

**SOCIAL INJUSTICE OF THE MAIN CHARACTER  
REFLECTED IN HAWTHORNE’S “THE SCARLET  
LETTER” NOVEL: FEMINIST APPROACH**

**THESIS**



**By:**

**Safrida Florentina Lumbantobing**

**181210040**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES  
PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY**

**2023**

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**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for  
the Degree of Sarjana Sastra (S1)**



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Yang bertanda tangan di bawahini saya:

Nama : Safrida Florentina Lumbantobing

NPM : 181210040

Fakultas : Ilmu Sosial dan Humaniora

Program Studi : Sastra Inggris

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IN HAWTHORNE'S "THE SCARLET LETTER" NOVEL:  
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181210040

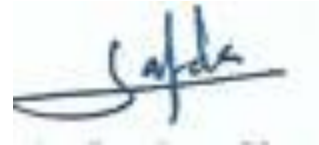
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**Safrida Florentina Lumbantobing**  
181210040

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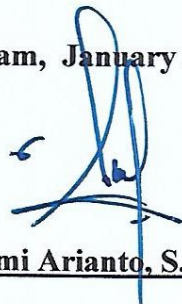
**By:**

**Safrida Florentina Lumbantobing**

**181210040**

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**Tomi Arianto, S.S., M.A.**

**Supervisor**

## ABSTRAK

*Ketidakadilan sosial merupakan sebuah perlakuan yang sulit terdeteksi. Namun, ketidakadilan sosial ini dapat benar-benar terlihat disekitar kita. Perlakuan ini dapat ditemukan dalam berbagai bentuk diseluruh lingkungan hiburan yaitu novel. Terutama dalam novel "The Scarlet Letter" karya Nathaniel Hawthorne. Tokoh utama dalam novel The Scarlet Letter ini yaitu Hester Prynne. Hal tersebut mengangkat isu tentang perempuan yang mengalami ketidakadilan sosial dari masyarakat Puritan pada abad ke-17. Dalam penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan feminis untuk mendukung data. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori Tong (2017) untuk menganalisis bentuk dari ketidakadilan sosial serta respon yang diberikan oleh tokoh utama dalam novel ini. Metode yang digunakan di dalam penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif qualitative. Untuk proses pengumpulan data menggunakan teori dari Creswell (2018) yang berkaitan dengan tindakandan kinerja dialog. Studi ini menggunakan metode penelitian kepustakaan, jurnal, dan sumber internet lainnya sebagai referensi. Sebagai hasilnya, penelitian ini menemukan lima bentuk dari ketidakadilan sosial yang terdiri dari, stereotype, subordination, marginalisation, violation, and burden. Penelitian ini juga menemukan tiga respon tokoh utama dalam menanggapi bentuk ketidakadilan sosial seperti, silent, resist, and berjuang menjadi wanita mandiri. Penelitian ini sangat berguna untuk para pembaca agar para pembaca dapat mengetahui bahwa sangat kerasnya bentuk ketidakadilan sosial tersebut.*

**Kata kunci:** *Feminis. Ketidaadilan social, Respon yang diberikanakan ketidakadilan sosial*

## ***ABSTRACT***

Social injustice is a treatment that is difficult to detect. However, this social injustice can really be seen all around us. This treatment can be found in various forms throughout the entertainment circle, namely the novel. Especially in the novel "The Scarlet Letter" by Nathaniel Hawthorne. The main character in The Scarlet Letter novel is Hester Prynne. This raises the issue of women who experience social injustice in Puritan society in the 17th century. This study uses a feminist approach to support the data. This study uses Tong's theory (2017) to analyze the forms of social injustice and the responses given by the main character in this novel. The method used in this research is the descriptive qualitative method. The data collection process uses theory from Creswell (2018) relating to action and dialog performance. This study uses library research methods, journals, and other internet sources as references. As a result, this study found five forms of social injustice consisting of stereotyping, subordination, marginalization, violation, and burden. This study also found three main character responses in response to forms of social injustice, such as being silent, resisting, and struggling to become an independent woman. This research is very useful for readers so that readers can know that this form of social injustice is very harsh.

