

## **CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 BACKGROUND**

Feminism is the fruit of thought that became a movement to elevate the status of women to avoid discrimination by men. Feminism is a struggle to end the oppression of women (Jenainati and Groves, 2007: 3). The feminism movement was born because of gender inequality and harassment of women. The early feminist movement was an attempt to confront patriarchy between the years 1550-1700 in England (Hodgson-Wright, 2006). Patriarchy exists because women are considered weak and not too important, therefore feminism emerged to overcome problems like these. The Feminism movement existed after the Dark age, namely the renaissance era where people were separated from Church doctrine, so this movement could exist and was also supported by women who felt oppressed at that time.

Feminism can also be found in literature because literature is part of human life in the form of experiences of events that have been experienced. According to Lefefere (1997:7) literature is a description of human experience that has personal and social dimensions which include human knowledge that is parallel to the form of life itself. In literature, the personal image can be said to refer to personal things or a person, while social involves a person with many people. Each of these dimensions has different knowledge according to what is happening. Feminism itself is also a knowledge that can be poured into literature, and will become a

critical literary work because feminism is a thought that becomes a movement.

Literature is divided into oral literature and written literature which will become a literary work. Literary works contain the author's ideas or feelings about life. According to Sugihastuti (2017: 81-82) literary works are media used by authors to convey ideas and experiences. A literary work does not escape the ideas that arise from the author's experience, a literary writer must be good at processing the words in his work to make it interesting when read.

There are so many literary works in this world that are interesting to read, for example drama is one of the most popular literary works to date. There are many dramas in the world that are interesting to read, such as the drama that was quite popular during the reign of Queen Victoria, namely "A Woman of No Importance" which was the work of Oscar Wilde. This drama tells the story of the life of a woman who gets oppressed by a man and they both know each other. Mrs Arbutnout met Lord Illingworth as a teenager, from that meeting they fell in love. But unfortunately the journey of their love story had a bad impact and it was felt by Mrs. Arbutnout. When Mrs Arbutnout conceived a child from Lord Illingworth who had promised to marry her, at that time Lord Illingworth did not fulfill his promise and refused to marry Mrs Arbutnout. This incident was one of the events of oppression against women, even though at that time the

government was led directly by a woman, but there was still a lot of oppression and injustice felt by women.

From the life story of Mrs. Arbhnout, the thoughts and movements of the presence of Feminism in this drama emerge. The existence of Feminism is brought by the main character who gets unfair treatment by a man. This feminism emerged around the end of the 18th century, many women wanted rights to be equal to men in politics and education. They think that not only men can get it but women can too, this thought arises because many women are considered not too important, underestimated, women's position is always considered to be taken by men, weak and can only take care of children and cook only. So that a lot of violence is done by men to women, therefore feminism is here so that women can have the same position as men without forgetting the limitations of a woman's nature.

Feminist thought is here to help women who get gender inequality, this thought is present as a movement to free women from discrimination, gender inequality and violence against them. However, this movement is not a movement to fight men, to have a higher position than men, it's just that this movement exists to create gender equality between men and women. Not to fight the nature of a woman, many people think that feminism exists for women's rebellion against men, actually this is a wrong thought because the presence of feminism does not mean that women have to do anarchic things, but to get equal rights with men. For example,

in the field of education and work, women deserve to have the same position as men.

In the drama "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde, there is a problem about injustice against women by a man so that the emergence of Feminism in the main character. Feminism itself is a gender injustice that afflicts women, both in the family and society. Feminism is also a bridge to demand equal rights between women and men. The existence of these events makes researchers interested in examining the literary drama "A Woman of No Importance by Oscar Wilde" using "Feminism Theory". The reason why the researcher is interested in taking this research is because the researcher feels that there is a match between drama and Feminism theory which can later solve problems of discrimination, gender injustice, and violence that occurs in the main character. All of these events will be viewed with the lens of feminism, to dissect and find out what actions will be found in this drama. So that researchers use feminism theory in order to find out that will be faced

## **1.2 STATEMENTS OF THE PROBLEMS**

1.2.1 How are the feminism characteristics presented through the main character in the play "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde?

