

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

The review of related literature in this chapter concerns with the theories used to support and to analyze the attitude of Edna Pontellier, the main character of "*The Awakening*", to find out the characterization of feminism reveal through Edna Pontellier, in this chapter includes some theory of literature, character and characterization, feminism.

#### **2.1 Literature**

Since many centuries, literature as an art has become a tool for people to express their thoughts, both imaginative and non-imaginative literature. This suggests that the literary work has a very strong role and importance with the reflection of community life or social life. Literature is the writings are regarded as works of art, especially novels, plays and poetry. Literature is used to describe a person's creative work. Or can be called literature also refers to the scientific works of creative writing, including works of poetry, drama, fiction and non-fiction. Literature helps us to develop our minds in the writings create your artwork. Literature introduces us to a new world. Literature gives important influence in our lives.

There are many ways to express idea and feeling. One of the ways to express idea or feeling is by writing a literature. Then people can use literature as a tool to understand people's lives and how people express in life. According to Abrams, literature is the term is applied to a number of works in drama and prose

fiction which have in common the sense that the human condition can be adequately represented only in works of literature that are themselves absurd. (1999: 01)

Because literature is a part of a written works that uses words to express his imagination to make it more attractive to readers. Literature generally has some element-element that rested on the plot, character, setting, theme, and point of view. The basic types of literature are fiction, nonfiction, poetry and drama. Fiction in literature usually likes novel and short story.

According to Ryan Delfin, literature was classified into three genres: (1) Prose, (2) poetry, (3) drama. Prose includes novels, short story, plays, legends, fables, anecdotes, essay, biography, news, orations. Poetry refers to those expressions in verse, with measure and rhyme, line and stanza and has a more melodious tone. Drama divided into four types; there are comedies, melodrama, tragedy, farce. (Mei, 16 2014)

Literature itself has several functions to provide knowledge to the readers of literature such as knowledge about history, culture, moral and social life of the community. In addition it can also entertain some readers. Literary work can be fun for the listener or reader of literature has entertaining elements since we can find a lot of interesting stories that exist in the literature that can entertain us. Some literary could stir our feeling and emotion. As the result, we may feel happy, sad or angry after listening or reading a story.

## **2.2 Character and Characterization**

### **2.2.1 Character**

Character in literature becomes an important element. Because the character plays an important role in a literary story like a novel, drama and poetry. Characters in literature there are various forms, such as the human characters are still often used in a story. Character in a fictional story usually is a picture of a person's personality in real life. Therefore, although character in a literary work are fictitious but the work has the personality of a real person. Character is one of the most important tools for a writer. The writer typically use an indirect approach so that the character can be seen how they act and what they said.

According to Abrams, say that characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it the dialogue and from what they do the action. (1999: 32)

Based on that statement, character is representatives of several people in a drama or narration, which is interpreted by the reader and can interpret from the dialogue or action of the characters in the drama or narration. A people in this novel who appears as a character. Character is defined through action, speech, description and comments. The main character in the story is generally known as the protagonist and antagonist characters that fight it.

Furthermore, for knowing about character farther, there are kinds of characters in the literature. Character itself is divided into several kinds but the writer only uses four of them that have the most connection to the study. The four

kinds of character are main character, minor character, protagonist, and antagonist.

### **2.2.2 Characterization**

Characterization is also referred to as the process by which the writer reveals the personality of the character. Characterization is very dominating in a novel. Short story guarantees that there will be some characters. The most developed character is the main character, so that the characterization is very easy to analyze. Characterization can meet the needs of the reader in understanding each other to find a character in a fiction reader. In a story, the longer the story will become bigger and more complex characterization in the story.

Beside the statement that characterization in the literature is used to describe the characters in the story. In additional, the characterization is not much different from a short story than a novel. The difference is that in a short story does not have much time to develop the characters. A novel has plenty of time to develop his character.

