

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

In any society there are various groups of people who in practice differ from one another. The existence of these multi-layered groups results in social stratification. The layers of society or social stratification do not occur by itself (taken for granted), but are formed by a hierarchical structure that is sufficiently established to allow the stratification to last a long time. Social hierarchy occurs in an explicit tension, for example a number of individuals who have the same status according to the size of their community are placed in a stratum. While the "top-down" hierarchy is distinguished according to certain measures such as power, privilege and prestige obtained on the basis of economic adequacy, education, division of work groups (profession).

Pitrim A. Sorokin said that social stratification is the division of the population or society into hierarchical classes (Sorokin, 1959:11). Its embodiment is upper class and lower class. According to Sorokin, the basic and core layers of society are not balanced in the distribution of rights and obligations, or between obligations and responsibilities of social values and their influence among community members.

In terms of social stratification, the unequal distribution of power allows members of higher strata to impose their will on members of lower strata. The ability to achieve this goal in communal action may, in some cases, be due to a compliance or voluntary acceptance of the right of one of the parties to issue an order.

The "Persuasion" tells the story of a society in the Georgian or County era (also known as the Romanticism period) named Anne Elliot as the main character who is the

second daughter of the noble Sir Walter Elliot. He had to break off his engagement to Captain Wentworth because of the persuasion of Lady Russell who was a close friend of Anne Elliot's mother. Lady Russell herself could not imagine how Anne's life would be if she married Wentworth who was poor and had no connections to improve her social status in society. Anne's own father disapproved of this engagement because he thought it would lower his self-esteem. However, Anne and her lover, Mary Elliot are very low self-esteem because their father has given everything to his eldest daughter, Elizabeth Elliot. The behavior of Father and Elizabeth as the eldest child also always upholds his dignity as a noble child. They are known as people who will do anything without rational thought to maintain their dignity as royalty.

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

1.2.1 How are the forms of social stratification illustrated in the novel "Persuasion" By Jane Austen ?

1.2.2 What are the impact of social stratification in the novel "Persuasion" By Jane Austen ?

## **1.3 Scope of Study**

In this study, the research will focus on the search for forms of "persuasion" that manifests into the stratification basis, namely regarding power, privilege, and prestige where this basis is structured based on economic, educational and occupational groups. In addition, this research is limited to the approach used, namely the sociological of literary approach.

## **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

In accordance with the research statement, the objectives of study are:

1.4.1 To identify forms of stratification illustrated in the novel “Persuasion” by Jane Austen.

1.4.2 To analysis the impacts of stratification in the novel “Persuasion” by Jane Austen.

## **1.5 Significance of The Study**

In relation to the problem formulation and problem boundaries that have been described, the benefits of this research can be explained according to its theoretical and practical significance as follows :

### **1.5.1 Theoretical Significance**

This research can provide knowledge to readers, about how to analyze literary works, especially analyzing intrinsic and extrinsic elements in novels. In addition, this research can be a reference for other researchers in relation to social stratification issues.

### **1.5.2 Practical Significance**

This research can add to the literature in the Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Khairun University, or be a good introduction for readers in elaborating their understanding of the novel “Persuasion” by Jane Austen.

## **1.6 Review of Related Literature**

The literature review is intended as a guide that is usually used by many researchers in order to find out the unification and differences with research that has been carried out by other researchers, both on aspects of formal objects and material objects. The purpose of these activities is that a research can be free from plagiarism. In addition, literature review can be useful for researchers as reference material.

Generally, literature studies are carried out on other scientific writings in the form of journals, theses, theses and books both in electronic form and in physical form. But the study of electronic literature needs to pay attention to citations to determine the credibility of the literature in question. In this regard, some previous studies that can be used as indicators to determine the unification of this research are as follows.

