



Oedipus Rex: A Freudian Analysis of Unconscious Desires, Familial Dynamics, and Irreversible Consequences

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KEYWORDS	ABSTRACT
Oedipus Rex, familial relationships, Freudian philosophy, Psychological dynamics	<p>In Sophocles' classic play "Oedipus Rex," intricate familial relationships, unconscious urges, and the unstoppable results of deeds motivated by them are all explored in depth via a Freudian lens. The story is centered on Oedipus, who represents Freud's Oedipus complex by unintentionally carrying out the prophecy to kill his father and marry his mother. According to Freudian philosophy, people have an unconscious yearning for their parents who are the opposite sex, which causes internal tensions and complex psychological dynamics. Oedipus Rex explores the complex dynamics that exist within families, highlighting the repressed feelings, power conflicts, and subconscious drives that are part of family systems. Oedipus's unwavering quest for self-awareness and the truth inadvertently reveals a complex network of dark secrets and the nuances of the human mind. The play's irreversible effects are a reflection of Freud's focus on the long-lasting effects of unconscious impulses on people's lives. Oedipus's terrible destiny serves as a warning, highlighting the unavoidable consequences of unaddressed psychological issues. "Oedipus Rex" is transformed into a deep examination of the human psyche when viewed via a Freudian perspective.</p>
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Introduction

Few literary works possess the same lasting influence as Sophocles' "Oedipus Rex." Originating in the 5th century BCE, this ancient Greek drama has enthralled audiences throughout decades, transcending temporal and cultural boundaries. Despite the novel being situated in a fictional realm abundant with prophecies, Sigmund Freud's psychological ideas provide an intriguing perspective to examine the intricate network of family connections, hidden desires, and the unavoidable outcomes of acts driven by hidden intentions. Freud's psychoanalytic theory revolves on the concept of the Oedipus complex, which posits that individuals possess an unconscious longing for their parents of the opposite gender.

The concept is interpreted with remarkable literalness in "Oedipus Rex," when the protagonist, Oedipus, unknowingly fulfills a horrifying prophecy by murdering his father and marrying his mother. The play delves into the depths of the human psyche to reveal repressed emotions, power struggles, and intricate family connections, ultimately becoming a theatrical portrayal of Freudian principles. Oedipus unintentionally assumes the role of the main character in a psychological play that uncovers a complex web of hidden truths and the complicated mechanisms of the human psyche, all due to his persistent pursuit of self-awareness and truth. The narrative serves as a cautionary tale, illustrating the profound influence of deeply rooted subconscious desires on an individual's trajectory in life.

The enduring consequences of Oedipus's actions align with Freud's emphasis on the enduring repercussions of unresolved psychological conflicts, highlighting the inevitable results of untreated psychological diseases. "Oedipus Rex" is transformed into a profound exploration of the human mind when analyzed from a Freudian standpoint. This work offers enduring wisdom on the intricacies of family relationships, the nuances of subconscious desires, and the profound and irreversible outcomes resulting from one's choices. This play serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring importance of human experiences and the continual struggle for self-discovery within the complexities of the mind. It combines elements of ancient theater with current psychiatric thinking. (Jenkins, 2017).

Aims and Objectives

1. Examining the Sophocles' "Oedipus Rex" Freudian concepts, including the Oedipus complex and suppressed emotions, revealing the complex psychological dynamics inside family relationships.
2. Analyzing the human psyche's search for self-awareness and the truth while highlighting the persistent power of unconscious impulses in Oedipus Rex.
3. Evaluating the irrevocable repercussions of unbridled unconscious drives, reflecting Freudian ideas about long-lasting effects.