1.2.2 How does the author portray the inequality of the main character in the play "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde?

### **1.3 SCOPE OF RESEARCH**

In this study, the researcher only focuses on discussing the problems of the emergence of feminism characteristics in the main character and after that discusses the characteristics of feminism in the main character, the characteristics of feminism that were obtained after feminism emerged, because there were treatments that Mrs. Arbuthnot got, after that then the main character becomes a feminist character in this drama. This study uses "Feminism Theory" in the drama "A Woman of No Importance by Oscar Wilde"

### **1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The purpose of the research must be related to the formulation of the problem that has been made above. The following are the objectives of this research:

1.4.1 To find out the causes of the feminism factors that appear in the main character in the drama "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde.

1.4.2 To find out the characteristics of feminism in the main character of the drama "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde.

### **1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

In this study, this study uses two research significances in order to be able to distinguish for theoretical knowledge, and for use in everyday life. Here's the explanation:

### 1.5.1 Theoretical

There are still many people out there who still do not understand the gender inequality that occurs in women. There is a lot of harassment and violence that happens to women. Therefore, in this study, the researcher hopes that the reader will be able to know and understand things about acts of injustice against women such as violence, stereotypes, marginalization, subordination and women are considered a workload.

### 1.5.2 Practice

After reading the results of this study which contains knowledge about feminism. The researcher hopes that the reader will not only increase knowledge and understanding, but here the researcher wants the reader to be able to apply this knowledge in daily life, so that the existence of women is not considered weak and always carried by men, and avoids violence against women. Researchers hope to achieve this hope so that gender equality in the community can be carried out properly.

## **1.6 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

Related to the research being conducted, it turns out that researchers found other research on the internet that took the drama "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde as the object of his research. Then the researcher compared his research with the research found, as follows:

1. The research that was found with the research title was "The Hypocrisy of Victorian Morality Reflected in the play A Woman of No Importance (1893) A Sociological approach" by Hanifah

Nurhasanah, From the Department of English Education, School of Teacher Training and Education, Muhammadiyah University of Sukarta in 2017. Here it can be seen that the similarities are only in the object of study while the difference is in the material used to analyze the object of research in this study discussing Feminism, with the problem of discussing what is the emergence of feminism in the main character, and what are the characteristics of feminism on the main character. So the title of this research is "Feminism in the play A Woman of No Importance Viewed from Feminism Theory".

2. After the research above, the researcher also found other research related to this research entitled "The Reflection Of Feminism In The Character Of Mrs. Arbuthnot In Oscar Wilde's A Woman Of No Importance". Researchers began to compare so that they found differences, namely how Wilde presented gender discrimination to the main character and developed into a feminist and the theory used gender from Ashley Monrage and Mansour Fakhri's feminist theory about gender discrimination. Meanwhile, this study looks at the factors of the emergence of feminism in the main character and what are the characteristics of feminism in the main character. So it has a research title, namely "Feminism in the play A Woman of No Importance Viewed from Feminism Theory".

3. There were other studies that examined the drama "A Woman of No Importance" entitled "Analysis of The Theme Through The Portrayals of The Female Characters in A Woman of No Importance By Oscar Wilde" from Ratu Hutabarat Rotua Rebecka Rosaline from Maranatha Christian University. This study discusses the problem of drama themes in the depiction of female characters. The difference with the research is that the research title is "Feminism in the play A Woman of No Importance Viewed from Feminism Theory", with the problem of the emergence factors of Feminism and the characteristics of feminism in the main character.

