

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This Chapter presents background of study, statement of problem, purpose of study, significance of study, scope and limitation, methodology, organization of study, and definition of key terms. Each section is described as follows:

### **1.1 Background of Research**

All societies show the literary life. According to Lewes (2003: 2), literature is at once and the effect of social progress. It depend our natural sensibilities, and strengthens by exercise our intellectual capacities. It store up the accumulated experience of the race, connecting Past and Present into a conscious unity, and with this store it feeds successive generations, to be fed in turn by them. According to Jones (1968: 1), literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination. Literature, in its broadest sense, includes all written materials, into this general grouping fall history books, philosophical works, poems, plays, scientific articles, dictionaries, directories, instructional manuals, travel folder, magazine, school textbooks, and novel.

In addition, Lewes (2003: 3) describes literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination. According to Pickering (1990:1), literature is a comprehensive text- anthology of fiction, poetry, drama. Novels may be very long, more than a thousand pages, or short, less than three hundred pages, but we know what a

novel is nonetheless. A novel is a fictional prose narrative of considerable length, in which characters and actions are portrayed in a plot of some complexity (Sklare, 1965: 1). In addition, Jones (1968: 80) describes that novel is a long story written in prose, but because it is long. A novel may have many characters, some of whom many never even come into contact with others, but who are, nevertheless, somehow involved with other.

According to Tong (2009: 1), feminism is women's suffrage movement. Indeed, feminists have used to explanation for women's oppression, their purposed solution for it is elimination, and it may ultimately prove to be entirely unreflective of feminism's intellectual and political commitments to woman. Feminist is old enough to have a history complete with a set: liberal, radical, Marxist and socialist feminism. Furthermore, according to Labor (2005: 121), feminism is a social movement whose basic goal is equality between woman and man. Hadjipavlou's view (2010: 26), feminism is woman studies and gender studies, making more visible women's contributions to the arts, science, and development. In Hooks views (2000: 1), feminism is a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression, is a bunch of angry woman who want to be like man.

A novel written by George Eliot titled *Middlemarch*. *Middlemarch* represents the lives of ordinary people, whose inhabitants' lives cross, cross again in an intricate and cleverly woven tale. Choosing this novel focuses to analyze depict behavior of feminism. Central to the plot is the beautiful gentlewoman Dorothea, who marries an older man, Casaubon and finds him, is not all that she had imagined, worse yet, her affections are drawn toward

Will Ladislaw, a young man of obscure origins and few prospects. Contrasted with this is the tale of Doctor Lydgate and his marriage to a bright young socialite who ruins him, threaded through are many other lives, lives and intrigues. Dorothea Brooke is an idealist young man who recognizes that her purpose in life is to marry and she naively believes that her dearest wish is to wed an intelligent, purposeful man and become his companion, supporter, student, and adorer. Her younger sister, Cecilia, recognized for his genius in discovering knowledge that no one ever knew before. After their marriage, Dorothea slowly begins to realize that Casaubon is not the man she believed him to be; instead, he is a man, who is too egotistic, or is he too afraid? And discoveries have long been disproven by other. The couple lives unhappily, she without the intellectual stimulation she desperately craves, he without the unquestioning devotion of an adoring and slightly stupid wife. The serious rift in their relationship begins almost as soon as Casaubon's nephew, Will Ladislaw, enters their lives. Dorothea unconsciously begins to fall in love with Will. Casaubon begins to resent Will not only for his ability to enthrall Dorothea, but also for a deep-seated sense of guilt Will's appearance stirs. As this drama unfolds, another marriage that of intelligent Dr. Lydgate and the beautiful but shallow Rosamond, begins to fall apart. Rosamond is the complete opposite of Dorothea, and Dr. Lydgate the opposite of Casaubon, which makes for an interesting comparison to the main couple story. These two several threads come together dramatically in the end, when Dorothea's sense of justice and purpose finally prevail; while she is rewarded with true love and happiness, Lydgate is rewarded with the saving of his career and a new start to his marriage, not a happy, but a more honest one.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the background of research above, about feminism which can be formulated as follows:

How is feminism depicted in George Eliot's Middlemarch?

## **1.3 Purpose of Research**

The purpose of research is to analyze feminism in George Eliot's Middlemarch.

## **1.4 Significance of Research**

This study could influence the readers to have interest in studying literature deeply. This thesis analyzes about feminism in George Eliot's Middlemarch.

## **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

To make clearly scope and limitation, only focuses George Eliot's feminism in Middlemarch. Its history has been broad and varied, from classic works of nineteenth-century, show how woman be like a man.

## **1.6 Methodology**

This study will use qualitative researches, which refers to research based on qualitative data taken from dialogs, actions in novel Middlemarch. The method will be used in this analysis for collecting the data is library research. The researcher took some sources from several libraries and from the websites.

## **1.7 Organization of Research**

This study is divided into five chapters. The first chapter I introduces consisting of background of study, statement of problem, purpose of study,

scope and limitation, methodology, organization of study, and definition of key terms. Chapter two is review of related literature, consisting of some theories which might be applicable for the analysis in this study. The third, chapter three, this is about research method. Chapter four is discussion of the analysis. The last is chapter five, the conclusions of this study and the result of the analysis. Bibliography and appendix, which consist of this thesis's synopsis and biography of the author, will follow it.

### **1.8 Definition of the Key Term**

In order to clarify and to avoid misunderstanding of the terms used in this study, there are some definitions of the terms used.

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