This thesis is trying to analyze the motives of the main character namely Dr. Sloper behind the action in novel Washington Square by Henry James. The psychoanalysis theory proposed by Sigmund Freud is the main theory used in this thesis, which includes conscious mind, unconscious mind, defense mechanism, and personal structure to analyze the main character motives behind the action. From the analysis it is found that the unconscious mind of the main character brings conflict between the main character and his daughter. Dr. Sloper’s past experience determines his unconscious actions, which is reflected through the events reflected in the novel.

Keywords: character, psychoanalysis theory, unconscious, conscious, defense mechanism, Id, Ego, Superego