

PROSPECTIVE EVALUATION OF MATERNAL PRIVATION IN YOUNG GIRLS: AN ANALYSIS OF ANNE FRANK'S "THE DIARY OF A YOUNG GIRL"Amna Khan¹ (Principal & Corresponding author), Dr. Farah Hashmi²**Original Article**

1. MS English Scholar, International Islamic University, Islamabad.
Email: amnakhanofficial35@gmail.com
2. Assistant Professor, National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad
Email: fhashmi@numl.edu.pk

Abstract

This research paper reveals behavioral patterns of Anne Frank regarding maternal privation through thematic analysis of her autobiography, "The Diary of a Young Girl" (1993). Bowlby's PDD model provides theoretical background that helps in understanding the role of a mother in upbringing a female child. The findings reveal that maternal privation causes distortion in Anne's behavior and she goes through various stages of distress. This study unveils that Anne at first becomes impertinent due to her mother's incessant criticism. Then, she stops interacting with people in the despair stage. But finally, she becomes independent of her mother. The findings of this research extend Bowlby's stages of PDD model and contribute another possible stage "Cyclic Reattachments" to it which shows that the behavioral changes of a female child do not end here; rather a prominent cyclic pattern of unstable reattachments is formed throughout her life. Moreover, this paper suggests that the findings of the study appear to be very helpful in establishing a strong mother-daughter relationship where mothers could perhaps avoid privation by being a secure and trustworthy guiding figure in their female child's life. In this way, they would be able to listen to them and would ensure love, guidance and security to raise a healthy generation.

Keywords: Ann Frank's The Diary of a Young Girl 1993, Bowlby's PDD model; protest, despair, detachment, Gender Studies, Maternal privation, Psychology, Reattachments

1. Introduction

'The Diary of a Young Girl' by Anne Frank is one of the world's most widely read autobiographies. Approximately 30 million copies of Anne's autobiography have been sold. (Gilman, 1988). Moreover, the book is translated into 70 different languages and various researchers have explored multiple dimensions of this autobiography such as adolescent sexuality, love, sex, psychological development and the journey of a child from childhood to adulthood, but, a mother-daughter bond of Anne Frank with her mother is left unexamined.

In her autobiography, it is shown that Anne undergoes various behavioral changes due to the change in her mother's behavior. These various stages of behavioral changes are caused by the constant reprimand and criticism of her mother. Resultantly, Anne starts losing her trust on her mother. She finds herself unable to form a strong bond with her mother; her attachment figure. It causes her serious emotional damage. Thus, this lack of attachment with guiding figure is called maternal privation (Rutter, 1972).

This maternal privation causes Frank to undergo a painful journey that brings distinct behavioral changes in her personality. This lack of secured Bond affects all her relationships afterwards. Therefore, this research has focused on the unexplored aspect that how the changes in the behavior of attachment figure; mother, causes behavioral distortion in Anne Frank's personality. It also examines the forms in which these behavioral changes are manifested. Thus, 'The Diary of a Young Girl' by Anne Frank is used as a primary text and the behavioral pattern of Anne is examined through content analysis in the light of Bowlby's stages of distress.

1.1 Thesis Statement

Anne Frank's behavior, in her autobiography, 'The Diary of a Young Girl', undergoes distinct behavioral changes due to maternal privation.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of the study are:

1. To provide prospective evaluation of maternal privation.
2. To identify the behavior patterns of Anne Frank, in case of maternal privation.
3. To evaluate and analyze the manifestations of the behavioral changes in wake of maternal privation.

1.3 Research Questions

1. How did maternal privation affect Anne Frank's psychological and behavioral health?
2. How can we analyze effects of maternal privation at various stages of development in children using Bowlby's model?
3. How are the behavioral changes demonstrated in the wake of maternal privation?

