

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter presents the review of related literature, which deals with some previous finding and some literature review related to the research.

2.1 Literature

According to (Greenberg & Ruth Miller, 1981) Poetry has its relationship to its author and has different style reflected the period when it was written. Poems also tell about the condition of the society from past to present time. In addition (Short, 2007) said that poetry is kind of imaginative work which has aesthetic effect cannot be separated from creative manipulation of the linguistic code which expressed throughout language. In interpreting poetry, different reader has different meaning it is because poems are complex, unique and self-contained wholes. It is supported by (Greenberg R. M., 1981) said that each perspective provides potentially an access, a way of discerning implications of arriving the meanings. Poems also involving the reader interest and can change the reader's world. Reading a poem leads to aesthetic value and gives literary pleasure to the reader. It is supported by (Greenberg R. M., 1981) said that each perspective provides potentially an access, a way of discerning implications of arriving the meanings.

In addition (Montefiore, 1983) Poetry is important for feminist because they are writing it to tell to the readers and has important role to be printed and distributed to exchange and passed from individual or round groups to widespread the characteristic activity of the women's movement. Second poetry as kinds of writing especially has vital relation to language and it is to speak and to hold up to the light as potential resources of female power.

2.1.2 Kinds of Poetry

According to (Richards, 1954) there are two kinds of poetry as follow:

1). Lyric Poetry

Lyric poems is non-narrative and comparatively short, thus it is characterized by the expression of the speaker's innermost feelings, thoughts, and imagination. Lyric poems

are melodic and retain some of the element song which is said to be origin. For Greek writers the lyrics was a song accompanied by the lyric. Here is the types of the lyric poetry are:

- a. Ode, is lyric poem that expresses a noble feeling with dignity
- b. Elegy is a poem of lamentation in formal form intended to death of a particular person.
- c. The sonnet which was originally a love poem which dealt with couple sufferings and hopes. It was also used for order topics than love, it can be for religious experience, reflection on art or even war experience on the seventeenth century onward.
- d. Dramatic monologue is a poem which an imagined speaker addresses a silent listener. The speaker makes a speech to a silent auditor in specific situation. For example the poems from Robert Browning's "My Last Duchess" (Poetry Foundation, 2019).
- e. Occasional poetry is written for the special occasion such as; the wedding, the return of king from exile or death.

2). Narrative Poetry

According to (Meyer, 2005) narrative poetry written in metered verse and it gives verbal representation because it is poetry that tells a story. It is told by the narrator and character as well. It can be short or long poetry depending of the story. Thus, narrative poems might tell a lovers story and many more. Some of sub-categories of narrative poetry as follow:

- a. Epic poem is a lengthy narrative poem and usually operate on large scale, both in length and topic. Thus, involving with the supernatural in dealing with the gods or any other superhuman in it. For example; John Milton's *Paradise Lost*.
- b. Ballads is narrative set to music in other word ballads is a song which marked by rhythm suitable for singing. In poem, ballads follows a form of rhymed.

2.1.3 Figurative Language of Poetry

According to (Richards, 1954) there are figurative language used in forming and in order in analyzing poetry. Therefore, there are two main important in

forming poetry which is *the nature of poetry* and *the method of poetry* in order to analyze this research. Here are some follows:

- a. Theme is as subject matter of the poem because theme is described as the soul of the poem. From the poem itself, the writers want to express its feelings through word. It may either be a thought, a feeling or story and experience.
- b. Symbolism is often as the expression in poetry is often not direct. The use of symbolism is to give more reflective to the poem and represent something else in poems. Thus, it is help to create the meaning and emotion in poetry.
- c. Alliteration is the repetition of initial stressed, consonant sounds in a series of words within a phrase or verse line (Poetry Foundation, 2019). The use of alliteration is in order to give beautiful sound effect in poems. In addition alliteration is a way to adore the poetry.
- d. Simile is a way to make comparison between two different things and show a common quality in poems. The comparison use in simile is often using “as” or “like”.
- e. Metaphor is almost the same with simile but in metaphor didn’t use “like” or “as” in comparison two different things. For example; she’s so down to earth/ she is kind.