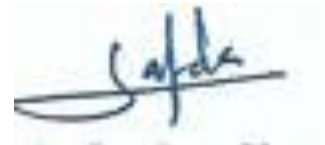
**Keywords:** Feminist. Social injustice, The response given will be social injustice

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**Safrida Florentina Lumbantobing**

181210040



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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Research**

Human are social creatures who need each other, and are more inclined to live life together with other people. The position of women in the social system is an interesting topic to discuss, because in addition to observing women in the reality of social life, women have also to carry out the rules that have been made by society. Tong (2017) stated that unlike emotional and dependent women, who routinely shirk domestic duties and indulge their worldly desires, rational and independent women tend to be "observant daughters," "affectionate sisters," "affectionate wives." faithful", and "reasonable mother". Women who are truly educated will be the main contributors to the welfare of society.

According to de Beauvoir (1989) in the book entitle the second sex is the representation of women in the patriarchal tradition of maintaining the chastity of women; more or less openly recognized men's right to sexual freedom, while women were prohibited from marrying. Sexuality, if it is not sanctified by a code, a sacrament, it is a fault, a fall, a failure, a weakness; woman must defend her virtue and honor; if the woman falls then will be ridiculed. The oppression of women and nature, according to ecofeminists (Nayar, 2009), is a direct effect of patriarchal society's ideals and beliefs. It disregards women's knowledge, expertise, and "situatedness" (her close proximity to the natural world, where she has a much closer interaction with it than a male does).

According to Wright (2006) the early feminism movements in 1550-1700 in England were attempts to deal with patriarchy. The focus of the struggle for early feminism was against the patriarchal view of the subordinate position of women because they were often seen as weaker, irrational and more emotional beings. This thinking is made possible because of the development of enlightenment in Indonesia which influences the thinking of women as part of society that plays a role in the development of society.

Early feminism struggles in three ways. first, through an attempt to revise the essential subordination of women in church teachings. Second, opposition to various guidebooks tended to restrain women at that time. Third, by building solidarity among female writers. Which aims to build confidence and financial support among women writers. Intellectual education given to girls in families influenced by enlightenment, in turn, inspired the importance of women's education to become the basis for a more political movement in feminism (Ross, 2009).

Women's oppression will be difficult to eradicate if feminism only addresses the injustice of oppression of women and ignores capitalism. The strategy that has the greatest potential for exposing the exploitation and oppression of the vast majority of women around the world is socialist feminism (Tong, 2017). There are several forms of women's injustice in Tong's (2017) book entitled feminist though such as stereotypes, subordination, marginalization, violence, burden. Stereotype refers to assigning a person or group a standard representation, label, or stamp based on an incorrect or erroneous assumption. Subordination is a number of social and legal barriers that prevent women from accessing and succeeding in the public

sphere. Marginalization is being barred from effective social interaction, including meaningful job. Violence is an act of rudeness done by someone to another person. Then, burden is work that one gender receives more than the other gender.

An example of the phenomenon of social injustice toward women that occurred in Indonesia, especially in the Aceh area on *Kompas.com*. A woman named RJ who had a husband and wife relationship (adultery) with a man with the initials TS who was a former head of the East Aceh fisheries and marine service. The case started when RJ's husband was not at home. The two of them (RJ&TS) allegedly made out until they were arrested by residents. As a result, the woman was brought to a public place, and she was punished with 100 lashes. Meanwhile, TS who was also brought to a public place only received 15 lashes. This includes the contextualization of Simon de Beauvoir's injustice by getting treatment and violence experienced by women. This is included in the form of injustice in Rosemary Tong book by placing women in a position below men who receive more severe punishment. Woman feels this contradiction in her wounded flesh; she is too afraid for open rebellion against masculine bad faith; he considers himself a victim of an injustice that made him a criminal against his will, and at the same time he feels dirty and humiliated.

Feminism is a political philosophy and ideology that emphasizes gender as a topic of study when examining cultural norms and as a basis for asking for justice, equity and equal opportunity. The fundamental premise of feminism is that gender roles are defined and that women are taught to conform to them. That is, roles such as "daughter" or "mother" are social constructs rather than natural ones because

they require women to be taught how to think, speak, and behave in a certain way. Feminist theory argues that real social conditions in which women have no power, are seen as sex objects or reproductive machines, lack political and economic rights, and are harassed make women weak, submissive, innocent, seductive, or sentimental and irrational. Feminism is thus a way of thinking that refuses to separate art from current social norms and practices. Cultural texts normalize the defense of women by stereotyping women as weak/vulnerable, seducers, hindrances, sex objects, or means of reproduction (Nayar, 2009).

