

The Paradoxical World of *Psycho-Pass* Anime Series

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ABSTRACT

Psycho-Pass is one of the most well-known examples of dystopian anime. The story is set in 22nd century Japan, where the country is ruled by the Sibyl System. The world is portrayed to be an ideal world that is seemingly crime-free, yet the world also contained many problems that offset how ideal it seemed. In this paper, we are concerned about how *Psycho-Pass* can be categorized as a paradoxical world. Therefore, we aim to show the ways that the world of *Psycho-Pass* is indeed paradoxical by using utopia and dystopia theories. Through our analysis, we found that elements of both utopia and dystopia are present in *Psycho-Pass*. The world of *Psycho-Pass* is paradoxical in that it is ideal and faulty at the same time.

Keywords: anime, paradoxical, utopia, dystopia.

INTRODUCTION

Anime is a type of animation from Japan (Clements and McCarthy, 2006, p. 96). Although most anime are about Japanese culture and society, it contains a wide range of genres that are enjoyable for everyone. One of the most popular genres of anime is science-fiction, with dystopian anime as one of its main sub-genre. It is commonly portrayed by pop culture either as a society with a powerful ruler where the elite thrive and the rest suffer or as a society that has lost all of its modern advancement and so must depend on traditional technologies (Moriarty, 2019). *Psycho-Pass* is an example of a popular dystopian anime. The story concept was composed by Gen Urobuchi, who was also the main scriptwriter of its first season (*Psycho-Pass*, n.d.). Currently, *Psycho-Pass* is still ongoing with its 3rd season which was released in 2019 (Hodgkins, 2019).

Psycho-Pass is set in the 22nd century of Japan, where it is the only peaceful country. In the story, Japan is ruled by a system called the Sibyl System. The system uses cymatic scans of people's brain waves and mentality to determine their threat level and analyze it to measure their level of criminal intent. The results of the scan are called "Psycho-Pass", which consists of Crime Coefficient (CC) and color-coded Hue. The system was first developed to assist humans. However, due to its precision, attention to detail, and objectivity, the citizens eventually accept it as the ultimate decision-maker. The true hidden form of the system is a collection of criminally asymptomatic individuals' brains, whose "Psycho-Pass" cannot be measured. They are able to look at human actions without sympathy or empathy clouding their judgment and most of them are past criminals. They are the ones scanning and reading people's "Psycho-Pass". The system manages to ensure its control over the justice system through controlling the android body of the Chief of the Public Safety Bureau (PSB).

Even though the world of *Psycho-Pass* seems like a peaceful world, in reality, the citizens are unconsciously living in constant fear. The system uses street scanners to citizens "Psycho-Pass" and if it detects a CC above 100, the individual will be declared as a latent criminal and sent into therapy. If they refuse then they will be chased by The Criminal Investigation Department (CID). One does not have to commit a crime since a malicious thought is enough to raise one's CC. Most latent criminals in the rehabilitation facility will not be able to improve their "Psycho-Pass" and end up dying in their cells. In a rare case that one managed to return to society, they would not be able to escape the stain in their "Psycho-Pass" history. This causes the citizens to

unconsciously live in constant fear since the slightest mistake could ruin their life forever. However, most people have been conditioned to this, accepting that this is how it is supposed to be. Thus, they believe that the world that they are living in is indeed the ideal peaceful world.

Based on the summary above, we believe that there is an underlying theme of fear in the world of *Psycho-Pass* that is supposed to be peaceful. There is an irony in the claims that the system has made about how it has created a safe and affluent society, as it managed to achieve that ideal society by enforcing negative actions. Therefore, we seek to explore how the *Psycho-Pass* world can be said to be paradoxical since it contained elements that opposed each other. The purpose of this study is to show that the Sibyl System constructs the paradoxical world in the *Psycho-Pass* anime series by building a utopian world but at the same time a dystopian one.

