

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This introduction chapter delineates background of research, statement of problem, research objectives, research significance, frame of thinking, and previous studies.

1.1 Background

Literary learning is one of the important things to increase students' understanding and interest in the world of language and literature. Literary learning in schools can be used to transform human values to students. One of the human values can be obtained from literary works. Literary work is believed to be able to change the way of human thinking by presenting stories based on social reality and inspiring its audience. Thus literature reflects the realities honestly and objectively and may well reflect the subjective impression of reality (Selden, 1991: 27).

One important value that can be explored in literary works is the understanding of diversity in social life. Diversity is a social fact that requires everyone to respect differences. However, there are still many those are concerned about these differences so that they can end up dividing peace and wholeness in a country. Humans should be able to accept differences and respect each other, without intimidation or discrimination in social life. Literary works that are packaged attractively can also be interesting learning for students. This is an effort to build human character, encourage creativity in work, and improve intellectual abilities. One of the literary works that can be used as teaching media is through movie.

In literary, movies are similar to novels or short stories in that they tell a story. According to Alqadi (2015, p. 48), “ The creation of cinemas has brought new considerations as well as new techniques and approaches of the literary text. Movie has been greatly influenced by literature.” Movie often presents a documentary picture of life. It looks at the people in society. As the presentation of documentary picture of life, many people have conducted some researches on movie by using various literary theories. The movie has various types or genres, the movie genre is divided into several types, depending on the characters and content displayed in the movie. Some movie genres include: action, drama, comedy, and slapstick. However, the genre of movie that researcher analyzed is the drama genre movie. Drama film genre is a narration or a presentation of a real-life situation using

characters in conflict. The conflict can be within the characters themselves or with nature or with other characters. Basically, drama genre realizes on character relational development and emotions to create a relevant situation or character. This genre portrays humanity at their worst, best and anything amidst.

Drama film is probably the largest genre of movies since they cover a wide scope of the film industry. Drama movie's plot is taken from real life issues with the aim of telling the audience the real story of humankind life struggle. Drama uses themes that are often current or recurring issues that affect the society and the audience can relate to. These themes include; injustices, addictions, poverty, politics, corruption, and religious intolerance.

One of the social problems that are common in everyday life is the problem of freedom and human right. A freedom is an issue that has always been a debate among social creatures that exist in this world. Everyone has the right and the freedom to do things unimpeded by others. Everyone has the right to live a normal life without fear and inelapsible by other.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted in 1948, starts with the words "Whereas recognition is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." Article 1 of the UDHR states "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood." Article 2 of the UDHR states "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty."

Slavery has a good relationship with social determination in Raghava's quote on sociology of literature. There is nothing special about the institutionalization of slavery. It has existed from before the beginning of human history until the twentieth century, in the most primitive and most civilized of human societies. There is no territory that has not yet hosted such an institution. Probably not a group of people whose sailors were neither slaves nor slave owners. Slavery was firmly established in all major parts of early human civilization (Perby, 2001: 1)

The racism is one of the problems for people who have a background in social, cultural, and racial backgrounds of others. In this case, particularly on the country the United States, is one country that has the most severe problem of racism than others. As you may know that America is a country that uses the services of slaves at most, in addition to the injustice against the slaves were very visible in this country. Racial differences make people in America too degrading slavery and apply casually against it's people. Treatment that is given by whites against blacks are not human, most of them assume the slaves merely being unscrupulous and very inferior. Due to the increasingly severe problem of racism that makes people who have the power to move the utter freedom from the slaves, as it's done by the American president Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Racism is a thought that contains discrimination, domination, and attack each other that arises because of social prejudice (in French it is called *le préjugé*). Racism is a form of attitude that discriminates against a group of people based on their racial characteristics. This opinion can also be interpreted that human values and degrees are determined based on race, because racism allows the division of people based on the type of race (Kimmel, 2005: 43). The act of racism is a dangerous act. Even though it is difficult to say the result of racism itself, because the effect can be realized or not, racism that undermines the target by denying its identity destroys a culture by creating political, social and economic divisions within a country. Forms of racism are experienced by groups such as Asian-American, Latin, Arabic and American-Indian societies that are associated with factors such as religion, alienation, clothing, culture, citizenship, gender and language. However, racism does not occur only in America, many studies discovered that racism occurs throughout the world.

According to Damono in Kurniawan (2012), literary works are a reflection of the conditions, values and social life that influence their authors. The author describes society according to his views and ideology, therefore the relationship between literary works and society is mediated by the author. Although the mediation may be imaginative, basically, the mediation still represents social conditions.

