

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter includes the discussion of related literature and theoretical framework. Related literature in this chapter has the function as support in doing research as it acted as references. Moreover, there are previous researches which contributed to provide knowledge largely around the subject of approach. In this chapter, it contains the explanation of feminist approach, the theory of oppression includes the forms and women's way of achieving equality, and previous researches to provide insight.

2.1 Feminist Approach

Feminism represents movement done to aim and establish the equality between men and women, in term of political, economic, and social rights. It focused on gaining the equal opportunities for women, as women's rights are known nonexistent in public before the feminist movements were planned. As defined by Hooks (2000), feminism is the movements done to end the exploitation of sexist, sexism, and oppression. In which feminists stated that the different social values between men and women are just a culture, so it is possible to be changed and established towards the culture they expected and desired.

Feminism as one of literary studies' approaches, focused on reflecting the concern of women's marginalization in the culture of patriarchal, organized culture in favor for men (Guerin et al., 2005), which is to examine the women's movements as described in literary works. Literary criticism of feminism mostly developed

since the beginning of late-twentieth-century which involved literary texts from some authors that regarded them as the agents of power and models on female-self as constructed in literature.

The theory of Simone de Beauvoir will be used to find out and analyze regarding the existentialism of women. As explained by Tong and Botts (2017), de Beauvoir had observed that man regard as self, while woman as the other, which means if the other is a threat to self, then women are threat to men. It eventually leaded towards the oppression of men towards women, which happened based on two reasons. First is woman as a subordinate to a man, and women have applied the thought of being the inessential, while man is the essential. Thus, the theory will be used to find out the forms of oppression by male characters towards Tess, the female main character in the novel of "*Tess of the d'Urbervilles*" by Thomas Hardy, and the way Tess struggled to break through the oppression she got.

2.1.1 Five Faces of Oppression

Society consists of justice, which is not only be distributed, but also necessary on development and practical capacities to communication towards some conditions. Under the justice's conception, injustice can be referred to two forms of constraints, they are oppression and domination (Young, 1990). The term of oppression mostly is not used to refer injustice in society, while the emancipatory social movements such as socialists, feminists, Indian activists, and so on had regarded oppression as the central of political discourse. As explained by Young (1990), oppression refers to the disadvantage and injustice received by some people who had suffered through the practices of liberal society. Oppression is pictured as

systemic constraints on groups that are structural caused by unquestioned norms, symbols, and habits in the assumptions of institutional rules. Iris had categorized five of oppressions which are believed as comprehensive distinctions.

2.1.1.1 Exploitation

The existence of exploitation is enforced through the society's distinctions of class, which can be referred also to capitalism of power and wealth. According to Young (1990), exploitation is the occurrence of making use of people's labours and efforts to make profit for the company while not providing compensation fairly. It means the efforts and works that had been done by the workers are paid however the wages and gains they made for company are not given to them. Exploitation happened when a capitalism society had created different classes of people, which are the wealthy and poor, and it created the system that eternalized the class differences, the rich became richer and the poor became poorer.

2.1.1.2 Marginalization

Marginalization is regarded as the most dangerous form of oppression. It indicated to marginal people that are refused to be used to do labours by the system in society (Young, 1990). Marginalization had considered only on racially marked groups, however in the United States, it was divided into a large proportion of marginal's population, they are people who had much age, unemployed, single mothers and children, and so on. A whole category of people that is marginal is expelled from the participation in being useful in social life by permanently confined as underclass people of living.

2.1.1.3 Powerlessness

As linked to Marxist idea of socialism, there are some people who have power and wealth while some who do not. Stated by Young (1990), those who are powerless and without wealth eventually are ruled by the ruling and higher class, and live by situating to receive orders and not given the right in society. Powerless is significant to lacking power of decision making, the hitch of developing capacities, and disclosure of disrespectful treatment due to lower status. Powerless is considered as strongest oppression because it increases people's ability to oppress themselves and others, which they would think little of themselves and having the mindsets that they are supposed to live the way they lived, by not realizing that something is wrong within society and they were treated unfairly.

2.1.1.4 Cultural Imperialism

This category of oppression indicated to the action done by the ruling class to normalize the culture they wanted and establish it into norm in society. Young (1990) explained that cultural imperialism is the act of establishing a dominant group's culture and experiences into the society as universal norm. This oppression happened on those who are marked by the stereotypes going on society and are made to be felt invisible.

