

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the study

Anthropologists typically define polygamy as 'a marital relationship involving multiple wives (Al-Krenawi 188). It means that polygamy is a marriage in which permitted man has more than one woman as his spouse. According to Al-Krenawi, there are three types of polygamy. The first type of polygamy is polygyny. Polygyny is a marriage in which one husband is married to two or more wives; hereafter referred to as polygamy (Al-Krenawi 188). The second type of polygamy is polyandry. Polyandry is a marriage in which one wife is married to two or more husbands (Al-Krenawi 188). The third type or the last type of polygamy is polygynandry. Polygynandry is a group marriage scenario in which two or more wives are simultaneously married to two or more husbands (Al-Krenawi 188).

According to Al-Krenawi, polygamy is not only common in Asia but also in Africa, the Middle East, and Oceania and in western societies such as Europe and North America (Al-Krenawi 188). All of these places have the same understanding about polygamy, in which a woman is forced to share her husband with another woman, not only in social but also in sexual context. It appears as the reflection of patriarchal culture in the society.

There are various reasons why a man does polygamy, one of them is because of their sexual desire. "Men desire polygamy because of their sexual drive, but it is not because of (the woman's) neck, breasts, or private parts; the drive is triggered by her smile, her smell, her beauty and softness" (Wichelen 176). "These non physical things is what is given by God and many wives do not have this anymore because they do not have rivals" (Wichelen 176). Since they are the only wife in the house and they do not have rivals, it makes most of the wives lose their attractiveness. It occurs because they less maintain themselves in an attractive form. These non physical things seduce men to practice polygamy.

"Man's stamina, hyper-sexuality, and sex as a biological drive were recurring arguments, this "libido" argument, based on the thought that men have a stronger biological urge for sexual intercourse than women, underscores the naturalness of men's hyper sexuality" (Wichelen 176). This man's hyper sexuality leads to polygamy. It becomes a justification that biologically a man needs more sex than a woman that is why he commits polygamy.

In Indonesia itself, the legalization of polygamy has been ruled by the government. Cited from Polygamy in Indonesia Journal by Muhammad Saleh Ridwan, the legalization of polygamy was written in Marriage Act No. 1 of 1974 about marriage (Ridwan 371). In this Marriage Act, the chapters that are related to polygamy are chapter 3, 4, and 5, which state as follow (my translation) :

Chapter 3 (1) On the principles in a marriage, a man should only have one wife. A wife should only have one husband. (2) The court

may grant a license for a husband to marry more than one wife if desired by the parties concerned.

Chapter 4 (1) In the case that a husband would have wives more than one, as stated in chapter 3 (2) of this Act, he shall apply to the court in the area of his residence. (2) The court referred to in paragraph (1) of this section only grant permission to a husband who would have wives more than one if: a. The wife can not fulfill their obligations as wives. b. The wife has got a disability or disease that can not be cured c. The wife can not give birth to offspring.

Chapter 5 (1) In order to apply to the court, as intended in chapter 4 (1) of this Act, the requirements must be met as follows: a. the consent of the wife/wives. b. the certainty that the husband ensures the fulfillment of necessities of life of his wives and their children. c. a guarantee that the husband will do justice to his wives and their children. (2) The agreement referred to in paragraph (1) letter (a) of this chapter is not necessary for the husband if the wife/wives may not be held to his approval and cannot be the party/parties to the agreement, or if there is no news of his wife at least 2 (two years), or because other causes which need further assessment of the trial judge (Marriage Act cited in Ridwan 371-372).

From the Marriage Act above, we can see that actually the government gives difficulties toward its citizen to do polygamy in order to limit the number of

polygamy marriage in Indonesia. However, there are still several people (women) who are forced to practice polygamy. The rules about polygamy are not only written in Marriage Act but also in Religion Law like Islam.

In Al-Qu'ran, there are two paragraphs which explain about polygamy in Islam. Those two paragraphs are contained in Surah Al-Nisa/4:3 and 129 (Surah Al-Nisa cited in Ridwan 369).

“And if you fear that you will not deal justly with the orphan girls, then marry those that please you of [other] women, two or three or four. But if you fear that you will not be just, then [marry only] one or those your right hand possesses. That is more suitable that you may not incline [to injustice]” (Surah Al-Nisa cited from Ridwan 369).

“And you will never be able to be equal [in feeling] between wives, even if you should strive [to do so]. So do not incline completely [toward one] and leave another hanging. And if you amend [your affairs] and fear Allah - then indeed, Allah is ever Forgiving and Merciful” (Surah Al-Nisa cited from Ridwan 370).

