

**THE STRUGGLE OF THE MAIN CHARACTER
AGAINST THE INEQUALITY REFLECTED IN
LITTLE WOMEN NOVEL: FEMINIST APPROACH**

THESIS



**By:
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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES FACULTY
PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY
2020**

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**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Sarjana Sastra**



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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
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2020**

SURAT PERNYATAAN ORISINALITAS

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DECLARATION OF THE THESIS ORIGINALITY

I, Nurhayati S., NPM No. 151210059
Here with declare that the thesis entitled:

THE STRUGGLE OF THE MAIN CHARACTER AGAINST THE INEQUALITY REFLECTED IN LITTLE WOMEN NOVEL: FEMINIST APPROACH

Is the real work of myself and I realize that thesis has never been published in other media before, partially or entirely, in the name of mine or others.

Batam, 20th February, 2020

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151210059

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The thesis has been examined and approved on the date as indicated below.

Batam, February 20th, 2020

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini adalah tentang perjuangan karakter utama melawan ketidaksetaraan yang terjadi pada perempuan dalam masyarakat pada novel "Little Women" oleh Louisa May Alcott. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa ketidaksetaraan yang terjadi pada wanita, dan perjuangan karakter utama yang menentang ketidaksetaraan tersebut yang terefleksikan dalam novel "Little Women" oleh Louisa May Alcott dari sudut pandang feminis berdasarkan theory Rosemarie Tong. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif. Data yang dikumpulkan berupa kalimat, ucapan, tindakan, dan narasi yang terkait dengan adanya ketidaksetaraan yang terjadi antara laki-laki dan perempuan dalam masyarakat, dan perjuangan karakter utama melawan ketidaksetaraan antara laki-laki dan perempuan di dalam cerita, dan sumber data di ambil dari novel "Little Women" oleh Louisa May Alcott. Berdasarkan analisis dalam novel "Little Women" oleh Louisa May Alcott, peneliti menemukan adanya 10 ketidaksetaraan yang terjadi antara perempuan dan laki-laki di masyarakat dalam aspek sosial, politik, dan ekonomik, dan 10 perjuangan karakter utama melawan ketidaksetaraan yang terjadi di masyarakat dalam aspek social, politik, dan ekonomi. Dari analisis data, peneliti menyimpulkan bahwa adanya ketidaksetaraan yang terjadi di masyarakat, hal itu membuat karakter utama mencoba untuk berjuang melawan ketidaksetaraan yang terjadi dalam masyarakat dan hal tersebut yang menjadi konflik yang menggerakkan plot novel ini.

Kata Kunci: Perjuangan, karakter utama, melawan, ketidakadilan, Feminis.

ABSTRACT

This research was about the struggle of the main characters against the inequality that occurs in women in society in the novel "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott. This study was aimed to analyze the inequalities that occur in women, and the struggles of the main characters that fight these inequalities that were reflected in the novel "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott from a feminist point of view based on Rosemarie Tong's theory. The method used in this research was descriptive qualitative method. Data collected in the form of sentences, utterances, actions, and narratives related to inequality that occur between men and women in society, and the main character's struggle against the inequality between men and women in the story, and data sources taken from the novel "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott. Based on an analysis in the novel "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott, researcher found 10 the inequalities that occur between women and men in society in social, political, and economic aspects, and 10 main character's struggles against the inequality that occur in society in aspects social, political, and economic. From the analysis of the data, the researcher concluded that the inequality that occurs in the community, it made the main character try to fight against the inequalities that occur in the community and this was the conflict that moved the plot of this novel.

Keyword: *Struggle, main character, against, inequality, feminist*

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

MOTTO

The Lord will make you the head and not the tail; and you will ever have the highest place, if you give ear to the orders of the Lord your God which I give you today, to keep and do them.