First, related literature from Ngabidah, Zaharani Nurul, Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University (2015), with the title "Gender Discrimination Suffered by Characters in Jane Austen's persuasion". In this study, the researcher focuses on gender discrimination that occurs in female characters in Jane Austen's novel Persuasion which will then be discussed by discussing the types of discrimination experienced by the characters. Data regarding the types of discrimination experienced by the characters are taken from conversations in the novel or the author's expressions in the novel which reveal the injustice, prejudice, and satire experienced by the characters in the novel. The researcher concludes that the novel Persuasion by Jane Austen tries to emphasize gender discrimination in societal phenomena, including in individual approaches and in general perspectives (family, community).

Second, related literature from Ratih Ajeng Oktarina, Widya Madiun University (2015), with the title "The Portrait of Marriage In Victorian Era In Jane Austen's Persuasion". This study discusses the portrait of marriage in the Victorian era in Jane Austen's Persuasion. Marriage theory and setting were used to analyze the data. There are two approaches used to analyze the data. The first approach is a sociological approach and the second approach is a historical-biographical approach. Research proves that the portrait of marriage in the Victorian era is depicted in Jane Austen's

Persuasion through the characters in the novel. At that time, marriage was a way to gain social status. Women in the Victorian era would find men of great wealth to be their husbands. Meanwhile, marriages for love are rare.

## **1.7 Theoretical Base**

### 1.7.1 Sociology of Literature

Pospelov (1967: 534) says that literature is an art that develops in human society throughout the ages, while sociology has a goal to find objective laws of social life in all its manifestations, including creative arts. Literature not only tells us about various social and historical aspects of human life, but also all aspects of nature that are close to human life. Literature also discusses the social conditions of society because literature is written in a certain time, norm, and culture. Hall (1979 in Endraswara, 2013: 78) says that the concept of literature as a social reference is very feasible because of the creator's active attention to understanding society.

According to Ritzer and Goodman (2004:112) defines the sociological study of evolution in its most complex form or it can be said that sociology is the natural history of society or the order between structural and functional changes experienced by society pass. According to Swingewood (1972:15) says that

sociology is essentially a science, an objective study of humans in society and social processes.

Endraswara (2013: 77) says that the sociology of literature is a branch of reflective literary research. This research is in great demand by researchers who want to see literature as a mirror of human life. The basis of the sociology of literary research is the birth of literary works not in a social vacuum. Social life will trigger the creation of literary works. A literary work is said to be successful if it is able to reflect the development of the times. The study of the sociology of literature tends to show the relationship of the author to social life in all aspects, both the content of literary works created by circumstances and social forces at a certain time.

Laurenson and Swingwood (1972: 79) say that there are three perspectives in the sociology of literature:

- The study views literature as a social document which is a reflection of the situation at the time literature was created.
- Studies that reveal literature as a reflection of the author's social situation,
- Research that captures literary works as a manifestation of historical events and socio-cultural conditions.

The text contained in literary works will be a reflection of the current state of society and cannot be separated from imagination and social elements so that

aspects of social life are automatically reflected in literary works (Endraswara, 2013: 79-81).

### 1.7.2 Concept of Sociological Approach

According to Damono (2020: 5) Sociology is a science that studies humans objectively and scientifically in relation to their existence in society. Moreover, sociology is also related to a study of social institutions and processes. Sociology seeks to find out how society should exist and develop. By examining social, economic, religious, political and other issues that constitute the social structure, it can be an illustration of how humans adapt to their environment, socialization mechanisms, civilizing processes that place community members in their respective places according to their position in society.

Furthermore, according to Damono (2020: 5-6), there are two main things in the study of sociology, namely an approach based on the assumption that literature is a mirror of people's lives and an approach that uses literary texts as the focus material, which is then sought for social aspects. In the sociology of literature approach, there are several targets, including literature that can be said to be a reflection of society at the time it was written, because many characteristics of society are displayed in literary works, but are no longer valid when written and Literature tries to present the state of society carefully. Supervision may not be trusted or accepted as a reflection of society. Vice versa, literary works that are not intended to accurately describe the state of society can still be trusted as material to find out the state of society.

