

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

This chapter contains the data that analyzed directly based on the theory on chapter two. The analysis starts from characterization analysis. It analyzes the behavior and how the main character behaves towards other characters that exist in the story. Then continue to analyze the feminism side especially liberal feminism side of the main character. It analyzes the actions of the main characters that indicate to feminism action especially liberal feminism.

4.1 Edna Pontellier's Character

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). Character could be termed as a mental trait that marks a person or attitudes and values are built in a person. Following some of the characters the way the author tells the main character in *The Awakening*. There are some characters of Edna:

4.1.1 Uncared with her husband

This character is shown that gap relationships between Edna and Leonce started coming. It was shown in Leonce Pontellier sitting on the porch summer

beach house in Grand Isle, near New Orleans and Leonce spends her time to play billiards do not join with his wife, Edna in the first chapter.

He stopped before the door of his own cottage, which was the fourth one from the main building and next to the last. Seating himself in a wicker rocker which was there, he once more applied himself to the task of reading the newspaper. The day was Sunday; the paper was a day old. The Sunday papers had not yet reached Grand Isle. He was already acquainted with the market reports, and he glanced restlessly over the editorials and bits of news which he had not had time to read before quitting New Orleans the day before. (p.6)

"What is it?" asked Pontellier, looking lazily and amused from one to the other. It was some utter nonsense; some adventure out there in the water, and they both tried to relate it at once. It did not seem half so amusing when told. They realized this, and so did Mr. Pontellier. He yawned and stretched himself. Then he got up, saying he had half a mind to go over to Klein's hotel and play a game of billiards. (p.12)

Through the narration above, the writer tries to tell the character of the main character, Edna Pontellier. In the narration above, Edna is a woman who does not care about her relationship with Leonce, her husband. It looks when Edna prefers her time with Robert than her husband. And Leonce prefers to sit alone and reading news paper and after that he went to the hotel to play billiards.

There is another narration tells that Edna less attention to Leonce. The activity was marked when Edna and Robert finished swimming.

"What folly! To bathe at such an hour in such heat!" exclaimed Mr. Pontellier. He himself had taken a plunge at daylight. That was why the morning seemed long to him. (p.10)

"You are burnt beyond recognition," he added, looking at his wife as one looks at a valuable piece of personal property which has suffered some damage. She held up her hands, strong, shapely hands, and surveyed them critically, drawing up her fawn sleeves above the wrists. Looking at them reminded her of her rings, which she had given to her husband before leaving for the beach. She

silently reached out to him, and he, understanding, took the rings from his vest pocket and dropped them into her open palm. She slipped them upon her fingers; then clasping her knees, she looked across at Robert and began to laugh. The rings sparkled upon her fingers. He sent back an answering smile. (p.11)

From those narrations above, it shows that Edna more enjoys her relationship with Robert than to serve her husband. She spent her time to swimming and talking with Robert and do not care about Leonce. Although her husband remembers her not to swim in the daylight because of the heat in the daylight can burn her skin.

4.1.2 A Beautiful Woman

This narration shows that Edna is a young and beautiful woman. This is shown in the narration chapter two.

“Mrs. Pontellier's eyes were quick and bright; they were a yellowish brown, about the color of her hair. She had a way of turning them swiftly upon an object and holding them there as if lost in some inward maze of contemplation or thought”. (p.18)

This narration tells about Edna is a young and beautiful woman that has been described in the narrative above. It is described that they both have the same hair color is brown.

This narration told that Edna described as a beautiful and soft woman. It is described in how to dress Edna when going to the beach alone with Madame Ratignolle.

“The women were both of goodly height, Madame Ratignolle possessing the more feminine and matronly figure. The charm of

Edna Pontellier's physique stole insensibly upon you. The lines of her body were long, clean and symmetrical; it was a body which occasionally fell into splendid poses; there was no suggestion of the trim, stereotyped fashion-plate about it. A casual and indiscriminating observer, in passing, might not cast a second glance upon the more feeling and discernment he would have recognized the noble beauty of its modeling, and the graceful severity of poise and movement, which made edna pontellier different from the crowd". (p.96)

"She wore a cool muslin that morning—white, with a waving vertical line of brown running through it; also a white linen collar and the big straw hat which she had taken from the peg outside the door. The hat rested any way on her yellow-brown hair, that waved a little, was heavy, and clung close to her head". (p.97)

The narration above, Edna characters are seen through her appearance. Like the body lines are long, clean and symmetrical. She also wears a white collar and a big straw hat on yellow brown hair.

In another narration that explains about Edna is a jolly woman and spirit when finding interesting people and match with her.

"Robert talked a good deal about himself. He was very young, and did not know any better. Mrs. Pontellier talked a little about herself for the same reason. Each was interested in what the other said. Robert spoke of his intention to go to Mexico in the autumn, where fortune awaited him. He was always intending to go to Mexico, but some way never got there. Meanwhile he held on to his modest position in a mercantile house in New Orleans, where an equal familiarity with English, French and Spanish gave him no small value as a clerk and correspondent". (p.23)

"Mrs. Pontellier talked about her father's Mississippi plantation and her girlhood home in the old Kentucky bluegrass country. She was an American woman, with a small infusion of French which seemed to have been lost in dilution. She read a letter from her sister, who was away in the East, and who had engaged herself to be married. Robert was interested, and wanted to know what manner of girls the sisters were, what the father was like, and how long the mother had been dead". (p.25)

From those narrations above, it describes Edna very happy when talking to each other with Robert. They both talk excitedly about anything and just happy together. They tell their backgrounds and personalities. Robert tells about the future plans to go to Mexico, and Mrs. Pontellier describes her childhood in Kentucky.

