WOMEN STRUGGLES TO FIGHT SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN BOLIVIA PORTRAYED IN “WOMEN TALKING”BY MIRIAM TOEWS: FEMINIST APPROACH

THESIS

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FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITY PUTERA BATAM
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Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra

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APPROACH

Is the real work of myself and I realize that thesis has never been published in other
media before, partially or entirely, in the name of mine or others.

Batam, January 21st, 2021

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Batam, March 6th, 2021

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ABSTRAK


Keywords: Feminisme, penindasan perempuan, pelecehan seksual, perjuangan perempuan.
ABSTRACT

This study discussed women’s struggles against sexual harassment in the novel “women talking” by Miriam Tows (2018), which aimed to find out the kinds of oppression experienced by women and their struggles in dealing with all kinds of problems in the novel. This research used a qualitative descriptive method and it was focused on a feminist approach according to Rosemarie Tong’s theory (2013). Researchers used notes and pens as research instruments to find data in the novel. The characters the story were August Epp, Ona friesen, Mejal Loewen, Greta Loewen, Maritche Loewen, Salome Friesen, Agata Friesen and Peters the Bishop. The results of the study found three main oppressions experienced by women in the novel, which were the absence of respect for women's existence, unfair treatment toward them and all oppression in the form of coercion. As a result of this oppression, women in the colony had to go through a lot of struggles to solve all their problems such as holding secret meetings in the hayloft and their difficulties in how to choose the decision whether to stay in the colony or leave. The study produced 11 data on women’s oppression and 12 data on women’s struggles. The data were collected in the form of sentences and dialogues that occurred in the novel. In this study, there were two things that cause women’s oppression and women’s struggles. The first was harassment by authoritarian men and the second was the intellectual weakness of the women in the colony of Molotschna.

Keywords: Feminism, women’s oppression, sexual harassment, women’s struggles.
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1.1 Background of The Research

Women are always interesting to be discussed. There are always lots of things to talk about Women. The interesting thing about them is not just a matter of beauty or tenderness, but also about how their existence in society. Society is a group of people where women and men interacting each other and live in the same place. In the interacting process, men and women experience different treatments. Unfortunately, women experience more undue treatment that has even been experienced from thousands of years ago until now. For example, injustice, violence, rape, abuse, etc. The cruelest act experienced by all women in the world is women’s violence (Bere & Arianto, 2019).

In general opinion everyone says that men are portrayed as being strong and able to take care of themselves which is why men are called leaders. On the contrary women are referred as weak human beings and that is why they are the followers of the leaders. Patriarchal construction also says that men are superior to women. Women were merely objects from time by the time because the influenced of the rules of social life that bind the society itself, (Bere & Arianto 2019). From this it is clear that society gives a biased view to men and in other words, society constructs unfair opinions between women and men. This unfair opinion triggers an unfair treatment of women. For example is how women are treated unfairly in a family. Subordination is a mindset that places women in a lower position than men even in many families. For example, women are more restrained than men, especially when it comes to time when they are out of home. Women tend to be more restricted from leaving the house, citing fear of unwanted things happening, such as rape, etc.
Women's freedom is limited because of such thinking. Another example is in the case of getting out of bed in the morning. Women who like to wake up in the afternoon will be judged and frightened that it will be difficult to get a mate if you wake up too early in the morning. As with men, there tends to be no problem for those who like to wake up during the day. Especially when are unemployed or also on holidays. In case getting a mate or married, age is a scary thing for Indonesian women in terms of marriage. Those who are in their 30’s will usually be labeled as spinsters and there will be a lot of negative stigma that arises from society when there is a woman who is in that phase. Examples such as, said to be too picky, too arrogant, not attractive, etc. Another case with men, when a man in his 30s is not married, usually people will think that indeed he is building a career for his future success.

