife in this play is they could not be cooperative each other to drive household. The cooperation between husband and wife will produce an ideal family or in the other word that a husband and wife have to be a partner each other. In this play, the writer

finds that husband has dominated household matter, he tends to have control over to drive household. He does not realize that his wife also has a function in household. As a father, the Captain has fulfilled his role as a breadwinner in family but he is too dominated household matter so that his wife depress because of him. Actually, the main problem in their household is dispute about their daughter's future. They could not be disagreement each other whereas children have rights to determine what she want, what she want to be. For this case, can seen in Captain's dialogue with his wife:

Laura : *But supposing the father and mother were to decide things together...?*

Captain : *How would that work out? I want to her to live in town; you want her to live at home. The mathematical mean would be for her to stop at the railway station, midway between home and town. It's deadlock.*

(Strindberg,1887,I:16 )

#### **4.4 Domestic Violence in the Play**

In this part, the writer shows the appearance of domestic violence in the play. As the writer explains in the second chapter that domestic violence is the behavior to intimate or to harm the partner including wife, children, housekeeper and the other family members. Domestic violence divided into 3 (three) types. First is physical violence, the second is sexual violence and the third is physiological violence. However, after the writer read the play, the writer found only 2 (two) types of domestic violence

such as physical violence and physiological violence. Besides, there are 5 (five) the reasons of appearance violence at home such as; class, power and control, sex and gender, social and stress and dependency.

#### 4.4.1 Physical Violence in the Play

Basically, perpetrator of violence at home has a bad experience previously when she or he grow up, so, there is an imitating process from their experience, then, they admire to do revenge act with target their partner or family including wife, husband, children and housekeeper where in generally, the victim is woman. Physical violence is the violence which is hitting directly the partner, kicking, throwing out things or using weapon that can harm, disability or death.

When the writer has read the play, the writer found that the Captain as major character in the play has a bad experience previously. When he was born, he was alienated by his parent, his birth unwilling by them so that his youth is unhappy. Besides, his sister becomes an enemy for him. In fact, if someone feels unaccepted in a community or family he or she will be depressed, fearful, revengeful and too sensitive for anything. By his bad experience he becomes hate woman, he wants all women conquer to him, if they are disagree with him they will being an enemy, in this case refer to his wife. For more further can be seen in dialogue below.

Laura : *Weep. Then, my child, and you shall have your mother again. Remember, it was as your second mother that I came into your life. You were big and strong, yet not fully*

*a man. You were a giant child who had come into the world too soon, or perhaps an unwanted child.*

Captain :*That's true. My father and mother had me against their will, and therefore I was born without a will. That is why, when you and I become one, I felt I was completing myself.....*

(Strindberg,1887,I:41 )

.....  
Captain : *Yes, I do. I believe all you women are my enemies. My mother did not want me to come into the world because my birth would give her pain. She was my enemy. She robbed my embryo of nourishment, so I was born incomplete. My sister was my enemy when she made me knuckle under to her.....*

(Strindberg,1887, III: 54 )

The appearance of physical violence between husband and wife in the play is when they are discussed about Bertha's future. There are competence power between husband and wife to win Bertha's molding, each of them does not want to give in, they could not have an agreement reached, Laura still on her opinion to have possession of the child by saying that Bertha is not Captain's daughter which make he fall down. Then, the Captain attempt to offering a peace to his wife with reason Laura has to withdraw her statement before, and free him from a doubtful about Bertha's parentage. He begged Laura to give in, however, she did not agree because she hated Captain, so that she wanted revenge to against the Captain, besides that she wanted to control Captain's wealth and get divorce soon while her husband disagree with that by reason their child. For more further it can be seen in dialogue below.

Captain : *By behaving in this way you have made me so full of suspicion that my judgment is fogged and my mind is beginning to stray..... If I go to pieces, I shall have to leave the service, and where will you be then? If I die, you get my life insurance. But if I take my own life, you get nothing. It is therefore to your advantage that I should live my life out.*

Laura : *Then you give in?*

Captain : *No, I offer peace.*

Laura : *On what terms?"*

Captain : *That I may keep my reason. Free me from doubt and I will give the fight.*

.....

Laura : *Why didn't we separate sooner?*

Captain : *Because the child bound us..."*

(Strindberg,1887,II: 38-39 )

As the writer has explained before that Physical violence is the directly act which is can be harm the partner. In this play, the writer found that the Captain did it by throwing out the lighted lamps to his wife. This case reflected in dialogue below.