1.4 Delimitation

This research only focuses on the relationship of Anne's mother with her daughter; Anne Frank. The pivot of this research is to explore how the incessant admonishment and criticism of Anne's mother cause severe behavioral changes in her personality. The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank published by Bantam Publishers in July (1993) is used as a primary text. Moreover, in this research only those sections of text are included that embodies Anne's behavioral description and her mother's attitude towards her. The rest of the narration is excluded from analysis to keep the focus intact and to maintain the quality of the research.

1.5 Significance

This research paper has brought awareness that mothers should be careful while speaking to the children. They should be cautious of what they speak because their few words can severely damage the personality of their female child. This research paper brings the needs of a female child to light as Anne herself says, "Which of the people here would suspect that so much is going on in the mind of a teenage girl?" (215). Thus, this study leads us into the heart and mind of a young girl suffering from maternal privation. The research also shows that in order to have healthy behavioral and mental growth, a secure attachment bond with someone is necessary for a young child. The one who could guide her, advise her, share her feelings and take care of her. This research paper also reveals that how the conscious use of a mother's words can change the child's behavior and how they could cause unbearable pain to their children. Moreover, with the help of the findings of this research many children can be saved from the intense pain that Anne Frank goes through. In this way, the lives of many children can be saved by providing them a secure and trustworthy guiding figure who could listen to their daily problems, guide them, love them and could provide them shelter.

2. Literature Review

All over the world, many researchers have analyzed “The Diary of a Young Girl” by Anne Frank from various dimensions of female desires and sexuality, conventional notions of gender, personal problems of adolescents, love, sex education of children, sexually transmitted diseases, emergence of intensified sexual desires, sexual development, journey from childhood to adulthood, holocaust studies and inclusion of female voices in developmental theories. But, the book whose 30 million copies are sold up to now, despite being translated into 70 languages, the behavioral pattern of Anne Frank and her bond with her mother is left unexamined. Thus, a brief literature review of the researches that examine various dimensions of Anne Frank’s diary is given below:

Evert (1991) has studied Anne Frank’s Diary to explore the sexual capacities of a female child, her sexual excitement and intensified wishes. Thus, this research examines the sexual development of an adolescent in Anne’s diary.

Clark (2000) has inspected the experiences of the lives of Jewish female children. Their marginalized position in the developmental theory is scrutinized and their experiential voices are also included in this study. This study gives importance to the existence of Jewish girls and their life experiences.

Shore (2004) analyzes the journey of adolescents, in Anne Frank’s Diary, from understanding the sexual health to the identification of sexuality. The research shows that the psychological development of children is affected by their acknowledgement of their sexuality. The sessions of open discussion with children, about love, sex, various types of sex and the diseases spread by their practice, bring light of awareness to the dark and cloudy minds of adolescents.

Perraudin (2005) has presented the analysis of fictional narratives of post-WW2 era that are dominated by the experiences of adolescents. It analyzes the changings that children go through during their drive from childhood to adulthood.

Rosler (2009) examines the diaries of adolescents in order to prove that the diaries are the source of catharsis for the youth where they comfortably write what they hesitate, in real life, to talk about. This research shows that the youth write about their personal problems, family issues, relationships, feelings of being lonely and neglected, their sexuality and faith in God and nature. These are the dominant topics prevailing the diaries of these adolescents.

Bankirer (2018) explores Anne Frank’s psychic growth as a Jew in the light of womanhood where she recognizes herself as a woman, explores her sexuality and buried desires. The study reveals that Anne challenges the conventional conceptions about gender.

These all researches have explored various dimensions of Anne Frank’s diary from sexuality to femininity, from gender to desires, from sex education to acknowledgement of sexuality, from sexually transmitted diseases to sexual liberation, from atrocities of holocaust to the inclusion of female voices in developmental theories. But despite being a very famous autobiography, the behavioral pattern of Anne Frank and her bond with her mother is left unexplored. Therefore, this research aims to explore the behavioral pattern and developmental distortion of Anne Frank in the wake of maternal privation.