After getting unfair treatment from the society, women still have to go through difficulties in proving their existence, for instance the burdens of a married woman. The purpose of marriage is to unite two families with a view to harmonizing the friendship of two clans. A woman when she becomes a wife is not only responsible for being a good wife for her husband, but also for her husband's entire family. In most traditions in Indonesia, a wife must be able to uphold the dignity of her family and the family of the husband she marries. If not, a variety of conflicts will arise in the form of a judgmental attitude received by a woman from her family or from her husband's family.

According to Puspita (2018) women meant by gender struggle is the effort made in the fight against gender inequality. Women are depicted as weak, irrational, and less daring, and so unsuitable to lead. And it made women felt unfair treatment because all gender could do everything without any difficulties. If we see further about the examples of what society does toward women, let us see the same thing that exists in literary works. The struggle begins with the powerlessness of humans in reaching their goals. This helplessness may not be due to our inability. The society does something that causing people through the struggle. For example the novel by
Miriam Toews (2018), entitled “Women Talking”. The helplessness of women can be seen clearly in this novel. The overall story is about suffered women in the fictional Mennonite colony of Molotschna where nearly have been raped. To fight the sexual harassment, they hold a meeting in the hayloft. The meeting purposes to decide what they are going to do because every time they report to Bishop and elderly in the colony about what they have experienced, no one will believe it. They even will judge the women lying and only dreaming. It is like their society does not admit their existence. As the librarian who met one of the main characters, August Epp said “almost as though you were brought into existence not to exist” (Toews, 2018, P.10). This represents the situation of women at that time when their existence is simply not considered.

Human beings have higher value than animals. This value makes the existence of human beings including women should be more priceless. Even if human beings are not anymore exist in the world (die), their existence should always be in another ones. But in a situation where humans are still alive, but their existence is worthless, will they be classified as animals? Perhaps doubts about her worth or not are experienced by the women in this novel, as Greta stated in the meeting “we have been preyed upon like animals; perhaps we should respond in kind” (Toews, 2018, P.20).

There are many things that make the women have to pass through many struggles. One of them is the impact of the war. The research which was done by Rahayu (2018) from University of Sumatera Utara entitled “An Analysis of Woman Struggle in Louisa May Alcott’s Novel Little Women” aimed to know woman struggle portrayed in Louisa May Alcott’s novel “Little Women” experienced by Josephine March as the main character. By using feminist approach her research concluded that Woman struggle that portrayed in Louisa May Alcott’s novel little women occurred due to the ongoing war that required men to take part in the war. The women who were left behind had to fend for themselves to faced poverty due to the economic crisis to survive without dependence on men. Woman struggle portrayed by how the
characters in novel little women should face the existence of social classes and also gender inequality in the lives of their people which is difficult and disturbing in their daily lives.

Nasution (2019) stated in her article entitled “The struggle of gender equality in five novels of nh. Dini” patriarchal culture and the fight for gender equality as exposed in Nh. Dini’s novels. There are still many women who are trapped in domestic sector and loose their rightsto manage their own lives with their own way. Her research aimed to explores the problems of women, patriarchal culture and the fight for gender equality as exposed in Nh. Dini’s novels. By using the feminist analysis, her research concluded the fight for gender equality that revealed in five novels are in agreement with the thought of feminism ideology, among others is the fight to get education and job.

Based on the two literature review that researcher has described above, there are some similarity and difference between previous and present research. The previous and the present research used feminism as the approach. Meanwhile, the difference between the previous and the present research is about the problem of the research and the aim of the research.

Based on all the explanation above, the researcher is interested to analyze the “Women Talking” novel through the characters contained in the novel. All of the characters are women who have a level of patience in fighting a very cruel thing in their life. The focus of feminism research from the “women talking” novel is to examine the struggle that faced by all women in the novel, how they struggle and cares each other’s. Express the important values of individual women and the experiences they shared together and the struggles they carried out. Feminism movement is a movement of struggle in the framework of transforming an unjust social system and structure towards justice for men and women. Therefore, feminism requires women's independence, not only depending on men.
1.2 Identification of The Problem

1. The unfair treatment toward men and women as seen in “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews.
2. The women’s struggles to fight sexual harassment in “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews.
3. The women’s oppression portrayed in the novel “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews.

