PERFORMATIVITY OF MAIN CHARACTER IDENTITY IN "THE COLOR PURPLE" BY ALICE WALKER: FEMINIST APPROACH

THESIS

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY
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DECLARATION OF THE THESIS ORIGINALITY
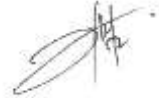
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PERFORMATIVITY OF MAIN CHARACTER IDENTITY IN "THE COLOR PURPLE" BY ALICE WALKER: FEMINIST APPROACH

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Batam, August, 26th 2020

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This thesis has been approved to be submitted on the date as indicated below

Batam, August, 26th 2020

Tomi Arianto, S.S., M.A.
Supervisor

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan menjelaskan performativitas gender yang tercemin pada tokoh utama dan aspek yang membentuk performativity gender karakter utama yang ada dalam novel The Color Purple (1982) karya Alice Walker. Peneliti menggunakan teori performativitas Butler (1990) untuk menganalisa data yang berkaitan dengan performativitas gender didalam novel. Dalam menganalisa, peneliti menggunakan metode deskriptif kulitatif dimana dijelaskan dalam bentuk kata, frasa, dan kalimat. Hasil dari penelitian ini ditemukan bahwa karakter utama dalam novel "The Color Purple (1982)" menunjukkan perfomativitas secara berulang ulang sehingga mengubah orientasi seksualnya. Terlihat bahwa perubahan gender dan orientasi seksual dapat dipengaruhi oleh banyak aspek yang menyebabkan terjadinya perubahan. Karakter utama mengubah orientasi seksualnya sebagai seorang lesbian yang mencintai sesama wanita. Beberapa sikap ditunjukkan yang dapat membuktikan bahwa karakter utama memiliki pemikiran yang berbeda tentang seorang wanita, lebih mempunyai ketertarikan terhadap wanita, kemudian memutuskan untuk menjadi seorang lesbian. Peneliti juga menemukan aspek yang menjadi penyebab terbentuknya performativitas gender tersebut. Peniliti menemukan 27 data yang menunjukkan bahwa performativitas gender dapat dipengaruhi oleh banyak aspek yang terbagi dalam psikologi dan wacana gender. Dalam 27 data tersebut menunjukkan bahwa karakter utama dalam novel "The Color Purple (1982)" menampilkan perubahan performativitas orientasi seksualnya diakibatkan dari masa lalu yang buruk dan pandangan yang buruk terhadap laki laki, sehingga ia memilih untuk mempercayai perempuan, merasa nyaman ketika tinggal bersama perempuan dan memutuskan untuk mencintai wanita

Kata Kunci*: Feminis, performativitas, gender*

ABSTRACT

This study aims to explain the gender performativity that reflected in the main character and aspects that form of gender performativity in the main character in the novel The Color Purple (1982) by Alice Walker. The researcher used Butler's (1990) performativity theory to analyzed data related to gender performativity in novels. In analyzing, the researcher used descriptive qualitative methods which explained in terms of words, phrases, and sentences. The results of this study found that the main character in the novel "The Color Purple (1982)" showed performativity repeatedly so that she changed her sexual orientation. It can be seen that gender can be influenced by many aspects that cause a change in sexual orientation. The main character to change their sexual orientation as a lesbian who loves fellow women. Several attitudes were shown that can prove the main character has a different thought of a woman, more interest with women then decided to become a lesbian. The researcher also found some aspects that cause the formation of gender performativity. The researcher found 27 data showed gender performativity can be influenced by many aspects that are divided from psychology and gender discourse. In 27 data showed the main character in the novel "The Color Purple (1982)" displayed changing in gender and sexual orientation due to a bad past and a bad view of men, she chose to trust women, feeling comfortable while staying with women, adore, and decided to love women.

Keywords: Feminism, performativity, gender

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

MOTTO

Hold tight and use well every chance you have. It's a Big Gift.

DEDICATION

This Thesis dedicated to my family and Putera Batam University

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First of all, the researcher would like to thank God because of his grace and blessed, the researcher could finish this thesis on time in. This thesis entitled "Performativity of Main Character Identity in "The Color Purple" by Alice Walker". The researcher would like to thank her family and partner for their support.

The researcher realizes that this thesis is far from perfect. Therefore, criticism and suggestions will always be the researcher welcomes with pleasure. With everything limitations, the researcher also realize that this thesis would not have been possible without help, guidance and encouragement from various parties. For that, with all modesty heart, the authors express their gratitude to:

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May God always bless you and good will always come to you.

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Nolen

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background of the Research

Gender never seems to be obsolete to be discussed, despite the many studies,

journals, and books that have been published. Many researchers have discussed gender

issues and it seems that gender is still a focus of research that received attention for

discussion. According to Butler (1990) gender is not a noun, but neither is it a set of

free-floating attributes that the substantive effect of gender is performatively produced

and compelled by the regulatory practices of gender coherence.

