

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter represents some points of the study. The first is background of the study. The second is the research problem. The third is objective of the study. The fourth is significant of the study. The last is scope and limitation of the study.

1.1. Background of the study

Literature is any written work that refer to an individual work itself or a categorical understanding of literature. It describes or gives much of information particularly about history, sociology, and psychology. Generally, literature focus on works such as novels, essays, poetry, drama, proses, and short story. These are some arts produced by the author's imagination. Human is full of imagination in creating some literary works, causes they want to show the beauty that is in the literature to the reader. The beauty is term in choosing words, the way in presenting the story, and how to solve the conflict in the story. In addition, regarding to human imagination novel is one of example which is created by the writer's imagination to depict the real life. Nowadays, novel is a type of literature that being popular in society, it often use themes related to the reality of life such as struggle, sacrifice, love, and etc. So that the readers are interested in

analyzing various aspects contained in it. Sometime readers are more interested in reading novels when the story has a positive impact and build better personalities.

Gregory Castle argues in *literary Theory* (2007:05) literary interpretation, like other mode of intellectual enquiry on intellectual, is subject to the more or less intangible influences of political outlook, gender, social class, race and ethnicity, religious belief, and a host of other social and cultural determinants. From the quotation it shows that, literary work were created because the author saw the various kinds of issues in life that suitable to raise in creating the literary work, such as political, social, and cultural issues.

There are three reasons why this novel is interesting to be discussed. The first, *The Circle* is one of literary works which still not a lot of writers analyzed because it is still a new novel. The second, the characters in the novel describe charismatic women who can work in the most powerful internet and technology company in the world. The third, the *Circle* gives awareness for women that they can compete in work place. Therefore, the writer is interested to analyze this novel.

The Circle is a novel which is written by one of the famous writers from America. This novel was published in 2013, international bestseller novel which is adapted into film by James Ponsoldt, and received awards in 2015 International Dublin Literary. Dave Eggers as the author was born on March 12, 1970, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S., American author, publisher, and literacy advocate whose breakout memoir, *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* (2000), was

followed by other fiction and nonfiction successes. He also founded the publishing house McSweeney's in 1998.

The Circle is one of the famous novels today. It tells the life of a woman who lives in a family that is not economically good. This story began from a girl named Mae Holland who was accepted in a big company called The Circle. Before she accepted in the Circle, Mae Holland worked in a small company with very little salary and she could not help her family's economy which was plagued by problems because her father was sick. In other sides Mae Holland has a best friend who has been working in a big company, her name is Annie. Annie helps Mae Holland to work with her. Therefore, the characters who are very interesting to be discussed are Mae Holland and Annie. Mae Holland and Annie represent women who are very intelligent and charismatic in their work and provide a good atmosphere for the people around them.

In this research, the writer finds the interesting thing about the novel which tells about feminism theory, especially the characters that depict liberal feminism. The main characters in this novel are feminist, and they depict as strong women to get their gender equality in social life as human being. In this story, Mae Holland and Annie become women who have different thoughts than others. They dared to compete with other workers who have been working for the circle. They can attract attention of the owner with their intelligence.

In addition, this study uses the feminism theory especially liberal feminism. The liberal feminism observes on Mae Holland and Annie mainly achieving their equal right.

1.2. Statement of the Research Problem

From the background of the study, the study focuses on one question

How is the liberal feminism depicted by Mae Holland and Annie in the novel

1.3. The Objective of the Study

Based on the research question the objectives of the study are formulated as below:

To describe the liberal feminism depicted by Mae Holland and Annie in the novel

1.4. Significance of the Study

Theoretically, this research give knowledge and much information to the readers about feminism theory especially liberal feminism. Meanwhile practically, it is expected to inspire the reader would learn how to respect the human right especially in women right. In other hand, the other writers able to write about liberal feminism by using other forms of source of data and add the knowledge of the reader especially students of English Study Program of Trunojoyo University.

1.5. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study uses feminism theory especially liberal feminism. It limits the analysis on women characters in the novel. It aims to find out the representation of women who depicted the liberal feminism in the novel. The story is taken from the novel “The Circle” by Dave Eggers. The limitation of this study is to analyze

the women characters of the story through the character's utterances and liberal feminism values depicted in the novel which answer the research question.