

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE OF REVIEW

This chapter shows various theories that support the focus of the research. The background information of movie, feminism, gender equality, and previous studies related to this research. It is also provided for use as a source in conducting the research. There is some information in the form of points in this chapter.

2.1 Feminism

Feminism can be defined according to the context. Because the definition of feminism itself is very large depending on when the definition of feminism is used by socio-culturally. Simply, feminism is a movement and a thought that fights for women's rights who are oppressed and the occurrence of inequality and violence against women. This phenomenon raises an awareness that makes a community encourage a movement of women to change a better situation. In general, feminism can be defined as a social movement in the social, economic, and political sectors so that gender equality can be achieved.

Ben Agger (1998)¹ states that the great achievements of feminist theory are not only about understanding but also about action. Feminists' awareness is built by the unique experiences of women about truth, knowledge, and power. Like what happens in society, in the next development feminism also getting other responses such as capitalism, socialism, modernism, industrialism, and even post-modernism. The existence of feminism is a phenomenon that wants to remove the long-lasting patriarchy in human social life which tends to weaken a woman's human dignity

¹ Agger, Ben. 1998. *Teori Sosial Kritis, kritik, penerapan dan implikasinya*. Jakarta: Kreasi Wacana, p.43

(Dzuhayatin, 2000: 235)². This awareness gave birth to a new paradigm that was more harmonious for men and women and sought the true meaning of gender identity so there is no one divided a class between the superiority and inferiority of men and women to create an equal life. To makes understand the existence of gender inequality through observations and experiences of social life. (Astuti, 2011: 8).³ Linda Gordon explains that feminism as giving motivation and revolution so a woman has strength and independence that she can express herself freely in the family, community, society as well as criticism of the highest power possessed by men and the desire to change it. The emergence of a movement to giving women a freedom from various of discrimination, stereotyping, and sexism. It means to tearing down social constructions that are detrimental to women and society. Like work paid, working in the domestic, and public sphere. Feminist perspectives in political science tend to focus on issues such as gender differentials in political representation and participation. Feminists argue that political includes personal life and private life (domestic), which is based on unequal power relations where women and also have power over women and also have power over women (Lovenduski, 2008: 33).⁴

Here are some theories of feminism that are widely embraced as the women's movement:

a. Liberal feminism

The Liberal Feminist Movement was organized by Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-1799) in 1792 Wollstonecraft's article entitled "A Vindication of the Rights of Women" explaining that the problems experienced by women in economic and psychological effects are caused by the inability of women to earn money independently, which makes them dependent on their husbands.⁵ This

² DzuHayatin, Fakhri, Mansour, (et.al.). 2000. *Membincang Feminisme: Diskursus Gender Perspektif Islam*. Surabaya: Risalah Gusti.p.13

³ Astuti, Tri Marhaeni P. 2011. *Konstruksi Gender dalam Realitas Sosial*.Semarang: Unnes Press, p.20

⁴ Hooks, Bell. *Feminist Theory from Margin to Center*, Routledge, New York

⁵ Rosemarie Tong, *Feminist Thought; A More Comprehensive Introduction*. (Colorado: Westview Press, 2009),p.1

phenomenon has an impact on the marginalization of women's groups considering women as second-class people. Therefore, feminism was born which fought for women's rights to have full freedom. This view states that freedom and equality are rooted in rationality and separation between the private and public worlds. Every human being has benchmarks for thinking and acting rationally, and it is the same for women.

