

Atanque, Juhn Emmanuel F.

BSIT 3-4

### Reflection Paper

As a recall from the last lesson, according to Sigmund Freud, the human psyche consists of three structures. The first one is the Id which is described to be as the “unknown and uncontrollable forces” within a human. It is the part of the human psyche that strives to gain pleasure. It does not have any principle or aim self-preservation. It does not know evil, good, values, or morality. It only aims to achieve satisfaction. The second psyche is the ego, which controls the id by mediating it from the external world. The ego does not completely disregard pleasure, momentary pleasure that has an unassured path is given up but only to achieve assured pleasure. And lastly is the super-ego, which originates from the influences of the external world, especially from the dependency of the infant to his/her parents until it establishes the person’s morality. From this comes the “external restrictions” unconsciously inserted into the ego which is then referred to as the human’s conscience, or can be referred to as the sense of guilt.

The restriction that is inserted on the libido are viewed as the more rational, thus making them more universal, which is then evident on society. Thus becoming a part of the reality principle. The reality principle materializes in a system of institutions. An individual grows up with these systems and learns the objectives and requirements of the reality principle as those of law and order. The adapting of the ego to the external world or the modification of pleasure in id in consideration of the reality principle implies the subjugation and diversion of the destructive seeking of desire or instinctual gratification. Along this is the adjustment of the pleasure to make it compatible to the established societal norms and relations. This then implies what is called the “transubstantiation of pleasure itself”. This can then be considered as the de-erotization of human

activity and passivity. The external world where an individual can obtain pleasure from, has been firmly reduced. This effect is like the localization and the decrease of the libido or the reduction of erotic to sexual experience and satisfaction.

The performance principle, on the other hand, is the dominant form of the reality principle. The society is stratified under its authority based on the competitive economic performance of its members. The reality principle develops itself by contraction of the conscious ego. The instincts' growth is fixed, and their form is set at childhood. The instinctive structure is programmed to maintain the status quo.