One of the literary works that illustrate a social injustice toward women entitled *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. American author Nathaniel was a master of the allegorical and symbolic tale. He wrote both novels and short stories. In addition, he is also a greatest fiction writer in American literature was born July 4, 1804. Salem, Massachusetts, U.S. The reason why Nathaniel is called a master, because the decisions and struggles of Hawthorne's characters reflect broader generalizations about the issues facing people today. In *The Scarlet Letter*, his use of symbolism is particularly successful, and the scarlet letter itself assumes a wider significance and application that is completely out of proportion to its literal existence as a shred of fabric. Hawthorne disapproved of the Transcendentalists' apparent overconfidence in the goodness of human nature. Instead, he took a closer, possibly sincere look at life. His writings don't offer a romantic escape; instead, they offer a strong and unwavering examination of the psychological and moral realities of the human predicament.

Scarlet Letter first edition was published by Ticknor, Reed and Fields (Boston United State) in 1850. On page 21, the primary first edition marking reads "reduplicate" rather than "repudiate." Prior to the free end paper, there are four pages of publisher advertisements at the front dated March 1, 1850. Furthermore, this Scarlet novel has been adopted into a film on October 13, 1995 with a duration of 135 minutes. The film received nominations at the 1996 MTV Movie + TV Awards as Nominee Most Desirable Female, then Political Film Society, USA 1996 nominee human rights, and Razzie Awards (1996) nominee Worst Screen Couple, Worst Director, Worst Screenplay but also won the Razzie Awards Remake or Sequel, Worst Picture, Worst Actress, Worst Supporting Actor.

. This classic novel tells the story of a woman who becomes a victim of cruel social sanctions in the puritanical and hypocritical structure of society. Hester Prynne, the wife of a prominent family, leaves Europe to sail to a new world, America. She went first, her husband followed later. After two years living alone in Boston, Hester's husband never came. There was a tragedy that Hester found her true love, and gave birth to Pearl, a baby from her affair with a priest Arthur Dimmesdale. For keeping their mouth shut about Pearl's father, society imposed a social sanction in the form of "scarlet letters" a sign for adulterers. However, other, more severe punishments threaten him such as marginalization, stereotypes and even violence given by puritans.

Social injustice against women is very clearly illustrated by the novel Scarlet Letter through a character named Hester. Hester is the main character as a woman who gets bad treatment from puritan society. During his sentence Hester



was always insulted by the local community. One of the narratives that show social injustice to women faced by Hester can be seen from the quote below:

As the two wayfarers came within the precincts of the town, the children of the Puritans looked up from their play, what passed for play with those sombre little urchins—and spoke gravely one to another. **“Behold, verily, there is the woman of the scarlet letter: and of a truth, moreover, there is the likeness of the scarlet letter running along by her side! Come, therefore, and let us fling mud at them!”** (Hawthorne, 1850,pg153)

The description in the passage quoted shows that Hester has experienced some kind of social injustice. When purists refer to Hester's sign on her chest while she and her child are out on a walk, they are demonstrating stereotyped behaviour. Pioneer Tong defines stereotyping as the application of standardized representations, labels, or stamps to individuals or groups based on beliefs that are untrue or false.

In developing the ideas in this research, there are several journals that are used by the author as a reference for developing this research. The first journal was written by Mardiyani & Tawami (2022) with the title Gender Inequality And Feminism in Arundhati Roy's *The God Of Small Things*. In general, this research explains that feminism focuses on feminism which is called gender inequality. The results of this study show how women get gender inequality and women's injustice such as subordination, social marginalization, discrimination and patriarchal systems that exist in society and cannot claim their rights and experience violence. The similarity of this research is the same as examining the existence of social injustice experienced by women. This study is of course different from the study in research using gender inequality feminist theory, while in this study the researcher uses a feminist theory about social injustice in women by Rosemary Tong.

The second journal was written by Nurrahmah & Wahyuningtyas (2019) entitled *Gender Injustice Toward Women In Oka Rusmini's Tempur Novel: The Approach Feminism Literature*. The object of this research is social injustice in the feminist approach. The results of this study indicate that there are several elements of injustice that occur to women such as subordination, stereotypes, marginalization, violence and workload as well as the responses shown by women to injustice such as choosing to be silent, fighting and being independent women. This research is related to research, namely the object in the form of social injustice and the women's response to social injustice.

The phenomenon of social injustice against women as reflected in the novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne is the problem discussed in this study. Researchers use different theories from the journals above, but researchers find comfort in the element of injustice that occurs in the two journals. Tong's (2017) theory of social injustice is used to analyze the forms of social injustice that the main character in *Scarlet Letter* responds to.