## **1.7 THEORETICAL BASES**

### **1.7.1 Concept of feminism**

Goefe argues that feminism is a theory about equality between men and women in the political, economic, and social fields or organized activities that fight for women's rights and interests (Sugihastuti, 2008:18). and demanding equal rights between women and men. The feminist approach is an approach to literary works with a focus on unequal gender relations and promoting a balance between men and women. Furthermore, Fakhri (2015:5) also stated that:

*Feminism is not a women's rebellion against men, an effort to fight against social institutions, such as household and marriage institutions or the view of women's efforts to deny their nature, but rather as an effort to end the oppression and exploitation of women.*

Furthermore, to support the research "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde using the theory of feminism as follows:

Feminism from the various schools that appear above is certainly caused by various factors that are not caused by socio-cultural differences. But the point is that there is a gender gap between men and women. This inequality is manifested or not manifested in various models such as marginalization, subordination, labeling (stereotypes) and violence (Fakih: 1999:12).

#### 1. Marginalization

Marginalization is a condition where women do not really care about their existence compared to men. Women are considered less important than men. This can be seen in household conditions when men are more privileged than women, work, society and culture to the state. This discrimination can be based on customs and religious interpretations.

#### 2. Subordination

Subordination is a condition where the general view places women under men. The point is that men must be above women in all aspects of social life, whether in the family, environment, society, or state. Women are considered adherents of what men have decided even with regard to themselves. This is because women are generally seen from the emotional side apart from the rational side.

### 3. Stereotypes

Stereotyping or labeling occurs because of gender inequality. Stereotypes are assumptions that have taken root in people's views about a particular thing or group. Gender stereotypes reflect impressions that give rise to beliefs about what is and is not appropriate for men or women. Going to the office, always being served, being assertive, playing football, and so on that are usually attached to men are called male stereotypes. Stereotypes of women refer to household activities, taking care of children, playing in the market, elegant, whiny, and so on which are usually attached to women. In fact, not all men can act decisively, as well as women who are not always whiny. These are the so-called harmful gender stereotypes, both for men and women.

### 4. Violence

Violence can be divided According to Fasih (1999:21) violence caused by gender bias can be categorized as either psychological or physical violence, in the form of violence against sexual organs, either in the form of circumcision, sexual deviations, to torture of sexual organs. Both physical violence such as hitting, torturing, and so on are related to physical injury, prostitution, rape. even in marriage. Pornography in the form of print media and online media. Then there is covert violence, for example holding or touching a woman's sensitive area without the owner's permission. As for sterilization for housewives to support the family

planning program. sexual harassment such as telling someone vulgar jokes, interrogating their sexual activity, and so on.

## 5. Burden of Work

Women have a loving, diligent, and neat nature so that they can do all household chores properly and correctly. Plus, her loving, caring, and caring nature gives her the ability to take care of children better than men. A man only needs to do one thing. work in the workplace, so that no one blames him even though his wife is very busy taking care of the children while carrying out household tasks. have duties outside the home, then of course the burden is greater than that of her husband (Fakih 1999:23).

After discussing the concept of feminism to support the first problem in this study, then to support the second problem as follows:

### 1.7.2 Structure of the play

To be able to examine the building blocks of literary works, a structural approach is needed. The structural approach itself is an intrinsic approach, which discusses works about the elements that build literary works from within. This approach examines literary works as autonomous works and regardless of social background, history, author biographies, and everything outside of literary works. Regarding structure, Wellek and Wareen (1992:56) limit that the structure of understanding includes both content and form, as long as both are intended to achieve aesthetic goals. The structure of literary works consists of elements of characterization

plot, theme, setting and mandate as the most supportive and most dominant elements in building literary works.

To be able to analyze characters and characteristics in literary works, especially dramas, the following elements are needed:

#### 1. Character and characteristics

Each literary work has a different character and will apply their respective works. Abrams in Koesnosoebroto (1988:65) defines a character as a short, and usually witty, sketch in prose of a typical type of person. He further cites the definition of character as a person, in a dramatic or narrative work, endowed with the moral and dispositional qualities present in what is said (1988:65).