3. Theoretical Framework

A particular postulate of three progressive stages of distress in the wake of maternal prevention from Bowlby’s attachment theory is used as a theoretical framework. These three stages of distress are: protest, despair and detachment. Bowlby (1969) suggests in his attachment and loss theory that in case of maternal privation, the female child's behavior undergoes various changes. Michael Rutter

(1981) explains maternal privation as a condition in which a female child fails to develop an emotional bond with her mother rather than just deprivation or complete loss of this guiding figure. Rutter in his book, 'Maternal Deprivation Reassessed' differentiates between maternal deprivation and privation and says, "If a child fails to develop an emotional bond with her mother, this is privation, whereas deprivation refers to the loss of or damage to an attachment" (Flanagan, 59).

Bowlby's theory suggests that the constant rebuking of a mother figure brings serious changes in the behavior of female child. This behavior forms a particular pattern in which, firstly, the child protests against this maltreatment. She cries and becomes easily irritable. She becomes violent. Every time when she is scolded or various allegations are asserted against her, she becomes impertinent towards her elders. She becomes saucy and tries to pay back in the same fashion. While, in the second stage of despair, the child stops protesting. She tries to hide her sorrow from others. All the day long, she keeps on weeping. She loses interest in her daily activities and finds herself all alone in this dreary world. On the other hand, in the detachment phase, the child rejects the help of this mother figure and shows severe anger towards her. As a reaction, she is completely detached from her mother and she starts developing relationship with other people. Thus, the child becomes independent of this guiding figure.

Qualitative content analysis is used as a research method for the thematic analysis of 'The Diary of Young Girl' by Anne Frank in the light of Bowlby's theory of stages of distress. This allows empirical, methodological controlled analysis of text within their context of communication and production.

4. Data Analysis and Discussion

According to the theme evolving from the data, the entire data is divided into four distinct categories for systematic analysis to reveal the effects of maternal privation in Anne Frank and how Anne Frank's behavior is forming a particular pattern. These categories are formed with the help of Bowlby's PDD model; protest, despair and detachment which are mentioned in Figure 1.1:

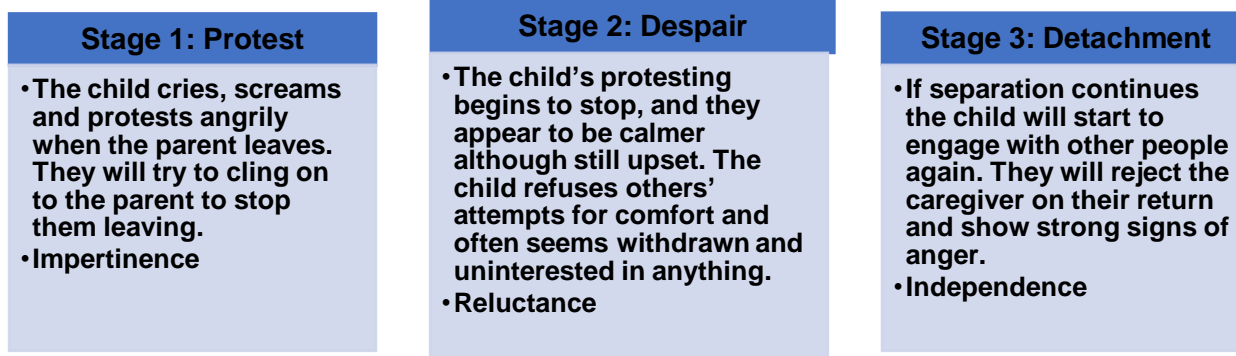


Figure: 1.1
Maternal Privation: Bowlby's PDD Mode

Moreover, the analysis of the data reveals another stage; that is, cyclic reattachment which will be discussed in the analysis.

The Diary of a Young Girl is an autobiography, a collection of letters addressed to her diary, to which she calls "Dear Kitty". The analysis of this text is helpful in studying psychological and behavioral development of a young girl. Anne Frank wrote this diary during the Nazi occupation of Netherland. Through the analysis of her diary, we get to know about her sense of maternal privation which prevails

throughout the book, where a child feels lonely and dejected due to the lack of strong emotional bond with her mother. This pattern can easily be observed from the following extracts:

As Anne Frank says:

"I have in my mind's eye an image of what perfect mother should be; and in her whom I must call "Mother" I find no trace of that image."(Frank 45).

