

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five sub-chapters that are informed in this research, namely the background of the study, research question, research objective, scope limitation, and significance of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Patriarchal Culture is a social structure in which men are given control over women in all aspects (Walby, 1990:20). According to Chung (2015) People in South Korea still consider Patriarchal Culture as common sense because this country has three pillars of teachings as a belief system that are still firmly held today namely Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism. Confucianism is the most influential pillar of South Korean people's life. It is philosophical moral teaching that existed during Silla, Goguryeo, and Baekje kingdoms. In Confucianism there is a philosophy, said "*Men High, Women low*" it become the basis for men to dominate women (p.33). Confucianism determines the roles and the positions between women and men in the family and society. Women become a minority in Confucianism because it limited the roles, rights, the power, and gives women the lowest positions. Women as the minority are considered to live their life determined by men and it became an obligation when women started a family, they should follow their husbands and husband's family. This discriminatory ethics against women and the patriarchal family system in Korea comes from Confucianism.

Gender discrimination is the unreasonable treatment of society toward females. They are discriminated against because of being weak, different, and being a woman. The existences of women's discrimination are in the family, in the local community, and in the office or work environment. In the family, women have twofold weight. A spouse needs to do the family chores like cooking, doing laundry, washing the dishes, dealing with youngsters, and serving her man's requirements while the wife additionally works outside the house. Meanwhile, the husband only

works without doing family chores. The community considers the nature of women only to take care of the house, and they are limited to having a job outside the house. In the workplace, women often get a minimum salary than men, they also hard to get promotions while men easily get the promotion. Montague (1999) states that in a lot of beliefs, we have information that women are reflected as kind of a lower being, a creature human enough, however not exactly human as the male, definitely not as prudent, nor as intellectual and deficient in a lot of skills and competences (p.27).

In Asia, especially in South Korea discrimination against women still exists. South Korea is a Republic country which is located in East Asia, South Korea became a Republic country after separating from North Korea in 1984. South Korea is well-known as a paradise. It has beautiful places such as Seongsan Sunrise Peak, Ggotji Beach, Jeju Island, Halla Mountain, and Haeinsa Temple. South Korea has the most elevated percentage of survival cancer and stroke in the world, it also has the highest rate of performing plastic surgery every year. The people of this country still believe that husbands have a higher position than wives. According to Hyun (2021), husbands are the predominant spouse who is capable to deal with their spouses and accommodate the family while wives are the obedient spouse who ought to continuously show submission, faithfulness, and deference. In Addition, Chan (2000) said that females are allocated to handle home activities for instance taking care of the kids, cooking, weaving, and other chores. On the other side, males do the general society and public matters for instance farming, trade, and for certain males control the government office.

This thesis has used a novel by a feminist Korean women writer Cho Nam-Joo entitled *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* translated by Jamie Chang. The original version is using Korean language and it was published in 2016 in South Korea, then the translated version was published in 2020. It has been adapted into a film of the same title and directed by Kim Do-Young and was released on October 23, 2019. Cho Nam-Joo was brought into the world in 1982 in Seoul, South Korea. Cho Nam-

Joo graduated from the Department of Sociology of Ehwa Women's University, and she was a former television scriptwriter before becoming a housewife. In the composition of *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* she illustrated halfway through her insight as a lady who resigns from her employment to remain at home after laboring a child. *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* is her third book. It significantly affected gender discrimination in Korean Society, and it has been interpreted in eighteen languages.

Kim Jiyoung is a 33 years old spouse and a mother of a youthful little girl. Jiyoung worked at a marketing firm before giving birth and choosing to remain at home with her child. Daehyun, her husband concerned about her experiencing post-birth anxiety when she begins impersonating her mom and a college friend who died during labor. Jiyoung's precious memories of gender inequality return to when she was 6 years old with a big sister and a baby brother. What Jiyoung does not aware of as a little girl was that her father and mother had continuously been pursuing a baby boy and not a baby girl. She had been harassed by her teachers at school, and her father blamed her when she was bullied by some guys on her way home from school at night. Kim Jiyoung was a student who was never suggested by her professor for a job position at a notable corporation, an exemplary employee who never got a promotion, and a spouse who gave up on her job to deal with her child.

Based on the issues above, this study will be focused on patriarchal culture and gender discrimination by using the patriarchy theory. This research discussed patriarchal culture and the discrimination experienced by women characters in this novel. Then, the reason that inspire the writer to choose this topic is that the topic is interesting to be analyzed, it still happens around the world, and women still get unfair treatment so this topic is very related to people nowadays and this novel is also one of the great novels that show how women faced the unfair treatment from society compared to the men, therefore, that makes this novel should be read and analyze.