4. Investigating classic Freudian study of the human psyche.

2.0 Literature Review

2.1 Historical context

The intricate elements of the human psyche are carefully examined via the lens of Sigmund Freud's pioneering psychoanalytic theory inside the mysterious fabric of Sophocles' "Oedipus Rex," an enduring Greek tragedy that surpasses the test of time. This comprehensive literary study delves into the tortuous journey through the complexity of Oedipus's life, uncovering the underlying psychological depths interwoven within the fabric of the plot. This inquiry revolves on the Oedipus complex, a key concept in Freudian theory that portrays Oedipus as a tragic emblem of repressed emotions and hidden desires. As the play unfolds, Oedipus inadvertently becomes a conduit for the intricacies of family connections, revealing the intricate interplay between affection, authority, and selfhood (Perelberg, 2015). The narrative progresses like to a psychological excavation, unveiling latent impulses that shape conduct by unearthing the depths of the human psyche. The power conflicts that emerge inside family structures are comparable to the perpetual struggle that resides within every human soul. Oedipus, in this cosmic drama, symbolizes the struggle to harmonize the innate instincts that lie buried inside the mind and serves as a channel for the shared unconsciousness. The composition, within intricate family dynamics, skillfully builds up the climax of unconscious longings, like a symphony of Freudian nature. In Sophocles' masterpiece, the theater serves as a medium for the characters to delve into their psychological realms. The meticulous craftsmanship of Sophocles combines with Freud's theoretical framework to produce a narrative that not only unfolds on the stage but also delves deeply into the fundamental nature of human existence. "Oedipus Rex" is a timeless psychological masterpiece that adeptly combines the themes of self-discovery, repression, and desire. Although separated by time, Sophocles and Freud collaborate to illuminate the complex underlying mechanisms of the human mind and prompt spectators to contemplate the enduring complexities that define humanity as a collective (Dawe, 2006).

2.2 The Oedipus Complex and Instinctive Desires

The principles of Freudian theory reverberate with every new finding as Oedipus delves farther into the intricate labyrinth of his mind. The depths of his mind expose the intricate nature of familial connections and serve as a reflection of the innate human need for self-discovery. Jocasta, the object of Oedipus's latent desire, symbolizes the elusive quest for satisfaction and approval from mothers. King Laius's commanding demeanor symbolizes the formidable powers that shape our changing world, while also creating a sense of darkness and uncertainty. Oedipus's tragic journey serves as a metaphor for the whole of the human experience, blending the hidden influences that determine fate with the quest for self-discovery. Sophocles adeptly integrates the individual and universal elements to create a narrative that surpasses the chronological and cultural limitations of the play, as it navigates the delicate

landscape of psychological distress. Through Oedipus's unwitting compliance with the inexorable workings of Freudian destiny, the audience in this psychological journey transcends the role of mere onlookers and instead becomes observers of the profound deterioration of the human spirit (Loewald, 2000).

2.3 Repressed Feelings and Power Conflicts

The play "Oedipus Rex" gradually reveals its storyline, taking Oedipus on a relentless quest for self-realization. This excursion unintentionally exposes the complex network of repressed emotions inside the family's structure. Oedipus is motivated by an insatiable need for knowledge, which both shapes his destiny and is shaped by it. Upon assuming the throne in Thebes, Oedipus reveals the intricate power dynamics inherent in familial relationships, illuminating the inherent tensions and intricacy that both fortify and burden these bonds (Dodds, 1966). Freud's exploration of the mind as a repository for repressed emotions has a poignant resonance in the grand narrative depicted by Sophocles. Oedipus's relentless quest for truth transforms into a psychological excavation that uncovers the primal instincts and suppressed emotions residing in the depths of his psyche. The journey undertaken by Oedipus is undeniably linked to Freudian philosophy, as the king unintentionally confronts the darker elements of his unconscious mind. The rise of Oedipus to the throne symbolizes his journey towards self-realization, where a tragic inevitability creates a complex interplay of power dynamics. The expression of repressed emotions acts as a catalyst for Oedipus's self-realization and serves as a stark reminder of the intricate interconnections within his family relationships. Additionally, it functions as a reflective surface that mirrors the broader issue faced by humanity. The viewer is immersed in the intricate psychological turmoil, seeing the intricate dynamics of authority, veracity, and the hidden aspects of human nature, as Oedipus grapples with the consequences of his relentless pursuit. The playwright and psychotherapist use the theater as a metaphorical medium to promote contemplation on profound elements of self-exploration and the inevitable influences that shape the human existence (Goodwin, Jasper, and Polletta, 2000).

2.4 Nuances of Family Systems

"Oedipus Rex" is essentially a detailed examination of Freudian family dynamics, uncovering layers of human connection with a precision that aligns with the subtle complexities outlined by Freud. The revelation of Oedipus's true parentage serves as a narrative upheaval, dismantling the illusion of a stable family structure and revealing the tumultuous truth underneath. This revelation unveils a complex web of interconnections abundant with power dynamics, repressed longings, and unresolved tensions. It may be likened to the examination of the subconscious mind in Freudian psychoanalysis (Hartocollis, 2005). Sophocles adeptly mirrors Freud's contention that families serve as true crucibles of latent tensions rather than mere havens of love and comfort when the truth is revealed. The family becomes a

psychological battleground where repressed emotions and forbidden desires vie for acceptance, their existence forcefully exposed by Oedipus's devastating confession.