In other statement said that, Characterization in literature refers the step by step process wherein an author introduces and then describes a character. The character can be described directly by the author or indirectly through the actions, thoughts, and speech of the character. (Literary Devices: March 13, 2014)

As it has explanation above, characterization is a literary device that is used step by step in literature to highlight and explain the details about a character in a story. There are two ways to characterizing the characters of the story. There is direct and indirect characterization. Direct characterization is when the narrator

tells the reader something about a character. Indirect characterization is when the narrator shows the reader something about the character through the character's actions, things the character says, or things other characters say. (March 13, 2014)

According to the statement above explains that, the difference between the direct characterization and indirect characterization is telling and showing. Direct characterization the author tells about the personality of the character to face us. Indirect characterization the author shows the character traits through actions and speech.

Thus, the theory of characterization will be used by the thesis writer in order to analyze the character of Edna Pontellier as the main female character in the play.

### **2.3 Feminism**

Since the 1800's, women's and men increasingly opposed to when seeing that person's sex determines the legal status, economic, and political one. Today most people in the world recognize the shape of women's rights. Although it has been considered women's work is mostly homework and family life during the last century, but now has become a big debate.

Feminism can be also considered as the desire to achieve gender equality. Demand full equality for all women to have the same rights as men. Feminism has evolved from the gap between men and women. Feminist theory arises now as to inquire gender inequality, gender and sexuality politics whereby not have a balanced force.

In the Ni Wayan Swardani's book, Tyson said that feminist criticism is also concerned with less obvious forms of marginalization such as the exclusion of women writers from the traditional literary canon: "... Unless the critical or historical point of view is feminist, there is a tendency to under-represent the contribution of women writers". (2013: 02)

Another statements, Feminist criticism is concerned to question and challenge conventional notions of masculinity and femininity; to explore ways in which such conventions are inscribed in a largely patriarchal canon; and to consider the extent to which writing, language and even literary form itself are themselves bound up with issues of gender difference (Bennett and Royle, 2004:291)." Since 1970s, feminist criticism has become hot issues in many debates and it caused some disagreements. Thus, feminist criticism cannot always be accepted in society but at least women have spoken up their aspiration.

According to Estelle Freedman (2004: 07), Feminism is a belief that although women and men are inherently of equal worth, most societies privilege men as a group. As a result, social movements are necessary to achieve political equality between women and men, with the understanding that gender always intersects with other social hierarchies.

According to Freedman, thus 'first wave' feminism is used to refer to the late-nineteenth-century and early-twentieth-century feminist movements that were concerned (although not exclusively) with gaining equal rights for women, particularly the right of suffrage. 'Second-wave' feminism refers to the resurgence of feminist activity in the late 1960s and 1970s, when protest again centered

around women's inequality, although this time not only in terms of women's lack of equal political rights but in the areas of family, sexuality and work (2001:4).

### **2.3.1 Liberal Feminism**

Types of feminism consist of Liberal Feminism, Radical Feminism, Marxist and Socialist Feminism. But the topic of this paper is liberal feminism. It is important to know the ideas of feminist criticism itself. According to Lewis in his blog based on the Jaggar's book *Feminist Politics and Human Nature*, liberal feminism is liberal feminism is theory and work that focuses more on issues like equality in the workplace, in education, in political rights. Where liberal feminism looks at issues in the private sphere, it tends to be in terms of equality: how does that private life impede or enhance public equality (March, 12 2014). Based on the statement above feminism is a women movement to struggle their rights and equality in workplace, education, social and, politic.

Tong said that when it comes to state interventions in the private sphere (family or domestic society), liberals agree that less we see of big brother in our bedrooms, bathrooms, kitchens, recreation rooms, and nurseries, the better. We all need places where we can among family and friends shed our public personae and are our "real" selves. When it comes to state intervention in the public sphere (civil or political society), however a difference of opinion emerges between so-called classical or libertarian, liberals on the hand, and so-called welfare or egalitarian liberals on the other. (2009: 12)

From the statement of Tong above, liberal feminism could also be within the scope of the family, liberal feminism needs a place where we can get right in their families and friends and the community.

Other statement from Tong said that up until the eighteenth century, productive work (work that generated an income from which a family could live) had been done in and around the family home by women as well as men. (2009: 13)

From the statement of Tong above, liberal feminism in eighteenth century also focuses on work. A work cans income from around family home and a work it is the desire to have the same right in a work like a man.

