UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

THE STUDY OF FEMINSM IN KATE CHOPIN'S THE AWAKENING

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Yang Menyatakan,



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ABSTRAK

Damayanti, 2021. Studi Feminisme dalam *The Awakening* karya Kate Chopin. (Dibimbing oleh **M. Amir P**. dan **M. Syafri Badaruddin**).

Fokus penelitian ini adalah pada karakter feminis dalam karya Kate Chopin. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkarakterisasi tokoh feminis dalam cerpen Kate Chopin The Awakening dengan mengkaji tokoh utama perempuan sebagai feminis.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif. Sumber data dalam penelitian ini adalah novel The Awakening karya Kate Chopin. Berdasarkan teori feminisme, penelitian ini mengungkap karakter feminis. Teknik analisis data dalam penelitian ini adalah pengumpulan data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa di antara tokoh-tokoh dalam The Awakening karya Kate Chopin, Edna Pontellier adalah tokoh feminis. Dialognya, tindakan mengabaikan patriarki dan batasan sosial terhadap perempuan, upaya untuk melengkapi hak diri, kebutuhan diri, dan pemikiran batinnya tentang kemerdekaan dan otonomi diri membuatnya mendapatkan gelar feminis.

ABSTRACT

Damayanti, 2021. *The Study of Feminism in Kate Chopin's The Awakening*. (Supervised By M. Amir P. and M. Syafri Badaruddin).

The focus of this research is on the feminist characters in Kate Chopin's work. The aim of this study is to characterize the feminist characters in Kate Chopin's short stories The Awakening by examining the main female characters as feminists.

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. The data source in this study is the novel *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin. By feminism theory, this research reveals the feminist characters. Data analysis techniques in this study are data collection, data presentation, and drawing conclusions.

The results of this study indicate that among the characters in Kate Chopin's The Awakening, Edna Pontellier is a feminist figure. Her dialogue, acts of disregarding sexism and social boundaries against women, an attempt to complete self-rights, self-needs, and her inner thinking about independence and self-autonomy gained her the title of feminist.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter dealt with background of the research, problem statement, objective of the study, significances of the study, and scope of the research.

A. Background of the Study

Literature is an imaginative work that portrays human life in society in a way that can be appreciated, understood, and used by society. Literary work is part In the essencea literary work is a replica of real life. Moreover, people who work in literature usually represent their work in such kind of literary works. Like the term of literature itself, where literature is a term used to describe written or spoken material. Broadly speaking, "literature" is used to describe anything from creative writing to more technical or scientific works, but the term is most commonly used to refer to works of the creative imagination, including works of poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction. Literature represents a language or a people: culture and tradition.

Literature helps human being grow, both personally and intellectually. It provides an objective base for knowledge and understanding. It links them with the broader cultural, philosophic, and religious world of which they are a part. Novel is one particular kind of literary works. It is mostly defined as reflection of life or everything we find in real life. Novel expresses some aspects in human's love and human

existence, because novel talks about human activities and describe what happened in surrounding.

The novel tells about the central female character, awakened from a life of marriage and motherhood that she was mindlessly fallen in to. Edna Pontellier feels so trapped and stifled within her role of wife and mother and so limited by the expectations of society that she begins to reject it all in favor of perceived freedom and excitement. She displays outward signs of depression and dysfunction to such an extent that her husband eventually abandons her, taking her sons away with him.

The prelude to this event sees Edna fall in love with a younger man, who initially flees the scene when he realizes that their affection for one another will only lead to disaster. When he reappears in her life to admit his true feelings for her, circumstances conspire that make him leave again for good. Edna is emotionally destroyed by the realization that she has blown her chances of a new and happier life. Seeing that all is lost she commits suicide by drowning herself in the ocean.

Women in Kate Chopin's stories are not content to have their lives molded and shaped into the form's men design; they are not willing to accept tradition and rules which run counter to the innermost drives of their hearts. It promotes a woman's strength and courage to against for freedom.

Feminism as an analysis of women's subordination for the purpose of figuring out how to change it. Feminism also means sharing in an impulse to increase the power and autonomy of women in their families, communities, and society. On another occasion Gordon defines feminism as critique of male supremacy, formed and offered in the light of a to changed it.

