

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The arguments about man and woman in our society have been shaped in such a way. Society has given the assumption that woman are weak people both physically and psychologically, and tend not to be able to provide their surfer in politics, art or education. Based on that argument, which has been established for centuries before, women cannot or afford to get a high education. They are only assigned to take care of the domestic works such as taking care of the house and their children. Education that they get is only in the form of education about woman, not political or science.

Therefore, what is expected of woman independence is that woman must dare to demand gender equality. Women deserve a high education like men and earn their own money. They no longer have to rely on men and not just take care of the domestic works. They must be independent and does not have to obey the rules that women should be object to men and whatever is defined by men. Woman are free and independent.

The movement of woman against patriarchal oppression is called feminism. Feminism is the advocacy of woman's right on the ground of the equality of the sexes (Oxford Dictionary). Feminism is the ideology and social movement that aims to change the subordinate status of woman in a society. Feminism is a belief that woman and man should have an equal rights and opportunities either in socially, economically, or politically. The person who

believe that woman and man should be treated equally is called feminist. A feminist, Maria & Elizabeth Rahajeng in their book says “True feminism is about freedom. Freedom to choose / make your own choices. Freedom to speak. Freedom to think. Freedom to live in a way that is completely authentic to the core of who you are” (2018).

Society is a large group of people who live together in an organized way, making decisions about how to do things and sharing the work that needs to be done. All the people in a countries, can be referred to as a society (Cambridge Dictionary). Traditionally the sociologist who studies literature is the use of literature as information about society. Literature is also influential in shaping and creating social action. Literary texts have been variously described as reflecting the “economics, family relationships, climate and landscapes, attitudes, morals races, social classes, political events, wars and religion” of the society that produced the texts (Albrecht ; 1954, 426).

Sense and Sensibility is one of the literary works related to social problem especially woman. The novel was written by Jane Austen in 1811. This novel tells about middle and upper class social society. In this novel, the author tells the family of Dashwood who once lived in a good fortune but changed when Mr Dashwood died. Mrs. and Miss Dashwood originally expected by Mr. Dashwood get a lot of inheritance from their uncle, but the reality was not. They only get a little inheritance and who get a lot of inheritance is their stepbrother. Therefore they live only modestly after the death of their father and their mother only expects them to marry a rich man. It illustrates what happened in the 19th century.

Women do not get much inheritance over men and they do not get education so they cannot make money themselves, they only expect to be married by rich men. Therefore the writer wants to analyze this novel to be a thesis and choose ***“Women Independence in Jane Austen’s Sense and Sensibility as a Feminism Study”*** as the title of this thesis.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study above, the writer discusses problems as stated below :

1. What are the forms of women independence of the female characters reflected in *Sense and Sensibility* novel?
2. What are the causes of women independence of the female characters reflected in *Sense and Sensibility* novel?
3. What are the effects of women independence of the female characters reflected in *Sense and Sensibility* novel?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statements above, here are the main objectives of this research:

1. To find out the forms women independence of the female characters reflected in the *Sense and Sensibility* novel.

2. To find out the causes of the women independence of the female characters reflected in the *Sense and Sensibility* novel.
3. To find out the effects of the women independence of the female characters reflected in the *Sense and Sensibility* novel.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The researcher analyzes the women independence by using feminism study. This thesis focuses on the main characters in the *Sense and Sensibility* novel, Elinor Dashwood and Marianne Dashwood. The researcher observed to find out the forms of women independence, the causes of women independence and the effects of women independence.

1.5 Significances of the Study

The significance of this study focuses on women independence in the 19th century. This study gives more understanding about feminism theory found in literary works especially in novel. This study is expected to contribute for woman to get their equality with man. The researcher also hopes that this thesis will inspire women to fight for their rights and eliminate the oppression or discrimination that happen to women in our society.

1.6 Approach of the Study

In analyzing the novel, the researcher uses a feminist critical approach and applies Simone de Beauvoir's theory (1949). The approach that the researcher used to collect the data is using a qualitative approach. Qualitative research methods use qualitative data, such as interviews, documents and observations to

understand and explain social phenomena. Qualitative research methods come from social science to enable researchers to study social and cultural phenomena. Nowadays, the use of methods and qualitative analysis is extended to almost every field of research. A qualitative study focuses on the interpretation of phenomena in their natural settings to make sense in the meaning that people bring to this setting (Denzin and Lincoln, 1994).

The object that the researcher used in this final project is novel by Jane Austen's entitled *Sense and Sensibility*. The techniques to collect the data is first, the researcher will read and understand the novel, then the researcher will interpret the data and analyze it.

After that, the researcher will take some important words, sentences or paragraphs related to the topic, and finally the researcher will elaborate the words, sentences, and paragraphs with the theory which the researcher used.

1.7 Organization of the Study

This study or final project consists of five chapters. The researcher used this organization of the study for the systematics of the thesis writing process. Here are the classification of this thesis :

Chapter I, the researcher will present the introduction of the final project which consists of Background of the Study, Statements of the Problem, Objective of the Study, Significance of the Study, Approach of the Study and Organization of the Study.

Chapter II, the researcher will explain Jane Austen's biography as the author's of *Sense and Sensibility* novel and the synopsis of the novel.

Chapter III, the researcher will explain the previous study, kinds of literary work (novel), and the feminism theory by Simone de Beauvoir.

Chapter IV, it contains analysis and discussion. This chapter consist the answers to the questions in the Statement of the Problem in Chapter I.

Chapter V, it contains conclusion and suggestions. In this chapter, the researcher will summarize and conclude the whole chapters.