

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the explanation of five parts of introduction. They are background of study, statement of research problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of the study

Every individual has different background of life in the society. It means that as member of society, they have different experiences, priorities, concepts of life and social class. Giddens and Held (1982) stated that Classes are groups. Class is group of objects which has same characteristics, opportunities, position, etc. The society simplify the class by using the term social class. According to Henslin (2004:192) a social class is a large group of people who rank closely to one another in wealth, power, and prestige. From that statement, in social class, there are many people that have different background of life includes wealth, power, prestige and also education. In fact, education can give influence on social class determination in the society. Philip (1979) stated that their social status also related to their education background. The level of education of each class is different. Most of lower class has no formal schooling. On the contrary, the upper class has a good education. From that statement, it means that the bourgeoisie (upper class) is the group who has the highest power of wealth. On the contrary, proletariat (lower class) is the group who has weakness in riches, stylist clothes, car, or educational background. To simplify, it is supported by Tyson's statement below:

For the real battle lines are drawn, to put the matter simply, between the “haves” and the “have-nots,” between the—those who control the world’s natural, economic, and human resources—and the, the majority of the global population who live in substandard conditions and who have always performed the manual labor—the mining, the factory work, the ditch digging, the railroad building—that fills the coffers of the rich (Tyson, 2006:54)

From the statement above, it creates the society argumentation. Most of society often argues that the upper class as a dominant class. Logically, the upper class has everything that they want. On the other hand, the lower class only think about the meal, they may eat today, fills the coffers of the rich and order life. Furthermore, the lower class realize that they have oppressed and unappreciated by the upper class. As a result, the differentiation raises the effect of classism or class conflict. The class conflict between the upper class and the lower class.

Furthermore, the lower class believe that they can have a better life, abilities and same chances to get their social right includes the right to education, the right to health, the right to housing, the right to food, etc. Social and economic rights are concerned with basic human needs—for food, shelter, water and for the means to provide those things for oneself (Amnesty International, 2012). People nowadays are trying to have the same standard of living with people that belong to the upper social class (Tyson: 2006). The statement means that in order to achieve the lower class’s desires to be in the same position as the upper class, they will struggle and fight to prospering their life. They will never stop struggling their human or social right although it can create a class conflict between upper class and lower class.

Based on the discussion above, it is about social class that leads to class conflict where class conflict is the one of problem in Marxist by Karl Max. The class conflicts are constructed because the society sees the economic power as basic of life. Karl Marx stated that economic structure of society [is] the real foundation on which rise moral, legal and political superstructures and to which definite forms of social consciousness correspond (Marx: 1904). The statement supported by Tyson, For Marxism, getting and keeping economic power is the motive behind all social and political activities, including education, philosophy, religion, government, the arts, science, technology, the media, and so on (Tyson, 2006:53). The statement describes that Marxist is a theory of literature that emphasize on economic power. Examining Marxist means seeing economic as a basic of life in the society. In fact, the society sees the existence based on their position in economic condition. As a result, different social classes can awaken and lead to two groups oppose each other or usually can be called as class conflict in the society.

Tyson (2006) Tyson classified Americans according to socioeconomic lifestyle into five groups, those are: first, the homeless, who have few, if any, material possessions and little hope of improvement. Second, the poor, whose limited educational and career opportunities keep them struggling to support their families and living in fear of becoming homeless. Third is the financially established, who own nice homes and cars and can usually afford to send their children to college. Then the fourth is the well-to-do, who can afford two or more expensive homes, several cars, and luxury items and the last is the extremely

wealthy, such as the owners of large, well-established corporations, for whom money (mansions, limousines, personal airplanes, yachts) is no problem whatsoever (Tyson, 2006:55). To make it simple, the groups have divided into two categories as the bourgeois and the proletariat. The groups can construct classism or class conflict in the society.

Rogue Lawyer is the data that chosen by the writer for her study. *Rogue Lawyer* will be chosen as source of data because it was interesting to be analyzed. The author was described as the main character who has eccentric character but has no partners. He was described as not famous lawyer who hates injustice and supports lower class who avoided by the other lawyers from upper class even he uses some tricks deceitfully. This novel also can give some moral values for the readers in order to struggle their life and get right as well as freedom to happy and determine their own life in the society. Therefore, the writer chooses the data because the data presents the phenomena of Marxist by Karl Marx in which focus on class conflict between upper class and lower class that oppose each other and Sebastian Rudd's struggles to support the lower class. Furthermore, those phenomena are the main focus of Marxist.

Therefore, Marxist analysis of human events and productions focuses on relationships among socioeconomic classes, both within a society and among societies, and it explains all human activities in terms of the distribution and dynamics of economic power (Tyson, 2006:54).

From that statement, it is clear that Marxist theory is the suitable theory to analyze the data. Because, Marxist analysis focuses on the social activities, those are economic, social condition, and also political system. Meanwhile, the data about

class conflict between upper class and lower class that economic as the reason. It means, the data are present the phenomena of Marxist by Karl Marx in which focus of class conflict and struggle to maintain social justice. Therefore, Marxist theory is appropriate to analyze the data.

Furthermore, there are another analysis that analyze literary works using same theory, Marxist theory. There are another analysis which was done by Gabrielle Pauladica *Study of Classism and Class Struggle in Charles Johnson's Dreamer*. Airlangga University. (2016). Second is the study was done by Reni Feronika Silaen *The Representation of Social Class in Upside Down film*. (2017). Third is the study was done by Anisatul Hidayah *The Social Condition of Lower Class People in America in "Children of the Working Class" By John Wieners*. University of Trunojoyo Madura. (2016).

Meanwhile, in the writer's thesis, she analyzes Marxist too with different data. The data is John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer* that tells about Sebastian Rudd who supports lower class. Therefore, this study discuss about class conflicts is portrayed in John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer* and emphasizes on Sebastian Rudd's struggles to support the lower class in John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer*.

1.2 Statement of Research Problem

Based on the background of study, the study focuses on two questions:

1. What class conflict is portrayed in John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer*?
2. How does Sebastian Rudd struggle to support the lower class in John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer*?

1.3 Objective of the Study

To answer the questions that exist in the previous point, there are two objectives in this study:

1. In order to discover what class conflict which portrayed in John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer*.
2. In order to discover how does Sebastian Rudd struggle support the lower class in John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of this study is divided into two significances. The first is theoretical significance, and the second is practical significance. Theoretically, the result of this study is expected will gives benefits to enrich the knowledge for the next studies in order to deep understand literary criticism, especially about the application of Marxist theory that related to class conflict and struggle in literary works.

Practically, the practical significance of this study is divided into two practical significances. The first is practical significance for society and the second is practical significance for curriculum importance. For society, the result of this study is expected will abolish social class based on economic status between the upper class and lower class. For curriculum importance, the result of this study is expected will be given attention in order to deepen Marxist theory through a course of Marxist theory.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is about Marxist that was introduced by Karl Max and Friedrich Engels that related to class conflict and struggle that portrayed in *Rogue Lawyer* by John Grisham. In addition, the limitations of this study are character utterances and the author's narration which show Sebastian Rudd's struggles to support the lower class in John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer*.