Based on the explanation above, there are two variables discussed in this study. First, all forms of social injustice against women faced by the main character. Second, the response by women to the social injustice experienced by the main character in Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel *Scarlet Letter*. The first and second variables are answered using the theory Tong(2017).

The researcher chose this study to be analyzed because based on the explanation in the research above, there is a concern for feminism, because the researcher found a phenomenon containing feminism which refers to the struggles

of women in the story. Researchers became interested in examining patriarchal culture about how society treats social injustice against women and found that there are ways for women to respond to social injustice which makes this research different from previous research. The author uses the theory Tong (2017) which explains that there is social injustice in various forms such as stereotypes, subordination, marginalization, violation and burden.

### **1.2 Identification of the problem**

Based on the background of the research above the researcher identified the problems as follows:

1. The forms of social injustice toward women as the main character in the novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.
2. The response of Hester Prynne as the main character to social injustice in the novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.
3. The negative consequences of Hester Prynne as main character to social injustice

### **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Based on identification of problems the researcher limit the problem consist of:

1. The forms of social injustice toward women as the main character in the novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.
2. The response of Hester Prynne as main character to social injustice in the novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

#### **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

Dealing with limitation of the problem, the researcher would like to formulate the follows:

1. What are the forms of social injustice toward women as the main character in the novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne?
2. What is the response of Hester Prynne as the main character to social injustice in the Novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne?

#### **1.5 Objective of the Research**

The objective of the research could be formulated follow:

1. To find out the forms of social injustice toward women as the main character in the novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.
2. To find out the response of Hester Prynne as the main character to social injustice in the Novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

#### **1.6 Significance of the Research**

##### **1. Theoretically**

Theoretically, this first research is intended to be able to understand how the forms of social injustice that occur in women in society are described in Nathaniel Hawthorne's work in accordance with Rosemary Tong's theory: Stereotypes, Marginalization, Subordination, Violence, Workload. Second, the researcher expects the reader to understand how the response of women is described in the novel *Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne which consists of: being silent, struggling and being independent. Furthermore, the researcher also hopes that this

research can be useful as a source of learning and teaching of feminist approaches, especially the feminist movement against injustice against women.

## **2. Practically**

It is hoped that this research will be more useful for readers, especially for English Literature students who are interested in analyzing the women's feminist movement against injustice. Hopefully this research will be useful for students as a reference for analyzing feminist theory. Finally, researchers can provide information to future researchers who are interested in conducting research using feminist theory.

### **1.7 Definition of Key Terms**

**Feminist** : Feminism is thus a way of thinking that refuses to separate art from current social norms and practices. Cultural texts normalize the defense of women by stereotyping women as weak/vulnerable, seducers, hindrances, sex objects, or means of reproduction (Nayar, 2009).

**Social injustice** :Oppression of women around the world such as stereotype, subordination, marginalization, violence, and (Tong, 2017)

**Patriarchy** : Defined as a device of sexual power in which men have superior energy and monetary privileges. Patriarchy is a male hierarchical order in society Eisenstein(1979).

**CHAPTER II**  
**REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND**  
**THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

**2.1 Feminist Approach**

Feminism is a political philosophy and a body of thought that uses gender as a lens through which to examine cultural norms and as a platform from which to demand equality, rights, and justice. The fundamental tenet of feminism is that gender roles are predetermined and that women are taught to conform to them. As a result, positions like "daughter" or "mother" are social in nature rather than natural, as the woman must be schooled to think, speak, and behave in specific ways to fit the role (Nayar, 2009). Thus, De Beauvoir presents feminism with two essential concepts: the social construction of gender, in which women accept the roles that men have assigned to them as women, and the requirement for women to assume responsibility and make their own decisions. The society as a whole benefits when women make their own decisions. The decision made by the woman is therefore related to social change (Nayar, 2009).

In the *second sex* book by Beauvoir explains that feminism itself was never a movement in itself: it was partly a tool in the hands of politicians, partly an epiphenomenon reflecting a deeper social drama. In no way do women constitute a separate caste, and in fact they never as a sexual relationship attempt to play a historical position. The doctrine that opposes the appearance of women as flesh, lifestyle, immanence, on the contrary, is a masculine ideology that in no way expresses women's aspirations. Most women leave themselves without trying to

take any action; those who have tried trading mean no longer confined within the confines of their uniqueness and reason to win, but to push above it. when they meddle in the affairs of the world, it befits men, in a masculine sense.

