

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

In this section, the writer divides into three parts. The first is theoretical study which explains about theories used in this research. The second part is previous studies which explains about some studies which have conducted the similar research. Theoretical framework is the last part in this section, which discusses the reason why the theories are needed to be applied in this research.

#### **A. Theoretical Study**

There are some theories used for this research. Those theories are elaborated below.

##### **1. Literature**

The term “literature” can be defined as an artistically works which used “language” as its medium. Abrams (1981: 36) says that literature as an imitation, or reflection, representation of the world and human life, and the primary criterion applied to a work is that the truth of its representation to the objects it represents, or should represent.

Meanwhile, Wellek and Warren (1948: 22) also state that the literary arts is imaginative literature, it seem to be the best way to define the term literature. The author's imagination is also used to create literature. Literature is more than just a collection of hypothetical real-life happenings; it is also more than just a record of fact. As the result of limitless imagination, literature is capable of creating its own universe.

A work of literature is a response to the problems of human existence and fate including discrimination against women. Literature is the mirror of human life that portrays human feeling, thought, imagination and perception which can be viewed based on personal judgment (Wellek and Warren, 1971: 3). In line with Wellek and Warren, Morris (1993: 7) states that literature gives people a powerful insight about the disadvantages that women get from society. The imaginative ways of literary works in portraying women's lives can increase people's indignation at the problem of gender and will help to stop it.

From the definitions above, the writer concludes that literature comes from the imagination of a author from several perspectives that are fiction or the truth and expressed through the art of language and one of them is feminism.

## 2. Feminism

Feminism is a women's movement that demands full equality of rights between men and women. Feminism has become a huge area of study since the resurgence of the women's movement in the sixties (Osborne, 2001: 7). Geofe (in Sugihastuti and Suharto, 2005: 61) states that feminism is an organized activity that fights for the rights and interests of women.

Hooks (2000: 1) explains that feminism is a social movement that seeks to eliminate sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression. She adds further that feminism is not about being anti-male and this addition

explains that it is now clear that the problem is sexism and not being anti-male. It means that feminism does not consider men the enemy of women because the ones who maintain gender discrimination are not only men, but also women.

Meanwhile, Bhasin and Khan (1999: 3) declares that feminism is an awareness of patriarchal control, exploitation and oppression at the material and ideological levels of women's labor, fertility and sexuality, in the family, at the place of work and in society in general, and conscious action by women and men to transform the present situation. Furthermore, Humm (2002) in Darma (2013: 143) defines that when women believed to experience persecution, injustice, hegemony and hatred by the patriarchy, then suing to deconstruct the patriarchal structure and ideology of capturing women is what is called feminism.

From those definitions above, feminism seems very clear on moving against patriarchy and its ideological principles. This movement of women clearly states that patriarchy have been producing an ideology that creates sexist oppression and gender discrimination towards women.

### 3. Patriarchy

In a patriarchal system, men control women's lives. Patriarchy is an ideology and a way of thinking that legally, politically, socially, religiously and economically enforces male dominance and power (Rakoczy, 2004: 10). Patriarchal system also believes in the idea of motherhood which limits women's mobility and also obligates them with

the burden of the duties to rear and nurture children (Ray, 2006: 2). He also states that the archaic view believes that patriarchy is determined biologically. Since men and women are different, the social duties and roles attributed for women are also different.

Men's and women's roles in a patriarchal society are indeed different. Tong (1998: 72-73) states that patriarchal society describes women and men by gender system to insure that women are passive (kind, cheerful, obedient, soft, and full of affection while men are enthusiastic (aundacious, responsible, competitive, full of ambition, etc). Patriarchal culture and ideology are socialized in society because they get legitimacy from various aspects of life, both interpretations of religion and belief, as well as the state (Walby, 1990: 17).

Historian Gerda Lerner argues that patriarchy began when men learned how to convert 'different' into dominance and established the intellectual framework for all systems of hierarchy, inequality, and exploitation (Lerner, 1997: 133).

According to Johnson (2014: 5), there are four elements of patriarchy system in society, which are the privileges of men that are promoted in patriarchal society such as; male dominance, male identification, male centeredness and male's obsession with control.

- a. Patriarchy is male dominated in political, economic, judicial, religious, educational, military, and domestic positions of authority are traditionally reserved for men (Johnson, 2014: 6).