Related with Marriage Act and Surah Al-Nisa above, polygamy was allowed, but as exception and also with hard limitation. It means that, in order to protect a wife from a cruel husband, those who practice polygamy will find several difficulties both in the matter of Marriage Act and in the matter of religion law to legalize their marriage.

Furthermore, polygamy has become such a lifestyle for several people in Indonesia. Polygamy marriage can be seen from several Indonesian celebrities,

such as Rhoma Irama, Kiwil, Ki Joko Bodo, Dick Doang, magician such as Limbad, Businessman such as Bambang Tri, a religious person like K.H. Abdullah Gymnastiar, or well known as Aa' Gym and the last and the hottest one is Eyang Subur.

From several cases of polygamy, the most phenomenal are the cases of Rhoma Irama, Dick Doang, Limbad, Bambang Tri with Mayangsari, Aa' Gym with Alfarini Eridani (Teh Rini) and also Eyang Subur with his seven wives. It becomes phenomenal since Rhoma Irama who is an actor and a musician are nominated as presidential candidate (okezone.com). The polygamy cases of Dick Doang is also a phenomenon since he is a person who loves children and education, thus it does not seem worth for him to practice polygamy. The man who is also known as the founding father of *Sekolah Alam Kandank Jurank Doank* does polygamy by marrying a younger woman than his first wife (life.viva.co.id). Next is the polygamy case of Limbad. This case is a phenomenon since he is a magician who has ability to resist on fire and blade, but he does not have the ability to resist on polygamy (life.viva.co.id).

The polygamy case of Bambang Tri is also a phenomenon since he is the son of H.M Soeharto (ex-Indonesia President) and Aa' Gym is a famous preacher in Indonesia. He marries a woman named Alfarini Eridani or known as Teh Rini as his second wife without divorcing his first wife Hj. Ninih Mutmainah or known as The Ninih (kompas.com). It just gives another explanation that Aa' Gym is a man who practices polygamy. The last is polygamy cases by Eyang Subur. This case is the most phenomenal among all cases since he does not marry two or three

women, but seven women (life.viva.co.id). All of the polygamy cases above are the example that polygamy marriage in Indonesia has become such a lifestyle for several people.

Polygamy brings negative effects for women. Women are hurt by polygamy. Those women who became the victim of polygamy will have a bad experience, pain, suffering and other unpleasant experiences. This unpleasant experiences change into anxiety. According to Freud, Anxiety is an experience of feeling caused by tensions in the tools of the body's internal (Hall 78). When women face this, most of them will try to create defenses to defense themselves from their anxiety.

Related with this issue, the writer would like to analyze about polygamy issue in '?' (Question Mark) movie. The writer of this study focuses the analysis on Rika's character. This character in '?' (Question Mark) movie is chosen because this character represents the life of a woman who becomes the victim of polygamy. This character gives a complete description of the anxieties experienced by a woman deal with polygamy. This character also gives examples of woman's defense mechanism to cope with anxiety because of polygamy. Converting religion from Islam to Catholic as a special form of defense mechanism give an extra value for this character because the writer of this study never finds any examples of woman characters in other movie which convert her religion because she becomes the victim of polygamy.

The issue of polygamy is important to analyze due to the implementation of polygamy itself is still exist until nowadays. Then through this study, the writer

hopes that everyone who is involved in the process of polygamy itself will be able to know the negative effects of polygamy on women who become the victims of it.

‘?’ (Question mark) is a 2011 Indonesian movie by Hanung Bramantyo. Hanung Bramantyo is Indonesian movie director. He was born in Yogyakarta October 1st 1975, started his career from producing short movies and now becomes a senior director and has received 2 Citra awards. Hanung Bramantyo is a Muslim and he is a member of Muhammadiyah (Biografi web). He creates various genre of movie, from romance story until drama with the religious elements. His controversial works which expose about muslim are *Ayat-Ayat Cinta*, *Perempuan Berkalung Sorban*, *Sang Pencerah* and ‘?’. He has certain interest toward controversial issues in society such as polygamy, religion and interfaith relation. Bramantyo’s interest can be seen from several movies that he has produced.