Like sociology, literature deals with humans in society, especially human efforts to adapt and efforts to change society in a fairly complex atmosphere. In this respect, sociology and literature have the same problem area. Thus literature can be considered as an effort to recreate social relations between humans and their families, their environment, their politics, their country and so on.

According to Abrams (1981: 178) in "A Glossary of Literature Term" there are three things that researchers can do in using the sociology of literature approach. First, the writer with the cultural environment in which he lives. Second, working with the social conditions reflected in it. The third is the audience or readers. From Abrams' explanation, it can be used as a reference in teaching literature that uses a sociological approach to be a step in analyzing literary works.

Sociology conducts objective scientific analysis. The sociology of literature approach that is most widely used to date pays great attention to the documentary aspect of literature, the basis of which is the idea that literature is a mirror of its era. This view assumes that literature is a direct reflection of various aspects of social structure, family relationships, class conflicts and others.

### 1.7.3 Form of Social Stratification

Social stratification is a system of differentiation of individuals or groups in society, which places them in different hierarchical social classes and gives different rights and obligations between individuals at one layer to another (top-down). Social stratification is principally related to the mastery of "social resources". At the most radical point of view, social resources are always related



to the falsification of who has the right to speak and who cannot speak about injustice. Social resources are anything that is considered valuable by society. The social stratification system is the division of the population or society into tiered classes, which are manifested in the upper class, middle class, and lower class.

As stated by Aristotle (Soekanto, 2003: 227) that in ancient times in the state there were three elements, namely the very rich, the poor and those in the middle. Proving that at that time and before, the community recognized that there were layers of society that had stratified positions from the bottom up. Whoever has something of value in large quantities, he is considered to be in the upper strata of society. Those who have little or no material value will be seen as part of a group that does not have a good position or has a low stratification.

Soemardjan and Soemardi in "A Flower of Sociology" (1974) state that as long as there is something that is valued in society, social stratification will occur automatically. Measures or criteria that stand out and are dominant as the basis for the formation of social stratification are power, privilege and prestige. Power relates to mastery of human resources, privilege highlights consecration, while prestige relates to the degree of public acceptance of fame based on symbolic and cultural capital (knowledge).

According to Weber (in Gerth and Mills, 1946: 186), the basic category to distinguish class is wealth, and the factor that creates class is economic interest. Another thing that according to Weber is used by people to discriminate among members of society is honor. According to Weber, citizens can also be distinguished based on the power they have. He said that the party is a symptom

of the order of power. Weber defines power as "the opportunity for a person or persons to realize their own desires through an action".

Weber's distinction between three kinds of stratification was followed by a number of sociologists. Weber's influence is seen in Berger's view (1963:94) which defines social stratification as the difference between layers of society based on superior-subordinate relationships based on power, wealth, and honor.

Weber's influence is also evident in the work of Jeffries and Ransford. Using three measures: power, privilege, and prestige, they distinguish three kinds of stratification, namely power hierarchy based on power, class hierarchy based on control over goods and services, and status hierarchy based on the division of honor and social status (Jeffries and Ransford, 1980: 57-80). Despite the different interpretations regarding the issue of stratification, scholars consistently emphasize one or more of the three attributes of such a stratification system.

#### 1.7.3.1 The Concept of Power

Weber (1958 in Jeffries and Ransford, 1980: 65) defines power as an opportunity for a person or a number of people to realize their own will in a communal action, even against the resistance of others who participate in the action. In terms of social stratification, the unequal distribution of power allows members of higher strata to impose their will on members of lower strata. The ability to achieve this goal in communal action may, in some cases, be due to compliance and voluntary acceptance of the right of either party to issue orders.

Weber (1946 in Jeffries and Ransford, 1980: 65) extends Marx's formulation of the power base. In doing so, Weber extended Marx's singular emphasis on class stratification into a multidimensional theory of social stratification. Class, which Weber argued involves positioning in the market relative to the use of property and the exchange of goods and services for economic gain, is only one basis of access to power.