It shows the lack of emotional bonding between Anne Frank and her mother where her mother fails to form a strong bond with her daughter and she lacks the qualities that Anne wishes to have in her ideal guiding figure. But Frank's mother fails to be that ideal figure.

She also says:

"I only look at her as a mother and she just does not succeed in being that to me. I have to be my own mother. I must become good through my own affairs without examples and without good advice." (Frank 45).

Anne feels that her mother does not match her ideal image of a mother because she does not care about what Anne feels, what disturbs her and what she needs. She believes that she has to be her own mother as she has to brace herself by her own without expecting from any other person. She has to face the challenges of this dreary life all alone. Thus, she vows to be her own mother.

Anne shares her ideal image and says,

"I miss having a real mother who understands me. I think of the Mumsie that I want to be for my children later on. "Mumsie" tells you everything... To give me the feeling of calling Mummy sometimes which sounds like 'Mumsie' I often call her 'Mum'; then from that comes 'Mums': the incomplete 'Mumsie' (Frank 124).

This shows that 'Mumsie' is the ideal figure in Anne's mind that she finds missing in her real life. It also reveals that whenever she tries to call her mother by this name, she finds herself an incomplete version 'Mum' and 'Mums' of her ideal version 'Mumsie'. Thus, her mother fails to provide her ideal support and security.

"I need my mother as an example which I can follow... I imagine a mother as a woman who, does not laugh at me if I cry about something- not pain, but other things- like 'mums' does. I have never forgiven her. It was on the day that I had to go to the dentist. Mummy and Margot were going to you come with me... I wanted to go, too, but was not allowed to, as I had my bicycle with me. Tears of rage sprang into my eyes, and mummy and Margot began laughing at me. Then I became so furious... I cried for a long time... It is queer get the amount that mummy made then still burns." (Frank 129).

It shows that Anne finds her mother unworthy of being followed as a role model as she has not forgotten the old wounds that her mother has caused her. Once her mother along with Margot; Anne's sister had made fun of Anne and had left her alone. Anne still remembers the pain that this incident had inflicted upon her heart and the anguish is still alive in her heart. This made her weep for many days, but she wept silently. This incident was another blow to her relationship with her mother that weakened their bond.

She also says:

"I hoped that it would be mummy who would say good morning to me; I greeted her warmly, because I really longed for her to look lovingly at me. Then she made some remark or other that seemed unfriendly, and I would go off to school again feeling thoroughly disheartened." (Frank 137).

It shows Anne's everyday longing to have someone in her life who would love her, care for her and look after her. But all her desires remain unfulfilled because of her mother's cold behavior and constant reprimand. Her continuous rebuking and unfriendly comments cause much pain to Anne. The pain caused by the lack of mother figure in Anne's life is converted into despair and she undergoes various stages of distress as the proof of Bowlby's stages of distress; protest, despair and detachment is vivid in this quote in which Anne says:

"I start by getting Snappy then unhappy and finally I twist my heart round again." (Frank 267).

It shows that Anne's behavior in the wake of maternal privation, firstly, undergoes protest in which she becomes insensitive to others' feelings and treat them the way they treat her. She gives back unfriendly answers and becomes violent and rude. Secondly, the snappy stage is followed by despair, weeping and crying. Whereas, finally, she detaches herself from that attachment figure.

Bowlby's Three Stages of Distress:

The stages of distress are analyzed in following textual extracts:

1. Loud Protest

On being criticized and ridiculed badly, due to the lack of strong emotional bond with her mother, Anne Frank tries to get the attention of her mother by becoming impertinent to her elders. She wants her mother to protect and to support her and on not receiving that love, care and support, she becomes furious. As Anne says:

"I often lose my cue and simply can't swallow my rage at some injustices, so that for 4 long weeks we here nothing but an everlasting chatter about the cheekiest and most shameless girl on earth. Don't you think that sometimes I have cause for complaint?" (Frank 84).

