

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. Approach Used

Etimologically, feminism derived from the word “*femme*” means woman who fight for the rights of women. This matter is necessary to make a differences between male and female (as the aspect of biological differences, as natural term), masculin and feminine. In other words, male female leading to sex. In more extensive understanding, feminism is women movement in resisting to be marginized.

The feminism fights for the equality of men, to demand their full right as human being. Principally, their position based on the woe’s position (in philosophy, politic, economy, culture, and social), and oriented in the pattern of changes on power relationship. For that matters, the hierarchy society’s rules and giving pressure on women, in the aspect of class, culture, and social contract must be changed heading for new social relationship. Such as in family, community, society, where women equal as men became a full subject in making a decision related to the allocation of power and it is resources. This kind of changes did not happenied by itself, but it must be fight for. The feminism belief that women are independent of their body, soul and their life. A woman is a full subject who owns the same rights as men. That feminist main goal does not create groups victory among others, or the centre of over on one side only, but to gain a recontruction in the society without putting their side a side. The point of feminism goal is to

equalize the women's position with men's, related that the equal rights movement appeared in the society. Among the other way is to release women from domestic environmental bond or families and house environment. This called as women's liberation movement, or known as women emancipation movement.

Feminism also related to men in the sense that all gender based equality is in fact a balance between the male and female with the intention of liberating the individual. In that sense the definition of feminism also includes all movements and campaigns that target men and boys for gender sensitisation with a goal to end gender based discriminatory practices and achieve gender based equality.

According to Bhasin and Khan, (1986:87), "feminism is the awareness of over roles on woman in the society such as in the work place, in the family also the awareness action by woman or men to change the circumstances". They also brought up that a lot of woman declare that they are suppressed in so many aspect and have become marginal in the society for centuries. Most of them even experience direct suppressed on them, maybe the tradition that put men over woman or by the viewed that explain woman as an object. Despite all of that, lots of woman refused feminism.

Further, Ilyas, (1997:88), said that "feminism is an awareness of the gender unfairness, which is felt by woman, either in the family or society also the conscious action done by either woman or men to change the state of condition".

This purpose based on the awareness and fact that the patriarchy system, which applies in the majority of society in the world actually in gender. Is not egaliter and creates unfairness against woman so that it is necessary to have a transformation towards fairness.

2.2 Theory of Character

Researcher has been stated in the previous subchapter, this study is focused on existentialist feminism values, which is seen from dialogue and action by the Cleopatra character. So, to find the answer of the problems, the researcher cannot ignore the importance of the character it self. According to Roberts and Jacob (1995;10) state that a character in a play is a person created by playwright to carry the action, language, ideas, and emotions of the play.

In a story, there are several categories of character based on some aspect such as the reader's interest or sympathy, based on the role of the character itself, and etc, it might divided as;

2.2.1 Major Character

Major character is that has a big part in the story. It always develops in the story and mostly appear on the text. Another term of major character is the central character. The character refers to the people who take part in most of the events.

2.2.2 Minor Character

Meanwhile, minor character does not develop nearly as fully as the major character and it does not have demand or sympathy. Minor character only complete the story and seldom appear on the text and have small part in the story.

According to Sujiman (1988:19), said that minir character is not a central position of the story but it is an important character to build up the story. Thus, the major character is the important of the novel and the minor character is supporting character.

2.2.3 Protagonist Character

Protagonist character is the central character engaging the reader's interest and sympathy mostly. According to Sujiman,(1988:19) said that "the term of protagonist usually means main character, but the protagonist is also someone who fights for something.

2.2.4 Antagonist Character

Antagonist character is the component of protagonist character, Sujiman, (1988:19). The antagonist is usually a person, but also nonhuman force or even an aspect of the protagonist, his or her tendency toward evil and self-destruction. We can said that protagonist is the character who forces the story. It means that the readers are in lack sympathy to the antagonist character.

2.2.5 Flat Character

According to Sujiman,(1988:19) said that "flat character is the expressed through characterization, attitude, and obsession of the character". Thus, flat character is static due to having no any altering from beginning to the end of the story. He said that flat character is built around a single idea or quality and presented in an outline without much individualizing detail, and so can be fairly adequately described in a single phrase or sentence.

2.2.6 Round Character

Round character is complex and many sides. They might require an easy for full analysis. It undergoes a permanent change in some aspect of character, personality and outlook. Major character are likely to be round, while minor characters are to be flat. Through the language and actions of the characters, readers will learn whether the personages are multidimensional characters, which simply developed characters or perhaps merely foil which have main purposes to shed light on more important characters.

The readers will also learn about the emotion, attitudes, and values of characters such as their hopes and fears, their strengths and weaknesses in a drama. From explanation above, character have connection of existentialist feminism, and here more explanation about existentialist feminism.