To show that *Psycho-Pass* is a paradoxical world, we will first use the theory of utopia by Jon Will from his book entitled *The Ultimate Philosophy*. The first chapter is “Everlasting Life and Good vs. Evil” (p. 21). In this chapter, he said that physical harms are only allowed to stop physical evil. He understood that some people are inherently evil, thus they must be eliminated from society. This is to maximize the resources to help the good of society. The second chapter is “Basics of Life” (p. 25). Basic needs of food, clothing, medical care, and shelter should be obtainable for everyone. Whilst the mentally dysfunctional should be helped so they fix their dysfunction and able to return back to society. Moreover, although it is preferable for religious organizations to be abolished, they are still allowed to hold onto their beliefs whilst sharing their resources to help others. The last chapter is “The Individual and Society” (p. 27). Everyone should be granted fundamental freedom as long as they are not impacting others negatively. Therefore, some level of freedom should be sacrificed in consideration of others. Furthermore, the development of technology should grant society more freedom. Using these elements, we will display the condition of utopia that is present in *Psycho-Pass*.

We will also use a dystopia theory to show the opposing condition of utopia. We will use the characteristics of dystopian fiction that we found in an article by Justin Scholes and Jon Ostenson (2013) entitled *Understanding the Appeal of Dystopian Young Adult Fiction*. In the article, they mentioned that dystopian fiction opposes utopian fiction since, unlike utopia, it usually portrays negative societies under domination. There are thirteen characteristics of dystopia, however, we will only use nine since those are clearly present in *Psycho-Pass*, namely: Excessive measures to police society (unjust laws); Pressure to conform; Suppression of the art; Limited or complete lack of individual freedom; Division of people into privileged and unprivileged groups; Little hope for change; Human lives that are rote, meaningless, or inhuman; Flawed, misunderstood, or abused advances (science, technology); Suppression of emotions (para. 4). Using these characteristics, we will display the state of dystopia in the utopian world of *Psycho-Pass*.

The world of *Psycho-Pass* may serve as a self-criticism of real-life Japan. It is portrayed as a world that has high technological advancements and is crime-free. However, it has many issues and conflicts that may counteract how perfect it may seem. There lies a contradiction in the world of *Psycho-Pass* since it managed to appear flawless when it is full of flaws. This may be similar to how Japan is since it is seen as a first-world country that is very successful and deemed to be paradise-like. But the reality is that Japan has its own issues which offset how great the country may appear to be. Therefore, no matter how great a society is portrayed to be, that is not always the case when one observes it from another perspective.

THE UTOPIA AND DYSTOPIA ELEMENTS IN *PSYCHO-PASS* ANIME SERIES

The world in *Psycho-Pass* is based upon a contradiction. The citizens believe that they are living in a peaceful society, but at the same time, they are under constant surveillance by the

Sibyl System and thereby restricting their freedom. This creates a paradoxical situation where two opposing conditions — utopia and dystopia — exist within one society. The purpose of this analysis is to identify both the utopian and dystopian elements that exist within the world of *Psycho-Pass*. By presenting utopian and dystopian elements that directly contradict each other, we will prove that the world of *Psycho-Pass* is a paradoxical one.

Only Good and No Evil vs. Extreme Control Through Law Enforcement

The first element of utopia is only good and no evil (Will, 2002, p. 21). The main dystopian element that opposes this utopian one would be the abuse of power committed by the authorities (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). *Psycho-Pass* is set in Japan, where it is the only peaceful nation. Although the world seems peaceful, this is something that is gained using extreme force by the Sibyl System. The abuse of power through extreme control of law enforcement ends up birthing more evil than good amongst the citizens and makes the system itself evil.

The first utopian element can be seen from how the system makes sure that everyone stays good and no evil is present by maintaining people's "Psycho-Pass" status. One of the ways it managed to do this is by using street scanners to constantly monitor the citizens of Japan, which are directly connected to the Sibyl System. Due to the many scanners that are available, citizens have accepted it as part of their daily lives and it has become nearly impossible to escape these scanners. An example of the street scanners in action can be seen when Nobuo Okura was examined by a street scanner and stopped by a security bot that ordered him to receive therapy. Sending people with a moderately high CC number or cloudy Hue to therapy acts as a crime prevention method. Therefore, the system eliminates evil before it can be committed.

Furthermore, the Sibyl System further maintains the utopian condition of only good and no evil by also monitoring Area Stress Level, which is a number that represents the average "Psycho-Passes" of citizens from one block of the city. If an individual's "Psycho-Pass" is detected to be unstable, then it will cause the Area Stress Level to be elevated. This will set off an alarm that alerts the CID, where inspectors and enforcers are sent to handle the situation. One does not have to commit a malicious act as the thought alone is enough to alert the system. By taking thoughts into account when scanning an individual's brain and measuring their "Psycho-Pass", it manages to further prevent evil from its actualization.