1.3 Limitation of The Problem

In line with the identification of the problems, focuses of the research are:

2. The women’s struggles to fight sexual harassment in “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews.

1.4 Formulation of The Problem

1. What are the women’s oppressions portrayed in the novel “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews?
2. What are the women’s struggles to fight sexual harassment in “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews?

1.5 Objectives of The Research

According to the problem that researcher has stated above. This research has two objectives as follow:

1. To find out the women’s oppressions portrayed in the novel “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews.
2. To find out the women’s struggles to fight sexual harassment in “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews.

1.6 Significances of The Research

Significances of the research are the purpose of this research. These purposes are divided by two parts. They are theoretical and practical significances.

1.6.1 Theoretical Significance

Based on objectives of the researcher mentioned, this research is expected to have benefit to the reader, such as:
1. This researcher will give further information to learning, especially in the woman struggle that faced by Ona and the other women and role of women usage in the novel.
2. This research will help to enhance our knowledge, insight, and experience as well as in application of materials science research. Especially in the language study.

1.6.2. Practical Significance

Practically, this research is expected to be useful for the following parties. First, this research can be implemented in studying English language in literature field. Second, this researcher is expected to give more practical contribution for the research in describing the phenomenon of feminism found in the novel “Women talking”. The researcher also expects this research can be continued in conducting another feminism topic.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

Feminism: A movement for granting women political, social and economic equality with men
Women’s oppression: The inequitable use of authority, law, or physical force to prevent others from being free or equal.

Struggle: A social or professional position, condition, or standing to which varying degrees of responsibility, privilege, and esteem.

Sexual Harassment: Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature.
2.1 Feminist Approach

Feminism was derived from the word feminist femme (woman), means that women who aim to fight for the rights of women as a social class (Tong, 2013). The purpose is to balance feminist and gender interrelations. In a broader sense, the feminist movement of women is to reject everything that is marginalized, subordinated and demeaned by the dominant culture, both in politics and economics as well as social life. The main factor that causes movement feminism is the number of societies that underestimate women (Juliani, 2018). This underestimate can be seen from many unfair treatments between women and men. Men tend to look more fortunate due to the patriarchal construction that places men as superior and women are weak creatures and always need a place to depend. In the Feminism book, feminism can be defined as: a recognition of an imbalance of power between the sexes, with woman in a subordinate role to men, a belief that woman social condition is constructed and therefore can be changed an emphasis on female autonomy (Tong, 2013).

Feminism discusses the existence of women in gender equality. This causes feminism to examine various problems by using various theories that are suitable for dealing with feminism problems. With various kinds the struggle that was carried out eventually resulted in the feminist movement born to white women in Europe. Since that time feminism began to develop many of which emerged new feminism such as radical feminism, liberal feminism, social feminism, or Marxism.
Feminist theories are caused by the injustice that occurs in women in maintaining their existence. The issue that most often appears in feminist theory itself is about women struggle. Is that why the researcher choose the feminist approach in this study because the data source the researcher chose describes a woman as the main character and things experienced by the female character in the novel are in the theory of feminism itself. So, the writer decides that the right approach for the research data source that is the “Women Talking” novel is a feminist approach.

Feminist theory not only functions as a study in literary science but also as a battering ground for better change for the fate of women around the world. This theory is not just a theory, but also as a tool for feminists to defend all the rights that a woman must have. It is also a form of resistance from patriarchal opinions that frankly harm the existence of women in realizing their dreams or in obtaining rights. Women’s rights and gender equality will never be realized if only in writing, but also feminist experts must also present it in real life. That is why feminist theory is very important to remind humanity about women existence for maintaining gender equality itself.