(Deuteronomy 28:13)

DEDICATION

This thesis is proudly dedicated to my beloved family, especially for my parents

All lecturers and staff at Putera Batam University

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In this great opportunity, the researcher would like to thank her gratitude to Jesus Christ for greatest blessings, especially His companionship along her study in Putera Batam University and for especially the researcher can finish this thesis entitled *The Struggle of the Main Character Against the Inequality Reflected in Little Women novel: Feminist Approach* in completely on time.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Research

In the past, the differences between men and women were things that were often in the public spotlight. In this case, inequality often occurs which made women feel neglected in the midst of society, where this gave a variety of pain and bitterness for women in living it. That triggered the emergence of feminist flow which was a women's movement that opposes inequality that occurs in women. This feminist movement struggles to obtain the same rights as men. It was about the struggle to make their own decisions about their lived and the struggle to obtain their freedom, which in this mindset assumed that every human being had the right to get the same opportunity. Based on Hartiningsih (2011) statement as a reporter in Kompas: *Perempuan Dalam Belunggu Budaya*, stated that the mothers world, the women world are the world contrariness in a silence, the world of rebellion in obedience, the world of silence in the midst of the hustle and bustle of life, the world of solitude boisterous and lonely, the world of surrender in fear and helplessness. It described the pain and bitterness felt by women, and that was one of the reasons of woman to struggle in their life for their right.

The novel "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott was very interesting when examined with a feminist approach, especially in the analysis of women's

struggles. This novel has the advantage of being that the main character of the story turns out to be able to struggle against various life phenomena even though there are many conflicts. The situation in the novel was similar in real American's life during in that period. It was firstly published in 1868. In the novel the main character was a woman who struggle during her life to pursuing her dream. She was against the rule that limits women's freedom at the time. She was a woman who has rational thought to solve her problem.

One of the struggles of her to against the inequality was when she can earn money by herself. She proved that as a woman, she also can work and earn money same as man.

As long as THE SPREAD EAGLE paid her a dollar a column for her 'rubbish', as she called it, Jo felt herself a woman of means, and spun her little romances diligently. But great plans fermented in her busy brain and ambitious mind, and the old tin kitchen in the garret held a slowly increasing pile of blotted manuscript, which was one day to place the name of March upon the roll of fame. (Alcott, 2018: 372)

The quotation above explained the phenomenon that happened at that time. In where as a young woman, it is not easy to be a writer. But the main character proved that women can also be a writer and get the money from her paper. Her resistance also showed her different characteristics as a real lady as a stereotype in her society. Her being different in personality also influenced herself to be a woman writer.

The researcher was interested to choose this title because as a woman, the researcher wants to explain about how women lived in the past, and how hard it was, where they had to struggle to get their rights. In this title, the researcher tried

to give the other woman support to get their rights in society. The researcher hopes that the other woman respect and appreciated it.

The researcher was interested in analyzing this novel because the novel was based on the real life of women in 19th century during the America civil war period. This novel also still popular until now, and was made for film, musical drama, and also animation version. This novel described about the inequality of women based on the author experienced in her life. It was because the author of the novel that known as Jo March was the main character.

Several studies had described feminist. One of the studies was by Selvi Eka Putri and Yenni Rosana from Universitas Dehasen Bengkulu. Their research it's about liberal feminism in the novel "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott. It's about the women struggle in little women that lead to women emancipation from the feminist perspective. The results of this research, female characters in this novel were classified into two themes. The first theme was leadership which includes being a leader and being an influential figure. The second theme was independence, which is also divided into independent and independent thinkers to support oneself and family. (Putri & Rosana, 2018)

Regarding in the phenomenon above, the researcher would like to do a research in "Little Women" novel from the other perspective. In this perspective, the researcher chose to analyze it for the research because it described that woman can struggle for her right. And the struggle of woman at the time it's not easy.

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background above, the researcher identified the problem as follows:

1. The inequality woman that described in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott
2. The struggle of the main character against the inequality reflected in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott
3. Underestimating of woman by man in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott
4. Subordinations of woman in the novel “Little Women” by Louisa May Alcott
5. Disadvantages of woman in the novel “Little Women” by Louisa May Alcott

1.3. The Limitation of the Problem

There are some cases that be analyzed in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott. In the research, the researcher used feminist approach to analyzing this research, and the researcher just focus in equal liberty of liberal feminism. In this research, the problem was limited by researcher as follows:

1. The inequality of woman in equal liberty that described in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott
2. The struggle of the main character against the inequality in equal liberty reflected in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott

1.4. The Formulation of the Problem

Concerning with limitation of the problem, the researcher formulate the problem as follows:

1. What are the inequalities faced by the women in equal liberty that described in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott?
2. What are the struggles of the main character against the inequality in equal liberty reflected in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott?