However, the use of these street scanners to constantly monitor people's "Psycho-Pass" displays the dystopian element of "excessive measure to police society", which is the antithesis of the utopian element of only good and no evil (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). Constantly monitoring the citizens could cause them great stress as they feel like their every move is always being watched. An example of this is Nobuo Okura who was flagged by the scanner as a latent criminal. He had been living under constant restraint which caused him great stress. He always adhered to the rules due to the fear that he might ruin his life. In the end, all that fear and stress accumulated and he could no longer maintain his "Psycho-Pass". The excessive control caused the opposite of the ideal condition of only good and no evil by driving Nobuo to commit evil. Even though the scanner was intended to be used to police and maintain the citizens, the system went too far in its application and ended up putting a lot of fear and suffering on people.

Another example of the dystopian element in opposition to the utopian element of only good and no evil can be seen in the case of Enforcer Shusei Kagari who was labeled as a latent criminal when he was 5 years old. As a child, he would not be able to commit any dangerous crime, therefore he should not be treated like a criminal. However, according to the system, his "Psycho-Pass" was too high, and thus he was thrown into a facility. This shows the system's excessive measure to maintain people's "Psycho-Pass". In the end, Shusei might have turned into a criminal since he enjoyed being an enforcer to hunt and kill others. This also showcases a

deviant behavior since he deviated from the original purpose of being an enforcer. He defied the role that the system has assigned for him, which was to assure the safety of the citizens. Instead, his purpose was to be a hunting dog whose job was to kill others. Moreover, he was able to do this under the protection of the law. This further showcases the paradox that exists in the world of *Psycho-Pass* since individuals were able to exercise evil under the protection of the law, even though it was supposed to be a world that where there is only good and no evil.

In addition, constant monitoring of citizens' "Psycho-Pass" displays another dystopian element that opposes the utopian condition of all good and no evil, which is "limited or complete lack of individual freedom" (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). The citizens can never truly be free as the Sibyl System always keeps track of everyone's movement. This can be seen when officers barged into an apartment room because of an Area Stress Level warning. This shows that the citizens do not have freedom in their own homes as the system can still monitor their thoughts there. This is proven by how the system managed to detect their "Psycho-Pass" through the Area Stress Level. Therefore, the citizens could never escape the watch of the system. This confirmed the fact that citizens' freedom is constantly limited. The system itself may be evil in this case as it strips people's freedom away even when they are in the comfort of their own home.

Furthermore, constant surveillance over the citizens leads to another dystopian element that opposes the condition of all good and no evil, which is "pressure to conform" (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). Citizens' are pressured to maintain their "Psycho-Pass" since they are under constant surveillance. This creates an obsession among the citizens to keep their "Psycho-Pass" clear. This leads to an illness called Eustress Deficiency Cerebral Infraction, which leads to the patient to be a living corpse and is caused by excessive stress care. One of its' patients is Roichi Oryo. He was a well-known illustrator, however, he lost his motivation and purpose as an artist after the system was established. He used the best stress care methods to deal with the stress until he became addicted to them. In the end, he caught the disease and eventually died of heart failure. In *Psycho-Pass*, people are pressured to conform to the standard that people's "Psycho-Pass" must always stay clear. Thus, many became obsessed with removing stress from their life to the point of killing themselves through excessive stress care. Instead of a condition where all is good, it can be argued that the system is evil since it managed to indirectly kill citizens through pressure that they put upon the people to maintain their "Psycho-Pass".

Moreover, the constant surveillance causes another dystopian element to exist, which is "suppression of emotions" (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). Due to how peaceful the world of *Psycho-Pass* is, citizens could no longer feel sympathy. When there was a man being seen beating up a woman in the middle of a crowded street, none of the citizens expressed any sign of distress, a change of emotions, or even be bothered to help the woman. They all acted as nothing had happened. None of the citizens even understood what was going on because they have only lived a peaceful life all their lives. They had never felt the need to sympathize with others, therefore none of them could feel sympathy for the victim. In the end, the constant surveillance caused the sympathetic emotions of the citizens to be suppressed.

