

**A STUDY OF SOCIAL CLASS AND LIFESTYLE IN
THE NOVEL OF “THE PICTURE OF DORIAN
GRAY” BY OSCAR WILDE; SOCIOLOGICAL
APPROACH”**

THESIS

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



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The thesis has been examined on the date as indicated below

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ABSTRAK

*Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa tentang gaya hidup dari masyarakat Victoria kelas atas dan kritik sosial terhadap kelas tersebut di dalam novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* karya Oscar Wilde menggunakan pendekatan sosiologi. Dalam membuat penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan penelitian kualitatif, metode dokumentasi dalam mengumpulkan data dan metode kualitatif deskriptif dalam menganalisa data. Hasil dari penelitian ini dipaparkan di dalam bentuk verbal. Gaya hidup yang tergambarkan di di novel ini adalah kunjungan ke rumah di pedesaan, melakukan aktivitas di perpustakaan pribadi di dalam rumah, acara amal, bergabung di klub gentlemen, pesta, dan makan malam yang modern. Ada beberapa kritik sosial yang ditemukan dalam novel ini. Pertama, kemunafikan masyarakat Victoria kelas atas yang disebabkan ketatnya kontrol sosial di masyarakat. Kedua, gaya hidup yang berlebihan yang disebabkan oleh keinginan yang besar untuk memamerkan status sebagai kelas atas. Disimpulkan bahwa novel *The Picture Dorian Gray* memang menggambarkan gaya hidup dari masyarakat Victoria kelas atas, terutama kelas atas di akhir zaman Victoria yang merupakan setting dan era dimana novel ini di terbitkan. Gaya hidup tersebut digunakan sebagai penanda kelas di era tersebut. Kritik sosial yang memaparkan kemunafikan dan gaya hidup berlebihan pada masyarakat kelas atas Victoria disampaikan secara implisit melalui tingkah laku dan interaksi karakter.*

Keywords: Kelas sosial, gaya hidup, era Victoria dan pendekatan sosiologi

ABSTRACT

This research is aimed at analyzing about the lifestyles of Victorian upper class society and the social critique toward that class in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* written by Oscar Wilde using sociological approach. In conducting this research, the researcher applies qualitative study with documentation method for data collection and descriptive qualitative method for data analysis. The result of analysis is presented in verbal form. It is found from the research that the lifestyles of Victorian upper class society reflected in the novel are country house visiting, charity, doing activities in personal library in their house, joining gentlemen's club, party and fashionable dinner. It is also found some social critiques toward that class. First, the hypocrisy of Victorian upper class society caused by the strict social control of Victorian. Second, the excessive lifestyles of Victorian upper class society caused by big desire to show their status as upper class. It is concluded that the novel of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* reflects the lifestyles of Victorian upper class society, especially upper class society in late Victorian era which is the setting of the novel and the era the novel released. All these lifestyles of Victorian upper class society are used as marker of their class. The novel also contains social critiques to this class. The Social critiques about Hypocrisy and excessive Lifestyle of Victorian upper class society are conveyed implicitly trough attitude and interaction of the characters.

Keywords: Social class, lifestyles, Victorian era and sociological approach

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

MOTTO

Don't overthink it, just do it!

DEDICATION

My beloved mother *Rapidah*
My dearest late grandmother *Rosiah*
My respected father *Faizal*
My lovely aunt *Hasimah*
My favorite brother *Iqbal Hisyam*
My loved late grandfather *Harun Rahman*
All of my friends

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Batam, 13th March 2018

(Ikhwan Akbar)

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of The Research

Literature and sociology are completed each other in understanding society. They are completed each other because they have a similar concept which is both of sociology and literature concern about the humans' social world and how the humans react to their social world, as stated by Laurensen & Swingewood (1972) that "as with sociology, literature too is pre-eminently concerned with man's social world, his adaptation to it, and his desire to change it" (p.12). If sociology discusses about the humans' social world in the real life, literature deals with the characters' social world in a story. The social life in a literary work can't just be considered totally as an imaginative product. Even though a literary work is made from an imaginative experience of a human, literature still has a very close relationship with the real humans' life because literature is an imitation of what humans have seen in life. It means this imaginative experience reflects the real life, so it provides insights that may help people dealing with the real life.

Literary works can be social documents where the people can get the reflections of the social life in an era. It is caused by many authors write the literary works based on the observation of his social circumstances in a particular place and time which is combined with the authors' point of view toward the society. One of the popular literary works records the social conditions in an era and the author's social circumstances is a classic novel entitled *The Picture*

of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde.