1.5. The Objective of the Research

Below was the objective of the research that could be formulated:

1. To describe the inequality of women in equal liberty that described in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott.
2. To describe the struggle of the main character against the inequality in equal liberty reflected in the novel “Little Women” by Louisa May Alcott.

1.6. Significance of the Research:

1.6.1. Theoretically

The theoretical significance of this research is to enhance the study of literature which focus on the woman’s struggle from literary work and also used as reference for the readers especially the students at English Department of Putera Batam University who wants to and interested to analyze feminist as their object in their thesis writing and enhance their knowledge.

1.6.2. Practically

The practical significance of this research is to increase the reader's awareness of feminist especially the woman's struggle and it to be used as an example how to conduct literary analysis from feminist perspective.

1.7. Definition of the Key Terms

- Struggle** : The decision to fight for women's rights and interests in social, politics, or economics fields. (Sugihastuti & Suharto, 2015)
- Main Character** : Main character is a person who struggle to fight for their rights and oppose the injustices that occur between men and women. Usually in a story there are figures that are structural elements of fiction that give birth to events. (Sayuti, 2000)
- Inequality** : The inequality occurs because of differences between one another, where one of them occupies a higher position than the other. In daily life, inequalities between men and women often occur. (Ilyas, 2005)
- Feminist** : The conditions are considered unfair for women. In other words, feminist is a women's movement to reject everything that limits their rights as humans, and humiliate women. (Ratna, 2008)

CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORITICAL
FRAMEWORK

2.1. Feminist Approach

Feminist comes from Latin, femina or female. This term came into use in the 1890s, where the term was used to support theories about the equality of women and men in obtaining their rights. Feminist is a condition where someone opposes the existence of differences in rights between men and women. The conditions are considered unfair for women. In other words, feminist is a women's movement to reject everything that limits their rights as humans, and humiliate women. (Ratna, 2008)

Feminist has the aim to investigate problem in society view from woman point of view. It also has a purpose to remind the existence of woman of woman from political and social aspect. First, image of woman it describes about how female characters are presented in the story. The characters are extraordinary and struggle against the tradition and society. Second, woman oppression, it explains that female character gets the unfair treatment from the society because of her existence for being a woman. Third, male domination, it shows about the man character dominates the female which force the woman to make a movement. The last, register theory, it explains feminist aspect from political and social aspect toward the existence of woman emancipation, and other society problem link with sexual disorder.

One of the theorists that against the inequality of woman is Rosemarie Tong. Based on Rosemarie Tong, women are rational beings who are also equal to men, therefore women must be given rights and treated equally with men, including giving equal rights to education, and choices of opportunities to work or at home, as well as political rights that same with men. (Tong, 2009)

In analyze the research, the researcher uses Rosemarie Tong's theory from her book feminist thought. In her book, she divided feminist into 8 types:

2.1.1. Liberal Feminism

Liberal feminism means that the root of women's oppression lies in the absence of equal rights, to advance themselves and equal cultural opportunities. Women get discrimination of their rights, opportunities, freedoms because they are women. To fight it he proposed equality between men and women. Liberal feminists reject patriarchal authority justified by religious dogma, rejecting the special treatment given to women. But it still recognizes the different functions of reproduction, however the reproductive function for women will affect social life.

Liberal feminism means talking about the inequality of opportunity between men and women. Liberal feminism celebrates the rationality and autonomy of women over their bodies. According to liberal feminism, women have the ability to determine their own destiny. However, this ability is often limited by the heresy that states that women are naturally or absolutely weaker and stupid, when compared to men. This assumption is what then encourages inequality of opportunity between men and women. Men are often associated with roles in the

public sphere, whereas women are often associated with roles in the private sphere.