Liberal feminism focusing on the goal of struggling for women's rights in gender equality between men and women. In the working area, liberal feminism also demands the same opportunities as men with the same in wages and facilities. In the world of politics, liberal feminism has the right to voted and be elected. The same basic education is also championed by liberal feminists. The future goals of liberal feminism are equality, a gender-just society, individual fulfillment, self-respect, moral goodness.⁶

b. Radical feminism

Radical feminist sees the power of relations between men and women. It was appeared as a reaction to the patriarchal culture and domination in a gender-biased social sphere in the 1960s. A view emerges and considers the female body to be just the object of male fantasy so that women experience oppression by male power. This radical feminism wants a patriarchal system to be rebuilt and then form a new system in which men and women are equal and equal in every sector of life. Radical Feminists try to protect and encourage "oppressed" women to fight against that oppression. Women in this radical focus on getting to know a culture that is only related to women and rejecting masculine culture or where men can rule and become superior. It aims to attempt system rearrangement..⁷

⁶ Hooks Bell, *Feminist Theory from Margin to Center*, Routledge, New York, (2015) pp.24

⁷ Kate Millett, *Sexual Politics*, (Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2000), pp. 62

c. Marxist Feminism

Derived from the oppression of class exploitation of women, they arguing that capitalism was causing women's problems to be occurred. The status of women is not far from personal wealth, they are indoctrinated to become part of the property.⁸ As an example, According to Karl Marx, the relationship between husband and wife is similar to the relationship bourgeois and proletarian. In the capitalist system, oppression of women is perpetuated in various ways and reasons profitable. Incoming female workers as a laborer is considered profitable for capitalists, because they get lower wages than men. For adherents of this sect, oppression of women is a continuation of a structural exploitative system. So that capitalism becomes the reason of Marxist Feminism.⁹

d. Socialist Feminism

Socialist Feminism is a blend of Marx's materialist historical method and Engels. Socialist feminism considers construction social as a source of injustice against woman. The theory put forward by Social feminism is known as patriarchal theory capitalist, which was first expressed, by Zillah Einstein, namely equating dialectic between the capitalist class structure and the sexual hierarchy.¹⁰

This theory assumes that injustice against women not only due to biological differences, but caused by judgments and presumptions of consequences social construction of these differences.

e. Pyschoanalytic Feminism

⁸ Alison M. Jaggar, *Sexual Difference and Sexual Equality*, dalam Alison M. Jaggar ed., *Living with Contradictions: Controversies in Feminist Social Ethics*, (Oxford: Westview Press, 1994), pp. 23.

⁹ Moch. Rijal Wahyu Tama *Feminisme dalam Film Mery Riana Mimpi Sejuta Dolar (Analisis Semiotika Roland Barthes)*, Institut Agama Islam Negeri Ponorogo (Ponorogo: 2020) pp. 21

¹⁰ Mansour Fakhri. *Analisis Gender dan Transformasi Sosial*. (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2013) pp. 90

Psychoanalytic Feminism believe that fundamental explanation of how to act women begin in the female psyche, especially in the female way of thinking. Freud claiming that gender inequality begins from a series of experiences from childhood that result in not only the way men view themselves as masculine and women see themselves as feminine but also the way people see that masculinity is better than femininity.¹¹

f. Existential Feminism

This existentialist feminism was pioneered by Simone de Beauvoir. He uses the theory existentialism in interpreting male relations and women. In this language male is called "the Self" while women named "the Other". Beauvoirs critical thinking paved the way for post-modern feminism.¹²

g. Postmodern Feminism

This genre like all postmodernists who seek to avoid any action that will return phallogocentric thinking, any idea that refers to the word (logos) whose style is "male". Thus, postmodern feminists looks suspiciously at every feminist thought, which seeks to provide a specific explanation, regarding the cause of oppression against women, or Measures certain things that women have to take for achieve freedom.

h. Multicultural and global feminism

This genre is shared similarities in how they view The Self is divided. However, for multicultural and global feminists, this division is more cultural, racial and ethnic rather than

¹¹ Rosemarie Putnam Tong. *Feminis Thought*. (Yogyakarta: Jalasutra. 2010) pp. 190

¹² *Ibid.* pp 262

sexual, psychological and literary. There are many similarities between feminism multicultural and global. Both are against “women's essentialism” is the view that the idea of women exists as platonic form, which is as if every women can fit into that category.

i. Ecofeminism

Ecofeminism seeks to show the relationship between all forms of human oppression, but also focus on human effort to dominate the non-human world, nature. Because women are culturally associated with nature, ecofeminists argue that there are conceptual, symbolic and linguistic relationships between feminism and ecological issues.