- b. Patriarchal societies are male identified in that fundamental cultural beliefs about what is acceptable, desirable, preferable, or normal are culturally linked to how we think about men, manhood, and masculinity (Johnson, 2014: 7).
  - c. To being male dominated and male identified, patriarchy is also predominantly male centered, which implies that men and boys and what they do are the main subjects of concern (Johnson, 2014: 10).
  - d. Control is a fundamental component of patriarchy, as it is in any system of privilege that elevates one group by oppressing another: men preserve their advantage by managing both women and other men who might challenge it (Johnson, 2014: 13).
4. Stereotypes

Stereotypes are perceptions or beliefs that are espoused about groups or individuals based on opinions and attitudes which was formed first. Stereotyping is labeling a group of people in the ways which tend to be negative (Fakih, 2012: 16). There are many stereotypes that are made by society on a group of people and some of them are based on gender. Those kinds of stereotypes are the social norms which demand women and men to behave in different ways (Aksu, 2005: 14).

A stereotype is divided into two types, namely hetero stereotype and auto stereotype. Hetero stereotype refers to stereotypes associated with other groups, while auto stereotypes are stereotypes related to themselves. This stereotype is not always negative but also sometimes

contains positive image. This stereotype can be in the form of positive or negative views, usually, it is entirely true, but it can also be entirely wrong (Matsumoto, 2003: 69).

Simone de Beauvoir as one of the most influential feminists of the 20th century says that women are "the other", defined negatively, that is, women are those who lack power. This weakness is then considered as fate that women must accept without being able to be changed. Women are then symbolized as night, chaos, and immanence. Their inability to perceive reality is attributed to their lack of logic and ignorance (Beauvoir, 1989: 302).

In Beauvoir's book entitled *The Second Sex* discusses why our societal concept of "woman" is problematic. Beauvoir insists that we must not look at societal good, but individual good. She further writes that there is no public good other than one that assures the citizens' private good; we judge institutions from the point of view of the concrete opportunities they give to individuals (Beauvoir, 2011: 16-17).

Beauvoir discusses women through the concepts of transcendence and immanence. She defines transcendence as active, creative, projecting forward into the future and immanence as passive, internal, and centered on the maintenance of the species. Beauvoir argues that women face particular issues with transcendence. Despite being autonomous beings rooted in freedom, women find themselves in a society where they are pushed to the position of the Other or the object.

Attempts are made to reduce them to immanence and prevent their transcendence (Beauvoir, 2011: 16-17). This is the source of the problem for Beauvoir which woman ought to be able to achieve transcendence, and the concept of womanhood and “femininity” constrain her ability to do so.

Thus, there are several stereotypes towards women contained in the Simone de Beauvoir’s book entitled *The Second Sex* (2011), as follows:

a. Women as Sexual Partner, Reproducer, and Erotic Object.

For man woman as a solely productive force including a sexual partner, a reproducer, an erotic object, an Other through whom he seeks himself. These old patriarchal constraints are exactly the ones the U.S.S.R. has brought back to life today. It has revived paternalistic theories about marriage; and in doing so, it has asked woman to become an erotic object again: a recent speech asked Soviet women citizens to pay attention to their clothes, to use makeup, and to become flirtatious to hold on to their husbands and stimulate men desire (Beauvoir, 2011: 92-93).

b. Women as Motherhood and Housewife.

The differences between men and women can be seen in contrast, when men hunt and catch fish, women just stay at home. As a housewife and mother, woman gives up her free holidays to fields and forests, usually preferring to plant gardens and be in the kitchen

quietly, she tames flowers and puts them in vases (Beauvoir, 2011: 745). In her function as wife, mother, and homemaker, she is unrecognizable in her singularity.

c. Women as Weak Creatures.

According to Beauvoir (2011: 126), the general point of view in stating that a woman must live closed at home and obey men. Slaves were completely deprived of their freedom of conscience; woman does have it, but she is weak and powerless. What is dangerous for her is that women are weak and have less productive capacity does not explain this exception. On the contrary, it is because she does not participate in her ways of working and thinking and because she remains enslaved to the mysteries of life that men do not recognize her as an equal; by not accepting it, once she perceives the dimensions of others, men can only become her oppressors (Beauvoir, 2011: 112).

Since women are weak, in other words powerless, compared to men, it is evident that society's opinion on gender describes that men should have the power. This is contributing to the social construction of gender by making men seem like they have more power and privilege over women.

d. Women Lacked in Political and Education.

The main focus of this kind of stereotypes is the characteristics of man more domination than women in political and



education. To declare that woman is the Other which suggest that there is no reciprocity between the sexes, and whether Earth, Mother, or Goddess, she is never man's partner, her power manifesting itself outside human rule: she is thus outside this rule. Men have always dominated society, and men have always wielded political power. Political power, or simply social power, has always belonged to men (Beauvoir, 2011: 105).

