

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Backgrounds

Literature is an imaginative work that depicts human life in a society and can be enjoyed, understood, and used by society. Literature is a means of social expression, a mirror of life, and an interpretation of human expressions that help us understand how to live. According to Esten (1978: 9), "literature is the disclosure of artistic and imaginative facts as a manifestation of human life and society in general, through language as the medium and life and society in general, through language as a medium, and has a positive effect on human life". Literary work is an expression of a human being poured into a form of work based on thoughts, experiences, and feelings, which are then formed imaginatively and use language as a medium.

Literature can be divided into two major categories: fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is literary work that is not based on a true story. While nonfiction is a literary work that is based on a true story, Some examples of literary fiction are novels, short stories, poetry, plays, movies, etc. Some examples of non-fiction literature are personal essays, history, biography, and autobiography.

Wellek and Warren (1963: 22) say that "The term literature seems most appropriate if we limit it to literary art, i.e. imaginative

literature. Literature is also created by the imagination of its author. Literature is not just a document of facts, not just a collection of real events, although they may occur in real life. Literature can create its world as a product of unlimited imagination".

Based on some of the explanations above, the researcher concludes that literary works are works that can be enjoyed by everyone, whether read or in any form, because literary works are not only something that can be read (such as books and others) but can be imagined. and everyone does it.

Literary works often reflect and describe various problems related to the experiences, roles, and conditions experienced by women in society. Writers often use literature as a means to convey messages and examine issues that affect women. Several problems that often appear in literary works and are important themes are gender inequality, sexual harassment, violence against women, women's empowerment, and feminist awareness.

Literature can be a powerful tool to understand, reflect on, and fight for change in issues that impact women. Literature can create space for powerful narratives, learning, and raising awareness of deep gender issues. Through literary works, women can also express their voices regarding the gender inequality they experience and accept throughout their lives.

It is important to remember that women's problems are not limited to one region or culture. They exist worldwide and require collective efforts to address and achieve greater gender equality. Women's organizations, human rights, and feminist movements have worked hard to raise awareness of these issues and promote positive change. One way is by creating literary works by writers who want to support, defend, or feel they have been disadvantaged by injustice towards women, they also raise issues using the genre of injustice (feminism) experienced by women through literary works.

Drama is a genre of literature, film, or television that involves conflict and emotional tension between characters. It typically portrays the interpersonal relationships, struggles, and experiences of its characters in a highly emotional and intense manner. "Drama often explores complex themes such as love, betrayal, morality, power, and the human condition. Drama is classified as a literary work because the medium used to convey the ideas or thoughts of the author is language" (Budianta et al., 2002: 112).

It encompasses a wide range of forms, including tragedy, comedy, tragicomedy, and melodrama. These different forms vary in tone, style, and subject matter, but they all aim to engage the audience through compelling narratives and performances. "Another opinion that strengthens the position of drama as a literary work is that drama is included in the variety of literature because the stories are imaginative in

the form of drama scripts” (Zulfahnur et al., 1996: 23). That means drama can also refer to real-life situations or events that are characterized by intense emotions, conflicts, or controversies. In this context, it often involves heightened emotions, tension, and intrigue among individuals or groups. Overall, drama is a genre that seeks to captivate and entertain by showing the complexities of human relationships and the emotional struggles faced by its characters.

Intersectional feminism is an approach or perspective within the feminist movement that recognizes and explores the interconnections and intersections between various forms of inequality and discrimination, such as race, social class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and so on. This concept emphasizes that women's experiences cannot be fully explained through just one dimension of identity and that various aspects of identity are interrelated and influence each other.

Lynn Nottage is an acclaimed American playwright and screenwriter. Nottage is known for her powerful and socially relevant works, which often tackle important issues and shed light on the experiences of marginalized communities.

Nottage has received numerous awards and honors for her contributions to the field of theater. She is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner for Drama, receiving the award for her plays "Ruined" in 2009 and "Sweat" in 2017. This makes her the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Drama twice. Her works often explore topics such as race, gender,

socioeconomic disparities, and political turmoil. Nottage is recognized for her meticulous research and dedication to creating authentic and empathetic portrayals of her characters.