2.1.1 Liberal Feminism

Liberal Feminism holds that equality and freedom are centered on the rationality and autonomy of each individual. Women are rational beings who should also equal to men. Therefore they also have the right to be treated equally with men to develop their moral capacity, such as providing equal access to education, and the choice of opportunities to work or stay at home, and the same political rights as men. In liberal feminism the thing adopted is the basis of liberalism, with an emphasis on the aspect of freedom. In liberal feminism a thought emerges which affirms that all human beings, both men and women are created equal, balanced, equal, and must not experience oppression.

According to Tong (2013) in her book "feminist thought" liberal feminist trying to free women from gender roles, namely from roles that are used as reasons to
give a lower place, or not to provide a place at all for women, especially in equal education, equal liberty, equal right, and the suffrage.

1. Equal Education

Mary Wollstonecraft as stated in the book “feminist thought” claimed that a woman should not be considered a "male toy." In other words, a woman is not created just for men's pleasure, but a woman has the right to self-determination. In his life women have the right to get an education equal to that of men. So that men should not regard women as meaningless. When the men are educated in courage, simplicity, justice and fortitude, women are educated in virtues such as patience, obedience, good humor, polite, and flexibility. It shows that women are considered to have to take refuge in men who are considered brave. And women must also obey male orders, and be able to be their entertainers (Tong, 2013).

2. Equal Liberty

Everyone has the right to be treated fairly. Everyone has the right to express their opinion or express their freedom in society. As long as the expression of that freedom is not detrimental to others and is not negative, anyone should have the right to voice their rights in equal freedom. In this situation, equal economic, social and politic rights are the main topic in this era. Wollstonecraft as cited in “feminist thought” book said that if society wants to achieve sexual equality or gender justice then society must give women the same opportunities in economic, social and political rights as men. (Tong, 2013)

3. Equal Rights

The equal education, liberty and rights are important things to human’s life, especially for women. The equal rights for the women in the world need to be maintained. For nearly forty years after the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, feminists went about their work relatively quietly in the United States. Then, around 1960, a rebellious generation of feminists loudly proclaimed as fact what the suffragists Stanton and Anthony had always suspected: In order to be fully liberated,
women need economic opportunities and sexual freedoms as well as civil liberties. John Stuart Mill and Harriet Taylor Mill in the book “feminist thought” affirmed the existence of women's suffrage to be equal for men. Not only have the right to express their own political views but they also have the right to fight something that is considered to limit their freedom in their lives, and they also have the right to abolish slavery (Tong, 2013).

2.1.2 Radical Feminism

Radical feminism is a feminist perspective that removes all forms of male supremacy to make radical changes in society in the economic and social context. This feminism also wants to eliminate patriarchy by opposing the institutions and also the social norms that apply through the political process. Radical feminism focuses on a set of ideas and thoughts about the struggle that separates women's rights and demands the equal position of women and men in the social order. Some examples are opposing traditional gender roles, resisting the sexual objectification of women, and raising public awareness about issues such as rape and violence against women. (Tong, 2013)

2.1.3 Marxist and Socialist Feminism

Marxist views about the problem of women in the framework of criticism of capitalism. In this assumption it is argued that the method of production and class exploitation are sources of oppression for women. marxist and socialist feminism views the existence of capitalism as an injustice for women, with various losses to be borne. In addition, there is an assumption that men will be dominant in controlling production implementation programs so that they will have a much higher position. Men control production, whereas women are considered to be part of property, or women are considered as workers.(Tong, 2013)
2.2 Women’s oppressions

Oppression is the unjust utilize of specialist, law, or physical constrain to avoid others from being free or equal (Barret, 2011). Oppression could be a sort of bad form. The verb oppress can cruel to keep somebody down in a social sense, such as an authoritarian government might do in an oppressive society. It can also mean to mentally burden someone, such as with the psychological weight of an oppressive idea. Women’s oppression is directly attributable to the organization of specifically capitalist relations of production is apparently a strong one (Langan, 2002). The Marxist feminists who decided that women’s sex class as well as economic class plays a role in women’s oppression began to refer to themselves as socialist feminists or materialist feminists (Tong, 2013). One of the initial goals of this evolving group of feminist theorists was to develop a theory powerful enough to explain the complex ways in which capitalism and patriarchy allied to oppress women. The result of this effort were (1) two-system explanations of women’s oppression and (2) interactive-system explanations of women’s oppression.