Based on the aspects above the writer observed and analyzed *The* Awakening by Kate Chopin. The writer is interested to analyze the feminist characters in novel *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin. This is because of the figure Edna had significant conflict. Edna Pontellier's rebellion against the misogynist structures and customs of society. Trying to gain the female reader's thought and heart that they have same right as men have, they need to feel the true happiness and freedom rather just being obedient person with wide limitation. Trustily, it is just about the human being. The traditional perception that women only have a role as mother women is not right. It is actually a good role, but women are born not only for that. Also, a feminism often occurs in real life that make researcher so excited and curious desire to analyze feminist characters in the novel "The Awakening".

B. Identification of Problem

After reading Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*, the writer finds and identifies some problems in the story as:

1. Edna's difficulty to get her freedom of life

- 2. Edna Frustrates in facing her problems to reach her independence
- Gender discrimination and oppression on Edna Pontellier by her husband
 Leonce Pontellier and Creole society
- 4. The problem of feminism types do exist in the novel

C. Scope of Problem

As already mention, the writer found four problems that can be analyze in this novel. Nevertheless, this thesis does not focus on the first, second, and third problems. This research focuses on the fourth problem, which is discussing about Edna's feminism types that existin the novel *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin through feminism approach.

D. Research Question

Based on identification of problem, the writer formulates the research questions as follows:

- 1. How does Edna Pontellier describe as the main character?
- 2. What types of feminism do exist in the novel?

E. Objective of The Writing

According to the research question, the writer determines the objectives of research, as follows:

- 1. To explain Edna Pontellier portrayed as the main character.
- 2. To describe types of feminism in the novel *The Awakening*.

F. Significances of Writing

This research is expected to provide benefits to the readers, both theoretical and practical.

1) Theoretical Significance

- Theoretically, the research on "Feminist Characters in the novel *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin" is expected that the readers get the benefits, especially students, teachers, and lecturers.
- The results of this study are expected to contribute to the development of literary science.
- The results of this study can be useful to enrich the use of literary theories in technical analysis of literary works.

2) Practical Significance

- Practically, this research on "Feminist Characters in the novel *The Awakening*by Kate Chopin" is expected to be understood, accepted and can be beneficial
 to society.
- For the authors of this study can provide input to be able to create better literature.
- For readers of this research, it can increase interest in reading in appreciating literary works.

G. Sequence of writing

There are five chapters in this study. The first chapterconsists background of the research, problem statement, objective of the study, significances of the study, and scope of the research. Next, the second chapter consists of literature review, previous study and theoretical approach. Then, the third consists of methodology of research, source of data, instrument of the research, method of collecting data, and technique of data analysis.

The fourth chapter is discussion and analysis which includes the character analysis and feminist character in the fictional story. The finally chapter is conclusion and suggestion which summarizes whole information in the thesis also presents some suggestions to future analysts.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter presents the review of related literature, which deals with some previous study and theoretical approach.

A. Previous Study

The writer presents some previous findings, which related to or relevant with this research, as follow:

Firstly, Budi Tri Santosa (2015) Yogyakarta State University. In his thesis with the title "An Analysis of the Main Female Character's Efforts in John Steinbeck's The Grapes of wrath". He analyzed Steinbeck's The Grapes of Wrath from feminist perspective and concluded some conclusions. First, A patriarchal system in Oklahoma depicted in The Grapes of Wrath causes gender problems. Second, In facing discrimination and stereotypes which cause unequal roles between men and women in her society, Ma shows her efforts to fight against them. Third, There are two significant meanings in Ma's experiences to face patriarchal system. First, women can participate in public sector which proves that women are able to take men's roles. Second, women cannot be regarded as subordinate to men.

In short, Ma Joad experiences many forms of gender discrimination and stereotypes throughout her life. In Oklahoma, Ma has to accept the discrimination and the stereotypes because of the strong patriarchal system. However, there are factors

which influence Ma to fight against the discrimination and the stereotypes in order that she has equal roles with her husband. By her efforts, she can lead the family for survival in the crisis, and she can particiapte in public sectors.

