

## **CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

In this chapter the researcher was presenting the theory based on the expert in this research, this chapter divided into a few subchapters, namely an explanation of the feminist theory, types of violences, woman struggles several previous research related to the approach, and a theoretical framework.

### **2.1 Feminist Approach in Literature**

Feminism, which means "female," has Latin roots. This phrase first appeared in the 1890s to describe the campaign for women's rights and the philosophy of gender equality. According to Gunny (2014), feminism is a way of thinking broadly about society, interpersonal relationships, and humanity that was created with the goal of making the world "a better place for women." The freedom of women from oppression, power, hegemony, injustice, and violence, according to Tong (2009), is the true definition of feminism. Though feminism can be understood in a variety of ways, at its core, feminists are a movement that fights for women's rights and against gender injustice in both society and the individual.

Since the 17th century, a number of feminist movements have arisen, including postmodern and existentialist feminism, liberal and radical feminism, Marxist and Socialist feminism, psychoanalytic feminism, postcolonial feminism, and ecofeminism (Tong, 2009). In this study, existentialist feminism was examined by employing Simone Beauvoir's (2010) existential idea of women. In her book *The Second Sex*,

published in 2010, Beauvoir categorized women's existence into three categories: intellectual development, the freedom to be oneself, and the freedom to actualize oneself.

One of the factors contributing to violence against women is the ingrained patriarchal culture in society. According to Beauvoir (2010), men are referred to as "the self" and women as "others." Beauvoir's assertion demonstrated how the patriarchal mindset views men as superior and women as inferior, which is why women frequently experience various forms of abuse from men. Using the notion of triangular violence proposed by Johan Galtung (2013) in his book *Pioneer of Peace Research*, the issue of the types of violence faced by women in this research was addressed. Direct violence, structural violence, and cultural violence were the three categories into which he categorized the different types of violence.

### **2.1.1 Types of Violences**

The three types of violences based on Johan Galtung (2013) book “*Pioneer of Peace Research*”.

#### **2.1.1.1 Direct Violence**

Direct violence is one of the three categories of violence that Galtung distinguished. One type of violence against women is direct violence, which is done directly. Thus, it is possible to define direct violence against women as a type of physical abuse. Gender-based violence, such as rape or sexual assault, maltreatment, and kidnapping, was identified by (Galtung 2013, p. 180) as a form of direct violence.

His work as a researcher and peacemaker led him to recognize that men are primarily responsible for the majority of direct violence, which disproportionately targets women. Both household and public environments can be the victim of direct violence against women.

#### **2.1.1.2 Structural Violence**

The crime of structural violence affects the mind and spirit as well as the physical body of the victim. In other words, structural violence is when there is no justice in a system, leaving people unable to achieve their basic requirements. Psychiatric problems, depression, and other negative emotions are all effects of structural violence (Galtung, 2013, p. 38).

#### **2.1.1.3 Cultural Violence**

According to (Galtung 2013, p. 59), cultural violence incorporates elements of both religion and culture. Victims of cultural violence frequently are not aware of the harm they are experiencing. Cultural violence frequently regards justice, legitimacy, and even duties which must be accomplished. Instead, victims of violence frequently defend it. For instance, the patriarchal cultural dominance of women can be seen in the wearing of short shorts, swimsuits, as well as other provocative attire. Women believe they are turning themselves into objects of men's libido by dressing in these items.

Through male sexual fantasies, women enjoy themselves. Of course, some activists disagree with this, claiming that one form of expression is clothing.

Humans are given the power to manage their own behavior and to select how they live from the moment they are born. According to the existentialist viewpoint, everything has its roots in human existence. Thus, it can be inferred that existentialism holds people in high regard and maintains that the reason for its own existence is that only those individuals who are conscious of themselves and are able to position themselves within a context may exist.

According to (Beauvoir 2010, p. 310), the fact that women are not seen as equals to men in society is the root of female oppression. Men are viewed as subjects in the culture, but women are only seen as objects (other). She went on to say that the process began with biological reality roles, hormonal problems, deterioration of the female organs, etc that were paired with patriarchy background to drive women towards domestic and reproductive responsibilities without their understanding, defining them as unconscious beings. In her book *The Second Sex*, published in 2010, Beauvoir proposed a theory of woman existentialism. According to Beauvoir (2010), women must be free to actualize themselves intellectually, authentically, and independently in order to realize existence.