2.2 Feminist Film Theory

There are many genres in the film, including social themes, humanity, romance, politics, horror, and so on. There are one genre of film that discusses feminism that can be studied, which is also called Feminist Film Theory. In the early 1970s, there is a view that had been developed in Britain about feminist film theory as a culture demonstrating myths about women. Feminist films appeared in the second wave of the feminism movement. They thought that they had to carry out a revolution and no longer focus on problems that arose in the political field such as the first generation, namely the first wave of feminism. The second wave of feminist theory defines a concept that is fundamental to the occurrence of many oppressions against women. This cases creating a discussion and study to focused on the existence of natural differences between men and women (Arivia, 2006, 19).¹³ This theory also emerged to open up critical discussions about the characters and images of women in a film. They criticized that representation is not always about a reflection of reality but also a product of an active process of selecting and displaying, arranging

¹³ Arivia, G. (2006). *Feminisme Sebuah Kata Hati*. Jakarta: Penerbit Buku Kompas, p.73

and shaping, making things that show meaning so that it is called the practice of marking (Jackson & Jones, 2009: 367).¹⁴ This practice of marking is closely related to the image of women in a film, but the meaning is not from the reality of women's life itself but from men's desires and fantasies. It is also the film is made from a male perspective that has gender-biased.¹⁵ Based on this statement, the image of female characters in films as a narrative object only shows women's passivity and helplessness, even though the worst thing is that women only function as erotic objects in a film.

Women get a position as the main focus, but their relationships often make women in a marginal position and experience subordination, oppression, and others. This contradicts the perception that feminism is not only against men. The stereotype about women also makes the film world make feminist films. The birth of this feminist film was driven by a gender-biased women's reality and became a conservative force supporting patriarchal ideology. (Zoonen, 1992, p. 81)¹⁶

2.3 Patriarchal Society

The role of men and women are often determined by the values in society. Men always have a role as the leader of his family, then women are constructed as a weak figures who are supposed to do household chores, take care of their husbands, take care of children, and other domestic work. This statement can make the role of women often equated with homework. It can be seen from the role of women in the parliamentary sector and politics where dominating by men than women.

¹⁴ John and Hartley, John. (2003). *Reading television: 2nd ed.* London: Routledge.

¹⁵ Mulvey Laura, (2006) *Feminist Film Theorist*, Routledge, London and New York, pp. 2-3

¹⁶ Zoonen, L. V. (1992). *Gender and Film, Femmes Fatales; Feminism, Film Theory and Psychoanalysis.* Amsterdam : University of Amsterdam.

The word patriarchy comes from a family culture where male members take precedence over women. This creates more privileges in men than in women. This is found in every community structure that has the father's family line compared to the mother, such as giving the marga using the father's clan. This is a term that means men have more authority and power to become leaders. This fatherly system has become a generally accepted culture that automatically women are not represented and do not have the right to lead the household while there is the oldest male member in the house.

According to the opinion of Marla Miles¹⁷, patriarchal culture considering a value system that places men in a higher class than women, and this situation has an increasing impact on various dimensions that exist in the society. According to Sylvia Walby¹⁸, patriarchy has two forms, private patriarchy and public patriarchy.