Further, Beauvoir (2011: 175) says that political discussion will bring disagreements between the couple. Women are different from men. Voting is an obligation and not a right, women do not deserve it. They are less intelligent and educated than men. If women choose, men will become effeminate. In fact, women lack political education so they will choose according to the wishes of their husbands.

e. Women are More Emotional Expressiveness.

More instability and less control makes the woman more emotional, which is directly related to vascular variations such as palpitations, flushing, and so on and thus they are subject to seizure attacks such as tears, nervous laughter, and hysteria (Beauvoir, 2011: 66).

Beauvoir (2011: 83) defines that the woman would fear baldness, penetration, pregnancy, pain, and these fears would restrain her desires, this explanation too rational. Instead of accepting desire

disguised as anxiety or being overpowered by fear, we must consider the urgent and frightening pull it exerts on a woman's desire as fundamental. Thus, it concludes that women are more emotional, nervous, and irritable than usual and can exhibit serious psychological problems.

Gender roles in stereotypes are very influential in everyday life, how society evaluates and treats men and women. Among them there are many who limit and clash the roles that should play by women or men. Then gender stereotypes become restraints and standards that women should be like in general views of women, more specifically men. In order for equality to be achieved, gender stereotypes must be suppressed so as not to stifle equality that women and men have equal opportunities is no longer a general view.

## 5. Novel

A novel is a prose narrative work of fiction that is typically written in the form of a story. The term for novel is derived from Italian novella which defines “a little new thing”, and is developed various as a short story in prose (Abrams and Harpham, 2015: 252). In line with Abrams and Harpham, Sumardjo (1998: 29) says that the term "novel" refers to a story written in long prose, with a complex plot, numerous characters, and varied settings.

Novel is written in the form of a story. Furthermore, novel can be used as a place to tell some aspects of human life. Thus, the novel is

not only based on data nonfiction, the author of novel can change according to the desired imagination. Taylor (1981: 62) argues that a novel is typically a lengthy and complicated prose work that tries to reflect and express something about the equality or worth of human experience or behavior.

However, the experiences and life problems are usually the important points in the story, fictions must remain as an interesting story, remains as a coherent structure building, and still has an aesthetic purpose (Wellek and Warren, 1948: 212).

Therefore, it may be said that a novel is a lengthy piece of writing, typically involving complicated characters and a storyline that uses everyday language and reflects on a variety of aspects in human life.

## **B. Previous Studies**

The previous studies systematically include the previous research result that has related relation to the topic with this research. In this part, the writer gives detail previous studies from Ana Diana (2014) and Afra Paramita Bahr (2018).

The first researcher is Ana Diana (2014) from English Letters Department, Adab and Humanities Faculty, States Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta with a thesis entitled "An Analysis of Woman Stereotype in Hercules and the Amazon Women Film". The research question was how are women in Hercules and the Amazon Women film described and

the objective of the research was to know how the women stereotype is described in Hercules and the Amazon Women film with. This research uses it to get the data on stereotype aspect especially for the gender stereotype that appears in the film.

The researcher did two research steps in order to complete the study. First, the researcher displayed a scene from the film Hercules and the Amazon Women, and then the researcher quoted lines or talks from the film Hercules and the Amazon Women that were classified as gender stereotyping.

The study came to the conclusion that there are certain issues with gender stereotypes, such as the notion that men should protect women because they are weak creatures that perform all household chores and are inconsequential spiteful, unpredictable, sensitive, and liars. Women are portrayed in this film as being devalued. Sometimes, women are treated less favorably than men and aren't allowed to hold the same positions of authority in business. As a result, they are making an attempt to defend her position and right, which are the same as those of a man.

The similarities with this study is aimed to find out women stereotypes in literary works. The different is that the researcher's study used the film as the objective of research. She also analyzes the data from the dialogues between characters and pictures that captured by the researcher in order to simplify her to analyze it. On the other hand, the writer uses the novel as the objective of research. The writer also analyzes the novel by

underlying, quotationing, arranging and selecting the data based its classification.

The second researcher is Afra Paramita Bahr (2018) from Study Program of English, Department of Languages and Literature, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya with thesis entitled, "Women Stereotypes Depicted in Daya's Song Entitled Sit Still Look Pretty".

The problem was stated by the researcher as women stereotypes depicted in Daya's song Sit Still, Look Pretty, and the objective of this research was to examine women stereotypes depicted in Sit Still, Look Pretty. The researcher gathered data by downloading the song's music video from YouTube and the lyrics from genius. The researcher watched Daya and Mike Campbell's video on genius about Sit Still Look Pretty.

After classifying the data, the researcher breaks down the lyrics to determine their meaning. Furthermore, she applied mise-en-scene theory to a picture captured from Sit Still, Look Pretty's music video, which supported the meaning of the lyrics.

