

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is divided into five parts. They are background of the study, statement of the research problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study, and scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature and society have a close relation to each other as the extrinsic approach of the literature theory. This relation happens because literature absolutely is a part of society and uses language as the part of social institution, for the reader as the members of society, and a picture of society. Through literature, the portrait of human life from long time ago can be shown to the present. It is caused by the authors' creativity takes an essential role in a way to express what they see and feel in their life and environment so they get idea from surrounding. These statements supported by Wellek and Warren (1963: 94) that literature is a social institution, using as its medium language, a social creation.

A poetry, as a genre of literary work which can be taken as an example the relation between literature and society, therefore, a poetry cannot be separated from sociological aspects. It means that a poetry can reflect the human life and the condition of human life in period. Almost certainly majorities of poetry portray real life. "London" and "The Chimney-Sweeper" are one of the example of poems that portray real social conditions of Londoners, especially

lower class society at that time which as undesirable impacts of industrial revolution.

London is one of the biggest cities in the world and capital city of England. Industrial Revolution makes England becomes one of the big countries today. Industrial Revolution give changing on technological side which solve human's problems. Industrial Revolution in England happens in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. One of the major change in industrial revolution is machine.

During 18th and early 19th centuries, industrial revolution makes towns in England grow larger than before (Tim Lambert). It means that industrial revolution give impacts to London in economic especially in industrial and technological side and influence England's society life.

Moreover, this era often called Romanticism era. It because in this era many of English poet writes about supernatural, human rights, individualism, and freedom from oppression at that time. Therefore, the big impact and change happened in England's society makes the portrait of Londoners especially happens in lower class society at that time is very interesting to be analyzed. One of English poets in this era is William Blake.

William Blake was born on 28th November, 1757. He was a son of owner of hosiery shop on Broad Street in the center of London. William Blake is one of the most renowned poets in the history of English literature. It was because of his spirit to progress that he can get good schooling although his families can not give high schooling. In 1794, He published a collection of

poems, fully illustrated and originally hand printed by him. One of them *songs of experience* and *song of innocence*. The poem “London” comes from the *songs of experience* and “The Chimney-Sweeper” comes from the *songs of innocence* section. It tells about a journey around the capital, terrible conditions faced by inhabitants of London as lower class society; such as child labor, restrictive laws of property and prostitution are all explored so its more interesting than other poems.

“London” and “The Chimney-Sweeper” poems are interesting and unique poems to be analyzed. Therefore, there have been same studies which use those poems from William Blake as the source of data. Those studies are conducted by Teria Anarghati (2011) and Ulvia Ika Surya (2012) which focus on revealing changes in social structure and imagery of those poems. Otherwise, this study analyzes social condition and undesirable impacts of industrial revolution in social sectors which appear in “London” and “The Chimney-Sweeper” poems that are quietly different from those two studies.

William Blake’s poem entitled “London” and “The Chimney-Sweeper ” are chosen as source of the data, because his poem tells about social conditions of lower class society in London as undesirable impacts of industrial revolution. Based on the explanation about that, those poems can be analyzed through condition and situation of Londoners that appears in the poems itself. That is the significant point that becomes the reason of the using sociology of literature theory to elaborate the explanation of the topic of the study.

1.2 Statement of Research Problems

Based on the background of this study, the questions are formulated as follows:

1. How are the lower class Londoners described as undesirable impacts of industrial revolution in William Blake's "London" and "The Chimney-Sweeper"?
2. What are undesirable impacts of industrial revolution happens in lower class society in social sectors in William Blake's "London" and "The Chimney-Sweeper"?

1.3 Objective of Study

Objectives of this study are:

1. To describe condition of Londoner's lower class society as undesirable impacts of industrial revolution in William Blake's "London" and "The Chimney-Sweeper".
2. To explain undesirable impacts of industrial revolution happens in lower class society in social sectors in William Blake's "London" and "The Chimney-Sweeper".

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study will give two significances support to:

1. Theoretically; To give more understanding about the analysis of social conditions by using sociology of literature theory approach, especially that is portrayed in William Blake's "London" and "The Chimney-Sweeper".

2. Practically; To give more information and knowledge to the reader about social condition in London in the 18th century.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study discusses social conditions of Londoner's lower class society in order to extend the meaning of poems entitled "London" and "The Chimney-Sweeper". The scope of this study is the using of sociology of literature theory from Allan Swingewood and Wellek and Warren to acquire the analysis of the social conditions of lower class society of Londoners in the poems. In addition, the analysis is limited to only on the words and phrases in William Blake's "London" and "The Chimney-Sweeper" that show the social conditions at that time.