Laura : *recreating. Your own. The one in which you told the doctor you were mad. He stares at her in silence. Now you have fulfilled the unfortunately necessary functions of a father and a breadwinner. You are not longer needed and you must go. You must go, now that you realize my wits are as strong as my will-you won't want to stay and knowledge my superiority.*

The captain goes to the table, pick up the lighted lamp and throws it at Laura, who escapes backward through the door.

(Strindberg,1887,II:43-44 )

The other physical violence reflected in the play is when the Captain angry with his daughter (Bertha) who said to the Captain that he is not her father which makes Captain becomes annoyance to hear it; he thinks that Bertha is an accomplice with Laura to make the Captain fall down, then, Captain took a revolver and tried to kill Bertha. It can be seen in dialogue below.

Captain : *Never! I am a cannibal, you see, and I'm going to eat you. Your mother wanted to eat me, but she didn't succeed. I am Saturn who devoured his children because it was foretold that otherwise they would devour him. To eat you or to be eaten-that is the question. If I don't eat you, you will eat me-you've shown your teeth already. Goes to the rack. Don't be afraid, my darling child. I shan't hurt you. Takes down a revolver.*

Bertha : *Dodging away from him. Help! Mother, help! He wants to kill me.*

(Strindberg, 1887, III: 52 )

However, he does not succeed to kill her daughter because the cartridge of revolver has removed by Nurse which makes Captain to be mad at her.

#### 4.4.2 Physiological Violence in the Play

Physiological violence is violence by using mental attack to harm the partner; it can be threat psychological that uses words, gestures or weapons to communicate the intent. Psychological violence or emotional abuse can include, humiliating the victim, controlling what the victim can and cannot do, withholding information from the victim, deliberately

doing something to make the victim feel diminished or embarrassed, isolating the victim from friends and family, and denying the victim access to money or other basic resources. One partner uses violence along with emotional and physiological abuse to maintain control over the other. Generally, the physiological violence in the play is to speak in a bad manner or impolite.

Physiological violence in the play appear when the Captain and Pastor found a solution of Nojd's problem; makes Emma (one of the Captain's servant girl) pregnant, then he did not want to marry her because he thinks that he is not the only one who plays with her. It makes the Captain angry with Nojd so that the Captain did not realize to do a physiological act with Nojd by speaking in a bad manner or using word which is rude and impolite. For more further, it can be seen in dialogue below.

Nojd : *Yes, if I knew that I was the father, it would be, but I tell you, Pastor, you can never know that.....*

Captain : *That will do, Noj".*

Nojd : *Yes, sir, thank you, sir.*

Captain : *And keep out of the kitchen, you scoundrel.*  
(Strindberg,1887,I:11 )

This dialogue shows the physiological act by using an impolite word which is influenced by emotion; it can be hurt the partner's feeling. Usually someone will speak rude if he or she feels hate each other. In this

case the Captain dislikes and disagrees with Nojd's decision who does not want to be responsible with Emma; he did not feel pity for her. Besides, Nojd is the impolite servant so that he did everything what he wanted without thinking other people feeling.

The other physiological violence that is reflected in the play is when Captain and Laura dispute about Bertha's future; they are in disagreement each other. Physiological violence appears when Laura reveals the Captain's fault; hiding Nojd's trouble. Laura feels not fair because Captain attempt to hide that case while she is the mistress at home so that she must know everything all about house matter. It can be seen in dialogue below.

Laura : *Then the lock must be force..What was Nojd doing here?*

Captain : *That's professional secret.*

Laura : *Which the whole kitchen knows.*

Captain : *Then doubtless you know it too.*

(Strindberg,1887:17)

Laura : *Oh have I much power?*

Captain : *Yes, you have a fiendish power of getting your own way, like all people who are unscrupulous about the mans they employ. How, for instance, did you get rid of. Dr. Norling? And how did you get hold of the new doctor?*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 27)

Captain : .... *Who is the father?*

Laura : *you are.*

Captain : *No, I am not. There's a crime buried here that's beginning to stink. And what a fiendish crime! You women, who were so tender-hearted about freeing black child....."*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 40)

Captain : *What's that? Go to bed, when I'd just been dressed?*  
*My God ..... Oh you a fiendish woman, what devilish*  
*cunning.....*

(Strindberg,1887,III: 53)

