

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The chapter is divided into five parts of introduction. Those are background of study, statement of research problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of Study

Literature is a beautiful art which is created by the presence of creativity, feelings and thoughts that are spontaneously profound by using language as a media. Literature cannot be separated from daily life because many people need entertainment to escape for awhile. Literature has benefit to daily life in society such as provide entertainment or information about social, moral and historical conditions which are published to the public on the basis of the author's ideas. Literature are read by people because they entertain and give the information to them.

According to Ade and Okunoye (2008:2-3) literature is imaginative, literature express thoughts and feelings, literature deals with life experiences, literature uses word in powerful, effective and yet captivating manner literature promotes recreation and revelation of hidden fact. Literary works are literary results that cannot be separated from the author's knowledge and experience.

Society can be interpreted broadly, not just a group of people who living together in a place, but more than that, we can see society as a process where everyone interacts, forming a pattern of norms and behavior.

Human as part of society must obey the rules made by society for. People are dealing with differences in society because of differences, both differences between individual as well as differences between group gathered in it and in each structure of the social system. When these differences develop in layers and form hierarchies, this creates of social stratification.

Social stratification is a concept of class, involving the classification of persons into group based on shared socio-economic conditions a relational set of inequalities with economic, social, and political. According to Kerbo(2003:3) A system of social stratification help how people life, their opportunities for better life, their mental health and life expectancy, and has an important influence on events such as war and peach, and economic expansion. People are differentiated in term of biological characteristic such as sex, size, strength, and agility; and in every society they are differentiated (at least to some degree) by social roles, work tasks, or occupations. From the definition above, can be taken a conclusion that social stratification is the system that ranks and differences people into the classes based on the economic, social, political and ideological dimensions.

It means thatin society, each individual has a different status and position. People who have high economic and power are categorized as a higher class and people who do not have the strength and low economy are categorized as the

lower class. The high class is who have the high level of position, properties or income. So, they can do anything what they want. But, because of their strength, they often abuse their authority. Meanwhile, the lower class has works hard for a living. The result makes the lower class oppressed and gets injustice. Certainly this matter creates a conflict between the upper and lower classes.

Social ranking based on economic position influences social system. Thus, people who are in high class believe that other people have a lower status than them. Otherwise people who are in lower class think that other people have a higher status than they and people who have a high status highly appreciate or in high class of the structure of society than people in lower class. Social differentiation happens in quite simply, when found people in individual qualities and social roles.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in analyzing social stratification in the novel. The Writer chooses the novel because John Grisham is a famous writer who has produced several novels and story tells about detective novels or legal thrillers. *The Whistler* has own unique novel to be analyzed. *The Whistler* describe to the readers' about the power relation and corrupt phenomenon in America. John Grisham also expresses someone's feelings who grew up in a poor family and are treated arbitrarily by someone who had authority at the time. The social stratification also clearly depicted by upper class until lower class.

This novel shows the status of society between rich and poor person and the power of position in government. John Grisham has described social stratification

in this novel with the different properties and occupation or job in the environment. In this novel also portrays the different come, attitude, and habitual in everyday life. So Grisham is very totally to describe different class in novel to make the reader get information and interesting to read the story of *The Whistler* until the end.

The Whitsler tells about Lacy Stoltz, an investigator for the Florida Council on Judicial Behavior. This story centers on legal and moral issues which occurs in Native American gaming. The Tappacola Nation, a small Native American tribe located in northern of Florida, the began is building a casino on their reservation, then giving tribal members economic wealth that had never existed in previous years and the wealth they can make them do things that violate the law and also the potential for corruption and involvement with organized crime, including the crime of murder. His Majesty Claudia McDover is the main suspect in this case, she is a Florida girl who happens to be the most corrupt judge in American history. From this synopsis, the writer focused on analyzing only social stratification. In addition, the writer used Marxism theory.

1.2 Statement of research question

Based on the background of the study, the writer finds the following question:

1. What social stratification are depicted in John Grisham's *The Whistler*?
2. What are social problem caused by social stratification in John Grisham's *The Whistler*?

1.3 Objective of study

The objectives of this study are:

1. To explain social stratification depicted in John Grisham's *The Whistler*
2. To explain social problem caused by social stratification in John Grisham's *The Whistler*

1.4 Significance of study

The significances of this study are divided in two. The first is theoretical significances and the second is practical significances. This study is surely to answer the questions that have clarified in the question.

Theoretically, the results of the study expect to understanding knowledge about Marxism, especially social stratification. Theory of Marxism considers literature as a tool to convey the message including the theme in terms of the text itself that showed in the literary works. Then, provide the understanding of the social stratification the reader.

Practically, this research is expected to provide references for further studies of social stratification. This research is intended to provide a model for those who conduct literature studies. Readers can develop knowledge, experience language skills, increase cultural knowledge about the situation and development of teaching and literary languages, in solving problem and the writer hopes this study will be beneficial for society to have a better comprehending about social class stratification.

1.5 Scope and limitation

As the scope of the study, the writer uses theory Karl Marx's Marxism especially social stratification as the approach of the analysis. To make the discussion in this study more focused on the problem, this study limited on analysis data which answer research questions about social stratification in the novel *The Whistler* by John Grisham