Racial discrimination has been discussed and taken as a serious problem because it involves many people all over the world and it affects the important life aspects; economic, religion, and politics. Discrimination from Lustgarten provides two aspects of discrimination, namely direct discrimination and indirect discrimination. He explains Lustgarten (1980, p. 7) the concept of direct discrimination as "the legal expression of the same opportunity

approach. He sees acts of discrimination as isolated and deliberate special mistakes." On the other hand Lustgarten (1980, p. 8) states that the concept of indirect discrimination is shifting a legal inquiry from the respondent's objective to the impact of his practice on disadvantaged group members. It's means that direct discrimination occurs when a person, or a group of people, is treated less favorably than another person or group because of his background or certain personal characteristics. Discrimination directly happens when there are rules or policies that don't make the same sense for everyone but have an unfair effect for people who have certain attributes.

Solomon Northup is an American farmer, laborer, and musician whose experiences were kidnapped and sold into slavery in the city of Washington DC in 1841. Northup was born a free color, he married Anne Hampton in 1828, and in 1834 they moved to Saratoga Springs, New York, where they work odd jobs to support their two children. Northup has also built a reputation as a talented violinist. In march 1841 he was recruited by two men claiming to be circus performers and offering him money to join their act as violinists, traveling south from New York. Upon their arrival in Washington DC in early April, Northup was dragged, passed out, and awakened to find himself shackled in a cellar. He was shipped to Richmond, Virginia, and then shipped to New Orleans, where in june he was sold on the slave market under the name Platt Hamilton. He spent the next 12 years in slavery on Boyou Boeuf estate in the Red river basin of central Louisiana. Northup was first owned by Wiliiam Prince Ford. In apri 1843 Northup was sold by Ford and Tibcats to Edwin Epps. Epps who was proud of his craftsmanship, had a sadistic style. Northup attempted to escape several times during that period but was unsuccessfull. With the help of Bass, an abolitionist carpenter from Canada who was anti-slavery, Solomon got his legally obtained freedom on January 4, 1853.

Black women, Slavery is terrible for men, but it is far more terrible for women, this tragedy is echoed in the movie Steve McQueen through the experiences of three enslaved women: Eliza, Patsey, and Harriet – all of whom were sexually abused by white men. First we meet Eliza, played by Adepero Oduye, who is kept as the mistress of her master who has enslaved for nine years. Eliza knows that she is ultimately her master's "property" to do as she pleases and rather than rejecting her rape, she chooses to submit to her demands with the hope of a better life for herself and her children. Second, Harriet (Alfre Woodard) is also kept as a mistress, from Master Shaw, a nearby farm owner, he confessed that he played along with the "pantomime" of master's love and loyalty as long as it continued to help his position. And the third is the slave girl Patsey (Lupita Nyong'o) playing the most prominent

role of all the enslaved women in the movie. Patsey was a victim of both her employer and employer-the employer sexually abused her and the white mistress, instead of sympathizing with her suffering, subjected her to psychological and physical abuse. Black and white women love close together, with jealousy, violence and sexual harassment as part of everyday life.

This is what the researcher found in Steve McQueen *Twelve Years A Slave* movie. This movie tells about the injustice done by the American people against slaves. The problem of racism is experienced by Solomon Northup, a free man who is kidnapped by two white people. To be able to achieve freedom, a slave like Solomon had to get help from the sheriff. Setting of the movie *Twelve Years A Slave* is in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. The director Steve McQueen, indirectly wanted to show the shape of his concern for what had happened to the slaves at that time.

The researcher is interested to analyze about *Twelve Years A Slave* movie. There are many reasons why the researcher selected *Twelve Years A Slave* movie to analysis. The first, this movie is adapted from the best seller novel and one of the most popular racial movies because in 2014 the film won an 86th academy award or (Oscar) with a film duration of 2 hours 14 minutes, and Steve McQueen as an English leather producer the first black ever to receive an award and the first black British director from Best Picture winner. The second, viewed into the subject matter of movie, *Twelve Years A Slave* is so attracting to be analyzed because it is based on true story with social background of American in 1960s. The image that is based on true story makes this movie more alive and has real soul. It can give the researcher and the reader more inspirations, awareness to social condition and think of problem solving to solve the social problem. The third, the elements structural on the movie is interesting, when viewed in the title movie *Twelve Years A Slave* to improve situation, there is distinction between the black skin people and white skin people about the dignity of the family, racial and economic.