Status, social honor and prestige given to a group in a society, emphasized by Weber as another major source of power. Power relates to the ability of individuals or groups to manifest their desires in communal action; that privilege refers to the social distribution of highly valued goods, services, situations, and experiences. Privileges also refer to rights and obligations, claims and obligations, losses and gains related to positions in a certain strata in the social hierarchy. The class that is in the higher strata has immunities, advantages, prerogatives, freedoms. Meanwhile, relatively few choices are only available to those in the lower strata. In this sense, in almost all societies, the question of strata shows that there are certain aspects that are superior to the upper class over the lower class.

#### 1.7.3.2 The Concept of Privilege

Lenski (1966 in Jeffries and Ransford, 1980: 68) has defined privilege as ownership or control over a portion of the surplus produced by a society. Such a definition suggests that privilege is closely related to economic position, and that economically related resources that money can buy are a key dimension of privilege. This kind of position is too

narrow to see the many advantages and disadvantages that are patterned and social order which is so central in the nature of social stratification. Therefore, two types of privileges are distinguished; there are privileges related to ownership of economic resources, and privileges related to social expectations and norms. In this sense, privilege has three main aspects, namely what money can buy, what allows one to avoid it, and what is given or suppressed by the culture of society that has already become an established structure.

#### 1.7.3.3 The Concept of Prestige

Jeffries and Ransford (1980: 69) say that prestige refers to the distribution of social honor, or status. In any society, some groups are evaluated differently from others. Some people are held in high esteem and respect, while others are looked down upon. In relation to social stratification, prestige is the difference in the degree of individuals or groups according to several criteria determined by society. Prestige may be given or even withheld/deferred. In this sense, some level of community consensus is needed especially regarding what qualities are desirable and undesirable. That prestige is always related to the degree of acceptance that is formed through a consensus. The prestige rating thus reflects the values emphasized in a particular society. Prestige is often bestowed on individuals based on factors such as religious associations, family background, wealth, power, occupation, and ethnicity.

Thus the attempt to systematically analyze the role of prestige or “social status” in the status hierarchy is a different dimension of the stratification system based on positive and negative evaluations of social honor. The emphasis that needs to be paid attention to is that prestige places itself in status groupings, i.e. on individuals who have an equal claim to honor or social prestige, based on criteria such as family background, ethnicity, or occupation. These groups tend to form communities, and express their status positions through a distinctive “lifestyle”, which is also a necessity for group members.

Kerbo (2003:12) says that when the placement of classes or strata is mainly hereditary, then such placement refers to the assumption (conventional). That is, people are placed in positions in the stratification system because of qualities beyond their control (for example, because of race, gender, or class at birth). When the placement of a class or strata is mainly due to the qualities that can be controlled by the individual, it refers to the placement of achievement. That is, people get a place in the stratification system because they have achievements, because they live according to certain ideals, or because they follow certain rules of achievement.

#### 1.7.4 The Impact of Social Stratification

##### 1.7.4.1 Economy

Economic aspect of class is considered to be of greatest importance.

Social classes are primarily economic groups. Income, property, stocks

and bonds, or other forms of wealth are major elements of the economic attributes of social class. The total economic assets, or wealth, possessed by an individual or group constitutes a position in the economic aspect of the social class hierarchy. From the economic viewpoint, “upper” class refers to those who have great wealth. Such wealth usually involves high income, and chances for future income from property ownership, inheritance, or investment. In addition, many at the top of the economic order have a high degree of control over the production process as stockholders, owners, or directors of business enterprises, which further enhances opportunities for acquiring more economic advantages.

#### 1.7.4.2 Occupational Groups

Social class, however, is more than an economic group; they are also an occupational group. Certain types of work environments and experiences are important dimensions of social class. The working class, for example, refers not only to a middle or lower position in terms of economic assets, but also to a particular work environment.