### **2.1.2 Women Struggles**

The battle of women is an endeavour against the tyranny of men as powerful individuals. As (Beauvoir 2010, p. 54) noted in the above sentence, women in this situation are others. Beauvoir raises women's understanding of their right to live freely and make their own decisions about their future without assistance or guidance from others through existentialist and feminism. Beauvoir advocates for women to be authentic. In order for women could have the same rights as men and to exist as people, they must be allowed to express freely in all ways. Additionally, Beauvoir classified the existence of women into three categories: intellectual development, the freedom to be oneself, and the ability of women to achieve their potential.

#### **2.1.2.1 The Intellectual of Women**

According to (Beauvoir 2010, p. 565), women need to be intellectual to succeed in life. She said that if women are conscious of their independence, they can choose their own lifestyle and become independent of men. Women do not have to be concerned about their abilities or biological limits in order to be intellectual. The ability of women to reject serving as objects for males is crucial.

According to (Beauvoir 2010, p. 818), intellectual women are those who are aware of their own consciousness and who see themselves as subjects rather than objects. Since they may not want to fail, intelligent

ladies give everything a stronger effort. Additionally, educated women are uncomfortable and angered by their modesty, (Beauvoir, 2004, p. 819) said, and they desire to exact retribution by experimenting with masculine weaponry. Women who are intellectual speak up and not simply listen; they also display their opinions and struggle against men. To achieve triumph and freedom, they make every effort to outperform men.

#### **2.1.2.2 Being herself**

Women who are empowered to make decisions according to desires of their own can be true to who they are. These women are who they are and don't have to pretend to be someone else. Women who are aware of their independence would be able to choose their own lifestyles without external pressure. (Beauvoir 2010, p. 827).

#### **2.1.2.3 Freedom to live out their potential**

Women can fully fulfil themselves once they understand their freedom. The action performed by women to realize themselves is based on the actual experiences they have had to achieve self-liberation. Women who actually become who they are those who reject being reduced to objects by men. According to Beauvoir (2010, p. 310), men are referred to as "the self" and women as "others." The comment made by Beauvoir demonstrates how the patriarchal paradigm views men as superior and women as inferior, which is one of the ways in which

women are oppressed. Women must therefore actualize themselves in order to come into being in order to achieve freedom from oppression.

## **2.2 Previous Research**

The first previous research was by Septiaji et al. (2020) entitled "Women's Life In Indonesian Contemporary Short Stories: A Study of Transformative Ecofeminism". The researcher was research about how the lives of women experience various cases, such as discrimination, natural exploitation, and gender stereotypes, which are depicted in several short stories. The data in this research are contemporary short stories from Indonesia Kompas from 2010-2015. The theory used in the study is Tong's Ecofeminism theory. The research equation of Septiaji et al. (2020) with this research is an approach that both uses a feminist approach, research methods that use qualitative and look at how discrimination and gender stereotypes exist in a literary work. Meanwhile, the difference in research by Septiaji et al. (2020) is in the use of theory where Septiaji et al. (2020) uses Ecofeminism, while the research that be carried out use Beauvoir's Second Sex theory; this is because the data shows severe cases, such as harassment, rape and forced marriage.

The second previous study is research by Putri & Saktiningrum (2021) entitled "Symbolic Annihilation Terhadap Eksistensi Perempuan Dalam Serial Bridgerton". The research was research about discrimination in the form of symbolic annihilation in three female characters from the Bridgerton series. This research uses Gaye Tuchman's concept of symbolic annihilation and Beauvoir's existentialist feminist theory. The

similarity between Putri & Saktiningrum (2021) research and this research is the research theory, namely that they both use Beauvoir's theory and research methods that both use qualitative research. Meanwhile, what makes previous research different from this research is that previous research used symbolic annihilation, and the research that carried out focus on Beauvoir's theory, which explains intellectual development, the freedom to be oneself, and the ability of women to achieve their potential. Another difference is the data source used. In Saktiningrum's (2021) study, the researcher was taken from the Bridgerton series, while this researcher used data sourced from the novel "The Color Purple" by Alice Walker.