Twelve Years A Slave (1853) is a memoir of Solomon Northup edited and narrated to David Wilson. This memoir tells the story of the life of an independent Negro in New York who was kidnapped in Washington, D.C. and served as *Twelve Years A Slave* in Louisiana. The movie of *Twelve Years A Slave* is based on a true story directed by Steve McQueen. *Twelve Years A Slave* movie has been named the best film in the 86th Academy Awards.

Steve McQueen is a British film director, screenwriter and video artist. He is the winner of the Camera d'Or and BAFTA awards.

Twelve Years A Slave movie tells about slavery in the United States, as we know the United States is a country that is still thick with racism. Where the whites are always superior and the blacks are inferior. Solomon Northup is a free Negro man. He lives in Saratoga, New York, with his wife and two children. Until one day, two white people cheat, kidnap and sell him as a slave. Then begins the story of Solomon Northup, *Twelve Years A Slave* begins from one landowner to another landowner. *Twelve Years A Slave* is the life story of Solomon Northup which is said to be based on a true story. The movie that won the nomination as Best Motion Picture in the Golden Globe was praised for having historical accuracy.

In *Twelve Years A Slave* movie many scenes of torture are shown vividly and frontally: caning, hanging neck and naked. McQueen unhesitatingly showed it all clearly, sort of wanted to say that this is the polemic picture that happened, felt and experienced first. Since the beginning of this movie, it tries to bind its audience through the foundation of its strong and interesting story. And when scene after scene that feels heartbreaking is present, we seem to share the pain and sympathize with them. And we seemed to want to free the negroes free from slavery. Raising humanitarian issues in a serious tone is indeed the main power in itself for this film.

Twelve Yeras A Slave shows the South as the archipelago of concentration camps that it was. *Twelve Years A Slave* is an important, vital reminder of the nature and intrinsic violence of historical slavery and the centuries deep scars that it left on the communities that suffered under these atrocities. Anti-slavery International played an important role in ending this form of slavery, working with North American abolitionists in the 1840s and 50s and the US government in the 1860s. Since the whole movie tells about racism, so the researcher is interested to analyze slavery aspect in the movie and how are the messages that the author tries to send the reader by the *Twelve Years A Slave* movie.

1.2 Statement Problem

The theme of this movie brings up the problem which constitutes issue of slavery. Therefore, in this research several questions arise as a problem limitation and orientation of research; they are.

1. How did Solomon suffer from slavery as seen from the forms of racism he had experienced in the *Twelve Years A Slave* movie?
2. How Black women had particular difficulties in slavery as reflected in *Twelve Years A Slave* movie?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based on statement of problem above, there are two objectives of this research; they are as follow:

1. To describe the suffering of Solomon from slavery as seen as the forms of racism he had experienced in the *Twelve Years A Slave* movie.
2. To describe the Black women had particular difficulties in slavery as reflected in *Twelve Years A Slave* movie.

1.4 Research Significance

The research is useful for academicians, especially academics who wants to examine more about literature in the Post-colonialism period. Furthermore, this study is useful for scholars of literature, to consider the presence of a classical Critical Theory subject as a compulsory subject to be followed by all students who majored in literature.

Basically, this research is expected to provider contribute to the development of literature in the field of language and literature department. This research is also expected to provide new knowledge and information as well as some useful contributions in the field of literature, particularly regarding in post-colonial focused. Personally, this research is expected to make the researcher know more about slavery and the post-colonial in the movie. This research is focused to identify the slavery in *Twelve Years A Slave*. The significance of this research are: includes.

1. For the researcher, it can increase new experience and knowledge about the discourse of slavery in the movie.
2. For the reader, it can be very useful to give some addition for their knowledge about the slavery. Besides it could give a lead in next research comprehensively.
3. Then, the researcher expects this research could be the positive effect in developing literature study, especially in theory of slavery.

1.5 Frame of Thinking

Slavery is condition which a person is compelled to work for another without must pay them. Slavery itself comes from word “slave” it means that person is compelled with the other person who have strong power.

Movie is the oldest electronic media among all media, especially since the movie has succeeded in showing live images as if moving reality onto the big screen, movie has become a medium of audio-visual communication that is enjoyed by all people from various ages and social backgrounds. Movie is a mass media that is not limited to its scope. This is influenced by elements of taste and elements of visualization that are mutually sustainable. Movie can be adaptations of paintings, music, literature (which can be narratives), and dances, which are some of the media that make a movie. However, the media does not always produce artistic results in a movie. Other media can certainly be a media representation of a movie. For example, human behavior, human daily life, culture, short story narratives can make the production of a movie certainly not always with the media of painting, music, and literature. there are many media that have artistic value.

