

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background of The Study

All women around the world have their own struggles. Especially in the 19th century, there were a lot of struggles that women should face. Women were still mainly encouraged to marry, required to obey men, and did not have the opportunity to get a proper education. Women still cannot get the same opportunities that men have, and they do not have choices. As stated by Wollstonecraft in Tong's book,

“They were not permitted to make their own decisions, they lacked liberty. And because they were discouraged from developing their powers of reason—given that a great premium was placed on indulging self and gratifying others, especially men and children—they lacked virtue,” (Tong, 2009:13).

It indicates that women are unable to communicate their feelings, as well as their needs, liberally.

This issue also seems to be seen in the main character of *Persuasion* movie, Anne Elliot. In July 2022, Netflix released a movie adapted from Jane Austen's final novel with the same title, *Persuasion*. The novel was published six months after Austen's death. *Persuasion* is a romance movie with British background, directed by Carrie Cracknell, and sets in 19<sup>th</sup> century England.

Anne is a middle-class woman who does not get the freedom to choose her own happiness. She cannot communicate her feelings because she lives in a society that limits women freedom. She does not find the freedom to choose the man she would want to be her husband. In *Persuasion*, middle-class women are

forced to marry a man who has a high status and social class. They are pushed to select a partner based on mutual economic advantage rather than love. As a woman, she does not have the liberty to make her own choices in her life. She wants to get what she wants, freely.

Anne also does not get the freedom to enjoy a proper education just like the men do. Even though she lives in a shallow environment, Anne seems to be able to prove that she is an educated woman through her personality. She has more intelligence and more mature than other women at that time. Her intelligence seems to be seen from the way she does things in her daily life. Anne wants to prove that women are just as valuable as men in the society.

Feminism appeared to achieve equality between men and women and to improve women's status. Feminism is a theory that believes in the social, economic, and political equality of genders at all levels of society (Mohajan, 2022:8). Feminism is concerned with women's struggles against gender discrimination, in which women are regarded as the second gender. Feminism, as a movement, has several branches that take different approaches, those are Liberal feminism, Marxist feminism, Socialist feminism, Radical feminism, Ecofeminism, Cultural feminism, Black feminism, and Postmodern feminism (Jaggar, 1983). Based on the issues that faced by the main character of *Persuasion* movie, the writer will use the liberal feminism theory proposed by Mary Wollstonecraft and Rosemarie Tong in the book entitled "Feminist Thought". The writer is interested in analyzing how Anne Elliot will reveal the liberal feminism values through the character and issues that faced by her character in the *Persuasion* movie.

Liberal feminism is about equal opportunity, which would undoubtedly involve and lead to both." (Tong, 2009:12-13). The goal of liberal feminism is to

make the women have the same opportunity as men, so they can do everything that the men want to do without any limits. This theory can be applied in *Persuasion* movie, especially in Anne Elliot's cases because her characters seem to match with the values of liberal feminism in Wollstonecraft and Tong's liberal feminism theory. Therefore, the writer is interested in analyzing the liberal feminism values in Anne Elliot's character and choose "Liberal Feminism Values Seen through the Main Character of *Persuasion* (2022) Movie" as the title of this study.

### **1.2. Research Problem**

1. What are the liberal feminism issues that faced by Anne Elliot?
2. What are the liberal feminism values seen through Anne Elliot's characters?
3. How does Anne Elliot reveal the liberal feminism value through her characters?

### **1.3. Objectives of the Study**

1. To explain the issues that faced by Anne Elliot.
2. To find out the liberal feminism values seen through Anne Elliot's characters.
3. To analyze how Anne Elliot reveals the values of liberal feminism through her characters.

### **1.4. Previous Studies**

In this study, there are several related studies that the writer refers to. These previous studies are utilized to provide an overview of the use of liberal feminism theory to literary work analysis.

The first one is *An Analysis on Liberal Feminism Values of The Main Character in The Film "Miss Potter"* written by Aenun Nahdiyati from English Letters Department State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah in 2009. This study explains liberal feminism values of the main character in the film Miss Potter and uses the qualitative descriptive analysis as the method to analyze the relationship between the main character and the liberal feminism values.

The second one is *The Representation of Liberal Feminism in The Character of Hua Mulan in Mulan Movie* written by Irene Andini Wishnu Adyatmasani from Departement of English Letters Sanata Dharma University in 2021. This research is aimed at describing the representation of liberal feminism through the character of Hua Mulan using liberal feminism theory proposed by Rosemarie Putnam Tong and M.J. Murphy's character and characterization theory.

The third one is an analysis by Laudita Rizki Nareswari (2019) from department of English Letters Sanata Dharma University entitled *Liberal Feminism Seen Through the Main Female Character in Educating Rita Movie*. The researcher uses character and characterization theory and feminism approach, particularly the liberal feminism theory. Even though this study has the similarity in theory and approach with this thesis, there is a gap between them which is the object.