According to the findings of the study, Sit Still, Look Pretty incorporated both traditional and contemporary gender stereotypes of women. This song exemplifies the persisting preconceptions of women as being totally dependent on men, unable of having lofty aspirations, obligated to conform to beauty standards, and mere objects of desire. It also presents new stereotypes of strong women as a working woman with big goals, who can define her own attractiveness and dress for self-fulfillment, who is financially

independent, and who views herself as a subject with the power to make decisions about her life.

The difference lies in the objects that the writer studies: Her research used song, while this study uses novel. Meanwhile, the similarities with this study is that both the researcher's and this study apply feminism, patriarchal system and women's stereotypes using the theory of Simone de Beauvoir. The researcher focused to analyse some stereotypes of women that appear in Sit Still, Look Pretty song, then discovered that those stereotypes are not suited women characteristics, lastly, concluded that this is a kind of female stereotype redefinition. The writer of this study also focuses to analyse women stereotypes that emerge in *The Handmaid's Tale* Novel.

From the previous study above, the writer concludes that in the previous study and this current study is different in the use of the object of the research and different in how to collect and analyze the data. At last, the writer hopes that this study can properly complete those previous studies as well as enrich feminism theory in literary discussion.

### **C. Theoretical Framework**

The study's design is descriptive qualitative. Sugiyono (2010: 67) says that the qualitative descriptive method describes the state of the research object based on the facts that are obvious from the research object as they are, and it is a way for solving the problem.

In line with the previous explanation, the writer uses the pioneer feminist theory named Simone de Beauvoir in her work entitled *The Second Sex* (2011). Beauvoir categorizes women in this book as Other or Object. There is some conceptual overlap among the woman stereotypes. For example, men have stronger body than women, giving rise to the assumption that women only depend on men. As a result, stereotypes referred to underlie discrimination that occurs against women throughout the world persist and the recognition of the existence of women as individuals who have equal responsibilities, rights and obligations.

The followings are the steps of analyzing the data, as follows:

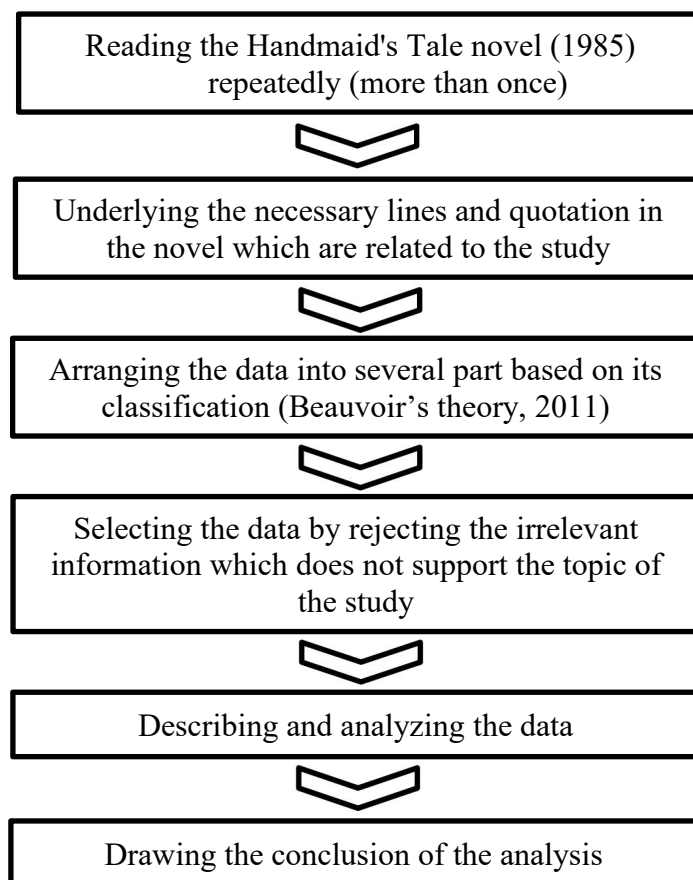


Figure. 1. The Steps of Analyzing the Data

The steps are described as follows: The first step, the writer collected the data by reading the novel repeatedly. This activity gained an overall understanding of the story and further understand the details of the story to meet the necessity of the study. The second step is underlying the necessary lines and quotation in the novel which are related to the study. This process included marking the necessary lines and quotation in the novel which support the analysis. Then, the writer arranged the data into several part based on its classification according to Beauvoir's theory (2011). After that, the writer selected the data by rejecting the irrelevant information which did not support the topic of the study. The next step is describing and analyzing the data based on the theory. The last step is drawing conclusion based on the result of the analysis.