The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde was a controversial novel when it was first published in 1890. The setting of the story is also 19th century in London which is known as Victorian era. This novel got many critiques by Victorian society. They thought the novel would give bad influences to the people because the story contains immorality and hypocrisy which were unacceptable issues in that era. The private life of Oscar Wilde is as controversial as his novel. He is an upper class person who has noble name "Sir William Wilde". However, he was jailed for two years because of a homosexual scandal.

This novel shows the duplicity life of the main character named Dorian Gray. The duplicity life is represented by his picture. Even though he always looks young in the public, the appearance of his own picture that is painted by his friend named Basil keeps changing based on his morality. The man portrayed in the picture was handsome and charming at beginning of the story, then it becomes cruel and evil. The supernatural element is also shown when Dorian dies when he stabs his own picture at the end of the story.

The novel also conveys the personality changes of the main character. The changes of his picture from handsome and charming becomes evil and cruel are actually reflected the changes of his personality. Dorian was originally a good boy who has two best friends named Basil and Lord Henry. Basil always gives him good influences, until Dorian meets Lord Henry who gives bad influences that change him become a bad person.

Social issue is also the strong theme in this novel. It is caused by the personality changes of Dorian which are influenced by his social environment. In separation of British social class, Dorian is an upper class person like Oscar Wilde. As the upper class society, he is rich and fashionable. He socializes with the other upper society a lot, especially with his best friend Lord Henry. Lord Henry reveals to him the real life of the upper class society which lives in extravaganza lifestyles, regardless morality. He teaches Dorian that as people from the upper class, they have to maintain their reputation and image in front of the public by hiding their badness. As time goes by, Dorian follows the lifestyles like other upper class society.

Victorian era is known as an era where the society and its rules were rigid and strict. Every member of society was expected to follow the tight social rules. The term of hypocrisy is also often used to illustrate this era. Through this novel, Wilde tries to reveal the dark side of Victorian society. He criticizes hidden social issues in Victorian society. From all social classes in Victorian era, the life of the upper class society is the most shown and criticized in this novel.

This novel has been appreciated by many people. It can be seen by many research about this novel done by the previous researchers. First, it was done by Nounadonde in 2017 entitled "Supernatural Side of Oscar Wilde's The Picture of Dorian Gray". He applied structural approach. He analyzed the way Oscar Wilde conveys and uses the supernatural elements in his novel. Second, the previous research was done by Carrol in 2005. He did Darwinian critique toward this novel. The research entitled "Aestheticism, Homoeroticism, And Christian Guilt

in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*". In weighing the effects of Wilde's homosexuality on the meaning of the novel, he used the incisive Darwinian analysis of homosexual behavior provided by Donald Symons in "The Evolution of Human Sexuality".

Based on all the phenomena shown above, the researcher is interested to analyze the lifestyles of the upper class society in Victoria era shown in the novel *The picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. This topic is chosen because of many lifestyles of the upper class society found in this novel and this research has not been analyzed yet by the previous research. Due to the novel also contains many social critiques toward Victorian upper class society, this research also analyzes social critiques toward Victorian upper class society found in this novel.

Different from the previous research, this research applies sociological approach to find out the lifestyles of upper class society and the social critiques to that class. This approach is used because this research analyzes a literary work from sociological point of view. The theory chosen to this research is Alan Swingewood's theory related to the sociology of literature. There are three perspectives proposed by Alan Swingewood in the sociology of literature, the researcher decides to use first perspective which looks a literary work as mirror of age. This first perspective is chosen because this research reveals the reflection social condition in an age which is Victorian age. Due to the main character is an upper class person who is in the same class with Oscar Wilde, the researcher also decides to apply second perspective which looks a literary work derived from the author's social environment.

This research is important to do because it is expected to improve knowledge about the lifestyles of the upper class in Victorian era and the social critiques that Oscar Wilde conveys to his own social class through the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. This research also expected to enrich the study of literary criticism discourse in sociological point of view. Next, this research may help other researchers by showing the way of applying sociological approach toward a literary work, especially for the next researchers who want to use sociology of literature theory composed by Alan Swingewood by using first and second perspective.