It shows that on raising question on this maltreatment and incessant criticism, Anne again undergoes severe humiliation as she is called shameless and insolent. Instead of understanding the cause behind her rage, Anne is ridiculed again. But, to get her protest recorded, Anne adopts the same careless behavior of her mother. As she writes,

"Mummy, who has now had to discover that I have adopted her own attitude." (Frank 78).

Anne has now decided to be careless, indifferent and emotionless towards the feelings of others like her mother. She is now determined to pay her back with the same impassionate behavior. This unsympathetic behavior of Anne's mother makes her behavior bitter. She becomes easily irritable, waspish and snappish. As Anne says:

"I might get sour and bad tempered." (Frank 84).

She also admits:

"The cheerful Anne laughs...give cheeky answers shrugs her shoulders indifferently." (Frank 267).

"My own family...criticize (s) me." (Frank 267).

"I ...was offended and was rude and aggravating to mummy." (Frank 128).

"If mummy adds her bit of advice the pile of sermons becomes so insurmountable that in my despair, I become rude and start contradicting."(Frank 249).

These excerpts show that due to the continuous criticism of her mother on Anne's personality, she becomes irascible and rude to her. But, after some time, she stops paying attention to her mother's words and ignores her by becoming emotionless towards her feelings. Anne is called selfish, cheeky, ill-mannered, disobedient, brash, impudent, arrogant and gaudy many times. This mortification ignites her rage that Anne pays back by becoming more impertinent towards her elders.

2. Despair and Maternal Privation

Lack of strong emotional bond with mother causes pain to Anne Frank and she says;

"If mummy had been different, real Mumsie, the relationship might have been quiet, quite different."(Frank 139).

Anne keeps on mourning for the absence of her ideal figure in her life and she believes that her mother lacks the qualities of her ideal. She also dreams about the life where her mother would have those qualities. But, all, at the end, appears futile to her as her mother is far away from her ideal guiding figure. Moreover, this lack of strong emotional bond with mother results into the lack of guiding figure that gives birth to insecurity and loneliness in the life of a female child.

As Anne says:

"Daddy often told me about things that I would really have preferred to hear from mummy, and I found out the rest from books and things I picked up from conversations."(Frank 141).

The things that Anne wished to be informed by her mother were often told by her father. She did not like that. She braced herself all alone and learnt everything through self-help. This lack of strong bond created a vacuum in her life that affected her behavior throughout her life.

a. Protest and Despair

Protest, despair and loneliness are working side by side. In Anne's protest her despair and loneliness are explicit. It can be observed in following textual extracts.

As Anne writes,

"Honestly, you needn't think it's easy to be the 'badly brought-up' central figure of a hypercritical family...I get so confused by it all that I either laugh or cry."(Frank 56).

It shows that due to continuous reprimand and being called a 'badly brought-up'girl, Anne feels like crying. It hurts her badly. The criticism of her family pierces her heart and soul. Sometimes, it confuses her whether to cry over this familial portrayal or to laugh at the insensitivity of her family. Moreover, she also feels that no one can feel her pain. She finds herself all alone.

As she says:

"I would like to shout to Margot, Van Daan, Dussel - and daddy too- leave me in peace, let me sleep one night at least without my pillow being wet with tears, my eyes burning and my head throbbing, Let me get away from it all...But, I cannot do that, they mustn't know my despair, I can't let them see the wounds which they have caused... it would only make me want to scream all the more" (Frank 64-65).

It shows that how much painful Anne's journey through the stage of despair has been. It vividly shows Bowlby's stage of despair. As the constant criticism of all people around her makes her extremely

unhappy and she weeps at nights while in her eyes and head she feels pain, but, she does not show her pain to others. She bears this pain all alone. Anne laments over the absence of her protector as she says:

"I have got and another terrible black mark against my name...Anne's usual list of failings has been brought out again and fully ventilated." (Frank 77).