There are also other studies that examine it using patriarchy theory and gender discrimination that are related to this research. The first is an undergraduate thesis entitled “*Women Gender Discriminations in South Korea Leading to Kim Ji-Young’s Hwabyung Seen in Cho Nam Joo’s Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982*” by Graciella Stephanie Ganadhi, Universitas Sanata Dharma (2021), Second is “*Gender Discrimination Suffered by Characters in Jane Austen’s Persuasions*” by Zaharani Nurul Ngabidah, Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University Malang (2015), third is “*Women’s Struggle under The Practice of Patriarchy in Alice Nannup’s When the Pelican Laugh*” by Gavin Anditya Putra, Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta (2016), and the last is “*The Effects of Patriarchal Culture to Female Characters as Seen in Without Mercy by Jana Wain*” by Desty Woro Sedayu, Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta (2018).

The differences between this study with previous studies are in the theory, the topic, and the source of data. The first previous study is “*Women Gender Discriminations in South Korea Leading to Kim Ji-Young’s Hwabyung Seen in Cho Nam Joo’s Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982*” by Graciella Stephanie Ganadhi, Universitas Sanata Dharma (2021), the differences between the first previous study and this research are; first, the researcher of the first previous study focused on analyzing only one character that is Kim Jiyoung as the main character in this novel, while this research focused on analyzing many female characters in this novel including Kim Jiyoung. Second, the previous study analyzed the psychological aspect called “*Hwabyung*” that affected Kim Jiyoung because of the discrimination that she faced from society, while this study analyzed the gender discrimination and patriarchal culture experienced by many female characters in this novel.

The second previous study is “*Gender Discrimination Suffered by Characters in Jane Austen’s Persuasions*” by Zaharani Nurul Ngabidah, Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University Malang (2015), the differences between the first previous study and this research are; first, the researcher of the second previous study using feminism theory, meanwhile this research using patriarchy theory. Second, the source of data from the second previous study is different from this

research. Ngabidah uses *Persuasions* novel by Austen, while the writer of this study uses *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel by Cho Nam-Joo.

The third previous study is “*Women’s Struggle under The Practice of Patriarchy in Alice Nannup’s When the Pelican Laugh*” by Gavin Anditya Putra, Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta (2016), the difference between the first previous study and this research is the source of the data. The researcher of the third previous study uses *When the Pelican Laugh* novel by Alice Nannup, meanwhile the writer of this study uses *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel by Cho Nam-Joo.

The last previous study is “*The Effects of Patriarchal Culture to Female Characters as Seen in Without Mercy by Jana Wain*” by Desty Woro Sedayu, Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta (2018). the difference between the first previous study and this research is the source of the data. The researcher of the last previous study uses *Without Mercy* novel by Jana Wain, while the writer of this study uses *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel by Cho Nam-Joo.

This study has some differences from the previous studies above. The differences between this study with previous studies are in the theory, the topic, and the source of data. The differences of this study and the first previous study are the focus on analyzing the data and the theory, the differences from the second previous study are the theory and the source of data, and the differences from the third and the last previous study is the source of data. Therefore, this study using *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel as the source of data and the writer has been interested to analyze this data using theory of patriarchy by Sylvia Walby.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the description in the background, the focus can be formulated into two research questions as follows:

1. How is the patriarchal culture represented in Cho Nam-Joo’s *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel?
2. How is the gender discrimination experienced by female characters in Cho Nam-Joo’s *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

According to the research questions, this study aims to discover:

1. The patriarchal culture that appears in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel.
2. The gender discrimination experienced by women characters in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

This study would discuss *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* novel translated by Jamie Chang focusing on patriarchal culture and gender discrimination using patriarchy theory. The novel is written by Cho Nam-Joo a Korean woman writer. The limitation of this study is to analyze the discrimination and patriarchal culture experienced by women characters in this novel by using patriarchy theory which answers the research questions.

1.5 Significances of the study

Theoretically, the aim of this study is to give a comprehensive understanding of the knowledge of Patriarchy and Gender Discrimination studies. Practically, the result of the study is expected to enrich the reader's knowledge about patriarchy, especially about Patriarchal Culture and Gender Discrimination, it hopefully will inspire other writers to write patriarchal studies by using Cho Nam-Joo's novel. It is expected that after reading this research, it becomes a reference for readers, especially students of the English Study Program at the University of Trunojoyo Madura.