

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Nowadays, the globalization era brings many aspects for human, including the power of technology and industry that has many advantages. One of the advantages related from that era is about solving women's problem in public area to gain the equality position with men, especially in a modern time because the power of technology and industry brings some new concept in people's life, for instance, the phenomenon of gender in education. According to Chris Beasley in his book *Gender and Sexuality*, gender typically refers to the social process of dividing up people and social practices along the lines of sexed identities (11). In other word, since the term gender come up in people's mind and influenced by culture, gender has its own power to control the society by identifying sexes.

Masculine described as men's attitude that have power, become the leader, and strong; while, feminine described as women's attitude that calm or patient and weak (Beasley, 20). In the previous era, education was banned for women, because the people still believe on the patriarchal system for instance women should stay at home and not be able to work outside or gain the same opportunities to school, because outside is a symbol of men's domination and power. Patriarchal refers to power relation, in which women's interests are subordinated to the interests of men (Jenaninati, 4). Hence, gender in education still becomes women's problem and many of them try to give more attentions

about that problem and builds new concept of women's movement towards increasing their position through education.

Moreover, the advantages of globalization era makes women should be concerned to their position as human in order to find another way for change their life, because they believe that every human has the equal opportunities. Consequently, mostly women try to break the patriarchal systems in some traditional culture into modern culture such as an opportunity which available for them. Those actions, described as women's movement and feminist era has began. According to Rosemarie Tong in her book *Feminist Thought*, feminist theory defines itself in reaction against traditional liberal feminism (14). In the other word, feminist studies build new ideology for women who felt under pressure by men's rules become the people with equal position with men. Besides, feminist movements in modern era have been succeeded to prove their power because education has a law for every human without any differences. Thus, every human has their opportunity to gain better education, whether they male or female.

Furthermore, Charles E. Bressler said that feminist criticism is an umbrella term for a variety of approaches to culture and literature that are of particular interest to women (167). Feminist is the example of women's movement which concern about their problems or issues and also gives new perspective to the world that every people have the same position. Many perceptions have been developing through the women's existence in public area. For instance, in some big country, the government tries to give the same

opportunity between women and men, so, every people will be able to gain an education, especially for women to choose their own subjects and elaborate their knowledge. The positive thing in these phenomena is developing human ability, skills and builds their knowledge without any differences. Moreover, there are no more distances or space between men and women. Modern era gives the advantages for developing idea and ideology of human that woman could be better to compete in public area. Hence, there are many independent women who successful both in domestic and social life. Instead, there are some women who choose being single in their whole life didn't want to be married because they will be able doing their job without men's rules estimation. Perhaps, for several women are believe about patriarchal gender roles still exist and it will be destroy women's life, so maybe some women prefer didn't need married as the final's decision because they didn't want to get banned from their husband.

The important thing that people can get based on this study is about equal position through women's movement. According to Mary Wollstonecraft, The first movement is started from education system (320). They will be able to apply some job opportunities in public area if they have good academic things through education, so they can work constantly and become a good worker to control their own business. It can be seen in some modern companies who have women as their employee to give contribution, manage and control their business and many women become successful leader in their own business. It will build some inspiration or desire for other women to become women with high quality and

quantity to make competition with men's ability. In this modern era they are called as independent women.

Independent women related with women who wants to live individual without men's rules beyond them. Women will be happy as independent people if they aren't depending on men's help. It can be seen in David Nicholls' novel entitled *One Day* based on Emma Morley's character who is very ambitious, smart because she has double degree and a dirty job as waiter in small restaurant but still being trapped by men's rules. This novel published in 2009 and got the first winner as Galaxy Book of Year in 2010. *One Day* is a kind of romantic novel with full of love stories between the major characters, Emma and Dexter by showing their relationship from time to time on a same date, from July 15th 1988 until July 15th 2011.

A feminist study is the relevant concept to analyze Emma's character, since in the first chapter show Emma's power to struggle in her life. According to Bressler cited about Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-1797) *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* (1792), women must defines for themselves what it means to be women, must take the lead and will play in society by rejecting the patriarchal assumption that women are inferior to men (171). According to this statement, women should change perspective of the society in order to show that they can be the one who takes control over their own life without men's domination around them. Emma's character is an example of modern women. She shows herself as a strong woman, independent, tough and actually she could define herself to be a best friend and could be a good partner for her husband.