And in another narration, Edna described as a good wife. The writers will show in the narration below.

Mrs. Pontellier was always very generous with the contents of such a box; she was quite used to receiving them when away from home. The pates and fruit were brought to the dining-room; the bonbons were passed around. And the ladies, selecting with dainty and discriminating fingers and a little greedily, all declared that Mr. Pontellier was the best husband in the world. Mrs. Pontellier admit that she knew of none better. (p.46)

In the narration above Edna described as a good wife. It was seen during the morning after the night she was accused by Leonce, she felt very hate on her husband, she feels very sad, and the next day she forget it. Though, sensitive statement of Leonce, Edna still considered Leonce as a good husband. This is shown when every person thinks that Leonce is the best husband, Edna also forced to admit it.

4.1.3 A Sensitive Woman

In the narration in chapter three Edna is a sensitive woman when she heard a harsh word. Edna looks like women are weak and easy to cry.

Mrs. Pontellier was by that time thoroughly awake. She began to cry a little, and wiped her eyes on the sleeve of her peignoir. Blowing out the candle, which her husband had left burning, she slipped her bare feet into a pair of satin mules at the foot of the bed

and went out on the porch, where she sat down in the wicker chair and began to rock gently to and fro. (p.35)

The tears came so fast to Mrs. Pontellier's eyes that the damp sleeve of her peignoir no longer served to dry them. She was holding the back of her chair with one hand; her loose sleeve had slipped almost to the shoulder of her uplifted arm. Turning, she thrust her face, steaming and wet, into the bend of her arm, and she went on crying there, not caring any longer to dry her face, her eyes, her arms. She could not have told why she was crying. Such experiences as the foregoing were not uncommon in her married life. They seemed never before to have weighed much against the abundance of her husband's kindness and a uniform devotion which had come to be tacit and self-understood. (p.37)

From those narrations, Edna is women who have sensitive feelings. It was seen when the misunderstanding with Leonce. Leonce berated and accused her as a bad mother and uncared to her children. After her husband was asleep, Edna feels very sad. She went out and began to cry.

In chapter four, Edna is described as a shy woman. It looks on her effort to her friends.

Madame Ratignolle was very fond of Mrs. Pontellier, and often she took her sewing and went over to sit with her in the afternoons. She was sitting there the afternoon of the day the box arrived from New Orleans. She had possession of the rocker, and she was busily engaged in sewing upon a diminutive pair of night-drawers". (p.51)

In the narration above, Edna is a shy woman because at that time in the context of Creole society, the ideal woman who has eyes only for her husband and children. In such a society, Edna overcomes her shyness with often visiting her friend, Madame Ratignolle. To learn how to sew winter clothes for her children that she is not shy with her friends.

This one of Edna's character also describe as a woman who easily discouraged. She was disappointed when Robert did not come to visit her for three days, and in the night she received an offer to go with Arobin.

“Robert did not come that day. She was keenly disappointed. He did not come the following day, nor the next. Each morning she awoke with hope, and each night she was a prey to despondency. She was tempted to seek him out. But far from yielding to the impulse, she avoided any occasion which might throw her in his way. She did not go to Mademoiselle Reisz's nor pass by Madame Lebrun's, as she might have done if he had still been in Mexico”. (p. 936)

“When Arobin, one night, urged her to drive with him, she went—out to the lake, on the Shell Road. His horses were full of mettle, and even a little unmanageable. She liked the rapid gait at which they spun along, and the quick, sharp sound of the horses' hoofs on the hard road. They did not stop anywhere to eat or to drink. Arobin was not needlessly imprudent. But they ate and they drank when they regained Edna's little dining-room—which was comparatively early in the evening”. (p. 937)

Edna feels disappointed because Robert did not visit her for three days. She is sad, but for several days she waited with hope arrival Robert but he did not come. She is very sad and disappointed because received an offer to go with Robert. Continue she decided to love affair with Arobin to overcome her disappointments and hopes to Robert.

4.1.4 Woman who Likes Art

This chapter nine, Edna is a woman who is very happy with the music. This is seen through her dialogue with Robert.

"Would you like to hear Mademoiselle Reisz play?" asked Robert, coming out on the porch where she was. Of course Edna would like to hear Mademoiselle Reisz play; but she feared it would be useless to entreat her". (p.178)

"I'll ask her," he said. "I'll tell her that you want to hear her. She likes you. She will come." He turned and hurried away to one of the far cottages, where Mademoiselle Reisz was shuffling away. She was dragging a chair in and out of her room, and at intervals objecting to the crying of a baby, which a nurse in the adjoining cottage was endeavoring to put to sleep. She was a disagreeable little woman, no longer young, who had quarreled with almost every one, owing to a temper which was self-assertive and a disposition to trample upon the rights of others. Robert prevailed upon her without any too great difficulty". (p.179)

In the narration above, Edna is woman who really likes the music. It can be seen when she was enjoying mademoiselle Reisz, the wife of one of the island's high society. For Edna, the music can makes a clear visual image in her mind that she was connected with various emotions: hope, longing, despair, and loneliness

In the narration below, the writer will explain about another favorite of Edna. The writers have explained in the previous chapter that Edna is very like to the music, in this chapter the writers describe that Edna also likes to paint.