The facade of normality that formerly enveloped the royal family of Thebes unravels, revealing an intricate setting where oppression, authority, and longing intertwine in a manner reminiscent of ancient human history. Jocasta, a melancholic individual trapped in the inexorable machinations of destiny, had a harrowing realization that illuminates the intricate dynamics inherent in familial connections. Her inadvertent entanglement in an incestuous relationship with Oedipus propels the narrative from tragedy to a state of psychological paradox. The matronly figure, once a symbol of solid family connections, is now a casualty of the same dynamics she sought to control. Jocasta's tragic fate serves as a poignant reminder of the fragile equilibrium that exists within families, where even a little disturbance may lead to catastrophic consequences. Sophocles presents a timeless exploration of the human condition by adapting the ancient Greek tragedy into a microcosmic portrayal that captures the essence of Freudian family dynamics. The enduring appeal of the family crucible lies in its ability to evoke power, desire, and repression dynamics that transcend cultural and chronological boundaries. "Oedipus Rex" is not just a masterpiece of theater, but also a profound exploration of the intricate dynamics inside families. It offers a profound analysis of the perennial tensions that are inherent in human relationships (McHale and Sirotkin, 2019).

2.5 Long-Term Repercussions and Irreversible Effects

"Oedipus Rex," the tragic magnum opus of Sophocles, essentially echoes Freud's thorough exploration of the enduring consequences of latent desires. The play unfolds not just as a theatrical performance but also as a nuanced cautionary tale, meticulously revealing the unavoidable repercussions that individuals encounter when the intricate realms of the psyche remain unexamined and uninvestigated. Oedipus, the protagonist of this psychological adventure, embarks on a perilous journey of self-discovery, unaware of his true desires and family connections. The evolving narrative is a poignant depiction that meticulously illustrates the grave consequences of disregarding introspection on the human psyche. Oedipus unwittingly pursues a disastrous destiny as he traverses the treacherous path of latent longings. His life is overshadowed by a long and threatening shadow, as the core of his being gets entangled in a complex network of suppressed desires and unresolved family problems. "Oedipus Rex" demonstrates the profound impact of the unconscious mind on human existence, mirroring the fundamental concepts of Freud's theory. The play transforms into a blazing inferno, where the subconscious forces, akin to invisible marionette strings, have a powerful and inescapable influence on the trajectory of Oedipus's life. Similar to Freud, Sophocles highlights the lasting effects of unexplored psychological intricacies, providing the viewers with a deep and abiding understanding of the intricacies of human behavior. (Dawe, 2006).

Through a more thorough analysis of the parallels between Freudian theory and the narrative of "Oedipus Rex," the connection between Oedipus's tragic fate and Freud's deep

comprehension of the enduring impact of unconscious impulses becomes more evident. Oedipus, a tragic figure, gets inadvertently enmeshed in a complex network of family connections, illustrating the subtle interplay between the conscious and subconscious mind. His trip serves as a striking illustration of the consequences that arise when psychological problems and unrealized ambitions are not addressed. "Oedipus Rex" is a timeless allegory that serves as a somber reminder of how human nature often struggles with hidden subconscious forces that shape fate and are difficult to consciously control. Freud's psychoanalytic insights provide a captivating lens to understand the intricate dynamics at play in the narrative of Oedipus. The complex network of subconscious desires, needs, and internal struggles unfolds with precise and tragic precision, mirroring Freud's belief that these psychological elements have a profound impact on an individual's life trajectory. Oedipus's trip serves as a solemn reminder of the long-lasting consequences of suppressed desires and unresolved family conflicts, offering a painful illustration of the crucial need for self-reflection. The play "Oedipus Rex" skillfully explores the intricate and tragic relationship between the conscious and unconscious mind, presenting itself as a remarkable exploration of the human psyche that will permanently impact our shared awareness. It combines elements of traditional theater with innovative psychoanalytic techniques. (Stein, 2007).