Domestic patriarchy focuses on the problem of domestic work in the household as a form of the stereotype that must be carried out and its immutable nature attached to women. When women are conditioned like in the oppression of women. There are six things related to Public Patriarchy, namely the patriarchal relationship in the household where the patriarchy grows in the family, for example, the mother in caring for her child prioritizes sons over daughters, also when women choose to work full time as housewives and dependent on her husband, they are often not well respected. Whereas domestic work is a sacrifice for a woman for the welfare of her family, then patriarchal relations in the workplace such as setting work wages, menstruation leave, different treatment between male and female employees, patriarchal relations in national and state life such as women are said to be not very competent. when they occupy parliament because they

¹⁷ Marla Miles, *Patriarchy and Accumulation on a World Scale*, Women In a International Division of Labour, Avon The Bath (1998) Press, pp. 37

¹⁸ Sylvia Walby, *Theorizing Patriarchy*, Oxford: Blackwell (1998), pp. 20

use their heart rather than their sense in making decisions, violence perpetrated by men, sexual relations, and patriarchy in cultural institutions. Women who have the opportunity a career often experience discrimination in society so that they are in an unequal situation. The fate of female workers is still far from equal to men. Female workers also receive different treatment in the workplace, including with regard to paid work, work insurance, and so on. The government regulates the life of the nation and the state is still unable to removing the gender bias in society. Furthermore, gender roles are closely related to the masculinity and femininity of men and women that are constructed socially and culturally.¹⁹ In more complex Alex Downer's definition, "Gender refers to the socially constructed roles and relationships between women and men. These are learned change overtime, and vary within and between countries and cultures according to social religious, historical, and economic factors. Genders contrast with sex, which describes a set of biological differences between men and women. Gender roles and responsibilities affect women's and men's ability and incentive to participate in development activities, and lead to different project impacts for women and men."²⁰

This gender differences arises because it has been socialized for a long time, even strengthened and constructed by socially, culturally, and even the state. It is greatly affects to the stereotype of an individual are behaving in their environment.

In the point of view of patriarchy, domestic work is called natural to be done by women. According to this understanding, nature is something that God gives to humans that cannot be changed by technology at any time. The natural things in women is actually what a woman has

¹⁹ Trias Setiawati, *Perempuan dan Hak Asasi: Peta Permasalahan dan Aksi Menggeser Konsep Gemder dan Transformasi*, Yogyakarta, Pustaka Pelajar, pp.132.

²⁰ Alexander Downer, Guide to Gender and Development, in "*Women's Right Under The Matrimonial Real Properti Law*" (A Comparatove study between Australia and Indonesia), *Mimbar Hukum* No. 43/11/2003, pp.34

inside her that cannot be done by men and vice versa, man nature is owned by men that cannot be done by women.²¹This is known as sex reproduction which cannot be exchanged, such as women having the nature of being pregnant, menstruating, giving birth, and breastfeeding.

Biological differences between men and women are considered as the beginning of the formation of a patriarchal culture. The biological differences is an unequal status. A woman who has no muscles used as the reason why society places them in a weak position. Nurcahyo (2016: 27)²² states that the biological differences between men and women are the beginning of the formation of patriarchal mindset. Many differences are not balanced so that the two are not in equal status. Women who do not have muscles are the reason why society places them in a weak position, and easily becomes victims of crime. And a man who has muscles will consider himself superior and feel he has more power. From the description above, it turns out that patriarchal culture also has challenges, so according to Yusilia²³ (2014: 201) states that cultural challenges patriarchy presents its own problems in national life and ongoing pluralism, in reality it appears from how one group difficult to accept other groups in certain position.

2.4 Gender Equality

The meaning of gender equality is still being debated because many areas will be discussed. Gender equality exists in political, cultural, social, legal, religious terms. That's why gender

²¹ Mary Astuti, 1997, "*Jender dan Pembangunan. Makalah Penataan Metodologi Kajian Perempuan Berspektif Jender*", Dirjen Dikti, Yogyakarta, pp. 132

²² Nurcahyo. A. (2016). Relevansi budaya patriaki dengan partisipasi politik dan keterwakilan perempuan di parlemen. *Agastya Journal*. Vol. 6 (1), pp. 25-27

²³ Yusilia. H. (2014). Pengarusutamaan gender (PUG) dalam tantangan budaya patriarki. *Wardah*. Vol. 28. (15);, pp. 195-201.

equality has many definitions. However, from the perspective of societal norms, gender equality is closely related to femininity and masculinity about women and men.²⁴

As stated by Utami (2001)²⁵, gender equality is an effort to realize democratization, the results can be felt in all people who have the right to vote and choose all their own decisions without being limited by one party. Efforts to achieve gender equality have been carried out by the community. However, the reality that occurs in society is that there are still many inequality practices in various aspects of life that are mostly experienced by women in the form of gender discrimination. This hampers the ideals of democratization itself.