Secondly, Eka Sherli Sudarni (2017) Alauddin State Islamic University. In her thesis with the title "Struggle of Woman in the Novel Sing Me to Sleep by Angela Morrisson (TheAnalysis of Feminism)". In her research, Eka Sherli Sudarni concluded that The Kinds of Women's Struggle in the Novel Sing Me to Sleep. First, The struggle to accept the facts of life. The fact is the absolute thing that must be accepted by everyone, life is not as beautiful as we imagined. A fact of life and one's limitations require a struggle to be able to accept it with patience and a sincere heart. Second, Thestruggle to achieve a dream. In this life on earth a person must have ideals and dreams to be achieve both material and nonmaterial. But to achieve that kind of success is not easy, it takes the struggle and hard work in accordance with the capacity of people who want to achieve that goal. Third, The struggle in the form of affection Compassion is the feeling that arises within a sincere heart to love, Cherish, and give happiness to others or anyone who loves her. Affection disclosed not only to a lover but the love of god, parents, family, and friends.

Thirdly, Eka Desmawati (2020) University Gunadarma. In her thesis with title "Analysis of Feminism in the Novel of *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott." In her research, Eka Desmawati concluded that there are four forms of feminism as defined in the novel Little Women. First, the novel's protagonists reflected liberal feminism in terms of what they did to fulfill their own lives and earn money through hard work.

Second, Marxist feminism represents the characters' importance of women's work and promotes further equality, whereas capitalism is the root of women's oppression, as depicted by the novel's character roles. Third, existentialist feminism represents the tomboyish character of a woman who must become a subject, transcending meanings, labels, and essences, as well as the need for complete independence. Fourth, radical feminism represents characters who have been subjected to corporal punishment as well as all types of sexual abuse, or as someone who "believes the sex or gender structure is the source of women's oppression." Feminism is expressed in the characters' struggle for survival, in putting their lives in the world of men (patriarchy), and in their protest form so that they are no longer the object of men's abuse.

The similarity of the previous study above with this research is about feminism. In the thesis with the title "An Analysis of the Main Female Character's Efforts in John Steinbeck's The Grapes of wrath" written by Budi Tri Santosa focused on the patriarchal system which effects to the oppression of women. Ma Joad, who is the main character of that novel, suffers discrimination and oppression by men and her surroundings. While this research focuses on the main character Edna Pontellier through feminism.

Thesis with the title "Struggle of Woman in the Novel Sing Me to Sleep by Angela Morrisson (The Analysis of Feminism)" written by Eka Sherli Sudarni that used feminism theory as a tool to analyze her research. On her research, it focused on the kinds of women's struggle and how main character struggles to get her love in the

novel Sing Me to Sleep by Angela Morrison using feminism theory. While this research focused on the feminist characters of the main character Edna Pontellier in the Kate Chopin's The Awakening.

Thesis with the title "Analysis of Feminism in the Novel of *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott" written by Eka Desmawati that used feminism theory to analyze her research. Her research has a similarity with what the writer analyzes in the novel *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin i.e. liberal feminism and radical feminism but in her research she did not put character analysis of the main character on her research as the writer will do.

B. Pertinent Ideas

1. Feminism Theory

Feminism comprises a number of social, cultural and political movements, theories and moral philosophies concerned with gender inequalities and equal rights for women. The term "feminism" originated from the French word "feminisme," coined by the utopian socialist Charles Fourier, and was first used in English in the 1890s, in association with the movement for equal political and legal rights for women. Feminism takes a number of forms in a variety of disciplines such as feminist geography, feminist history and feminist literary criticism. Feminism has changed aspects of Western society. Feminist political activists have been concerned with issues such as individual autonomy, political rights, social freedom, economic independence, abortion and reproductive rights, divorce, workplace rights (including

maternity leave and equal pay), and education; and putting an end to domestic violence, gender stereotypes, discrimination, sexism, objectification, and prostitution.

Feminism was born early 20th century, were pioneered by Virginia Woolf. She was the first woman who introduced individualization in female population, and was one of the first who create a literature for women in the feminist sense. Woolf mingles her thoughts with her daily life. She highlights the strong need of women to take their rights and to be equal with men. In A Room of One's Own with the patriarchal society in England in which males have all power and money. As a way of connecting herself with the problems that faced women in trying to get their rights, Woolf gave many examples about how there was gender discrimination at that time in England. For example, when her imaginary narrator is not allowed to enter the library because she is a woman, the comment presented is laconic and expressive enough, "that a famous library has been cursed by woman is a matter of complete indifference to a famous library (Woolf, 1929: 8)."