1.2. Identification of The Problem

Based on the background of the research, the researcher identifies the problems which are related to the research. The identification of the problems is stated below:

1. The supernatural elements are shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
2. The personality changes of the main character are shown in novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
3. The social classes in British society are shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
4. The rigidness and strictness of Victorian social rules is shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

5. The hypocrisy of Victorian society is shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
6. The Victorian dark side is shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
7. Social class's similarity between the main character and the author is shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
8. The lifestyles of the upper class society in Victorian era are shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
9. The social critiques to the upper class society in Victorian era are shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

1.3. Limitation of The Problem

Due to some of points in identification have been analyzed by a lot of other researchers. The researcher only focuses on certain problems. The problems are stated below:

1. The lifestyles of the upper class society in Victorian era are shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde.
2. The social critiques to the upper class society in Victorian era are shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde.

1.4. Formulation of The Problem

Based on limitation above, the researcher identifies the problems which are formulated below:

1. What are the lifestyles of the upper class society in Victorian era shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde?
2. What are the social critiques to the upper class society in Victorian era shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde?

1.5. Objective of The Research

The objective of the research is intended to answer the problems of this research clearly. They are stated below:

1. To find out the lifestyles of the upper class society in Victorian era shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde.
2. To find out the social critiques to the upper class society in Victorian era shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde.

1.6. Significance of The Research

1. Theoretical Significance

The theoretical significance of this research is to enrich the study of literary criticism discourse in sociological point of view. This research also can be used to make better understanding about the social life of the upper class in Victorian era and the social critiques that Oscar Wilde conveys toward his own social class through the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

2. Practical Significance

The practical significance of this research is to be able to show the next researcher the way of applying sociological approach in a literary work, especially for the next researchers who want to use sociology of literature theory composed by Alan Swingewood by using first and second perspective. This research also can help the next researchers who want to analyze the other social aspects in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

1.7. The Definition of Key Terms

1. Social class : A status hierarchy in which individuals and groups are classified on the basis of esteem and prestige acquired mainly through economic success and accumulation of wealth.
2. Lifestyle : The habits, attitudes, tastes, moral standards, economic level etc., that together constitute the mode of living of an individual or group.
3. Victorian era : The period of Queen Victoria in the United Kingdom from 20 June 1837

until her death on 22 January 1901.

4. Sociological approach : An critical approach to the literature which focuses its intention upon the relation between a literary work and the social world which it is created

CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL
FRAMEWORK

The theories discussed in this chapter are those which support the understanding of the problem formulated in previous chapter. This chapter reviews about theory concept, previous study, and theoretical framework.

2.1. Sociology and Literature

Sociology and literature cannot be separated. Sociology is a scientific approach that emphasizes the objective analysis of people in society, social institution and social processes (Laurenson & Swingewood, 1972). It means sociology is study about humans' social life. Even though sociology and literature are two different studies, however these two disciplines are completed each other because they have similarity in their concepts, whereby "as with sociology, literature too is pre-eminently concerned with man's social world, his adaptation to it, and his desire to change it" (Laurenson & Swingewood, 1972, p.12). It means both of sociology and literature concern about the humans' social world and how the humans react to their social world. The clearest difference of these two studies is sociology deals with humans' social world and how the humans deal with it in the real life, while literature concerns with characters' social world and how the characters deal with it in a literary work. The characters in a literary

work also face the same social issues like in the real life, such as class conflict, social interaction and social status which are same like the study of sociology. It cannot be denied that all literary works contain social aspects of human, even though the genre are fantasy or mystic. A literary work will always provide the social interaction of humans, as stated by Glickberg (as cited in Endaraswara, 2008) that “all literature, however fantastic or mystical in content, is animated by a profound social concern, and this is true of even the most flagrant nihilistic work” (p.77). It proves the strong relation of sociology and literature. In short, both sociology and literature deal with interaction humans’ social life.

It can’t be forgotten that human’s social world in a literary work is created from creativity process of an author. Even though literary works contain many aspects discussed as in sociology, a literary work still contains the fictional aspects to make the story flows. However, the social world in the literary work can’t be judged totally as an imaginative product that has no correlation in social world in real life. The truth is literary work is imitation of what human have seen in life. “Literature imitates ‘life’, and ‘life’ is, in a large measure, social reality, even though the natural world and the inner subjective world of individual have also been object of the literary imitation” (Wellek & Warren, 1949, p.89). Because a literary work is imitation of real world, literary work also reflects humans’ social issues which appear in real world that can improve the people’s knowledge about a society. Thus, sociology and literature are completed each other to help people in understanding the society.