In addition, society is often making mistakes because it identifies gender with women, this misunderstanding can cause most of the men are careless about gender issues which in turn can lead to the position of women increasingly cornered. If people do not understand and realize how important gender equality is in life, it will be very impactful because what will happen is injustice in the lives of them and other related parties with the victim. For an example, public policies that ignore the quality of women's health services will have an impact on the low quality of women's health, which in turn will also result in a decrease in the quality of health for children and families in general. So that gender injustice will ultimately reduce the quality of life of society as a whole. In reality, gender inequality will manifest in various forms that can be experienced by men and especially by women among them, subordination, marginalization, stereotypes, double burden, and violence, Fakih²⁶ (1996). Understanding of gender needs to be transformed correctly and continuously so that no wrong interpretation occurs.

²⁴ Lyne, Nyhagen. (2016) *Religion, Gender, and Citizenship in Women of Faith, Gender Equality and Feminism*, Pallgrave Macmillan, London, pp. 186

²⁵ Utami, Santi Wijaya Hesti. (2001). "Kesetaraan Gender, Langkah Menuju Demokratisasi Desa" in IP4-LAPPERA. Perempuan Dalam Pusaran Demokrasi. Yogyakarta: IP4- LAPPERA and Asian Foundation

²⁶ Fakih, Mansour. (1996). "Analisis Gender dan Transformasi Sosial." Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar

There are two important concepts are in principle different that need to be understood in discussing gender issues. The first is a concept of sex and the second is the concept of gender. The meaning of gender is different from sex such as male and female. Sex is the gender differentiation between male and female based on biological constructs that are brought from birth as a gift from God in nature. Men can lead the public area, while women are always in the domestic area such as doing housework, cooking, and taking care of children all day long. The public area is a public place where social life takes place, while the domestic area is inside the house. With this gender division, it will be very difficult for women socially to be involved in public activities.

According to Dwi (2002), the main influence of gender will be heavier than the previous time. Because in addition to the critical condition of regional development, the problem also lies in the lack of understanding of the regional apparatus regarding the concept of gender equality. Therefore, it is certain that women's participation in the public sphere will experience many obstacles. Constraints arise not only from the political side, but also from the patriarchal side that are still strong in the regions. Strong views of value systems, norms, myths and stereotypes about women constitute ideological barriers. This ideology is hereditary and preserved, so that women, even in big cities, based on the results of a Kompas survey still accept concepts that marginalize women in development (Dwi, 2002).

This inequality can lead to gender discrimination. There are several indicators of gender discrimination are based on the explanation from Widodo²⁷ (2013: 870), They are marginalization, which is removing the economic, social, cultural, political or legal fields, Subordination, it is conquering or being positioned as second class, Negative stereotypes it is a negative image of

²⁷ Widodo, Agus. 2013. "Peran Banco De La Mujer sebagai Institusi Sosial dalam Mengatasi Diskriminasi Gender di Venezuela". in eJurnal Ilmu Hubungan Internasional vol. 1 no. 3.

women who are weak, sensitive, whiny, seductive, which leads to various forms of injustice against women,

Gender discrimination occurs because of differences in treatment based on gender that is applied in society. It does not only affect women but also men. This is evidence that gender discrimination occurs because of different treatment due to gender. These different treatments lead to different roles and social positions between women and men. Because of this discrimination, women experience many social restrictions on their personal and social life (Walby, 1990: 46).²⁸ In personal life, women experience limitations to participate outside of their role as a wife. Meanwhile, in social life, women experience obstacles to participate in social institutions.