"Perhaps I shall be able to paint your picture some day," said Edna with a smile when they were seated. She produced the roll of sketches and started to unfold them. "I believe I ought to work again. I feel as if I wanted to be doing something. What do you think of them? Do you think it worthwhile to take it up again and study some more? I might study for a while with Laidpore."(p.481)

It describes that Edna decided to seriously study painting. She realizes longing to Robert who does not give any expectations on her. She feels her life is boring and colorless. She followed the example of her friend, Mademoiselle Reisz to study painting. Edna wants to seriously study art, and she needs a compliment from Madame Ratignolle to makes she feel more confident in her abilities.

4.1.5 Emotional Woman

This narration tells about Edna seen as a woman that emotional and brave, it is shown when Edna swimming alone at sea until she does not realize that she had to swim too far and she became panics.

Edna had attempted all summer to learn to swim. She had received instructions from both the men and women; in some instances from the children. Robert had pursued a system of lessons almost daily; and he was nearly at the point of discouragement in realizing the futility of his efforts. A certain ungovernable dread hung about her when in the water, unless there was a hand near by that might reach out and reassure her. (p.194)

“But that night she was like the little tottering, stumbling, clutching child, who of a sudden realizes its powers, and walks for the first time alone, boldly and with over-confidence. She could have shouted for joy. She did shout for joy, as with a sweeping stroke or two she lifted her body to the surface of the water”(p.195)

The narration above, Edna described as an emotional woman. In chapter ten, Robert started away from her. She was confused why lately Robert away from her. Because the problem with her husband and Robert who began to stay away from her, she feel frustrated. The oceans help her to realize that her body is her own, and awareness of physical, mental and emotional make her brave and reckless. It is showed when she was just learning to swim a suddenly she could swim. It makes her friends feel surprised at her braveness.

In another narration, Edna is a wife who was stubborn and strong. She did not obey ask of her husband. Though at first her husband was angry at Edna's character, he handles the situation calmly to join her.

"What are you doing out here, Edna? I thought I should find you in bed," said her husband, when he discovered her lying there. He had walked up with Madame Lebrun and left her at the house. His wife did not reply. (p.240)

"Are you asleep?" he asked, bending down close to look at her. "No." Her eyes gleamed bright and intense, with no sleepy shadows, as they looked into his.

"Do you know it is past one o'clock? Come on," and he mounted the steps and went into their room.

"Edna!" called Mr. Pontellier from within, after a few moments had gone by.

"Don't wait for me," she answered. He thrust his head through the door.

"You will take cold out there," he said, irritably. "What folly is this? Why don't you come in?"

"It isn't cold; I have my shawl."

"The mosquitoes will devour you."

"There are no mosquitoes."

Edna has stubbornness and challenging her husband. In this chapter eleven, the characters Edna began to rebel at her husband. This is shown when her husband asked her to get into bed but Edna rejected. Edna told him not to wait for her. Edna admitted she could make choices in life.

The narration here shows that Edna is a lady who is easy to get angry. It was described when she heard that Robert suddenly decided to go to Mexico and decided to leave that same night.

"To-night!" "This very evening!" "Did you ever!" "What possesses him!" were some of the replies she gathered, uttered simultaneously in French and English". (p.352)

"Impossible!" she exclaimed. "How can a person start off from Grand Isle to Mexico at a moment's notice, as if he were going over to Klein's or to the wharf or down to the beach?" (p.353)

"I said all along I was going to Mexico; I've been saying so for years!" cried Robert, in an excited and irritable tone, with the air of a man defending himself against a swarm of stinging insects". (p.354)

From those narrations, it can tell that Edna looks angry and confused when she knew Robert will go to Mexico at that same night. Edna was not able to hold

her emotions and she started to cry and realized that she was really crazy about Robert. Edna realizes what she wants has gone away.

Edna also indicates that she is a jealousy female character. Edna jealous when she found out that tobacco is a gift bag from a young woman, Vera Cruz. It describes in this dialog with Robert.

"You used to carry your tobacco in a rubber pouch," said Edna, picking up the pouch and examining the needlework.

"Yes; it was lost."

"Where did you buy this one? In Mexico?"

"It was given to me by a Vera Cruz girl; they are very generous," he replied, striking a match and lighting his cigarette.

"They are very handsome, I suppose, those Mexican women; very picturesque, with their black eyes and their lace scarfs."

"Some are; others are hideous, just as you find women everywhere."

"What was she like—the one who gave you the pouch? You must have known her very well."

"She was very ordinary. She wasn't of the slightest importance. I knew her well enough."

The narration here shows that Edna is a typical of jealous woman. Edna very jealous to Mexican girl who gave tobacco pouch embroidered on Robert. Edna looks very jealous when she kept asking about Robert embroidered tobacco pouch which he got from a girl in Mexico. Robert avoids, though he still looks like to Edna. He tells her that he has forgotten nothing about their summer at Grand Isle and tried to play down the significance of the Mexican girl. But Edna still continues to give questions to Robert about Mexican girls.

4.1.6 Childish Woman

In another narration, and at the same time, Edna looks very childish and immature, as well as her husband. They are outside together.

"Edna, dear, are you not coming in soon?" he asked again, this time fondly, with a note of entreaty.

"No; I am going to stay out here."

"This is more than folly," he blurted out. "I can't permit you to stay out there all night. You must come in the house instantly."

"Leonce, go to bed," she said, "I mean to stay out here. I don't wish to go in, and I don't intend to. Don't speak to me like that again; I shall not answer you." (p.255)

"Mr. Pontellier had prepared for bed, but he slipped on an extra garment. He opened a bottle of wine, of which he kept a small and select supply in a buffet of his own. He drank a glass of the wine and went out on the gallery and offered a glass to his wife. She did not wish any. He drew up the rocker, hoisted his slippered feet on the rail, and proceeded to smoke a cigar. He smoked two cigars; then he went inside and drank another glass of wine. Mrs. Pontellier again declined to accept a glass when it was offered to her. Mr. Pontellier once more seated himself with elevated feet, and after a reasonable interval of time smoked some more cigars". (p.256)

In this narration, the writer told that Edna also has a character very childish and immature, as well as her husband. The writer show in dialogue between Edna and Leonce which ultimately equally do not want to go into the bedroom and they are outside together.

Character of childish of Edna was shown again when Edna went to dinner with his friends, she heard that Robert suddenly decided to go to Mexico and left that night. After dinner, she went back to her own cabin, angry.

"As she seated herself and was about to begin to eat her soup, which had been served when she entered the room, several persons informed her simultaneously that Robert was going to Mexico. She laid her spoon down and looked about her bewildered. He had been with her, reading to her all the morning, and had never even mentioned such a place as Mexico. She had not seen him during the afternoon; she had heard some one say he was at the house, upstairs with his mother. This she had thought nothing of, though she was surprised when he did not join her later in the afternoon, when she went down to the beach". (p.350)

“She went directly to her room. The little cottage was close and stuffy after leaving the outer air. But she did not mind; there appeared to be a hundred different things demanding her attention indoors. She began to set the toilet-stand to rights, grumbling at the negligence of the quadron, who was in the adjoining room putting the children to bed. She gathered together stray garments that were hanging on the backs of chairs, and put each where it belonged in closet or bureau drawer. She changed her gown for a more comfortable and commodious wrapper. She rearranged her hair, combing and brushing it with unusual energy. Then she went in and assisted the quadron in getting the boys to bed”. (p. 373)

The narration above, it is shown again about childish character of Edna. When she knew Robert decided to go to Mexico without telling her. She felt very disappointed and confused. Edna could not hide her angry. She looks childish with leaving dinner suddenly and refuses to say goodbye to Robert with others.

This is the narration that explains about Edna is selfish women. Edna could not analyze her own feelings or others.

"Do you know we have been together the whole livelong day, Robert—since early this morning?" she said at parting. (p.342)

"All but the hundred years when you were sleeping. Goodnight." (p.343)

“He pressed her hand and went away in the direction of the beach. He did not join any of the others, but walked alone toward the Gulf”. (p.344)

In the narration above, the writer’s tries to describe the thinking process of Edna, that Edna could not understand her own feelings or others. It looks when she spent the day together with Robert. Edna does not think that Robert may need a break from her. Although Leonce very care about her but Edna spend time with Robert without knowing by Leonce.

There is another narration that tells that Edna is very happy to act everything always like what she wants. One day after the kiss, Edna decided to move house. She wants to escape from her husband's property that surrounds it. She moved house in Esplanade Street.

“Without even waiting for an answer from her husband regarding his opinion or wishes in the matter, Edna hastened her preparations for quitting her home on Esplanade Street and moving into the little house around the block. A feverish anxiety attended her every action in that direction. There was no moment of deliberation, no interval of repose between the thought and its fulfillment. Early upon the morning following those hours passed in Arobin's society, Edna set about securing her new abode and hurrying her arrangements for occupying it. Within the precincts of her home she felt like one who has entered and lingered within the portals of some forbidden temple in which a thousand muffled voices bade her begone”. (p. 717)

In the narration above, one more of Edna's character described as habits like always wanted everything always like what she wants. Edna decided to move out of her house without carefully considering their actions. She also did not negotiate about it to her husband. She acted on impulse; she cannot to continue an affair while she was still living at home her husband. Finally she decided to move to the Esplanade Street house without consulting her husband first.

4.1.7 A Rebellious Woman

This narration told that Edna is a rude woman. She said harshly to her husband. She left all the social duties and spends time to paint.

“Mr. Pontellier had been a rather courteous husband so long as he met a certain tacit submissiveness in his wife. But her new and unexpected line of conduct completely bewildered him. It shocked him. Then her absolute disregard for her duties as a wife angered him. When Mr. Pontellier became rude, Edna grew insolent. She had resolved never to take another step backward”. (p.492)

"It seems to me the utmost folly for a woman at the head of a household, and the mother of children, to spend in an atelier days which would be better employed contriving for the comfort of her family." (p.493)

"I feel like painting," answered Edna. "Perhaps I shan't always feel like it." (p.494)

Character of Edna in this narration shows that rough nature of Edna shown when she rebelled with assertive and decided to do what she wants without apology. She stopped receiving guests on Tuesday, ignoring the social obligations that expected of her husband. He was furious and angry with her. But she just wants to spend her time to painting and asked that her husband did not disturb her.

This one of Edna's character here, she was described women who are not obedient to her father. In the previous chapter the writers explains that Edna does not obey her husband. But now Edna also portrayed as a woman who does not obey to her father.