For Butler, gender is a set of repeated acts within a highly rigid frame that congeal

over time to produce the appearance of substance, of a natural sort of being. There is

no genuine and permanent gender identity. All are formed from repeated expressions

and performances until the formation of gender identity. Butler also stated that identity

is incoherent or not permanent. Identity is produced from the performativity that always

changes. For this reason, gender states that a person's identity is never stable. Gender

identity can be determined by performativity of sexual conversation, performance in

appearance and physical, as well as performativity in sexual activity. (Butler, 1990)

Performativity caused the self-identity inconsistency of the main character in the

novel The Color Purple. The main character Celie in the novel The Color Purple

showed passion and attraction towards lesbians. Due to social influence and experience

from the main character, the condition of identity of the main character in the *"The Color Purple (1982)"* has changed.

In this paper, the researcher is going to analyze the main character performativity in the novel. The main character in the novel called Celie. The researcher analyzed how Celie displayed performativity and how she created her gender identity. Analyzing the cause that leads her to has gender trouble. Analyzing the action and step that she took to get her own freedom and lived happily.

The Color Purple (1982) was written by a feminist known as Alice Walker. Alice Walker or Alice Malsenior Tallulah-Kate Walker was born in Eatonton, Georgia. She is an American novelist, poet, social activist, and short story writer. Walker is the woman that coined a black feminist or feminist of color. Through her life she got an injury from her brother BB gun that caused one of her eyes got blind. The injury made her began to take up reading and writing. The most popular work from Walker is "The Color Purple" Novel. (Bates, 2005)

The novel led her to become the first black woman who has won the 1983 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and also The National Book Award for Fiction. "The Color Purple" novel was published in 1982. The story took place in Rural, Georgia. "The Color Purple" focused on the life of African-American social culture in 1930. The novel told about life from a young black woman trying to survive from the abuse given by her stepfather. The story from the novel is told from her point of view. (National Book Awards, 1983)

The Color Purple followed the life of Celie Johnson as she struggles through life in the early 1900s. The novel began with a young black woman named Celie about 14 years old, giving birth to her second child, who was fathered by her father, whom later we found out is her stepfather in his death. Her stepfather took the second child away from her and told her never to tell anyone about it. Even though her mama. She only could tell God about that. That's why in the novel story always started with "Dear God." (Walker, 1982)

There are many reasons why the researcher chose this novel was because from the story in the novel related to adult and child sexual harassment, a story about women, about how the man completed the desire to made wife become obedient through hitting and violence toward women. The other reason is because there is gender behavior changing in the story when the main character started to become lesbianism because of the experience she got before from her family. The last reason is the researcher experienced about lesbianism before. There are many quotes that the researcher got from the novel. One of them is when the first time Shug first time came to Mr.____ house.

> "*I don't move at once, cause I can't. I need to see her eyes. I feel like once I see her eyes my feets can let go the spot where they stuck.*" (Walker, 1982, p. 45).

This quote showed Celie excited because Shug came over and she became strength again to live with Mr._____. Celie has admired Shug for such a long time and she was the most beautiful woman that exists in this world. Celie, since young already felt interest with women than men because of her social environment and her family environment. This kind of acts related to with the theory of Butler's Performativity in

"Gender Trouble" that perform an act and gesture that shows the main character showed her interest toward the same sex.

The same novel has been analyzed by Baluni, and the title is *"The Sexual Orientation of Celie in Alice Walker's The Color Purple."*(Baluni, 2012). In Baluni's almost has the same objectives that analyze from her work. Her paper and this paper both analyzed the main character and the aspect that cause the main character to change the sexual orientation. The difference between her work with this paper is Baluni's analyzed the sexual orientation displayed by the main character in the novel and also analyzed about homosexual identity development. Meanwhile, in this paper, the researcher analyzed the gender performativity that reflected in the novel and the formation of performativity gender that affect the main character change the sexual orientation.

1.2   Identification of the Problem

The problem which will be analyzed in this thesis comes from the threaten differences of woman and man in the social environment and in a family that caused gender trouble for the people who has suffered that situation. From *"The Color Purple (1982)"* novel by Alice Walker, the researcher found some problem that can be identified:

1.   The violence received that affects the main character gender in The Color Purple Novel by Alice Walker.

2. Gender performativity is reflected in the main character in the *"The Color Purple (1982)"* novel by Alice Walker.

3. The hatred was felt toward men by the main character in the *"The Color Purple (1982)"* by Alice Walker.

4. The aspect influenced the formation of gender performativity of the main character in the *"The Color Purple (1982)"*.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Referring to the identification of the problem above, the researcher focuses this research in analyzing the main character called Celie in Alice Walker "*The Color Purple (1982)"* novel on Feminist Approach. The researcher limits the problem into:

1. Gender performativity is reflected in the main character in the*"The Color Purple (1982)"* novel by Alice Walker.

2. Aspects that influenced the formation of gender performativity of the main character in the *"The Color Purple (1982)"* by Alice Walker.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

After the problems that the researcher will analyze become clear through the process of identification and limitation of the problem, the researcher formulated the problems as mentioned into:

1. How does gender performativity reflect in the main character in the *"The Color Purple (1982)"* novel by Alice Walker?

2.   What are the aspects that caused the formation of gender performativity of the main character in *"The Color Purple (1982)"* by Alice Walker?

1.5   Objective of the Research

In doing this research, the researcher found some objectives why the researcher did this research.