1. Two-system explanations of women’s oppression

Two-system explanations of women’s oppression typically combine a Marxist feminist account of class power with a radical feminist account of sex power. These explanations claim that, at root, women have more to fear from capitalist forces than from patriarchal forces.

2. Interactive system explanations of women’s oppression

This tended to identify either class or sex as the primary source of women’s oppression, interactive-system explanations strove to present capitalism and patriarchy as two equal partners colluding in a variety of ways to oppress women.

Feminists fight against the oppression of women. Women have been unjustly held back from achieving full equality for much of human history in many societies around the world. Feminist theorists of the 1960s and 1970s looked for new ways to analyze this oppression, often concluding that there were both overt and insidious forces in society that oppressed women. Nowadays, women’s oppression increasingly
spread to various aspects of women's lives. Brenton (2016) stated male power and women's oppression are quite clearly related. The patriarchal construction considers men to be higher than women causing there is an authoritarian attitude that is done by men to women. Self-abuse is one of the causes for women to experience oppression. Power is used to render a person helpless and that feeling of helplessness will slowly oppress a person. Oppression leads to psychic instability. One of those instabilities is the person who is being oppressed has to deal with many struggles. Bland & Assault (2011) stated members of an oppressed group who are experiencing interpersonal injustice might be in on phase feel afraid to report the oppression they experience based on the reasons below:

1. Some members of oppressed groups may be reluctant to report violence because of their community’s negative experience with police
2. People with immigrant status may avoid seeking help for fear of being deported, especially if they disclose illegal immigration status
3. Language barriers can increase isolation, making it more difficult to get help
4. Some victims of violence are reluctant to leave because of the disruption this would cause to family or community ties.

Of all the things related to women's oppression, it is clear that any form of expression, especially experienced by women, must be one of the thoughts of feminists in fighting for equal justice between men and women. All misconceptions about women and all unfair treatment from society, especially regarding oppression, should have been eradicated from a long time ago. Misconceptions about women, which come from the past, should be renewed and made clear about equal rights between men and women.

2.3 Women’s Struggles

Struggles is social or professional position, condition, or standing to which varying degrees of responsibility, privilege, and esteem (Juliani, 2018). According to Wilany (2017) women struggled if they could not get their rights. The rights here are
rights that must be equal and get all kinds of men that society gives them, such as fair
treatment, not belittling someone based on gender, etc. Unfortunately, of all the
justice that women want, there are still many that have not been realized by society.
Because there is no realization of this justice, women have to go through all kinds of
struggles for justice for themselves. Women fight for their rights in society. This right
is the effort mean as a woman in order to defend their rights and dignity of women
who are oppressed due to arbitrary injustice of considerable cultural flourishing in
society. They must have efforts in achieving a good thing as the key to success. Tong
(2013) stated the following are some things that women do not get their rights
associated with the life we live as follows:

1) A right to get the joy of life.
2) Struggle in their daily lives.
3) Rights to get family income from husband.
4) Rights to be loved and treated properly.
5) The last is a right to be protected.