2.1.1.5 Violence

One of the oppression forms that can be seen as an obvious and visible oppression in society is violence. Many groups suffered systematic

oppression of violence. As explained by Young (1990), people who had received such oppressions must live the knowledge of being feared in term of living life, unwillingly accept unprovoked attacks on them or their properties. Those attacks are done not with any motives, but are intended in destroying, damaging, and humiliating.

2.1.2 Women's Ways to Achieve Equality

Beauvoir had insisted that women can create their own identities by themselves because there is no essence for femininity to be prescribed eternally on them, even before feminist postmodernist stated it (R. Tong, 2014). There are not any easy ways for women to escape society's immanence regarding female, the definitions, limits, and the roles that men and society had imposed on them. Women have to overcome the circumstances in order to cease the fact of being the second sex in society. Four strategies had been given by Beauvoir for women to employ on the way to transcendence immanency.

2.1.2.1 Women Go to Work

Working in a capitalist patriarchy society can be exploitative and oppressive, which resulted on double work for women, first shift in the workplace and the second at home (R. Tong, 2014). In term of that, Beauvoir however insisted that no matter how tiring the works received by women, it is still possible for them to affirm their transcendence and status as a subject, who actively work for her destiny alongside men outside home.

2.1.2.2 Women Become Intellectuals

The activity that can be done by women as intellectuals is the one that required thinking, defining, and looking (R. Tong, 2014). They could be the one that are grouped and able to build the changes for women. Beauvoir had encouraged them to learn woman writers such as Virginia Woolf, Emily Bronte, and Katherine Mansfield, who had become the writers that explore on life, suffering, and death.

2.1.2.3 Women Work Towards Socialist Transformation of Society

Beauvoir had hoped to end the conflict of subject and object among humans generally and between both men and women (R. Tong, 2014). The struggle that caused between the conflicts is not psychologically, instead by the necessity of economic. Beauvoir had believed that the key of women's liberation is economic state, which she had emphasized of an independent woman. She also affirmed that women's circumstances will limit efforts to define themselves, so they have to help in creating the society that can provide material supports to surpass their limits.

2.1.2.4 Women Refuse to Internalize Otherness

Transcending their limits, women have the ability to refuse internalizing their otherness, which means to identify themselves in the dominant group by also accepting the role as an object (R. Tong, 2014). Woman's in-authentic self is the object-self seen in the male world. Meanwhile, woman's authentic self is the withdrawn invisible-self in their world.

2.2 Previous Research

Purnami and Pramono (2021) analyzed the types of women's marginalization and the model of women's resistance as the manifestation of existence. The research used Simone de Beauvoir's theory of existential feminism to analyze "*Kitab Omong Kosong*" written by Seno Gumira Ajidarma. The researchers found that in Ajidarma's novel, women were in a lower position and were considered subordinate which led to violence toward women. The resistance of female characters was also considered struggles for intellectuality.

Geleuk, Mulawarman, and Hanum (2017) described the factual structure and the struggle of female characters in "*Tanah Tabu*" novel written by Anindita S. Thayf. The previous research used Simone de Beauvoir's theory of existential feminism to understand the female characters that oppressed to fight in order to get out of the oppression. The result of the research showed that the female characters became working women, intellectual women, women of socialist transformation and women who follows the dominant group.

Purnomo (2017) analyzed women's resistance toward male domination in power in order to raise awareness. The novel "*Perempuan di Titik Nol*" written by Nawal el-Saadawi was used an object to highlight women's fight toward the unequal power difference between men and women. Simone de Beauvoir's existentialist feminism was used to understand about female's struggle in a patriarchal society. The result of the research showed Firdaus as a character similar to existentialist feminism concept proposed by Beauvoir.

Pranowo (2013) described female identity in patriarchal society in the novel *“Perempuan di Titik Nol”* written by Nawal el a’adawi. Filled with portrayal of female oppression done by patriarchal society and culture, the previous research used Simone de Beauvoir’s theory of existential feminism to understand to analyze the novel. The result of the research showed that being free is not by separating women from their identity but rather to define the existence of women in their own body.

Hikmah (2013) analyzed female struggles in chasing their dreams because of gender injustice which women are unable to receive the same education as men. The previous research used the novel *“9 Matahari”* written by Adenita as an object of this research. Simone de Beauvoir’s existentialist feminism was used to understand about female’s struggle in a patriarchal society. The result of the research showed that Matari was able to break free from her father’s ego and poverty in order to achieve her dream to be a scholar. She was later able to show her existence by being an announcer which later gotten affirmation by people around her.