In 1977 Elani Showalter (Haryando, 2015) coined the term gynocriticism to describe a literary criticism based on a feminine perspective. Which is intentionally and collectively related to the articulation of women's experience and also guides her with her own impulses to express herself autonomously. this is because gynocriticism seeks to understand women's writing as the basis of women's reality and wants to establish women's literary traditions without being influenced by male writers. Then, Elani explained that the situation of women is very important for understanding how they are perceived by the dominant group and how they perceive themselves and others. In addition, Showalter's account of history must include an account of women's experiences from time to time in such a way as to include the development of feminist awareness as an important aspect of women's past.

### **2.1.1 Patriarchy**

In the book Tong(2017) explains that socialist feminists consider Marxist feminist that capitalism is the source of women oppression, and with radical feminist that patriarchy is the supply of women's oppression. Therefore, the way to give up women oppression, is socialist feminism estimation, is to kill the headed beast of capitalist patriarchy or patriarchal capitalism (take your select). Prompted through this aim socialist feminism are seeking for to expand theories that sign the relationship among relationship among capitalism and patriarchy.

Moreover, According to Eisenstein(1979)patriarchy is defined as a device of sexual power in which men have superior energy and monetary privileges. Patriarchy is a male hierarchical order in society. Although the institutional basis of patriarchal crime became more specific in the past, the power of nuclear family members remains intact today. The patriarchal machine is preserved, through marriage and the family itself, through the departments of sex and society. Patriarchy is rooted in biology as a substitute for economics or records. Manifested through male power and control, the roots of patriarchy lie in women's reproductive self. The position of women in this energy hierarchy is described not in terms of financial grandeur but in the framework of a patriarchal social organization.

### **2.1.2 Social Injustice**

Social injustice, driven by the emotions generated by a morally charged conscience of right and wrong, can motivate people, organizations, and nations to commit them, along with violence and war, if you want to be perceived as wrong (Bufacchi, 2012). Therefore, a collection of social injustice issues becomes a project and an attraction to understand societal arrangements that may conflict with fairness in obtaining access to social, financial, political, and criminal assets that have implications for votes, recognition, and security. Framing social problems as social injustice asserts that some humans lack the assets and privileges they deserve, while others may have more than their fair share, enjoyed by others.

The oppression of women can be difficult to eradicate if feminism is most effective at tackling the injustices of women's oppression and ignoring capitalism. The strategy that has the best ability to uncover the exploitation and oppression of



the majority of women around the world is socialist feminism (Tong, 2017). There are several kinds of women's injustice in Tong (2017) e-book entitled feminist even though it includes stereotypes, subordination, marginalization, violence, burdens. Stereotypes refer to the widespread use of illustrations, labels or stamps on a person or organization based on false or inaccurate assumptions. Subordination is a set of social restrictions and crimes that prevent women from gaining access and success in the public sphere. Marginalization is prohibited from effective social interaction, including significant assignments. Violence is an act of rudeness committed by someone against another character. Then, the burden is work that is obtained by one sex more than the opposite sex.

### **1. Stereotype**

Woman stereotype are “the most worrying indication of the deep influence of woman ideology” (Lidström Brock, 2016). Stereotypes refer to the widespread use of illustrations, labels or stamps on a person or organization based on false or inaccurate assumptions(Tong, 2017). Moreover, Wood (Selkli & Supit, 1945)stated that Stereotypes label agencies or people and their characteristics but most stereotypes tend to be terrible. in this international girls are stereotyped as weak or as lowly beauties. women are also considered as less educated figure. because these stereotypical women feel uncomfortable. it's just that women are not the same as men.

### **2. Subordination**

Subordination is a set of social restrictions and crimes that prevent women from gaining access and success in the public sphere(Tong, 2017).Subordination

arises because of the assumption that women are irrational and emotional, so women are considered unsuitable to be leaders. This situation results in women being placed in an unimportant or secondary position (Nabila & Noviana, 2021).

### **3. Marginalization**

Marginalization is prohibited from effective social instruction, including significant assignment (Tong, 2017). Moreover, (Nabila & Noviana, 2021) stated marginalization that impoverishes women often occurs not only in the work environment, but also in the household, society, and even the country. This marginalization can be found in the form of sex discrimination and is reinforced by local culture.

