

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

In today's life, many people are familiar with literature and express it through themselves, because literature is an expression of human expression in the form of written or oral works based on thoughts, opinions, experiences, and feelings. According to Fananie (2001: 6) "*Literature is a work of fiction that is the result of creation based on spontaneous emotional outbursts that are able to express the ability of good aspects of beauty based on linguistic aspects and aspects of meaning*". Novels are a form of literary work that usually contains fictional stories with complex characters, plot, and conflicts, novels provide space for writers to explore complex themes, present imaginative worlds, and build deep conflicts, creating a deep reading experience for readers. the purpose of novels includes entertainment, delivery of moral or social messages, reflection on human life, character development, and exploration of complex themes. Reading novels can improve language understanding, broaden horizons, increase empathy and others.

There are many aspects of life today that influence a person's mindset and actions. Factors such as gender, social class, religion and power in these social dynamics often lead to injustice, some of the things we encounter such as

injustice in social inequality, oppression, and fighting for human rights and equality in various aspects of life.

The rapid development of capitalism, which is a system of capital owners and workers, is currently seen to be quite advanced because it is driven by the industrial revolution where urbanisation from villages to cities causes overcrowding as well as economic factors that make many people encouraged to work without age limits, even children can be included in the work, There are many cases of children being used for personal gain just because they have capital that can provide food or shelter for children so that they can easily take advantage of children's helplessness to make them a source of labour to support their personal desires, where children are deprived of their rights and welfare, they live under the control of adults as if they are required to contribute to life.

An unfortunate example, the researcher see children being made to work on the streets until late at night by certain people who have control over them, as if children are used as breadwinners to make a profit because children are easy to attract public sympathy. This is similar to the novel that the researcher will study entitled "Oliver Twist" by Charles Dickens. Where in the 19th century during the industrial revolution in England, the main character and children were forced to work as servants in social houses and later in factories.

There are many aspects of the industrial revolution in 19th century England that are reflected in this novel, such as mass poverty, where the industrial revolution in England led to rapid rural-to-urban migration and the growth of large cities, but most of the city dwellers lived in extreme poverty so that many

street children were used as labourers. There were also poor labour conditions due to the increase in industry, factories expanded rapidly so that workers including children were forced to work in poor conditions, and there were social injustices that characterised the industrial revolution era. social classes were divided with a large gap between the poor working class and the rich upper class.

From the explanation above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the novel with the topic of child exploitation in the capitalism system that occurs in this novel, the researcher sees a lot of injustice and utilization that occurs in children. their children's rights are deprived, not treated properly as children. There is no guarantee of health, education and even food that is far from enough for the stomach. children who are forced to work with jobs that can endanger themselves and are not paid according to their work, due to inequality and a legal system that is unfair to them are factors in the exploitation of children that occurs. From the reasons above, the researcher intends to conduct research.

1.2. Statement of Problem

1. How is the portrayal of child exploitation as experienced by the main character in Oliver Twist?
2. What are the faktors exploitation during the industrial revolution in England in Oliver Twist?

1.3. Scope of the Study

To achieve the research, it is necessary to limit the object to be examined in this study. This research only focuses on analyzing the exploitation experienced by the main character and the factors causing exploitation during the industrial revolution in the novel "Oliver Twist" by Charles Dickens.

1.4. Objective of the Study

1. To describe of exploitation experienced by the main character in the novel Oliver Twist.
2. To identify the factors of exploitation during the industrial revolution in England in the novel Oliver Twist.

1.5. Significant of the Study

1. Theoretical: this research is expected to provide a foundation for understanding the occurrence of exploitation and is expected to be a useful reference related to exploitation.
2. Practical: this research is expected to give readers a practical understanding of how exploitation occurs and the factors that cause exploitation and can be used as reference material for English Literature students who are interested in this novel.