2.2. Sociology of Literature Theory by Alan Swingewood

Many people do the literary criticisms for many years as appreciation to the literature. Criticism in the literary criticism term does not mean it attacks a literary work, but it means it analyzes the literary work to get better understanding (Whitla, 2009). In doing literary criticism, people can analyze the literary work with various point of views. When a literary work contains many social aspects, the most suitable approach to be applied in doing a literary criticism is sociological approach. One of the popular theories used in this approach is sociology of literature theory proposed by Alan Swingewood.

In his theory, he proposes three perspectives in analyzing social aspects in literary work. The first perspective adopts the documentary aspect of literature can be seen as mirror of age. “The most popular perspective adopts the documentary aspect of literature arguing that it provides the mirror of age” (Laurenson & Swingewood, 1972, p.13). This first perspective study looks the literary work as social documentation which reflects to the social situation in certain time and place. However, it must be concerned that the concept of mirror must be applied carefully in sociological analysis of literature because a literary work contains fictional aspects which come from an imaginative mind or creativity of an author.

Even though Alan Swingewood states that literary work provides documentary aspect that can be seen as mirror of age. He also reminds that social life in real world is not reflected in a rough description form by the author in a literary work. It combines with story aspects that make the reader should be careful in using this perspective.

“Great writer do not set out simply to depict the social world in largely descriptive terms; it might be suggested that the writer by definition has more critical task, of setting his character in motion within artificially contrived situation to seek their own private of destiny, to discover values and meaning in social world” (Laurenson & Swingewood, 1972, p.15)

From the quotation above, it can be concluded that it is needed an interpretation of the reader or researcher in seeing the social life of a society trough a literary work because it is not described roughly. The example of the research in this perspective is social class study in an era.

The second perspective in analyzing a literary work from sociological point of view is by looking text in a literary work derived from social circumstances of the author. This perspective concerns to the author social life, whereby “The second approach to a literary sociology moves away from the emphasis on the work of literature itself to the production side, and especially to the social situation of the writer” (Laurenson & Swingewood, 1972, p.17). In this perspective, a reader or a researcher relates the social situation in the story with the social environment of the author. This perspective sees a literary work is created by observation of an author to his social environment.

The third perspective in this study reveals that a literary work is a manifestation of history and social condition in certain time. Whereby, “A third perspective, one demanding a high level of skills, attempts to trace the ways in which a work of literature is actually received by a particular society at a specific historical moment” (Laurenson & Swingewood, 1972, p.19). In this perspective, the reader or the researcher relates the social and historical moment in certain period with the events in the story. It must be remembered that in using this

perspective, the historical moments reflected in a literary work should have relation or impact to social life of society.

Alan Swingewood (as cited in Endaraswara, 2008) said that these three perspectives don't have to be used together. It can be concluded that it is possible to use one of these perspectives or use all of three perspectives at once to get complete understanding. It depends on the purpose of the research, for example if the purpose of the research to understand social life of an era, the first perspective is the most suitable to be used in that research.

2.3. Review of Victorian Era

Victorian era is known as an era with many developments. Victorian era begun in 1837 until 1901 and was ruled by a queen named Queen Victoria. In this long period, many developments have happened. This age is the age when established of democracy, the development of education, the raised of religious tolerance, brotherhood and profound social unrest in British society (Long, 1907). In this age, the society grows strong brotherhood. They help people without considering people background. It appears social equality in England which is a country with many races. Victorian society believes the brotherhood is universal regardless the place and race of someone. They avoid to fight for justice because war will bring mess and savagery.

Victorian era becomes great era in history of English society because the improvement of art, science and mechanical goods aspect. The material invented is caused by growth of education. These all of the improvements influence the

literary work at that era. In social class, Victorian believes that social class is divided into three classes which are lower class, people who work with physical effort. Next, middle class, people who work with mental effort. Last, upper class or elite people who have many leisure time and mostly don't work for money (Mitchel, 1937).

