

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background to the Study**

According to Cambridge Dictionary, oppression is considered as a situation in which people are governed in an unfair and cruel way and prevented from having opportunities and freedom. Oppression has many different forms such as marginalization, violence, and exclusion. Both violence and exclusion are about using power to intimidate someone's freedom. And as the effect, they feel like they are in different level from the oppressors, while also limiting what they can choose and do in real life. The main purpose of oppressors is to put themselves in better level since they will have bigger opportunity in granted their aims. Oppression is commonly found in our social life that relates to social status, sex and race.

Oppression toward sex, or more specific toward women often occurs in society. Oppression toward women also happens in some fields; such as education, economic, or politic, but they tend to be placed in lower position than men. Being seen from patriarchal point of view, women are not suitable to be placed in higher position than men, yet they are seen to be suitable in domestic fields. Although in this modern era women began to involve in these fields, the view of women as the inferior creatures still exist. Or we can simply say that women are on the second position in patriarchal society.

The second position and lower position of women happen because of social customs and norms. These customs and norms build women into oppressed

women. They assume that women should be gentle figures instead of powerful ones. Women should be able to uphold norms of decency, emphasize their intuition rather than their logic, so they can be perfect housewife figures. Because of these assumptions, patriarchal society rejects women to participate in many fields such as educational, social, and economic fields that are considered only suitable for men. As the form of self-protection, patriarchal societies do things that can abort women's opportunities to engage in fields through oppression.

The conditions are often reflected into a protest in literary works. The author tends to depict oppression to women either implicitly or explicitly based on the reality of women's lives in patriarchal society. The strategy of writing literature that raises elements of feminism with oppression or exploitation theme can give a social awareness to its readers. As the impacts, society will begin to reorganize social norms relating to the placement of women as equal as men. In addition, the reader's awareness toward women's role in society can foster a courageous and vibrant attitude so that women can achieve what they want bravely in patriarchal society.

In a literary work entitled "*The Friday Everything Changed*" written by Anne Hart, can be an example of oppression towards women. We can find that society places boys as the dominant rather than girls and considers that girls are weak. So the dominant group does not give freedom for girls to choose what they want to do. One day when the girls want to break that social rules, the boys feel threatened as they should share something that is usually only valid to them. Because the society considered that girls are weak and inferior, the boys try to

oppress the girls verbally through threats as they say that if they see a girl that goes out to field, they will break her neck. The boys also oppress the girls in persuasion form depicted when a boy told Alma that sometimes carrying the water is not that much fun. On Cold days it is real hard work. She is better off in the warm school.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

In this research, the writer found three problems about oppression towards female characters in Anne Hart's *The Friday Everything Changed*, these are:

1. What are the causes of oppressions toward the female characters in Anne Hart's *The Friday Everything Changed*?
2. What oppressions are experienced by the female characters in Anne Hart's *The Friday Everything Changed*?
3. What are the effects of the oppression toward the female characters in Anne Hart's *The Friday Everything Changed*?

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

In line with statement of the problems above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find the reasons of oppression toward female characters by male characters in Anne Hart's *The Friday Everything Changed*.
2. To find out the kinds of oppressions toward female characters in Anne Hart's *The Friday Everything Changed*.
3. To find out the effects of the oppression toward female characters in Anne Hart's *The Friday Everything Changed*.

#### **1.4 Scope of the Study**

This study will analyze oppression towards female characters in Anne Hart's *The Friday Everything Changed*, and it focuses on the oppression that happened in educational field.

#### **1.5 Approach of the Study**

In this research, to analyze *The Friday Everything Changed* by Ann Hart, the writer applies qualitative method and feminism approach. The writer applies qualitative method because there are not any numeric data, yet tend to develop concepts which help to understand social phenomena, giving emphasis to the meanings, and experiences the view of participants. In addition this study also applies feminism approach which focuses on two important aspects which are the unequal status and relationship between men and women and the oppression that happened toward women in patriarchal society. The writer applies feminism theory stated by Virginia Woolf in her book *A Room of One's Own*. In collecting data, the writer did some steps. The first step is reading the short story to find the problems and data, later the writer collected those data, the next step is identifying the data and last, turn it into a clear analysis.

#### **1.6 Organization of the Research Report**

In this research, chapter I is divided into ; Background to the Study, Statement of the Problem, Objective of the Study, Scope of the Study, Approach to the Study, and Organization of Research Paper.

Chapter II is divided into ; Author's Biography and Synopsis. Chapter III contains Review of Related Literature, and chapter IV contains of Analysis and Discussion. And chapter V contains conclusion and suggestion.