According to Salden (1986: 130-131), there are five issues that commonly Arise in relation to feminist theory items, namely a) biological problems, b) experience, c) discourse, d) unconscious, and e) the Socioeconomic problems. The most important debates in feminist theory arises as a result of a problem Because women discourse actually be pushed through discourse dominated by men. Basically feminist theory brought to Indonesia by A. Teeuw. This fact was Also Proves that Western theories can be used to analyze literary Indonesia, with a note that the theory is a tool, not a goal. The simplest meaning of feminist literary studies is the assessment looked at the

literature with special awareness, awareness that there are many gender related to culture, literature, and our lives. Gender is what makes the difference between all that also makes a difference in self-authors, readers, disposition, and the external factors that influence the situation of composing (Sugihastuti, 2005: 5).

Broadly speaking explained that Culler (Sugihastuti, 2005: 5). call this reading as a woman, as a woman reading. By "reading as a woman" is the reader's awareness that there are important differences in the sexes in the struggle for meaning and significance of literary works. The reader's awareness within the framework of feminist literary study is a study by different methods. This study lays the foundation that there is gender in the category of literary analysis, a fundamental category.

The core purpose is to improve seat feminism and women to the same degree or in parallel with position and the degree of men. Serta struggle feminism effort to achieve this goal cover various ways. One way is getting rights and opportunities equal to those of men "(Djajanegara, 2000: 4). Further Djajanegara (2000: 27-39) describes the variety of feminist literary criticism following: (a) Feminist Literary Criticism Ideological, looked at women, particularly feminists as a reader. Which became the center of attention is the image of women readers and stereotype women in literature. (b) Ginokritik Feminist Literary Criticism, examines the writings of women (female writer). Ginokritik trying to find answers to fundamental questions, such as whether women writers are a special group, and what is the difference between the writings of women and men. (c) Socialist (Marxist) Feminist Literary Criticism, examines the figures of women from the standpoint of socialist i.e. classes

of society. Feminist critics tried to reveal that women were an oppressed class of society. (d) Psychoanalytic Feminist Literary Criticism, applied to the writings of women as feminists believe that women readers usually identify himself or put himself on a female character, while the female character is generally a reflection of its creator. (e) Lesbian Feminist Literary Criticism, and the author examines female characters only. This study is limited because of several factors. First, feminists generally do not like groups of homosexual women and sees them as a radical feminist. Second, when writing about women sprung up in 1979's. The journals of women no one writes about lesbianism. Third, lesbians themselves have not been able to reach agreement on the definition of lesbianism. Fourth, due to the antipathy feminists and communities, forced lesbian writers in veiled language and uses symbols, in addition to censor themselves. (f) Ethnic Feminist Literary Criticism, questioned the sexual discrimination and racial discrimination from the whites and blacks, both men and women.

Sugihastuti (2005: 15-16) argues that the rationale in the research literature feminist perspective is the effort of understanding the status and role of women as reflected in literature.

First, the position and role of women leaders in Indonesian literature shows still dominated by men. Thus, trying to understand the necessity to know the gender imbalance in the literature, as seen in the daily reality of society.

Second, of the reception reader Indonesian literature, at a glance it appears that the female characters in literature Indonesia lags behind the men, for example in terms of social background education, his job, his role in society, and the short degree feminist perspective that women have rights, obligations, and the same opportunities as men. women can participate in all activities of social life along with men.

Third, the study of Indonesian literature has produced many changes in the analysis and methodology, one of which is the research literature feminist perspective. Looks their suitability in the reality of social research is also oriented feminism. Given the feminist perspective of literary research has not been done, it is proper to the researchers glanced research data that abound this.

Fourth, more than that, many readers assume that role and position of women is lower than for men like real at reception of Indonesian literature. Therefore, the view is worth seeing again through the research literature feminist perspective.

According to Hannam (2007: 6), Feminism is an understand as that arises when women demanded to get equal rights as men. The term was first used in the political debate in France in the late 19th century. The beginning of the 18th century can be called as a starting point in the history of feminism. Although there has been debate for women who have obtained a position recognized society, feminism has not been too much developed at that time. The women who wrote works that demonstrate their demand to get equal rights, particularly in the field of education. Then, women began

to be interested in new ideas that emerged after the French revolution. They imagine that the relationship between the genders is currently in effect abolished and appears in the form of various kinds of associations that stopping male dominance and rejected the common perception of how to be a woman at that time.