In this era, the industrial revolution was grown. Victorian era is an age of transition when England transformed from agricultural society to industrialization. This condition leads social mobility. It leads class identity need a recognition. As stated by Smith (2011) that Victorian era is an era where class identity of someone needed to be shored up consistently,

The social mobility makes class is not simply identified. Victorian society is clearly classified at beginning of era, but become blur at the end of era (Mitchel, 1937). The class in this era is not purely identified by bloodlines but it is identify by someone's lifestyle. Smith (2011) stated

“Society thus did not require bloodlines, but one did have to attain the accessories afforded by the upper-class lifestyle. Because there was no easy definition for the elites even among contemporaries at the time, historians are left to search out institutions, rituals, and habits that seem to define the upper classes” (p.36)

It means if someone can afford upper class lifestyle, he can be considered as upper class. "Lifestyle" (n.d.) is defined as “The habits, attitudes, tastes, moral standards, economic level, etc., that together constitute the mode of living of an individual or group” (para.1). This idea about the relation class and lifestyle is supported by Mitchel (1937)

“Class was revealed in manners, speech, clothing, education, and values. The classes lived in separate areas and observed different social

customs in everything from religion to courtship to the names and hours of their meals. In addition, Victorians believed that each class had its own standards, and people were expected to conform to the rules for their class” (p.17).

It is explained that each class has own standard of life. If someone can follow life standard of a class, it means he belongs to that class. It is stated before that upper class has many leisure times. It leads them to spend their leisure time with various ways. One of them is enjoying entertainment. The life of upper class tends to be different with commoner, it can be seen from their entertainments. Popular entertainments at that era are country house visiting, fashionable dinners, a nightly round of parties and other entertainments (Hughes, 1998).

One of their entertainments is country house visiting. Country house visiting is an activity where people visit other people’s regency in country. It is needed clear invitation to this activity. This visiting shows the upper class people have many houses. As stated by Mitchel (1937) that mostly elite class has more than one residence, they are in London and also country estates. In this visiting, as a host, the owner of the house has to entertains the guests, “A host should provide amusement for his guests” (Hughes, 1998, p.190). While as a guest, someone has to show good respect to the host. Thus, it is concluded that country house visiting is a popular activity done by upper class people in Victorian era. They invite their friends to visit their house in the country for several days. For upper class people, country house visiting is a kind of entertainment.

Next, fashionable dinner. The term fashionable dinner refers to a formal style of dinner service inspired by French dinner, the guests are admitted and served by footman, and dinner is held with good and luxury decoration (Hughes,

1998). The marker of this upper class dinner is variation food served, “The hallmark of these formal nineteenth-century dinners was the presentation of numerous food courses.” (Hughes, 1998, p.197). Other mark is the using of menu card, “It was this new method of serving dinner that brought about the necessity for menu cards” (Hughes, 1998, p.194). Next mark of this dinner is wine served “Wine glasses then had rather smaller bowls than they do today so that dinner guests were not rendered unconscious by the end of the meal” (Hughes, 1998, p.193).

Next, party. Party is upper class lifestyle, “To host a truly successful ball could be the making of a member of the social elite. Weeks, sometimes months, of planning went into everything from invitations to decorations” (Hughes, 1998, p.203). Parties may be held at same times. People have to choose the party to come, or come to them one by one.

Reading is also estimated habit of upper class in Victorian upper class. It is caused by book price, they can afford the book and build a personal library. “Books were also expensive and were considered luxuries, which is why it was a sign of wealth and prestige for a private home to include a library, the shelves well stocked with leather-bound volumes” (Hughes, 1998, p.128-129).

The other lifestyle written in books about Victorian is socializing in gentlemen club. It is common thing to upper class men to join gentlemen class as symbol their class. “A club membership was one such marker; to get it you had to already belong to the elite social world to some degree” (Smith, 2011, p.36). Gentlemen’s club is club located in elite area used to socialize between males

from upper class. The gentlemen's clubs were all exclusively male in membership, and were located in the West End, where they were housed in palatial clubhouses. In Victorian era, it's normal to a man become member of more than one club.

“The gentlemen's clubs of London were places where men could meet to talk among their peers in private. While some talk was of the most serious matters, most club talk was gossip, and it was the everyday stories of clubland that most bound the community together” (Smith, 2011, p.88).

Sport is also popular in Victorian era. There are some upper class country sports in that era. The sports are fox hunting and shooting birds. Hunting means foxhunting, while shooting bird is done together with servant to help them. The origin of this sport becomes identical as the upper class sport because the rule of poaching in that era. “. This fact is also stated in Mitchel (1937) “in the countryside, poaching was a widespread crime. Game birds and wild animals, according to the law, could be killed only by landowners and their guest” (p.97). Shooting party has been known as upper class sport in their leisure time at country as stated by some letters and diaries of the Victorian upper class people. The upper class people don't only spend their leisure time for entertainment and sport. They also do philanthropic activity.