The solution of this problem for liberal feminism is quite diverse. For Wellstone, women must seize public space from men, by pursuing careers like men, and proving that they can also do what men do. These efforts must of course be supported by the presence of policies that guarantee "equal opportunity for women". This policy guarantee must target several important points, ranging from equal access to education between men and women, equal rights to obtain employment, the right to obtain social welfare services for poor women, and the right to control over the female reproductive system such as the use of contraception to delay pregnancy, for the sake of pursuing a career in public space. In short, for liberal feminism, structural intervention through policy is the key to alleviating gender oppression.

Liberal feminism has several strengths in solving problems related to gender inequality. First, liberal feminism states that men and women have the same opportunities. Second, liberal feminism encourages respect for individual rights, and third, liberal feminism offers concrete solutions in overcoming gender inequality, namely structural intervention. But liberal feminism in practice also cannot be separated from criticism. The focus of liberal feminism on individual autonomy and structural intervention causes liberal feminism to neglect the cultural roots of the problems faced by women, namely patriarchal culture born from oppression that has occurred for hundreds of years. In addition, liberal feminism only encourages women to take their place in the public sphere, without

supporting the involvement of men in the private sphere, emphasizing that both men and women must learn to become androgynous; to adopt values from both genders; for the achievement of gender equality.

Liberal Feminism holds that equality and freedom are centered on the rationality and autonomy of each individual. Women are rational beings who should also equal to men. Therefore they also have the right to be treated equally with men to develop their moral capacity, such as providing equal access to education, and the choice of opportunities to work or stay at home, and the same political rights as men. (Tong, 2009)

According to Tong in her book "feminist thought" liberal feminist trying to free women from gender roles, namely from roles that are used as reasons to give a lower place, or not to provide a place at all for women, especially in equal education, equal liberty, equal right, and the suffrage.

a. Equal Education

Mary Wollstonecraft claimed that a woman should not be considered a "male toy." In other words, a woman is not created just for men's pleasure, but a woman has the right to self-determination. In his life women have the right to get an education equal to that of men. So that men should not regard women as meaningless. When the men are educated in courage, simplicity, justice and fortitude, while women are educated in virtues such as patience, obedience, good humor, polite, and flexibility. It shows that women are considered to have to take

refuge in men who are considered brave. And women must also obey male orders, and be able to be their entertainers. (Tong, 2009)

b. Equal Liberty

In this situation, equal economic, social and political rights are the main topic in this era. Wollstonecraft said that if society wants to achieve sexual equality or gender justice then society must give women the same opportunities in economic, social and political rights as men.

Mill opposes assumptions in society about the tendency of women to prefer marriage and motherhood rather than career and work. He argues that women should not only look for opportunities to read books to express their inspiration. They must also look for opportunities to become male partners in social, economic and political aspects. According to him it is very important for women to work, it would be better if some of the income came from the income of the woman herself, even if the total amount of income was only slightly increased by the income of the woman, rather than women being required to depend entirely on men and make them life support the only one. That is, she hopes that women can become partners, and not become slaves to her husband. That is why women should be able to have income from work outside the home, whether they are married or not, women are expected to have an income.

Equal Liberty emphasizes that women must enjoy individual freedom in society, that is, they must live the way they want because naturally, men and women are created equal. In the economic aspect also women must have the same

opportunities as men in the economic field. The system that has been going on makes women not much able to participate in the economic field. The people's expectation of them being wife, mother and taking care of the household is the obstacle. As a result, more women live in poverty than men. Therefore, economic freedom is needed, where women are given the same opportunities as men to freely pursue a career. In the political aspects of a country must be able to ensure that the basic structure in a society is able to distribute both the benefits or burdens of social cooperation fairly, so that men and women can jointly bear it. The current system is considered unfair because it is still based on a patriarchal society. (Tong, 2009)

c. Equal Rights

In this explanation, Anthony emphasized that there are differences in whites and blacks that occur. As in the oppressive laws of the US state of black people and the existence of discrimination against blacks and discrimination against women is considered unfair to them. Whites consider blacks weak and have no right to live happily. (Tong, 2009)

d. The Suffrage

John Stuart Mill and Harriet Taylor Mill, affirm the existence of women's suffrage to be equal for men. Not only have the right to express their own political views but they also have the right to fight something that is considered to limit

their freedom in their lives, and they also have the right to abolish slavery. (Tong, 2009)