1.   To find out how the performativity gender reflected in novel *"The Color Purple (1982)"*

2.   To find out the aspects that caused the formation of gender performativity in *"The Color Purple (1982)"*.

1.6   Significance of the Research

1.6.1   Theoretically

The purpose of this thesis is to give further information about women performativity and the environment situation that caused gender trouble. The researcher is also expected to give more information to the student or the researcher about analyzing the woman performativity in *"The Color Purple (1982)"* novel by Alice Walker.

1.6.2   Practically

This research is expected to be useful for any students that read it and could apply it. Through this paper is expected to make people consider

understanding the other people that have gender trouble performativity because there are many factors that caused them to choose that way.

1.7   Definition of the Key Terms

Feminist theory   : Feminist theory has often been critical of naturalistic explanations of sex and sexuality that assume that the meaning of women's social existence can be derived from some fact of their physiology. In distinguishing sex from gender, feminist theorists have disputed causal explanations that assume that sex dictates or necessitates certain social meanings for women's experience.(Butler, 1988)

Performativity   : Performativity is a concept that can be thought of as a language that functions as a form of social action and has the effect of change.(Cavanaugh, 2015)

Gender   : Gender is repeated stylization of the body, a set of repeated acts within a highly rigid regulatory frame that congeal over time to produce the appearance of substance, of a natural sort of being.(Butler, 1990)

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURES AND THEORETICAL

FRAMEWORK

2.1   Feminist Theory

In examining women, there are some concepts must be understood. The concept of gender and the concept of gender are concepts that must be understood. The concept of sex is two sexes that have been determined in biology, namely female and male. While for the concept of gender is a trait of someone who is formed in socio-culture. in gender there are feminine and masculine, where feminine is attached to women and masculine is attached to men. In general, it can be said that gender does not apply universally. That means every society, at a certain time, has a particular cultural system different from other communities and other times. But from the results of the study conducted by William and Best which includes 30 countries prove that even though gender is not universal, it is still generally religious masculine is attached to men who are seen as stronger, more active, and is characterized by a great need for achievement of dominance, autonomy and aggression. Instead, the feminine label is attached to the woman who is seen as weaker, less active, and more attentive to desires to nurture and back down. (Muslikhati, 2004)

The different views of society towards women and men and different public services focus on feminist theory. The approach used in this thesis is feminist theory. Feminist derived from the word Femme which is means woman. Feminist theory exists

in 1974 in some publications. There are some publications showed feminist theory, such as A Vindication of the Rights of Woman by Feminist Mary Wollstonecraft. A Vindication of the Right of Woman was published in 1792 in United Kingdom. In her work, Wollstonecraft considered that woman education should equal with their position or statue in society. Because woman also important to the nation. Woman also a human being that has the right to get the same fundamental rights as men. (Franklin, 2004)

Feminist theory is the extension of feminism with the purpose to understand the gender in equality. The feminist theory examined social roles, interests, chores, experience, and politics. Ben Agger (1998) stated that the major achievement of feminist theory is to make the politics of sex and gender central to understanding oppression. However, the theory is not only about understanding but also about action. A goal of feminist project is to end the oppression of women and attain social equity for them. This means that feminist theory is a tool for women to fight for their rights, the feminist theory is closely related to racial class conflict, especially in gender conflicts. In feminist discussion, discussing more about gender.

Butler also helped enrich feminist discourse through his views relating to sex, gender, and sexual orientation. Butler was influenced by Foucault who stated that sex, gender, and sexual orientation were the result of social construction.(Butler, 1990) Through Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity, Butler (1990) stated gender is not something given. Gender is constructed through actions which are then valued by the community. Gender is performativity that produces repeatedly and

produces a series of effects. The next session below explained more about gender performativity.

2.2   Gender Performativity

Butler was influenced by Austin about the capacity in communication to act or communication that produced action and made her argued that gender is socially constructed to a common place and nonverbal communication that are performative in the case to maintain their gender identity (Butler, 1990). In Austin theory about performative act means a speech can consume an action, for example, when a person said "I Promise You" actually consume an act that making a promise and changing the other person's expectation. It might cause the person from low expectation to become in high expectation. The other example is when a minister announces a woman and a man to become wife and husband, it can change people's views about them. Which mean, they are officially married woman and a married man. Butler's view of performativity is reversing the thought that someone's identity is the source of their secondary actions, such as speech and movement. Instead, she views actions, behavior, and gestures as a result of individual identity and sources that contribute to the formation of someone's identity, which is constantly being redefined through speech act and symbolic communication.

Butler (2011) in Big Thinks channel said "To say that gender is performative is a little different because for something to be performative means that produces a series of effect" means that we act and speaks like a woman or man is the first impression for

someone to think about our sexual identity. From Butler's experience in her interview. When she was walking down to the street in Berkeley and when she first arrived several years ago and there was a young woman that yelled at her from windows. "Are you a Lesbian?". The young woman could think about that because of Butler' act that seems like a man. Butler (2011) also claimed that gender is performative is to say nobody is really a gender from the start. That's an act that being produced all the time and repeated. From the claim, the researcher can conclude that gender is a repetition act from an individual. The repetition act leads an individual to change their gender. For Butler, performativity is not coercion but is a self-making. When a man dressed as a girl and act feminine. It is not an imitation from the other individual. But it's a behavior that is carried out by itself and is repeated continuously. So, that it is valued by the community as a transvestite (Butler, 1990). For example, if woman has interested with another woman and it is repeated over all over again, it will lead that woman sexual identity into a lesbian.