1.6. Review of Related Literature

First, researchers found previous research related to the novel Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens, by Semarang State University (UNNES) student Raharjo (2012) entitled Child Labor and Street Child Trafficking Described by Oliver

Twist in Charles Dickens' Novel *Oliver Twist* and Street Children in Semarang (genetic structuralism approach), in his research analysis discusses how child exploitation due to the industrial revolution. and his research aimed at comparing the character of street children in Semarang and street children in the novel *Oliver Twist*. Raharjo's research analyzes the characters and problems in dealing with street children in Semarang that are similar to *Oliver Twist*'s life. The similarities in Raharjo's research and this study can be seen from the novels analyzed and the discussion of child labor, but there are differences in the discussion of child labor, namely in this study the concept of child labor used refers more to the age and type of child labor and there are also different approaches used.

Second, researchers found previous research related to marxism theory, the work of Khairun Ternate University student Nuraeni kakanegi (2018) entitled *Child Exploitation in the novel "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by Lewis Carrol (seen from marxist theory)*, in her research analysis discusses child exploitation in the novel, her research focuses on the types of exploitation of children and the effects that occurred in the industrial revolution. Nuraeni's research tries to analyze child exploitation and its forms in the 19th century or the Victorian era using marxism theory. There are similarities in Nuraeni's research and this research, namely related to marxism theory, but there are differences in this research, of course, the novels analyzed and the discussion of exploitation where this research focuses more on labor exploitation in the concept of capitalism which is the research reference in analyzing.

Finally, researchers found previous research related to the novel Oliver Twist and Marxism theory, by Meli Yuniarti (2022) entitled Victorian Marxism Reflected In Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist (1837), in her research analysis discusses the novel Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens which is analyzed from the perspective of Marxist views. Meli's research analyzes the novel Olliver Twists by Charles Dickens from the point of view of Marxist views. The research in this novel focuses on issues related to Marxism which are based specifically on the working class and class struggle. on the working class and class struggle.

There are similarities in theory and the novels analyzed, in Meli's research and this research, but there are differences in the concepts raised. Meli's research refers to the working class in the social concept of class where social status, family economy, and social background make children vulnerable to exploitation in work. there is also social injustice that makes class struggle against the exploitation of the ruling class. While this study refers to child labor in the concept of age and type of work where young age makes children more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, as well as working conditions that endanger their physical and mental health.

1.7. Theoretical Basis

After reading the novel and based on the statement and scope of the research, the researcher would like to propose an argument to support the writing about "Exploitation of children in the novel "Oliver Twist" by Charles

Dickens". In this theoretical foundation, the researcher divides it into several theories, such as:

1.7.1. Marxism

Marxism is a system of economic, social, political philosophy based on ideas that view social change on the items of economic factors, Marxism is a socio-economic theory founded by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels with the aim of realising a classless society based on the common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange. It is also known as a theory that analyses how social class, money, and the means of production affect society. The principles of Marxism can be applied in analysing literary works even if they were not created for that purpose.

Marxism is also the basis of the theory of modern communism, this theory is contained in the book Communist Manifesto written by Marx and Friedrich Engels. Marxism is a form of Marx's protest against capitalism, he considers that capitalists collect money at the expense of the proletariat. The condition of the proletariat is very sad because they are forced to work long hours to get a minimum wage, while the consequences of their work are only enjoyed by the capitalists, many proletarians have to live in marginal areas and slums. this problem arises because of the existence of "private ownership" and control of wealth dominated by the rich, for the welfare of the proletariat. Marx argued that capitalism needed to be replaced with communism. If this condition continues, according to Karl Marx, "the proletariat will revolt and demand the justice on which Marxism is based".

Marxism emphasises class conflict as the driver of social change, with the ultimate goal of achieving a classless society or communism. It also highlights economic exploitation, the alienation of labour, and the structural role of economic forces in shaping the social order. For many, Marxism is the beginning of progress and evolution. Marx believed that instilling his ideology into the minds of people like him would one day make the world an idealised classless society.

1.7.2. Child Exploitation

Child exploitation is a serious violation of human rights and is not required to work if the case of children entering the workforce contains elements of exploitation, Green and Jill (2006:32) state that "exploitation means unfairly using someone's property. Exploitation is the act or fact of treating someone unfairly in order to benefit from their work. Child exploitation is the use of minors for profit, power, status, or other purposes".

Child exploitation is an act that involves the unfair use or abuse of children for the benefit and advantage of others. Children are forced and manipulated to work in conditions that are unsafe for children as well as for an undetermined amount of time, children are deprived of their welfare and rights because they are disempowered. Child exploitation also includes the trafficking of children, the use of child labor, or other abuses that may harm them.