2.1.2. Radical Feminism

Based on Milleth, this feminism is a feminist perspective that removes all forms of male supremacy to make radical changes in society in the economic and social context. This feminism also wants to eliminate patriarchy by opposing the institutions and also the social norms that apply through the political process. Some examples are opposing traditional gender roles, resisting the sexual objectification of women, and raising public awareness about issues such as rape and violence against women. (Tong, 2009)

2.1.3. Marxist and Socialist Feminism

Marxist views about the problem of women in the framework of criticism of capitalism. In this assumption it is argued that the method of production and class exploitation are sources of oppression for women. Men control production, whereas women are considered to be part of property, or women are considered as workers.

Socialist feminism struggles to abolish the system of ownership. It assumed that where the Marriage Institutions that legalize men's ownership of property and ownership of husband over wives are abolished. (Tong, 2009)

2.1.4. Psychoanalytic Feminism

According to Freud, the children were left through various stages of psychosexual development, and their gender identity as an adult is a result of how good or bad they have gone through this process. In other words, virility and femininity are products of sexually mature. If boys develop "normally", they will end when men exhibit the expected masculine qualities; if women develop "normal," they will end up as women that exhibit the expected female nature. (Tong, 2009)

2.1.5. Care-Focused Feminism

Some of these explanations focus on the biology of separate men and women, others on male and female dives the path of psychosexual development, and others about the way people systematically shape different identities and behaviors of men and women. But whatever their explanation of contrasting male and female gender identities, care-focused feminists assume women's capacity for care as human strengths rather than human weaknesses. In addition, feminists who focus on care spend a lot of money energy to develop feminist care as a substitute and even as a compliment to traditional justice ethics. (Tong, 2009)

2.1.6. Multicultural, Global, and Postcolonial Feminism

According to Arthur, multicultural, global, and postcolonial feminists encourage feminist thought in the direction of recognizing women's diversity and recognizing the challenges it presents. Not all women think and act the same, nor

do all women appreciate the same thing for the same purpose. In short, women are different from each other. For this reason, this feminists challenge the essentialism of women, the view that the notion of "women" exists as a kind of Platonic form that every woman must realize. (Tong, 2009)

2.1.7. Ecofeminism

Based on Rachel Carson, no matter the difference between social-constructionist and natural ecofeminism or between socialist and spiritual ecofeminists, all ecofeminists believe that humans are connected to one another and to non-human worlds such as animals and plants. Unfortunately, we do not always recognize our relationships and responsibilities with others, let alone the people we have with those who are not the human world. As a result, we commit violence with each other, whether it is against nature, or even congratulate ourselves. Meanwhile, every day, we commit suicide by killing our sisters and brothers and by putting garbage to the earth where we come from and where we will return. (Tong, 2009)

2.1.8. Postmodern and Third-Wave Feminism

According to Julia Kristeva, this feminism has thoughts for eliminate differences between feminine and masculine, woman and man, gender. They try to erase the concept of men that prevent women from following men's thoughts and position themselves with their own thoughts. (Tong, 2009)

2.1.9. The struggle

The struggle is a condition in which a person strives to defend and fight for their rights. In this case, women fight for what they think they deserve. The decision to fight for women's rights and interests in social, politics, or economics fields is quoted in Sugihastuti and Suharto theory. (Sugihastuti & Suharto, 2015: 123).

2.1.10. Main Character

Main character is a person who struggle to fight for their rights and oppose the injustices that occur between men and women. Usually in a story there are figures that are structural elements of fiction that give birth to events.(Sayuti, 2000) In terms of its involvement in the whole story, the characters are divided into two types:

a. Major Character

Major character is very important for the resolution of the conflicts and also for the development. In other hands, the plot and the resolution of conflict revolves around these characters. The main character usually is the major character. The major character is the important character in the story. In “Little Women” novel that written by Louisa May Alcott, one of the major characters is Jo March.

b. Minor Character

Minor characters serve to complement the main characters and help advance the plot of the events. The minor character usually is the character where their position as a helper character in the story. In the story, they are spoken rarely and sometimes they oppose the major character. Wolloch states that the minor character is the character that made to complete the story, and support the major character. It means that it has the unimportant role.