Many things head to cause the women face many struggles, such as struggles
to fight for equal rights or struggles to fight sexual harassment. Human’s rights
provide the groundwork for analyzing women’s rights issues and a society’s
willingness to accept or reject them. It also evokes the question of how women as a
disenfranchised group may organize themselves to fight for their rights
(Asante, 2006). Losing rights for women which results in them having to go through
various struggles. Women who are seen as weak creatures are even required to
always go through the struggles in their lives. Continuously developing from all of
that, women who remain strong and brave creatures and still stand on their own feet
in all their problems.
2.4 The Sexual Harassment

Under capitalism as it exists today, women experience patriarchy as unequal wages for equal work, uncompensated domestic work, even sexual harassment. Soponyono (2019) stated sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature. De Beauvoir (2014) stated males and females are two types of individuals which are differentiated within species for the function of reproduction; they can be defined only correlatively but first it must be noted that even the division of species into two sexes is not always clear-cut. This form of obscurity is how female sexuality is forced and used as material to satisfy someone in a sexual desire. Forcing sexual desire by someone to women is one type of sexual harassment. Women do not have final or total say about when, where, how, or by whom their bodies will be used, because their bodies can be suddenly appropriated from them through acts ranging from the “male gaze” to sexual harassment to rape (Tong, 2013). In 1980, the EEOC (the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission) issued a definition of sexual harassment. The EEOC’s definition is commonly accepted and appears in most state and local laws, court decisions, and employers’ sexual harassment policies: Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, constitute sexual harassment when: submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual’s employment, submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual, or such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual’s work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment (Howard, 2008).

Howard (2008) stated sexual harassment always involves four elements. First, there must be an action, such as the actor putting his arms around the target. The action can be physical, verbal, or visual. Second, the action must be unwelcome or unwanted in the target’s view. Third, the action must be sexual or sex related and...
based on the target’s sex or gender. Fourth, there has to be a tangible economic impact on the target or a severely negative impact on the target’s work performance or work environment. There are two types of sexual harassment, quid pro quo harassment and hostile environment harassment. Most people understand quid pro quo harassment as sex in direct exchange for employment benefits. The second type of sexual harassment, hostile environment harassment, raises more questions. Hostile environment harassment happens when the actor’s unwelcome sexual behavior has one of two kinds of impact. It either interferes with the target’s work performance or creates a hostile, offensive, or threatening work environment. The behavior alters the employee’s experience of the workplace, causing the work environment to be a sexually charged, intimidating, or offensive place to be. The actor can be a supervisor or a coworker who makes persistent offensive comments or repeatedly has unnecessary physical contact of a sexual nature with the target (Howard, 2008).

Sexual harassment is despicable form of intimidation that should, when it occurs, be stopped swiftly. According to Gerdes (2009) sexual harassment is a result of unequal power relationships not gender in form of discrimination. Social and biological sex differences can cause the perception of sexual harassment. It was stated by Gerdes (2009) that relationships involve both men and women for whom physical and emotional intimacy often have different meanings because male and female nature are fundamentally different, particularly in the area surrounding sex, love, and intimacy. The scariest thing about the sexual harassment is perpetrated by individuals who are familiar to us and who have family lives similar to our own. Men who sexually harass have not been distinguishable from their colleagues who don’t harass with respect to age, marital status, faculty rank, occupation, or academic discipline. Men who harass have a tendency to do this repeatedly to many women, and men who harass hold attitudes toward women that are traditional, not egalitarian.
2.5 Novel

Novel is one of the literary works in written form. It is a long story that is divided into several chapters. Sometimes novel is the result of essay from the author or even the true story of the author's life. Based on Nurgiyantro (2010:4) suggested that the novel is a work of fiction offering a world that contains idealized life models, imaginative worlds which is built through various intrinsic elements such as events, plots, characters and characterization, background, and perspective all of which are imaginative, though all what the author realized was deliberately analogous to the real world looks like really exists and is true, this is seen in its own coherent system.