In the Gender Trouble (1990) Butler also stated that *"gender is repeated stylization of the body, a set of repeated acts within a highly rigid regulatory frame that congeal over time to produce the appearance of substance, of a natural sort of being."*(Butler, 1990, p. 33). In this citation, it can be understood that gender is an act of performativity carried out repeatedly so as to form a real identity, identity can change at any time depending on how the individual decides.

Butler also discussed the Binary Gender and Heterosexual contract in the essay entitled "Performative acts and Gender Constitution". Butler (1988) in her essay,

explaining that there is a construction that makes deviant sex or gender or usually called discrete gender was wrong and distorted. In terms of reproduction, the culture of society sees and has a rule that social reproduction and marriage are based on heterosexual where marriage must involve male and female partners. For that, when someone in society shows gender that is not in accordance with the existing social construction, then the individual who does will be punished. Even at this time, discrete gender or gender trouble is still controversial and is still considered to be something that deviates in any way.

2.2.1 Gender Trouble

Gender trouble is the result of ten years of contemplation and part of Butler's life and her association with the lesbian and gay community in Rehoboth Beach, United States. Butler described the identity of a person to be a limitation of normality in attitudes and behavior and then justified deviations if deviant the existing construction and has been formed previously. Alienation of the gay and lesbian community is the culmination of criticism of the bodily identities shown. Therefore, in her book, Butler strongly emphasized the conception of how an identity is translated and how to understand gender performativity as a product of gender identity.

In gender trouble Butler explained that *"There is no gender identity behind the expression of gender;… identity is performatively constituted by the very 'expression' that are said to be its result…"*(Butler, 1990, p. 33)**.** This citation showed about the category of gender from all this time that exist in the community is not sufficient to

accommodate a variety of sexual expression from an individual, until a person then is labelled with certain identities such as masculinity, femininity, lesbian, homosexual, or transgender. Category of gender in community has two kinds which is considered normal. Woman acts feminine and a man acts masculine standard normal all this time in community. So, a person who acts differently considered doing a deviation and not accepted in the community. Meanwhile gender for Butler, has many kinds and can change during the time. For her there is no any deviation for someone in express their gender differently. Woman can be masculine and a man can be feminine.

Gender Trouble (1990) also as a main reference for development in Queer theory. Queer theory is the study about diversity of gender expression and sexuality. This theory was motivated by Butler's own anxiety over the fate of her uncle who had been driven out of his house because of his sexuality which was considered deviant in her family. In Gender Trouble (1990) book, Butler explored how the gender and sexuality are standardized by the notion of social theory. Her strategy was unique, her strategy namely deconstruction the "vocabulary of movement" has become a barrier to human manifestation, such as gender, sex, and body.

According to Butler (1990) queer theory is rooted in the material that identity is not stable and permanent. In queer theory, generally discussed about there is not the permanent identity of a person, an individual identity can be influenced by social and cultural. Queer is considered strange and abnormal. For example, homosexual and lesbian, homosexual and lesbian in radical feminism opposed the heterosexual as normality as formed as a destiny. Butler (1990) explained that there is construction that

made the gender and gender deviate or discrete gender of cultural construction. When an individual showed the different gender that deviant with the social construction that exists, then the culture or environment will punish the one who deviant from the social construction.

Queer theory studies guy and lesbian, where homosexuals are positioned as subject. Here is the standpoint of queer theory. Because of this position, some people said this is not a knowledge institution, but likely a deconstruction process. Thus, queer theory in the conception of Gender Trouble Judith Butler will deconstruct the meaning of sexual deviation as the Imitation of sub gender insubordination. In here the conceptual theory, the researcher will describe Butler's gender paradigm toward lesbian sexual orientation, homosexuality, and cultural normality towards heterosexual.

2.2.2 Imitation and Gender Insubordination

2.2.2.1 Homosexual

Performativity sexual activity from a homosexual or gay can be seen from how they treat their gay partner. Sexual activity from a gay is different from sexual activity from a man towards a woman. Form of gay sexuality can be seen from performativity and the notion of sex with the same sex. Queer marginalized to permanently contradict sexuality and identity. Butler ((as cited in Ritzer, 2014) explained that sexual fantasies about gay always imagine that when he is contacting a fellow man, dreaming of kissing his partner, he will get and feel comfortable and like the gay partner. A gay person

realized that sexual intercourse is not the same as sexual relations with woman and man, a gay realized that he is having sexual relationships with the same body or the same sex, but a guy partner will feel pleasure as normal sex because gay person only attracted to a man and will not get the same pleasure when he had sex with a woman.