2.1.11. The Inequality

The inequality occurs because of differences between one another, where one of them occupies a higher position than the other. In daily life, inequalities between men and women often occur. In this case, men are considered to have a higher position in society than women. In this study, the main character who is a woman, opposes inequality that limits her freedom. One of them is injustice that can occur to women, both in family and society, where women will struggle to change these conditions. (Ilyas, 2005: 21).

2.1.12. Novel

Novel is one of the literary works in written form. It is a long story that is divided into several chapters. Sometimes novel is the result of essay from the author or even the true story of the author's life. Based on (Nurgiyantoro 2010: 4) suggests that the novel is a work of fiction offering a world that contains idealized life models, imaginative worlds which is built through various intrinsic elements

such as events, plots, characters and characterization, background, and perspective all of which are imaginative, though all what the author realized was deliberately analogous to the real world looks like really exists and is true, this is seen in its own coherent system.

2.2. Review Previous Study

The purposes of the previous study intend to be an addition idea for the researcher, so that this research can be done well. As long as the researcher knows, there are fifth previous studies that taken in this research and one of them has been explained general in the background and now the researcher will explain it below.

The first research was by Selvi Eka Putri and Yenni Rosana from Universitas Dehasen Bengkulu. Their research it's about liberal feminism in the "Little Women" novel by Louisa May Alcott. It's about the women struggle in little women that lead to women emancipation from the feminist perspective. The results of this research, female characters in this novel were classified into two themes. The first theme was leadership which includes being a leader and being an influential figure. The second theme was independence, which is also divided into independent and independent thinkers to support oneself and family. (Putri & Rosana, 2018)

The second research was by Ahmad Jasim Mohammad Alazzawi from Mosul University, Iraq. His research it's about a feminist perspective in Ngugi Wa Thiong's novel "Petal of Blood". In his research it's about the struggle of

Nyakinyua and Wanja who against the colonialism. They had a strong desire to rein in oppression and exploitation of Kenyan society. The result of his research that Nugui shows the nature of woman, he also throws the light on the positive and negative aspects of women in Kenyan society. (Alazzawi, 2018).

The third research was by Manish Kumar Gaurav & Sadaf Fatima from Amity University in India. Their research it's about the feminist characteristics in "Pride and Prejudice" novel and movie by Jane and Austen. It is about the realistic image of the society and appears as independent women like Elizabeth, where the feminist movement had just started. The result of this research that, Austen can be included in the category of gynocritics, i.e. women writing about women voicing their sense of good judgment and reason rather depicts them as gullible emotional beings. (Gaurav & Fatima, 2015).

The fourth research was by Hui-Chun CHANG from the Tsinghua University in Beijing. Her research it's about the impact of the feminist heroine: Elizabeth in "Pride and Prejudice". It is about the critically examines the feminist significant of Elizabeth Benneth to challenge gender inequality while the other women imposed gender norms of Regency England. The result in this research was the traditional Regency-era woman was typified through Caroline, Jane and Charlotte. They adhere to the societal norms, modifying themselves in order to secure a husband. (Chang, 2014).

The fifth research was by Dedi Rahman Nur from the Widya Gama Mahakam Samarinda University in East Kalimantan. It's about analysis of the feminist character in Kate Chopin's "The Awakening". This research concerns

with the analysis of feminist character in Kate Chopin's work. This research result showed that Edna Pontellier feminist characters have a contribution to the development of the plot of the stories. Her feminist characteristics and behavior affect to the plot. The feminist characters' thought and attitude play important in changing the mood of the characters' action so that making the plot developed attitude play important in changing the mood of the characters' action so that making the plot developed. (Rahman, 2017).