2.6 Previous Research

Based on the theory and explanation above, there are some researchers that has conducted this research also. The first research was from Sigal (2004), he revealed the impact of sexual harassment on Hong Kong Chinese women in the workplace and in college. This research used feminist theory which the findings found were Sexual harassment of other female colleagues (i.e., measure of perceived prevalence) was reported more often than incidents happening to one self. The second research was done by Santi, Rahmi, Islam, & Imam (2013), they revealed the qualitatively the values of feminism brought by Jo, the main character in the Little Women novel written by Louisa May Alcott. Data in this study were collected using documentation techniques. The data is then analyzed using a feminist approach combined with content analysis techniques. The results showed that feminist values in the Little Women novel include equality, difference, choice, care, time and experience. One of Jo's struggles is in defending her rights as a woman for the sake of equality in terms of women's nature, women's achievements and equality of opportunity to obtain higher education.

The third research was done by Asri (2014). This study aimed to describe the struggle of women's characters toward gender unfair in domestic and public sector that reflected in Indonesian's novel. The root of the problem is patriarchy system that
operated through various media in all field of life in society. In order to achieve the aims of the study, a descriptive qualitative approach with feminism literature critic is used. There are thirteen novels that are used as the source of the data. Based on the data analysis there two findings are found. First, the women’s struggle toward gender unfair in domestic sector is happen because the tradition of pingitan (seclude of marriageable girl) and force for marriage which restraint the women’s freedom especially as daughter.

The fourth research was done by Wilany (2017). This study described about feminism, a woman struggle for their rights that found in the Novel. Firdaus had to crouch, because she killed a pimp who wanted to price her, before she was on gallows. She did not feel fear of die, whereas she felt that she became a free woman without man around. She struggles for her right as woman by defending to be passive for all that accused to her. He used Paludi theory to reveal the study.

The fifth research was done by Puspita (2018). She revealed an in-depth picture and understanding of the life struggle of female characters in the novels written by Abidah El Khalieqy. A qualitative descriptive research was used with a feminist approach. The data in this research was the result of a study of the novels “Perempuan Berkalung Sorban and GeniJora by Abidah El Khalieqy”. The procedure used in analyzing research data was content analysis. The data validity analysis used the triangulation technique. Based on the results of research and discussion, it was found that the struggle to fight injustice was a struggle against 1) marginalization of women; and 2) subordination of women.

The sixth research was done by Indrapuri (2019), she revealed the dual role of women who must be smart at dividing time between family and work. This research used descriptive qualitative research. The findings of the research revealed that: 1. General description of the dual role in women, namely the role as a housewife. 2. The obstacles women feel in carrying out all their roles come from internal and external. 3. Impacts that occur in carrying out their dual roles have positive and negative
impacts. The positive impact can help families with the collaboration between mother and child in completing homework.

The seventh research was done by Bere & Arianto (2019), they discussed violence toward women and women’s resistance toward the construction of patriarchal. The research used descriptive qualitative research combined with feminist theory. The findings of the research were Delia was able to resist her husband named Sykes. Delia sought her freedom by escaping the scandal the cruel treatment of her husband. Delia’s action contradicted with patriarchal construction that women had to be submissive and respectful towards men due to the women basically were dependent on men.

From all the journals, there are similarities and differences between the present research and seventh journals. The first research has the similarity in approach which is feminist. The difference is in the data source and aim. The different from the second was the source of data which they analyzed gender and women’s right in Islam. The third is the difference from the aim which is to reveal the qualitatively the values of feminism, the similarity is from the approach which feminist. The fourth is difference from the aim which analyzed the women struggle and marriage force, the difference was from the theory which he used Pauli’s theory. The similarity from the fifth research is approach used which is feminist , the difference is from the aim which struggle to fight injustice. The seventh research is similar with the present research which is discussing about women violation. The difference is in the data source which the present research used novel and the seventh research used short story.

2.7 Theoretical Framework

In this part, the researcher will provide the theoretical framework that describe about the research outline. A theoretical framework is a collection of interrelated concepts, like a theory but not necessarily so well worked-out. A theoretical framework guides your research, determining what things you will measure, and what statistical relationships you
will look for. The theoretical framework helps the reader to read the whole research easily by seeing the picture. The below picture is the theoretical framework of this research.