### **4. Violence**

Violence is an act of rudeness committed by someone against another character (Tong, 2017). Gender violence that is usually experienced by women occurs due to unequal position in society, which can take the form of physical and psychological violence. This gender-based violence is basically a reflection of the patriarchal ideology that develops in society (Nabila & Noviana, 2021).

### **5. Burden**

The burden is work that is obtained by one sex more than the opposite sex (Tong, 2017). According to (Nabila & Noviana, 2021) the assumption that women are more diligent and compassionate than men has made women the ones who have to be responsible for domestic work. It is women who have to cook, wash, clean the house, and care for and educate children. Even though a woman also works outside the home to supplement the family's income, she still has full responsibility for this

domestic work. This is what generally results in women having a far greater workload than men. This workload is generally well constructed in society, so that many women feel guilty or incompetent if they cannot do domestic work in the household.

## **2.2 Previous Study**

The researcher finds some previous study which relates to the current study in supporting the theory. The first journal, the research finds from an article entitled, "Injustice against Women in a Social Forestry Program: Case Studies from Two Indonesian Villages" written by Anugrah, Muin, Irlan *et al.*, (2022). The research analyzes about the existence of women who are not recognized in women's participation in social forestry groups and their unequal distribution. Furthermore, the article discusses on the different rights of women and men, discrimination and inequality that are influenced by local social constructions that refer to patriarchal cultural relations and beliefs. The research uses theoretical analysis to study about social injustice towards women.

The second research comes from an article entitled "Gender Injustice against Women in Arso Tengah Village Keerom Regency, Papua Province" written by Karubaba, Engelet *et al.*, (2022). The research analyzes about the issue of gender injustice experienced by women in Central Arso, Kerom Regency. The research focuses on how gender injustice plays a role in various actions that refer to discrimination. Discriminatory acts experienced by women in Central Arso are exclusion and restrictions on rights and opportunities based on sources of gender beliefs. The aim of enforcing discrimination against women is to reduce and

eliminate the recognition, granting and use of women's rights in basic freedoms in the political, social, cultural fields without regard to social status and family background. The research aims to show that there are five forms of gender injustice experienced by women in ArsoKeerom Village, namely Marginalization, Subordination, Violence in the form of physical, psychological, cultural, Double Burden and Stereotypes. The research uses theoretical analysis to study about social injustice towards women.

The third research comes from an article written by Astuti, Irawati, and Soleh (2021) entitled "Gender Injustice and The Value of Character Education in The Novel of Perempuan Berkalung Sorban by Abidah El Khalieqy". The research aims to analyzes about gender injustice is experienced by a female character named Annisa who, as a child, was treated unfairly by her parents, simply because she was a woman. The form of gender injustice analyzed from the research found several research figures, including subordination, stereotypes, violence and double work, the educational value of character. The research uses theoretical analysis to study about social injustice towards women.

The fourth research comes from an article written by Suryaningrum, Suwandi, and Waluyo(2019) entitled "The Discrimination Against Women Reflected in Novels Entrok, Maryam, and Pasung Jiwa by Okky Madasari". The research analyzes about the existence of discrimination against women in the economic and social fields. Discrimination as the main problem is reflected in the object of the research by the literary work which is formed by the strong influence of patriarchal culture, customs, norms and religion. The research shows the social

injustice towards women still existed in many aspects by the women positions through male domination. The theory of the research uses theoretical analysis to study about social injustice and marginalization towards women.

The fifth research comes from an article written by Alvira, Widisanti, and Setyowati(2021) entitled “Gender Discrimination Against Women in Bina Shah'S Before She Sleeps: a Review on the Main Character”. The research analyzes about gender injustice and discrimination as well as violence experienced by the main character in fighting for himself from the patriarchal system that has been rooted for a long time. The research shows the result of feminism towards gender injustice caused by patriarchal culture and social structure. The theory of the research uses the analysis study of social injustice and discrimination.

The sixth journal was written by Mardiyani & Tawami (2022)with the title Gender Inequality And Feminism in Arundhati Roy's The God Of Small Things. In general, this research explains that feminism focuses on feminism which is called gender inequality. The results of this study show how women get gender inequality and women's injustice such as subordination, social marginalization, discrimination and patriarchal systems that exist in society and cannot claim their rights and experience violence. The similarity of this research is the same as examining the existence of social injustice experienced by women. This study is of course different from the study in research using gender inequality feminist theory, while in this study the researcher uses a feminist theory about social injustice in women by Rosemary Tong.

