

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher provides the basic concept of the research. This chapter describes the background of the study, focus of the research, research questions, objectives of the study, scope and limitation, significance of the study and the definition of key terms.

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Historically women are the first oppressed group and the issue of oppression of women is the most widespread (Alison and Paula in Tong, 2009: 49). This is a common problem in almost all countries. The oppression of women is often associated with the neglect of women's rights, those oppression often lead to discrimination, exploitation, violence, injustice, and others. Based on the arguments of the theorists, feminisms criticism focused on the system of gender-based inequality and its relation to the other forms of oppression based on sexuality, class, and race (Paludi, 2010: 22). The problem associated with feminism that is always talked about is inequality between the two sexes, women and men. Woman is treated as second class and do not deserve to have the same treatment enjoyed by men (Tong, 2009: 81). It means that woman is considered to be at the lowest level. This is what drives feminists to make a movement and the main purpose of feminism is to fight for the humanity of women to be equal with man.

Feminists are divided into several courses according to the main focus of their teachings, such as liberal feminism, radical feminism, Marxist and socialist feminism, existentialist feminism, psychoanalytic feminism, postmodern feminism, and Eco-feminism (Tong, 2009: 1). Eco-feminism is a branch of feminism theory that examines the connection between woman and nature (d'Eaubonne in Tong, 2009: 242). Some pioneers of theory of eco-feminism believe that there are relationships between the environmental damaged and woman oppression.

The birth of eco-feminism is caused by feminist perspectives on nature and human behavior that are consider damage the ecology and create gender

inequality, which will ultimately threaten human life itself. Based on Warren's statement (Tong, 2009:238) hierarchical, dualistic, and oppressive thinking have damaged both nature and woman. Warren stated that the hierarchical view of nature has affected women. It can be said that woman can feel the bad reality felt by nature.

Eco-feminist is not only shows the various ways in which human being oppress each other, but also human's domination toward nature (Tong, 2009: 237). On the other word eco-feminism is a movement sees that there are parallel relationships between the oppression and domination of woman with nature. Aristotle justified subordinations such as human domination of nature, male domination of women, master's domination of slave, and giving his version of every place a hierarchy in the hierarchical chain (Plumwood, 1993: 46). It means that the term of domination creates the relationship between the 'superior' and 'inferior' sides.

Eco-feminism claims that women are culturally bound to nature, this claims give rise to perspective that there are conceptual, symbolic and linguistic linkages between feminist and ecological issues (Tong, 2009: 237). Woman is unconsciously "naturalized" and nature has been "feminized". The term of "naturalized" is when woman is pictured as animals. While the term of nature has been "feminized" is when nature is mined, dominated, and conquered by man (Warren in Tong, 2009: 238). The domination performed by man against nature, in other words can also be done to woman (Warren in Tong, 2009: 238). That is to say, if man is given authority over nature, then he not only has control over nature but also with woman, so that whatever man do to nature, it is also possible he may do to woman.

In male domination society, society places a priority on male lineage. There is a clear discrimination between man and woman, and placement of a clear position as well, in which man and is upper class and woman is lower class (Gaard, 1993: 1). It implies that man has a higher position than woman. Ruether in Gaard (1993: 273) stated that human destruction of nature and women's oppression lead by hierarchical social structure which allow one group dominate the other group. Based on man's domination community, man

takes main role in the society, because the society believes that man is stronger than woman. Without the logic of domination, the difference is only noble diversity, but with it differences become the basis for domination and subordination, inferiorisation and marginalization (Warren, 1997: 20). It means the existence of logic domination causes many problems happened to woman, such as marginalization, gender discrimination, stereotype and violation. Mary Daly in Tong (2009: 247) states that eco-feminists reject the assumption of women and nature as inferiority and the assumption of male and culture as superiority. On the contrary, they insist that nature or women are at least equal and maybe even better than culture or men, these thoughts can encourage better social relationship and more sustainable ways of life.

Rosemary Radford Ruether state (Tong, 2009:238):

“Women must see that there can be no liberation for them and no solution to the ecological aims within a society whose fundamental model of relationships continues to be one of domination. They must unite the demands of the women’s movement with those of the ecological movement to envision a radical reshaping of the basic socioeconomic relations and the underlying values of this [modern industrial] society”

Ruether really understands that the ecological crisis and woman's crisis is based on the logic of domination and can be ended by the unification of woman's movement and the ecological movement in which the demand must come from the combined of two crises. Many women have struggled with many ways to fight violence to get freedom; one of them is through literary works, such as novels, poetry, and screenplay.

