

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five prominent subchapters in introduction namely background of study, research problem, objective of the research, significant of the research and scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of the Study

In real life, human have many experiences. This experience could be pleasant and unpleasant because human need each other. It could be lesson and memory in this life that have a great impact to human personality. From the experience, human can learn most important thing in this life that matters namely love.

According to Reeve about the definition of love, “The ancient Greeks had two words corresponding to the English word "love," *erós* (verb, *eran*) and *philia* (verb, *philein*). The first refers primarily to erotic love, the sort that makes one person passionately desire another as a sexual partner. The second refers primarily to friendship, or to the sort of love we have for our parents, children, and siblings.”(Reeve, 2006: xvi). Based on understanding above, Love is a genuine feeling experienced by humans and these feelings cause affection for those who feel it. Love is also the basis of unity between humans and feelings that underlie its relationship with other beings such as animals and plants, even object or thing that human created. In another sense, love is a natural human feeling and without the presence of love, people call it a feeling of emptiness. So, love can be interpret as

an instinct that adhered one's feelings towards the person they love because human need to be in love and to be loved. Love also provides a lot of inspirations and sacrifices but sometimes it brings misery for those who feel it.

In conclusion, Mahmutcehajic states that "There is no definition about love that would make its principal known to reason. Whatever the factors defining love, they do not contribute to knowledge of it. It remains simultaneously in itself and in the self that feels it. Someone who recognize, feel and state about love agree that it is one of the things cannot be described and defined." (Mahmutcehajic, 2007: 7) According to the citation above, there are many definition of love that appears in life but there is no explanation that would make its principal acknowledged to reason because, the one who understands about love is the love itself and someone who feel it. An experience of love is important to understand the meaning of love. In human life, love appears in various things such as the love of a mother to her children.

Commonly, the first love that human experienced is motherly love. A mother's love for her child cannot be described in words. There is no single word can represent how dear and loving mother is to the child. A mother knows what the most important thing is when she has children. What is really important for mother is being with her child. Being with them is an endless cue of what is really important, love.

Love between mother and child is one of amazing feeling that human have. Mother always gives her attention to her children because her love will affect children's life. This love between mother and children could be proven through Erich Fromm theory in *The Art of Loving*.

. One of the novels that has motherly love subject is *Room* (2010) by Emma Donoghue. *Room* tells about the love of mother, who is Ma, sincerely protect and love her child. Motherly love becomes one of issues in this novel that is narrated by a 5-year-old boy, Jack, who also becomes the main character. *Room* tells a story about Jack and his mother, Ma, who are imprisoned in a room by the kidnapper and the rapist of the mother, Old Nick. Ma always protects her child from Old Nick because she knows it is dangerous for her child if Old Nick meets Jack.

The reason why this novel is very interesting to be deliberated because it depicts the life of mother and child which is so actual even under bad situation that is so cruel happen to them, it doesn't stop the mother to always protects and loves her child. Hopefully, this research may give more understanding for the reader as the lesson of life because in the novel shows how is amazing the love of a mother to her child that even can't describe it. So, Erich Fromm's theory about motherly love is suitable for this research. It is in *The Theory of Love*. The reason this theory is suitable for the data because it mainly discusses about love. The data is analyzed by the writer also concerns about motherly love. In the theory of love that proposed by Erich Fromm state form of love, which one of it is motherly love. The writer chooses theory of love by Erich Fromm because the writer wants to have more understanding about love. It inspires the writer to analyze this novel by psychology of love theory, especially motherly love in this novel. The most interesting part in this novel is that *Room*, positively celebrates this bond, where the mother, who is Ma, as a single parent raises the child, Jack with all the probable resources she has. There are so many children stories in the novel where it looks similar in some parts

with her life such as Jack and his mother in *Jack and the Beanstalk*, Alice and his mother in *Alice in Wonderland*, little mermaid and its mother in *The Little Mermaid*, Bunny and its mother in *The Runaway Bunny*. All of the children stories above has the father which is absent in the stories. Same as Ma, as a single parent, without father figure, she has to raise the child alone.

In addition, Emma Donoghue's novel entitled *Room* won numerous awards like: New York Times bestseller (Fiction, 2010), Man Booker Prize, shortlist (2010), Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize (2010), Indigo Books Heather's Pick (2010), New York Times Best Books of the Year (2010), New York Times Notable Book of the Year (Fiction & Poetry, 2010).

1.2 Research Problems

Referring to the background of the research, the issue transformed into the following questions.

1. How does the motherly love appear in the novel?
2. How are the impacts of motherly love to the child?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

1. To describe motherly love appeared in the novel.
2. To describe the impacts of motherly love to the child.

1.4 Significances of the Study

This study is expected to be able to provide theoretical and practical benefits.

Theoretically, this study is expected to make the reader understands about theory of love especially motherly love by Erich Fromm. This study may also help the students to get more inspirations in order to analyze literary work using theory of love by Erich Fromm. Then this study is supported to enrich more references and information to the student who intends to take the theory of love by Erich Fromm.

Practically, is study is also expected to help junior high students or the following researcher and society especially mother. So, this study can give better understanding to the readers about psychology.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This discusses about theory of love in Emma Donoghue's *Room* that was published in 2010. The scope of the study is motherly love that is explained by Erich Fromm. The limitations of this study are author's narration, and character utterances in novel entitled *Room* that related to the research question.