The seventh, the article was written by Nurrahmah & Wahyuningtyas (2019) entitled Gender Injustice Toward Women In Oka Rusmini's Tempur Novel: The Approach Feminism Literature. The object of this research is social injustice in the feminist approach. The results of this study indicate that there are several elements of injustice that occur to women such as subordination, stereotypes, marginalization, violence and workload as well as the responses shown by women to injustice such as choosing to be silent, fighting and being independent women. This research is related to research, namely the object in the form of social injustice and the women's response to social injustice.

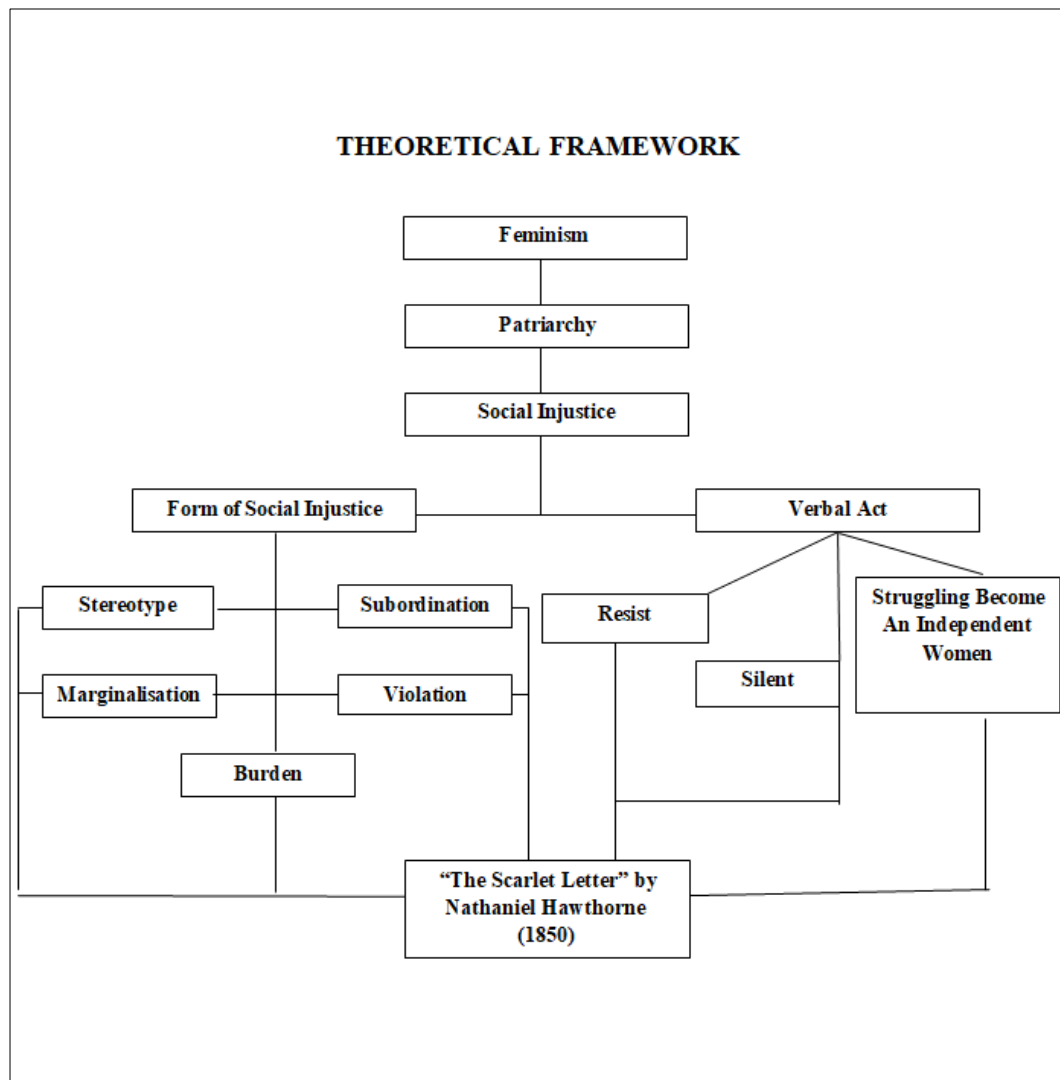
The similarities between the previous studies and this research are the feminist approach specifically in social injustice which includes various things, including discrimination, subordination, marginalization, regarding women who get bad treatment in terms of their placement in society. The form of approach to this research covers a feminist approach that focuses on forms of resistance to patriarchal culture in the struggle of the main character of the research object as the main basis for analyzing the main studies listed in *The Scarlet Novel* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

