

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

A society is a group of individuals involved in persistent social interaction, or a large social group sharing the same geographical or social territory, typically subject to the same political authority and dominant cultural expectations. Societies are characterized by patterns or relationships between individuals who share a distinctive culture and institutions.

In the early 1930s American society experienced a massive economic crisis. In the 1930s the economic depression resulted in American society moving from the one place to another place. After the Wall Street Crash of 1929, the largest stock market crash in American history, most of the decade was consumed by an economic downfall called the Great Depression that had a traumatic effect worldwide leading to widespread unemployment and poverty, especially in the United States an economic superpower, and Germany, who had to deal with reparations regarding World War I. The people of American life in the 1930s that form a painful experience of the Great Depression when governments spend money for the war effort. The 1930s also saw a proliferation of new technologies, especially in the fields of intercontinental aviation, radio, and film, according to Thurow (1976:44).

In fact only about 2.5 percent of Americans made stock investments in 1929. But the stock market crash did affect the economy as a whole. The crash shook people's confidence in U.S. financial systems. At first the Declaration only extended the Dream to white property owners. But the idea of inalienable rights was so powerful that laws were added to extend these rights to slaves, women, and non-property owners. In this way the American Dream of society changed

the course of America itself. In the [1920s](#), the American Dream started morphing from the right to create a better life to the desire to acquire material things. This greed-driven version of the Dream was never truly attainable. The society of American worried about the economy condition and suddenly they are afraid to spend money of them. in that year many people lived nomadic. This is due to the economic crisis, resulting in unemployment, very low salaries and poverty, Goldsten(2010:7-11).

Based on the history of the American dreams above, the philosophers who define the literature have emerged. Which is where some philosophies suggest literature from the reality of society life. Literary world are also familiar with the literary works based on stories or reality. Literary referred to as historical fiction (historical fiction) if the writing of historical fact, fiction biographical (biographical fiction) if the factual biographical, and science fiction science (science fiction) if the writing is based on science.

literature is expressing of the fact artistic and imaginative as manifestation of human life(and society). Pass of language as medium and have positive efect toward the human life(humanity).Literature is also the work of writing which delicate is a work that note form the language. Daily in various manner with the language. literature is result imitation or illustration of reality. A literature work most form simulation of the universe and all at once from of reality model. Therefore, value of literature low and far the world idea.

Many literary works have been defined by philosophers and literary experts. One brief definition of literature is presented by Wellek and Worren (1977: 3) namely "a creative activity, a work of art".The notion of course the literature is not only limited because literature is still very broad in its context. In another sense literary works are "distinctive writing, with distinctive uses,

writings that operate in a distinctive manner and require a distinctive reading." From these two senses it is very clear that literary works are closely related to creativity, writing, meaning, the beauty and uniqueness of the literary work.

From some explanations of literature above put forward by experts, has a relationship with this research, where the literature also discusses the reality of people's lives in an environment. The title appointed by the researcher is the American dreams in the novel "Of Mice and Men". The researcher looked at how an author described the life of American society in the 1930s, so the researchers are interested in raising this title through a novel written by John Steinbeck.

The novel "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck is one of the contemporary classical literary works. In this case John Steinbeck also touched on the issue of very thick differences at that time. The novel "Of Mice And Men" essay on loneliness is a basic part of human life. Everyone becomes lonely once in a while but Steinbeck's novella "Of Mice And Men". He is the loneliness of ranch life in the early 1930's and shows how people are driven to try and find friendship in order to escape from loneliness. Steinbeck creates a lonely and blue atmosphere at many times in the book. He uses names and words such as the town near the ranch called soledad.

In the novel "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck describe the American dreams, In this novel John Steinbeck try to describe about the American dreams. The author looking at the reality that happens in human life. John Steinbeck tells about the condition of worker and the story of other humanity.

The reason researcher who analyzed the novel "Of Mice and Men" by Jhon Steinbeck with the title the American dreams. researcheris interested in this novel, because the novel "Of Mice and Men" talks a lot about the social life of American society.This novel tells about the condition of American society, in the 1930s, when America was experiencing a massive economic depression. therefore researcher is interested to talk about American dreams in the novel "Of Mice and Men", which is the dream of the American people to be able to have a better life in the future. The dream of the American is a democratic system of government, welfare of life, freedom, and the rights of every American society.