The sixth research was by Agustin Dwi Ratnaningrum from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. Finding the effects of civil war on families on the novel "Little Women" was the aim of the research. The research was using sociological approach by Alan Swingewood. It used qualitative research methodology. The results of this research are, the family was in poor condition by the poverty caused by the civil war. Not only in the economic aspect, the civil war also caused an effect on the aspect of education described by one of the characters, Amy, who did not want to go to school. These effects can be studied in sociological terms which study human social life. (Ratnaningrum, 2009)

The seventh research was by Liana Yunike Manurung from University of North Sumatera that discussed about an analysis of feminism reflected in Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women". The research was using feminist approach. It used qualitative research methodology. The research result of her research was the struggle of the March women, especially Jo to find sustenance for their family and identities of their own in the culture of a masculine society. Women can also give

the right decision for her without any influence from people other. (Manurung, 2010)

The eighth research was conducted by Pristiana Ajeng Paundria from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. Analyze the meaning of family and happiness in “Little Woman” novel by Louisa May Alcott was the aim of the study. The research was using feminist approach. It used qualitative research methodology. The research result of her research reflects about the condition that dealing in the women’s position, role, right, and participation. (Paundria, 2014)

In this research, the researcher tried to analyze the novel “Little Women” again, but in different perspective. The researcher want to analyze the struggle of the main character against the inequality reflected in Little Women novel by Louisa May Alcott. In this research, feminist approach was used by the researcher to analyze the novel.