According to Hannam (2007:22) in the Feminism book, feminism can be defined as:

- A recognition of an imbalance of power between the Sexes, with woman in a subordinate role to men.
- A belief that woman social condition is constructed and therefore can be changed.
- 3. An emphasis on female autonomy.

Feminism is derived from the word famine, which means that the nature of femaleness at the beginning of the emergence around the 14th century, has five basic prepositions of feminism are:

- The emergence of consciousness in opposition to the slander and any failure in women in the form of a dialectical opposition to the practices of misogyny (the cruelty of men to women).
- 2. There is a belief that gender is a cultural rather than a biological.
- 3. The existence of a social group belief about imperfection male specific gender as human beings.

- 4. The existence of a heritage viewpoint in accepting the prevailing value system to combat prejudice and discrimination.
- 5. The desire to accept the concept of man and woman as humanitarian.

Thus, the meaning of the ideas advent of feminism is to seek out opportunities for women's freedom and in dependence. Arivia Gadis, (2003:6), Feminism liberal theory more emphasis on utilization of sense or reason. How struggles of women seated in its portion to recognize beforehand capacity as a given from God in the form of the brain. Therefore, women must demand their 'think climate' contained in the comprehensive education. Women are entitled to education in schools in order to gain new knowledge to empower their thinking capacity.

Feminism derived from the word "femme" (women), it means women (singular) who fought for the rights of women (plural) as a social class. Purpose of feminist is the gender balance. Feminist is the movement made by women in reject anything that is marginalized, subordinated.

Moreover, Walters (2005:2) the word "feminism" means one who champions the rights of women since the only right the when to earn a living has been won, the word longer has a meaning. And a word without a meaning is a dead word a corrupt word. Wallek and Warren's statement (1959:26), Structure is concept including both content and form so far as they organized for aesthetic purpose. The work of art is the

considered as a whole system of signs or structure of signs serving a specific aesthetic purpose.

Maggie Humm stated in her book *The Dictionary of Feminist Theory*, "Feminism is the ideology of women's since intrinsic in all it approaches is the belief that women suffer injustice because of their sex" (Humm, 1990:74). Therefore, feminism is an idea that women and men are in an equal position, women can do what they want to do. Various feminism offers differing analysis of the causes and means of female suppression. Maggie Humm also states, "Feminism is a term used by cultural and essentialist feminism to describe the ideology of female superiority" (Humm, 1990:73).

Moreover, Ashley Montagu on her book *The Natural Superiority of Women* states, "Women have been conditioned to believe that they are inferior to men, and they have assumed that what everyone believes is a fact of nature" (Montagu:1953:23). That nature is clearly captured as a feminism, which every woman has inherself.

Somehow, feminism confined women's struggles against suppressive gender relationships. In fact, women's actions today or in the past, have been against interconnecting relations of inequality and involved many sides of resistance in the daily life and culture that are not simply about gender (Rowbotham, 1992:6). Thus, feminism is not only about to signify the suppression upon women related to men

because of gender but in any other inequality issues in society that cause suppression uponwomen.

2. Types of Feminism

2.1 Liberal Feminism

According to Tong (2009: 18) liberal feminism is not about women who can do anything that men can do, but it is more about some women who can do anything that they want.

Liberal feminism emphasizes women's rights to equality. It means that women have the same rights as men, that they can do whatever men want and that they can express themselves freely in society. Women can express themselves by doing whatever they want because they are equal to men. Women have no restrictions in terms of what they can do; they are free to express themselves by their choices. Madsen also expresses his thoughts on the liberal feminism viewpoint.

The liberal emphasizes on the individual stresses the importance of the individualandindividualautonomywhichareprotected by guaranteed rights, economic justice and equality of opportunity (2000:35).

Liberal feminism often promotes individual choice with fairness and assurances, encouraging women to do whatever they want because it is already acceptable and guaranteed.

In addition, Tong states,

Our entire system of individual rights is justified because these rights constitute a framework within which we can all choose our own separate goods, provided we do not deprive others of theirs (2009: 11).

