

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Australia is the earth's smallest continent and the earth's largest island. It is the only continent occupied by a single nation. Thus, Australia is called as a unique land, country and continent located "down under" in the Southern Hemisphere (Carter 130). This extended land without any settled citizen upon it in the early time has seduced the British government to invade the land with certain purpose.

Tracing the first settlement of Australia by European people, the British Government played a major role for the occupation of the land. In the early invasion to Australia, the main reason was finding a new land for the convicts. In the latter part of 18th century there was lack of place for great number of convicts population in England. For some previous years, they had been transporting the convicts to America. The great amount of the convicts had forced them to find a new place for the convicts (Pratt 452 - 454).

The occupation of Australia by European people gave impacts to the Aboriginal people as the native inhabitants of the continent. As in so many works, the sincerity of the guilt felt for mistreatment of the Aborigine to be other than of the past. The Aborigines are a base for Australian culture, not a part of its of its developing fabric (Goldie 138). With their primitive way of living, the Aboriginal

people are considered as the uncivilized people. This assumption brings the idea for educating the Aboriginal people to have a better live. This idea to 'civilize' them grows greater in their practices since there is another purpose to create the educated Aboriginal people. In order to have lower wage labors with the equal skills as the white people have, the government develops education program for the Aboriginal children.

The early reason of educating grows in different tension in its development. Their main purpose to have underpaid labors is well covered by the idea of assuring child's welfare. It makes some Aboriginal parents voluntarily give their children to the government in order to see them one day. Unfortunately, the practice of educating the Aboriginal children forbids their parents to know their place among the White society. It arises the removal under threats for those who are not willing to give their children.

The government program to educate the Aboriginal children still operates until the twentieth century. It rises a particular term to point the Aboriginal children who are taken or stolen from their families as the Stolen Generation. The Stolen Generation consists of Aboriginal children removed from their families by Australian government agencies and church missions between approximately 1900s and 1972. According to the official government report, at least 30,000 children were removed from their parents, and the figure may substantially higher since the formal records of removal were very poorly kept (online).

The impacts of removal for the Stolen Generation still exist in recent time. The theory and the practices in educating the Aboriginal children are in big differences. Today, thousands of Aborigines face a life of family breakdowns; drug and alcohol abuse, violence and mental torture are directly linked to being taken from their parents (Perry, online). Another major problem of the Stolen Generation is their rootless culture. One of the government's policies toward the Aboriginal children is to assimilate the Aboriginal children into European society by denying and destroying their Aboriginality (online). They are lost of historical background upon the Aboriginal ancestors. It brings the confusion in claiming their identity. They are not the White people or the Aboriginal community.

As "a direct reflection of various facets of social structure, family relationship, class conflict", literary work portrays the social condition (Laurenson & Swingewood 13). The social condition in a colonized country leads the appearances of prejudices and stereotypes that become obstacles in connecting the two different cultures.

In regarding the author of the novel, Annette Upfal is an Australian historian who is fully concerned with the early period of Australian colonial history. Thus, she wrote the novel with the setting at early time of the settlement. Annette Upfal was born in Melbourne and educated at Melbourne Girls' Grammar School and Melbourne University. After graduating in law, she became a teacher of legal studies and history. Her own family roots in Australia date back to the 1820's. She wrote the novel based on detailed research, including material not previously discovered. In this

novel based on detailed research, including material not previously discovered. In this analysis the existence of the author is not seen as the influential factor in analyzing the story. It can be claimed as the death of the author and the birth of the 'subject' (Bhabha 2)

Annette Upfal's *Beyond The Dreaming* portrays the life of "Stolen Generation" between the two cultures in early times of the British invasion. The word 'beyond' has a particular meaning in the post-colonial criticism. As Bhabha argued that "beyond is neither a new horizon, nor leaving behind the past" (1). It gives a comprehension toward the condition of the Aboriginal children upon their ancestor and also with the White people. Toby, as the main character of the story, is an Aboriginal person who is raised by the White people.

Regarding the poor condition of the Aboriginal people who are educated among the White people, the writer is interested to know further about the Aboriginal children. Their confusion to identify themselves whether as Aborigines or White people becomes the major problem for them. As the main character of the story, Toby becomes an interesting character to be analyzed. The setting of time is in the early invasion of the British settlement on 1800s upon the land where the practice to educate and civilize the Aboriginal children has occurred.



B. Statement of the Problems

Toby's confusion to identify his identity in Annette Upfal's *Beyond The Dreaming* is properly analyzed due to these problems:

1. How does Toby form his identity within two different societies?
2. How does the ambivalence of identity reflect in Toby's existence?

C. Objective of the Study

The object of the study is to find the answer the proposed problems through the analysis. Therefore the study is aimed:

1. To describe Toby's ways to form of his identity within two different societies.
2. To identify the ambivalence of Toby's identity.

D. Significance of the Study

This study is aimed to enrich our knowledge about literary work, which in this case Australian literary work especially Annette Upfal's *Beyond The Dreaming*. It is also an attempt to broaden our knowledge about the real condition of the Aboriginal children in recent time. Moreover, this study is aimed to describe the real condition of the native inhabitants all over the world who are in oppressed position.

In making an analysis in postcolonial study, the writer will reveal the status of the colonizer and the colonized people. The existence of the native inhabitants is in

danger concerning their position as the minority people. It gives an awareness of the other people upon the huge influences of the foreign settlement into the land.

Since this writing is considered as the final project for undergraduate in the English Department, hopefully it will give some contributions for the following studies. Although it may have some imperfect writings, the writer hopes it does not reduce the essence of the purpose of this analysis.

E. Scope and Limitation

In order to make an accurate analysis in this literary work; the writer needs to comprehend the story from three elements such as: the character, setting and plot. These elements give major contribution on the analysis since the study is related to literary work. The elaborative analysis of the elements supports the writer's efforts in revealing the main problem. The main focus is the main character, Toby Redmond, which in this case Toby's efforts to form his identity and the ambivalence of his identity.

The efforts to form an identity become a psychological problem since an identity also influences one's character. Moreover it also relates to the society, where it is a place to reflect his self-image he has developed. Thus, the writer needs the extrinsic approach such as psychosocial approach.

Since *Beyond the Dreaming* is going to be analyzed in postcolonial theory as well, the writer will reveal the problems related to the postcolonial theory. It will give a clear conception of the influence of one's status upon his identity.

F. Theoretical Background

The intrinsic approached used in this study are character, setting and plot. Character is the main attention of the analysis since the study is revealing the main character. Setting is an important thing to help the writer in comprehending the main character. Furthermore, there are two interesting settings in the story that influences the main character's way of thinking. Then the using of plot in this analysis is to recognize the flowing of the story. Those elements support the writer in understanding the conflicts within the story and their causes and effects.

Tolby, as an aboriginal boy who is raised by white couple, emerges to be an interesting topic to be discussed. Since the analysis is going to be a scientific report for the academic purpose, theories and approaches have to be applied in order to make an objective analysis. The race relation between black and white people has great historical background that starts to arise in the colonialism era. This consideration inspires the writer to use the postcolonial theory. The writer only focuses her analysis based on Homi K. Bhabha's theory about ambivalent identification. This theory is suitable enough to reveal Toby's efforts to identify his identity. Bhabha mentions about the process of identification that leads to the

ambivalent identification. He argues that there are three processes of identification. These processes cause the ambivalence of Toby's identity.

In addition, the writer also applies Erik Erikson's formation of identity as the approach. Erikson argued that the growing and developing youth, faced with this physiological revolution within them, are primarily concerned with attempts at consolidating their social roles (qtd. in Hjelle and Ziegler 197). It becomes a major problem for an adolescence to form his identity within a particular society.

G. Method of the Study

In making a good analysis we have to consider the method used in this research. The writer undergoes a library research to find some ideas and information. Since the novel is closely related to the historical events many sources are needed to search the facts. Books, journals, articles and other printed material are some sources used in the analysis.

The first stage is conducted by collecting information from books, articles, journals, encyclopedias, internet and other printed materials related to the work of Annette Upfal's *Beyond The Dreaming*. Information is also got from any particular books dealing with the literary theories and approaches that will be used in this analysis. Other books dealing with the postcolonial idea are also utilized as supporting materials related to the study.

Moreover, the story takes the setting on the early time of British settlement in Australia. Then it is necessary to collect data about the British invasion from the current period. There are also some terms from the Aboriginal culture that cannot be understood literally. Thus, the writer should compile many data about the related terms in order to have a brief explanation about the Aboriginal culture. There is a particular intention that needs accurate sources to give an objective analysis.

H. Definition of Key Terms

Ambivalence : having either or both of two contrary or similar values, meanings, etc.

Dreamtime : part of Aboriginal culture that explain the origins and culture of the land and its people. It refers to the 'time before time' or the 'time of the creation of all things.

Dreaming : refers to an individual's or group's set of beliefs or spirituality within the Aboriginal culture.

Karadjee : a man in high degree in Aboriginal community who has special power and knowledge of the Dreaming.

Totem : a sacred animal for Aboriginal people that is believed as their brother or sister. An Aboriginal child who shares the same totem with another Aboriginal child becomes brother or sister although they are not in the same family.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK