

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Feminism gave a commitment intensively to defense women's right in social justice, politic, economy, education, and professional chance. It defended the demand toward sexual autonomy and reproduction rights, the protection from physical and physiological insulting, language domination, and deconstruction and representation of feminine (Cavallaro, 2001: 201). So this great ideology focused on one thing, giving a better life for women. Feminism and feminist movement helped women to have better life in the imbalance social construction. Solve oppression in public and private social life. However, the oppression toward women not only occurred in social life but also happened in literary world. Like what happened in real life, in literary world women were always being object oppression for men.

Irish Young quoted in her article Five Faces of Oppression in *Oppression, Privilege, and Resistance*, oppression can be defined as “an enclosing structure of forces and barriers which tends to the immobilization and reduction of a group or category of people” (Frye, in Young, 1992: 41). It can be said that oppressors could do immobilization and reduction toward the people were oppressed.

There were five types of oppression as Irish Young has explained in her article they were exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness, cultural imperialism and violence. Those types of oppression might happen to any kind of

people category, one of category is women, Young added, “As a group women are subject to gender-based exploitation, powerlessness, cultural imperialism and violence” (Young, 1992: 64). Those showed that oppression to woman not only marginalization but add also exploitation, powerlessness, cultural imperialism and violence.

Danielle Steel’s *Journey* novel told about a main woman character, Madeleine Beaumont or better known by the name Maddy. She was a beautiful young girl who underwent twice failure in her marriage life. It caused by her husbands who was always oppressing her. So in this case made Maddy thought that herself deserve a treatment like that from her husbands. Not only that she also felt fear, defenseless, and powerless in faced the oppression. But then finally she thought that her condition in dangerous. Therefore she should be save herself before they could kill her. When she had a braveness and willpower, thus she decided to divorce from them.

Basically, this novel was interesting to be analyzed for some reasons. The first this novel was written by Danielle Steel, she was a well-known author in America. The second was bestseller international list. The third was published by Dell publishing at the New York in 2000 and consists of 24 chapters with 457 pages, and was translated into many languages, and then had been sold more than 590 million copies in many countries. (<http://daniellesteel.com/blog/journey/>). The last it raised a problem about womanhood that how a woman suffer and hurt while oppressed by men and struggling outside from the oppression. Besides, until

now this problem still could be got in our surrounding particularly oppression to a woman in marriage life.

The researcher presented the previous study was related to the object of the study. The researcher had some previous studies to be reference for doing this analysis. The study entitled *Need for Women's Independence in Danielle Steel's Journey: Feminist Approach* written by Sri Lestari student of school of teacher training and education faculty Muhammadiyah university of Surakarta in 2009. The object of this study was to find how women's independence as a need is reflected in Danielle Steel's *Journey*. In this research had discussed about the women in marriage life who abused by their husband. The husband abused their wife in a way psychologically and emotionally. So, through feminist approach the researcher had depicted the women wanted to get an independence from domestic abuse which faced by them.

The other was the study under the title *Feminist Perspectives of Marriage Reflected in Danielle Steel's Bittersweet: A Feminist perspective* written by Mas Eliana, student of English Letter and Language Department faculty of Humanity and Culture from the State Islamic University of Malang in 2007. The object of this study was to identity feminist perspective of marriage reflected in Danielle Steel's *Bittersweet*. In this study the researcher had tried to find some women in household still intimidated or pressed by men to stay in domestic area that is home. The women were forbidden to work outside as career women. Even they who had a career journey before married, they had to quit it. By using feminist

theory this study described that women in *Bittersweet* had rights to get outside from domestic area that is home. And they could be continued as career women.

From those previous studies above, it can be seen that they had the similarity and the dissimilarity with this study, which the similarity of them the use of the same theory with this study namely feminist theory. But then the difference was put on an object would be analyzed. Which this research would discuss about types of oppression faced by a main character named Maddy.

This study described a woman who was oppressed in marriage life in Danielle Steel's *Journey* through the representation of oppression of Maddy had been done by her husbands and how are Maddy's reactions with the oppression. Therefore, based on the background of this study the researcher analyzed this novel using feminist perspective by the title *The Oppression against Maddy Described in Journey novel by Danielle Steel*.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study statement of the problem are formulated as follows:

1. What kind of oppression does Maddy experience from her husbands in *Journey*?
2. How are Maddy's reactions in facing oppression from her husbands in *Journey*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

1. To find the kinds of oppression which Maddy experience from her husbands in *Journey*.
2. To describe Maddy's reaction in facing oppression from her husbands in *Journey*.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study was kinds of oppression that Maddy experienced from her husbands. This study focus on analyzing about the oppression was happened to Maddy as a main figure in *Journey* novel by Danielle Steel. Meanwhile, this study required to limit the discussion, to avoid trespassing into other topics, which were outside the scope of this research. Therefore this study was focused on how oppression to woman happened to Maddy as a major figure in Danielle Steel's *Journey* novel. Furthermore, the study discussed about the Maddy's reaction to oppression from her husbands.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study had two kinds of significance; they were theoretical significance and practical significance. Theoretically, the result of this study was expected to give contribution to oppression analysis particularly in a literary work. Especially, apply feminism theory in literary work. Practically, the readers can better understand about *Journey* novel. The result was expected to give additional contribution in science in analyzing the oppression

to Maddy as a main figure especially in *Journey* by Danielle Steel, enlarge student's mind in analyzing novel, to give understanding of some types of oppression according to Irish Young, and an additional reference in depending Danielle Steel's work.

1.6 Research Method

1.6.1 Research Design

This study was designed as descriptive qualitative research. This study described the stages of oppression that happened to Maddy. The description based on the literary criticism approach to know Maddy's reaction to oppression from her husbands.

1.6.2 Approach

Feminist approach had been applied in this study to analyze the problems. The researcher conducted the feminist approach which was emphasized on the study of extrinsic element. To criticize object of the study, thus the researcher applied the feminist approach which was used to find out the aspects of feminism in *Journey* novel by Danielle Steel to find the oppression to Maddy as a main woman character in this novel. And to know the oppression to a main woman character thus, in this study would be used theory of oppression according to Irish Young's *Five Faces Oppression*, those are exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness, cultural imperialism, and violence.

1.6.3 Sources of Data and Data

The sources of data were taken from the original text of novel *Journey* by Danielle Steel. The *Journey* was published by Dell Publishing a division of Random House, Inc. 1540 Broadway New York, in 2000; consist of 24 chapters and 457 pages. The data included all information relating to the problem. It can be words, phrase, sentences, paragraph, and dialogue.

1.6.4 Technique of Collecting Data

1. Reading and understanding the *Journey* novel by Danielle Steel.
2. Selecting and picking the data up referring to the problems by classifying the data from paragraph, sentence, dialogue, phrase, or even words that match the problems of the study.
3. Arranging the data systematically in accordance with the problems of the study.

1.6.5 Technique of Analyzing Data

1. Describing what kinds of oppression and how oppression that happened to Maddy.
2. Explaining Maddy's reaction to oppression from her husbands.
3. Deriving conclusion based on the analysis of the data.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

Feminism : Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, Feminism is belief in the principle that women should have the same rights and opportunities as men. (1995: 428).

Oppression : Alan Johnson stated that "The oppression of women happens because men want and like to dominate women and act out their hostility towards them. There is poverty and class oppression because people in the upper classes are greedy, heartless, and cruel" (2005: 28).

1.8 Thesis Organization

This study is divided into four chapters. The first chapter is the introduction which is consisted of the background of the study, the statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, the scope and limitation, research method, definition of key terms, thesis organization. The second chapter in the review of related literature that contained of the theory, concept and definition those used as the terms of reference in analyzing data. Besides, the third chapter the analysis of types of oppression according to Irish Young in *Journey* novel and Maddy's reaction to the oppression, and the last is fourth chapter that contained of the conclusion and suggestion.