In spite of the dystopian situation that is caused through constant surveillance, there is another way for the Sibyl System to maintain the utopian condition of all good and no evil, which is through inspectors and enforcers who punish criminals by using Dominators. It is a type of gun that reads an individual's psychological data and immediately sends it to the system for the calculation of their CC. The Dominator acts like Sibyl's eye and passes Sibyl's judgment. If a target's CC is above 100, the Dominator will be set to the "Non-Lethal Paralyzer" mode where the target will be immobilized. They are then either given therapy or isolated. However, if their CC reaches above 300, the Dominator will classify them as a serious threat and it will switch to "Lethal Paralyzer" mode where the target's body will explode. These individuals are deemed to

be people that cannot be helped. Therefore, through the Dominators the system managed to get rid of those that it considered evil from the society by either killing them or putting them in facilities and maintained the condition that there is only good within the society.

On the other hand, the use of Dominators opposes the condition of all good and no evil, which creates a dystopian element of “excessive measure to police society” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). The system went overboard with the “Lethal Paralyzer” mode as it obliterates the body of its' target. Criminals in *Psycho-Pass* were not just simply killed, but they were blown to bits, leaving nothing recognizable behind. This approach is excessive, considering that there is another way to handle the criminal. Furthermore, witnessing the use of Dominators can cause others' “Psycho-Pass” to worsen, as seen with a hostage victim whose CC rose significantly after witnessing the “Lethal Paralyzer” mode. Although the Dominator managed to get rid of what the system judged as evil by killing the criminal, it also ended up bringing about more evil to the world through worsening the “Psycho-Pass” of the witnessing citizens.

Furthermore, the use of Dominator displays the dystopian element of “human lives that are rote, meaningless, or inhuman” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013). The inspectors and enforcers live have become rote since they use the gun without thinking. Following what the machine said has become a habit for them since they have done it countless of times. Thus, it has caused the condition of the inspectors' and enforcers' lives when holding the gun to become like a robot since they have stopped thinking. Furthermore, Enforcer Shinya showed a deviant behavior since he chose to break out of the mentality of obeying the gun. Rather, he decided that one should think before shooting a criminal and that he should prioritize protecting others instead of bringing criminals down. This shows his defiance against the system's way of thinking since he began to think for himself and defied the norm of following what the Sibyl System said.

Moreover, the Sibyl has used the Dominator for their own gain which opposes the condition of all good and no evil, which showcases the dystopian element of “flawed, misunderstood, or abused advances (science, technology)” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). The Sibyl System has been shown to misuse the weapon to benefit itself. This can be seen from when Joshu Kasei killed Enforcer Shusei and Gu-sung Choe using the Dominator after they discovered the true form of the system. Since Joshu's body is only an android body that is controlled by the Sibyl System, this means the system directly killed the two men by abusing the technology that it owned. In fact, when the gun was pointed at Enforcer Kagari, it was in the “Non-Lethal Paralyzer” mode, however, the system forced the gun to change to “Destroy Decomposer” mode to ensure the enforcer's death. In the end, the system misused the power that it has over the Dominator even though Enforcer Shusei should have been merely paralyzed. This shows an example of the system being evil and abusing the power of technological advancements through the existence of the Dominator.

All Basic Human Needs Attainable at Ease vs. Limited Freedom Among Individuals

The second element of utopia is that the basics of life — such as food, clothing, medical care, and shelter — that every individual need, including the mentally dysfunctional, should be effortlessly available for them (Will, 2002, p. 25). The opposing dystopia element is the lack of freedom individuals have in that society (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). In *Psycho-Pass*, those considered mentally dysfunctional are latent criminals. This is because their “Psycho-Pass” are deemed abnormal. Although the system does help these individuals, their freedom is also restricted. Thus, they manage to earn the basics of life in exchange for their freedom.

The utopian element can be seen in the fact that the Sibyl System provides the basic needs of latent criminals in facilities. Due to their “Psycho-Pass” status, the system requires them to get therapy. This allows latent criminals to be able to recover their “Psycho-Pass” by receiving

treatment from the facility. This can be seen from when a hostage victim had her CC raised, but shown recovery after taken into custody and receiving therapy. This shows that society is providing mentally dysfunctional individuals with shelter, food, and clothing whilst they are in the facility and also medical care like therapy, instead of merely casting them aside.

Furthermore, the utopian element can also be seen from how the Sibyl System provided the basic needs of latent criminals in the Rehabilitation Center. They are given their own cell and their “Psycho-Pass” is constantly monitored. They are given therapy, counseling, and even stress care drug treatment, all for the sake of bettering their “Psycho-Pass”. Furthermore, there is a loaning service where latent criminals can request to borrow or purchase items. Even those in the isolation facilities are still provided. They have dolls and even hookah in their cell. It is evident that latent criminals are provided not only with their basic needs but they are also given other things that they want.

