

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Theoretical Framework

2.1.1. Gender

Gender refers to the roles constructed in the society which are attributed to females and males. These roles distinguish what it is to be feminine or masculine.

For instead, females and males will do something that appropriate with their roles in society. A female will do things that let people know her gender identity as female, and a male also will express himself as a male.

Women's position is different from men's, since there is a gender issue between them. The theories of men and women become the interesting things to be discussed. Oakley in his book *Sex, Gender, and Society* (1992) says about the different between gender and sex as follows:

On the whole western society is organized around the assumption that the differences between the sexes are more important than any qualities they have in common. When people try to justify this assumption in terms of "natural" differences, two separate processes become confused; the tendency to differentiate in a society, but the second is not, and its constancy marks the division between "sex" and "gender". Sex differences may be "natural" but gender differences have their source in culture, not in nature.

It can be concluded that gender differences are created by society.

For further explanation about gender, Lengerman (1992, p 320) supports this statement as follows

The central theme of gender differences is that's woman's inner physics life is different from men's. Women bring different vision voices to the construction of the social reality. This social reality of women's world are influenced by their basic values and interest,

mode of making value judgments, achievement motive, literary creativity, sexual fantasies and general process and selfhood, that are somehow different from men.

The next central themes of gender differences are that the distinctive of the overall configuration of women's relationship and life experiences are different from those men.

Women relates more differently than man to their biological offspring; boys and girls have distinctively differently style of play; adult women relate to each other and to women subjects the study as scholars in a unique way. Indeed, the overall life experience of female from infancy to old age is fundamentally different from that what of men. (p. 322)

Furthermore, according to Lengerman (p. 360), there are four themes that characterize the theories of gender inequality, which she described as follows first, men and women are differently and unequally situated. Second, the inequality between men and women happens as the result of the organization of the society, and not from any significant biological or personality differences between men and women. Third, there is no significant pattern of the natural variation that distinguishes sexes. Fourth, this inequality theory of men and women has the assumption that both men and women will respond fairly and naturally.

De Beauvoir as quoted by Selden (1988. p. 534) says that the term masculine and feminine are used symmetrically only as matter of form, such as on legal papers. Actually, the relation of the two sexes is not quite like that two electrical poles, for men represents both the positive and the neutral, as it is indicated by the common use of man to designate by limiting reciprocity.

It can be concluded that men and women are incidentally separated. The relation between men and women is not equal. Men become the common word representing the good representation while women stand in the negative side.

Women are put in the specific characterization that limits women's movement.

This circumstance happens because there is a paradigm in society that men are physically stronger than women although in some cases they have their own ability and disability that cannot be analogous or distinguishable. The conditions that exist in society become a conviction from generation to generation, without any changes.

Sexual differences between men and women are the most aspect determining gender distinction. In general, by nature men are physically stronger than women. These enable them to do heavy physical jobs in society. They also do not have to pass the biological process such as menstruation or pregnancy, which disturb them in doing their activities. As a result, men participates more in public affair. On the other hand, women generally have a weaker physical body.

They also experience menstruation, pregnancy and infant nursing, which usually restrain them in doing their activities. Thus, women usually deal with domestic affair. The role in public affair is often regarded as more significant than that in domestic affair. This discrimination is disadvantageous for women, so that the effort to achieve gender parity arises.

Gender parity according to Siswanti (2004) means that women and men share equal access to every aspect of live. Both women and men should take the same role in society. As a social system the subordination of women as a form of gender inequality can be changed by the society where the subordination takes

places. The change may not happen easily since the member of society still hold on to dominates of men. The men and also women who have internalized the values of men dominated society preserve the privileging of one gender – male, over the other – female.

The gender parity not only happens in real live, it is also influence the literary work that exists around the society as well. Movie for the example, as the one literary work that close with society a movie can be a reflection how the gender parity occurs in society. Some movies are took the women as the weaker character that need men figure to help and protect them. Another kind of movie also shows the debility of women character that have to obey all the men's rule.

Although today there are a lot of movie that shows women movement, but the patriarchy role still exists. Because of that analysis the study about gender in a movie becomes an interesting subject to be discussed.