One of the literary works that addresses gender inequality is the drama "Ruined". "Ruined" itself is a drama written by Lynn Nottage in 2009. This drama focuses on the lives of a group of women who live in a bar and brothel in Congo during the Congolese Civil War. This drama depicts several problems faced by women in the context of armed conflict and humanitarian crises in the region. The drama Ruined reflects the reality of women amid armed conflict and humanitarian crises and raises issues such as sexual violence, gender inequality, and the struggle to survive in difficult conditions.

In the drama "Ruined", there are 5 main problems experienced by women, namely the characters experiencing sexual violence, the trauma and stigma that must be experienced and accepted by the characters, the struggle of the characters to survive during armed conflict, the existence of gender inequality where the female characters in this drama are only used as sexual objects, and the last is the role of women in power and decision making.

In this study, the researcher will raise the issue of women's oppression that occurs in the two main characters in the play, Sophie and Salima. The researcher will describe the forms of oppression received by the two main characters and include the impact received by the two main

characters from the oppression. Sophie and Salima are slaves who are forced to work in Mama Nadi's bar. This research uses an Intersectional feminism approach, which is supported by the feminist theory of Patricia Hill Collins, who put forward the theory of the "domination matrix". The researcher used two interrelated dimensions to explain the forms of oppression, namely sexism and social class.

1.2 Statements of Problem

1. How is the form of oppression depicted to the main characters in the play "Ruined" by Lynn Nottage?
2. What impact does the main characters face in the play "Ruined" by Lynn Nottage?

1.3 Scope of the Research

This research focuses on the two main characters in the play "Ruined" by Lynn Nottage using the Intersectional Feminism approach, which is supported by Patricia Hill Collins' feminist theory of the "matrix of domination", which is encompassed by three interrelated dimensions to explain the problems raised in this research. The two dimensions are sexism and social class.

1.4 The Objectivities of the Research

1. To find out how is the form of oppression depicted to the main characters in the play "Ruined" by Lynn Nottage.
2. To describe what impact does the main characters face in the play "Ruined" by Lynn Nottage receive.

1.5 Significances of the Research

1.5.1 Theoretical Significance:

The findings from this study are expected to help readers understand this drama or the methods used. This research is also expected to give readers insight into analyzing work in other terms. And it is hoped that this research can be useful for readers.

1.5.2 Practical Significance:

Researchers hope that this research can help readers who want to analyze or research literary works, especially in analyzing dramatic literary works. It is also hoped that this research can help readers who want to develop research with relevant titles. And it can be used as a basis for readers who want to do research on relevant titles.

Researchers hope that this research can help readers understand more deeply about the oppression that occurs against women, and in the future they can be more aware of acts of oppression that might occur to themselves or those around them.

1.6 Review of Related Literature

To support this research, researcher refer to several previous studies related to this research. Several previous related studies, one of which comes from Beby Mutiara and Desvalini Anwar (2019), "Men Superiority in Lynn Nottage's *Ruined* (2009)". This study explains the occurrence of men's superiority that has been experienced by the women in this drama. To find out the men superiority experienced by women, the researcher

analyzed the mental and physical condition of the female characters using character, plot, and setting to reveal the way of character experiences the men's superiority. The researcher used based on a feminist concept by Simone de Beauvoir to analyze they study.

According to researcher, the title of the research is related to this research. Both studies use the same literary work, namely the drama "Ruined" by Lynn Nottage, and raise women's issues in it. But what is different is that in this research, the researcher focuses more on the three oppressions that occur to the female characters in this drama. Previous research explains how male patriarchy has more power or what can also be called men's superiority, which affects women. In this research, the researcher focuses more on female characters who experience oppression from different angles. Each research has a different perspective according to what is needed. According to researcher, this research has a wider scope to explain how oppression occurs to the female characters in this drama. Not only from one perspective which happens to the characters but also from another perspective to experienced by the characters. So the researcher feels that this research can help to complement previous research on a wider scale.

