

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Some people's activity to strive for control over others' land, or colonialism, is undeniably part of history that forms current civilization. Colonialism is a way to dehumanize others through oppressive dominance and or violence to fulfill the colonizer's needs. Historically, colonialism is also one factor that results in the racial and cultural diversity in America.

Colonialism refers to the complete and direct control of one nation by another, where the foreign power exerts its dominance through state authority (Ocheni, 2012:46). This results in the establishment of colonizers' cultural norms as the standard in colonized people's society. As a result, the colonized society may resist and fight to strive for liberation to regain their control over their territory. The legacies of colonialism continue to shape society as it is proven by cultural changes and psychological trauma which includes the feeling of inferiority.

Colonialism can take any form, and one of its examples is slavery. Patterson (1982:13) has stated that slaves are not choosing to be one, but it is a status that is given to them since birth and they have no right as human beings to be respected. In America, slavery is one of its histories and was an issue until the end of the Civil War when the 13th amendment was enforced.

The conflict involving slavery is rather complex because it is not only about the forced dominance of one side towards the other, but also about other various elements around it such as economy, psychology, society, and politics. The realistic portrayal of such a conflict is also reflected in the movie.

One of the movies that depicts colonialism in the form of slavery is Gregory Allen Howard's *Harriet*. The movie tells the story of Araminta "Minty" Ross, a girl who escapes from slavery. After she changes her name into Harriet Tubman to mark her freedom, she decides to save other slaves and her family. She fights the white society for they think of having the right to exploit and enslave black people. Black people suffer from various problems, such as violence and inferiority. At the end of the movie, she becomes one of the revolutionary heroes who fights against slavery in America.

The writer thinks that the movie is interesting because it tells the real event which portrays the history of colonialism in America. In this research thesis, the writer will analyze the cause, the type, and the effects of colonialism in the movie.

1.2. Research Problems

Based on the background of the study, there are three research problems proposed as follow:

- a. What is the cause of colonialism in Gregory Allen Howard's *Harriet* movie?
- b. What is the type of colonialism in Gregory Allen Howard's *Harriet* movie?
- c. What are the effects of colonialism and how it impacts the colonized people in Gregory Allen Howard's *Harriet* movie?

1.3. Objective of the Study

Based on the three research problems stated above, there are three objectives of the study:

- a. To analyze the cause of colonialism in Gregory Allen Howard's *Harriet* movie.
- b. To analyze the type of colonialism in Gregory Allen Howard's *Harriet* movie.
- c. To analyze the effects of colonialism and how it impacts the colonized people in Gregory Allen Howard's *Harriet* movie.

1.4. Previous Studies

Several studies have been conducted by using the same object. There are seven theses and two internet articles that analyze the movie *Harriet* written by Gregory Allen Howard. The first previous study is an undergraduate thesis entitled *Linguistic Features Of African American Vernacular English (Aave) Used By African American And White American In Harriet (2019)* written by Nabiiilah Ihza Fabriyanti. The thesis uses a linguistic approach that focuses on the African American Vernacular English spoken by characters in the movie.

The second previous study is an undergraduate thesis entitled *Representation of Racism Resistance in Harriet Film 2019* written by Faishal Al Ghifari. The thesis discusses the racism depicted in the movie, but it uses Amy Villarejo's cinematic approach and Hall's representation concept.

The third previous study is an article entitled *Slavery Shown Through the Presuppositions of the Characters in the Movie Harriet (2019)* written by Baiq

Intan Pratiwi, Ni Made Widisanti S., and Sari Rejeki. This article uses a linguistic approach to analyze the presupposition in the conversation of the movie.

The fourth previous study is a thesis entitled *Analysis of Precognition by Main Character Minty in the Harriet Movie's Script (2019)* written by Aulia Nadia. The thesis talks about the theory of precognition and theory of discrimination applied to the movie.

The next previous study is entitled *The Struggle of the Main Character Minty Against Racial Discrimination in "HARRIET" Movie Script* written by Luqman Anna Al Adawiyah. The thesis analyzes the racial discrimination in the movie.

The sixth previous study is a thesis entitled *Racial Discrimination in Harriet (2019)* written by Mercy T Gagermatahai. The thesis talks about the racial discrimination depicted in the movie using Rebecca M. Blank and Marilyn Dabady's theory, and utilizes a psychological approach to analyze the movie.

The seventh previous study is a bachelor thesis entitled *The Depiction of Harriet Tubman in Contemporary Pop Culture* written by Veronika Zejdová. The thesis focuses on using Clark's model of minority representation to analyze the movie.

The eighth previous study comes from an internet article written by Rachelle Hampton entitled *What's Fact and What's Fiction in Harriet*. The article mainly compares the movie with the historical fact that the movie tries to adapt.

The next previous study also comes from an internet article entitled *Harriet in Movie and the Harriet Tubman of History* written by Alan J. Singer.

Same as the eighth previous study, this article compares Harriet Tubman from real history and the movie.

All the previous studies above are examples of the studies conducted by using the same object, the movie *Harriet* written by Gregory Allen Howard. However, it can be pointed out that there are some differences between this study and the previous studies listed above. The first difference is that this study focuses on highlighting the colonialism aspect of the movie. All of it discusses a different topic as none of them uses Robin Blackburn and Frantz Fanon's theory regarding colonialism.

The second difference is the theory. None of the studies above uses Frantz Fanon and or Robin Blackburn's framework towards colonialism depicted in the movie. The third difference is that the examples above use a different approach to analyze the movie. The previous studies listed above use either linguistic, cinematic, or psychological approach. It marks the difference to this research thesis because it uses a post-colonial approach to seek the impact of colonialism along with its cause and type.

1.5 Scope of the Study

Limitation in a discussion is necessary as a boundary on problems that will be discussed. The writer focuses on the intrinsic aspects which include character and characterization, conflict, and settings. Meanwhile, the extrinsic aspect explains the cause, type, and effect of colonialism reflected in the movie *Harriet* written by Gregory Allen Howard.

1.6 Organization of the Study

The contents of this research thesis are organized as follows:

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of Background of the Study, Research Problems, Objective of the Study, Previous Studies, Scope of the Study, and Organization of the Study.

CHAPTER II: THEORY AND METHOD

This chapter contains theories used throughout the study to reach conclusions. The theories are Characters and Characterization, Conflict, Settings, Hierarchy, Exploitation Colonialism, Slavery, Inferiority Complex, and Resistance and Liberation.

CHAPTER III: DISCUSSION

This chapter contains an analysis that utilizes the theories mentioned earlier. The main point of the discussion consists of the Intrinsic Elements and Extrinsic Elements of the movie. Intrinsic Elements include Characters and Characterization, Settings which consist of Settings of Time and Settings of Place, and Conflict. Meanwhile, Extrinsic Elements of the movie include Colonialism. There are Cause of Colonialism, Type of Colonialism, and Effects of Colonialism. The Cause of Colonialism includes Hierarchy, the Type of Colonialism includes Exploitation Colonialism, and the Effects of Colonialism include Slavery, Inferiority Complex, and Resistance and Liberation.

CHAPTER IV: CONCLUSION

This chapter contains the summary of the main points of the previous chapter.