The third research used as previous studies is research by Suhadi et al. (2023) entitled "Existential Feminism in Andrea Hirata's Novel Padang Bulan and Cinta Di Dalam Gelas". The researcher was research about how the traditional paradigm makes women become cultural products where their independence is limited. This research uses a feminist approach and qualitative research methods, which make this research the same as the research to be conducted. However, the difference between the research of Suhadi et al. (2023) and this research is also huge; this is in the data used. The data used in the research of Suhadi et al. (2023) is a novel Padang Bulan and Cinta Di Dalam Gelas that shows a woman who is capable of working, intellectually, and responsibly. Meanwhile, the research that be conducted has deeper conflicts, especially among women who are considered "the second sex" where they are victims of sexual



harassment, rape, and forced marriage. Therefore, this research analyze more deeply how women struggle as depicted in the novel “The Color Purple”.

The fourth research is from Sampe (2022) entitled "Rejection against the Patriarchal Society in Stephen Chbosky and Evan Spiliotopoulos “Beauty and The Beast". Sampe’s (2022) was analysed of the characters in the film Beauty and The Beast demonstrate era liberal feminism by using feminist criticism.. The similarity between Sampe's (2022) research and the research to be conducted is in using Beauvoir's feminist criticism. The difference between Sampe's research (2022) and the research to be conducted is in the method used, the focus to be conveyed, and the data. The research method used in previous research was library research, while this research use qualitative research. The focus and data used are different because Sampe (2022) focuses more on how the character of Belle rejects social construction, which makes her reflect the values of liberal feminism. Meanwhile, this research focus on the struggle felt by the main character in the novel “The Color Purple”.

The fifth research is from Mubarokati (2022), entitled "Potret Perjuangan Perempuan oleh Isra Hadid dan Deya Ra'ad dalam A Woman is No Man by Etaf Rum." The researcher was raising the issue about how Isra Hadid and Deya Ra'ad struggle to stop the gender hierarchy that exists in their family, which is always based on religion. This research uses feminist theory, but the focus of feminism used is different, where Mubarokati (2022) uses Islamic feminism by Wadud, while this research use Feminist theory from Beauvoir. Another difference is that Mubarokati's research uses the

Narratology research method, while the research method used in this research is qualitative. The final difference is that Mubarokai's (2022) research focuses on how discrimination persists, whereas this research focus more on explaining the struggles experienced by the main character in the novel "The Color Purple".

The sixth research for previous studies is by Dasgupta (2022), entitled "The Color Purple": Reflections on The Second Sex and Gender Issues". The research was analyzed how women are under pressure, dominated by men, how the author describes the character's liberation, and how the author represents 'Black Lesbian'. The similarity between this research and previous research lies in the theory used, namely using The Second Sex by Beauvoir and research data from the novel The Color Purple by Alice Walker. However, there is also a significant difference between Dasgupta (2022) research and this research, namely in the focus that is intended to be shown. Dasgupta's research (2022) has much focus but still needs to focus on the struggles experienced by the female characters in the novel. For this reason, this research focus more and critically analyze the struggle against violence in the female characters in the novel "The Color Purple".

The last research used as previous studies in this research is Keerthana (2021) research entitled "Gender, Class, and Racism in Alice Walker's "The Color Purple." The researcher analyzed how Alice Walker shows her characteristics in discussing racism, sexism, marriage, and so on. The similarities between Keerthana's (2021) research and this research are in the data used and the discussion of gender. However,