"The whole day long I hear nothing else but that I am an insufferable baby, and although I laugh about it and pretend not to take any notice, I do mind." (Frank 65).

Anne pretends to be normal despite these insults, but in the hearts of heart she feels insulted. It pains her a lot. Her weakness is openly slammed by her family that makes her life more difficult for her.

Resultantly, she avoids talking to anyone just to save herself from further humiliation.

"I talk more to myself than to the others." (Frank 102).

She stops talking to others because in her hardest time she was left alone by her family. As Anne says:

"I feel rotten...at such Times daddy mummy and Margot leave me cold...like a song bird...who is hurling himself in utter darkness." (Frank 113).

She is left alone. In the absence of compassion, Anne finds herself lost in utter darkness where no family member has come forward to support her and to make her feel secured and protected. She finds herself unprotected. She also compares Margot and her mother's strong emotional bond with her weak bond. Because Margot does not experience same painful feelings of maternal privation as she shares a strong emotional bond with her mother:

As Anne says:

"I believe mummy...only looks at Margot who I don't think even had such problems and thoughts as I do." (Frank 136).

Anne believes that Margot feels secured and happy because she receives her mother's constant care and affection. While, on the other hand, Anne only receives reprimand. She feels a dire need to be loved and protected, but, due to her mother's inattentive towards her, all her wishes remain unfulfilled.

The hopelessness and loneliness are observed here as she says:

"A person can be lonely even if he is loved by many people, because he is still not the 'one and only' to anyone." (Frank 126).

To console herself, Anne compares her situation with Peter as Anne considers that Peter and Anne, both are similar because they both lack mothers' love and attention.

As she says, "we both lack a mother" (Frank 160).

It makes her feel that she is not alone in her suffering. Peter is suffering from the same pain. But Anne still needs a guiding figure in her life. This repressed desire is disturbing her life again and again as she tries to fill the void of her life. The vacuum created by maternal privation demands substitute.

As she says:

"I often accuse myself to such an extent that I simply long for a word of comfort, for someone who could give me sound advice and also draw out some of my real self; but alas, I keep on looking, but I have not found anyone yet." (Frank 249).

"I needed a living person to whom I could pour out my heart; I wanted a friend who would help to put me on the right road." (Frank 262).

"I have felt so terribly lonely for a long time, so left out, neglected and misunderstood." (Frank 260).

"I only wish I could occasionally receive encouragement from someone who loves me." (Frank 46).

"Don't condemn me; remember that sometimes I too can reach the bursting point." (Frank 46).

These extracts of Anne's biography show a guiding figure who could support her, console her, love her and could show her right path at the crossroads of life. She needs the one who could tell her all her qualities as well as weakness with affection and not with reproach. She finds no one and the void remains blank.

3. Detachment

Bowlby's stage of detachment is easily observed in following textual extracts. After being badly humiliated for a long time, Anne finally detaches herself from her mother. She starts being indifferent to her attitude. As she says:

"I don't want to be cross; love cannot be forced." (Frank 77).

"Her (mother's) tactless remark and her true jokes, which I don't find at all funny, have now made me insensitive to any love from her side...love between us was gone." (Frank 77).

"They expect me to apologize; but this is something I cannot apologize for...I seem, and indeed am, indifferent both to Mummy's tears and Daddy's looks." (Frank 77-78).

These lines show Anne's detachment with her parents and especially mother. She stops loving her. She becomes insensitive of her mother's scolding and takes no notice of her anger. She neither apologizes for her indifferent behavior nor care for their feelings. She pays back the same carefree behavior that she had received.

a. Detached and Independent

"I can't really love Mummy in a dependent childlike way I just don't have that feeling"(Frank 128).

Now, Anne has learnt to live independently without nay support. She has stopped depending on her mother like a child.

b. Detachment from Daddy and Loss of Trust

"I realized that even Daddy would never become my confidant over everything. I did not want to trust anyone but myself anymore." (Frank 170).