2.2 Gender

Gender is the part of studies in feminism, talking about feminism also talking about gender. According to (Beasley, 2005) in western society gender divided into two women and men. Gender is closely related to term “sex” which is male and female while in “gender” it is called feminine and masculine. The term gender and sex are usually seen as different concepts, in gender. Thus, it is socially constructed given by society based on behaviors and activities. Gender issues was led to feminism because of the identity of women is shaped by society.

Therefore, society expect that gender as their construction belief that a women expected to act and look feminine in every aspect and men should act masculine. Either being masculine or feminine is called gender identity (Milton, 2002) .Gender describes as the identity of a human beings which is structural given by society. In addition (Archer & Lloyd, 2002) stated when gender is socially constructed by society so same goes to sex

where even the definition of men and women is based on their biological aspects and influences their role, men as a dominant and women are sexually submissive. In other words, men do have a higher level than women (male power) and women are considered inferior because they have no power which is men are superior because they considered has power over women and it's led to sexism towards women's rights.

For example; society called them women because of their roles as a wife, mother, weakest one and always depending to men. It is the opposite from what socially gives to men, society seen men as the superior than women and it is led to racism and stereotypes toward women which is led to feminism. Feminism criticized the patriarchal society that women's is subordination to men in public and private life.

In addition, (Archer & Lloyd, 2002) stated that the roles of women is divided into two. Traditional role in domestic sector. The roles usually undertaken in the home or in other words called household activities. Women as a daughter in family, wives, and mother who raising the children and it is cannot measured by the value of money. Mother is the most crucial figure in shaping children's personalities for future. Women's carried biggest roles in traditional roles besides as a housewives also helping their husband in every aspects. Therefore, woman's roles in public sector is working in public spaces in order to help the family welfare. Beside of carrying the responsibilities as a housewives, women also play roles in public sector in order help achieve the needs of family life. Usually this role is done outside the home and aims to bring economic income (Archer & Lloyd, 2002).

The roles of women is really needed in both sectors to actualize themselves in the community. Women more commonly found double roles in society as a wife or mother and working outside home to help family's income. According to (Archer & Lloyd, 2002) when it comes to acting out gender roles men and women can assume their roles without interfering with their gender identity because it has association based on their self-conception. Therefore, every society has gender role expectations and it is very different from group to group and make gender stereotypes from it and it is led to crisis identity which is issues raised in feminism. In addition, (Zanjani, 2017) these gender roles emphasize the differences which lead to gender inequality between male and female

because traditional gender stereotypes posit that men represent the ideal norm against which women are judged which led to sexism.

2.3 Feminism

According to (Hooks, 1984) feminism is the struggle of woman to end sexist oppression and its aim to change society's view over men and women. In addition, (Freedman, 2006) feminism expect equal opportunities between men and women. It is consist of equal rights, equal pay, and rights of body, sexual, parental leave and also political representation. It is also similar to (Hadjipavlou, 2010) view that feminism is female suffrage to vote and has same rights over men in every aspects.

Therefore, women attempts to resist the dominance of male and patriarchal society in case of feminism. It is to raise awareness of women's rights and equality in society (Carter, 2006). In addition (Guerin, 2005) argues that feminism is a social movement to gain equality between men and women. Indeed feminism is identical with women suffrage and their struggle in order to gain equality but feminism is also about fairness. (Markle, 2019) In her speech stated that "women suffrage is about feminism, but feminism is about fairness". In feminism, suffrage is not simply the right to vote but also what that represent. It is allow all women to get their rights and to be able to speak up their choices for their future and their community. Their choice its means: a choice to have children or not, their choices to do something to their bodies or not because they own its body and to make a choice in their life without getting compliment by society called the third wave feminism. The third wave feminism as reaction to the failure of the second wave feminism and it is focused not only to white women but also the others women from another race (black women especially), gender or religions. Third wave feminists have been extremely eager to define their feminism as something 'different' from previous feminisms (Gillis, 2004).