2.3 Existentialist Feminism

The theory of feminism divided in to few part, among of them are the theory of psychoanalysis feminism, post modern feminism, socialist feminism, and existentialist feminism.

The first, psychoanalysis and gender feminists believe “women’s way of acting is rooted deep in women’s psyche.” For the psychoanalytic feminism, the ideal human person is a blend of positive feminine and positive masculine traits, contrary to popular belief in his time that children are “sexless” (sexuality-less). S.Freud, (2009:71) argued that children were quite sexual and, in fact, experienced three sexual stages of infancy: oral, anal, and phallic. During the last of these stages, the child discovers the pleasure potential of the genitals and either resolves or fails to resolve the so-called Oedipus and castration complexes.

The second, Postmodern feminism is an approach to feminist theory that incorporates postmodern and post-structuralist theory, seeing itself as moving beyond the modernist polarities of liberal feminism and radical feminism. Feminism has been seen as having an affinity to postmodern philosophy through a shared interest in speech acts. Postmodern feminism's major departure from other branches of feminism is perhaps the argument that sex, or at least gender is itself constructed through language, a view notably propounded in Judith Butler's 1990 book, *Gender Trouble*. She draws on and critiques the work of Simone de

Beauvoir, Michel Foucault, and Jacques Lacan, as well as on Luce Irigaray's argument that what we conventionally regard as feminine is only a reflection of what is constructed as masculine.

The third, socialist feminism was increasingly used during the 1970s to describe a mixed theoretical and practical approach to achieving women's equality. Socialist feminist theory analyzed the connection between the oppression of women and other oppression in society, such as racism and economic injustice. Socialists had fought for decades to create a more equal society that did not exploit the poor and powerless in the ways capitalism did. Like Marxism, socialist feminism recognized the oppressive structure of capitalist society. Like radical feminism, socialist feminism recognized the fundamental oppression of women in patriarchal society.

However, socialist feminists did not recognize gender and only gender as the exclusive basis of all oppression. Socialist feminists wanted to integrate the recognition of sex discrimination with their work to achieve justice and equality for women, working classes, the poor and all humanity. Among the activist groups that at some point defined themselves as socialist feminists.

Jean Paul Sartre is the person who served the theory of existentialist. It is by him, the philosophy of existentialist known world wide. It is happened because of his extraordinary ability as literature expert. He brought his philosophy in a form of roman and played in a language which can explain its intention to all his reader.

In his theory, he is focus on Being and Nothingness. Being consisted of being in itself (exist in oneself, the unconscious existing by itself), being for itself (exist for oneself, exist on human have thought and able to do so, because of the criticism humans are face into choices of consequences of their freedom curse),

and being for other (exist for others, the existing with other people, the fully conflict of subjects relationship). Nothingness is mind dependent aspects of reality, such as values. Sartre focused on many things as a philosopher that very much intrigues and has also influenced Beauvoir's writings on the existentialist feminist. She focused on the ideas of subject/object.

Some of the strategies that Beauvoir gives to women for being subject are interesting to say the least. Beauvoir, (2005:11) stated that, women must be economically independent by having careers and jobs outside of the home. The second, women should be conscious of what society is telling her what to do and how to be. She needs to free herself from her body by being a self and not spending all her time at the beauty salon and should engage in creative-oriented projects.

Beauvoir is someone who believed in women being subjects. She is well known for her book entitled "*The Second Sex*", that published in 1948. Beauvoir explained the existence of women as an object related with the subject. In this book, she views both men and women, and how the women minimized and seen as objects throughout many instances. Women described as human with no consciousness, which depend on the other human (men), have no freedom, so women are often called as the other.

The existing of these women can be archived by the tendencies as follow; by working (despite of having two roles, women will be getting equal opportunity as men who work in the public sector, and the opportunity will become an extra value if their role not only as a homewife), becoming intellects (the intellect activity will bring changes on women. They will become the subject instead of the object), by transefferring the social value in to the society (such as Sartre, Beauvoir

forgot the hope to end the roles as subject-object, self-other in the general human relationship and the relation of men-women in particular). He agrees more on Sartre's opinion that one of the key of setting women free of their dependency on men is by the economic power, refused to internalize the other status and identify herself through the view of dominant group in the society.

2.4 Woman Condition In Elizabethan Era

Shakespeare's era or Elizabethan era actually began 1485, when Elizabeth's grandfather Henry Tudor defeated Richard III. But, before the researcher explain about women condition in Elizabethan era, the researcher will start from biography of Elizabeth I, that women has so many influences in Elizabethan history.