2.3. Theoretical Framework

The following is the theoretical framework of this research

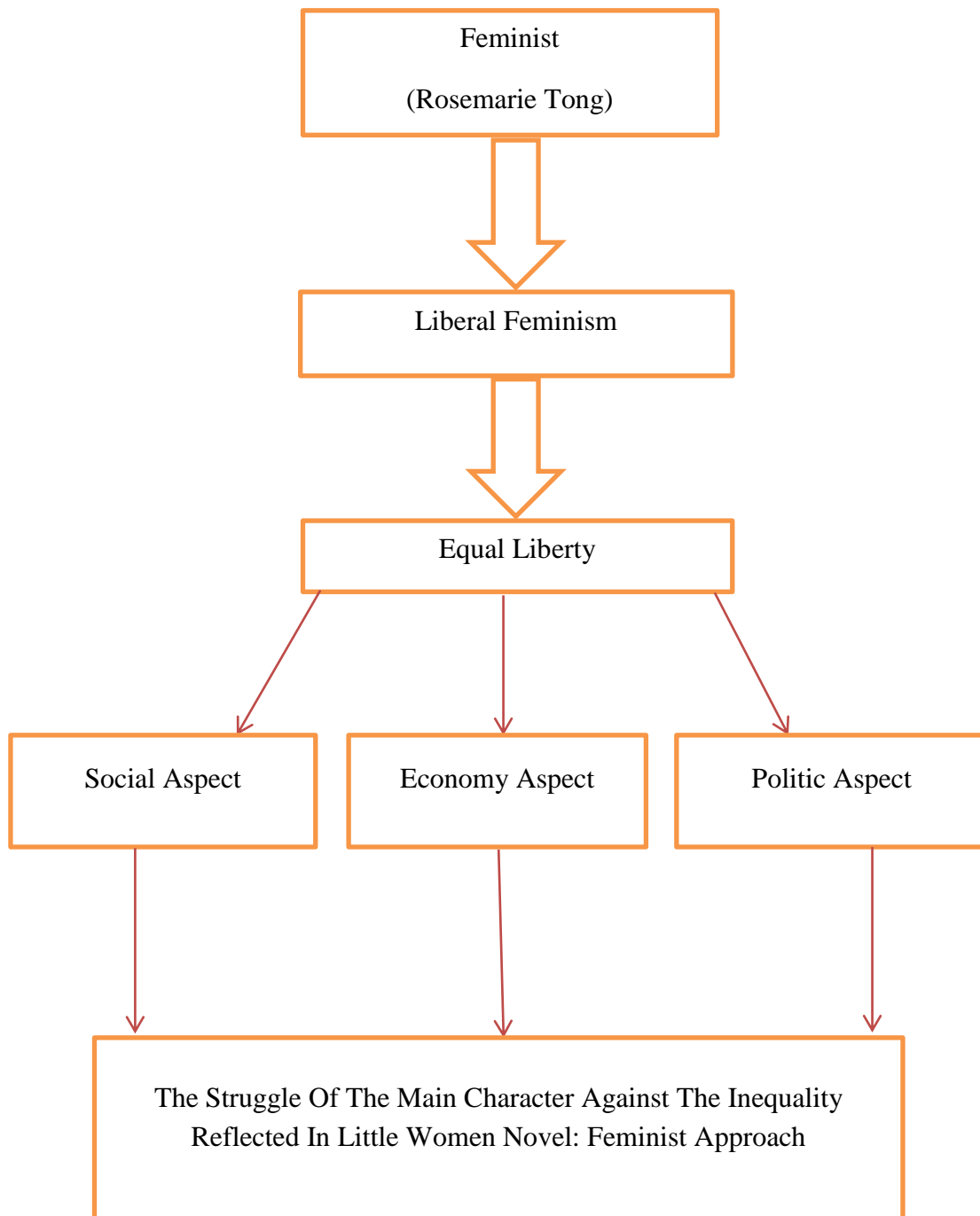


Figure2.3 Theoretical Framework

This research focused on the struggle of the main character in a feminist perspective. This research was using the Rosemarie Tong theory. In her theory, there were 8 types of feminist; liberal feminism, radical feminism, Marxist & socialist feminism, psychoanalytic feminism, care-focused feminism, multicultural, global, and postcolonial feminism, ecofeminism, and the last was postmodern and third-wave feminism. But the researcher only focused on liberal feminism type in this research. The researcher intends to know about the struggle of the main character against the inequality in the novel.

CHAPTER III

METHOD OF THE RESEARCH

In a research, to specify the method of the research it's important for the researcher. In this chapter, the researcher would like to discuss about the research design, and then the object of the research, the method of collecting data, the method of analyzing data, and the last method of presenting research result.

3.1. Research Design

In analyzing the novel, the researcher used the descriptive qualitative research. According to Anderson (2010) qualitative research is a study in which researchers observe and record every event that happens to people around them or to their self. Qualitative research is the important method to find the underlying motives of human behavior, this research is a process of discovering the truth and proving the phenomena that was faced.

3.2. Object of the Research

To solve the problem that the research found needs the data to be analyzed. In this research, the object of the research was the struggle of the main character against the inequality reflected in "Little Women" novel.

3.3. Method of Collecting Data

Method of collecting data is the process of the researcher to collect and get the data that needed to analyze the research. Data collection was carried out to obtain the information needed to achieve the research objectives. In this research, the researcher used documentation method. Documentation method is the method carried out by collecting the scientific data or information such as theories or method that taken from the book, and also from the journal, and the others documents. The interpretation of the written materials based on context will be the focus in this method. (Sugiyono, 2016)

There are several steps to collect and get the data needed that the researcher used in this research:

1. Reading. The researcher reads the novel "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott for several times to get a deeper meaning and become aware of the implicit content.
2. Highlighting the data. The researcher highlighted the data and classified the data and grouping the data of woman struggle.
3. Taking note. During the reading "Little Women" novel by Louisa May Alcott. Note technique is used to note any quote that has psychological phenomena and who speak that. With this technique, the researcher knew about context of conversation

3.4. Method of Analyzing Data

In this method, the analysis of data was made by the researcher. This method greatly influences the result of the research. If the method used is in accordance with the object of research, the result will be acceptable. The method that the researcher used in this research is case context analysis. Context analysis is activity to analyze the data that collected before by describing data which has accumulated as it is without intending to make conclusion that apply to the general. (Sugiyono, 2016)

3.5. Method of Presenting Research Result

This method was done so that the data of the research can be well organized and arranged, so the reader easily to understand of the research. According to (Creswell, 2014: 59), method of presenting research result describe the end of the various voices of participants, the reflexivity of the research, the description and interpretation of the research problem and the contribution of literature or calls for change.