

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five parts in the introduction such as the background of the study, statement research problems, the objective of the study, significances of the study, and scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of the study

It is supposed that God created man and woman to be together. They are mean to live together to complete each other. However, nowadays everything is inverted with a phenomenon which is a couple between a man with man and woman with woman and people declared it as homosexual. The issues about homosexuals are very general conversation in society, particularly in the US that was legalizing this one, no sensitive issues again for now in this country, but for our country, this phenomenon is rather sensitive issues to talk about. Homosexuality or LGBT itself includes (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) and the existence of this community is practically everywhere to find out.

Homosexual is considered as abnormality behavior because it is against human nature where a man should be coupled with a woman. Essentially, people created to live together, between men and women to be paired as a couple and later live together to complete each other. However, in realism, some people find out that their sexual attraction is on people with the same sex.

According to Darvill and Powell (2003; 138), "Homosexuality is a sexual desire that is directed towards members of one's sex". Homosexuality has been a

common issue that was happened in this era, we can take a look again in some states in America which were legalizing a homosexual in their country and that happened in the life of American actress that some of them declared that he or she are gay or lesbian for example like Kristen Stewart and Sam Smith who proudly shows their identity to public that they are part of homosexual people gay and lesbian, and because of that the phenomenon of homosexuality recently are depicted into literary works, such as book, novels, and article, it is also found in television shows or movies to be the main conflict in the story. In Indonesia, the issue of homosexuality becomes a shocking thing with the publishing of a film entitled *Arisan* in 2003, the first Indonesian movie that conveys the issue of homosexuality.

Furthermore, homosexuality is a term to refer to an individual who has sexual desire on other people belonging to the same sex, including gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender lesbian is used to refer to homosexual females and gay itself is a term used to refer to homosexual males. Those who lived as homosexuals have their way to survive in the middle of society. An interesting topic in this research is about the choice of gay to keep away their identities from society because of their abnormal behavior, gay has an identity disaster and fright of being caught by other people.

That is the reason why, there are certain choices made by gays with male gay partners to maintain their main purpose to keep or exposed their identity to other people, in this study, the researcher explains how gays are trying to open to other people about their real sexual identity. There is a lot of problems and

obstacle happened in gay life and how they deal with the problems that appear in their relationship with their society.

This research begins with the researcher's concern about the homosexual issues in Becky Albertalli's novel entitled "Simon vs The Homo Sapiens Agenda", this novel mostly talks about the life of Simon as gay. This novel is exciting to be analyzed. In the story, the main characters in "Simon vs The Homo Sapiens Agenda" correspond to be a perfect example of gay. This novel is a sequel novel by Becky Albertalli. The first novel version is "Simon vs The Homo Sapiens Agenda" as a gay and continues with the second sequel entitled "Leah On The Off Beat" which was released in 2018 as a lesbian figure.

Simon Spier is 16 years old gay, in junior high school, living in Atlanta Georgia America, he has kept his sexual identity from everyone including his family and friends, and Simon has been emailing with someone named "Blue" who were close to him, after his secret start to get discovered, his secret about he is gay was in danger to be exposed if he does not follow the command of Martin the class clown who take the advantage of Simon situation. Now, his sexual identity and the privacy of the guy has been confiding that could be compromised, that is the reason why the researcher chooses this novel "Simon vs The Homo Sapiens Agenda" to be analyzed in this research because of the main issues about homo and the interesting conflict along of the story. The researcher will be analyzing how the issue of homosexuality is revealed by this novel related to Queer Theory.

1.2 Research problem

Based on the background of the study the researcher formulated the following statement of the problem:

1. How does the community react to homosexuals in the *Simon vs. the Homo sapiens Agenda*?
2. What are the experiences of gay men when negotiating their sexuality in the process of coming out in the *Simon vs. the Homo sapiens Agenda*?

1.3 Objective of the study

Based on the statements above, the writer determines the objective of the study as follows:

1. To explain the community reacts to homosexual in the *Simon vs The Homo Sapiens Agenda*
2. To explain the experience of gay men when negotiating their sexuality in the process of coming out in the *Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda*

1.4 Significances of the study

Hopefully, this study is estimated to give contribution and solution both theoretically and practically, and give information and reference to the reader. Theoretically, the study expects to give more understanding in the written, reading and knowledge as identified, to produce other best reading and creation and how

to see the problem of homosexuality with fair and deeper understanding related to Queer theory.

Practically, this research can give information and knowledge for academic society especially for the student of English literature, and to give information and experience to the students to study the novel as one of literary works and the reader can understand about the content of the story and the important things is this study meant to provide better understanding for who are doing literary study about the issues of homosexuality related to the Queer theory field particularly, literary works, novel and student who used this content analysis in their research.

1.5 Scope and limitation

The scope of this analysis is the novel Simon vs The Homo Sapiens Agenda which is applying the issues of homosexuality and Queer Theory field. That already explained clearly about the phenomena of the story related to the Queer Theory. From the 10 main characters researcher explained 5 major characters and 4 minor character in that story because they are very visibly describing about the homosexual phenomenon related with Queer Theory and also the researcher focuses on the research problem related with Queer Theory and the issues, and also absolutely, the researcher already describe the character based on their talk (dialogue) and author narration or utterance.