

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the introduction of the research which consists of background, reasons for choosing the topic, the scope of the research, research questions, aims of the research, research method, data resources, data collection, data analysis, clarification of terms, and organization of the paper.

1.1 Background

In the past women and men were strictly discriminated; women belonged to the family and men belonged to the society; men were the breadwinner and women were the caretaker of the house (Eagly, 1987 in Stets & Burke, 2001). From the explanation above it can be seen that social systems and social norms that have long existed trigger gender inequalities in society. Men and women are differentiated not only based on their sexes but also on their gender. According to Esplen and Jolly (2006) gender refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities and attributes that a particular society considers appropriate for men and women. But nowadays women are no longer confined, they are able to cross the boundaries among men and women, and make their participations significant not only on domestic works, but also on the social activities. Along with that statement, Claraviwintia (2009) states that the participation of women in social activity is more prevalent in urban

areas where the social systems have been shifted and most of the societies are modern. Thus, the women who live in urban areas have bigger opportunity to develop themselves, it is because the availability of facilities that could supports in developing themselves.

Issues related with women have been adopted and discussed in many literary works including novels. The novel that is about and written especially for women is called chick lit. In line with that, Memmott (2006) states:

“Chick lit is a term used to denote genre fiction written for and marketed to young women, especially single, working women in their twenties and thirties. Chick lit features hip, stylish female protagonists, usually in their twenties and thirties, in urban settings (usually London or Manhattan), and follows their love lives and struggles in business (often in the publishing, advertising, public relations or fashion industry)”.

Based on the explanation above, this research presents an analysis related to the presentation of the main female character and the influence of urban society towards the main female character in the novel *a Very Yuppy Wedding*. The researcher decides to use *a Very Yuppy Wedding* because this novel describes the life of urban woman which is the same with the topic in this research.

Furthermore the research analyzes the textual evidence in the novel using the perspective of Marxist feminist. Marxist Feminist is one of the feminist theories that centered on material aspect and class relation in a society (Gimenez, 1998).

1.2 Reason for Choosing the Topic

The novel *a Very Yuppy Wedding* has been chosen because the novel describes the life of urban woman which is the same with the topic in this research. Moreover the issue of urban life and woman are always interesting to discuss.

1.3 The Scope of the Research

The research focuses on the excerpts (words, utterances, expressions, thoughts) that describe the characteristics of the main female character as evidenced in the novel.

1.4 Research Questions

The research formulates the questions as follow:

1. How is the main female character presented in the novel?
2. What is the influence of urban society towards the main female character?

1.5 Aims of the Research

Based on the questions above, the research aims to:

1. Identify how the main female character is presented as evidenced in the novel.
2. Identify the influence of urban society towards the main female character.

1.6 Research Method

The research employs a descriptive analysis which is qualitative in nature. The research analyzes and describes the presentation of the main female character and the influence of urban society towards the main female character as evidenced in the novel. Moreover this research presents a textual analysis of the novel entitled *a Very Yuppy Wedding* with using Marxist feminist as the theoretical approach.

1.6.1 Data Resources

The main data of the research were taken from the novel *a Very Yuppy Wedding* written by Ika Natassa which was published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama 2008. The novel is written in Bahasa Indonesia and it consists of 13 chapters and 282 pages. The data are taken from the whole chapters of the novel.

1.6.2 Data Collection

The data that are collected from textual evidence in the novel *a Very Yuppy Wedding* are in the form of words, utterances, expressions, thoughts that are purposively selected and directed to answer the research questions.

1.6.3 Data Analysis

The collected data are then analyzed using the perspective of Marxist Feminist. In analyzing the data the following steps have been taken:

1. Reading the novel thoroughly and carefully.
2. Highlighting any parts of the excerpts (words, utterances, expressions and thoughts) that are presenting the main female character
3. Noting down the excerpts that are presenting the characteristics of the main female character as evidenced in the novel.
4. Analyzing and describing the excerpts that are presenting the characteristics of the main female character.
5. Analyzing and describing the influence of urban society towards the main female character using Marxist feminist.
6. Making conclusions and suggestions for further researches.

1.7 Clarification of Terms

In order to avoid unnecessary misinterpretations, some terms are clarified as follows:

1. Character : is a figure presented in a literary (Klarer, 1999).
2. Characterization : is the figures in a literary text can either be characterized as types or individuals (Klarer, 1999).
3. Marxist Feminist : is one of the feminist theories that centered on material aspect and class relation in a society (Gimenez, 1998)
4. Influence : the power to direct the thinking or behavior of others usually indirectly (*Merriam Webster Dictionary*, 2010)
5. Urban Society : is a group of people who pays attention to social status and also materialists (Bintaro, 1984 in Ruyadi 1994).
6. Urban Woman : is a woman who is living in an urban area and having a modern lifestyle (Dominic, 2007).

1.8 Organization of the Paper

The paper will be presented as follows:

Chapter I: This chapter presents a general description of the paper. It covers the background, the reason for choosing the topic, the scope of the research, research question, aims of the research, research method, , data resources, data collection, data analysis, clarification of terms and organization of the paper.

Chapter II: This chapter discusses theories used as the framework to discuss the issues that encompass the notions of urban woman and feminist as the framework theory.

Chapter III: This chapter presents the research methodology, which includes an explanation of the research question, method of the research, data source, data collection, data analysis, and data presentation.

Chapter IV: This chapter presents the analysis, findings, and discussions of the findings of the present research.

Chapter V: This chapter presents the conclusion of the research, which are based on the findings and the discussion in the previous chapters. This chapter ends with suggestions for further research on text analysis.