3.0 Methodology

Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic concepts were used in the Freudian study of "Oedipus Rex." It focused on the characters' unconscious wants, family relationships, and Sophocles' tragedy's irreparable repercussions. Freudian notions including the Oedipus complex, repression, and symbolism were used to analyze the characters' psychology and relationships. The research examined Oedipus's connection with his parents, Jocasta and Laius, to reveal their complex ambitions and struggles. It examined archetypal symbolism, dream imagery, and subconscious motives to reveal the characters' inner thoughts and grasp the narrative's psychological complexities. To fully explore the theoretical framework, the methodology included a comparative examination of Freudian psychoanalytic interpretations and academic works on literary texts. To provide a complete Freudian interpretation of "Oedipus Rex," the study critically examined previous knowledge and included multiple viewpoints. The tragic narrative's unconscious aspects, family relationships, and permanent effects were revealed by combining various analytical methodologies

4.0 Analysis of Oedipus's tragic fate and its impact on his psyche

Sophocles' play "Oedipus Rex" meticulously and compellingly explores the themes of destiny, free choice, and the deep psychological impact of self-discovery. Oedipus, a tragic protagonist, becomes entangled in a prophesy that predicts unthinkable events as a result of his unwitting involvement in his father's murder and his mother's incestuous union. Oedipus's relentless pursuit of truth, which distinguishes him, acts as the catalyst for his downfall, as every attempt he makes to avoid the prophesy just brings him closer to its clutches. The story's

reoccurring theme of destiny vs. free choice raises existential concerns about the extent to which individuals may exert influence over their own fate. The profound irony of Oedipus's predicament is accentuated by his fervent efforts to defy the divine forces—his struggles to avert disaster instead exacerbate the situation. Oedipus has a profound psychological effect as his true identity is progressively revealed. He has a deep emotional impact that completely shatters his sense of self, as he suddenly becomes aware that he has accidentally fulfilled the prophecy (Rosa, 2006).

This psychological breakdown emphasizes the fragile state of the human mind when confronted with the repercussions of one's actions and serves as a reflection of the universal human experience when faced with the harsh realities of destiny. Oedipus's voyage serves as a cautionary tale on the dangers of excessive pride, as he mistakenly believes he can control his own destiny. The play employs dramatic irony extensively to provide subtlety and intensify the audience's emotional engagement as they see Oedipus unwittingly fulfilling the prophesy. Ultimately, "Oedipus Rex" serves as a timeless illustration of the indomitable force of destiny, the limitations of personal agency, and the profound psychological toll that accompanies self-realization. It compels spectators to contemplate the perennial inquiries that shape the human condition. (Van der Kolk, McFarlane and Weisaeth, 1996).

In the beginning of the play, Oedipus is certain that he can save Thebes by solving the Sphinx's puzzle. Because he doesn't know who he is or what the prophesy says, he feels even more confident. Because of his inflated sense of self-importance, he fails to see the truth about his family history, which ultimately leads to his tragic downfall. Oedipus's determination to find out what happened during the plague in Thebes stems from his need to know the truth. However, as he delves further into the investigation, he unwittingly reveals private details that draw his tragic fate closer to fruition. Interestingly, his relentless pursuit of truth turns out to be the catalyst for his demise. Hearing the truth about his family tree and the prophesy hits Oedipus like a ton of bricks. He comes to the terrifying and self-discovering realization that he is responsible for the plague in Thebes, having fulfilled the prophesy. The mental toll takes an emotional toll on him to the point where he blinds himself as a symbolic form of self-punishment. (Green, 2011).

Moreover, Oedipus's guilt about murdering his father and his incestuous marriage becomes terrible as he embraces these acts of parricidalty. The crushing weight of his guilt and the despair at realizing he can do nothing to alter his destiny push him to a state of profound agony. He expresses his inner pain via physical self-mutilation and blindness. Due to his tragic end, Oedipus withdraws from society. Blinded and sent out of Thebes, he suffers a terrible fate. The psychological toll of his isolation from dealing with the consequences of his actions and the finality of his destiny is substantial. The journey from pride to humility is a crucial aspect of Oedipus' psychological growth. After a while, his innocent innocence gives way to a melancholy understanding of his limitations and the impending doom. The realization of his

tragic destiny at the hands of circumstances beyond his control has humbled him. (Leonard, 2013).

5.0 Significance of applying Freudian analysis to Oedipus Rex

When using Freudian analysis, the well-known Greek tragedy "Oedipus Rex," penned by Sophocles, may provide an intriguing glimpse into the characters' psychological motivations and difficulties. Psychoanalytic pioneer Sigmund Freud developed the concept of the Oedipus complex, which is central to his theory of psychosexual development. A child's rivalry with their same-sex parent and feelings of longing for their opposite-sex parent are the hallmarks of this complex. (Conley, 1993).