2.2.2.2 Lesbian

The concept of lesbian shows a wide variety of women's behavior, for example the informal mutual assistance network established by women in certain professions or institutions, to same-sex friendship, fellow women who have the strength of mutual support, mutual understanding, and ultimately feel mutual comfort and arousing love for one another and leading to internal relationships between women or sexual relations between women. This definition can be implied that there are interconnections between the different way women use to bond with one another. As a result of this criticism, throughout the 1980s, the lesbian approach broke away from the first wave of feminism. Lesbian criticism also rejects that essentialism can be said to have inherited it from feminism. Then came an idea that not so essentialism about lesbians in a scope known as queer theory in the 1990s.

Lesbians are seen as subjects in the queer paradigm as a form of resistance to hetero normality, which considers all queer behavior other than the normality as deviations. Lesbians are a choice where a woman has a sexual orientation to other women. Women love women physically, emotionally, spiritually, or sexually. Butler rejected the view that sex includes women and men as determinants of gender

consisting of masculine and feminine, and gender as determinants of sexual orientation. For Butler, identity has nothing to do with sex or gender. Identity obtained from acts of performativity does not have a permanent system or is always changing. From this, it follows that in Butler's view, there is no problem and is legitimate if someone wants to determine their masculine or feminine identity and choose the sexual orientation he will take, because sex is a cultural clash and sexual orientation is an embodiment or the result of someone's performativity as a lesbian or others.

Butler (1990) opposed the conception of a person who has transsexual or a tendency to change sexual orientation from heterosexual to lesbian is assumed to have changed his natural condition. For example, a woman that decided to love the same sex and showed their masculinity sides as complement of her sexual needs. The question is, if the sexual orientation be demonstrated, did this sexual orientation show determine the validity of the individual the act in accordance with the fixed rules on sex, gender, and sexual orientation. The conclusion from this view is sex and gender and sexual orientation are liquid and changeable and constructed by social conditions. For Butler, LGBT not included as social deviation. However, LGBT is the variation in human identity based on performative action.

2.2.2.3 Heterosexual

Heterosexual has been seen as a normal sexual orientation activity among the people. heterosexual is considered to require that the most suitable sexual relations are between women and men. The view of human sexuality which considers heterosexual

as something natural causes heteronormative occurrence. Therefore, the ideas surrounding sexuality in the community appear to be dominated by heteronormative systems. This system has succeeded in influencing the birth of normative assessments of sexual relations which has led to the creation of normal and abnormal views in sexual relations which have given rise to diverse reactions in the community. Until nowadays, heterosexual still considered normal and legitimate, while homosexuals and lesbians, or other sexual orientations, are deemed to deviate from normality or different and abnormal.

Queer theory opposes heteronormative. Queer theory accepts the differences made by homosexuals or lesbians. for Butler, LGBT is not considered to deviate from social construction but rather is a variation of the sexual orientation of a performativity. Heteronormative raises disappointment experienced by lesbian and gay communities, because they are considered different and not accepted in the community and even punished by the environment because of the difference.

2.2.3 The Formation of Performativity Gender

Performativity is something done by an individual that is done repeatedly so that it produces an effect of change. According to Butler (1990), Gender is performativity, an act that is influenced by social construction. A person does not have the actual gender when he was born or permanent gender, but for Butler gender is liquid that can change at any time. In changing gender, it can affect changes in sexual orientation, can affect many things about an individual, such as gender can determine health, life

expectancy, and feelings of freedom of movement. There are many things that affect a person's performativity in gender. Like, habits that are often done in childhood, causing gender changes towards someone and changing the views of others with different behaviors. Grow in a community that invites themselves to try act like the community. Receive arbitrary treatment from one parent that causes fear, hatred, and deep love. One example is, a girl who is sexually assaulted by a father, will cause psychological illnesses of children, and change the way children look at a man, a person who is considered to be able to look after her, becomes someone who makes her afraid and there is no sense of security. This can also happen to men when they have a bad relationship with their mother in the family and cause distrust and disinterest in a woman.

2.2.3.1 Psychological

The role of the environment and the role of parents is very important in the formation of gender. Environmental conditions and the role of parents can influence the formation of gender towards a child. For example, a mother who has a son but is treated like a daughter. A mother dresses the boy and teaches her feminine side. Then it is likely that the child will grow up with a feminine attitude and feel that the female community is the same as him. Here can cause him to be attracted to men who have different attitudes and change their sexual orientation. In interviews some parents who have children who show signs of gender trouble repeatedly, state that they do not prevent, but rather encourage such behavior (Davison et al., 2006).

The role of other parents is to protect their children. But what if parents who act immoral and act violence against children. Actions such as sexual violence against children and domestic violence against children can disrupt their psychology which will experience trauma and mental damage. So that it will change the view of a children from the person who hurt them. For example, a girl who often gets underage sexual treatment from her father will traumatize the girl and change her views on men. Then will rise their comfortable feeling with fellow women and will affect the formation of gender and sexual orientation. There some points that cause from psychological that form the performativity gender, there are bitter childhood, sexual oppression, domestic violence, and emotional interest will be explained below.