Although the facilities can represent a utopian element where peoples’ needs are fulfilled, it can also display dystopian elements, which is “limited or complete lack of individual freedom” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). Latent criminals who are in facilities have limited freedom, which causes them to be mentally unstable. Many of them are suffering mentally and one of them, in particular, was shown repeatedly banging her head onto a wall. If a latent criminal was detected as getting aggressive, then sedative gas will be injected into their room to knock them out. These latent criminals were clearly mentally unstable, due to being locked up in a cell and forced to undergo constant treatment. Although they were provided with their basic needs, they were robbed of their freedom which caused them mental distress. This defeats the purpose of providing them with therapy since it caused their mentality to deteriorate.

Furthermore, the use of facilities also shows another dystopian element, which is “little hope for change” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). There is little hope for the betterment of society because most of the latent criminals in facilities will never be able to return back to society. A conversation revealed that most latent criminals in facilities ended up being stuck in their cell until they eventually died, even though the purpose of these facilities is to improve people’s “Psycho-Pass” to return back to society. In reality, there was barely any chance for them to improve their “Psycho-Pass”, but most people did not know this. Not only is there little hope for these latent criminals to change, the fact that most latent criminals will be stuck being latent criminals showcase that there is close to no hope for this society to change. No one will change, and thus their society will also stay the same.

Despite the dystopian situation that is caused by the latent criminals, there is a situation where another utopian element can be seen from how the system provides the basic needs of enforcers. They are latent criminals that the system has judged as having the aptitude for being an enforcer. They help the CID by assisting inspectors, whilst the inspectors monitor them closely. The enforcers are provided with a life much better than one in a facility. They are given spacious rooms which can be filled with things such as arcade games, a bar, and they can even keep a pet. They can even get out of the PSB building as long as they are accompanied by an inspector.

On the other hand, being an enforcer also displays a dystopian element, which is “limited or complete lack of individual freedom” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). Enforcers have their freedom limited as they are not allowed to move as they please. They are being confined within the CID floor and enforcers’ rooms. Furthermore, they have to be under the supervision of an inspector if they ever leave the PSB building. It is evident that enforcers do not have their freedom since they are still being imprisoned in a cell, only that their cell just got bigger and that they now have to help the CID in hunting other latent criminals like them. In the end, they still lack freedom since their freedom of movement is still monitored and restricted.

Furthermore, the existence of enforcers created the dystopian element of “human lives that are rote, meaningless, or inhuman” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). The enforcers are generally not treated as humans. They are given the code name "Hounds", and the enforcers call them hunting dogs. The way the inspectors treat the enforcers can be considered inhuman since they merely see enforcers as beasts that they can use. Just because they are latent criminals, they are seen more like an animal than an individual and are no longer seen the same as other people.

Although the circumstances of the enforcers created dystopian conditions, the utopian condition is still maintained which can be seen with how religious organizations help in providing immigrants and refugees with their basic needs. The Sibyl System also established a Special Religious Zone for immigrants due to the restriction on religious activities. There were three major religious organizations in *Psycho-Pass*. They help provide consultations, therapy, shelter, clothing, food, and protection for refugees and immigrants. These organizations devoted themselves in assisting those who need their help by sharing their resources with them.

However, the existence of the zone and religious organizations help in providing people's basic needs show the existence of the dystopian element of “division of people into privileged and unprivileged groups” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). The privileged group is citizens of Japan, whilst the unprivileged group are the immigrants and the refugees who faced discrimination from the privileged group. They were clearly not welcomed in Japan, as they were believed to have the ability to cloud Japanese people's Hues. Furthermore, the fact that there needs to be a separate zone exhibits the clear division between the groups. Although the system has accepted them by giving them their own zone, they are still not truly acknowledged. This is because by staying in the zone, they will be isolated from the rest of the society.

Individuals and Society's Freedom Under A Government vs. Misuse of Technological Advancement

The last element of utopia is about how individuals within a society should be able to enjoy their freedom as long as others are not adversely affected (Will, 2002, p. 27). The main conflicting dystopian element is the mistaken, misinterpreted, or misuse of advancements of science and or technology (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). The technological advancements within *Psycho-Pass* have managed to alleviate the burden of certain jobs, which indirectly increases citizens' freedom. However, there have been instances when the Sibyl System has also exploited the advancements for their own benefit.