"Edna and her father had a warm, and almost violent dispute upon the subject of her refusal to attend her sister's wedding. Mr. Pontellier declined to interfere, to interpose either his influence or his authority. He was following Doctor Mandelet's advice, and letting her do as she liked. The Colonel reproached his daughter for her lack of filial kindness and respect, her want of sisterly affection and womanly consideration. His arguments were labored and unconvincing. He doubted if Janet would accept any excuse—forgetting that Edna had offered none. He doubted if Janet would ever speak to her again, and he was sure Margaret would not". (p.605)

"Edna was glad to be rid of her father when he finally took himself off with his wedding garments and his bridal gifts, with his padded shoulders, his Bible reading, his "toddies" and ponderous oaths". (p.606)

This one of Edna character, Edna had problems with her father because she rejected to visit her sister's wedding. Edna excited when her father visits ended because she was tired of arguing with her father.

This one character of Edna is a woman who likes cheating. The closeness of Edna with Arobin when Robert was not with her.

"I'm not thinking of any extraordinary flights. I only half comprehend her." (p.709)

"I've heard she's partially demented," said Arobin.

"She seems to me wonderfully sane," Edna replied.

"I'm told she's extremely disagreeable and unpleasant. Why have you introduced her at a moment when I desired to talk of you?"

"Oh! talk of me if you like," cried Edna, clasping her hands beneath her head; "but let me think of something else while you do." (p.713)

"I'm jealous of your thoughts tonight. They're making you a little kinder than usual; but some way I feel as if they were wandering, as if they were not here with me." She only looked at him and smiled. His eyes were very near. He leaned upon the lounge with an arm extended across her, while the other hand still rested upon her hair. They continued silently to look into each other's eyes. When he leaned forward and kissed her, she clasped his head, holding his lips to hers". (p.714)

"It was the first kiss of her life to which her nature had really responded. It was a flaming torch that kindled desire". (p.715)

Edna and Arobin visit that night. Edna and Arobin were sitting together in front of the fire. Arobin touch her face and hair. Edna knowing Robert will be back, Edna and Arobin Speaking freely and Arobin could not understand with her words. Arobin know that Edna's mind to be somewhere else. But he just smiled at her, they look at each other for a long time, and finally they kissed. A kiss is the first time in her life that really affects, and filling her with desire. But Edna not

feel embarrassed after experiencing sexual sensation kiss for the first time, she only regretted that it was not with Robert.

4.1.8 A Women who has High Sexual desire

Character of Edna here look more like a free woman, who can choose everything always like what she wants without thinking of rules that can damage it.

“Edna cried a little that night after Arobin left her. It was only one phase of the multitudinous emotions which had assailed her. There was with her an overwhelming feeling of irresponsibility. There was the shock of the unexpected and the unaccustomed. There was her husband's reproach looking at her from the external things around her which he had provided for her external existence. There was Robert's reproach making itself felt by a quicker, fiercer, more overpowering love, which had awakened within her toward him. Above all, there was understanding. She felt as if a mist had been lifted from her eyes, enabling her to took upon and comprehend the significance of life, that monster made up of beauty and brutality. But among the conflicting sensations which assailed her, there was neither shame nor remorse. There was a dull pang of regret because it was not the kiss of love which had inflamed her, because it was not love which had held this cup of life to her lips”. (p.716)

In the narration above, Edna described as a free woman. The writers show when adultery Edna with Arobin. Edna slept with Arobin because she wanted him at the time, and she just acted as her lust. She considers herself a free woman and not Faithfull to Robert and her husband. She felt a little guilty at her husband because she still lives at her husband's home, and she felt sorry because Robert did not get there first before Arobin. Finally Arobin leave, Edna felt sad, irresponsible, and was shocked when she looks what she has done. However, she feels like the experience has allowed her to see and understand the world more

clearly. Although she does not have a shame or regret, she regretted that she slept with someone because of lust, not love.

4.2 Edna's Character in feminism

In chapter two, 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.

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. Liberal feminism is form of feminism that argues that equality for women can be achieved through legal means and social reform. Feminism is thus a term that emerged long after women started questioning their inferior status and demanding an amelioration in their social position (Freedman, 2001:3).

In Kate Chopin's novel, "*The Awakening*", Edna finds she in a society where social incarcerated women become mothers and wives. This novel tells the struggle of women in the community who want to live free from the oppression of the dominant society of men. Readers will find that the basis of "*The Awakening*" feminist perspective because the passion that Edna has to get her own identity and independence.

4.2.1 Marriage

Justin said that wives in the 18th century had few legal rights and were expected to simply obey their husband. (May 20, 2014) In the United States during the eighteenth century noticed that Women in colonial America were expected to serve their husband, train their children, and live a life of duty.

In chapter one, an overview of liberal feminism looks when the gap relationship between Edna and her husband, Edna has a problems with her marriage. Because her husband was very busy with her business. She is more comfort with Robert, the gap relationship between Leonce and Edna has shown in this chapter. She was not enjoying with her status as a wife.