2.5 Previous Studies

Some writers have been conducted the research about Feminism movie analysis. They are (1) Winar Gumilang, Mas Ulah, Ari Setyorini (English Department Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Muhammadiyah University of Surabaya 2015) , (2) Novita Yolanda (STKIP YPM Bangko 2019), (3) Eka Desmawati (English Departement Universitas Gunadarma 2019).

1. Gumilang's Work

The first research has been conducted by Winar Gumilang and his friends (English Department Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Muhammadiyah University of Surabaya 2015). He conducted a research entitled "*Analysis of Feminism Depicted In She's The Man Film By Andy Fickman*" in which discusses they uses descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data of this study. There are some steps to analyzing the data, they are watching and comprehending plot story of *She's The Man* film and the script, the selecting materials and conclusion,

²⁸ Walby, S. (2011), *The Future of Feminism*, Polity Press, Cambridge.

The writer will discuss the main character's characterization based on those methods. Then, the direct and the indirect method will appear through the explanations about the physical appearance, personality, and social relationship of the main character. It means, those explanations related to Viola Hastings as the main character in this film and some minor characters who have a social relationship directly with the main character.

The result of the study are:

The author found that Viola was a tomboy girl who liked to dress up in men's clothes and the like. (1) Viola's characterization reflects feminism. Viola who hates sexists and tomboys are reflected feminism because a tomboy indicates that she is a strong and brave girl. This matter different from what most people think of girls who are always graceful, weak, and spoiled. (2) Viola did not give up on achieving her dream which was dominated by the dream of men, namely football. (3) There are equality and equal opportunity to achieve dreams. Gender is not affect anything.

2. Yolanda's Work

The second research has been conducted by Novita Yolanda and Awliya Rahmi (Imam Bonjol University 2019). They conducted a research entitled "*Feminism values by Louisa May Alcott*". This research purposes to describe feminism values conveyed by Jo, the main character in *Little Women* novel written by Louisa May Alcott by applying qualitative method. This Literary Criticism uses the research Method in this thesis is Analysis Description looked for related theories and literature and conducted descriptive research to find the value of feminism in *Little Women*. The data in this study are all sentences that convey the conflict of feminism. Data collection was carried out by means of documentation and recording techniques, then analyzed.

Researchers found several points. The first is about dominant values, which tell about values of equality. Here the figure of Jo is needed to have similarities between men and women. The second is about the different value appears in several parts and chapters in this novel. Through Jo, Alcott wants to present a different value. During that time there were psychological differences, as well as ways of thinking turns out the difference. The third is the important value to respect the choice of a woman independently based on herself. The fourth is about caring. But in this novel, Alcott doesn't talk about it too much.

3. Kunsey's Work

The second research has been conducted by Ian Kunsey (Elon University). He conducted a research entitled "*Representation of Women In Popular Film: A Study Gender Inequality*". This research purposes to describe the top five best-selling direct action films directed by men and the top five best-selling live-action films directed by women in 2018 were analyzed. These ten films were selected because of the influence high-income films have on the industry and audiences. representation in a film. This analysis uses qualitative to examine the role of women in selected films.

In the table 1, At the surface level, the five male-directed movies performed far better at the domestic box office than the five movies directed by women. It is demonstrates the issue of women generally directing fewer high-budget movies than men.

In the table 2 in the five films directed by men, women made up 13% of these positions, compared with 37% in films directed by women. Blockers was an outlier among female-directed films with just 17% representation.

In the table 3 , all five female-directed films featured a female protagonist, while none of the male-directed films featured a woman as its main character. In female-directed films, women accounted for 67% of top-billed characters compared to 20% in male-directed films.

In films, women are depicted as lacking character and depending on figurant roles. Female director tends to employ more women in key roles and portrays women more positively than men. The story can be made from a female perspective by removing the conservative male character from the story.