The fourth previous study is written by Raqhuel Villy Permata Eidelweis (2018) from English Departement Diponegoro University entitled *LiberalFeminism as Reflected in The Main Character of Joy Movie*. This study explains about the struggle of an oppressed woman to get her freedom also reach her dream. The writer uses intrinsic and extrinsic aspects to show the liberal feminismvalue that reflect in the main character. The writer also uses Mill's and Tong's concept of Liberal Feminist to analyze this movie.

The fifth previous study is *Liberal Feminism in The File of Joan Based on Naomi Wolf's Perspective* written by Nurul Hanifah, Moh. Zawawi, and Penny Respati Yurisa (2017) from Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim. In this study the struggles of liberal feminism in a church centered system are discussed and it demonstrates how gospel is founded on the idea of Naomi Wolf. Even though most of those studies have the similarity in theory and approach with this thesis, there is a gap between them that is the object.

The last study is an analysis written by Sinta Fitriani (2014) from Departement of English Letters Sanata Dharma University entitled *The Marxist Feminist Concept in The Character of Anne Elliot in Jane Austen's Persuasion*. This study explains about the characteristics of Anne Elliot as the main character in *Persuasion* movie which reflects the concept of Marxist Feminism. This study uses the character and characterization and Marxist feminism theory to analyze the characteristic of Anne Elliot. Although there is similarity in the object used in this study, there is a gap between them which is the theory.

Based on all the research that has been collected above, the author will further identify the existing gaps and complement them in this study. This study is expected to provide a new understanding of the theory of liberal feminism that appears in the film *Persuasion 2022* which refers to the analysis of liberal feminism values and the struggle of women who live in a society that limits women's freedom so that it can become a new reference for further study.

### **1.5. Scope of The Study**

In order to avoid being out of topic, the writer will limit the study to just focus on discussing the intrinsic and extrinsic elements which analyzing the values

of liberal feminism from the main character of Persuasion movie, Anne Elliot.

## **1.6 Method of the Study**

### **1.6.1 Data and Data Source**

In order to find the correct information about the subject, the writer collects data relevant for writing this study from two sources, primary and secondary. First is the primary source of data which is Persuasion 2022 movie and the secondary sources of data are taken from other sources that relate to this study such as websites, journals, and articles that support the topic.

### **1.6.2 Method of Research**

In researching data, there are two types of collecting data; quantitative and qualitative research. The writer uses qualitative research method in this study. Yilmaz (2013:312) states, “qualitative research is defined as encompassing inductive, subjective, and interpretive methods of data collection and analysis, with the site of qualitative data collection located in the natural settings where the phenomena under inquiry occur.”

The writer also uses library research for collecting the data. Gomez, Mouselli, & Eds (2018:8) state, the term “library research” refers to research conducted with the aid of written materials obtained from libraries, the internet, and virtual databases. The writer of this study will locate the most specific statement from the movie to support the theory of liberal feminism by watching the movie several times. The first step in dealing with this movie is to watch it repeatedly in order to grasp not only the story, but also the meaning of every scene of the movie. The next step is determining the intrinsic elements from this movie that support this study which are theme, conflict, and characters- characterization. The

third step is taking note of crucial information in the film, such as dialogue and character behavior. The next step is searching and reading some related books, articles, and studies that regard the theory that the writer uses. The last step is determining the liberal feminism values that shown in the main character of this movie.

### **1.6.3 Method of Approach**

In this study, the writer will analyze an objective approach using Abram's theory to fulfill the intrinsic aspect of the movie. Abrams (1999:51) states, "objective approach depicts the literary product as a self-contained and autonomous object that should be contemplated for its own sake, and to be analyzed and assessed based on intrinsic elements". The writer also includes extrinsic elements to analyze liberal feminism values in the main character of *Persuasion* movie using the feminist approach with Rosemarie Tong and Mary Wollstonecraft's theory of liberal feminism. While the objective approach focuses on analyzing the text as a self-contained object, the extrinsic elements focus on explaining the women's struggle to get a liberation in a society that limits women's freedom.

## **1.7 Organization of the thesis**

The writing organization of this thesis comprises four chapters. Here are the arrangements of the whole study:

### **CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter consists of six sub-chapters. Those are background of the study, research problems, objectives of the study, previous studies, scope of the study, and organization of the study.

## **CHAPTER 2      THEORY AND METHOD**

This chapter consists of the theoretical framework of the study. There are two aspects that the writer uses in this chapter. First, the intrinsic aspects which consists of the definition from theme, conflict, and characters and characterization. Second is the extrinsic aspects that consist of feminism approach and liberal feminism theory.

## **CHAPTER 3      ANALYSIS**

This the crucial part in this study because the writer explains the analysis of the movie which consists of the intrinsic aspects and extrinsic aspects that includes the research questions from the *Persuasion* movie.

## **CHAPTER 4      CONCLUSION**

This chapter summarizes the analysis discussion in the previous chapter, which is chapter 3 of this study.