

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses background to the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, approach to the study, organization of the study.

1.1 Background to the Study

According to Young Iris (2004;1) oppression is caused by choice or policy to lead the habits, symbols and norms to generated by the community. Social rules like these can become forces and barriers that limit certain groups or categories. This means that oppression is when someone reduces the potential of another person to become the best human being. It means, oppression if someone makes another person less human, which means rejecting the education, language, and opportunities which makes them fully human both in their body and mind.

According to Young Iris (2004; 1), oppression is a criminal practice that creates injustice by the ruling group that controls the existing situation. But oppression does not always have to do with anything cruel or wrong. In liberal societies, oppression can be well-intentioned, which imposes boundaries on a group.

Oppression of women can almost be seen in various aspects of life. Men dominate aspects of women's lives in many ways, and it is almost difficult to differentiate them from one to another. When talking about women's oppression, I will talk about the cultural manifestations of women's oppression. What does it mean? It's mean the damage to women's sexual degradation in a culture where women's associations are like a tradable product. Normalization of the treatment of men who are harsh to inferior women who submit to men. One might ask, "Are women always treated this way?" The answer is no. Although women have been oppressed and exploited for centuries, this hierarchical system was not always the case. In this sense, a matriarchal society exists. Matriarchal society is a power/leadership dominated by women who oppose the patriarchal tradition where women dominate more than men. Example of matrilineal societies is located in Indonesia, precisely in Minangkabau, West Sumatra. Women in Minangkabau have the special privilege of taking the role in life.

According to Charlton (1998:8) oppression can occur when a person experiences economic, political, social or cultural degradation because they belong to a social group. The structure of domination and subordination simultaneously results in an ideology of superiority and inferiority. (Charlton, 1998)

Oppression of women is one of the social issues in this film. Oppression of women is a criminal case that still occurs in this modern era. The types of oppression against women today include the social/domestic sphere and the public sphere. The first oppression of women is in the social sphere or in the domestic

sphere, that is by following and accepting the husband's role, raising children and husbands, maintaining cleanliness and perfection of the house, washing clothes, cooking, and other household jobs. The role of tradition places women 100% of their lives for the family. Here, the labor division is obvious, namely women at home and men outside the home. Then the oppression of women in the public space is the limited participation of women. which is only dominated by men such as education, politics, the world of work, etc.

Cases of oppression occur in almost all women worldwide who oppose customs and laws that develop in society. The stigma of society also brings that women have a function and role since they are born. Therefore women do not realize that other types of oppression are oppressing them. The most famous line from a feminist perspective from *The Second Sex* 267, "One is not born but becomes one" introduces the origins of sex and gender differences. Being born as a woman (who has vaginal sex) makes people think they have to play a role, position themselves as women in general. And men (who have a penis) must also put their roles and positions from birth like men in general. This is called gender. Gender is not born by itself. Gender is born in a society that develops because of social relations and the power of oppression and exploitation. Therefore, fighting exploitation and oppression requires struggles and movements against themselves as women and humans.

Feminists experience few obstacles in showing that oppression is a systematic and unrequited transfer of authority from women to men. The oppression that occurs against women is not only in terms of gender inequality, but freedom, the

power that causes women to work with them. (Iris young, 2004) Feminism is a movement and ideology to improve women's rights. Bell Hooks states in his book entitled *Margin to Center* says *Feminist is for Everybody*, "Feminism is a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression," (Kait, 2000: 1).

The women's movement in Indonesia grew in the early 20th century when the Dutch colonial government founded modern schools, and modern organizations were founded by "karoem bumiputera." Until now, for nearly a century, the struggle has had its ups and downs. Even what is currently called the achievement of "Women's Rights", in principle, has not been able to answer the problem of oppression experienced by women themselves. The feminist movement historically, especially in Indonesia, can be divided into (six) parts, from the pre-colonial era to the reform era. The first is colonial history, Japanese occupation, Dutch period, post independence/ old order-new order period, and the last is reformation era. In the era of reformation, Komnas Perempuan was born with a feminist orientation. Komnas Perempuan is a state institution that has rights for Indonesian women. Komnas Perempuan is one of three National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI). Other institutions related to human rights are the National Human Rights Commission (Komnas HAM) and the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI).

Komnas Perempuan as LNHAM has a guideline called the Paris Principle. These principles include the status and function of promoting and protecting human rights, as well as maintaining the independence and plurality of members.

In the past two decades, Komnas Perempuan has fought for various kinds of women's issues. Starting from violence against women in the context of conflict, disaster, work, personal, political, development and so on.

According to UN Women, one in three women worldwide has experienced physical or sexual violence, mostly by intimate partners. Violence against women is a violation of human rights, a long-term mental illness that can lead to death. violence has a negative impact on inequality for women and can cause women not to fully participate in society. This has an impact on their community, their country, and their family. The next bad impact is that they will experience considerable losses, such as health costs, legal costs, and losses in productivity.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study, the writer formulated the problems as follows :

- 1) What kinds of oppression happened to Laura Burney as a main character in the *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie?
- 2) What are the effect of the oppression toward Laura Burney as a main character?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem that stated above, the objectives of study include:

- 1) To find out the kinds of oppression that happened of the main character (Laura Burney in *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie)
- 2) To find out the effects of women oppression of the main character (Laura Burney) in *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie

1.4 Scope of the Study

In this study, the writer focuses on the kinds of oppression and the effect of oppression that happens of the main character Laura Burney as a wife in *Sleeping with the Enemy* is directed by Joseph Ruben's using feminist study.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This research is not only feminism study, but also gives benefit or feedback for many parties. In this research discussion provide a new atmosphere for reader researcher and especially the women in life today and the negative impacts experience if oppression against women continues to occur. This research can also be redeveloped and become a reference with different perspective.

1.6 Approach to the Study

In this research, to analyze *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie, the writer applies a qualitative method and feminism approach. The writer applies the qualitative method. The researcher employed a descriptive qualitative method

to analyzed the kinds of the oppression of the main character and the effect of oppression of main character in the film "Sleeping with the Enemy." By frequently watching and reading the script, the researcher was able to characterize and analyze the film. This study also applies the feminism approach, which focuses on two important aspects: the kinds of oppression and the effects of oppression. The writer applies feminism theory stated by The Five Faces of Oppression by Iris Marion Young. The procedure applied in this research is downloaded many journals as sources and references, downloading the movie to get the data, watching the movie identifying (character, oppression, and effects) in the movie screenplay, interpreting the data, and then analyzing the data.

1.7 Organization of the Study

This section will mention the contents of each chapter that are very important and in accordance with the requirements of the study. This research paper consists of five chapters to make easy to understand. CHAPTER I consists of Background to the Study, Statements of the Problems, Objective of the Study, Scope of the Study, Significance of the Study, Approach to the study, and organization of the study. Biography of the director and Synopsis of the movie are presented in. CHAPTER II. In CHAPTER III, the writer reviews Related Literature. Findings and discussion are detailed in CHAPTER IV. Finally, CHAPTER V concludes the paper and suggestions are offered.