2.2.3.1.1   Bitter Childhood

Childhood for a person is very important in shaping personality. The role of the family for a child is an important role that will set an example for his child. children's personalities can become messy if childhood puts them under pressure. In the family there can also be sexual abuse of children which makes children depressed, traumatized, and even provokes hatred. These acts can have an effect on the psychological side of child that damage their behavior and mentality. For Butler, a person born male or female, cannot determine their gender at that moment. Because for him gender is performativity that is done repeatedly so as to form a desired gender identity. A boy if born as a male and treated like a woman by a family, it will affect the community's view of the child. Although a boy realizes himself is a man but he chooses

to behave feminine because it is formed from his childhood and will generate interest in the same sex. Butler (2011) in her interviewed claimed that no one is really gendered from the start. Means that gender can be changed during time, that gender is performative, an act that reproduce and reproduces all the time. For example, a woman who born as female do not have to stay in feminine. If a woman born in a poor family and born as the only child, she has to become a hard worker to maintain her family, because of her act that produce and reproduce all the time, working like a men, living alone, and fight by herself, this kind of act is already far from feminine category.

2.2.3.1.2   Sexual Oppression

Sexual oppression often occurs among the public. Inside the family or outside. Sexual oppression occurs due to inequality of society's views of women and men. Sexual oppression can occur to women and men. this can cause mental damage and disturb the minds of individuals who experience it. Sexual oppression is often found to occur in women. Specifically, culture and society that has different views between women and men. Men are seen as the head of the family and as people who are more powerful and more reliable and women are considered weaker. This causes the views of men towards women to be lower. The act of sexual oppression against women, causing mental damage, trauma, hatred, fear, and even changing a woman's view of a man. In this case can cause women to cause a sense of more concern for fellow women because they have a sense of comfort and no fear. A woman who is attracted to another woman will show her masculinity and be repeated so as to form a different gender and

have a different sexual orientation. A woman wants to gain freedom and decides to become lesbians can also be feminine and masculine all at once.

2.2.3.1.3   Domestic Violence

Domestic violence can occur due to gender inequality. Where in a community, men are considered more powerful in the household. Domestic violence is generally more common in woman. Domestic violence can also press the psychology of individuals, especially woman. This case can make them feel traumatized, fear, and even mental damage. The result of domestic violence against woman made them mistrust of the opposite sex. Thus, making woman to looking for the same sex relationships that do not provide sense of danger for them. Domestic violence also can change a person's behavior from feminine to masculine, from obedient to argument for his freedom. This cause the changing of gender when a woman decided to act masculine and decided to become lesbian.

2.2.3.1.4   Emotional Interest

Feelings of comfort women towards other women can also lead to gender performativity. Women's interest among women starts from many things, from relationships and the environment, trauma experiences that make women hurt. From this aspect it can affect a woman's gender, which at first has to be feminine to be masculine, weak to be braver, and also change their sexual orientation. From this repeated performativity, women who experience gender changes make them discover the real gender they want to achieve. In emotional interest towards women also

becomes one of gender performativity. Such as feelings of love for fellow women, feeling of comfortable, trust developed, and sexual interest towards fellow women.

2.2.3.2 Gender Discourse

Discourse is a network or story both in words and in writing where a group of individuals simultaneously assures the truth or not of a discourse. Foucault assumed that discourse could also influence the ongoing power relations, therefore power relations are not appropriate(as cited in Butler, 1990). From this it can be understood that discourse can be both an instrument and a result of existing power. many ideas about sexuality were exist from the assumption of "the discourse of male sex drive". This assumption was born from the idea that women are an outlet for male sexual appetite. Thought presupposes an unbalanced relation of sexuality between man and woman, where man as subject and woman as an object. In other words, men control women in their sexual rights. In this case men can determine whether sex is safe or not and women are controlled by men, this raises the dissatisfaction of women about their sexual towards men so that it causes someone to change their performativity from a woman into a lesbian to meet those sexual needs.

2.2.3.2.1 Victim of Patriarchal System

Patriarchal is social system that places men as the main power holders and dominates in the roles of political leadership, moral authority, social rights and property control (Bressler, 2007). Means that patriarchal culture places the social position of men higher than women. Thus, the community tends to assume that there is even the

slightest form of harassment towards women. In fact, often women who are victims of abuse are blamed, for example, for dressing in ways that do not conform to the norms of decency. In patriarchal caused gender inequality toward woman. Woman has to suffered the harassment, violence from a man. Woman also cannot choose the path that they want to complete. Even though in the carrier, people thought a man is more capable than a woman.

2.2.3.2.2   Woman as an Object

Objectification is a central thought of feminist theory. Objectification is how we treating people and seeing people. How good and bad treating a people. In society, especially a woman. Woman always as an object and man as a subject. Woman usually got body shaming from a man and get bad treatment because of lack of self-determination. Woman are considered weaker because of the view of woman as object. Even in sexual activity, in sexual activity a man is considered an active and a woman is a passive one. A man that decided the satisfaction of the sexual activity, when to start it and finish it. This caused unsatisfaction from a woman or made the woman become unpleasure in doing the sexual activity. This dissatisfaction causes the woman to look the same sex in case to complete her sexual needs.