Robert (1969:11-12) defines character in a literary work as the author's creation, through the medium of words or personality and consistent with it. A general definition of character is given by Moore (1966:333). He states that characters are people from a novel. The characters in a story can be divided into several groups. Koesnosoebroto (1988:67) says that based on interests, we can distinguish two types of characters, namely the main character or main character and minor character. The main character is the most important character. In the story, the minor characters are less important than the main characters.

There are two types of characterizations in fiction, namely the storytelling method and the performance method. From this kind of method we will be able to reveal and explain about every character in any

story. This method is based on Pickering and Hooper. The explanation is as follows:

- a. One of the methods is storytelling, i.e. on direct exposition and commentary by the author. In storytelling—a method favored and practiced by many older fiction writers—the co-authorship of the writers is overwhelming evidence. We learn and look only at what the author calls our attention (Pickering and Hooper in Albertine Minderop, 2005: 8).
- b. Another method is the indirect method, the dramatic performance method, which involves the writer stepping aside, ostensibly allowing the characters to express themselves directly through and their actions, by showing much of the burden of character analysis shifted by the reader, who is asked to conclude the characters based on evidence given in the narrative (Pickering and Hooper in Albertine Minderop, 2005:22).

To find characterizations, we can use both methods because the author will use both methods in describing people or characters in the story. The telling or showing method will appear in every character in a story. It was because the character would appear the same as reality.

## 2. Plot

In presenting a work of art, an author actually arranges several events into a series and in such a way that it becomes a story that can be enjoyed. Moore (1966:332) defines plot as the main story, the pattern of

actions that creates conflict and ultimately resolves it, and which determines not only what will happen, but when and how with that outcome, the plot of the story develops in a definite pattern. Koesnosoebroto (1988:29) says that the plot or structure of a story is an experimental arrangement of chronological events that have causal and thematic relationships, Koesnosoebroto (1988:46) also adds that the narrative structure is always divided into three distinct parts. true nature: beginning, middle, and end. The three sections are then explained as follows:

- a. The initial part, in this section the reader is introduced to the general situation. Usually it will introduce the characters, describe their background, and so on. The beginning will also explain the place and time of events and suggest a baseline for conflict. In this section, only matters relating to introductions will be discussed at a later stage.
- b. The middle section, should describe all the issues in the conflict; this is where action incidents are dramatized into scenes; each scene shows the theory of resurrection that came before it in dramatic intensity. Until after several crises, a climax is reached—usually referring to a “turning point”. This point marks the end of the middle and the beginning of the end.
- c. Finally, it should explain all the consequences of the action. Perhaps it will tell what ultimately happens to all the characters in

the story. This will show the moral of the story and knit one loose end of the plot. This section is the last part of a literary work and this section also contains the resolution of conflicts that exist in a work.