"What is it?" asked Pontellier, looking lazily and amused from one to the other. It was some utter nonsense; some adventure out there in the water, and they both tried to relate it at once. It did not seem half so amusing when told. They realized this, and so did Mr. Pontellier. He yawned and stretched himself. Then he got up, saying he had half a mind to go over to Klein's hotel and play a game of billiards. (p.12)

"What folly! To bathe at such an hour in such heat!" exclaimed Mr. Pontellier. He himself had taken a plunge at daylight. That was why the morning seemed long to him. (p.10)

"You are burnt beyond recognition," he added, looking at his wife as one looks at a valuable piece of personal property which has suffered some damage. She held up her hands, strong, shapely hands, and surveyed them critically, drawing up her fawn sleeves above the wrists. Looking at them reminded her of her rings, which she had given to her husband before leaving for the beach. She silently reached out to him, and he, understanding, took the rings from his vest pocket and dropped them into her open palm. She slipped them upon her fingers; then clasping her knees, she looked across at Robert and began to laugh. The rings sparkled upon her fingers. He sent back an answering smile. (p.11)

One of the most surprising action on rejection role as a wife and mother, Edna did not want to serve her husband, she did not want attention to him. Edna prefer with another man than her own husband. She rejected to serve her husband because she feels her husband is very busy with his business. Her husband thinks his business more important than his wife. It makes Edna does not care with her husband. Although it has been largely considered one of the obligations of a married woman is to serve her husband. Rejection of Edna to serve her husband it is indicated that desire of Edna to have the same right with the men.

This narration shows that Edna is a young and beautiful woman. This is shown in the narration chapter two.

“Mrs. Pontellier's eyes were quick and bright; they were a yellowish brown, about the color of her hair. She had a way of turning them swiftly upon an object and holding them there as if lost in some inward maze of contemplation or thought”. (p.18)

This narration also told that Edna described as a beautiful and soft woman. It is described in how to dress Edna when going to the beach alone with Madame ratignolle.

“The women were both of goodly height, Madame Ratignolle possessing the more feminine and matronly figure. The charm of Edna Pontellier's physique stole insensibly upon you. The lines of her body were long, clean and symmetrical; it was a body which occasionally fell into splendid poses; there was no suggestion of the trim, stereotyped fashion-plate about it. A casual and indiscriminating observer, in passing, might not cast a second glance upon the more feeling and discernment he would have recognized the noble beauty of its modeling, and the graceful severity of poise and movement, which made edna pontellier different from the crowd”. (p.96)

“She wore a cool muslin that morning—white, with a waving vertical line of brown running through it; also a white linen collar and the big straw hat which she had taken from the peg

outside the door. The hat rested any way on her yellow-brown hair, that waved a little, was heavy, and clung close to her head". (p.97)

The narration above, Edna described as a beautiful and soft woman. It is described in how to dress Edna when going to the beach alone with Madame Ratignolle. Edna characters are seen through her appearance. Like the body lines are long, clean and symmetrical. She also wears a white collar and a big straw hat on yellow brown hair. Her beautiful is allure for a man. It makes another man very like her because the beauty of Edna. She can makes love affair with a man with her beauty.

It is one of evidence that women can wreak sexual desire of man. Women can use her beauty as tool to wreak the man's sexual desire. This condition is one the effect of Creole society culture at that time. Women should keep her beauty only for her husband. But Edna uses it freely as a lure to look for another man.

In the narration in chapter three Edna is a sensitive woman when she heard a harsh word. Edna looks like women are weak and easy to cry. Edna looks easy to cry because Leonce accused to her as a bad mother and uncared to his children.

Like in the previous chapter that liberal feminism seeks equal rights with men. But Edna is women who have sensitive feelings. It is when Leonce accused to her as a bad mother and uncared to his children. After her husband was asleep, Edna feels very sad. She went out and began to cry. She feels sad and easy to cry because her husband said that she is not good wife and bad mother, whereas her husband only cares with her business to get much money. In the fact describes that the man has fully controlled to their wife at that time. The man can do

anything what they want and women want to get out of bounds that controlled by her husband. It explain in character above that Edna have sensitive feelings.

She was described woman who is rebellious; Edna does not obey her father. In the previous chapter the writers explains that Edna does not obey her husband.

“Edna and her father had a warm, and almost violent dispute upon the subject of her refusal to attend her sister's wedding. Mr. Pontellier declined to interfere, to interpose either his influence or his authority. He was following Doctor Mandelet's advice, and letting her do as she liked. The Colonel reproached his daughter for her lack of filial kindness and respect, her want of sisterly affection and womanly consideration. His arguments were labored and unconvincing. He doubted if Janet would accept any excuse—forgetting that Edna had offered none. He doubted if Janet would ever speak to her again, and he was sure Margaret would not”.
(p.605)

“Edna was glad to be rid of her father when he finally took himself off with his wedding garments and his bridal gifts, with his padded shoulders, his Bible reading, his "toddies" and ponderous oaths”.
(p.606)

This one Edna had problems with her father, she does not obey to her father because she feels her father always set her life, and she cannot make a choice for her life alone. For example, at the first time her father asks to marry with businessman as Leonce. And now her father asks to her to visit in her sister's wedding. She refused to visit her sister's wedding. Edna excited when her father visits ended because she was tired of arguing with her father.

Freedom of women who are still stuck at that time, women's lives should be limited either by their husbands or families. Women must obey their husbands and families. But Edna rejects the limitations that not obedient with her attitude to

her father. It indicated that Edna is a liberal feminist who refuses to obey the limits on their families.

Edna is a stubborn wife. Edna refused to leave the hammock and join her husband. She insisted that she felt comfortable in bed hanging.

"What are you doing out here, Edna? I thought I should find you in bed," said her husband, when he discovered her lying there. He had walked up with Madame Lebrun and left her at the house. His wife did not reply. (p.240)

"Are you asleep?" he asked, bending down close to look at her.

"No." Her eyes gleamed bright and intense, with no sleepy shadows, as they looked into his.

"Do you know it is past one o'clock? Come on," and he mounted the steps and went into their room.