Oedipus complex

This is a crucial period of development when children feel rivalry with their same-sex parents and a desire to have sexual relations with parents of the opposite sex, according to psychoanalytic theory. In his seminal work *Interpretation of Dreams*, Sigmund Freud first put forward the concept (1899). Oedipus, the fabled hero of Thebes in Greece, married his mother after inadvertently murdering his father. The Electra complex, a feminine counterpart, is named after another historical figure who helped kill her mother. (Creutzburg, 2023).

Repression

Oedipus Rex delves into the topic of suppression via an insightful analysis of Freudian concepts in Sophocles's play. Following Freud's thesis that repressed desires may manifest in peculiar ways, Oedipus attempts to evade the prophecy by estranging himself from his adoptive parents, Polybus and Merope. Oedipus unwittingly moves closer to the prophecy's fulfillment despite his willful efforts to evade fate. Oedipus's journey is in line with Freud's theory of the unconscious mind, which states that repressing thoughts and feelings could lead to unanticipated consequences. Ultimately, the play molds Oedipus's tragic life trajectory via an absorbing examination of the intricate interplay between intentional acts and the uncontrollable forces of the unconscious.

The Unconscious Mind

Freud thinks that the central concept explored in "Oedipus Rex" is the unconscious mind. Oedipus's lack of awareness of his true identity and birth circumstances exemplifies Freud's idea that significant aspects of the psyche might remain unconscious to the conscious mind. The play illustrates the influence of repressed desires and concepts from the unconscious mind on human actions, as seen by Oedipus's inadvertent realization of the prophecy despite his attempts to evade it. This journey of paradoxes exemplifies the intricate workings of the subconscious mind, which generates outcomes that lie beyond conscious manipulation. Oedipus's lack of self-awareness contributes to the psychological burden, aligning with Freud's assertion that the revelation of repressed elements may profoundly

impact an individual's understanding of their identity and life trajectory. "Oedipus Rex" explores the limits of self-awareness while grappling with the intricacies of the human mind. (Rado, 1949).

Tragedy and Catharsis

The tragic structure of "Oedipus Rex," in which Oedipus's predetermined actions and ultimate demise elicit a cathartic response from the audience, is in complete harmony with Freudian analysis. Freud said that the Oedipus complex serves as a representation of Oedipus's journey, emphasizing the hidden conflicts and ambitions that lie underneath. The play's inevitable nature and profound emotional involvement provide the audience a cathartic release, allowing them to face and overcome their hidden sentiments. Oedipus's tragedy aligns with Freud's views on the cathartic nature of tragedy, as it becomes a therapeutic exploration of the intricacies of the human mind.

Symbolism

In the play "Oedipus Rex," certain symbols like as the Sphinx, the riddle, and blindness have considerable Freudian significance. The Sphinx, renowned for its enigmatic riddle, represents psychological conflicts and repressed desires. It also represents the subconscious mind and its concealed complexities. The conscious mind's attempt to unravel the mysteries of the unconscious is mirrored by Oedipus's achievement in comprehending the riddle, although this victory ironically propels him towards the tragic realization of the prophecy. Within a Freudian paradigm, the issue of blindness, namely Oedipus's self-imposed blindness, has considerable importance. It might be seen as a desperate effort to shield the conscious mind from the overwhelming truths exposed in the unconscious by using a defense mechanism. The instance of Oedipus deliberately blinding himself serves as a poignant illustration of the psychological consequences that arise from confronting one's repressed urges, as well as the susceptibility of the conscious mind when confronted with such revelations. The play is rich in Freudian symbolism and serves as a timeless exploration of the complexities of the human mind and the consequences of delving into the depths of the unconscious

5.0 Discussion and conclusion

The analysis of Sophocles' "Oedipus Rex" via a Freudian lens uncovers an intricate network of interconnected family relationships, hidden longings, and the profound consequences that arise from the inescapable recognition of a fateful prediction. The focal concept of this inquiry is on Freud's Oedipus complex, positing that individuals possess an unconscious yearning for their parents of the opposite gender, resulting in intricate psychological dynamics and internal dilemmas. Unaware of his actions, Oedipus, the main character, unknowingly fulfills the prophecy of murdering his father and marrying his mother, thereby embodying this intricate situation. Freud's theory posits that unconscious drives have a substantial influence on human behavior. In the framework of the family, "Oedipus Rex" serves as a captivating setting to depict the ramifications of these effects. The play unveils intricate familial dynamics, emphasizing

repressed emotions, conflicts for dominance, and concealed yearnings. Oedipus serves as a means to reveal an intricate network of hidden truths that illuminate the intricacies of the human mind via his relentless pursuit of self-awareness and the truth (Wakefield, 2022).