"I am not so affectionate to daddy." (Frank 177).

On not receiving any emotional support from her father, Anne becomes skeptical of her father's role and loses trust in his affection. Her father who was one of her pillars of strength was no more her strength. She had refused to accept any help from him. She had become indifferent to him too.

c. Detachment from Parents

After becoming indifferent to her parents' behavior, now, Anne becomes independent. As she writes in her diary:

'I feel more of a person than a child, I feel quite independent of anyone.' (Frank 179).

'Mummy is against me, and I am against her, Daddy closes his eyes and tries not to see the silent battle between us. Mummy is sad, because she does really love me, while I am not in the least bit sad, because I don't think she understands me.' (Frank 190).

It shows that her mother does not like her, nor does she. Because Anne feels that her mother has failed to understand her deep emotions. Moreover, due to the apathetic behavior of her father, she decides to pay back this uncaring attitude with her dispassionate manners. Finally, Anne learns to live without her mother's and father's support. As she says:

"I am becoming still more independent of my parents...I know that I am an independent woman, a woman with invert strength and plenty of courage." (Frank 208).

This conflict between Anne and her mother has made her very strong. Thus, she had detached herself from her and now has become independent.

d. Final Detachment

Bowlby's stage of detachment in Anne's behavior can finally be discovered from following quotations:

"I have now reached the stage that I can live entirely on my own, without Mummy's support or anyone else's for that matter. But it has not just happened in a night; it has been a bitter, hard struggle and I have shed many a tear, before I became as independent as I am now" (Frank 224).

"Now the battle is over. I have won! I am independent both in mind and body. I don't need a mother any more, for all this conflict has made me strong" (Frank 225).

After experiencing much pain and bitterness in her life, Anne Frank has now, finally become independent of her mother. She no more laments over the lack of her strong emotional bond with her mother. After shedding countless tears, she has now freed herself from the shackles of sensitivity and emotions. Anne believes that she was fighting some battle and now she has won it. Now, she is more independent and stronger than she does not need any support.

4. Cyclic Reattachments

This research paper from the qualitative content analysis of Anne Frank's biography reveals a constant pattern of cyclic detachment and reattachment throughout the diary of Anne Frank. She keeps on shifting her focus of attachment from one person to the other. Therefore, it forms a particular cyclic pattern of reattachment. As Anne says:

"My longing to talk to someone became so intense that somehow or other I took it into my mind to choose Peter" (Frank 131).

Peter was not the only one after detaching from Daddy. She shifts her focus of attachment from Karel Samson to Robby, from Robby to again Peter. From Mrs. Van Daan to Margot, from Margot to again Daddy, but all the relationships remain unstable and a pattern of constant and cyclic detachments and reattachments, is observed.

Therefore, it shows that Bowlby's stages of distress keep on repeating and form a distinct cyclic pattern where the attachment figures in a child's life keep on changing. This research has revealed

that not only the relationships will be unstable but the stages of distress, despair and will also be repeated and thus, will form a cyclic pattern.

Hence, the normal relation equations are disturbed and distorted due to maternal privation. Anne consoles herself by shifting her focus to nature and God. As she says,

"God has not left me alone and will not leave me alone." (Frank 194).

"Mother nature makes me humble and prepared to face every blow courageously." (Frank 251).

The word 'Mother nature' is when analyzed in the context of maternal privation shows that the repressed desire of having a guiding figure is manifested in Anne's bond with nature and God. Despite having the support of nature, this lack of strong emotional bond in Anne's life with her mother affects all her relationships throughout her life. Moreover, this distrust and insecurity are the effects of maternal privation in which Anne loses her trust in every relation. It can be vividly seen in Anna Frank's biography as she asks her diary:

"Why do we trust one another so little? It's horrible that you find you can never really confide in people, even in those who are nearest to you." (Frank 139).