## **1.2. Statement of Problem**

1.2.1 How does the author illustratethe American dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck

1.2.2 What are the factors influence theAmerican dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck.

## **1.3 Scope of the Study**

There are so many problems, but the focus of research are to analyze about the American dreams in the novel “Of Mice And Men” by John Steinbeck

## **1.4 Objective Of Study**

1.4.1 To identify how does the author illustrate the American dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck.

1.4.2 To elaborate the factors influence American dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck

## **1.5. Significance of the Study**

The researcher hopes this research can be useful for readers both theoretically and practically of the research as follows:

### **1.5.1. Theoretical Significances**

Theoretically, the researcher hopes to give a broad insight, give the positive contribution especially for those who are getting involved in concerning the literary works analysis about the American dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men”. Expected to provide a general understanding of social action viewed from the social theories and aspects related to the circumstances of a growing community so the readers can understand the cause and the truth about the life of community.

### **1.5.2. Practical Significances**

This analysis practically could be used as a reference for the readers who are interested to learning about the American dreams, this research can be used as the review of related literature in the next research in this section researcher will discuss, research conducted by previous researcher. with the same research title with different novels or the same novel used but different titles. whether it is the same object or the same focus about the American dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men”.

## 1.6 Review of Related Literature

In this section researcher will discuss, some research which conducted by previous researchers. With the same research title with different novels or the same novel used but different titles. Researcher will discuss, what are the problem raised by previous researchers.

As in the first researcher, Nida(2010), with the title,"American dream in the novel "A Stranger in the Mirror" by Sidney Sheldon, in this research the researchers used a qualitative method to analyze the novel a stranger in the mirror. There are several problems discussed from previous studies, namely, the character of American society, American values, and American dreams. And there are several sub themes discussed.

In the first research above, there were several equations, such as the method used, the qualitative method used to analyze the novel "Of Mice and Men". This researcher received contributions from previous research, namely the understanding of qualitative methods and the history of American dreams and also the kinds the American dreams.

Novita is who (2014), The second researcher carried out previously, the novel used is the same novel that is the novel"Of Mice and Men". In the second researcher conducted previously, with the different title namely, Alienation of modern man in the novel "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck. Researchers analyzed the problem with the character of George Milton, who is a modern human in the novel. The method used to analyze thi novel is a qualitative method with the theory used is the alienation theory according to Richard Schact. From his research shows that George is the main character in the novel "Of Mice and Men".

The third researcher is Ghiotto(2016), the researcher analyzed with the same topic that is the American dreams in the novel "Green,White and Gold". This novel is one of the novels that

discusses about the American dreams. Green are one of the symbols of the American dreams of the bitter life and happiness can be seen in the green light. While the word of white is also one of the symbols, that refer to American dreams such as of fame, wealth, perfection, innocence, and success. And the gold it is mean American dreams of material prosperity.

The contribution to getting from the third research is that the method used is a qualitative method like the current research. The object used to analyze is the novel "Of Mice and Men". But from previous researcher there are also has the different, namely the theory used is the theory of alienation, while the current research uses the Sociological Approach. The third researcher used the pragmatic theory.

## **1.7 Teorical base**

In this section the researcher will discuss the theory that will be used to analyze the problems in the statement of problem, and explain some of the concepts that will be analysis this novel.

### **1.7.1. Sociological Approach**

According to Monika ( 2015:2), Sociological approach has methodology implacation like a comprehension that basic about the human life in society. The sociological approach analysis of education give us a deeper understanding of the form and purpose of education in a society and the interactions of people within educational. Sociologists study structures and organization of social systems, including education, family, religion, economics, politics and health. Sociological approach taken by many people in society because sociologists begin by looking at the large picture of society and the role that education plays in society rather than on individuals in that system.

Sociological explanation is necessarily historical. Historical sociology is thus not some special kind of sociology, rather, it is the essence of the discipline. All varieties of sociology stress the so-called 'two-sidedness' of the social world. The distinctive quality of the social world for the sociologist is, accordingly, its facticity the way in which society is experienced by individuals as a fact-like system, external, given, and coercive, that declare by Berger and Luckman(1967:2)

The sociological approach according to, Baldrige(1975:8), Sociology that takes a strong reformist approach to the analysis of contemporary social phenomena. Sociology also is to look at some of its subject matter, which we just did. But understanding a discipline's historical background also reveals much about its current shape. Most of the social sciences-economics, anthropology, political science, and sociology were founded in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The researcher used the sociological approach, which is an approach that discusses social life, and this approach has a very close relationship with this research, that is research also discusses the reality of social life in an environment. The sociological approach above talks about social conditions, like the economic, educational, religious, political and others. Likewise with this research to analyzing the social conditions of American in the 1930s, which occurred with the realities of life at that time, many things happened both social or individually.