This era is known as an era of contradiction. This era is known as era of development in democracy, science, art and mechanical goods, but on other side, this era is known as era of hypocrisy, prudery and rigid social rule, As stated in Mitchel (1937), Victorian era is known as the era of prudery, hypocrisy, sexual repression and strict social rule. Another evidence that strengthen the prudery of Victorian society is seen from Victorian society reaction to social commentary

about them. As stated by Carter & McRae (1997) that Victorian did not really like to see their reality life in the novels they read. This is era of strict society, Standard of upper class male behavior became stricter since eighteenth century, by 1840's many journalist and minister published respectable male's scandal and immorality. By the end of Victorian period, scandal in news can make gentlemen lose his position in parliament (Mitchel, 1937).

2.4. Previous Research

This novel has been appreciated by many people. It can be seen by many previous research about this novel done by researchers. First, it was done by Nounadonde (2017) entitled "Supernatural Side of Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*". Nounadonde applied structural approach. He analyzed the way Oscar Wilde conveys and uses the supernatural elements in his novel. It is found that Oscar Wilde in his novel shows the darker side of storytelling by infusing supernatural events to the plot. Wilde also presents situations that inspire nostalgia, fear and tension. Additionally, he evokes darkness and coldness to create an atmosphere of suspense and terror. Last, it also deals with the theme of the inevitability of fate, which is human's lack of control over human's destinies.

Second, the previous research was done by Liebmen (1999) entitled "Character Design in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*" using structural approach. He analyzed Dorian's Character and two opposite characters which are Lord Henry and Basil Hallward deeply in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. It is found that Dorian is best understood as not just another personage of

The Picture of Dorian Gray, but as the central character, whose situation is clarified by opposition between Basil and Henry.

Third, the previous research was done by Nicolae (2018) entitled “Concept of Reality of Oscar Wilde’s *The Picture of Dorian Gray*”. He applied Wildean approach to the concept of reality as depicted in the novel, the researcher relates it to the act of creation and to love. Both rooted in the rapport between aesthetics and ethics. It is found that *The Picture of Dorian Gray* reflects then the scission of the individual: the soul (inner reality; subject to change) and the body (outer reality; change is suspended/postponed). Those two realities cannot be separated, they are irrevocably connected and the change cannot be negated.

Fourth, the previous research was done by Manganiello (1983) entitled “Ethics and Aesthetics in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*”. He applied structural approach. He analyzed how Oscar Wilde conveys and presents theme Ethics and Aesthetic through story in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. It is found that *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is at once an attack on dualism (the soul/body and art/life split) and an exposure of the aesthetic attempt at reconciliation as a widening of that split.

Last, the previous research was done by Corroll (2005) entitled “Aestheticism, Homoeroticism, And Christian Guilt in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*”. He did a Darwinian critique toward this novel. The research. In weighing the effects of Wilde’s homosexuality on the meaning of the novel, He used the incisive Darwinian analysis of homosexual behavior provided by Donald Symons in “*The Evolution of Human Sexuality*”. It is found that the novel reflects the

morally negative side of Wilde's identity is distinctly male and predatory, and the positive side distinctly female and maternal. In Wilde, the moral sense couches itself explicitly and imaginatively in Christian terms, in terms of self-sacrificing love, sin, remorse, redemption, and the soul.

2.5. Theoretical Frameworks

There must exist theoretical framework in every research as guidance for the researcher to do research. The researcher seeks theories related to the formulation of the problems that support this research.