Liberal feminist have focuses their attention upon equality of opportunity between males and females. Equal above belief that woman is entitled to full legal and social equality with men. Liberal feminism is form of feminism that argues that equality for women can be achieved through legal means and social reform.

Liberal feminism seeks equal rights with men and believes that individuals should be treated according to the talent and effort that they owned. Talent and effort although is contrary to the character of their sex. Liberal feminism wants to eliminate the barriers that political obstacles, legal or social. Women want to have the opportunity and equal rights with men. Liberal concept which emphasizes that women and men are created equal and has the same rights and should also have the same opportunity. Each person is given the freedom to choose what is good for him as long as no harm to others. Also emphasizes justice to determine himself.



Liberal feminism's primary goal is gender equality in the public sphere. Equal access to education, equal pay, ending job sex segregation, better working conditions won primarily through in legal changes. (John Jonson Lewis: march 26, 2014).

According to the statement above, liberal feminism wants gender equality; women want the same education as men, equal pay, to make a decent living to provide for the family. Liberal feminism focuses on issues of equality in terms of education, political rights. Liberal feminism tends to rely on the rights of states and political equality.

Freedman adds that liberal feminists include all those who campaign for equal rights for women within the framework of the liberal state, arguing that the theoretical basis on which this state is built is sound but that the rights and privileges it confers must be extended to women to give them equal citizenship with men (2001 :5).

## **2.4 Previous of the Study**

There a lot of journal about Kate Chopin's novel *The Awakening*. All of them discussed about The Awakening's novel by Kate Chopin and the main character of that novel Edna Pontellier. Such as in Eva Blazkova's paper "*The Awakening: Female Characters and their Social Roles.*" In this paper is tells about the role of women in society from the late nineteenth century will be discussed. Then, she told me about the importance of the role in life and also describes the roles that both can be done by someone. Here, she also discusses the

role of conflicts in the novel. And distinguish between the roles of men and women.

Second is the paper of Mehmet Recep Tas “*Kate Chopin’s The Awakening in the Light of Freud’s Structural Model of Psyche.*” In this paper discussed about writing historical novels. He tells of the beginning of the writing of the novel to be published. Problems are arising after publication of this novel. He also tells about the life history novelist. And he also added that there are some stories in the novel are specifically talking about feminism women's rights.

Third is the paper that has titled “*Character Analysis of Edna in The Awakening and Discussion about Conflict and Climax.*” by Nicole Smith. She tells the story of the conflict in the novel. More particularly she tells about the conflict of the main character Edna Pontellier. Then, she explained about some of the different personalities possessed by the main character and she defines the personality of each different it. She also tells the realization of the main character growth. At the end of this article she discusses about the climax of the novel. But she also still includes the main character traits until the story was climax.

The fourth is the paper from Donald Pizer in article that has titled “*A Note on Kate Chopin’s The Awakening as Naturalistic Fiction.*” In his paper, he explained the novel advantages awakening that have been examined in the American canon which proved to be a great novel, and she also writes excess novelist. However paragraphs later he also told about the contents of the novel. He explained that there are figures and tell grooves present in the novel. How the role of the characters in the novel are in accordance with the plot anyway he

explained. Instead, he specifically tells the nature of the main character and how the role of the main character in the novel.

The last is the paper from xianfeng mou, “*Kate Chopin’s narrative Techniques and Separate Space in The Awakening.*” he discusses the methods of analysis of existing approaches in the novel *The Awakening*. He explained that he saw existing approaches in this novel using perspective techniques. He explained that Kate Chopin uses methods complicated and confusing in the manufacture of the novel but still look attractive. He describes broadly about the purpose of the Kate Chopin novel to make the techniques he uses. And it is describes the techniques in detail.

There are several things that make me different from the paper that described above because my thesis is talking about the character and characterization of the main character Edna Pontellier. Then, this thesis analyzes the feminism aspects especially liberal feminism. This thesis also features in the analysis of the causes and effect of the events of the main character but still based on the aspects of feminism.