From the explanation above the gender disparity happens because an old thought that women are physically and mentally weaker than men. This condition not only exists in really live but also influences the literary works. The old phenomena that occur from generation to generation in early 21st century began changes since there are some women movements which are shouted about gender parity. The literary works that become most effective media to reach society also shows the gender parity problems. The societies helped by the literary works try to change the old paradigm about the existing of gender disparity in society.

2.1.2. Character and Characterization

Character is one of the important elements that builds a story. Even the quality of the story depends on the ability of the author to make the character alive. Character is a person that participates in the events that happen in the story.

Each character in a certain story made different with another; either that character is dominant and strong, or event in contrast,ressive and weak. According to Kenney (1966, p.28), a character is devided into two general descriptions concerning his representation in a certain fiction, which are simple or flat character and complex or round character. A character known as a simple character or a flat if the viewer can only see one side of the character. The author only gives a few details about these character. A simple character in fact, is not too represents the true human personalities as a manifestation of a single attitude or obsession in character. In contrast, complex character is viewable from all sides and have a lot of details given from the author. Every literary works, movie or drama commonly uses character to show the messages of the story.

Based on the role, character in a fiction can be classified into major and minor character. A main character is a character that can influence the plot of a story. The main character is formed as an individual who is capable of providing complex motivations and reactions to change in response to crisis or conflict in a way that makes them looks like a real person (Hirschberg & Hirschberg, 2004, p.55). Then a minor character, is a character that does not have a big role in changing the plot of a story and serves only as a complementary character. Of course, the minor character is one of the character represented in the story , but they do not role as the main one.

Further in line with (Hirschberg & Hirschberg, 2004, p.62) a character in a fiction can be a protagonist or an antagonist character. A protagonist commonly figures to against the antagonist character. A protagonist is often a hero, or other character that have a conflict with the antagonist character. however, in some stories not all protagonist are become a hero or good. Sometimes a protagonist is acting as an antagonist that known as the protagonist Anti-Hero.

According to Wellek & Austin (1963, p.219), the simplest form of characterization is by naming". Characterization is the process of creating a character by an author, including words, actions, thoughts, appearance, other people's thoughts and perception about the character. Characterization can make figure how the character itself, so a good character can looks good if they have a good characterization in opposite a bad character also can be found from his or her characterization.

Mirror Mirror is one movie that shows Snow White as the main character.

Snow White known well by the society from the old fairy tale is commonly figured as a beautiful character with weak, fragile and passive characterization.

This characterization successfully gives an image that Snow White is always beautiful and weak. From almost fifty remaking Snow White fairy tales into a movie, this characterization is still shown in Snow White character. Hence, the analyzing of the changing of Snow White characterization than occur in *Mirror*

Mirror movie becomes interesting topic to be discussed.

2.1.3. Comparative Movie Studies

The study of movie is a viable and interesting approach to gaining insights into the workings of contemporary culture and the effects of media. Writing a

paper comparing two movies allows the writer to analyze and highlight the similarities and differences between the two. Comparative research, is the act of comparing two or more things with a view to discovering something about one or all of the things being compared. This technique often utilizes multiple disciplines in one study. When it comes to method, the majority agreement is that there is no methodology peculiar to comparative research (Hecllo & Adams 1983, p. 505).

In this case the writer is going to compare the difference character and characterization of some characters between *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* movie from Brother Grimm and *Mirror Mirror* movie directed by Tarsem Sigh.

The writer is going to find the changes of women image which is represent by Snow White character in both movies.

To compare both movies the writer is going to use genders studies approach in solve the problem of the study. The uses approach is important in finding the changes of gender role between *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* movie and *Mirror Mirror* movie. The writer focuses only in the changes of some character and their characterization in both movies. This occurs to limit the area of the research and find the objective of the study.

To support the finding, the writer uses *mice-en-scene* to analyze the pictures from the movies. *Mise-en-scène* refers to everything that appears before the camera and its arrangement—composition, sets, props, actors, costumes, sounds, and lighting (Kristin, 2003 p.18)

2.2 Research Method

This thesis is a qualitative research, since it is a movie analysis; the data source is the *Mirror Mirror* movie by Tarsem Singh that was produced in 2011.