The element of utopia in *Psycho-Pass* can be seen from how individuals are generally able to enjoy their freedom since they are able to exercise their autonomy. However, complete freedom is not possible in consideration of other people's freedom. Therefore, “Psycho-Pass” scanners are set to monitor citizens and their “Psycho-Pass”. As long as they are not affecting others negatively, then they can use their freedom. Monitoring civilians allows the Sibyl to not only grant freedom for everyone but also to prevent any chaos that may harm other citizens.

However, these scanners limit people's freedom, which opposes the utopian element of individuals' freedom and displays the dystopian element of “flawed, misunderstood, or abused advances (science, technology)” (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). The system abused the scanners to keep a constant watch of the citizens, thus indirectly restrict them. Even though the citizens feel like they have the freedom, the truth is they are always being watched by the Sibyl. Thus, they do not have that freedom since they will always be watched by the system.

Even though the scanners have created a dystopian condition, the utopian element is still maintained through *The Occupational Aptitude Test*, which helps improve individuals' and

society's freedom. The test allows people to make use of their talents to the fullest, which in turn gives them more freedom in expressing their talents. This test help guarantees an improvement in humans' standard of living and helps maximize human resources.

On the other hand, this test leads to the dystopian element of "suppression of art" which opposes the individual's freedom (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). Due to the fact that artists in *Psycho-Pass* have to be approved by the Sibyl through the test, their freedom of expression became limited. The fact that artists have to be approved by the Sibyl showcases that art has lost its freedom of expression. This means that the system limits the type of emotions artists can express, which in turn limits their freedom as artists.

Despite how the test created a dystopian condition, the utopian element of individuals and society's freedom was still increased with technological and scientific advancements. Examples of them are forensic bots and security bots, which help with police work. Forensic bots help make the process of investigation easier and faster. Whilst patrolling areas are left to security bots so that the inspectors and enforcers can focus on doing other jobs. There are also holograms, one of them being the communication holograms which can be used to send and receive data instantly. There is also an appearance hologram that is called Komissa, which looks like a humanoid cartoon character that is used as a disguise for inspectors, enforcers, and security bots. Due to the lack of manpower that the CID has, these technologies help in assisting them with their job which lessens the work that they have to do.

There is also another example of a utopian element where society is given more freedom through a scientific advancement, which is called Hyper-oats. They are oats that are genetically modified and make up 99% of the food supply in Japan. It has maximum harvest efficiency and has a fully automated farming system. This alleviates the need for agricultural workers in the country, liberating people from the need to work as farmers and allowing them to do jobs that suit their talents. There is also a food printer device, which eases people to cook their food. It is an oven-shaped appliance that is available in homes or apartments that is often controlled through a hologram servant.

However technological advancements also showcase the dystopian element of "flawed, misunderstood, or abused advances (science, technology)" (Scholes and Ostenson, 2013, para. 4). This is because the Sibyl System has also paradoxically used technology advancements to limit people's freedom. This is achieved through taking advantage of cybernetics and using it to have an android body who held the position as the Chief of the PSB. Therefore, the system managed to gain direct control of the law enforcement. They also exert the police force for their own personal gain, one of them is to collect more criminally asymptomatic individuals which therefore limits their freedom. The system uses the power that it has over technology to make them join the system by force. The system abused the technological advancement that they have over cybernetics to limit criminally asymptomatic individuals' freedom.

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded from the analysis that the world of *Psycho-Pass* is full of contradictions. One thing can be an example of a utopian element, yet also display a dystopian element. There exists a paradox since both utopia and dystopia coexist in one world. *Psycho-Pass* is a world that is simultaneously ideal and faulty. Despite how seemingly perfect the world of *Psycho-Pass* is, it contains many imperfections. Therefore, this shows that even though a world may seem enviable, that may not be the case in reality.

On top of that, there are examples of deviant behavior within the world of *Psycho-Pass*. Examples of it can be seen from how two enforcers, Shusei Kagari and Shinya Kogami, who

defied the norm that is accepted in Psycho-Pass. Shusei showed a deviant behavior by using his position as an enforcer to kill criminals instead of protecting others. Whilst Shinya showed his deviant behavior through his way of thinking since he began to think that one should not always obey what the Dominator told them to do. These examples of a deviant behavior show that even in an ideal society, people would still defy the system.

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