### **1.7.2 The Defenition of Society**

Society is a number of people who are a group of groups that are in constant contact and have the same interests. schools, families, societies, countries are all society. Another definition of society is also one social unit of a social system, or the unity of human life. while the

community itself comes from the Arabic Syakara which means to participate or participation, the Arabic word community means to interact with each other whose scientific terms interact, that stated by Schwartz (2003:23).

According to Asman (1994:2) society is a unity of human life that interacts according to a particular system of customs which is continuous and bound by a sense of the same identity.

Society is every group of people who live and work together for a relatively long period of time and are able to create order in a common life and they regard it as a social entity, declare by Alvert, (2006:5-21)

From the statement above the researcher understanding about the society are form one of that society is a human that well as individual or group that have the relation of one and another to interacts.

### **1.7.3 History of American Dreams in the 1930s**

The American dream was a set of ideals in the early 1930s that they wanted to achieve. democracy, rights, freedom, opportunities and equality are dreams for American society. freedom to encompass prosperity and success, and social, family and child mobility. to achieve that dream, American society needs to work hard. American dream by James Truslow Adams in 1931, life must be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunities for each according to ability or achievement regardless of social class. The American dream is rooted in the Declaration of Independence, which states that all human beings are created equal to the right to live freely and pursue happiness. Also, the US Constitution promotes the same freedom, at the Preamble: to secure the Blessings of Freedom for ourselves and our descendants. The meaning of the American Dream has changed over the course of history, and includes personal components,

such as home ownership and mobility. Historically Dreams come from mystics about frontier life. As the Governor of Virginia noted in 1774, the Americans "forever imagine that the Land is still better than the one on which they have settled, Young(2002:5-6).

#### **1.7.4 The Defenition of Dreams**

According to Andrew (2005:71)

*Impian adalah ambisi dari dalam diri manusia yang menjadi penggerak untuk maju. Kekuatan dan kepintaran tidak akaon berguna tanpa impian, sebab impian memberikan arah tujuan dan merupakan komponen penting untuk dapat berkembang lebih jauh.*

Dreams are the beginning of an ideal. It can be said that a dream refers to the life of someone who wants to achieve success in a career. Every person has a target in life to be able to make themselves happy and also to make people happy around them. Like the American society that has a dream to changes their life.

#### **1.7.5 The Kind of American dreams in the 1930s**

In this section researchers will discuss some of the kind American dreams. Can seen the some of the kind American dream in below:

##### **1.7.5.1 Democracy**

In his Gettyburg speech, the 16th President of the United States Abraham Lincoln stated that democracy is a system of government organized by the people, by the people, and for the people. From this understanding it can be concluded that the people are the highest authority in a government, where each of them has the right to get the opportunity and the right to speak in the

same effort to regulate government policy. In this system, decisions are made based on the results of the most votes, stated by Mainwaring (2003:290).

According to Martin (2004:19), The democracy is a system of political rights specifies how leadership should be designated at the highest national level in a polity.

The democracy discussed above has a relationship with this research. In this research the researchers looked at the American people who dreamed of living in a democratic country, this researchers looked back at American history in the 1930s who lived in the conditions of massive economic depression.

#### 1.7.5.2 Freedom

The freedom is the ability to choose between different possible action plans. Some people understand the as a person's ability to make choices whose results have not been determined by past events. In the American, contrast to the American system of government in the 1930s, where freedom was not possessed by civil society or severe labor, that declare by Frank (1992:147)

The definition of freedom according to Reinders (2008:33), Freedom is frequently referred to as an inherent aspect of learner autonomy and is seemingly accepted as a matter of course, presumably because there is semantic overlap between the word autonomy.

The researcher discusses the freedom above because this research about the American dreams is related. Researchers looked at the life of American society in the 1930s, at that time they are always dreamed of the life filled with a freedom, as described by the author in the novel "Of Mice and Men".

#### 1.7.5.3 Prosperity

Social welfare is an organized system of institutions and social services designed to help individuals or groups achieve better living standards and health. the definition of prosperity has been broadened and not redefined in nonmaterial ways. Also he said many Churches now preach some elements of the prosperity Gospel, that declare by Bowens(2012:67-68).

Prosperity form is the life of the people who live well in economy, shelter and so on. This is closely related to this research, the American people's dream of prosperity in their life someday. And this illustrated by the author through in this novel.