The above framework concludes that this research used the “Women Talking” novel by Miriam Toews (2018) as the data source. This data then been analyzed by implying the theory of Rosemarie Tong (2013) about the feminist approach. In the novel, there were many conflicts that triggered the problem that had to be faced by the women characters in the novel. The main conflicts in the novel itself are women’s oppression, sexual harassment and women’s struggles. Women’s oppression that
experienced by the women in the novel encompasses how they lived in injustice or un-fair treatment done by the elderly and the Bishop in the colony. Additionally, they have to experience a kind of judgmental from the Bishop by judging them for no reason. This judgment made the women in the novel seemed as if they were wrong and they had to take full responsibility for all the bad things they experienced. Eventually, this judgment made the women in the women talking novel felt that they had lost trust in the men and bishops in their colony. The result of that distrust is that the women in the colony try to negotiate their own problems and try to make the best decisions about their own lives without the interference of the bishops and other men in the colony. The worst outcome of all this oppression was sexual harassment. They were raped secretly at night when they slept. Then rapists committed that kind of crimes against women by making them unconscious. Experiencing the oppression, the women in the colony had to deal with the sexual harassment case that made them had to pass through many struggles. The first struggle they had to face was how to fight the sexual harassment they experienced, how to live better and how to live with peace and happiness.
CHAPTER III

RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

Research designs are types of inquiry within qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches that provide specific direction for procedures in a research study (Cresswell, 2009). This research used qualitative descriptive design. Qualitative research itself concerned with developing explanations of social phenomenon. According to Cresswell (2009) in qualitative research, the numbers and types of approaches have also become more clearly visible during the 1990s and into the 21st century. This research called qualitative descriptive due to the result of this research will be put or written in words or sentences descriptively.

3.2 Object of Research

Object of the research is important in the research in order to get the result scientifically. The researcher must be careful in deciding the data used in this study. The object of the research are about sexual harassment and woman’s oppression and women struggles in analysis that will be applied in the novel entitled women talking by Miriam Toews. The object of the research needs the data in the novel that will be analyzed by using the feminist approach.

3.3 Method of Collecting Data

Since the main purpose of research is to get data, method of collecting data is the most strategic step in research. The method of collecting data of this research was library research method. In the library research method there are primary data and secondary data. The primary data is the novel itself and the secondary data is the
sources that taken from the journals that related to the topic of research. Cresswell (2009) stated the data collection steps include setting the boundaries for the study through sampling and recruitment, collecting information through unstructured or semi-structured observations and interviews, documents, and visual materials; as well as establishing the protocol for recording information.

3.4 Method of Analyzing Data

This research used the qualitative method. Specifically, the method used was descriptive analysis. Descriptive analysis method is done by describe the facts that are going to be analyzed. Descriptive analytical method also can be combined with formal method. Firstly the data is described, with a view to finding the elements then analyzed and even compared.

In analyzing the data, the researcher applied theory from Tong’s theory. The researcher used some steps in analyzing data. First, the researcher analyzed the intrinsic element of novel which is the elements of fiction which are Plot, Characters, Theme, Settings and Point of View of the novel “Women Talking” by Miriam Toews. The researcher then analyzed the extrinsic elements by applying the theory of women struggles, women’s oppression and sexual harassment by Rose Mary Tong theory to the novel.

3.5 Method of Presenting the Result Analysis

After doing analysis, the next step is presenting the result analysis. The researcher used qualitative descriptive method to present the research result. Qualitative research method means the research result will be presented by using words and sentences. Descriptive means the researcher will describe the result of the result descriptively by using paragraphs (Cresswell, 2009). So in the method of presenting research result, the researcher will show the data analysis by using words and sentences in the form of paragraph.