This phenomenon shows that modern women struggle for their desires. For instance, Emma's personality who be able to do the right thing between family and career, and could be inspired for other women, because it is show that Emma become the one who takes control over man's domination. The goals of this study is about modern women who are covered by traditional gender roles, want to break those rules and got the point of how become good people both wife or partner and leader for their job.

The writer chooses this topic because it is based on the reality in this era, many well-educated women who have double jobs both domestic and public area but they are still bound in the patriarchal systems. Based on the explanation above, the writer uses Liberal Feminism to formulate and analyze every chapter in the novel that supports the issues behind Emma's character and how she against the patriarchal systems.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

From the background of analysis above, the writer formulates a question related to the statement of the problem in this study:

- How is the portrayal of modern women represented by Emma Morley in David Nicholls' *One Day*?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Objective of the Study is aimed to answer a question that already mention on the statement of the problem. The objective gives the reason for analyzing the question based on statement of the problem. Then, the objective of the study is:

- To analyze how Emma Morley's character is portrayed as modern woman in the David Nicholls' novel entitled *One Day*.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

Since the aim of study is to elaborate the portrayal of modern women toward the main character Emma Morley in David Nicholls' novel entitled *One Day*, the analysis of this study is not describing for many aspects. Moreover, the writer will explain about Feminist Study through Liberal Feminism part to analyze this study and the writer is not explaining beyond of the text beside feminism and the character itself. Therefore, this study only focused on women education and ability based on their life. Next, the writer also describes about modern women who related to the main topic in this study. Thus, another subject outside the limitation will not be considered in the process of the study.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study is focused on the portrayal of modern women represented by Emma Morley. Emma's character gives inspiration for many modern women to gain the goals as their desire. Emma is the example of successful woman who struggle toward her whole life for being a good woman and explore her career.

Therefore, this novel brings ideology for people, especially for modern women who want to gain a better position as human with equal opportunity. The advantages from this study are directly enough to see the equality between public and domestic's life toward Emma Morley's character.

Other people, especially women who read this study will get the point of view from Emma's life. Many modern women with high education couldn't gain what they want either career or family and from this study, women will see how Emma's personality against and struggle for her life when she did both career and family. It is very important for other women who inspired toward Emma's life. This study is expected to give significance both theoretically and practically. Theoretically is expected to give contribution to those who would use feminist theory as their theoretical framework specifically about Liberal Feminism to analyze this novel through Emma's character as a modern woman with high education in social's life. Practically, it is also expected to give knowledge particularly in Literature Studies in English Department of Airlangga University. Moreover, this study is expected to give knowledge for those who interested in this topic of liberal feminism.

1.6 Theoretical Background

The main focus in this novel, *One Day* is about a strong woman to gain her desires as a modern woman who against the patriarchal systems. Feminist study is the most appropriate theory to analyze this novel, because Emma's character represents as woman's act in modern time. According to Jenainati and

Groves in their book *Introducing Feminism*, Feminism is the struggle to end sexist oppression (3). In the other word, feminist studies bring new ideology for women who felt under pressure by men's rules.

Therefore, Feminist study is the most appropriate theory to be applied in this study since as theoretical framework and also related with Tong cited in her book, John Stuart Mill explain "if society is to achieve sexual equality, or gender justice, then society must provide women with the same political rights and economic opportunities as well as the same education that men enjoy" (Tong 16). As Mary Wollstonecraft explain in her book

I am a woman, I would not lead my readers to suppose, that I mean violently to agitate the contested question respecting the equality and inferiority of the sex; but as the subject lies in my way, and I cannot pass it over without subjecting the main tendency of my reasoning to misconstruction, I shall stop a moment to deliver, in a few words, my opinion (36).

Feminist studies have emerged in the 1960s. There are three waves from feminist movements. First wave is about right to vote for women. Second wave is about the equality between men and women, such as the equality of pay for work including job opportunities and education. The last wave is the newest one that focused on LGBT and class oppression.

