

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Friendship is one of the results of human interaction in society. This kind of relationship can be called as a partnership or comrade in life. Siebert, Mutran, and Reitzes cited in Iannone's journal found that identity as a friend had the strongest relation to life satisfaction compared to other variables (Iannone, McCarty, & Kelly, 2016). This life satisfaction happens because friendship demands of love, trust, caring, respect, honesty and loyalty. If this demand is satisfied, love and belonging of human need will be satisfied.

This friendship can be found in the novel also. One of the example is *Of Mice and Men* novel by John Steinbeck, the American author which published in 1937. This novel was telling the story about two characters named George Milton and Lennie Small that become friends since they were a child. Eventhough the two of them are different in physically, both of them always look after each other.

Although some people are in a close friendship for a very long time, this relationship may be broken because of the ignorance from one of them in satisfied what his/her close friend needed in friendship. For example, Sanghani (2014) writes on *The Telegraph* said that she and her best friend broken up after an explosive fight over Facebook messenger about boyfriends, friends, jealousy and everything in between, their friendship just died eventhough Sanghani's best friend had been one of her closest friends ever since they were 14. That is why to

prevent this, the researcher found there are six specific needs that needed so that the friendship is never died and run smoothly by Robert Weiss.

Weiss cited in Duck's book named *Rethinking Relationship* explained that in friendship, there are six specific needs to connect us with other people such as the belonging and a sense of reliable alliance (how they always be there to their friends, trust them and can relied upon them when their friends need them), emotional integration and stability (how they give the emotional support and give them a stability for expressed their emotion personally), generating opportunities for communication about ourselves (how self-disclosure largely comprises what happens in relationship growth and maintenance), providing for assistance and physical support (how friends provide for one another is to help each other physically), giving reassurance of our worth and value (how we need to be accepted, then other people's opinions about your worth are counted as valuable), and creating opportunities to help others (how people feels to help their friends) (Duck, 2010).

All of these six specific needs seem to represent general human needs, yet they are specific in our cultural and seem natural. One of specific needs that fulfilled can be seen in the novel *Of Mice and Men*. The phenomena of friendship in the novel "Of Mice and Men" can be seen in the belonging and a sense of reliable alliance point as the quotation below:

"Crooks was looking across the room now, looking toward the window. Lennie said miserably, **"George wun't go away and leave me. I know George wun't do that."** (Steinbeck, 1994; p.77)

In the quotation above, it can be seen Lennie knows that George is not going to leave him behind after Crooks says something mean about George. The marked quotation above proves that Lennie trusts his friend George who is being with him since they were a child.

Another phenomena of friendship in the novel "Of Mice and Men" on giving reassurance of our worth and value points also can be seen from the quotation below:

"What you gonna say tomorrow when the boss asks you questions?" Lennie stopped chewing and swallowed. His face was concentrated. "I...I ain't gonna...say a word." **"Good boy! That's fine, Lennie! Maybe you're gettin' better. When we get the coupla acres I can let you tend the rabbits all right. 'Specially if you remember as good as that."** Lennie choked with pride. "I can remember," he said. (Steinbeck, 1994; p.16)

This quotation comes when they arrives at the bunk house and are going to meet the boss. It can be seen on the marked quotation how George really values Lennie's worth for can remember what George tells to him. George who is pleasant to hear the answer, praises Lennie and even promises that Lennie can tend rabbits as the quotation above. Lennie who hears the praise, feels confident and pride of himself.

For the references of this research, the researcher takes five journals. The first is journal which has the same source of data, "Of Mice and Men" novel. The journal is from Journal of English Language Overseas Perspectives and Enquiries entitled The 'Negro' in John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men: A Comparison of Socialist and Post-Socialist Strategies for Translating Racial Elements by Trupej. He finds out in the first translation of the novel, from 1952, the macrostructure of the text was affected to a greater extent than in the modern translations of the

novel and the play, both published in 2007 (Trupej, 2015). In the other hand, this research finds out the friendship based on the belonging and a sense of reliable alliance and giving reassurance of our worth and value by Robert Weiss. It uses a psychological approach to analyze the novel.

Since this research has never been done before, it is interesting to be conducted into a research. The phenomena found in “Of Mice and Men” novel is the friendship between the characters George and Lennie in Of Mice and Men novel. This research focuses on the characters George and Lennie which determines its friendship based on belonging and a sense of reliable alliance point and giving reassurance of our worth and value point. The purpose of this research is to find out the friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on the belonging and a sense of reliable alliance and giving reassurance of our worth and value by Robert Weiss theory. By having done this research, the researcher hope that the readers could understand more about the friendship based on belonging and a sense of reliable alliance point and giving reassurance of our worth and value point.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the explanation of the background of the research above, the researcher identifies the problems in this research as follows:

1. The friendship between the characters George and Lennie in Of Mice and Men novel.
2. The friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on the belonging and a sense of reliable alliance by Robert Weiss theory.

3. The friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on giving reassurance of our worth and value by Robert Weiss theory.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

After the identification of the problem above, the researcher limits the problems in the Limitation of the Problem as follows:

1. The friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on the belonging and a sense of reliable alliance by Robert Weiss theory.
2. The friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on giving reassurance of our worth and value by Robert Weiss theory.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

The identification and the limitation are formed. In here, the researcher formulates the research questions to be discussed about. The formulation of the problem is stated as follows:

1. How are the friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on the belonging and a sense of reliable alliance by Robert Weiss theory?
2. How are the friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on giving reassurance of our worth and value by Robert Weiss theory?

1.5 Objective of the Research

After formulating the problem, the researcher describes about the objective of the research is as follows:

1. To find out the friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on the belonging and a sense of reliable alliance by Robert Weiss theory.
2. To find out the friendship of the characters of George and Lennie based on giving reassurance of our worth and value by Robert Weiss theory.

1.6 Significance of the Research

1.Theoretical Significance

The theoretical significance of this research is to enhance the study of psychological needs in friendship by Robert Weiss theory which is focused on the specific needs in friendship.

2.Practical Significance

The practical significance of this research is to be a helpful and useful reference for people especially the students majoring in English Literature who want to analyze the novel mainly in the extrinsic way that is the friendship and also to gain the knowledge of the readers about how the researcher analyzed this researched.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

Based on what the researcher described in the background of the research, the representative key terms that will be commonly encountered by readers are as follows:

Friendship is a person as being supportive to ways of life which enable

one to seek well-being through action and reflection in others. The notion of mutuality, conscious awareness of care, engagement and trustworthiness are central to the characteristic of relationships between friends. (Pakaluk cited in Gibbs & Angelides's journal.) (Gibbs & Angelides, 2008)

Characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it (the dialogue) and from what they do (the action). (Abrams, 1999)

Psychological approach is the scientific study of behavior and experience of an individual or group (Glassman & Hadad, 2009)