Screenplay or scripts are written by screenwriters for films, television programs, or video games. This screenplay can be an original work or an adaptation of an existing piece of writing. In it, the movements, actions, expressions and dialogue of the characters are also told. There are several screenplays which depict eco-feminism issues, such as Moana’s screenplay. This screenplay describe nature and woman as the main theme. It describes the relationship between nature and woman at certain times and places. This screenplay is written by Jared Bush. Moana’s screenplay is chosen as the subject of study because it is relevant to the eco-feminism issues as late issues

today. The screenplay has not only a good quality of work but also a good purpose of the ecological feminism message to the viewers. Based on *wikipedia.org* Moana was released theatrically in the United States on November 23, 2016 and got positive reviews from critics, with particular praise going towards its animation, music, and vocal performances. The film went on to gross over \$643 million worldwide. It received two Academy Award nominations at the 89<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards: one for Best Animated Feature and another for Best Original Song (How Far I'll Go).

Moana's screenplay is a story about a daughter of chief in Motunui Island. Moana learns everything about the needs for life on her Island. But she finds herself continuously drawn to the ocean. Every time she tries to approach the ocean, her parents bring her back and remind her about her duties and her people are where she belongs to be and not the ocean. One day, when her Island suffers from the devastation she finds that there is someone caused the blight by stealing the heart of the Mother Island, he is Maui. He wants to show his power to control the earth. He does not understand the consequence of his action because he has been blinded by his ego. He takes heart and causes Mother Island turn into a demon monster which continually spread its darkness to the Island. The only way to restore the balance of Island is to convince Maui to return the heart of Mother Island. So, Moana decides to set off on a journey sail the ocean with Maui. Together, they sail across the ocean, encountering enormous monsters and impossible odds. Even though Maui always underestimates Moana's ability, but Moana shows that she is a strong girl. Finally, Moana is the one who success returns the heart of the Mother Island.

Moana's screenplay shows that there is close relationship between woman and nature. It is depicted through main character that already connects with nature since her childhood. It can be seen when she protect and make way for baby turtle. The woman and man in the screenplay are portrayed as equally strong. But, the screenwriter places more emphasis on the ecological side of feminism with the depiction of the Moana who loves the environment and her strong desire to protect nature from evil beings who want to control the island.

Therefore, Moana's character strongly shows the issues of ecological feminism. The message shows the figure of a woman who is responsible for the nature of hierarchical culture, in which the male characters are more dominant or wants to rule.

By the explanation above the researcher is interested in conducting the study to find out ecological feminism issues as expressed in screenplay. There are some reasons why the researcher chose Moana's screenplay as the object to be analyzed. In fact, this screenplay does not show romance in it aside the main character's love for family and environment. Furthermore the researcher finds there is no one has discusses eco-feminism in Moana's Screenplay.

The researcher uses ecological feminism as a theory because it is suitable framework for conducting analysis. With this approach, this study examines the data by providing opinions related to issues of ecological feminism such as description of the main character, and the relationship between man, woman, and nature. When a woman and nature being treated badly by man who is ambitious to be a ruler, therefore a suitable title for this research is "Ecological Feminism Issues Depicted in Moana's Screenplay by Jared Bush".

## **1.2 Focus of the Study**

Based on the background above, the researcher focused on the main character's characteristic and ecological feminism issues depicted in the screenplay.

## **1.3 Research Question**

This research is expected to answer the following questions.

1. What are the characteristics of Moana in *Moana's Screenplay* by Jared Bush that reflect ecological feminism?
2. How ecological feminism issues are depicted in *Moana's Screenplay* by Jared Bush?

#### **1.4 Objectives of the study**

The purpose of this research is to answer the questions that have been stated in the statement of the problem.

1. To identify characteristic of Moana in *Moana's Screenplay* by Jared Bush that reflect ecological feminism.
2. To identify ecological feminism issues depicted in *Moana's Screenplay* by Jared Bush.

#### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

In this research, the researcher has scope and limitation. The scope of this research is Moana's screenplay through eco-feminism issues that include in that screenplay. Then, the limitation of this research focused on Ecological feminism theory.

#### **1.6 Significance of the study**

1. Practically, by reading the analysis of this study the readers may add their knowledge on some more matters related to the ecological feminism issues. The readers are expected to understand the important meaning of ecosystem for human being and the importance of maintain sustainability relationship between human and non-human being.
2. Academically, the readers are expected know more about the eco-feminism theory that may be useful in learning literature in faculty.

#### **1.7 Definition of Key Terms**

##### **1.7.1 Eco-feminism**

Eco-feminism argues there are important connections between all of form human oppression, especially woman and nature (Warren, 1997:3).

##### **1.7.2 Characterization**

Characterization is the way of the story writer describes and explains the details of the character in a story (Abrams, 2009: 43).

##### **1.7.3 Man and Woman**

Man and woman are distinguished on the basis of several qualities such as a larger brain size, and then assume that this difference gives superiority to men (Garrad, 2004: 23).

#### 1.7.4 Man and Nature

Ecologists believe that there are similarities between women and nature, such as passive attitudes and life-giving care this makes them equally vulnerable to male domination (Li in Gaard, 1993: 272).

#### 1.7.5 Woman and Nature

Nature considered as nurturing mother, as someone who gave freely and generously of her bounty to their children (Tong, 2009: 240).