2.4.1 Biography of Elizabeth I

The reign of Queen Elizabeth I is often referred to as The Golden Age of English history. Elizabeth was an immensely popular Queen, and her popularity has waned little with the passing of four hundred years. She is still one of the best loved monarchs, and one of the most admired rulers of all time. She became a legend in her own lifetime, famed for her remarkable abilities and achievements. Yet, about Elizabeth the woman, we know very little. She is an enigma, and was an enigma to her own people.

Elizabeth was the daughter of King Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn. She was born on 7 September 1533 at Greenwich Palace. Her birth was possibly the greatest disappointment of her father's life. He had wanted a son and heir to succeed him as he already had a daughter, Mary, by his first wife, Katherine of Aragon. He had not divorced Katherine, and changed the religion of

the country in the process, to have only another daughter. Elizabeth's early life was consequently troubled. Her mother failed to provide the King with a son and was executed on false charges of incest and adultery on 19 May 1536. Anne's marriage to the King was declared null and void, and Elizabeth, like her half-sister, Mary, was declared illegitimate and deprived of her place in the line of succession.

The next eight years of Elizabeth's life saw a quick succession of stepmothers. There was Jane Seymour who died giving birth to the King's longed for son, Edward and Anne of Cleves who was divorced, Catherine Howard who was beheaded; and finally Catherine Parr. For generations, historians have debated whether the constant bride changing of her father was responsible for Elizabeth's apparent refusal to marry. It is certainly possible that the tragic fates of Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard impressed upon her a certain fear of marriage, but there may have been other reasons for the Queen's single state, such as a fear of childbirth, which claimed the lives of a significant number of women in this period. Even if the Queen had no personal reservations about marriage, there were political problems with almost every contender for her hand. Religion was a major divisive issue, and there was also the problem of whether Elizabeth would have to relinquish any of her royal powers to a husband in an age when the political sphere was exclusively male.

As a child, Elizabeth was given a very impressive education. It had become popular amongst the nobility to educate daughters as well as sons and Elizabeth excelled at her studies. She was taught by famous scholars such as William Grindal and Roger Ascham, and from an early age it was clear that she was

remarkably gifted. She had an especial flare for languages, and by adulthood, she could reputedly speak five languages fluently.

2.4.2 Elizabethan Family Life

Elizabethan family life was very tight. Many of the major elements of Elizabethan family life were determined by whether the family was poor and belonging to the lower classes or whether the family was wealthy. The main exception to this was religion, whether rich or poor, young or old, everyone in the family was expected to attend a Protestant Church Service every Sunday. Elizabethan family life was determined by the many laws of the land which dictated not only religion but also the types of clothes members of the family were allowed to wear.

2.4.3 Elizabethan Family Life for Women

The Elizabethan family life for women was dominated by the men in the family. Elizabethan women were seen as inferior to men. They were subservient to the men in the family all of their lives and expected to obey the men in all aspects of their life. Disobedience was seen as a crime against their religion. Marriages were arranged to suit the family.

Education in Elizabethan era was only deemed necessary for boys to attend schools or Universities. Girls were not allowed in such places of education. Only the most wealthy families allowed their daughters to be taught at home. The Protestant Anglican Church and its teachings were an important part of the school curriculum.

Elizabethan engagement and marriage customs were an important feature of Elizabethan family life. Elizabethan women were expected to marry to increase the wealth and position of the family and then to produce children preferably male

heirs. Elizabethan women were expected to bring a dowry to the marriage. A dowry was an amount of money, goods, and property that the bride would bring to the marriage.

Elizabethan women were expected to marry to increase the wealth and position of the family and then to produce children preferably male heirs. There were no careers for women and women and there were no schools for girls, so the majority were illiterate. Family and home life depended on the skills of the women in relation to good house keeping and the health of the family was determined by the ability of Elizabethan women to produce medicines from the herbs available to them.

2.5 Review of Previous Study

After doing some research, the researcher has read many research. First, Khodijah with thesis entitled “*An Analysis on Equality of Rights and Positions of Men and Women Reflected in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s The Hound of the Baskerville*”. Her research focused on the detail descriptions about women’s right and positions reflected by female characters in the novel such as women’s right in speaking, women’s right in social affairs, and women’s right in making decision.

Second, Rahmah the student of The State University of Malang 2006, with entitled “*The Hidden Feminism of Cleopatra in William Shakespeare’s Anthony and Cleopatra*”, that focused on the patriarchal Rome oppression to Cleopatra. Cleopatra struggle to faces the patriarchal Rome, and victories in facing the patriarchal Rome.

Third, Maulaini with thesis entitled *A Character Anaysis of Cleopatra Based on The Existentialist Theory*, a paper the departement of english letters,

faculty of adab and humanities, Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University Jakarta, S1 Degree, 2006. However, the researcher analysis character of Cleopatra by using existentialist feminism and using descriptive qualitative analysis as the method.