

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background, research question, objective of the study, the significances of the study, and the scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background

As one of the world's top economic country, Korea also has issues of gender stereotypes and gender inequality in terms of economic, social, or educational issues (Kim et al., 2014, p.4). According to Ridgeway (2011, p. 9-10) gender inequality is a condition in which one sex on average benefits compared to the other sex. Those who benefit from gender inequality are men because they are always privileged. On the other hand, women as housewives are considered to be at the lowest of all social groups in social status. Furthermore, gender inequality can occur in various sectors. As stated by Kim et al (2014, p. 1-4) one of the sectors affected by gender inequality in Korea is the country's long-term economic growth. This can be seen from the less participation of female workers compared to male workers and the wage gap between women and men. Further, Kim et al. (2014, p. 6) states the decline in the female workforce is caused by marriage or the birth of children, so this makes Korean women spend more time doing household chores and raising children than spending time working. The labor force participation of married women in Korea is lower due to the burden of caring for children for married women. In addition, Mohamed (2009, p. 30) states that women's labor is seen as less valuable than men's and that where a workplace becomes feminized- either through a higher percentage of women employed or a general association of the labor with femininity- the value of the labor decreases and besides the patriarchal culture that put women as objects, this makes women excluded.

In the economic sector, men's salaries are higher than women's salaries because men are considered the backbone of the family and have an obligation to bear the economic burden of all family members. As a result, women feel that they are looked down upon and are not paid professionally according to their abilities and

men in a patriarchal culture get special treatment from family, society, and the state. Refer to Kuchynka (2015, p.16) this is due to cultural standards that put women as mothers to fulfill their role as housewives. These standards are maintained because women's status is lower and to limit women's stay at home so as not to threaten a man's gender status hierarchy.

Since the past, society has adhered to a patriarchal culture in which this culture put men in control of social, political, economic, and other sectors meanwhile women are put in a subordinate position so that the existence of this system creates gender inequality and structural oppression that will affect people's lives. This is because patriarchy has the idea that the biology of men and women are different so that the roles of men and women are also different. Men are in the political sector while women are in the domestic sector because women's biology is giving birth and becomes a housewife (Ray, 2017, p. 2-3). In general, the social hierarchy of men is higher so that the position of men in any sector will be prioritized and should be used as role models. Furthermore, the practice of patriarchal culture creates barriers and gaps between women and men. In everyday life, this barrier can be seen from the fact that women are attached to the domestic sector and have less admission to skilled while men are attached to the general sector of society (economics, politics, education) (Mohamed, 2009, p. 28). In the end, in patriarchal society men have control. The existence of these barriers prevents men or women from developing and getting injustice in accessing common areas in society so that these barriers create different roles and positions between men and women in social relations.

Based on Korean social condition above, this can create gender stereotypes between women and men. As defined by Haleem (2014, p. 56) stereotypes are societal representations of individuals or characteristics. These gender stereotypes are passed down from generation to generation. Every individual has different stereotypes. This is also stated by Allen et al (2004, p. 52-53) there are individuals who have positive or negative stereotypes. Positive or negative stereotypes are associated with prejudice. Prejudice will determine a person's good and bad

perceptions. Men are supposed to have stereotypes such as strong, like sports, aggressive, rational while women are supposed have stereotypes such as like gossip, caregiver, have intuition and so on (Connell, 2009, p. 53). This is also supposed to be natural because these differences are seen by their biology. However, this happens not because of nature but because of social construction which always put men with privileges and women in a limited position with their choices so that this paradox puts women in a corner (Haleem, 2014, p. 57). It can be concluded as if they uphold the rights of a man so that they can do whatever they want in education, politics, or the economy. This happens because of the impact of the patriarchal culture adopted by the society.

One of novels that criticizes and describes gender stereotypes is *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982* by Cho Nam Joo, which was published in 2016. The novel was written because of the author's anxiety as a woman and a mother against the reality that she had never experienced either in family or community relations because she was born as a woman. The author also criticizes people who still discriminate between genders both in social community and state regulations. Further, this study examine the stereotypes of women and men which are portrayed in the novel and the impacts of gender stereotypes as portrayed in women and men in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*. This novel is chosen because it presents characters who are affected by the existence of a patriarchal culture and became a phenomenal novel. In addition, refer to Williams (2020, p. 1) the novel was criticized by Korean society, especially by men who did not accept the fact that in Korean society were marginalized and exaggerated the reality.

The data were taken from *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*. The story is narrative story that describes the conditions of social life of Korean society. The data are collected by reading repeatedly the novel and sort out parts of the story related to the topic of patriarchal culture. Data of this study analyze using patriarchal theory by Johnson's in his book entitled *The Gender Knot Unraveling Our Patriarchal* (Johnson, 2014). Johnson's theory is chosen because the writer views patriarchy as formed by society and does not only refer to a man, but refers to the society of men and women who

participate. This study examine the stereotypes of women and men which are portrayed basen on the novel and the impacts of gender stereotypes as portrayed in women and men in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982* analyze use Merton's theory in his book entitled *Social Theory and Social Structure*. In addition, this study needs a previous study to find the differences between the related study and the present study.