Then there is also research related to this research. The research is entitled "Intersectionality of Structural Oppression in Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clézio's *Roman Poisson D'or*: A Review from Patricia Hill Collins' Feminism Perspective" by Erika Ragil Yulyani (2020). Her research

contains the structural oppression that occurs to women in Morocco and the countries they migrate to and the resistance of the main female characters in Poisson D'or's romances. The research uses analytical descriptive methods and explains social phenomena carried out by acts of discrimination based on gender, social class, physical form, and national origin. Both studies use an intersectionality theory approach according to Patricia Hill Collins. But the difference is that if the research describes the oppression of one female character in the Poisson D'or novel, in this research the researcher explains two female characters who experience oppression in the play "Ruined".

Furthermore, research that is still related to this research is "Black Women's Oppression and Resistance in Namina Forna "The Gilded Ones": Feminist Approach" by Winema Tania and Rahma Ananditha Firdaus (2022). This research aims to discover the oppression of black women and resistance to this oppression. This novel reflects black women who are under a patriarchal system and have the will to fight as a form of resistance to get justice. The researcher used Collins' (2010) black feminist theory of oppression and resistance. These two studies both address the oppression that occurs against black women, but have different aims. Next there is "Oppression and Resistance of Intersectional Women in the Short Story "Fire Tree" by Oka Rusmini" by Andika Hendra Mustaqim (2018). This research aims to map and explore the oppression and resistance of the main character in this literary work. Even though

there is oppression against the main character, the main character is always tough and wants equality.

And the next research is research with the title "Intersectionality of Noble Women and Men in Tula-Tula Mia Wakatobi" by Buyung Ade Saputra and Aryana Nurul Qarimah (2022). This research examines the practices found among women and men in the story "Tula-tula Mia Wakatobi". The results of this research show that female nobles are more disadvantaged than male nobles. And female nobles have a dual identity, namely as nobles and also as daughters of a father or king. And it can also be seen that this identity can be the main cause of privileges or othering through discriminatory actions obtained by nobles.

Related to the previous study, in this research the researcher will focus on the oppression experienced by two female characters using the two dimensions in the drama "Ruined".

1.7 Theoretical Base

1.7.1 Intersectional Feminism

The American sociologist Patricia Hill Collins, in her 1990 book *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment*, proposed a form of standpoint theory that emphasized the perspective of African American women. Collins argued that the matrix of oppression—an interlocking system of race, gender, and class oppression and privilege—has given African American women a distinctive point of view from which to understand

their marginalized status. She showed how African American women have been oppressed by the economic exploitation of their labor, the political denial of their rights, and the use of controlling cultural images that create damaging stereotypes, and she suggested that African American women can contribute something special to feminist scholarship. Collins called for inclusive scholarship that rejects knowledge that dehumanizes and objectifies people.

Intersectional feminism is an approach to feminism that recognizes that women's experiences are not only influenced by gender but also by other factors such as race, social class, sexuality, disability, and other identities. "No standard definition of intersectionality exists, yet most people would associate one or more of the following principles with intersectionality: (1) racism, sexism, class exploitation, and similar systems of oppression are interrelated and build upon one another; (2) the configuration of social inequality takes shape at the intersection of oppression; (3) social perceptions of such issues also reflect how social actors are located within the power relations of a particular historical and social context; and (4) because individuals and groups are differentially located within intersecting oppressions, they have distinctive viewpoints about social phenomena" (Collins and Bilge 2016, 25–30).

An intersectional approach in the feminist movement that recognizes and explores the complexity of the intersection between

various forms of inequality and discrimination experienced by women. This concept understands that individual identities and experiences cannot be understood in isolation from each other, but are interrelated and influence each other.