#### 1.7.4.3 Education

Fellman, Brandt, and Rosenblatt (1970 in Jeffries and Ransford, 1980:77) explain that education is the third component of social class, which provides an important avenue to access higher jobs and the economy. Failure to attain a certain level of education will in many ways hold one back from a middle and higher level job and accompany it in accumulating wealth. Education related to the ability to gain power,

privilege, and prestige. This is often a prerequisite for positions of power, especially for those in organizational structures and professional organizations. Education is also a prerequisite for many highly lucrative jobs. Income from such work allows one to purchase various rights, such as the best medical care, a comfortable home, and university education in elite schools for children. Education confers basic knowledge and skills, such as writing and communication, which can be used in obtaining and maintaining privileges.

Education is related to the ability to gain power, privilege, and prestige. This kind of thing is often a prerequisite for positions of power, especially for those in professional organizational structures. Education is also a prerequisite for many highly lucrative jobs. Income. Education confers basic knowledge and skills which can be used to acquire and maintain privileges and to attain occupational professions.

Ogburn and Nimkoff (1964: 432:444) explains that the consequences of social class including:

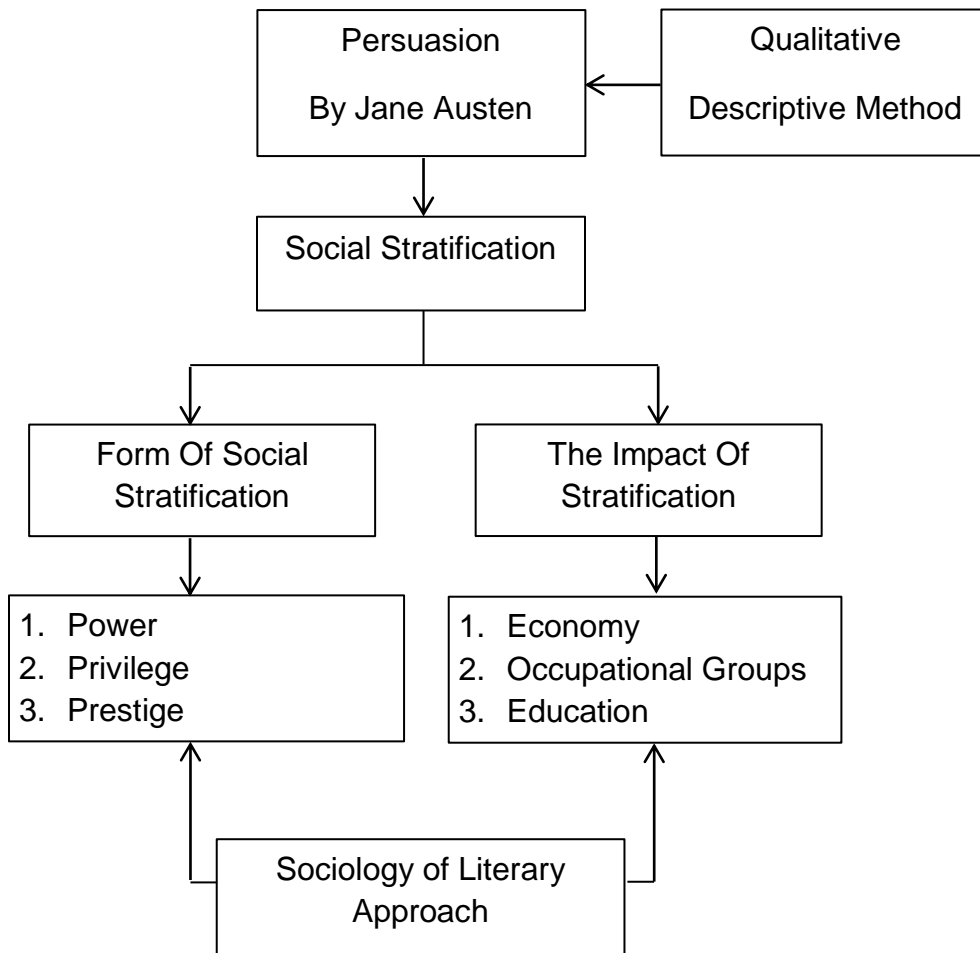
- Social class affects lifestyles, because class is a broad group in which there are barriers to intimate relationships; because classes differ in their opportunities for learning or the like in relation to education, they also differ in what they learn, how they behave and how they perceive the world.
- Social class affects life chances, the significance of the system in part in the fact that it greatly affects a person's social esteem. Members of