According to (Anand, 2018) in the third wave feminism is focused on the rights of women in every aspects. Women must have a rights over their body, sexual reproduction to make decisions over her body because they own their bodies, right to have access to birth control and also abortion. The third wave feminism is related to Kaur's work which the poetry is contains of sexual reproductive of women, rage, culture and racism (Kaur, 2015). This wave represented positive movements especially for women to have rights over

their body because they own its body and the freedom of women in make decision about their life. Feminism studies is also talk about gender. Therefore, (Beasley, 2005) in *Gender and Sexuality* argues that feminism as one of two subfields situated under the term “gender”, this subfield is along with Sexuality and Masculinity Studies. Gender refers to the social process along the lines of sexed identities. In Western societies gender divided into two women and men or two sexes but recently have begun to allow more plural sexes identities. In addition (Kemp & Squires, 1997) in *Gender and Sexuality* argues that the term gender is for discussing social relations within and between groups identified as a man and woman.

2.4 Female Body and Sexuality

According to (Hoste & Demoor, 2009) “Sexuality is what biologically distinguishes men from women and in a society in which the family and continuity of generations was so important it is almost impossible to imagine it differently”. In addition, (Little, 2012) stated that sexuality is viewed as a person’s capacity for sexual feelings and it is influenced by our surroundings; family, culture, religion, laws, profession, science and politics. Therefore, (Masters, Johnson, & (U.S), 1966) stated that women sexuality it is including issues pertaining to biological sex, sexual orientation, self-esteem, personality, gender roles, relationship, values and attitudes, activity options, body image and communication. Thus, society has different views in interpreting sexuality and sexual behavior and have norms that reinforce their accepted social system of sexuality. According to (Garnets, 2000) argues women’s sexuality are potentially fluid and changeable overtime due to their psychological and social influences. Thus, in most societies there are legal bounds on what sexual behavior is permitted and as a normal norm. Therefore (Twenge, 2002) stated that culture viewed women’s sexuality is subordination to men and it is something to be controlled through women’s behavior. Thus, it will led to becoming the victim of rape, entering marriage such a young age or because of traditions, also getting sexual assault and women have felt that they are not permitted to express their sexual feelings.

According to *Rose Weitz “A History of Women’s Bodies”* in (Scott, 2017, p. 248) stated that women’s bodies as men’s property if it’s defined in law. In the past time women’s bodies belonged to their father and when they were married it will be owned

by their husband thereafter. Women feels that she doesn't have freedom over their body and it is led to feminism. Firestone "*The Dialect of Sex*" in (Tong, 2014) claimed that the roots of feminism is because of the systematic patriarchy of society who labelled women as a property and inequality to their opposite sexes. Sexuality is influenced by gender norms and can have negatives consequences, for example; in some contexts, women may be forced to keep silent when it is come to injustice treatments from men in every aspects. It can be to enter marriages and men will have power to control women bodies that women's as a property.

Theoretically the structure of human body is consisting of the visible and invisible things because in human body there is relationship between body and its soul. Body is not only consist of hands, feet, head, eyes, hair, ear, uterus, breast, vagina, penis, heart et all but also contain the whole soul both the mind and feeling for what is invisible to the eyes of human instinct (Foucault, 1995). Thus, (Synnott, 2002) argues that our bodies are loaded with cultural symbolism, public and private, positive or negative, political or economic, sexual, even the senses and functions states of the body. Therefore it is led to controversies rage about the ownership of the body, the boundaries meaning, and how its body should be lived and loved.

According to (Synnott, 2002) all human bodies, especially women have become objects with other terms, the body is being disciplined is a body that subjugated, controlled, restrained, and not given any freedom or power of attorney to its body, which is then used as an opportunity in the political economy industry by capital owners. Everything had been controlled without realizing it. In society, women's bodies become the embodied symbols of honor and shame while women also as human being should be treated as ends in themselves too. For example; society perfectly happy to see women as sex objects but the actual sexual or biology work of women's bodies is apparently gross and unmentionable.