People have the right to do what they want; a person's choice is made without the interference or control of others, and people as individuals should make their own decisions. People have the freedom to do what they want to do with their lives as individuals, but they must also respect the rights of others. They should exercise their right to choose without interfering with the rights of others. It implies that everybody has the same chance. Wendell states that the thing that is related to liberal feminism is equal opportunity.

Committed to major economic re – organization and considerable redistribution of wealth, since one of the modern political goals most closely associated with liberal feminism is equality of opportunity (Tong, 2009:12).

Since Wendell is talking about feminism, particularly liberal feminism, which focuses on economy and politics, equality of opportunity refers to the opportunity that men and women have. Since Wendell is talking about feminism, especially liberal feminism, which focuses on economy and politics, it means that men and women should have equal opportunity, especially in economy and politics. This is supported by Tong's argument that states,

The overall goal of liberal feminism is the worthy one of creating "a just and compassionate society in which freedom flourishes. Only in such societycan women and men thrive equally (Tong, 2009:13)."

2.2 Radical Feminism

Radical feminism is a branch of feminism that advocates for a radical reorganization of society in which male dominance is removed in all social and economic ways, while simultaneously acknowledging that other social distinctions, such as race, ethnicity, and sexual identity, have an effect on women's experiences (Willis, 1984: 118).

Radical feminism appeared because the patriarchal system that made sexuality to judge identities. Radical feminism holds that there is no connection between gender and sex.

Patriarchal society uses certain facts about male and female (chromosomes, anatomy, hormones) as the basis for constructing a set of masculine and feminine gender identities and behaviors that serve the empower men and disempower women (Tong, 2009: 51).

Radical feminism focuses on the problem of pornographs in which women seen as the object and seems to be dehumanized. Rosmarie Tong stated, "Pornographers can and ought to be viewed as agents of sexual discrimination, guilty of violating women's civil rights" (Tong, 2009: 69).

Radical feminists see the world as inherently patriarchal, with men ruling and oppressing women. As part of a larger effort to "liberate everybody from an unequal world by questioning current societal structures and systems," radical feminists are working to eliminate patriarchy. Opposing women's sexual objectification, raising public consciousness about issues like rape and abuse against women, questioning gender norms, and challenging what progressive feminists see as a racialized and

gendered capitalism that exists in the United States and many other countries are all part of this struggle.

Firestone (1970: 11) unlike the first feminist movement, the end aim of the feminist revolution would be not only the abolition of male privilege, but the abolition of the sex distinction itself: genital distinctions between human beings will no longer matter culturally.

Radical feminism theory focuses more on biological aspects. Members of radical feminism argue that gender inequality results from biological differences between men and women themselves. The point is that women feel exploited by men in biological matters that women have, for example, the roles of pregnancy and motherhood which are always played by women. Therefore, radical feminism often attacks family institutions and party systems which they consider to be sources of oppression. They consider these institutions to be institutions that give birth to a system of male domination so that women are oppressed. According to Bryson (in Tong, 2009: 48-49), consciousness-raising showed how

the trauma of a woman who had been raped or who had had to resort to an illegal abortion seemed to be linked to the experiences of the wife whose husband refused to do his shared of housework, appeared never to have heard of the female orgasm or sulked if she went out for the evening; the secretary whose boss insisted that she wear short skirts, expected here to "be nice" to important clients or failed to acknowledge that she was effectively running his office; and the female student whose teachers expected less of the "girls", refused requests to study female writers or even traded grades for sexual favors.

Radical feminists stated that "the personal is political" and that all women are "sisters," fueled by the realization that women's fates are inextricably connected. They claimed that men's dominance over women's sexual and reproductive lives, as well as women's self-identity, self-respect, and self-esteem, is the most fundamental form of oppression that humans have faced.

2.3 Cultural Feminism

Cultural feminism, the view that there is a "female nature" or "female essence", attempts to revalue and redefine attributes ascribed to femaleness. It is also used to describe theories that commend innate differences between women and men. Cultural feminism diverged from radical feminism, when some radical feminists rejected the previous feminist and patriarchal notion that feminine traits are undesirable and returned to an essentialist view of gender differences in which they regard female traits as superior.

The goal of cultural feminist is to create and maintain a healthy environment for the female principle, free of masculinist values and their offshoots such as pornography. Feminist theory, the explanation of sexism, and the jus- tification of feminist demands can all be grounded securely and unambiguously on the concept of the essential female.