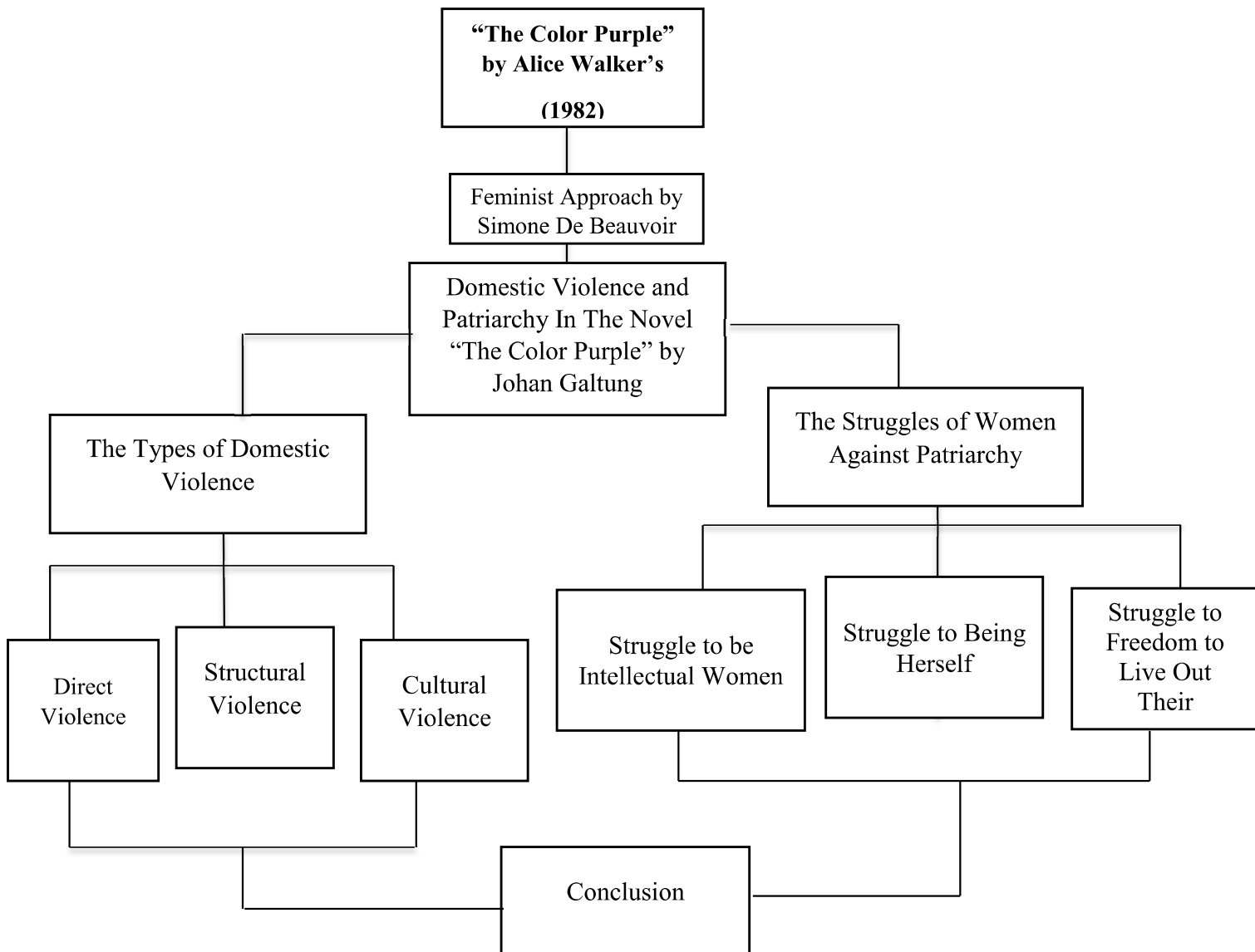
what is different between previous research and this research is that the previous research investigated major themes, whereas this research analyze it by focusing on one problem, namely women's struggle, using Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* theory.

Although these study and several journals mentioned have similarities with this research in terms of approach, research methods, theory, and data, there are differences between previous research and this research. Previous research explored topics such as the social construction of rejection and discrimination, whereas this research digs deeper into the struggles women experience. The struggle for freedom in "*The Color Purple*" by Alice Walker's against the building of domesticity was the main emphasis of this investigation. In order to address the issue of women's adversity depicted in the story, Simone de Beauvoir's (2010) theory of existentialism related to women's life was used. Johan Galtung's (2013) triangular violence theory was applied to resolve issues regarding the type of violence the main characters in the book experienced.

#### **2.4 Theoretical Framework**

The main source of research data for this study was the 1982 book "*The Color Purple*". The researcher discovered the phenomena connected to the feminism thesis after reading the book. Based on the feminism phenomenon, the researcher employed Simone de Beauvoir's (2010) theory of women's existence to examine the main character's battles for woman struggles against the violences. Galtung's (2013) idea of triangle violence looked at three different sorts of violence against women: direct,

cultural, and structural. Based on the justifications provided, the researcher in this study examined the fight for struggles against the building of domesticity in Alice Walker's novel "The Color Purple": A Feminist Approach.



**Figure 2.4 Theoretical Framework**