According to Collins in book *Intersectionality as Critical Social Theory*, “This focus on use also grounds my selection of four guiding premises of intersectional projects, namely, (1) race, class, gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, ability, age, and similar markers of power are interdependent and mutually construct one another; (2) intersecting power relations produce complex, interdependent social inequalities; (3) the social location of individuals and groups within intersecting power relations shapes their experiences within and perspectives on the social world; and (4) solving social problems within a given local, regional, national, or global context requires intersectional analyses. Together these cognitive entry points, core constructs and guiding premises provide a cognitive architecture for investigating intersectionality as critical social theory and the form that critical social theorizing might take” (p. 694).

Collins emphasizes the need to examine how power operates within intersecting systems and how different social locations can influence individuals' access to resources, opportunities, and social recognition.

Collins's work has been influential in highlighting the experiences of Black women and other marginalized groups within feminist discourse. Her intersectional perspective encourages scholars and activists to consider the complex interplay of multiple social identities and power structures when analyzing and challenging systems of inequality.

1.7.2 Intersectional Oppression

Intersectional oppression is a concept that emerged from intersectionality theory and refers to experiences of oppression or inequality that arise from various factors or dimensions of identity that intersect or interact. This means that a person can experience oppression that is complex and unique due to a combination of factors such as race, gender, social class, sexual orientation, religion, and other identity characteristics.

Intersectionality theory, first introduced by Kimberlé Crenshaw. Kimberlé Crenshaw (Andika, 2018) highlights that a person does not only experience oppression based on one aspect of their identity, but rather by several interrelated factors. In this case, intersectional oppression refers to the impact of oppression that arises when individuals or groups face various forms of discrimination that originate from their complex identities.

According to Collins, “Draw upon taken-for-granted ideas about race, class, gender, sexuality, and similar categories to evaluate ideas

in light of the people who raise them. These categories . . . align with prevailing hierarchies that privilege and derogate entire categories of people as capable of doing social theory” (p. 130). It is therefore important to understand that structural oppression involves power and control embedded in systems and institutions, which inherently produce systemic and ongoing inequalities. To overcome structural oppression, it is necessary to make changes in policies, practices, and collective awareness to create a more just and inclusive society.

The importance of the concept of intersectional oppression is to understand that inequality cannot be fully understood by considering only one dimension of identity. Instead, we need to understand the complexity and interconnectedness of multiple dimensions of identity to recognize and address various forms of oppression. According to Collins herself, she believes that within intersectional oppression there are three interrelated dimensions, namely:

First in Sexism, Collins feels that sexism is a system that heavily discriminates and exploits women based on prejudice and gender stereotypes. With this, she wanted to fight the sexist oppression faced by women from all backgrounds. “In the act of exploitation, women have to work without pay and their privacy is constantly violated” (Collins, 2014:47).

And the second is Social Class, The dimension in Collins' theory is social class. Collins recognizes that social class differences can affect

women and make it harder for them to deal with oppression (sexism and racism). “Oppression describes any unjust situation where, systematically and over a long period of time, one group denies another group access to the resources of society” (Collins, 2015:4). She focuses on how economic inequality and access to resources are difficult for women.

Patricia Hill Collins says that these two dimensions are interrelated and influence each other. Individual experiences in society are not only influenced by one dimension of oppression but also by the combination of two dimensions. Collins' intersectional approach encourages us to pay attention to the complexities and intersections between sexism and social class in the effort to understand and fight against the inequality and oppression experienced by women.

1.7.3 Traumatic

According to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), “individual trauma results from an event, series of events, or set of circumstances that are experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or life-threatening, and that have lasting adverse effects on the individual’s functioning and mental, physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being”. Trauma can be caused by a variety of situations, including accidents, physical or sexual violence, war, profound loss, or other difficult situations.

In this context, Collins argues, traumatic experiences can be interpreted as the result of various forms of oppression and inequality experienced by individuals who are at the intersection of complex identities. For example, Collins discusses how Black women in the United States may experience unique and complex trauma because they may face racial and gender discrimination simultaneously. These experiences shape their identity and can have traumatic psychological and social impacts.

Traumatic relationships with literary works are often the focus of research and exploration in the world of literature. Writers often use the theme of trauma as a way to explore the psychological, emotional, and social impact of a traumatic experience on a character or within a narrative context. According to Wellek dan Werren, (in Fananie, 2000: 90) Psychology is interpreted as the psyche area, the inner conflict of characters in a literary work. However, psychology can be used to support in analyzing a literary work.