This movie was chosen as the material object of the study because it portrays the shifting of a girl image from weak characterization in the old fairy tale version, into brave and strong character in this movie version. The script, setting, and scenes of the movie are all relevant to my topic.

The data collection method used in this qualitative research is document analysis. In line with Ary, Jacobs and Razavieh (2002, p. 465) document analysis is "a time consuming and difficult process because typically the researcher faces massive amounts of field notes, interview transcripts, reflections, and information from documents to examine and interpret."

In interpreting the data, *Mirror Mirror* movie as the object material is watched several times to observe the main character, Snow White, which used to image as a weak and fragile girl in the old and common fairy tale version, are images into a brave and strong girl. This research is based on the concept that the movie brings another image from the main character. In view of the fact that *Mirror Mirror* is one of the remaking Snow White fairy tale story, this movie tries to show the changing characterization of some character in the story from the old common Snow White fairy tale story. To analyze the changes of women image represented Snow White characterization, the plot, character, and dialog found in the movie will be the main data analysis. Therefore the focuses will be the development of Snow White as the women image in changing the old image of

women as reflected in *Mirror Mirror* Movie. The theory of gender studies will be the only approach to help writer finds the result.

2.3 Previous Study

There are two studies in relating with the issue of a women movement that depicted the changing of female character. The first is conducted by Dina Kris Riyaningtyas, the graduate of Culture Studies Faculty of Brawijaya. In her thesis she was examined the woman image that is subtle in man oppression in *Gladiator* movie.

She analyzed Lucilla, a female character in the *Gladiator* movie is stereotyped as a passive and weak creature. Lucilla is positioned as the ornament of the movie, the audience of men, the weaker sex, and the comforter. However, Lucilla uses those attribute to keep survive on men's power domination. By using her image Lucilla makes a big plan to rebel against Commodus-the men image-power. She tends to use calm and passive resistance to survive. Moreover she prefers to compromise with men or adjust the situation given to revolt. Lucilla also uses her weakness to get what she wants. Yet, her passiveness and weaknesses can be her strongest weapon to survive in men's world. On the other hand, men's power as the superior creature directs them to the losers. Men's strengths suddenly become their own weaknesses.

The second previous study is conducted by Meike Luyse Karolus the graduate of Hasanuddin University. In her thesis entitled *The Construction of Women in the Fairy Tale of Snow White*, she was discussed about how the image of women that represent by Snow White is deconstructed in two remaking movies.

Snow White as the main character that was images as a weak character, is deconstructed to be a strong one. The writer of this thesis uses a feminist approach, and Sara Mills as the main theorist. Sara Mills focuses on how feminist issue influences the text, media, and mass communication in changing the paradigm of women. The thesis writer was apply the concept of Sara Mills in analyze her thesis.

As the thesis writer that analyzes a same data analysis with Meike Luyse Karolus, the writer wants to show some differences between the previous study and the writer's thesis. Meike Luyse Karolus was analyzing *Mirror Mirror* and *Snow White and the Huntsman* movies to know about the construction of women image represented by Snow White as the main character. In this previous study, Meike feminist approach to analyze her data. Sara Mills becomes the main theorist that supports her data analysis. Differ from the writer's thesis she uses the original Snow White movie version entitled *Snow White and Seven Dwarfs* and *Mirror Mirror* movies as the main data analysis. The approach that will be use is gender studies, because the most concern here is showing the changing of Snow White character.

The study was using gender study that is considered to be the useful tool in helping the writer to conduct her thesis. It is because she wants to analyze about a women that have to struggle to get her own rights and changes the old image of women. However different from those two researchers, which analyzed the female character that images a struggle in men subordination, this thesis is going to focus in the changing of Snow White as the female character in an old fairy tale that commonly images as a weak characterization became a

strong and brave character. Therefore by using gender studies, the data in the movie will be able to support by the theory in order to become the valid and scientific research.