"Edna!" called Mr. Pontellier from within, after a few moments had gone by.

"Don't wait for me," she answered. He thrust his head through the door. "You will take cold out there," he said, irritably. "What folly is this? Why don't you come in?"

"It isn't cold; I have my shawl."

"The mosquitoes will devour you."

"There are no mosquitoes." (chap.11, p. 240-248)

Based on the dialogue above, When she refused to get into bed when her husband called her, she will not obey what was her husband said. Otherwise, she will decide what she wants. Feminism attitude was shown by Edna, when Edna became a stubborn wife, she rejected her husband's command because she feels disappointed with her husband. At that night her husband spends his time to work until the late night. One of Husband's obligations at that time is keeping and protects his wife, but in fact Edna refuses an invitation her husband. She refused to be kept and protected by her husband. Rejection was indicated as feminism.

Her refusal to freedom and the desire to have control of her life rights regardless that her husband was still has an obligation to keep it.

In another narration, and at the same time, Edna looks very childish and immature, as well as her husband. They are outside together. Edna was very childish because she was being angry to her husband because her husband go home in the late night without apologize to her. In the previous chapter explain that social movements are necessary to achieve political equality for woman. The writer told that Edna also has a character very childish and immature. The writer show in dialogue between Edna and Leonce which ultimately equally do not want to go into the bedroom and they are outside together. Edna was very childish because she being angry to her husband.

This condition happened because the culture at that time always put men as the leader in the household and the household has full rights to freedom of their families. But Edna forgets that and considers it is a terrible situation. This condition is indicated feminism because Edna still would not care about what is said and requested by her husband. Although culture should prohibit a married woman to have her own decisions and must obey their families, especially their husbands.

Edna here describes as women who have a high sexual desire. Edna and Arobin were visiting that night. When she told Arobin, he stroked her hair and face. Then he leaned forward to kiss her and she responded immediately to the spirit, pulling it towards her. Edna has a love affair with Arobin because she thinks her husband was not trying to looking for her.

"What is the matter with you?" asked Arobin that evening. "I never found you in such a happy mood." Edna was tired by that time, and was reclining on the lounge before the fire. (p.698)

"I'm jealous of your thoughts tonight. They're making you a little kinder than usual; but some way I feel as if they were wandering, as if they were not here with me." She only looked at him and smiled. His eyes were very near. He leaned upon the lounge with an arm extended across her, while the other hand still rested upon her hair. They continued silently to look into each other's eyes. When he leaned forward and kissed her, she clasped his head, holding his lips to hers.

It was the first kiss of her life to which her nature had really responded. It was a flaming torch that kindled desire. (chap, 27. p. 698-715)

This chapter describes Edna and Arobin were sitting together in front of the fire, and he stroked her face and hair. Edna has a love affair with Arobin because she feels lack attention from her husband. Her husband was busy with her guest in the home. He agrees with his wife's decision that moves out from his house. He was not forbid that his wife gone. He was not disappointed if his wife with another women. It makes Edna leaves him and she has a love affair with Arobin.

In the social culture at that time, women should have a moral. A live for a married women only for their family, like to serve for their husband, cooking and keep their children. And women should also be able to restrict her from other men; women must be realizing her duties to her family. But in the statement above, it indicates that women wanted to free there were no other things that can limit her action. Women wanted to be free from bounds that around them. Women wanted equality to free like a man.

After makes the love affair with Arobin. Edna still chose to leave her husband. After Robert goes back, she continues her relationship with Robert. It was seen at dinner with Robert.

"Good night. I adore you. Sleep well," he said, and he kissed her hand and went away.

She stayed alone in a kind of reverie—a sort of stupor. Step by step she lived over every instant of the time she had been with Robert after he had entered Mademoiselle Reisz's door. She recalled his words, his looks. How few and meager they had been for her hungry heart! A vision—a transcendently seductive vision of a Mexican girl arose before her. She writhed with a jealous pang. She wondered when he would come back. He had not said he would come back. She had been with him, had heard his voice and touched his hand. But some way he had seemed nearer to her off there in Mexico. (chap, 34 p. 925-926)

Robert and Edna get back their relationship. Edna was jealous to embroidered tobacco pouch given by girls Mexico to Robert. It is because she feels freedom. After Robert get back, she continuous her relationships with Robert, because she thinks her husband does not try to looking for her. Edna looks really do not care about the rules of society and keep doing as she wants freedom. It is because she wanted to be free from her marriage, feminism here can looks when Edna desire to have social right like the men, as social right free to do anything that she wants without limitations. The limitation it likes only to be wife and mother that always in the home and keep her from other man.

Edna got another meeting with Robert, but this time the park in small cafe on the outskirts of the city. Edna asks Robert why he did not comes to see her, but Edna responded emotionally. They talked for a while in the cafe before she saw her house. Once inside the house, without warning he kissed her and she

responded by holding her tight and admits his love. Edna tells him that she is a woman on her own, does not belong to Leonce again.

"Good-by, my sweet Robert. Tell me good-by." He kissed her with a degree of passion which had not before entered into his caress, and strained her to him.

"I love you," she whispered, "only you; no one but you. It was you who awoke me last summer out of a life-long, stupid dream. Oh! you have made me so unhappy with your indifference. Oh! I have suffered, suffered! Now you are here we shall love each other, my Robert. We shall be everything to each other. Nothing else in the world is of any consequence. I must go to my friend; but you will wait for me? No matter how late; you will wait for me, Robert?"