#### 1.7.5.4 Human Right

The definition of human right according to Morsink(1976:44), Every human being has the right to his property, especially the right to life. Every human right also, is very attached to a person. the rights of each individual cannot be contested by the others as long as the rights that a person defends do not interfere with the rights of others. The humans have the right to their honor, the right to justice, the right to freedom and others that others cannot. There are so many rights attached to a person.

According to Reichert (1893:6), Human rights encompass an array of political, economic, and social areas and while defining needs, also present a set of individual rights that apply worldwide.

Human rights that have been discussed by the writers above, have a relationship with this research. In this research the researcher will discuss the reality that occur in America society one of which is the human rights.

#### **1.7.6 The Factors Influence of American Dreams**

The researcher will discuss about the factors of American dreams. contained in the novel “Of Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck.

#### 1.7.6.1 Poverty

Poverty is a condition where there is an inability to needs such as food, clothing, shelter, education, and health. Poverty can be caused by the scarcity of means to fulfill basic needs, or the difficulty of access to education and employment. Poverty is a global problem, Some people understand this term subjectively and comparatively, while others see it from a moral and evaluative perspective, and others understand it from an established scientific point of view. Poverty is understood in different ways. His main understanding includes. When the American society experiencing an economic crisis that makes them fall into poverty, that declare by Sofu and Toni(2003:5).

Poverty that have been discussed by the writers above, have a relation with this research, the researcher will discussed the social phenomena namely, poverty. Poverty is one of the conditions that happens in the human life, this thing can be influence in the life of society such as the education.

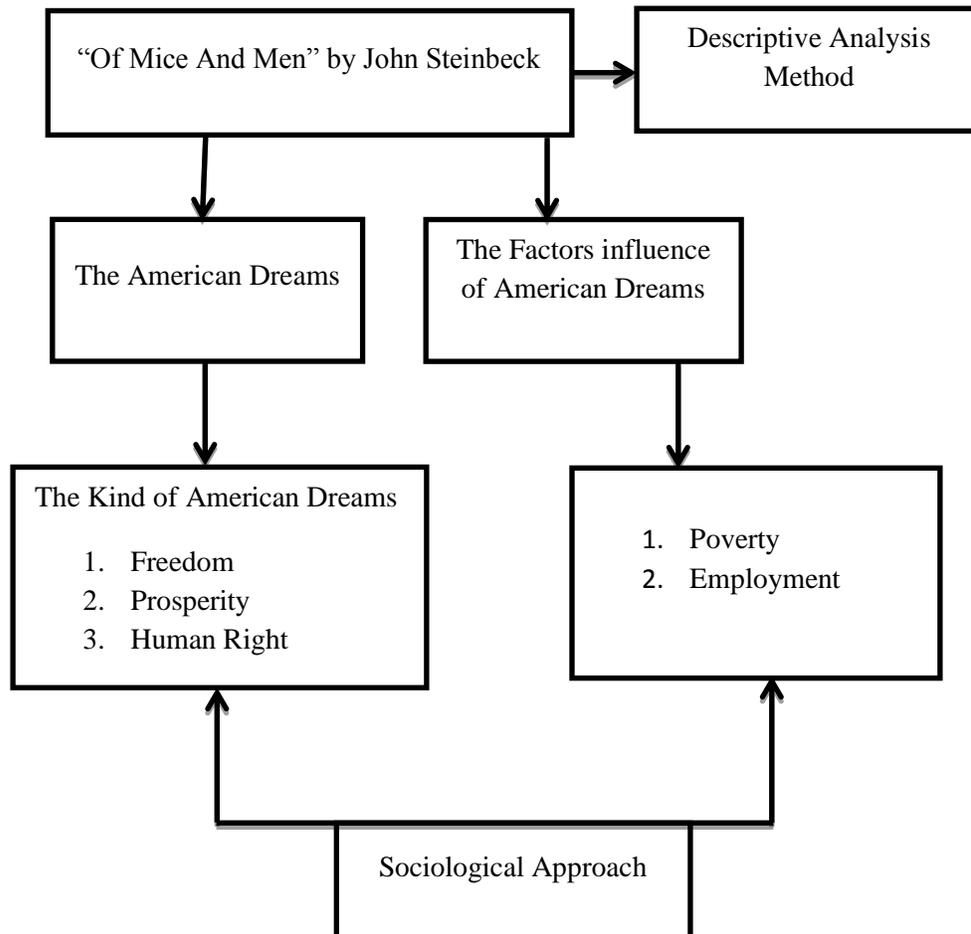
#### 1.7.6.2 Employment

The employment is one of the task someone that must do for meet the needs of life. The job is an activity that must be done by everyone for the sake of survival or to meet various kinds the needs of life. Everyone does one of their jobs to fulfill their basic needs, because basic needs are needs that must be met and cannot be delayed. The needs are for example basic items such as food, clothing, education and others. The humans need money, and generally money is earned

from work, now a lot of work done by humans to make money, that stated by Hendrikx(2002:180).

The research also discusses the factors that influence the author to write American problems through in the novel “Of Mice and Men”. There are two factors to analyzed by the researchers in this novel, the first is the proverty and the second is the employment, which has a relation with this research.

### 1.8. Conceptual Scheme



From the conceptual scheme above the researcher will explain there some things in this analysis. This analyzing the novel about "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck, in this novel the researcher describe about the American dreams in this novel. This research used the descriptive analysis method, to analyzed two the statement of problem that raise by the researcher. In the beginning the researcher will discussed about the author present American dreams in the novel "Of Mice and Men". Then the researcher analyzing about the kinds of American dreams that the author explain reflected there some character in this novel. There are several kinds of the American dreams, the first freedom form one of the dream of the American, the second prosperity is one of the kind of the American dream that describe by the author in this novel and third human right. In the second analyzing about the factors that the author describe in the novel "Of Mice and Men". There are some factors that influence the American dreams in the novel "Of Mice and Men", such as poverty that form one of the factor that happens in the American. Employment is one of the factor that influence the human life. That's all analysing the researcher used the sociological approach that suport to this analysis.

## **1.9. Method and Technique of the Research**

In this section the researcher will discuss about the methods that will be used in this analysis, and techniques in collecting analysis data.

### **1.9.1 Method of the Research**

The method that used in this research are two methods to analyzing the novel "Of Mice And Men" they are qualitative method and descriptive analysis method.

### **1.9.2 Qualitative Method**

Qualitative method give attention toward the artless data , in the relation data of the context of existence. These the manners that give suport to qualitative method reputed as multimethod cause research to the turn involve a large number of the social symptom that relevant. In the research literary work, example, invloved the author, the social environment where the author is, include the elements of culture to general.

which is only with words, or interpretations from researchers, not in the form of numbers. Which describes the American dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men”.

### **1.9.3 Descriptive Analysis Method**

The research method getting to pass through of combination are two method, of requisite two method are not contradiction. Descriptive analysis method describe the fact that afterwards followed by analysis.

According (Sughastuti,2002:54)

Descriptive methods are methods that attempt to describe and interpret things, such as condition or relationships that exis, a growing opinion, an ongoing process, a a result or efect that accurs, or about the ongoing trend.

According to, Meleong,(2007: 46) also discribe descriptive method can be used to provide, discribe and explain about the condition discribe the object of the research. The researcher see the statement above according to Sughastuti that trying to describe the descriptive methods are form one of the method to analyze the certain condition, like the social condition humanity of society or the economy condition of society and many of problem to analyze used the descriptive method. In this research the researcher used the descriptive method to analyze

each the problem appointed. These method the researcher get easy to understanding the method to this analyze.

## **1.10 Collecting Data**

In this part the researcher uses the be of kinds to get the reference as one of method that will to complete this data.

### **1.10.1 Reading Comprehension**

The first to getting data, the researcher do reading comprehension, the researcher use two type to reading comprehension, they are as follows:

- Heuristic-based reading or grammtical structures
- Hermeneuistics is the process by which researchers read sentence by sentence to understand

### **1.10.2 Library Research**

The second step afer reading comprehension and understanding, the researcher need some information as reference to suport these analysis. Library is one of good a place for getting reference that can be to complete this analysis.

### **1.10.3 Internet Sources**

The researcher browse internet to collect the data as the escort that for the researcher. So many escort in the internet the researcher needs it as one of escort to complete this research.

## **1.11 Technique of Analysis Data**

To analyze this novel about the “ Of Mice And Men” by John Steinbeck based on the focus analysis, the researcher need some technique to analyze the data. That as follows:

### **1.11.1 Classification**

The researcher provide classificatinos as one of the technique to complete this analysis. That gives some theories tha are related to the American dreams in the novel”Of Mice and Men”.

### **1.11.2 Interpretation**

After classified, the researcher give an interpreation as the useful in this technique, it is to help in this analysis the meaning.

### **1.11.3 Explanation**

The researcher used the explanation as one of be manner that getting explain the sentence or the expression. Explaning the base the statement of problem to be analyze the word or phrase.

### **1.11.4 Conclusion**

The researcher has a conclusion in this interpretation to analysis the statement of problem the first the author illustrate American dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men”. The second about the factors that influence the American dreams.