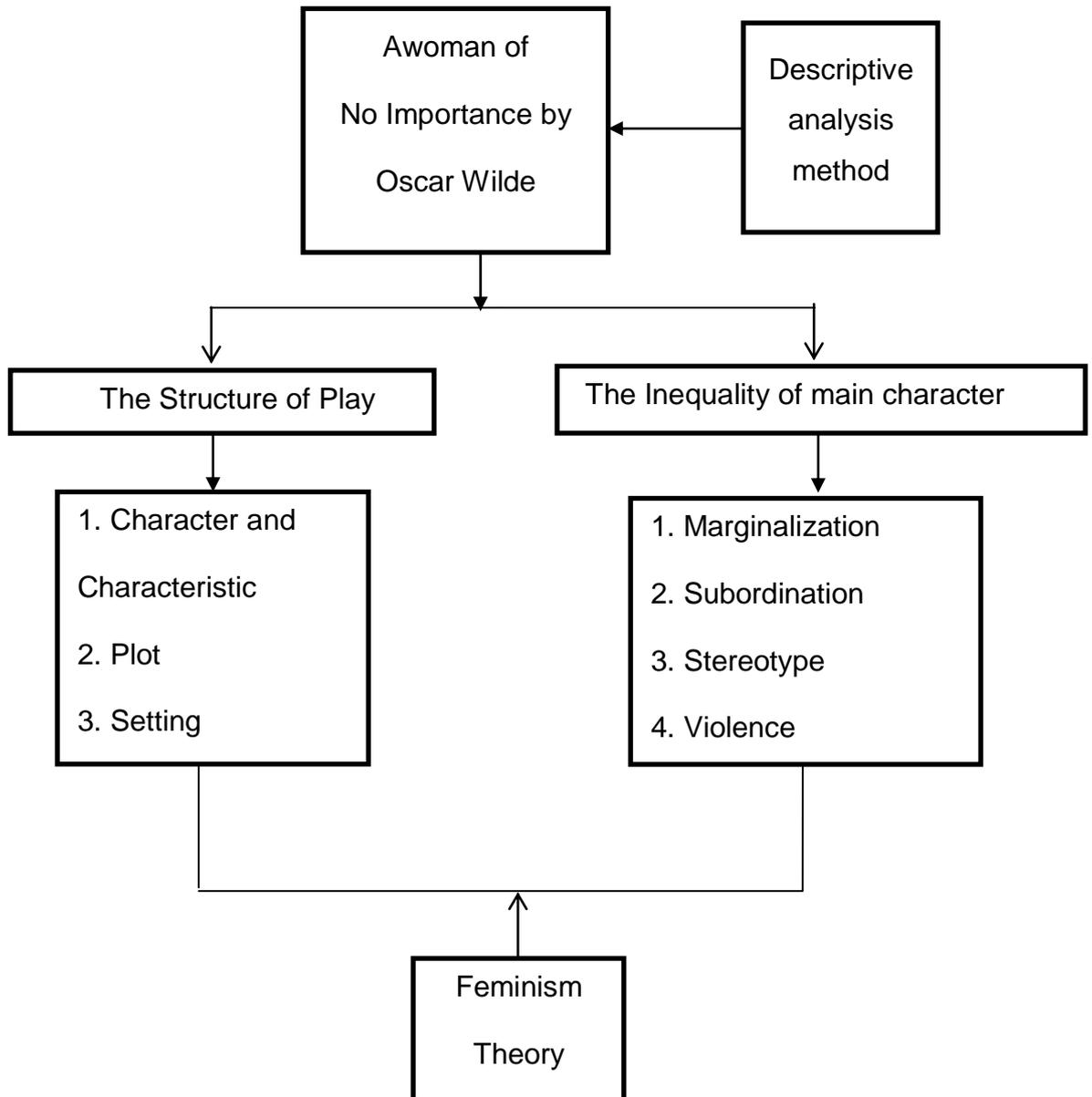
### 3. Settings

Setting does not only refer to the place, but also the time and everything that is implied in time (Roberts, 1965:43). Setting is the time and place or condition in which the story takes place. Setting always colors events and shapes them. In a good setting the story is so well integrated with the plot, theme, characters and style that the reader barely notices it. When a setting dominates or a work displays the manners and customs of a region, the result is local or regional color writing.

### 4. The difference between drama and other literary works

Drama is one of the popular literary works besides that drama also has differences with other literary works such as prose. The difference can be seen from the physical form between drama and prose which is clearly different. The difference is a direct drama performance with story characters in a literary work. While prose is described through writing or a series of words in literary works. Readers are required to imagine in understanding a fictional prose essay, while in drama the audience is immediately treated to scenes that make up a story. However, drama and prose are textually not much different.

### 1.8. Conceptual Scheme



In the conceptual scheme above, it can be seen that analyzing the drama "A Woman of No Importance". The researcher finds two problems in the drama, namely first, how are feminist characterizations portrayed through the main characters?, and second, what are the factors that trigger feminist characterizations in dramas. To further sharpen this analysis, choose to use a feminist approach as an analytical knife. Then in the research method using a descriptive method.

