

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of five important points. Those are : background of the study, research questions, research objectives, scope and limitation, and significance of the study.

1.1 Background of the study

The acts of oppression to women often occur in our society. In fact, in the whole of the world, there are always happened cases of oppression to women. UNICEF reported that somewhere in the whole of the world, every 10 minutes because of violence there is an adolescent girl who dies. In the whole of the world, around 70 million adolescent girls have been victims of physical violence between the ages of 15 until 19 have sexual harassment experienced. (UNICEF, 2014).

The history also noted that women have received this injustice for a long time until now. Women are often disadvantaged in their relation to men. Many factors causing women become the oppression object, for example patriarchy culture and gender inequality. Those two factors makes women often receive injustice in many aspects such as education, political, social, and economy. Gender inequality makes women receive discrimination/different treatment because women are considered to have secondary levels than men. Eventhough the truth is, women and men basically equal. It is known that sex and gender are two different terms, but most people interpret that gender and sex have the same meaning. It means that the society construct the gender itself. According to The

APA(American Psychological Association), Gender refers to the behavior, attitude and feelings that related to the social construction based on masculinity and feminity's labels; whereas sex, it refers to the biological characteristics of maleness or femaleness of an individual that was designed at birth. It is indicated by their genitals, chromosomes and hormones (APA, 2006). So, it is very unfair if women are treated unfairly just because of gender discrimination.

Women oppression cannot be separated from several aspects such as political, cultural, and also economic. To reflect this condition and also as a way to document various things related to women's aspects, an author often used these issues as material to create a literary work. The author usually used the phenomena in society that related to women's oppressions that occur around them or it can be based on their experiences to create their literary work. The connection between literature and women aspects cannot be separated from each other because both of them have a close relationship. Feminism is the study of equality between men and women; meanwhile, literature is one of the subjects to study. Literature is the product of human, it reflects society, and one of the phenomena in society is the oppression of women. In other words, literature is a mirror of society because within literary works, there is often a feminist aspect that relate to women's oppression.

Mary Lynn Bracht is one of the authors who tried to point out about women aspect in her work. She writes a story about the oppression of women in the patriarchal system and women powerlessness. Bracht's first novel, *White Chrysanthemum* is an interesting novel to be analyzed because it illustrated

women condition during World War II. *White Chrysanthemum* is a historical fiction novel published in January 2018 by G.P.Putnam's Sons. The plot of this novel turns intermittently and split between the two women characters' perspective. Hana and Emi are siblings who work as *Haenyeo*. *Haenyeo* means female divers in South Korea, it is a traditional profession in Jeju Island. Hana lives in 1940s and Emi in 2011. They are separated because of World War II. Some part of this novel are based on Hana's perspectives. She lives during the 1940s and got kidnapped by a Japanese Soldier to be a comfort woman. She always gets oppression from the Japanese Soldier, but she cannot oppose them. While Emi can survive the kidnapping by Japanese soldiers because Hana. When she grows up. She married and became *Haenyeo* like Hana and her mother. The focus of this study is on the oppression that happens to women characters and the response of women characters to the oppression that happened to them.

Previous studies are needed to support this analysis. After searching some information about Feminism and the research about the representation of oppression to women in literary work especially in the novel, the writer found some previous studies such as, the first is the study from the journal by Affroni and Dr.I.M.Hendrarti, M.A from English Department, Faculty of humanity, Diponegoro University of Semarang entitled *Analysis on the issue of women oppression in F.Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby* This study show the discrimination on women's right in a patriarchal society. And the study that has been conducted by Udiarso Cahyo Utomo and Teguh Supriyanto from State University of Semarang entitled *Women's Oppression through patriarchal*

culture in Novel *Suti* by Sapardi Djoko Damono. This study aim to find out the style of language used, social strata, forms and motives for the oppression of women in the novel *Suti* by Sapardi Djoko Damono.

The second is the study from thesis such as the research entitled *Catherine's Struggle to be Free From Oppression in Ernest Hemingway's "A Farewell to Arms"* that is conducted by Muhammad Wizari Yusuf from Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang. This research is about oppression in feminism perspective in woman marriage life. The last is the research that comes from Moh.Afivulloh, entitled *Oppression Toward Gwangju's Society in Human Acts by Han Kang* that has been published in University of Trunojoyo Madura. This research concerned to describe the oppressions that had been faced by Gwangju's society in *Human Acts* by Han Kang.

After reviewing those studies, it is founded that the similarity and some differences between those researches and this study. The similarity between this study and those research in the theory that applies by the writer to analyze the literary work that is feminism theory, while the difference is this study reveals the representation of oppression to women and they respond to the oppression that happens to them.

Based on the background above, *White Chrysanthemum* is choosen as the object of this study. Feminism approach is used to analyse Oppression to women in this novel. We can analyze the literary work used Feminism approach. This theory is applicable to analyze the novel entitled *White Chrysanthemum* written by Mary Lynn Bracht because this novel talked about a woman who is as one of

the character in this novel. Woman Oppression choosed by the writer to analyze *White Chrysanthemum* novel because this topic is interesting to be discussed and this phenomenon is often occur reality.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the explanation in the background, the research question can be formulated as follows:

1. What kinds of women oppression occur in the novel *White Chrysanthemum*?
2. How does women characters respond to their oppression in the novel *White Chrysanthemum*?

1.3 Research Objectives

This study aims to discover:

1. kinds of women oppression occur in the novel *White Chrysanthemum*.
2. how women characters respond to their oppression in the novel *White Chrysanthemum*.

1.4 Scope And Limitation

In this study, the scope and limitation is to point out the focus of the study. This study only concern with the novel entitled *White Chrysanthemum* which is used as the source of data. The scope of this study is about feminism and literature, particularly the oppression to woman and women powerlessness. The limitation of this study is the utterance of character's and the narrator's narration which shows oppression to woman and also the respond of female characters. On

the other hand, limitation of this study that are not analyzed by the writer such as woman struggle and history about colonialism era in Mary Lynn Bracht novel.

1.5 Significance of the study

The research is expected to be useful for other researcher and readers, for the University of Trunojoyo Madura and also both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this study can be helpful to be used as the references in order to understand about Oppression to women in novel, and how feminism theory applies in this study. Practically, it is hopes this study can be used by the students as the references to understand and analyze the novel and also it can be used by the lecturer as supporting research sources. This study also hopes can be used to other people who are interest about novel in order to understand the novel deeply.