2.3   Previous Study

In this thesis, the researcher found some previous research that help the researcher to complete this paper. The previous research that has some different analyzing in feminist theory and also related with gender performativity. The first

previous research was written by House with the title "Feminist HCI Meets Facebook: Performativity and social networking sites"(House, 2011). House's paper and this paper has the same theory, both of the paper is using Butler's theory. But, in House's paper analyzed feminist reflexivity to HCI and reflexive encounter concrete in terms social networking sites with feminist theory in Judith Butler. Meanwhile in this paper is analyzing the gender performativity theory from Judith Butler.

The second previous research was written by Quyoom with the title "Women Struggle: A Critical Analysis of Woman at Point Zero and The Color Purple"(Quyoom, 2017). In this previous research is used the same novel from this paper. In Quyoom's paper has the same point to analyzed with this paper. Both of them analyzed the struggle that the main character has through. The different is in Quyoom's work is analyzed about the woman struggle and pain which woman suffered living in two different parts of the world in "The Color Purple" novel, meanwhile in this paper is analyzing the result from the main character struggle and pain in the novel.

The third previous research was written Wibawa with the title *"Performativitas Gender dalam Film The Kids Are All Right Karya Lisa Cholodenko"*(Wibawa, 2014). In Wibawa's work has the similarity object to analyze. That is gender performativity. He focused on the strategy of filmmakers in naturalizing lesbian couple in social context. In his paper is analyzing gender performativity in the film, meanwhile in this paper is analyzing about gender performativity from the main character in "*The Color*

Purple" novel. From his work, the researcher got much help in understanding gender performativity.

The fourth previous research was written by Olsen with the title *"Performing gender identities: Gender performativity in Charlotte Bronte's Villete"*(Lin-Olsen, 2016) From her paper analyzed about gender performativity. She focused on identity and gender as various performativity act, Performance and acting and create a tension between the feminine and the masculine in Charlotte Bronte's Villete (1853) Meanwhile in this paper is analyzing the gender performativity displayed by the main character in changing her gender identity in the novel.

The fifth previous research was written Hanum with the tittle *"Aspek Lesbianisme Tokoh Celie pada Novel "The Color Purple" Karya Alice Walker"*(Hanum, 2011). Hanum's paper analyzed about the lesbianism aspect from the main character in the novel and used new criticism to analyzed character. In her thesis analyzed the relationship between Celie and Shug Avery. Her paper has the same similarity with this paper that focused on the main character. In Hanum's paper is focused on the aspect that caused the main character to become a lesbian. In this paper also focuses the main character that become a lesbian. But in this paper focuses the process in changing the sexual orientation and the performativity that has been done repeatedly that affect the sexual orientation.

The sixth previous research was written by Arianto and Ambalegin with the tittle "Indoctrination Against Women in "The Lowland" by Jhumpa Lahiri"(Arianto & Ambalegin, 2018). In Arianto's paper analyzed about indoctrination against woman and using feminist approach. This paper also uses the feminist approach. The previous research helped the researcher to know more about feminist approach. The different from Arianto and Ambalegin's paper with this paper is the objectification. In the previous research is analyzed and focused on the indoctrination. Meanwhile In this paper also using feminist approach but analyzing about gender performativity in.

The seventh previous research was written by Baluni, the title is "The Sexual Orientation of Celie in Alice Walker's The Color Purple."(Baluni, 2012). In Baluni's almost has the same objectives that analyzed in her work. Her paper and this paper both analyzed the main character and the aspect that cause the main character change the sexual orientation. The different between her work with this paper is Baluni's analyzed about the sexual orientation that displayed by the main character in the novel and also analyzed about homosexual identity development. Meanwhile in this paper, analyzed about the gender performativity that reflected in the novel and the formation of performativity gender that affect the main character change the sexual orientation.

The last previous research was written by Bere and Arianto from Putera Batam University with the title "Woman Violence and Resistance in "Sweet" Short Story by Zora Neale Huston"(Bere & Arianto, 2019). In the paper Bere and Arianto also using feminist theory. But the difference is the paper analyzed about violence and resistance

of woman and in this paper is analyzing gender performativity by Judith Butler. This