The play's depiction of permanent consequences aligns with Freud's focus on the enduring effects of unconscious desires on individuals' existence. The tragic conclusion of Oedipus's story serves as a poignant warning of the inevitable consequences that arise from neglecting psychological issues. When analyzed via a Freudian lens, the novel delves into the intricate workings of the human mind, offering timeless revelations about hidden desires, intricate family relationships, and the irreversible consequences of one's choices. Oedipus, via his tragic journey and inadvertent realization of the Oedipus complex, serves as a metaphor for the perpetual struggle between conscious awareness and unconscious desires. The play prominently explores the Sphinx's riddle, which references the complexity of the human mind and the enigmatic nature of unconscious motivations. Sophocles' "Oedipus Rex" is an enduring masterpiece that showcases the intricacies of the human psyche in a manner that aligns with Freudian theory. Through the use of Oedipus, the play assumes the shape of a condensed rendition of Freud's Oedipus complex, delving into the profound depths of unconscious yearnings and the resulting impact on family connections. The poem serves as a cautionary message, emphasizing the profound and long-lasting repercussions of unaddressed psychological problems. "Oedipus Rex" offers lasting insights into the complexities of the human mind, extending beyond its classical origins. The play's enduring relevance arises from its ability to provoke contemplation on the universal themes of irrational urges, intricate family dynamics, and the unavoidable repercussions of unexamined psychiatric diseases. Viewers are invited to engage with the play via a Freudian lens, allowing for a deep exploration of the human condition. This interaction leaves a significant impact on both the fields of psychology and literature. (Faber, 1970).

6.0 Implication of study

The application of Freudian analysis to "Oedipus Rex" has profound implications for comprehending the human psyche, familial interactions, and the consequences of hidden desires. The play's exploration of intricate familial connections aligns with Freud's theory of the Oedipus complex, offering an authentic portrayal of the hidden impulses and inner tensions that shape human actions. This method sheds light on the complexity of family systems, while also emphasizing the dynamics of power, repressed emotions, and concealed intentions that impact interpersonal relationships. Oedipus's inadvertent fulfillment of the prophecy underscores Freud's emphasis on the lasting impact of unconscious desires. The performance serves as a cautionary tale, bringing attention to the potentially catastrophic consequences of disregarding mental issues. Oedipus inadvertently exposes an intricate web of hidden truths that illuminate the profound nature of his subconscious longings, as he relentlessly pursues self-awareness. Furthermore, the play evolves into a timeless exploration of the enduring

repercussions that unconscious desires have on individuals' lives. It emphasizes the unavoidable consequences of disregarding underlying impulses and provides crucial insights into the enduring impacts of psychological conflicts. Studying "Oedipus Rex" not only yields insights about the play itself, but also offers valuable perspectives when analyzed via a Freudian framework. This prompts self-reflection on the fundamental aspects of the human condition and encourages an examination of the complex interplay between conscious and unconscious elements that influence individuals, families, and societies. The enduring relevance of Sophocles' exploration of the human psyche and the profound impact of unconscious motivations on the course of human existence is shown in the ongoing importance of these insights.

7.0 Limitations of the study

Freudian analysis of "Oedipus Rex" illuminates complicated familial dynamics, unconscious desires, and their consequences, yet it has limitations. Greek author "Oedipus Rex" composed the play centuries before Freudian psychoanalysis. Sophocles may not have intended his characters and tale to endorse Freud. Freud developed his ideas in late 19th-century Vienna, which differs from ancient Greece's culture and history. The simple application of Freudian ideas to a Greek text is outdated since familial, societal, and psychological concepts changed throughout time. Freudian analysis helps reveal certain psychological aspects of "Oedipus Rex," but it may not completely express the play's depth and richness due to its numerous topics. Literary, philosophical, and historical interpretations may complement one another. Freudian psychoanalysis of "Oedipus Rex" can illuminate psychological issues, but the time and culture differences between ancient Greece and Freudian psychoanalysis must be considered (Koper, 2005). Understanding the range of interpretative frameworks and the changing nature of psychoanalytic theory adds nuance to this classic book. Over time, Freudian theory has evolved and been questioned. Some scholars believe this method is too reductionist and deterministic, simplifying human motivation and behavior. Critics also say psychoanalytic concepts may lead to diverse results because Freudian interpretations are often subjective.

Contributions

Eram Jamil: Drafting and data analysis

Sher Shah Khan: Proofreading and editing

Munawar Shah: Literature search, Methodology

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