Movie are complex linguistic text, structures, and visual codes that are structured to produce specific meanings. Movie are electronic signals from graphics, images, or moving text uses to incorporate a steady stream of images used for entertainment, education, or other uses. Movie that have been part of human life since the 1890s. The world of photography is one of the main factors in the development of movie in that area. Johnstone and Nikmah (2014: 1).

The term narrative element of movie use in this research is generally described as the structural framework that underlies the order and manner in which a narrative is presented to audience. The narrative elements in movie are the same as those in fiction, such as theme, characteristic, setting, plot, and point of view. In the context of movie analysis, theme refers to the unifying central concern of the movie, the special focus that unifies the work, that unifying's from plot, characters, and dialogue. Boggs & Petrie (2008)

Lots of movie genres exist in the world of cinema, with well-known movie titles and achieving a lot of success through the film genre. All of them have their own uniqueness and are able to bring the audience to feel each way of the story in depth. Of the many film genres that exist, of course there are some of the most popular and desirable by the public, such as

those found in the *Twelve Years a Slave* movie, in the film has a genre that is drama. Drama movie has a serious storyline, display characters and realistic settings and depict daily life situations that often occur. By bringing up stories that are very close to the audience, drama movies usually do not focus on the special effects, comedy, or action of the players. *Twelve Years A Slave* is an example of the film.

Racism is a special form of prejudice that focuses on physical variation between humans. Racism is also a belief system or doctrine that states that the biological differences inherent in the human race determine the achievement of culture or individuals. The assumption that a certain race is superior and has the right to govern and others. Racism has been a driving force of social discrimination, racial segregation and violence, including gonocida (mass murder), the term racism came out in the 1930s. Racism does not only occur in social practices, but directly also supports or proposes the formation of a social order, a permanent group gap, which is considered to reflect natural laws or the word of God (Fredricson, 2005: 9). Racism then designs a social stratification (social stratification), dividing society into certain classes based on race.

Discrimination is behavior that is generated by stereotypes or prejudices, and then is shown in open actions or closed plans to get rid of, distance or distance, both physical and social in nature with certain groups. Discrimination is an unequal and unfair treatment committed by one racial or ethnic group against another group (Sanderson, 1993: 337).

Racial discrimination is a restriction or choice based on ethnicity, color, ancestry or national origin, or ethnicity that has the purpose or effect of eliminating or damaging recognition, pleasure or practice, on the basis of equality, human rights and essential freedoms in political, economic, social, cultural or something in the community. (article 1 paragraph 1 of 1996, in the United Nations convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination). The term racial discrimination used in this research refers to any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, color, descent, or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economics, social, cultural, or any other field of public life.

1.6 Previous Studies

The researcher have identified several previous studies that have similar object, topics, and research methods. This previous research serves to be a reference for relevant studies, which can help researchers to continue writing.

The first research is conducted by Alfred, M Natsir, Ririn Setyawati (2017). This research is centered on a film based on real-life experiences that shows us about two conflicting sides of ideology and as a result, learning from history is essential so that people do not make the same mistakes or experiences. The same tragedy, this research uses a descriptive qualitative approach. The research focused on two objectives, namely to identify the form of slavery that occurred in the film and the effect of slavery on the mental condition of the main character Solomon Northup during his 12 years a slave of slavery. There are five types of slavery that occur in the film, namely debt bondage, contract slavery, forced labor, human trafficking and sexual slavery.

The following are previous studies that have been conducted by several researchers on racism. The second researcher was conducted by Ahmad Khozi (2008). His thesis on racism in James Bridg's *Amiracle in St Anna*. He described situations that represented the problem of racism in the novel at the time. And he also used genetic structure to analyze the novel. As a study of genetic structuralism, his study views literature both from the intrinsic and extrinsic aspects of literary works. This study examines how the conditions of racism at that time influenced authors in making novels.

The third research was conducted by Kathyryn (2010). With the title of his thesis "Slave Family Separation in the Slavery Debates". This thesis is about how to show that when discussing the separation of slave families, abolitionists and their supporters rely on sentimental imagery to arouse sympathy and empathy from their audience. Finally, the family considers the separation from the antebellum slave narrative perspective. These former slaves debated the abolition of slavery using abolitionists techniques as well as against the arguments used by slavery supporters to oppose anti-slavery goals.