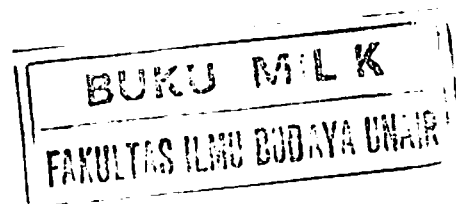


CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION



A. Background of The study

Female has some stereotypes. According to Tyson in his book *Critical Theory Today: Feminist Criticism*, females are weak, having no more energy to fight something or somebody, and always drawn as figures of motherhood and wifehood (81). In this case, motherhood is identically as a figure of woman who always takes care of her children. While figure of wifehood is identically with role of woman when she must serves her husband needs. Female is seldom drawn as a figure that is very strong and able to protect somebody or something by herself. On the other hand, male is always drawn as a figure that is strong and always protecting somebody, especially females. Based on the traditional gender roles, men are rational, strong, protective, important and male domination position in economic, political, social power. On the contrary, women are emotional, irrational, weak, nurturing, and passive and women are not including in leadership, in making position, in having higher wages for the same jobs, or in mathematics and engineering (83).

From the issue of woman above, it is interesting to discuss a drama entitled *Oedipus the King*. It is a real life portrait of woman which is interesting to analyze. Drama *Oedipus the King* is a drama about Oedipus and his tragedy. Oedipus is the king of Thebes who got married with Jocasta. At first, he was unaware that he murdered his father and slept with his mother. Soon he learnt that

it was he that put his kingdom at such terrible condition. As the result, he blinded himself using a brooch.

Oedipus the King is a drama written by Sophocles. "Sophocles was born a mile northwest of Athens in the township of Colonus between 495 and 497 B.C" (Michael 2). Although Sophocles died more than twenty four centuries ago, he continues to live today in his plays as one of the history's greatest writers. His themes are justice, pride, determination, humanity damage, and struggle between luck and free which are as timely today as they were in his own time. Aristotle lauded Sophocles as the best dramatist, stated that *Oedipus the King* was a model for all playwrights to reproduce. Sophocles won about two dozen more drama awards against Aeschylus and other extraordinary writers. One of the reasons is because he sometimes acted in his plays. He also presented a juggling act that amazed his audience (Michael 1).

In portraying his characters, Sophocles raised irony to high art, made characters unaware victims of fate or their own weakness. The irony was both verbal and dramatic. The audience knew about the fact that Oedipus did not know. He killed his father and married his own mother. This type of dramatic irony occurs often in Sophocles' plays, allowing the audience gets involved with a character's response to a situation rather than the eventual outcome of the situation (Michael 2).

The writer is not focusing on Oedipus himself or his tragedy but the writer focuses on the woman character, in this case is Jocasta and the moral values that can take in the drama *Oedipus the King*. The writer of this study is interested in

analyzing those issues in the drama *Oedipus the King* because privately, the writer has observed the drama and it is considered as a classic drama which has moral values that are very important to be understood. The writer analyzes Jocasta's characters in the drama which has relations with Oedipus. Connected to intrinsic approach, the writer applies objective theory to elaborate the intrinsic elements in the drama such as character, setting, plot, point of view, and theme. Particularly the character to reveal the moral issues related to woman's life in the drama.

The motivation of choosing Jocasta as the object of analysis is because through her characters which seem very simple but bring very important moral value. She hopes a good place in society but when she cannot get it then she kills herself. It is important to analyze Jocasta character as basic aspect in deciding how the moral values can be traced from the way Jocasta faces her life. She has to pass very tragic and ironic life that her husband, Laius must die in the hand of his own son and about the fact that Oedipus is both her own son and her husband.

B. Statements of The Problems

There are two statements of the problems that are analyzed in this study after reading the script of the drama. The problems are:

1. How is Jocasta portrayed in the drama *Oedipus the King*?
2. What are the moral values implied in the portrayal of Jocasta?

C. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are intended to answer the questions, as it has been mentioned in the statement of the problems, by using the chosen theories as the tool to analyze. The objectives of the study are:

1. To know how Jocasta is portrayed in drama *Oedipus the King*.
2. To describe the moral values implied in the portrayal of Jocasta.

D. Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give benefit to the readers in understanding the play by using intrinsic approach, in this case applying the objective theory suggested by Abrams. By analyzing the woman character, in this case is Jocasta, depicted in the drama *Oedipus the King*, it is hoped that the readers are able to know more about the character of woman in the drama *Oedipus the King*. Moreover, this study is also hoped to enrich the knowledge about the moral values that are implied in the portrayal of Jocasta. In addition, this study is also meant to give contribution towards the study of literature, especially for literary students of the English Department, faculty of humanities, Airlangga University Surabaya.