The concept of intersectionality helps detail the ways individuals can experience the traumatic impact of detrimental social structures. Therefore, intersectionality helps us understand how various forms of inequality and oppression can create traumatic experiences for certain individuals and groups.

1.7.3.1 Psychology Response

The term "psychological response" refers to the emotional, cognitive, and behavioral reactions or adaptations that individuals may experience in response to various stimuli, situations, or stressors. It encompasses a wide range of mental and emotional processes that shape how a person thinks, feels, and behaves.

Psychological responses can be influenced by internal factors, such as personality, beliefs, and coping mechanisms, as well as external factors, including environmental stressors, life events, or social interactions. These responses can be adaptive or maladaptive, influencing an individual's ability to navigate challenges, maintain mental well-being, and interact effectively with others. Harvey, in his book explains the definition of trauma as, a specific term referring to extreme psychological and psychological reactions to major losses, such as the death of close other (2002: 23).

1.7.3.2 Trauma Response

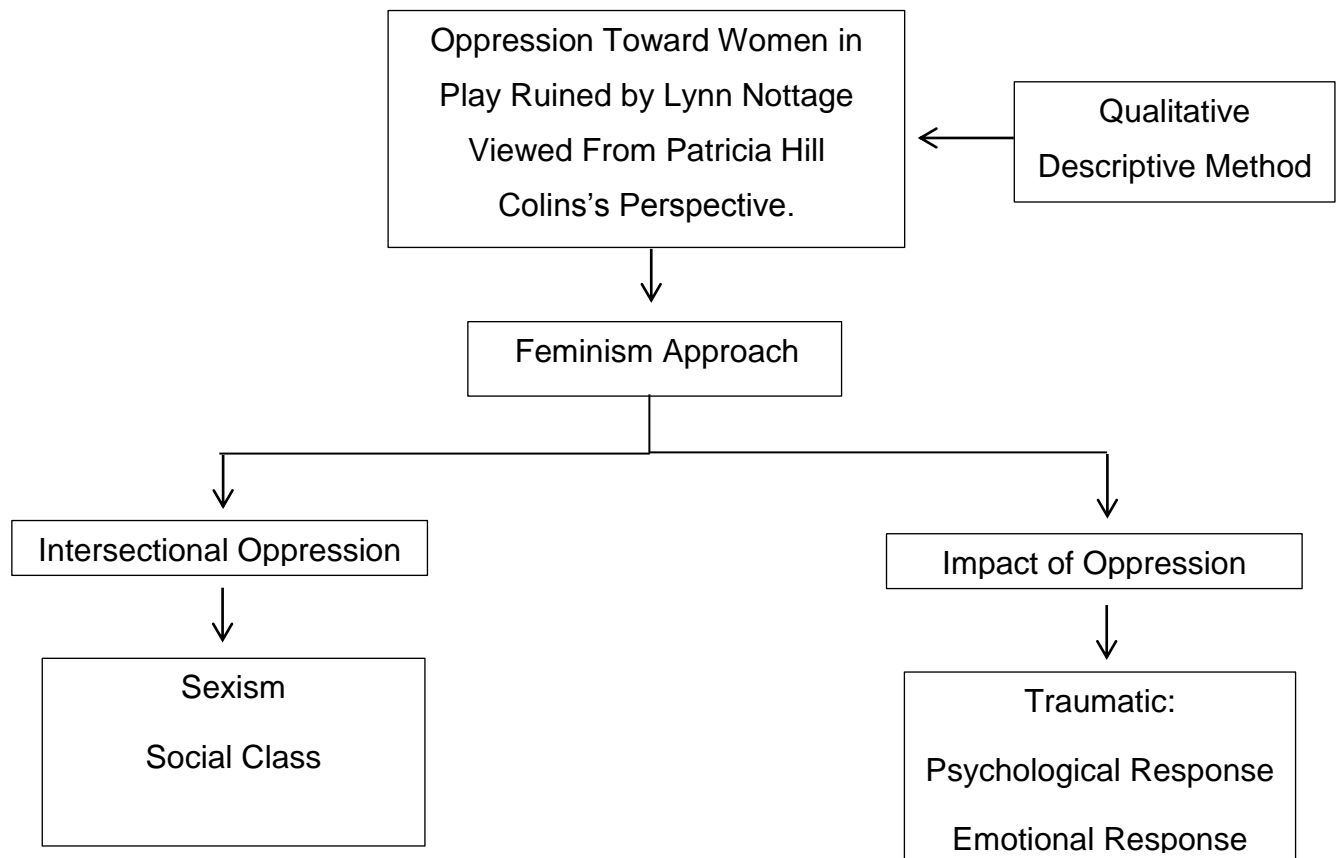
Emotional response refers to the way an individual reacts or feels in relation to a particular stimulus, situation, or event. Emotions are complex psychological and physiological reactions that can vary widely from person to person and are influenced by a variety of factors including personal experiences, cultural background, and individual differences.