Yusuf and Susilo (2020) analyzed wome’s struggle found in the novel *“Cigarette girl”* written by Ratih Kumala. The novel was analyzed by using Simone de Beauvoir’s existentialist feminism in order to describe the resistance of the female character toward gender injustice. he result of the research showed that women have the same capability to survive and strive in life as much as men do. Therefore, despite being the second sex in patriarchal society, women should not be viewed as a weak and more limited gender

Dominilla, Kuncara, and Valiantien (2020) described oppression experienced by black female characters as maid. The novel "*The Help*" written by Kathryn Stockett was used as the object of the research. The researchers focused on the kinds of oppression happened through the postcolonial feminism perspective using Young's theory of forms of oppression. The result of the research showed that there are four kinds of oppression experienced by the female characters which are exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness, and cultural imperialism.

Previous researches share similarities and differences to present research. There is only one previous research found that used the same theory of oppression as present research, which is Young's theory of kinds of oppression, and the other six previous researches used Beauvoir's theory of existential feminism to analyze the struggles of women in the data source of the researches. Women struggles as described in the previous researches using the theory of Beauvoir mostly has the same purpose, which is to gain the justice of equality between men and women in term of intellectuality and capability of surviving in life. Women willingly faced the struggles in order to not receive the oppression done by men in patriarchal society. Moreover, the difference between previous researches and present research laid on the data source used to be analyzed. Present research will be using Thomas Hardy's "*Tess of the d'Urberville*" novel as the object of the research.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

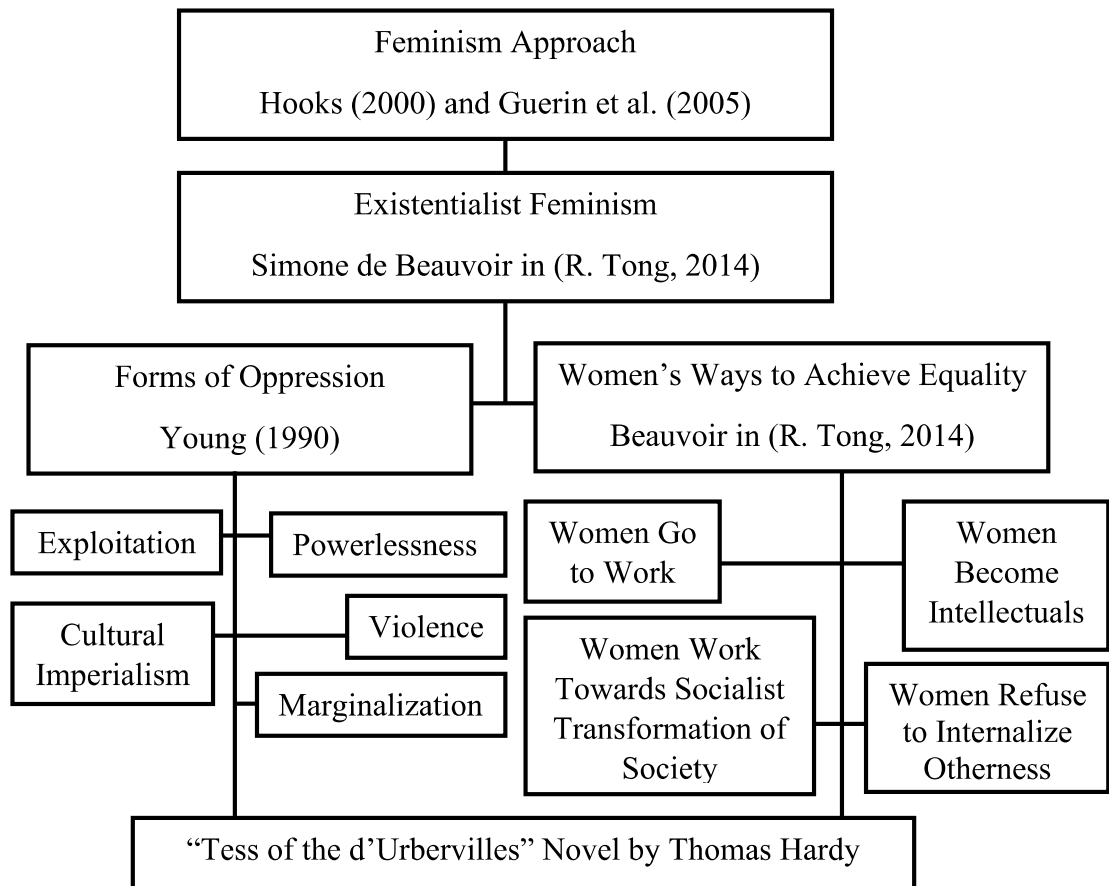


Figure 2.1 Theoretical Framework