This lack of strong emotional bond makes Anne Frank feel lonely and insecure. She becomes skeptical of every human relation. She lacks trust. She does not trust any human being. She does not share any of her emotions and feelings with anyone and thus, starts writing a diary. As Anne Frank says at the beginning of the autobiography:

"I hope I shall be able to confide in you completely as I have never been able to do in anyone before and I hope that you will be a great support and comfort to me."

This lack of trust deprives Anne Frank from the opportunity of making friends. She herself tells the reason of starting diary writing and also admits the absence of any true friend in her life as she says:

"I come to the root of the matter, the reason for my starting a diary: it is that I have no such real friend" (Frank 3).

It shows that neither mother nor father becomes her true friend and thus her feelings remain unexpressed.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

This study significantly shows that maternal privation causes distortion in Anne Frank's behavior and she undergoes Bowlby's stages of distress in which Anne at first tries to get mother's attention with her impertinent answers and ill-mannered conduct. But, on being unsuccessful in getting her attention, she starts crying, weeping and lamenting. She stops talking to everyone and starts living alone. She avoids others' company and thus, demonstrates the next stage of despair. After spending a long time in this seclusion, Anne braces herself and finally becomes independent of her mother and detaches herself from everyone. She becomes her own strength. Thus, this research paper explores the innermost feelings of Anne Frank and answers her question of:

'Who would ever think that so much can go on in the soul of a Young Girl?' (Frank 138).

This research paper has unveiled whatever has been experienced by Anne Frank. Moreover, this research paper also reveals that the pattern of Anne's reattachments in later life is cyclic. After detachment the process does not stop here. It is rather continued and forms a prominent pattern of reattachments that do not work for a long time due to the lack of trust in them. Moreover, this

research paper gives rise to many other questions that need to be explored. This research can further be extended to check the effects of social factors on Anne's behavior while going through Bowlby's stages of distress. Secondly, it can also be studied that how in case of change in age and sex of a child, the findings change. Thirdly, another interesting angle could be the study of Anne's behavioral pattern in wake of paternal privation.

The study encourages us to make women realize their role as an important figure for children. From being a mother to a close trustworthy friend who would not just love them, take care of them but would also listen and inspire. A strong bond between a daughter and her mother can help produce a positive and successful individual who is strong and positive in her attitude and behavior. Now-a-days modern working women tend to ignore their children for work and money and children tend to spend more time with care-takers or maids. The present study may provide them a sense of realization to spend time with their children and let their heart speak to them. It is a profitable long-lasting investment for both the mothers and their new generation.

References

- Bankirer, Y. P. (2018). The Posterity of Hiding: A Psychoanalytic Reading of The Diary of Anne Frank. *Gamma: Journal of Theory and Criticism*, 25, 30-44.
- Rottenberg-Rosler, B., Schonmann, S., & Berman, E. (2009). Dear Diary: Catharsis and Narratives of Aloneness in Adolescents' Diaries. *Enquire*, 2(1), 133-156.
- McLeod, S. (2007). Bowlby's attachment theory. *Simply Psychology*.
- Perraudin, M. (2005). Comings of age. Aspects of writing of adolescence in post-war Dutch literature. *Dutch Crossing*, 29(2), 175-188.
- Mayring, P. (2004). Qualitative content analysis. *A companion to qualitative research*, 1(2), 159-176.
- Shore, L. (2004). Self-Writing, Sex Ed, and the Creation of Adolescent Identity. *Journal of the Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies*.
- Clark, M. (2000). Adding the voices of Jewish girls to developmental theory. *Women & Therapy*, 22(4), 55-68.
- Evert, E. C. (1991). Sexual integration in female adolescence: Anne Frank's diary as a study in healthy development. *The Psychoanalytic Study of the Child*, 46(1), 109-124.
- Gilman, S. L. (1988). The Dead Child Speaks: Reading "The Diary of Anne Frank". *Studies in American Jewish Literature (1981-)*, 7(1), 9-25.
- Rutter, M. (1972). Maternal deprivation reassessed.
- Frank, A. (1952). Anne Frank: The diary of a young girl. Translated by BM Mooyaart.