

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY RESEARCH

3.1 Research Design

This research used qualitative descriptive research. According to Marshall and Rossman (2016), qualitative research is a comprehensive method for studying social issues. Moreover, Creswell and Creswell (2018) stated that qualitative research is a way of discovering and examining the meaning associated with a person or group in society or human problems. In addition, this research focuses on providing a broad understanding of feminist issues, to fight for women's rights. Furthermore, this research used qualitative methods because the data entered into the analysis and presentation of the results in descriptive form. Thus, this study examined and analysed data continuously until there was no more data that needed to be researched, and it also used words to describe the data obtained from data sources.

3.2 Object of the Research

The purpose of this study is to find out the struggles and obstacles faced by women to achieve the existence of female characters in Alcott's novel. Not only for the main character, which is Jo, but also for the other female characters mentioned in the novel, which are Meg, Beth, Amy, and Marmee. Moreover, the feminist theory developed by de Beauvoir (1956) was applied in this research as the main theory. Then, the main data source for this research was the novel "Little Women." The novel was originally published in two volumes, the first volume entitled "Little Women" (1868) and the second volume entitled "Good Wives" (1869). However,

in 1880, these two volumes were combined into one volume with the title "Little Women" and have been widely published by various publishers. Therefore, the data source for this research is a combination of two volumes published by Barnes & Noble Classic in 2004.

3.3 Method of Collecting Data

Data collection is significant since it allows for the gathering of information in accordance with the theory used in this study. This study used library research by Ratna (2015) to collect the data. In order to portray the whole data necessary, library research is done in connection with items in the form of particular works (Ratna, 2015). In addition, library research utilizes data source techniques from both primary and secondary data sources. Therefore, "Little Women" by Louisa M. Alcott is the primary data source for this research. Then, secondary data sources, including books, journal articles, or any article related to feminist issues, were used to support this writing.

There are three steps for acquiring data for this study. First, the researcher read the primary data source. Second, understanding the issues of women's struggles and obstacles that the characters faced to achieve their existence. Third, collect the data by underlining relevant utterances that reflect the characters' portrayals of feminist issues.

3.4 Method of Analyzing Data

Following data collection, the method for analysing the data was the descriptive analysis method. As stated by Ratna (2015), the descriptive analysis method was used in analysing the data via understanding and explanation and in

accordance with the theory used. Then, these are the steps for analysing the data. First, this research began by selecting and examining the novel's intrinsic elements, such as plot, characters, settings, point of view, and themes in "Little Women" (2004). Second, the researcher applied the theory of existentialist feminism by de Beauvoir (1956) to examine the extrinsic elements, which are the struggles and obstacles that female character's face in the novel. Third, the results are displayed in the form of utterances related to women's struggles and obstacles to achieving their existence.

3.5 Method of Presenting Research Result

After the data have been analysed, the presentation of the findings takes the form of a descriptive. According to Creswell and Creswell (2018), rather than a scientific report, the results are presented in a descriptive format. The data was analysed into two objects: women's struggle and obstacles to achieving existence from the utterances of the characters. Since the outcomes of the data related to the issues of feminism were gathered and examined using the theory utilized in this study, the result is in the form of sentences and paragraphs that explain and characterize the data of women's struggles and obstacles to achieving their existence. Moreover, the reader can understand the analysis of the topic or issue being discussed in relation to this research more easily due to the use of qualitative descriptive research.