#### 4.5 Causes of Domestic Violence in the Play

Domestic violence rises in the play because of the several aspects; the first aspect is classes which make violence at home. Basically, Captain's family is the family which has an enough finance to live but he spent much money into research so that the financial condition becomes less. As the writer have explained before that only Captain who is working for family. Captain thought that his wife is too wasteful so that their financial condition becomes less. His wife could not manage money very well so that he begged a note when she needed housekeeping money as prove when they bankrupt because of debt. This fact makes his wife felt depress, as if, that she spent money for useless matters, while, himself spent much money for buying all kinds of books without making note. His wife thought that it is not fair, so that the quarrel started to rise, it reflected in dialogue below.

Laura : *yes housekeeping money.*

Captain :*If you to put the accounts down there, I will go through them.*

.....

Laura : *Do you expect me to keep accounts now?*

Captain : *Of course you must keep accounts. Our position's most precarious, and if we go to bankrupt, we must have*

*accounts to show. Otherwise we could be accused of negligence.*

.....

Laura : With an tronic bob. *Thank you so much –By the way, do you keep accounts yourself-of what you spend outside the household.*

(Strindberg,1887,I:15-16)

The second aspect appearance of domestic violence in the play is power and control. In Captain's household is dominated each other or controlled power each other. Main household conflict between husband and wife is disagreement about their daughter's future, where, The captain wanted the daughter goes out from home then goes to town for school to be a teacher, by reason that she can be support herself life, if she married, although if she does not married she still can support herself, whereas, his wife wanted Bertha (their daughter) to be an artist because she has a talent, her reason why she did not agree with her husband because of town that is suggested by Captain. Town which is Bertha to stay over is the Freethinker town called Sävberg town. Laura did not want Bertha being a Freethinker like her father (Captain), she thought that a freethinker is the wicked people. This case can be seen in dialogue below.

Laura : *Where if I may ask, is she going to stay?*

Captain : *At Sävberg's –the solicitor's.*

Laura : *That Freethinker!*

(Strindberg,1887,I:16 )

.....

Laura : *Can't I? Do you expect me to give up my child to be taught by wicked people that all she has learnt from her that all she has learnt from her mother is nonsense? So that I would be despised by my own daughter for the rest of my lif'.*

(Strindberg,1887,I:27)

Then, because of Captain's stubborn, Laura attempted to find a way to fall down her husband by spreading issue to everyone at home, including Doctor and Captain's friends in the Army that Captain is insane as revenge act against to the Captain. Laura said that Bertha is not captain's daughter which makes Captain becomes doubt about bertha's parentage. He loves and cares his daughter. Besides, she is the only one, Captain has provided everything for her daughter includes her future so that when Captain knew that Bertha is not his daughter, he is disappointed, sad, mad till he does not have a self confident. His mind is disturbed, so that he got a temperament easily. This fact can be seen in dialogue below.

Doctor : *You are making me most uneasy. Whatever your trouble, Madam, you can confide in me.*

Laura : *taking out her handkerchief. My husband's mind is affected. Now you know, and later on you will be able to judge for yoursel".*

(Strindberg,1887,I:19)

.....  
Laura : *You don't know if you are Bertha's father.*

Captain : *Don't know?.*

.....  
Laura : *I should only have to give the name of the real father-with particulars of place and time, of course. For that matter-when was Bertha born? In the third year of our marriage....*

Captain : *Will you stop it now, or....*

(Strindberg,1887,I: 28)

The third aspect of the appearance violence at home is caused of sex and gender. Generally, the victim of violence at home is woman because man has much power than woman so that man can do violence easily. However, nowadays there are many women movement against violence for women then free women from man boundaries. The reason feminism rises because woman realizes that they are suppressed by man in all matters. In this play, Laura was suppressed her husband about children possession. It is reflected in dialogue below.

Captain : *According to the law as it now stands, children are brought up in their father's faith.*

Laura : *And the mother has no say in the matter?.*

Captain : *None whatever. She sells her birthright by legal contract and surrenders all her rights. In return the husband supports her and her children.*

Laura : *So she has no rights over her own child?*

Captain : *None at all. When you have sold something, you don't expect to get it back and keep the money too.*

(Strindberg,1887,I:16)

The fourth aspect rising violence at home in the play is a stress in family situation. Captain's family is an extended family which is dominated by woman such as his wife, daughter, and mother in law and old nurse (Margaret). Captain felt depress and stress with that condition, he did not know how to order women. He have not any solution with his household problem, he wanted to have a nuclear family with reason a financial burden. For more further we can be seen in the dialogue below.

