

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Feminism is one of literature interpretations and it becomes engrossing to be analyzed in this study because it can help to realize about woman's circumstances. It is revealed from literary works mostly presenting daily lives of the authors themselves or around of them.

The way we live is still patriarchy in which man still dominates in all aspects of our daily lives such as in family, woman as a wife to follow man as a husband and son's priority is still cared more than daughter's; in relationship, man is supposed to be more aggressive or woman expressing her feeling is something weird; and in work, man goes to office and woman does chores in house. This phenomenon is still happening in our surrounding moreover in eastern culture includes of Indonesia.

Nevertheless, it can not be denied that the movement has come up even in Indonesia. The movement becomes clear to see in which woman does not longer stay at home with children, woman has had her guts to state her love and woman either occupies the same position with man. This situation shows that the changes really occur and it is totally different with the past. As Krolokke (2005:15) states that the third wave of feminism is in which the feminists generally see themselves as capable, strong and assertive social agents.

Now a days, feminism does influence to the daily lives of woman to fight for the freedom and rights. It is supported by the development in organizations of

women and woman occupations in governments, offices and even other jobs which used to be for man. The woman has had their confidence because of knowing the self-determination and realization. In accordance with Baumgardner & Richards as cited by Krolokke (2005: 15) argues that the confidence of having more opportunities and less sexism.

The intention comes up to do this study on feminism after the writer has studied about theory of literature in the fourth semester. She was dragged into confusion how the theory works to figure out the grounds of writing the novel. Feminism made her blur to understand because it can be revealed either by the man or woman although it is intended to woman. It is explained by Benstock et al (2002) that feminist literary criticism offers strategies for analyzing texts to emphasize issues related to gender and sexuality in works written by both men and women. Therefore, this study is supposed to enrich the knowledge about feminism and it can clarify about feminism to the readers which she did not understand before and it is hopeful to make them understand about feminism more easily.

The reasons why this study is referred to reveal feminism in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game* are firstly, it is her first English novel to read. Secondly, it has many unpredictable occurrences and they drag the readers including the writer of this study into curiousness of the subsequent events to the characters. Thirdly, the characters are presented as if they were real. In other words, their characterization is commonly found in our daily lives such as Jamie McGregor is desired to be rich and revenges to those who cheat him, Margaret

bows to her daddy until she is chased because of being pregnant and Kate is obsessed to be the center of power due to realizing her property.

The two characters, Margaret and Kate are so catchy to the writer since they are differently presented characters. However, they are told as a mother, Margaret and a daughter, Kate. Thus their existence makes this study done because they obtained are able to break the belief stating that a daughter is a mother's representative in which mother is the role model for the daughter. Barunch argues that Mothers are followed as models when daughters make career decisions (1972: 6). But it is not relied to them.

These are two quotations that can represent their attitudes to run their lives:

He started toward the doorway that led into the shop "come along Margaret" She followed him meekly and Jamie thought. She's like a frightened kitchen. (Sheldon, 1982: 15)

Kate "I'm a woman I have a right to change my mind" (Sheldon, 1982: 62)

Margaret can not stand on her own feet because she depends on her father too much. She is afraid to show up because her father has controlled her life since when she is a little girl. Meanwhile, Kate never depends on others even her mother. She is a powerful woman and she decides everything by herself.

There are many researchers being interested to woman characters and analyzing them from the angle of feminism. Then, this study will offer some related researches.

The first previous research done with the title *The Representation Of Lucy As A Typical Victorian Woman And Maggie As A Changing Victorian Woman In George Eliot's Novel The Mill On The Floss* (Younas et al, 2014) to find out that the journey of Maggie from her childhood to youth is contrasted to Lucy. Their differences are figured from their each appearance and mentality to so with their lives. Maggie is the one who are weird in that time because she is the one to have the awareness of restrictions in her society in which woman is not about what she earns but whom she belongs to.

In family, woman is supposed to follow the man as Lucy does but Maggie struggles to fight her brother's decisions on her own life. In relationship, she has her desire to state her love though she is forced to deny by her brother while Lucy prefers to bear it in her heart. In work or career, she does more than the man. She prefers to escape from her family to get the education.

Another previous research conducted by Mahmooda Khaton Siddika (2013) *The Metamorphosis of Normative Feminism in Pride and Prejudice as Descriptive Feminism in Beloved: Inevitable Path of a Woman* reveals that Elizabeth in *Pride and Prejudice* has intelligence and rationality. She deals all kinds of family problem because she can take over the male member's responsibility to family maintenance. She justifies herself by refusing to engage as she never gives a space anyone to hinder her rightful actions. Whereas, Sethe in *Beloved: Inevitable Path of a Woman* has deep will to succeed with her motherhood till she is in the point of insanity with her practical rationality. She is hindered to fight for her rights by the oriented man-society. She is the victim of sexual exploitation in her marriage.

The third previous researcher is Mandrastuty (2010) with the title of her study *Novel Tarian Bumi Karya Oka Rusmini: Kajian Feminisme (Feminism Oka's Rusmini Earth Dance Novel)*. She figures out the socialist feminism in Balinese culture due to Balinese is accustomed to dividing the people in to classes. Telaga is woman in upper class (Brahmin) prefers to get married with a guy in lower class (Sudra) she loves. She is chased out of her own family and she is condemned by the society. But she is one of the Balinese women who oppose their culture, she fights for her freedom and rights to choose her own life partner in this case is husband.

Based on the explanation of feminism, reasons and previous researches, this study is proposed to analyze the two woman characters, Margaret and Kate in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game* from the angle of feminism. This study is going to reveal how they are presented to fight for their freedom and rights, the way they behave in their daily lives and they are treated by the men around of them. The study will show them some aspects of their lives namely work (career), family and relationship.

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background stated above, the writer formulates the problem of this study as following:

1. What are differences and similarities of Margaret and Kate characters in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game*?
2. How is feminism represented by Margaret and Kate characters in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game* through their each work, relationship and family?
3. What are feminism varieties Margaret and Kate represented in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game*?

C. The Objective of the Study

The study is aimed to know:

1. The differences and similarities of the two characters Margaret and Kate in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game*
2. The feminism representation of the two characters Margaret and Kate in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game*
3. The feminism varieties represented by the two characters Margaret and Kate in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game*

D. The Scope of the Study

The study is focused on two characters, Margaret and Kate in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game*. It deals with their circumstances in family, love relationship, career and society related to the exponential and feminism analysis.

E. The Significance of the Study

The findings of the study are expectedly useful for the writer and readers and especially English literature students either theoretically or practically.

Theoretically, this study is expected to enhance the knowledge about literary criticism especially from the angle of feminism. So it can be one of references to the students who are interested to do the similar research.

Practically, it is expected to be able to reflect the feminism and to give deeper awareness of the feminism values in our daily lives related to treat woman and to behave as woman in accordance with the feminism represented by Margaret and Kate characters in Sydney Sheldon's novel *Master of the Game* for the writer, readers and society.