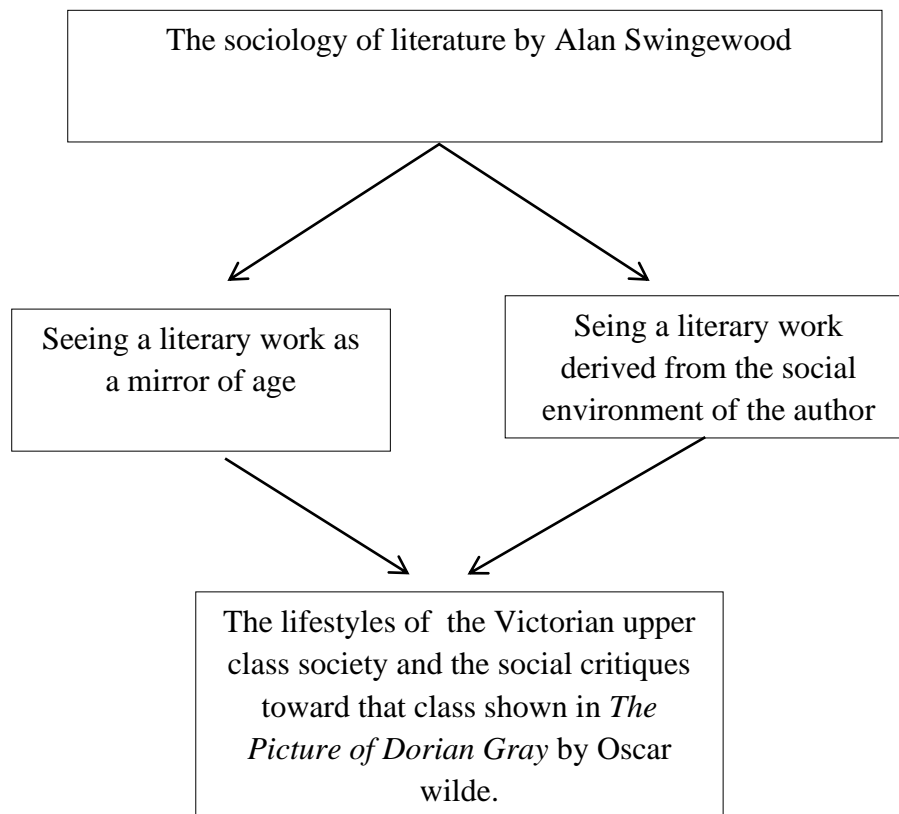


Figure 2. 1 Theoretical Framework

This study uses sociology of literature theory that composed by Alan Swingewood. This study uses the first perspective and the second perspective to analyze the lifestyles of Victorian upper class society and the social critiques to the upper class in the *Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde.

CHAPTER III

METHOD OF RESEARCH

In a study, it is important for every research to specify their method of research. In this chapter, the researcher discusses about research design, object of the research, method of collecting data, method of analyzing data, and method of presenting research result.

3.1. Research Design

This research is qualitative research. This kind of research is chosen because this research is related to understanding human behavior and social life using data in written form, as stated by Patton (2002) that the characteristic of qualitative research can be identified by the aim of the research that analyzing social life's aspect and the data analysis is in word form. As qualitative research, the methods in collecting and analyzing data for this research are the methods generally used in qualitative research. The result analysis is also presented by words. This research doesn't give special treatment or intervene toward any data source like in experimental research. The research conducted is based on real events existed.

3.2. Object of The Research

The object of the research is the lifestyles of Victorian upper class society and the social critiques to Victorian upper class society shown in the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. The primary data is taken from the novel

The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde. The secondary data is taken from books and internet sources which support this study.

3.3. Method of Collecting Data

The method of collecting data of this research is documentation because the data is taken from documents. Noor (2012) said that characteristic of data from the documents is regardless time and place. It means this method is suitable to be applied in collecting data for analysis of conditions in the past. In this case, this method is used to collect data related to phenomena considered as the reflection of the Victorian era, especially its lifestyle of the upper class society. The process of collecting data can be seen from the steps below:

1. The researcher reads the novel several times to understand the story.
2. The researcher identifies utterances and acts which reflect the lifestyles of Victorian upper class society and the social critiques toward that class.
3. The researcher takes a note to any sentences and paragraphs that contain the lifestyles of Victorian upper class society and the social critique toward that class.

3.4. Method of Analyzing Data

In analyzing the data, the researcher employs qualitative descriptive method. Noor (2012) said in descriptive qualitative method, the researcher describes the data found based on truth as when the research conducting. After all, this method

is suitable to analyze social issue in a novel because the research is done naturally based on phenomena found in the novel. The process of analyzing data can be seen from the steps below:

1. The researcher analyzes the data collected based on sociology of literature theory by Alan Swingewood.
2. The researcher compares the data found with the Victorian society lifestyle facts.
3. The researcher describes the data analysis one by one with clear explanation
4. The researcher makes conclusion based on data found

3.5. Method of Presenting Result Analysis

In this research, the researcher presents result analysis by verbal description or explains by words. This method is chosen because it is a qualitative research, so the researcher presents result analysis by describing in words form. The researcher presents the result of data analysis based on the purpose of the research.