2.5 Female Identity

According to (Gardiner, 1981) stated that women's identity is seems to be a soap opera, endless and never advancing, that plays the matinees of woman's souls. Women are encouraged to judge their inner selves through their external physical appearances and to equate the two. At the same time women have been grow up by the taught to

create socially approved images of themselves by manipulating their dress, speech, and behavior as the norms of society. A woman's sense of her gender, her sexuality and her body may assume a different or more prominent, shape in her conception of herself than these factors would for a man. In traditional roles society female are expected to perform as society wants. Female often struggling for their identity and they are most likely trying to find their own individual self within society.

In *On Female Identity* by (Gardiner, 1981) philosopher Sandra Bartky stated that “our identities can no more be kept separate from how our bodies look than they can be kept separate from their shadow selves of the female stereotype”. The concept of women's identity can transformed into women consciousness and as a reaction to men paradigms for women experience. In addition (Serras, 2019) women's identity can be seen from her roles. Marriage as a tools to identified women's identity, thus considered relationship of power where the woman lives as her husband's subject or master's subject. In marriage women's represented as a wives and belongs to her husband. Marriage implied that the woman had to renounce not only the management of her own property, be it her dowry or any other kind of legacy, but also her free will and judgment.

2. 6 Previous Study

Rupi Kaur's collection of poetry entitled “*Milk and Honey*” became phenomenal poetry and interesting poem to analyze. Researcher have been collected several sources consist of previous studies related to feminism, some of them are as follow:

For instance (McQuillan, 2018), in his thesis “*Aesthetic Scandal and Accessibility: The Subversive Simplicity of Rupi Kaur's milk and honey*”. This researcher analyzed the aesthetic value of literature works. In Rupi Kaur's work, the researcher found the aesthetic scandal from the readers in interpreting “Milk and Honey”. Kaur's work considered too accessible and to the point. Thus, it is eliminated the values of difficulty in literary works because for the literary works upholds the values of difficulties in reading practices and interpreting a poetry.

Another source found in the article written by (Jindal, 2017) entitled “*Going beyond the narrative: Rupi Kaur's Milk and Honey as a modern text*”. This researcher intends to evaluate the socio-cultural related Kaur's work “Milk and Honey” which tells experience

of love, abuse, violence, and femininity. Rupi Kaur as Indian-origin settled in Canada who wrote a phenomenal poem entitled “milk and honey” says that some of the poem in the books are biographical and autobiographical based on things that happen in her surroundings. The result of the research found that in “Milk and Honey” which often dubbed as simplistic is really different when the reader digesting its meaning, comprehending contours and patterns, understanding its nuances. The reader can see that Kaur adapts to the fluidity of the modern age while Kaur trying to maintain a sense of heritage, culture and power.

The last source found is in the literature journal from (Khudail, 2018) “*Rupi Kaur, giving the voice back to the voiceless*”. The researcher analyzed Kaur’s poem and stated that her work is needed and long awaited. In “milk and honey” Kaur writes about love, loss, abuse, rape and woman’s problems they faced, especially for the part of “the hurting:” much clearly described about abuse. The researcher begin her research by the report of domestic abuse in the world is 54% unreported along with the 4.5 million females who have been domestically abused since the age of 16 and there are still many women didn’t have courage to report or take actions so they decided to keep silent. No wonder Kaur’s collection “milk and honey” such as massive impact not only for literally work but also wider public especially women’s reader to be brave to speak up and take actions when they get abuse or injustice treatment.

Based on the thesis above, it can be concluded that the similarity of the research above is focusing in Rupi Kaur’s poetry collection entitled “milk and honey” and has their own research focus. Therefore, the researcher conducted the research in other aspect focusing in feminism issues raised in poetry and how the author represented the female body and identity seen from feminism perspective in “*milk and honey* ” written by Rupi Kaur.