Pastor : *You have many woman running your house*

Captain : *You're right there. It's going into cage of tigers. They'd soon tear me into pieces, if I didn't hold a red hot poker under their noses. It's all very well for you to laugh, your blackguard. It wasn't enough that I married your sister; you had to palm off your old stepmother on me too.*

Pastor : *You should keep your women-folk in order, Adolf. You give them too much rope.*

Captain : *My dear fellow, can you tell me how to keep women in order?*

(Strindberg, 1887, I:12)

#### **4.6 The Effect of Domestic Violence Reflected in the Play**

After the writer analyzing the reason domestic violence rises in the play, now the writer explains about the effect of domestic violence for each character in the play.

Generally, the effect of violence at home for the victim is afraid and traumatic experience. Violence rises because there is disorganized relation between member of family including wife and husband, so that the way to reach purpose is by using violence. Besides, if parents have a mental madness like paranoid and narcissism, they will tend to do violence act anyway therefore violence at home cases must have a laws to protect the victim from the perpetrator.

After the writer read through the play, the writer found that the effect of violence at home for the victim is traumatic and dead, in fact that all members of family are afraid if the violent (Captain) does the same act.

Therefore, they planned to solve of the problem by making the Captain calm. It is reflected in dialogue below.

Pastor : *But this is appalling. He must be quite out of his mind. What in heaven's name are we to do?*

Laura : *We must try to prevent further violence. The doctor has sent to the hospital for a strait jacket. I have just written a note to the Colonel, and now I'm trying to get some idea of the state of our affairs, which Adolf has so shockingly mismanaged. Opens another drawer.*

(Strindberg,1887,III: 45)

This case shows in another dialogue, it can be seen below.

Laura : *But if he were only fined for violence he could be violent again.*

Doctor : *And if he were sent to prison he would soon be out again. So it seems best for all parties that he should be treated as insan".*

(Strindberg,1887,III:47)

Above dialogue shows anxieties all of family member, they are trauma with the incident. They thought that the Captain will do the violence act again without controlling. They put Captain into the prison or Asylum for member family safety.

Another effect of domestic violence is dead either for the victim or the perpetrator. In this play the writer found that the perpetrator is died because his mind is disturb after knowing that Bertha is not his daughter. At the same time he has temperament; people who is going angry easily. At first he felt mad, disappointed then cried because he has been tricked

by his wife and daughter, besides he has provided all of matters for Bertha's future including her education by reason to have an ideal family.

Basically, he loves and cares his family however he tends to control over all of matters which make his wife felt suppressed then does the revenge act by making her husband to be insane then finally died. It can be seen in dialogue below.

Laura : *Adolf, tell me do you want to see your child?*

Captain : *My child? A man has no children. Only women have a children. So the future is theirs, while we die childless. O God, who holds all children dear!*

(Strindberg,1887,III: 56)

#### 4.7 The Extrinsic Approach of Play

There are two aspects which influence for building up the literary works including play, novel, short stories and poetry such as Intrinsic approach consist of theme, character, setting and plot while the Extrinsic approach consist of all materials that influenced in outside of literary work include culture, social condition and religion.

The main aspect the play **The Father** exists is the social condition which happened to the Strindberg's life. According to the his biography, shows that he tend to wrote about family life in his works. Besides, he has a bad experience in his family, he has got married in three times then divorced. His wives is artist. Sometimes they are starred Strindberg's play

which performed in theatre. However, when his wife being busy too much, Strindberg feel ignored by his wife then finally they are divorced.

By his experience who is broke down by woman in several times, then he observe the role of woman in society by wrote twenty stories of married life. In fact, he hatred to the woman emancipated.

## **Chapter V**

### **Conclusion and Suggestion**

This chapter is the conclusion of this thesis. The purpose of this chapter is to conclude the content of thesis and to show the suggestion which is needed, below is the conclusion of this thesis.