‘?’ (Question Mark) movie tells about the relation of few people who live in Pasar Baru Semarang. One of those people is Rika. Rika is a single parent who converts her religion from Islam to Catholic. Rika’s anxiety and defense mechanism appear because of her failed marriage with her ex-husband, Mas Pandji. It starts when her ex-husband falls in love with other woman and wants to practice polygamy, but she refuses it and decides to divorce with her ex-husband. Her ex-husband actually only wants to practice polygamy without leaving her, like what has been stated in Islam religion law dealing with polygamy which allows a man to have four wives. Her ex-husband is described as a Muslim. From

her marriage with her ex-husband, Rika has a son named Abi. Abi is a boy who still studies on elementary school. After Rika becomes a single parent, her son Abi decides to live with her.

Deal with polygamy causes Rika to experience anxiety. To cope with her anxiety, Rika creates defense mechanism. This thesis uses Freudian's psychoanalysis to analyze Rika's character. The Freudian's psychoanalysis theory about anxiety is used to analyze the anxiety that Rika experiences because of polygamy and the writer also uses Freudian's psychoanalysis theory about defense mechanism to analyze Rika's defenses in surviving from her anxiety, because according to Freud, defense mechanism is a process to protect the ego from the harsh reality; it is also the unconscious strategies of the ego to distort reality and lessen anxiety (Heller 67). There are many types of Freudian defense mechanism: selective perception, selective memory, denial, avoidance, displacement, projection, and regression (Tyson 15).

Freudian's psychoanalysis above is used as the main theory to analyze the narrative aspects of this film. Like another movie analysis, in analyzing this movie, the writers of this study analyze not only the narrative aspect but also the non-narrative aspect. Analyzing the plot, dialog and the character are included in the analysis of the narrative aspects. Analyzing the cinematic representation such as costume, setting, shot, angle and colors are included in the analysis of the non-narrative aspects. To analyze the non narrative aspect, the writer of this study uses *Understanding Movie* book by Lois Gianetti. The analysis on the narrative and the non-narrative aspects will be gathered as one in order to finish this thesis.

‘?’ (Question Mark) movie contains a psychological issue of woman deal with polygamy. It gives an example of woman who suffers because of polygamy. This movie gives a representation of excessive fear of woman toward polygamy. Things which are considered as taboo by the societies such as the problem of religion and the application in daily life are obviously seen in this movie and cause something controversial in the society.

1.2. Statement of the Problems

The writer proposes questions on analyzing Hanung Bramantyo’s ‘?’ (Question Mark). Those questions are chosen to identify the conflicts of Rika’s anxiety and defense mechanism using Freudian Psychoanalysis theory. The questions are as follows:

1. How is Rika’s anxiety represented in the movie “Question Mark”?
2. How is Rika’s defense mechanism represented in the movie “Question Mark”?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

Regarding to the statement of the problems, the objectives of the study of this analysis are:

1. To figure out Rika’s anxiety in the movie “Question Mark”.
2. To figure out Rika’s defense mechanism in the movie “Question Mark”.

1.4. Significance of the study

This thesis is aimed to be a reference for the student of Airlangga University especially the student of English Department, Faculty of Humanities. In addition, the aims of this thesis are also to give brief information and explanation of Rika's anxiety caused by traumatic event that is polygamy. The writer of the study hopes that this thesis of '?' (Question Mark) movie can be a reference for those who are interested in psychoanalysis with Freudian psychoanalysis. The writer also hopes that this thesis can add the knowledge about polygamy and its effect toward woman. The writer is interested in choosing this topic because the practices of polygamy still exist until nowadays and the writer hopes that this thesis can indirectly decrease the numbers of polygamous marriage.

1.5. Outline of thesis structure

The study is divided into several parts. Those parts are abstract, acknowledgment, table of content, content of the study, reference, list of figure, and synopsis.

The content of the study is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction. This chapter contains background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, outline of thesis structure, and definitions of key terms. The second chapter is literary review. This chapter contains Freudian psychoanalysis anxiety, defense mechanism, non-narrative aspect, and review of related studies. The third chapter is method of the study. This chapter contains methods of data collection, method of data analysis

and research approach. The fourth chapter is analysis. This chapter contains Rika's anxiety and Rika's defense mechanism. The fifth chapter is conclusion. This chapter contains the conclusion on the study.

1.6. Definitions of Key Terms

Anxiety : is an experience of feeling caused by tensions in the tools of the body's internal (Hall 78).

Defense mechanism : is a process to protect the ego from the harsh reality; it is also the unconscious strategies of the ego to distort reality and lessen anxiety (Heller 67).

Polygamy : a marital relationship involving multiple wives (Al-Krenawi 188)

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW