



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The related literature review presents several main sections. Namely a review of theories related to the topic of study including elements of literary works, in this case *The Young Karl Marx* movie by Raoul Peck which was shown in (2017). And related studies that have been done.

#### 2.1 Twenty-first Century Socialism

"Twenty-first Century Socialism: The Latin American Experience" is a book written by Martha Harnecker (2016) that reviews the experience of socialism in Latin America in the 21st century. This book presents ideas and concepts related to the concept of socialism in Latin America, explains the development of socialist and popular movements in this region, and provides a detailed analysis of various socialist endeavors and experiences in Latin America.

Martha Harnecker, a socialist activist and theorist, wrote this book after spending many years in Latin America studying and understanding the development of socialist movements in this region. He conducted interviews with many leaders and members of socialist and people's movements, studied the history of socialist movements in Latin America, and conducted an in-depth analysis of socialist efforts and experiences in countries in the region.

This book describes various strategies and tactics used by socialist movements in Latin America to achieve socialist goals. Harnecker paid special attention to popular participation in the revolutionary process, which was an important characteristic of the socialist movement in Latin America. He also highlighted the importance of building new institutions that are supported by the people, such as production bodies controlled by workers, as well as the importance of building an equitable education and health system.

This book also examines the various challenges faced by socialist movements in Latin America, including foreign intervention and influence, as



well as competition between socialist movements and other popular movements. Harnecker highlighted the importance of solidarity and cooperation between socialist and other popular movements in achieving common goals.

Overall, "Twenty-first Century Socialism: The Latin American Experience" is an essential book for anyone interested in socialist and popular movements in Latin America. This book provides a different and important perspective on how socialist movements in the region have developed and dealt with the challenges faced by socialist movements around the world.

## 2.2 Marxist Theory

According to Barry (2002:157) "Marxism sees the struggle between social classes to get a higher position". It can be said that Marxist theory analyzes the struggle that takes place between the classes of society for a better life for whatever status they have. For examples in the economic field, the more money a person has, the more respected and powerful he is in society. In this case, the battle between the upper, middle, and lower classes.

Eagleton (2006:10) in his book Marxism and Literary Criticism states that "Marxism is a scientific theory of human society and the practice of changing it; it is the story of the struggle of men and women to free themselves from certain forms of exploitation and oppression". The quote shows that Marxism is an ideology to analyze class struggles to gain freedom from exploitation or oppression by other classes. Social inequality often occurs in society due to differences in culture, civilization, and beliefs. Sometimes a person feels oppressed by other beliefs. Oppression is also said to be a contradiction of belief in class society. In addition, Marxism is to resuscitate human existence and then fight class exploitation and oppression in society.

Central to Marxism was the concept of class struggle: "Freemen and slaves, aristocrats and plebeians, masters and slaves, guild masters and day laborers, in short, oppressor and oppressed, stand in constant conflict with



one another" (Marx & Engels, 1948: 9). Class struggle as one of the basic ideas of Marxism is an ideology that studies the social, economic and cultural conditions of society.

From the thoughts of Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, they published two books entitled *The Communist Manifesto* (1848) and *Das Kapital* (1867). The main problem of these books is the social history of mankind which consists of the history of class struggles. Marx and Engels stated that "the cultural idea of an age serves the interests of the ruling class, providing an ideology that legitimizes class domination." "Ideology" is a critical term for a Marxian analysis that describes how the dominant ideas of a class promote the interests of that class and help cover up oppression, injustice, and the negative aspects of certain societies". That is, Marxist ideology refers to the class struggle against the exploitation and oppression of other classes. This is also related to the thoughts of Karl Marx (1818-1883), "Marxism is also a theory of revolution and a basic explanation of how society experiences a process of change". It can be concluded that Marxism reflects the idea of struggle for class change in society, especially the oppressed class.

Furthermore, from the perspective of Marxism, conflicts often arise between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat classes. This is evident in the following quote from [www.sociology.org.uk](http://www.sociology.org.uk) (2005), which states that "Marxism stresses the idea that social life is based on 'conflicts of interests.' The most fundamental and crucial of these conflicts is between the bourgeoisie (those who own and control the means of production in society) and the proletariat (those who only sell their labor power in the capitalist market)." This illustrates that economic inequalities and cultural differences are frequently the root causes of conflict.

The bourgeoisie is typically associated with capitalism and has a tendency to suppress the proletariat, particularly in the economic sector. The lower classes are the oppressed, who strive to resist social, legal, and economic divisions. On the other hand, the upper class is the oppressor, exploiting the lower class. The wealthy upper class possesses power and

authority to subjugate the lower class and are commonly referred to as capitalists who own property and have vast amounts of money. Additionally, Marxism as an ideology highlights the struggle of the working class against exploitation and oppression by other classes.

### **2.2.1 Social Class**

According to Giddens (2013: 102) Social class is defined as a large group of people who share economic resources, influencing their way of life. That is, social class is a group of people living in a society with many differences including economic differences. This usually happens in the lower, middle and upper classes. The lower class is called the proletariat, while the middle and upper classes are called the bourgeoisie. In addition, four general social classes that are informally recognized in many societies are: (1) Upper class, (2) Middle class, (3) Lower class). (<http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/social-class.html>) In line with Marx's statement, social class consists of two kinds, namely the proletariat and the bourgeoisie. The proletariat is also said to be the lower or middle class, they are farmers and workers, while the bourgeoisie is said to be the upper class, also said to be capitalists.

A number of social scientists differentiate into three or more social classes, namely:

1. Upper class, this class is characterized by the amount of wealth, influence both in individual and general sectors of society, high income, high level of education, and stability of family life.
2. Middle class, this class is characterized by a high level of education, income and has a high appreciation of hard work, education, the need to save and plan for the future, and they are involved in community activities.
3. The lower class, this class usually consists of unskilled laborers, whose income is relatively lower so they are unable to save, are more trying



to meet immediate needs than meet future needs, have low education, and are recipients of welfare funds from the government.

Oliver C. Cox in his journal (1944:140) states, "social class can only be considered as a form of social stratification". This shows that social class includes caste, culture, beliefs, and others. Social class in The Young Karl Marx's work is one of the main points of this research. In particular, it focuses on the social class between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie.

### 2.2.2 Class Conflict

According to Dasgupta (2008:1) "conflicts between workers across ethnic or religious backgrounds are usually considered to reduce their collective power as a class in general distributive conflicts against employers". The quote shows that class conflict is influenced by several aspects, such as capitalism, cultural differences between classes and other classes, injustice, economy and others. In this case, class conflict is a social problem in society caused by differences between two classes, both in economic, political, ideological, and cultural aspects. Class conflicts often occur because of cultural differences that oppress one class in society, so that a struggle arises to be free from all oppression and exploitation.

Lewis A. Coser in his journal (2007:8) states, "conflict within and between groups in a society can inhibit accommodation and habitual relationships that further enhance creativity". This means that class conflicts in society are not things that are prohibited and are commonplace, especially with conflicts we can learn how to solve problems and how to control ourselves. In general, conflict can make people know how to appreciate, understand, and resolve conflicts between classes and other classes. In addition, class conflict has negative and positive impacts on society, but it depends on how they live it.

According to Karl Marx, conflicts and class struggles occur because of the economic organization of most of society. According to the Marxist perspective, conflict and class struggle are unavoidable in a capitalist society because the interests of workers and capitalists are inherently at odds with one another. ([www.a-sociological-definition-of-class-conflict-and-struggle.htm](http://www.a-sociological-definition-of-class-conflict-and-struggle.htm)). It can be said that conflict can cause social changes in society, and can also be the result of these social changes. This is relevant to the term "change is not a promise of goodness but there is no goodness without change". In this case, class conflict involves elements of society.

Lewis A. Coser stated in his journal, Conflict not only gave birth to new norms, new institutions, it can be said to stimulate directly in the economic and technological realms. The 'people relations' approach emphasizes the 'common purpose of the total organization' of factories, and denies or seeks to reduce conflicts of interest in industry. But successful reduction of industrial conflict may have anticipated dysfunctional consequences as it could destroy an important stimulus for technological innovation. (Lewis A. Coser: 198).

The quote shows that social conflict or class conflict can create frontal changes in society. Likewise with the impact of the industrial revolution. Many impacts caused by the industrial revolution to cause class conflict in each country. In addition, conflicts between classes, especially the lower, middle and upper classes. If we talk about conflict, we must know what causes it. This generally appears in society because of clashes between one class and another class.

Same with Marx, Max Weber (1864-1920), Seeing public relations is best characterized by conflict. However, they differed on three main points: First, while Marx saw cultural ideas as being shaped by the economic system, Weber saw the cultural economic system as being shaped by his ideas. Second, whereas Marx emphasized economic conflict only between two social classes, Weber saw conflict



arising from a variety of sources, with economic conflict often subordinate to other conflicts. Third, Marx envisioned the end of conflict with the destruction of capitalism, while Weber argued that it will always exist, regardless of the social, economic, or political nature of society, and that it is functional because of its role in bringing disputes into the open for public debate.

Based on the quotation above, they assume that conflicts generally arise in society caused by several problems. As we know in society, every human being has different perceptions, beliefs, and even beliefs. As stated by R.J. Rummel in his journal (1977:5), the force that turns latent class membership into class struggle is class interests. From similar class situations, individuals act similarly. It can be said that class differences are resolved in the same way, namely struggle. Struggle is a way to change situations or conditions, the economy, even our destiny. All that will change with struggle.

### 2.3 The Young Karl Marx

The movie, which is German in origin, follows Karl Marx's journey, particularly his discovery of the concept of communism, which was able to alter the social order of society during the time of the industrial revolution.

The advantages and cons of this movie are also brought up for the audience and the critics. Some people have praised the movie for its high quality and the excellent acting of its cast. The film was released to coincide with the day of the workers' revolutionary movement, according to others, who also believe that it is propaganda promoting the communist philosophy. The movie was made available on March 2, 2017.

Karl Marx had the desire to become a journalist who has a great influence on politics and sociology. The movie opens with a scene where impoverished people gather dead wood in the forest, something they have



been doing for years, but the government has made it illegal because the wood is now considered to be the landlord's private property.

Government employees killed and mistreated low-income persons without following the law. Marx discussed these occasions and held that the bourgeoisie had seized control of the state itself. A young guy from a very wealthy family who ran a factory in England named Friedrich Engels was introduced to Marx. Engels thought that workers—including children—were treated horribly, frequently unfairly, and had low earnings both at his father's factory and elsewhere.

Politicians of the time worked together to create new political movements to reform and unite the working poor. Finally, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels sparked the ideology and thought of Communism. The film ends with Marx and Engels publishing certain theories, in plain language for anyone to understand, in the relatively short essay known as the Communist Manifesto in the same year of the revolution in 1848.

If you look at the last scene or epilogue of the film, there is an important message that after Marx sparked the ideology of communism and made the Communist manifesto, the revolution of the labor movement occurred in all European countries. As a result of this revolution, there was an overthrow of the power of the old leaders or the old regime to revolutionize the state government.

Educator Hypothesis Karl Marx believed that the production relations were unstable in the capitalist system. Karl Marx said that class conflict, which gave rise to the bourgeois and proletariat, is the story of society. At that time, groups who understood that the proletariat or workers held power over them were aware that they would attempt numerous uprisings or revolutions against the capitalists. Changes in society were subsequently brought about by this interclass confrontation. Marx also predicted that the proletariat will eventually triumph in this class war, ushering in a new, classless society.

## 2.4 Previous Study

While doing this research, the writer found previous researches that inspired in conducting research on the study of marxism in *The Young Karl Marx* movie. The study uses 3 previous studies. The first previous study was conducted by Rachmadhania Rizki in 2017 entitled “The History of Capitalism Impacted The Society in Film *The Young Karl Marx*”. This study used Sociological approach in analyzing the data. The source of the data was *the young Karl Marx* movie and the data were in form of dialogues. There are 30 data altogether which were found in all characters. This study applied qualitative method. The result of the study revealed that: (1) there are 4 fields in society that feel the impact of capitalism which include the formation of a class of society which consists of 17 data, exploitation of women which consists of 5 data, the economic field which consists of 4 data and the political field which consists of 4 data. In this study, the writer uses the theories proposed by stephen sapiro (2008) and michael wayne (2012). (2) the impact of capitalism was depicted through all the characters that appear in the film.

The second previous study was conducted by Gea Mutiara, et all in 2022 entitled “Class Conflict in Parasite Movie Using Marxist Criticism”. This study used Marxism Approach in analyzing data. The source of the data was parasite movie. The research method used is descriptive qualitative to dissect in detail the problem. According to issues that happened in the parasite movie, this research uses marxism theory by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. For further analysis, the writer analyses the relation of narrative and cinematic structure, so class discrimination that occurs in the film can be more portrayed. The result of this research showed that the theme of this movie describes about hope of the- working-class to improve their live inside capitalism society.

The last previous study was conducted by Tri Asih Handayani, et all in 2015 entiteld “A Marxian Analysis of Social Class in Stephenie Meyer’s The Host”. The method of this research is qualitative which focuses on collecting data and analyzing information. This study analyzes Stephenie

Meyer's novel entitled *The Host* by using Marxist theory which is proposed by Terry Eagleton (2006) particularly about the ideology of dominant class as the ruling class which is reflected in literary work. The primary data of this study are any narrative descriptions and dialogues in *The Host* that are related to the research questions. They are analyzed from the specific cases to general conclusion. Meanwhile, this study also uses the sociological approach to strengthen the idea of the researcher. By relating characters in *The Host* with the characters of capitalist society. The result of this study shows that the humans are as proletariat and the aliens are as the bourgeoisie. The life of aliens is described in good way while humans' life is not. Indirectly, it shows the interest of high class to defend their wealth and decrease the conflict of class struggle.

There are some gaps than can be taken from those previous studies above compare to this study. The first previous study uses sociological approach. Meanwhile, this study uses Marxism approach to analyze the data. Though the first previous study uses the same film "The Young Karl Marx" and the same form of data, but the theory used is slightly different. The first previous study uses Marxism theory, while this study uses not only marxism but also Mimesis theory. The second previous study was conducted by Gea Mutiara (2022) using marxism approach as well as this study. The second previous study used *Parasite* as the source of the data. Meanwhile, this study uses *The Young Karl Marx* film. This study and the second previous study has some similarity in the theory used, research method and research questions. The research question is trying to find out the conflict among classes in society. The last previous study was conducted by Tri Asih (2015) using Sociological approach. This current study applied Marxism approach in analyzing the data. The last previous study used novel as the source of the data and the data are in form of narrative description, while this study uses film and the data are in form of utterances. Both studies applied the same research method.