

CHAPTER I

INRODUCTION

This chapter deals with research background, statements of problem, research objective, research significances, definition of key term, and organization of writing.

1.1 Research Background

Education is the important thing that human must get in life. Because education give a big influence for human being. Such like how human behave, how human thought, and so on. Education also give a big chance in social life, such like looking for a job in a company, in a bank, being a lecture also must get a high education. According to Oxford Dictionary (2010: 468), education coming from educate which has meaning, “To teach somebody over a period of time at school, university, and etcetera. Or to teach somebody about something or how to do something”. And then, the meaning of education is, “A process of teaching, training and learning, especially in schools or colleges, to improve knowledge and develop skill.”

There are two kinds of education, that is formal education and non-formal education. Formal education is a system of modern education which has some degree, from elementary school, junior high school, senior high school and until university. Then non-formal education is everything that human get, learn and

experience from their daily life. Especially when they are interacting with other people (Faisal and Hanafi, 1983: 14-15).

Many people build the institution of education. Just like the ministry of education and university of education. Not only the building, but also there are so many books told about education. Moreover, education also inserted in literary works. Such as Nurgiyantoro (2013: 434-345) said that literary texts contain with morality and education. Because he believe that every individual or community who makes a literary work, he or she must have some purpose, benefit, some valuable thing, and messages. It means that education is very important for everyone in the world.

Education is a part of human rights, which is the rights of education. In Undang-Undang Dasar of Indonesia (1945: section 28C), said that every human has their rights to develop their self through the basic of necessity. They are deserve to get education and get the benefit from their education and technology, art and culture, in order to increase their quality of life. Education also inserted in the covenant of The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, that there are some rights that human must get in their life. For instance, the right to work, the right to form trade unions, rights relating to marriage, maternity and child protection, the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to health, the right to education, and rights relating to culture and science (Women's Rights are Human Rights, 2014: 4-5).

Education also raised by liberal feminism to struggle with. Besides struggle for the equality between men and women, liberal feminism also raised about women

education; that women must have the same education as men. Wollstonecraft (1996: 165) argues, “Were women more rationally educated, could they take a more comprehensive view of things”. She wants that if women have the same education just like men, so women will have the same opportunities just like men too. In order that women will be more independent and have different perspective about life. Liberal feminism is a kinds of feminism—which is—Yamani (in Nurrachman, 2017: 298) there is a wide range of theories and expressions of behavior related to feminism world-wide: legal feminism, Marxist feminism, cultural feminism, liberal feminism, and post-modern feminism.

Refers to liberal feminism that raised about education, the researcher chooses two novels as the objects of the research. There are Louisa May Alcott’s *Little Women* and Pramoedya Ananta Toer’s *Bumi Manusia*; because the novel not only shows women as the main character, but also the novels has the topic about women issues.

The researcher choose *Little Women* and *Bumi Manusia* as the object of the research because there are some issues that women did not get formal education, and some of women characters are not going to school. There are the similarity and the differences in the two novels. The similarity is about the process of women education without go to school but they get a proper education. And the differences is, how the characters in *Little Women* get different benefit from their education such like they can be a teacher, nursery, and the writer. But the characters in *Bumi Manusia* are get more big benefit from their education, just like being a manager of the company and being a keeper of the company.

There are several previous studies that related to this present research. The first study was conducted by Firly Yunanda Damanik (2017), *Women Survival In Louisa May Alcott's Little Women*. Her analysis is focused on character and characterization, dynamic and static characteristic, and also focused on how women survival describe in the novel. The second study was conducted by Ira Kusmawati (2009), *Katherine's Struggle to Break The Marriage Institution to Get Equal Education in Mike Newel's Film Mona Lisa Smile*. Her analysis is focused how Katherine break the rules and fight to get the education only for herself, not for the institution. The third was conducted by Ainur Trihana Indrawati (2014), *Hegemoni Kekuasaan Dalam Novel Bumi Manusia Karya Pramoedya Ananta Toer*. Her analysis is focused on social issues and social class that happened in the novel, and also focused on how the author describe about hegemony through the characters in the novel.

To distinguish this present research with the previous study, this present research is focused on how women characters in the two novels study and learn by their self without having formal education. Though almost all of them never go to school, but they are get proper education and their autodidact education make them be a success and strong women.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the important of education, there are some problems in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* and in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *Bumi Manusia* related to women education. Such as how the women characters in both novel did not go

to school but they get the proper education and how they applied their knowledge in their life until they can be a success woman. Finally, the problem are focused on two research questions:

1. How is the process of women education described in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* and in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *Bumi Manusia*?
2. What are the benefits that women characters get from their education in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* and in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *Bumi Manusia*?

1.3 Research Objective

The purpose of this research is absolutely answering the question above. Based on the question, the researcher is focusing to find the purpose of this research, as follow:

1. To find out the process of women education in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* and in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *Bumi Manusia*.
2. To find out the benefits that women get from their education in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* and in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *Bumi Manusia*.

1.4 Research Significance

This research has an academic and practical significances, there are:

1. Academically, the researcher expected that this research can be an example for the next research that have the same problem or the same topic.

2. Practically, the researcher expected that this research can help people to understand more about women issues, the equality between men and women, especially about women education in *Little Women* and in *Bumi Manusia*.

1.5 Definition of Key Term

The researcher consider that it is important to define some terms that used in this research, in order to clarify the key term that used in this research. Some definitions are put forward:

1. Mimetic Criticism: One of literary critical theory. It can be used to interpret, to explain and to judge a literary work directly. According to Abrams, mimetic criticism views the literary work as an imitation, or reflection, or representation of the world and human life.
2. Women Education: The process of women learn and study out of the school. Learn to read and write autodidact, and also learn to apply their knowledge in their life to get the benefit from their education.
3. Feminism: Feminism is the belief and aim that women should have the same rights and opportunities as man; the struggle to achieve this aim. (Oxford Dictionary, 2010). Or the organized activity in support of women's rights and interests (Merriam-Webster Dictionary, 2018).
4. Liberal Feminism: One of feminism branch that raised about women, that women must have the same education as men. If women have a proper education, then women will have the same opportunities and chance like men too.