The term of feminism is related with the study which focuses on women's life. It resist to the operations of feminist criticism examines the ways in which literature or undermines the economic, political, social and psychological

oppression of women (Tyson, 83). According to Charles E. Bressler, Feminist criticism is its focus on patriarchy, the rule of society and culture by men (167). Feminist literary criticism wants to make equal rights for women in all aspects such as social, culture, economics, political and education. Male dominance in public area brings a power for women to gain an equal position as well as them. Women should involve their partner (husband) to change old-perspective about women as inferior person (Friedan, 18). Related to the explanation above, Friedan suggests that women should explore their ability and skill in public area. Moreover, she explains that women must involve their partner in order to support women's movement in public area. The focus on feminist in this study is about liberal feminism toward major character which explains about women's existence in modern time.

1.7 Method of the Study

In reflecting the analysis, the writer applies the qualitative methods for the study with consistence a novel. According to Bogdan and Taylor cited in Moleong's book qualitative research is a research procedure which consists of descriptive data such as written or oral words from people and behavior that are observed (5). This qualitative method aims to give understanding toward a phenomenon which is experienced by research subject.

To analyze this novel, the writer use Feminist Studies and focus on Liberal Feminism because related from that theory, can be accepted as the theory that try to attacks the traditional stereotype. Here the explanation how liberal

feminism formulates the theory according to Judith Lorber in her book *The Variety of Feminisms and Their Contribution to Gender Equality*:

Women should have the same legal rights as men and the same educational and work opportunities. Liberal feminism accepts and works with the gender system, with the goal of purging it of its discriminatory effects on women.(09)

Related to the explanation above, the writer wants to analyze every step in this novel that supports this study. The first step of this study will be focused on one aspect related to the Feminist theory uses Liberal Feminism as a key for analyzing the main character.

Liberal feminism is the only way to formulate the issues behind the story and the closest theory that show women's movement through their education and political situation. Because liberal feminism is only explain about the equality for men and women. Moreover, liberal feminism is like the key to give new perspective and against the patriarchal system. Liberal Feminism is the most appropriate theory to analyze Emma's character, because it shows the process of women to gain equal opportunity without any radical acts like other feminist theory, not trying to fight against superpower only to gain the same equal position.

There are two sources which are used in this analysis. The primary source is the novel itself *One Day* by David Nicholls. The writer only focuses on the issue of women's life through Emma's character which represent as an independent woman. This novel becomes the data source to provide the study.

Other sources are Marry Wollstonecraft's book *A Vindication of The Right of Women*, John Stuart Mill's book *The Subjection of Women* and Betty Friedan *The Feminine Mystique*. Furthermore, there are secondary sources which are related and support this study. Any printed and unprinted reliable materials such as books, articles, and scholarly journals would be used as supporting data.

Since object of this study is a novel, the writer use close reading technique to formulate literary text. The writer needs some steps to collect the data starts from underlying moments or sentences of the novel that represent as women oppression and liberal feminism attitude. Thus, the writer could find some issue behind the story itself.

After deciding data source and data collecting, the last step in Method of the Study is finding the data analysis. The writer found three aspects for analyzing this novel. First, find the evidence of Liberal Feminism related to Emma Morley's character. Second, find the social activities that related with equal opportunity and equal justice through Emma's life. Because this novel shows Emma's life in public area so the writer try to analyze social activities according to Emma's existence, and the last is to find the portrayal through modern women based on Emma's life.

1.8 Definition Key Terms

There are some words that already mentioned by the writer, hence, the writer will give some definitions for terms to help the reader for understanding the term to analyze this study:

Feminism: is the struggle to end sexist oppression (Jenainati and Groves).

Patriarchal: refers to power relations in which women's interests are subordinates to the interests of men. Patriarchal power rests on social given to biological sexual difference. (Jenainati and Groves).

Liberal Feminism: sub-part of feminism study, accepts and works with the gender system, with the goal of purging it of its discriminatory effects on women (Gender Reform Feminism).

Modern Women: women who have a career without the worry of finding a man to support her financially. Modern woman's characteristics are strong, assertive, aggressive, tactful, expressive, and independent. A modern woman could ascertain her goals, achieve them, and maintain a strong household (Stuart Brown).