E. Scope and Limitations

There are many issues, problems, events, and conflicts in discussing drama *Oedipus the King*. The writer does not analyze the whole issues and conflicts because it makes this study unfocused. Therefore, this study focuses on woman

character, in this case is Jocasta's characters. The writer believes that Jocasta's characters portray the stereotype of women in everyday life. Besides, there are some moral values that are shown from Jocasta's characters. In analyzing the data, the writer uses intrinsic approach by applying Abrams' objective theory to reveal the moral values in the drama.

F. Theoretical Background

In analyzing the drama *Oedipus the King* by Sophocles, the writer of the study would try to elaborate objective theory and intrinsic approach is used in this study to analyze Jocasta's character, especially in terms of finding the moral values that are shown from Jocasta's characters in the drama *Oedipus the King*. Abrams stated in *The Mirror and The Lamp: Romantic Theory and the Critical Tradition* that "the work of art in isolation from all external points of reference, analyzes it as a self-sufficient entity constituted by its parts in their internal relations, and sets out to judge it solely by criteria intrinsic to its own mode of being" (26). Thus, the appropriate starting approach to the subject is intrinsic approach since the analysis is focused on the inner elements of the drama. According to Wellek and Warren in *Theory of Literature*, "the starting point for work of literature itself and the study of literature should in the first place concentrated on the actual work" (139).

Based on Nurgiyantoro, in the case of character's personality, "the characterization is based on the conversation or verbal of the character and the attitude or nonverbal of the character. The distinction of one character to other

characters is based on their physical appearance". (166). "Character is as the messenger of the author to bring the moral value or many things else to the readers" (167). "The characterization and the other aspects of a fiction can be analyzed about their relation such as characterization with setting, plot, setting, point of view, moral value, theme and etc" (172). In *Fundamental Moral Attitudes*, Hildebrand argued about moral values are "the highest among all natural values" (1). There are several moral values such as reverence, faithfulness, awareness of responsibility, veracity, goodness, choice, bitterness, dishonest, lack of responsibility, convenience and sympathy.

As a result, it means that to begin an analysis of a literary work, the first thing to do is discussing intrinsic elements in order to give clearer and deeper understanding about the literary work itself. Intrinsic approach includes intrinsic elements such as character, setting, theme, point of view and plot. In order to maintain the objective of the study, the analysis is focuses on the character and characterization. And from the explanation above, moral value can be observed from the character and the relation between characterization and moral value.

G. Method of the Study

In this study the writer uses qualitative method as the method of the research. The writer uses qualitative method since it can give the writer better understanding about Jocasta's characters in drama *Oedipus the King*. Bogdan and Taylor point out qualitative method as follows:

Qualitative methodologies refer to research procedures which produce descriptive data: people's own written or spoken words and observable behavior... qualitative methods allow us to know people personally and to see them as they are developing their own definition of the world (Bogdan & Taylor 4-5).

From the quotation above, it means that qualitative method is the research procedure in which the data used in the study is in the form of descriptive data such as a play. It allows individual to know the other personalities and their development toward the world. It also allows the individuals experience other's experiences in their daily life in society and learn something new. Qualitative method also enable to explore concepts such as beauty, pain, faith, suffering, depression, hope, love, etc, which can be studied and experienced in the real life. Qualitative method used by the writer since it gives deeply understanding in the analysis of Jocasta's character in drama *Oedipus the King*. The writer analyzes Jocasta's character and moral values implied in the drama focusing on the acts and the dialogues of Jocasta by using Abram's objective theory and Wellek and Warren's intrinsic approach.

The object of the study is a drama *Oedipus the King* written by Sophocles. To collect the data, the writer does close reading by reading the literary work many time, it is easy to find the characterization of Jocasta's characters. Then, close reading is appropriate way to find the data about characterization itself and then make the classification of data and select the data that contains the characterization of Jocasta's characters that are as data collecting method. After

collecting the data, the writer continues to the next step called as an analyzing the data by using objective theory and intrinsic approach to analyze the problem of the study; those are analyzing Jocasta's character and revealing moral values work within Jocasta's characters. Character in literature is an extended verbal representation of a human being, the inner self that determines thought, speech and behavior (Robert 65). Therefore, the writer analyzes Jocasta's dialogues and acts that determine Jocasta's characters.

H. Organization of the Study

This study consists of four chapters as its content and each chapter explains and also discusses different things. The first chapter of the study consists of the background of the study, statements of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, theoretical background, method of the study, organization of the study, and the definition of the key terms. The second chapter explains about theoretical framework and related studies of the study. In addition, for the third chapter, the writer discusses and focuses on the analysis to answer the problems stated in the first chapter. Finally, the fourth chapter summarizes and also concludes the study.

L. Definition of key terms

Character : verbal representation of a human being, the inner self that determines thought, speech and behavior.

Moral Value : concerning principles of right and wrong, quality of being useful or important.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW