

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

II.1. RELATED THEORY.

In analysing the main issue of the thesis, the writer of the thesis is using philosophical approach to support structural theory applied to analyse the main issue. The main issue of thesis is about self-criticism, therefore in this chapter, she also inserts an understanding about the issue.

II.1.1. STRUCTURAL THEORY.

Structural Theory is used to analyse self-criticism of Elinor and Marianne Dashwood in Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility. Structure is a concept including both content and form so far as they are organized for aesthetic purposes. The work of art is, then, considered as a whole system of signs, or structure of signs, serving a specific aesthetic purpose (Wellek, 1956, p: 141).

II.1.1.1. PLOT.

Plot is the sequence of incidents or events of which the novel Sense and Sensibility is composed. The elements of plot are: exposition, conflict, climax and

denouement. These elements must be arranged into some kind of effective structure.

One of the elements of plot that is important to discuss in the thesis is conflicts. Conflicts are divided into two, namely internal and external conflicts. Internal conflicts arise in the inner life of the character, while external arise between the character with her surrounding or with the other character.

The important conflicts to consider in analysing self-criticism of Elinor and Marianne in Sense and Sensibility is both the inner and external conflict. The inner conflicts arise in Elinor's and Marianne's minds. External conflicts which arise in Elinor are the conflicts between her and Marianne, and Elinor with Fanny Dashwood and Lucy Steele. While in Marianne, they are reflected in the conflicts between her and Elinor, and Marianne with Willoughby. Those conflicts arise and bring out self-criticism.

II.1.1.2. CHARACTERIZATION.

Character is also important to discuss in the thesis because the object of study is the character. Character is the creation of people who give a sense of life's qualities or possibilities in Sense and Sensibility.

E.M. Forster divided characters into two, namely

flat and round character. Flat character usually has only one outstanding trait or feature and tend to stay the same throughout a story. Round characters present us with more facets and they often learn or become enlightened, grow or deteriorate.

In the thesis, the discussed characters are the round ones. They tend to change along as self-criticism appears. They have their characterization that we have been told in the exposition of Sense and Sensibility. Characterization effected by conflicts, evoke self-criticism, make the characters behave in a sudden and unexpected way. Thus, self-criticism evoke as the result of characters facing conflicts to gain the right decision.

II.1.1.3. SETTING.

We often think of the scene of a piece of fiction--if we think of it at all--as little more than a detail, mechanically necessary of course, but without further significance. Sometimes, after we have finished reading a good story or novel, we do become aware that it has a characteristic 'feeling', that the world it has created carries a characteristic 'atmosphere', and we become aware, too, that this atmosphere is a component of the whole effect.

A setting in fiction refers to the place where the events occur and time of age of actions. The particular place and place provoke, however minimally, certain feelings (Penn, 1975, p: 10). A dingly alley provokes a feeling different from that naturally associated with a green field, a luxurious room, or a tropical jungle.

Not only in the setting itself, but the associations, enter into the characteristic feeling: we are depressed by the dingly alley, not merely because it is ugly and dirty, but because, with it we associate, consciously or unconsciously, the poverty, misery, and struggle of the human being forced to live there.

II.1.2. THEORY OF INDIVIDUALITY PROCESS.

Philosophical approach used in approaching self-criticism in the thesis is philosophy of individuality process. The approach is merely used to make an understanding on the meaning and process of self-criticism, also its significance towards human nature.

As human being, man has certain needs to fulfill, not only physical needs such as food, housing, clothing, being healthy, etc, but also spiritual needs in the form of religion, self criticism, learning things, etc. Those needs necessarily to be fulfilled in order to complete the process in gaining man's honour and pride as the per

fect human being.

Self-criticism is essentially important to put a basic understanding of man's self relied, because every experience in life is led to and prepared for man's improvement and perfection (Dr Huijbers, 1986).

C.G. Jung stated that the process of individuality is learning to accept shortages and weakness, living together with them, getting inspiration on what is needed from him by the world, observing the roles that he can play, generating the potencies hidden within himself, looking for the essence and nature of himself, not the things already been prescribed by the environment. Through the process of searching, comprehending and self acceptance which is often hard, man will be self relied. He is happy to find the essence of life. (Dahler Franz, 1978).

The process of individuality of C.G. Jung helps the writer of the thesis to recognise self-criticism as the elements of process of individuality.

II.1.3. SELF-CRITICISM.

Self-criticism is the act or capability of viewing one's acts or motives in an objective manner. It is also the tendency to underrate one's capabilities or find

fault with one's own actions. (Lexicon Webster Dictionary. 1976)

Self-criticism reveals in characters who tend to gain the title of a perfect man. Self-criticism appears to be one elements in the process to complete man's existence in the universe.

Self-criticism is manifested in Jane Austen's novel Sense and Sensibility in form of: Judging one's personality, understanding self-limitation, understanding self-interest, and the way to deal with sorrow.

II.2. RELATED STUDIES.

The study of self-criticism has been done before by several critics, yet there are not specific enough in discussing the issue. The significance of self-criticism attracts the writers interest in discussing the issue in further analysis.

There is critics that the writer of the thesis refers to, that is by Marilyn Butler in Jane Austen and The War of Ideas, 1976. She stated that "The heroine is not so much in doubt about the nature of external truth, as concern with the knowledge of herself, her passions, and her duty." (p.190). Furthermore, she mentioned that "But it is Elinor alone who can be seen living through

the moments of self-examination that evidently typical of both man (Robert Ferrars and Willoughby) (p.190).

Thus, Marilyn Butler's discussion on self-criticism only lies on Elinor's personality, who tends to show self-criticism in large concern, instead of Marianne. The writer of the thesis pays attention not only on Elinor's personality but in Marianne's as well. While Marianne tends to show self-criticism only in the denouement of the story.

CHAPTER III

JANE AUSTEN AND HER WORKS