According to Karl Marx, "*child exploitation is one form of exploitation that occurs in the capitalist system* (Capital 3: 43). Marx saw children as part of the

working class who are exploited by the owners of capital in an effort to maximize their profits". Marx argued that in the capitalist system, children are often forced to work in poor conditions and for low wages. They are exploited by the owners of capital who profit from the children's hard work. Marx saw this exploitation as part of an unjust system, where children are victimized by the capitalist system.

In the conceptual scheme of this research, the researcher analyzes child exploitation reflected in the novel "Oliver Twist" by Charles Dickens with a qualitative descriptive method that focuses on the description of exploitation experienced by the main character such as exploitation of child labor and criminalization of children as well as exploitation factors which include social inequality and legal injustice that occurred in the era of the industrial revolution in England, this research uses the theory of marxism.

1.7.2.1. Child Labor

Child labor can fit into the concept of capitalism in a number of ways, especially in the context of history and industrial practices in some countries. Capitalism, as an economic system oriented towards free markets and private ownership of the means of production, often promotes efficiency and maximum profit. In an effort to achieve this efficiency, some businesses may utilize child labor due to lower wage costs.

Karl Marx clearly condemned the use of child labor in his writings, especially in "Das Kapital." He viewed child labor as one of the most brutal

forms of exploitation of capitalism. Marx's view of child labor is in the context of the age of children and the type of work they do, which can have an impact on their physical and mental development. Marx pointed out that capitalism does not discriminate against age in exploiting labor. Children, even very young ones, are forced to work in factories, mines and various other industries. Marx criticized that children who should still be in a period of growth and education are forced into the harsh world of work.

Marx saw the use of child labor as one of the cruelest manifestations of a capitalist system that seeks to maximize profits at all costs, including exploiting the most vulnerable in society. Marx took this as evidence that capitalism is fundamentally unjust and inhumane, as it capitalizes on the weakness and helplessness of children for economic gain.

1.7.2.2. Criminalization of Children

The criminalization of children within the concept of capitalism can be seen as an attempt to maintain existing economic and social structures, where certain individuals and groups benefit while others are disadvantaged. In a capitalist system, the emphasis on profit and efficiency often neglects the rights and welfare of individuals, including children.

Criminalization of children in the context of child abuse can occur in a society that adheres to the capitalist system. In capitalism, the main focus is on the free market and private ownership of the means of production. However, how laws and social policies are implemented in capitalist societies can affect

and sometimes worsen the situation for children who are exploited or abused. In some capitalist societies, there is criticism that the legal system is more likely to punish children involved in informal or illegal economic activities than to protect them from exploitation. Children caught working in certain industries or involved in activities deemed illegal may be treated as lawbreakers rather than victims.

Marx's view on the criminalization of children in the context of child abuse would be highly critical of the capitalist system that allows this exploitation to occur, where there is child abuse in the form of economic exploitation, violence and coercion to participate in criminal activities. Marx argued that the solution to this problem lies in the radical transformation of economic and social structures into more just and humane ones, which protect the rights and well-being of children rather than exploiting and criminalizing them.

1.7.3. Industrial Revolution

The Industrial Revolution era was an important period in history in which there were major changes in the way of production and the economy. The Industrial Revolution era began in the 18th and 19th centuries in Britain and then spread around the world. The Industrial Revolution changed the way people worked and lived. Mass production using machines and technology replaced slower manual production. This resulted in significant improvements in efficiency, productivity and economic growth.

But it also brought many impacts in people's lives. In short, the industrial system has changed the structure of society. It created new social relations and problems as seen in the emergence of new groups of factory owners and industrial capitalists. The condition of British workers in the Industrial Revolution has always caused the greatest controversy among historians because Britain was the first country to industrialize and because of the most severe social consequences there. As factories got bigger, the rich got richer. On the other hand, the conditions of the workers got worse.

According to Karl Marx, *"The Industrial Revolution created fundamental changes in the social and economic structure of society, and led to conflict between the working class and the bourgeoisie"* .(capital 1: 25). Marx argued that the Industrial Revolution led to the formation of a working class consisting mainly of industrial labourers working in factories. They became a source of labour that was exploited by the bourgeois class who had capital and control over the means of production. Marx called this relationship a "relationship of exploitation" in which workers were deprived of the surplus value of their labour by the owners of capital.

In addition, the Industrial Revolution also changed the social and economic structure of society. There was mass urbanisation, with many people moving from the countryside to the cities to work in the new industries. The working class and the capitalist class were increasingly formed, with the social inequality and legal injustice of the time being factors of capitalism.

1.8. Conceptual Shame

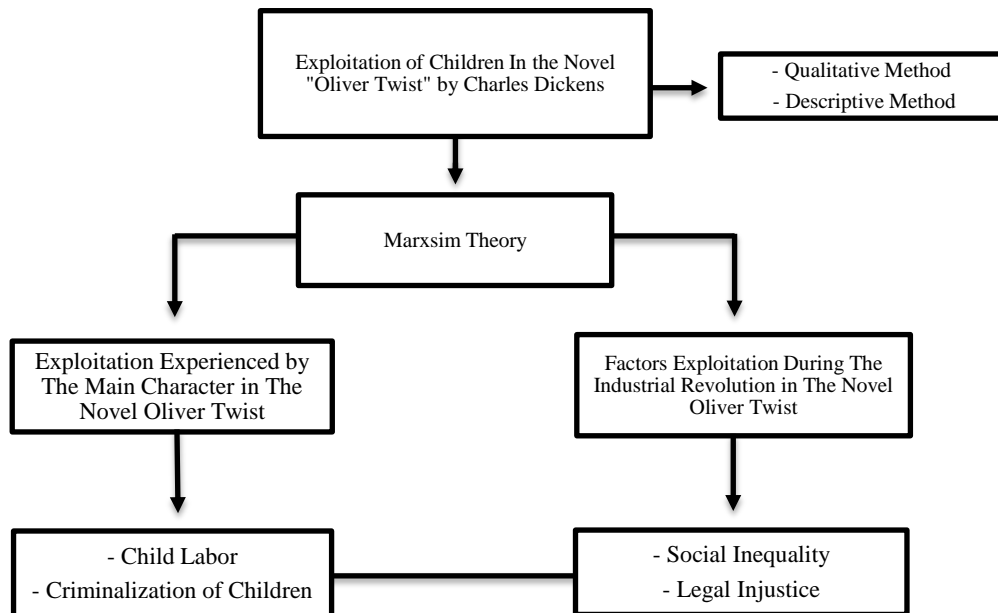


Figure 1 : The Conceptual scheme Exploitation of children in the novel Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens, 2024

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1.9. Methods of The Research

Researchers use a method that refines the analysis in detail as a research method, namely qualitative descriptive method, which is a research method that focuses on collecting and interpreting non-numerical data to describe phenomena or events in depth. Also with the aim of understanding the context, meaning, and characteristics of a subject without using statistical analysis.

1.9.1. Technique Data Collection

To collect data, the researcher used the following techniques:

1. Reading comprehension

The researcher took data directly from the novel *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens as the primary data/main source. The data is studied by reading repeatedly, then understanding it, and analyzing this research problem by focusing on expressions of words or sentences from the novel related to the research objectives.

2. Library research

Data obtained from library research in the form of books, manuscripts related to the problem of this analysis. This data source also helps researchers to understand the primary data/main source well.

3. Internet sources

The researcher also used the internet to collect data that would support the primary data, to help the researcher analyse issues related to the research, such as the issue of exploitation.

1.9.2. Technique of Analysis Data

To analyze the data, researchers used several techniques, such as:

1. Classification

After reading the novel, the researcher classifies the data based on the problem formulation.

2. Interpretation

The researcher will look for problem formulations in the novel related to the problem, especially capitalism, and interpret them based on relevant theories.

3. Explanation

After that, the researcher provides an explanation of the statements in the novel as a result of the interpretation related to the case of exploitation.

4. Conclusion

The final step of the research can be concluded that systematic explanations such as narrative structure, character analysis, and motif identification reveal deep layers of meaning in the analysis results.