CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This Chapter presents review of related literature which is based on relevant theories. The understanding of literary elements can be very helpful in analyzing literary work. The related literature reviews about characterization will be used to analyze Jo March as the major character in the novel, the definition of female masculinity, the qualification and how gender constructs the masculinity.

2.1.   The Concept of Masculinity

When the word masculinity is mentioned, in the schemata across some characteristics of men such as handsome, macho, strong, and so on. Men are generally described as active, competent, rational, independent, and adventurous (sex roles in literature by Pringle and Stericker, 1980, 49). Whereas, when the word femininity is mentioned in the schemata across some characteristic of women such as beautiful, gentle, weak, and so on. Women are described as passive, less competent, irrational, dependent, and unadventurous (Pringle and Stericker, 1980, 49)

According to Terman and Miles, in Western culture, men are active, competent, rational, independent, and adventurous, while women are passive, less competent, irrational, dependent, and unadventurous. Early thinking often assumed that this division was based on difference innate, characteristics and temperaments of males and females. In this older context, measures of femininity or masculinity were often used to diagnose what were understood as problem of basic gender identification, for example, feminine-male or masculine female (Burke and stets;998).

It is known that femininity and masculinity are not innate but are based upon social and cultural conditions. Characteristics of masculine gender role according to berry (1999), it can be described as a strong individual figure, firm, brave and similarity. Individual who has a masculine gender have an independent strong nature, strong spirit curiosity, self confidence and also the courage to take a risk. There is the possibility of such properties is formed by habit in work and kind of tasks and contain a lot of challenges. Other properties that stand out are assertive nature. Properties independent of the environment that accompanied independence and anatomy of self nature is the characteristic of masculinity(sahrah 1996).

Characteristics of the exiting properties on masculine gender roles that expressed by sahrah (1996) , which is as follows : the first component is leading capability, the nature of masculinity, rationality. Leadership skill are translated into active properties, strong willed, consistent, ability to lead, optimistic, courageous and fair. The nature of masculinity is translated in protective, independent, mature and confidence. Rationality component consist of properties like looking for new experience, rational and calm when facing a crisis. In addition, masculinity characteristics which consist of dominant, independent, rational, assertive, analytical, brave, active, and insensitive would be mainly used to analyze the masculine character of Jo.

2.2.   Different between Gender and Sex.

According to Littlejhon (1999;239), "gender is is a range of physical, mental, and behavioral characteristics distinguishing between masculinity and femininity".

Wikibooks.org/wiki/introduction_to_sociology/gender, state that gender is the perceived or projected component of human sexuality while sex is the biological or genetic component. Sociologist differentiate between gender and sex to allow social scientist studying the influences on sexuality without confusing the social and psychological aspect

with the biological and genetic aspects. Gender is a social construction. If a social scientist were to continually talk about the social construction of sex, which biologists understand to be a genetic trait, this could lead to confusion.

Many species of living things are divided into two or more categories called sexes. These refer to complementary groups that combine genetic material in order to reproduce, a process called sexual reproduction.

On the contrary, gender is the socially projected component of human sexuality. Perhaps the best way to understand gender is to understand it as a process of social presentation. Because gender roles are delineated by behavioral expectations and norms, once individual know those expectation and norms, the individual can adopt the behaviors that project the gender she/he wishes to portray. One can think of gender like a role in a theatrical play, there are specific behaviors and norms associated with genders just like there are lines and movements associated with each character in a play. Adopting the behaviors and norms of gender leads to the perception that someone belongs in that gender category. Gender roles are, unlike sex, mutable, meaning they can change. Gender is not, however, as simple as just choosing a role to play but it also influenced by parents, peers, culture, and society. Gender is divided into two main characteristic which are feminine and masculine.

2.3.   Female Masculinity.

In Hillary M.Lips book psychology of women (2003) defines the word gender as cultural expectations for women and men. Gender is a concept used in identifying the different between men and women through the lens of socio culture.

Finding that culture also different from one another in their rules and expectations for masculinity is a good clue that gender is socially constructed. In other words, each society, to

some extent, make up its own set of rules to define what it means to be a women or man, and people construct gender throught their interactions by behaving in appropriate ways. Another clue that gender is socially constructed is the way the rules tend to change arbitrarily over time, even within a given culture. For example, the images of man are rarely labeled as chef instead women, but nowadays there are so many men become expert in the way of cooking. It can be assumed that the word gender is changeable.

According to Spence, femininity and masculinity or gender identity refers to the degree to which persons see themselves as masculine or feminine given what it means to be a man or woman in society(Burke and Stats; 997). Femininity and masculinity are rooted in the social (one's gender) rather than the biological (one's sex). Societal members decide what being male or female means (dominant or passive, brave or emotional), and males will generally respond by defining themselves as masculine while females will generally define themselves as feminine. Because these are social definitions, however, it is possible for one to be female and see herself as masculine or male and see himself as feminine.

According to Eagly, it is important to distinguish gender identity, as presented above, from other gender-related concepts such as gender roles which are shared expectations of behavior given one's gender. For example, gender roles might include women investing in the domestic role and men investing in the worker role (Burke and Stats; 997). The concept of gender identity is also different from gender stereotypes which are shared views of personality traits often tied to one's gender such as instrumentality in men and expressiveness in women. And, gender identity is different from gender attitudes that are views of others or situations commonly associated with one's gender such as men thinking in terms of justice and women thinking in terms of care. Although gender roles, gender stereotypes and gender attitudes influence one's gender identity, they are not the same as gender identity.

From a sociological perspective, gender identity involves all the meanings that are applied to oneself on the basis of the one's gender-related behavior (Burke and Stats, 1980). A person with a more masculine identity should act more masculine, that is, engage in behaviors whose meanings are more masculine such as behaving in a more dominant, competitive, and autonomous manner. It is not the behaviors themselves that are important, but the meanings implied by those behaviors.

According to Katz, beginning at birth, the self-meanings regarding one's gender are formed in social situations, steaming from ongoing interaction with significant others such as parents, peers, and educators (Burke and Stats; 997). While individuals draw upon the shared cultural conceptions of what it means to be male or female in society which are transmitted through institutions such as religion or the educational system, they may come to see themselves as departing from the masculine or feminine cultural model. A person may label herself female, but instead of seeing herself in a stereotypical female manner such as being expressive, warm and submissive, she may view herself in a somewhat stereotypical masculine fashion such as being somewhat instrumental, rational, and dominant. The point is people have views of themselves along a feminine-masculine dimension of meaning, some being more feminine, some more masculine, and some perhaps a mixture of the two. It is the meaning along the feminine-masculine dimension that is their gender identity.