## **1.9 METHODS AND TECHNIQUES**

### **1.9.1 Descriptive Method**

Descriptive method is a research method whose data collection process must be systematic, because this method produces an overview of the social phenomena under study. In this study, the researcher will identify any phenomena that occur in his research. Nasir (1988:63) in his book research methods, descriptive method is a method that examines the status of a group of people, an object, a condition, a system of thought or a group of events in the present. Therefore, in descriptive research, researchers must be able to make descriptive systematics. In accordance with the explanation, researchers need this method because it is related to the object of analysis.

### **1.9.2 Data Source**

In a study, a definite data source is needed, the following sources of research data are divided into two, namely:

## 1. Primary

The primary data or main data from this research is the drama entitled "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde, because this drama is the subject of the discussion to make this research. Then the researcher took this data or drama by downloading the drama on the internet. After getting the main data, then the researcher collects the data as the object of this research through the internet, and uses it as primary data for analysis.

## 2. Secondary

After the researchers get the main data for research. Furthermore, researchers must obtain secondary data obtained from the search, researchers take several references from various other data sources, in the form of theories from experts that are suitable for analyzing the drama "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde as primary data. Theories from experts are supporting data to examine the main data, and to solve problems obtained from the drama.

### 1.9.3 Data Collection Techniques

In analyzing this research, the researcher used the following methods, to get references to complete the data:

#### 1. Reader's Comprehension

The first step in collecting data is to use reading comprehension so that it can help or facilitate researchers to obtain information. Then the researcher tried to understand the content of the drama. After

understanding, the researcher tries to get the problem from the storyline or the conversation in the drama, and the researcher begins to separate the data related to the title, and starts writing the research until it is finished.

## 2. Internet Browsing

To make it easier for researchers to research this research, researchers use internet browsing, because this is a very good and fast way to help researchers get more reliable information and in accordance with their research, and related to the object of analysis theory, or to focus on research. The use of the internet is only limited to helping researchers in obtaining primary and secondary data, nothing more than that because it will be considered plagiarism. The data taken by researchers in internet browsing in question are limited to theories that will later be used by researchers.

## 3. Research Library

In addition to looking for theoretical data on internet browsing, researchers also go to the library because this method is also very helpful for researchers, making it easier for researchers to get information in books, and making readers understand the object of analysis, and get other additional information, in the text as a research direction. on this proposal. Then to prove the truth of the data found by researchers through the internet or books in the library. In the book the source must be very clear, but not all books have the theory we want, while internet browsing is very helpful because the data found is very large, but sometimes the data

found does not have a clear source. Therefore, the library is very helpful in this research.

#### 1.9.4 Data analysis techniques

In research, it is necessary to have data analysis techniques, to find out the method used by researchers to examine this research. Researchers have performed three data analysis techniques as follows:

##### 1. Clarification

First of all, the researcher needs to clarify the dialogue obtained from the drama that is taken as the object of his research, or it could be a statement from the conversation in the drama or content related to the topic to be researched. This is useful to clarify what phenomena occur in the drama "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde which will be adapted to the title of the study.

##### 2. Interpretation

The next step after clarifying all the data found by researchers in the drama "A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde. The next step is that the researcher must interpret all the data contained in the drama, for example in conversations, dialogues or expressions used by the author to determine or interpret the data collected as a basis for research.

##### 3. Explanation

After clarifying the data found, then the researcher makes an explanation. This is the last step in analyzing the data through a long process. At this stage the researcher must explain as best as possible and

must be in accordance with his research theory in the form of text, manuscripts, quotes, and or in the form of messages, which must be related to the topic of the problem in the research and must also be related to the title raised by the researcher.

#### 4. Conclusion

After going through a long process of analysis and clarification. Furthermore, researchers must be able to conclude, in drama there are many problems, but researchers are only interested in the emergence of feminism which makes the main character become a feminist character, after getting inappropriate treatments from a man. So this is what makes the drama interesting, and makes researchers want to research it because of these problems. A woman who is analyzed is the main character in the drama. So in this study it is very suitable to use feminism theory analysis.