The first related study is Ganadhi's thesis entitled *Women Gender Discrimination In South Korea Leading To Kim Ji-Yong's Hwabyung Seen In Cho Nam-Joo's Kim Jiyong, Born 1982*. The second related study is entitled *An Analysis of Patriarchal Culture Portrayed in The Novel Kim Ji Young Born, 1982 Feminist Theory* by Khasanah published in 2021. The third article related to this study belong to Feng & Talif published in 2021 entitled *The Partnership of Patriarchy and Capitalism in Cho Nam-Joo's Kim Jiyong, Born 1982*. The fourth article is written by Firdaus published in 1996 entitled *Discrimination of Gender Against Women In The Novel Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982 By Cho Nam-Joo*. The fifth related study is Arofah & Mustofa's article entitled *Symbolic Violence against Women in Cho Nam Joo's Kim Ji Young Born 1982*.

There were found differences between previous studies and present study. The differences between the first relataed study by Ganadhi's is the study aims to unravel discrimination based on gender that causes mental issues and use three theories to analyze the novel while the present study use patriarchal theory and self fulfilling prophecy theory and to analyze all characters. Besides using different theories, this study finds different results. This study also finds stereotypes in Korean men and women in *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*.

The second related study was analyzed by Khasanah and Firdaus. The researchers use different theory. Both researcher use feminism theory while present study uses patriarchal theory. The third related study belong to Feng & Talif uses Hartman's dual system theory and the researcher use the perspective of socialist feminism while the present study uses patriarchal theory and self fulfilling

prophecy. The last related study was analyzed by Arofah and Mustafa. The researcher use symbolic violence to identify the utterances. The present study develops the findings of related study on gender stereotypes through all characters

1.2 The Statement of Research Question

Based on the background above, the research questions are formulated as follow:

1. What stereotypes of women are portrayed in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*?
2. What stereotypes of men are portrayed in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*?
3. What are the impacts of gender stereotypes as portrayed in women and men in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

Based on the research statement above, the objective of this study is divided into three points. The first objective of the study is to discover stereotypes of women in patriarchal culture based on the *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*. The second objective of the study is to find out the stereotypes of men based on the novel. The third objective of the study is to identify all characters who believe in gender stereotypes as portrayed in women and men in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*.

1.4 The Significances of the Study

In this study, there are important points that will provide benefits for others, both theoretically and practically, therefore the significances were divided into two, namely theoretical and practical.

Theoretically, this study is hoped to be able to identify portrait of women and men in the novel *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982* by Cho Nam Joo which made public debate so the study is able to give support to the existence of theory of patriarchal, to give a better understanding about gender stereotypes in the patriarchal culture, and can be references for other research and for English study program students

who are interested to analyze gender stereotypes. Meanwhile practically, this study is to give contribution to the English study program.

1.5 The Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study focuses on the representation and impact of patriarchal culture that occurs in Korean society, especially those experienced by the characters of *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982* by Cho Nam Joo. Moreover, this study concentrates on the representation of patriarchal culture especially gender stereotypes as portrayed in women and men in Cho Nam-Joo's *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982* and using Johnson's patriarchal theory in his book entitled *The Gender Knot Unraveling Our Patriarchal* and using Merton's theory in his book entitled *Social Theory and Social Structure* to analyze the characters on the novel who have implemented gender stereotypes on themselves.

The theories use male privilege by Johnson (2014, p. 5-11) and self fulfilling prophecy by (Merton, 1968). Male privilege will answer the research question one and two. Furthermore, according to Johnson (2014, p. 5-11) male privilege is divided into three, namely male dominated, male identified, and male centered. In male dominated, it discusses the domination of men over women in all sectors such as economics, politics, education, legal, etc so that this causes superiority and differences between men and women. Male identified discusses the description of masculinity and manhood. Meanwhile male centered focuses on men so they have privileges. The next theory that will be used is patriarchy the system. Patriarchy the system answers the question in the third research question that patriarchal system has an impact on men and women. In addition, the patriarchal system still exist today because of the contributions of men and women in society. Men implement, promote and male privileges to young men so that they do not lose their privileges as men.

Other theory to answer the third research question is self fulfilling prophecy. This theory explains the condition when a person believes in prejudice, then it has consequences in reality. According to Merton (1968) self fulfilling prophecy is

situation that begins with a misconceived behaviour but becomes a reality because of assumptions or prejudices that are believed through self-observations. Labelling had begun from the public which defines the condition of something that has an impact on the future. This is due to people who have prejudice against groups see and observe the behavior of these groups directly. In this theory it is explained that negative predictions can be broken by not believing in the definition that has been set or abandon the definition so that it has no impact on anyone.