### **2.3 Theoretical Framework**

The theoretical framework outlined above explains the focus and movement of the research. The first layer contains a feminist approach, which appears as the novel's way of dealing with social and feminist aspects. The research in this thesis will combine strengths with universalist principles to address feminist issues in the novel *The Scarlet Letter*. In the second layer, there is the notion of patriarchy and

in the third layer there is the notion of social injustice according to a related expert, namely Tong. This expert helps describe social injustice which is the object of this research. Under social injustice there are two parts, namely forms of social injustice and verbal acts.

For the social form of injustice consists of five categories, namely stereotypes, subordination, marginalization, violation, and burden. Starting from stereotypes which are labeling of a person or group that results in harm and creates injustice. While marginalization is the marginalization of a person in public participation. Then subordination is an attitude of lowering one's social position in society. Violence is an attack on a person's mentality in social situations. and the last in this section is the burden which is a person must be able to do work and responsibilities beyond what is usually done. Not only theory, he also has a verbal act which is the response of the main character in responding to forms of social injustice. This research can help researchers to describe social injustice through Tong's theory.



**Figure 2. 1 Theoretical Framework**



## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Research Design**

This type of research is qualitative and aims to reveal phenomena that exist in society from data, or views of the community to be analyzed and answers sought. The qualitative method is a form of research to explore and understand groups of individuals or people focused on social and humanitarian issues. Qualitative research, it is carried out through important processes, such as asking questions and research procedures, collecting data from research subjects, and conducting inductive data analysis from specific themes to general themes. This research provides an interpretation of the meaning of the data (Creswell, 2018). This research method is suitable for conducting research on social injustice experienced by women, especially the main character in the novel *The Scarlet Letter*. The reason for using the method in this study is that qualitative research emphasizes more on describing the phenomena found rather than displaying statistics, then qualitative research provides the flexibility to focus on textual data in the novel *The Scarlet Letter*, and qualitative research provides suitable plots and designs to describe strong women. among the social treatment in the novel *The Scarlet Letter*.

#### **3.2 Object of the Research**

The object of the research in this thesis is Social Injustice in of The Main Character. The data source used in the research is novel *Thee Scarlet Letter*. This research analyzes the forms and the responded of main character research questions with the theory of feminism from Tong's literary creation entitled *Feminist thought*:

A more comprehensive Thought. The choice of a form of social injustice as an object seems to attract attention after paying attention to feminist issues such as the ideas in the Tong book. The choice of the object is related to the novel's social problems, such as the form of social injustice experienced by the main character in The Scarlet Letter novel, and the way the main character responds to this form of social injustice in The Scarlet Letter novel.

### **3.3 Method of Collecting Data**

This study uses qualitative methods in the procedure of collecting data, interpreting and reporting the results of the research together. In qualitative research, especially in the form of data collection using document analysis techniques (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). The researcher implemented three steps in conducting this qualitative research, such as: the researcher read the entire contents of the novel, then gave highlights to the parts of the novel that are in accordance with the research theme, and finally the researcher sorted all the highlighted data to be examined as research objects.

### **3.4 Method of Analyzing Data**

At this stage of data analysis in qualitative research is the stage of selecting, organizing, searching and discovering important parts of the data obtained in the field so that it becomes a conclusion to be conveyed to the public (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). In content analysis is an analysis system of variables- the research variables, and makes it possible to analyze the contents of The Scarlet Letter novel, namely the phenomenon of social injustice experienced by women which is reflected in Hawthorne's novel The Scarlet Letter. The steps in analyzing the contents of the novel include: coding the contents of the novel which have certain

conditions and characteristics in common, after that starting to group the data, and the last is evaluating the contents of the novel with Nayar's theory of feminism so that it can form a description of the data and conclusions.

### **3.5 Method of Presenting Research Result**

This result of the presentation use narrative text in this method it is important in presenting qualitative research methods and including quotes and descriptions of the problem. The result displays of the research starting from the quotation and continues by making a description of the quotation. The quotation used is as textual evidence taken from the novel *The Scarlet Letter*, while the description is an explanation of a phenomenon that has been obtained from the contents of the novel manuscript. These two steps aim to fully present the phenomenon of social injustice of the main character in *Scarlet Letter* so that readers can easily to understand it.