previous research helped the researcher to know more about feminist theory.
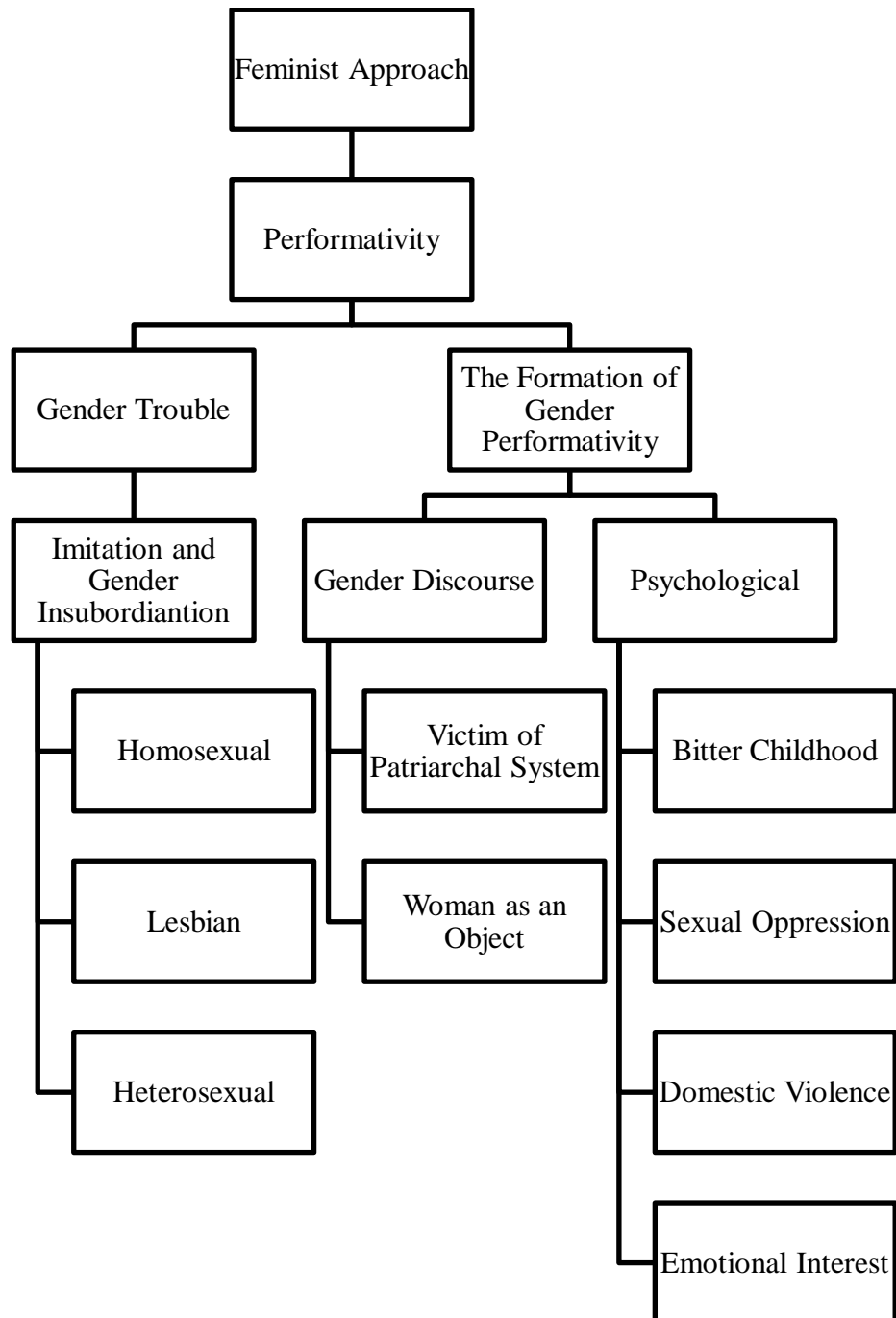
2.4   Theoretical Framework

Figure 2.4.1 Theoretical Framework

By looking at the framework above, the researcher will conduct the research by analyzing the "*The Color Purple (1982) novel by Alice Walker"* with feminist approach. The researcher is using the theory of Judith P Butler about the performativity gender. The main focused on this thesis is about the formation of performativity gender that reflected in the main character in "*The Color Purple (1982)"* novel that lead lesbianism in the main character that changed her sexual orientation.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

This research used qualitative method. According to Ratna (as cited in Santosa, 2015) qualitative research is a type of social science research that works with non-numerical data that intend to interpret the meaning on these collected data. Qualitative data research is the research that using describing method and produce a sentence or a paragraph. Descriptive method is a research that describe a phenomenon and its characteristic (Nassaji, 2015). This literary research data sources were from novel that did not involve any numerical and only used description in analysis and presenting data.

3.2 Object of the Research

Object of the research is an aggregation of resources that bundles together the contents of an investigation work. Object established the main core issues from the research. In this research, the objective that the researcher chose in analyzing was gender performativity. The data source that used in this research are quotes that showed gender performativity found in the *"The Color Purple (1982)"* novel.

3.3 Method of Collecting Data

In the process of collecting data for this research, the research used documentation method. Documentation data collection that collect from literary work,

such as, book, biography, poems, movie, and novel. In analyzing novel, the researcher will have three steps of collecting data:

1. Read the novel to made understanding in the story line of The Color Purple Novel.
2. The researcher marked the data that related with the topic analysis.
3. Found and wrote down the data that the researcher will analyze.

3.4 Method of Analyzing Data

In this paper the researcher used qualitative method to analyzing the novel. Then the researcher used female perspective to see how the woman views in lesbianism from her situation that she has experienced.

To make it more specific, there are several ways that done by the researcher in analyzing data:

1. First the researcher read the entire novel from the start until the end of the novel in order to understand and know about the story line.
2. Then the researcher wrote down part that related with the topic that the researcher analyzed.
3. After wrote down the data, the researcher started to explain the data.

3.5 Method of Presenting the Analysis Result

In presenting the result, the researcher used informal method. According to Ratna (as cited in Santosa, 2015) informal method the is method of presenting data analysis

by using description in paragraph. So, the researcher described the findings data in paragraph. The researcher used this informal method because this paper was using descriptive method that did not involve any numerical data and numerical analysis.