Mary Daly and Adrienne Rich have been vocal supporters of this cause. Both Daly and Rich argue for a return to the emphasis on femaleness, bucking the feminist movement toward androgyny and the minimization of gender disparities in the early 1970s (Alcoff, 1988 : 405-436).

Alcoff also claimed cultural feminism places women in a position overdetermined by patriarchal systems. She contends that:

Man has said that woman can be defined, delineated, captured, understood, explained, and diagnosed to a level of determination never accorded to man himself, who is conceived as a rational animal with free will (Alcoff, 1988:405-436)

Alcoff makes the point that "the cultural feminist reappraisal construes woman's passivity as her peacefulness, her sentimentality as her proclivity to nurture, her subjectiveness as her advanced self-awareness. In addition Echols also stated "Cultural feminists contend that patriarchy has ruined the bond between mother and daughter, and therefore all women, and that it must be restored (Echols, 1983 : 34-53).

Cultural feminism is the reappropriation by feminists of the ideology of a feminine identity or essence in attempt to truly highly valued female characteristics. For cultural feminists, the enemy of women is masculinity itself, and in certain instances male genetics, rather than a society, an economic institution, or a collection of patriarchal values. The aim of cultural feminist politics is to create and maintain a safe atmosphere for the female principle, free of patriarchal ideals and their variants like pornography. The definition of the essential female can be used to protect and unambiguously justify feminist theory, explanations of patriarchy, and justifications of feminist demands.

2.4 Marxist/Socialist feminism

Marxist feminism emphasizes that true equality will not be achieved without major overhauls within society, particularly economic overhauls. Socialist feminists argue that there are fundamental inequalities built into a capitalist society because power and capital are distributed unfairly. Engels (in Whelehan, 1995: 45) claims that a woman's subordination is not a result of her biologic disposition but of social relations, and that the institution of family as it exists is a complex system in which men command women's services. In the end, socialist feminists focus on collective change and empowerment.

3. Character and Characterization

Characters are the product of characterization that is to they have been made in particular way. The kind conversation they have, the thing they do, their appearances and so on are the particular ways in which the author has chosen to characterize his or her character. Character creation is the art of characterization what the author does to bring a character to life to provide the reader with a sense of that character's personality to make that character unique. In other words, characterization is a method while character is a product of the method. Aquino (1976:32) states that characterization was brief but concise. It is coming from descriptions by a future being of past people and, events, seemingly observed from a great height.

Characterization in literature is the process of authors used to develop character and create images of the characters for the audience. In the other hand, it is a way in which the author revealed his character in a work of fiction or in another word characterization method of character portrayal (Bennett and Royle, 2004:65). In addition, it is very helpful to analyze the main character's development. There are two different approaches to characterization, including direct characterization and indirect characterization.

Character can be described as a person in a literary work who has an identity formed by their appearance, conversation, behavior, name, and inner thoughts. Bennett and Royle (2004:60) state that characters are the life of literature: they are the objects of our curiosity and fascination, affection and dislike, admiration and condemnation. A character always uses the tools of communication to interact with other characters. His/her dialogue between characters forms a medium between their actions and thoughts. How they communicate with other characters can establish how they feel and described such as where they come from and their relationship with the character to whose they are speaking.

Pope (2005:133) suggests that there are two categories of character; (a) major character is an important figure at the centre of the story's action or theme. The major character is sometimes called a protagonist whose conflict with an antagonist may spark the story's conflict; (b) minor character is a character that support the major character, the function of it is to illuminate the major character.

3.1 Major Character

The major character is a called a Protagagonist whose conflict with an Antagonist may spark the story's conflict. Protagonist is the major character

with whom generally sympathize. The antagonist is the character or force against which the protagonist struggles (Pope, 2005 : 134). A major character is a character that is emphasized to tell the story. The major character always appears in most of the story, either as a subject or as subject.

3.2 Minor Character

Minor characters are unlikely to be used as a viewpoint character. Pope, 2005: 135) states that the minor characters appearances in the literary work will be brief and infrequent although that does not mean that they cannot shine whenever they are in the spotlight. Minor characters essentially two dimensional stereotypes, or flat character. The minor characters are comprised of all the other characters in the story whose are of lesser importance.