"Don't go; don't go! Oh! Edna, stay with me," he pleaded. "Why should you go? Stay with me, stay with me."

"I shall come back as soon as I can; I shall find you here." She buried her face in his neck, and said good-by again. Her seductive voice, together with his great love for her, had enthralled his senses, had deprived him of every impulse but the longing to hold her and keep her. (chap,36 p.964-990)

This chapter is a climactic moment for Edna. They admit that they are in love with each other. Edna want the sexual desire of another man because she was never given the sexual satisfaction of her husband as she had hoped, her husband was very busy with her work in the office. Edna starts physical contact with Robert. The relationship between Edna and Robert should not happen. Because Edna still has status as a wife and a mother. In the Creole society, a married woman only focuses in their house and always serves their husband and keeps their children. But Edna frees herself from her duties and she wants social freedom.

4.2.2 Nurture a Child

According to Ludovic Harold Tesla, in the beginning of the 1800s women were silenced in the public and could not express themselves. Women strictly just stayed at home and raised children. (Mei 20, 2014)

After the departure of Robert, Edna tries to not miss him. Edna spends more time with Madame Lebrun. In conversation with Madame Ratignolle, although she would give her life for her children, she would not sacrifice herself because she thinks she cannot keep her children well.

"I would give up the unessential; I would give my money, I would give my life for my children; but I wouldn't give myself. I can't make it more clear; it's only something which I am beginning to comprehend, which is revealing itself to me."

"I don't know what you would call the essential, or what you mean by the unessential," said Madame Ratignolle, cheerfully; "but a woman who would give her life for her children could do no more than that—your Bible tells you so. I'm sure I couldn't do more than that." (chap, 16 p.414-415)

When her conversation with Madame Ratignolle, another feeling Edna appear in this chapter, she said her desire to give herself to be a mother and the responsibility for their children. It indicates feminism because she said to Madame Ratignolle, she would give her money, and gives her life for her children, but will not give herself to her children. At that time, the important duties of the married women in Creole society is keeping their children. But Edna does not want to give herself for her children because she thinks she cannot keep her children well. Besides that, her husband cannot help her to keep their children, her husband always busy with her business in the office without care with her children in his

house. Her husband always work to collect money, he thinks his money can buy everything that he wants.

Edna's rejection actions as a good mother are also indicated by the failure of Edna's role as a good mother to her children because Edna cannot act as a mother to her children's attention.

“If one of the little Pontellier boys took a tumble whilst at play, he was not apt to rush crying to his mother's arms for comfort; he would more likely pick himself up, wipe the water out of his eyes and the sand out of his mouth, and go on playing. Tots as they were, they pulled together and stood their ground in childish battles with doubled fists and uplifted voices, which usually prevailed against the other mother-tots. The quadroon nurse was looked upon as a huge encumbrance, only good to button up waists and panties and to brush and part hair; since it seemed to be a law of society that hair must be parted and brushed”.

“In short, Mrs. Pontellier was not a mother-woman. The mother-women seemed to prevail that summer at Grand Isle. It was easy to know them, fluttering about with extended, protecting wings when any harm, real or imaginary, threatened their precious brood. They were women who idolized their children, worshiped their husbands, and esteemed it a holy privilege to efface themselves as individuals and grow wings as ministering angels. (p. P.49)

It is seen that Edna failed to be a good mother to her children. Evident when the child fell while playing, they do not choose to cry and be hug to the mother for comfort. However, they prefer to wipe tears from his eyes and the sand out of his mouth and continued to play. Edna rejected to be a good mother for her children because Edna cannot act as a mother to her children's attention. It is one form of the desire to be free of duty as a wife and mother.

4.2.3 Working

According to Tong (2009: 13), 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.

In the narration below, the writer will explain about another favorite of Edna. The writers have explained in the previous chapter that Edna is very like to the music, in this chapter the writers describe that Edna also likes to paint. This narration is indicated to liberal feminism because Edna chooses to work alone without her husband.

Edna spent an hour or two in looking over some of her old sketches. She could see their shortcomings and defects, which were glaring in her eyes. She tried to work a little, but found she was not in the humor. Finally she gathered together a few of the sketches—those which she considered the least discreditable; and she carried them with her when, a little later, she dressed and left the house. She looked handsome and distinguished in her street gown. The tan of the seashore had left her face, and her forehead was smooth, white, and polished beneath her heavy, yellow-brown hair. There were a few freckles on her face, and a small, dark mole near the under lip and one on the temple, half-hidden in her hair. (chap.18 p. 475)

When the weather was dark and cloudy Edna could not work. She needed the sun to mellow and temper her mood to the sticking point. She had reached a stage when she seemed to be no longer feeling her way, working, when in the humor, with sureness and ease. And being devoid of ambition, and striving not toward accomplishment, she drew satisfaction from the work in itself. (chap. 25. p. 618)

It describes that Edna decided to seriously study painting. She realizes longing to Robert who does not give any expectations on her. She feels her life is boring and colorless. She followed the example of her friend, Mademoiselle Reisz to study painting. Edna wants to seriously study art, and she needs a compliment

from Madame Ratignolle to makes she feel more confident in her abilities. The desire of Edna is liberal feminism because she wants to live her husband's house and choose to work alone to fulfill her individual needs. The desire to freedom and have the same right like her husband is indicates to feminism. It is because liberal feminism that have equality, like equality in the workplace. She wants to have equal right as a man, like equal right in work.