Understanding emotional responses is crucial in psychology, sociology, and various other fields as emotions play a significant role in shaping human behavior, decision-making, and interpersonal relationships. In many situations, emotional responses can also have a physiological component, involving changes in heart rate, hormone levels, and other bodily functions.

Overall, emotional responses are a fundamental aspect of human experience, influencing how individuals perceive and interact with the world around them.

1.8 Conceptual Scheme

The conceptual scheme aims to help researchers clarify the objectives, scope and limitations of research. This also helps researchers in conducting research.



From the Conceptual Scheme above, it shows that the Research Title in the top center is the main point for this research, and on the right, there is a 'Qualitative Descriptive Method' which is the method used by researchers in this research. Furthermore, there is a down arrow that contains the 'Feminism Approach' which means that this research uses a feminist approach to analyze this research.

Then from the 'Feminism Approach' there is a connection to the formulation of this research problem, which starts with an arrow pointing to the left, there is a point that becomes the first statement and the main problem raised in this research, under the first column there is

another downward arrow to show the content of the first point that will be explained in the research. Next switch to the right arrow which is the second point of the statement raised, under the column there is also a direction of the arrow down to show the content of what will be explained in the second statement point.

1.9 Method of the Research

In analyzing this study, the research used a descriptive method. According to Fraenkel & Wallen (1993), the descriptive method is used to explain, analyze, and classify something through various techniques, survey, interview, questionnaires, observation, and text. This means that the data used is more of an explanation per sentence and is not measured using statistics. It is an analysis of the oppression that happened to the two characters in the play Ruined.

1.9.1 Data Sources

The research uses two data related to the research object in this study. This data is used to support the research's analysis. The two data used to support this analysis are primary and secondary data.

1.9.1.1 Primary Data

The primary data is "Ruined" by Lynn Nottage, which was published in 2009. The data collected is by the research object, namely examining intersectional feminism in two characters in the drama "Ruined". The research pays attention to drama scripts, from

dialogue to explanations of the expressions and movements of each character to understand the entire script.

1.9.1.2 Secondary Data

Secondary data is the supporting information that was obtained from another thesis, some relevant journals, internet research, and library research that are relevant to this research. Research is strengthened by the use of this data

1.9.2 Technique of Analyzing Data

1.9.2.1 Classification

Researchers use Classification to analyze data. Researchers organize and classify data according to the topic brought up or the formulation of the problem raised using feminist theory.

1.9.2.2 Interpretation

To get the intent and message of the drama, the researcher used interpretation techniques by reading and examining the entire contents of the script in order to get a good interpretation that suited the problem.

1.9.2.3 Explanation

After using the techniques above, the researcher will begin to explain using intersectional feminism theory and apply this theory in this research.

1.9.2.4 Conclusion

The last step in this process is to draw conclusions from the data that has been previously interpreted. In this step, researchers will draw conclusions about the oppression that occurs against women in the social realm, especially in the workplace, using descriptive methods.