a certain class have more or less equal “life chances” i.e., equal chances of getting the good things in life, such as freedom, a high standard of living, free time, respect, or anything else that is highly valued in a society. certain.

- Inequality of social, there is social differentiation based on age, gender, and personal characteristics. The roles and privileges of women are different from those of men. It is not customary to speak of a society if every individual in it has an equal chance of succeeding regardless of status. A child, if he is alive enough, becomes an adult and can enjoy the privileges of adulthood. However, women cannot become men and are automatically excluded from certain roles. As in life, if in society there are religious rituals for men, with all the power and benefits contained in these sacred rituals. So strictly speaking, there are no completely equal societies, only societies that differ in the level of stratification.



## 1.8 Conceptual Scheme



## 1.9 Qualitative-Descriptive Research Method

This study uses a qualitative-descriptive method in which all the data obtained are then verified according to their respective circumstances, followed by content analysis. According to Ratna (2010:47) qualitative-descriptive research maintains the essence of value and strength of description. One of the objectives of this research is to find out the problem of social stratification and its influence on women in the novel “Persuasion” by Jane Austen. Therefore, the researcher will take the following steps; collect, select relevant data, analyze data, confirm in an interpretive way and make conclusions to write so as to achieve more optimal results.

## 1.10 Data Sources

Researchers use data sources, as follows:

### 1.10.1 Primary Data

The primary data used in this study is the novel "Persuasion" by Jane Austen published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama, Jakarta, Indonesia, published in 2019 with a total of 328 pages. Austen's work is read several times so that researchers can formulate problems and then analyze them using predetermined methods and approaches.

### 1.10.2 Secondary Data

The secondary data used by the researcher was sourced from the literature study, namely the process of collecting data from books, e-books, journals and other internet-based materials that were significantly related to this research, namely social stratification.

## 1.11 Technique of Collecting Data

### 1.11.1 Library Research

In this study, the researcher used literature study to collect primary and secondary data, primary data was taken from the novel "Persuasion" by Austen while secondary data was taken from several reference books, journals and theses. Some of the data used by the researcher was sourced from previous research as explained in the previous section.

### 1.11.2 Internet Research

Internet research is used to complement library research, when in the case of very limited data in the library and to understand the topics in the novel more deeply.

## 1.12 Technique of Analyzing Data

After collecting the data, the next step is analyzing data. To analyze it, the researcher uses some technique. There are as follow:

### 1.12.1 Reading Comprehension

In this research, reading comprehension uses to understand the main idea of the topic that can be analyzed.

### 1.12.2 Classification

The researcher divide technique of analyzing data. The researcher organizes and classifies data according to the topic raised or based on the statement of the problem, namely Social Stratification and The Impact In The Novel "Persuasion" using a Sociological Approach.

### 1.12.3 Interpretation

After the data is classified, the research is continued by interpreting the data. The interpretation technique itself is reading the novel comprehensively and repetitively, and carefully to obtain data that is truly valid. Good interpretation can be done by understanding each narrative well so that researchers are able to understand the purpose and message of the story to get answers to problems.

### 1.12.3 Explanation

After the interpretation is complete, explanation is a technique used by researchers to see various possible narratives that can be used as additional data so that the interpretation results become more leverage.