#### **5.1 Conclusion**

1. The father is the kind of family play. It describes about a family relationship. In family, the responsible person is parents. They have to be able cooperative each other to have an ideal family. Parents and children have to had an openness mind each other so that there is no a disorganized relation in family.
2. The title of this thesis is domestic violence which rises because of several aspects such as; class, power and control, sex and gender, social and stress and dependency. Violence at home can make a death. Therefore, all countries government in the world has made laws about domestic violence to protect the victims from the perpetrators then give a punishment for them as a criminal.
3. The topic of this title is violence which happened at home, it makes all family member becomes suffer either physical or physiological which can be dead. The effect of physical violence can be hurts the body by hitting directly while the effect of

physiological violence can be disturbed mind or insane by making victim stress and suffer.

## **5.2 Suggestions**

The writer expects that this writing can contribute to the further study in the same object; the play **“The Father”** by August Strindberg. This writing analyzes about family which focuses on violence at home. The writer thinks that this writing possible for other focuses such as; family education, relationship between family member, the role of gender in family and abuse for children.

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## Appendix I

### Biography of Author

**August Strindberg** was born on January 22, 1849. He was the third of seven children in the large family of Carl Strindberg. The first great tragedy of August's life was the death of his mother in 1862 when he was 13 years old. The young Strindberg was shy, reserved and felt so miserably inadequate that he first attempted suicide at age eight. He attended the University of Uppsala for two years, but after failing his chemistry entrance examination in 1869, Strindberg gradually lost interest in school then become interested in the August finally got up the nerve to audition as an actor in minor role. When he was rejected, Strindberg when on drinking binge that nearly drove him to suicide. In 1870 Strindberg's play was produced by the Royal Theatre and was followed by other, mostly historical plays. In 1877, he married with Siri. They have a children but the marriage quickly broke down, Strindberg become jealous, suspicious and cruel when Siri wanted to be more than a wife and mother. Strindberg had his first great literary success in 1879 with the novel the Red room, a social satire that brought scandal to Stockholm and literary notoriety to Strindberg. On The 1882 publication of the short story collection The New Kingdom, which satirized the royal family and other powerful institutions? At the age 37 years old he began

working on his own autobiography using the latest scientific theories of psychology to examine his childhood and early adulthood. After nearly a year, August completed his first major play, "The Father" which examines how the weaker sex can psychologically period, had difficulty finding a publisher, but it was eventually printed in 1887. After that he wrote his most popular work, Miss Julie and became involved in a scandal with the caretaker's family. In 1904, Strindberg then wrote Black Banners, a satire about the Swedish literary establishment which again brought controversy and popularity his way. At last, Strindberg becomes a respected figure in his native Sweden. After he failed to win the Nobel Prize in 1909, he was awarded a government pension. At this point, Strindberg had begun to suffer stomach pains that were probably the onset of cancer. Strindberg died peacefully May 14, 1912 and had a large, well attended, government sponsored funeral. According to his wishes, Strindberg's tombstone reads "O Crux Ave Spes Unica" (O Cross, Be Greeted, Our only hope).

## Appendix II

### Synopsis of Play

*The father* portrays the tragedy of a man and woman struggling for the possession of their child. The father is a cavalry captain. He is an intellectual, a freethinker, a man of ideas. His wife is narrow, selfish and unscrupulous in her methods when her antagonism is awakened. Other members of the family are the wife's mother a spiritualist, Bertha is the captain's daughter and Margaret is the captain's old nurse.

The father is a well constructed play; it contains one idea which is clearly stated; logically and dramatically developed. The theme of the play is a woman who is driving her husband to insanity by making him doubt that he is father of their child. The dramatist goes to work immediately, shows the man's ideas and habits, then the woman's and proceeds to show how she accomplishes her purpose. He makes the husband a high-strung, nervous man, and his wife a fiendish abnormal woman, so that the dice are loaded to begin with.

When the captain is questioned by the doctor, it turns out that it was a spectroscope not a microscope that he had been using. This is but one of the many instances of how character is built up. The father is a psychological play; the action grows directly out of a mental struggle. In this case, it is a struggle of duel of the sexes. The climax therefore is

reached when one of the two contending minds, so to speak is dominates the other. This happens at the end of the second act, where Laura tells her husband that she has the means of putting him under control, in order that she may educate their child without listening to his advice. She send letter to the doctor declaring he to be insane. The captain "looks at her silence," while she tells him:" Now you have fulfilled your function as an unfortunately necessary father and breadwinner. You are not needed any longer and you must go since you have realized that your intellect is as strong as my will, and since you will not stay and acknowledge it." Then "The captain goes to the table, takes the lighted lamp and throws it at Laura, who escapes backward through the door." She has conquered, by driving her husband to insanity.