

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Many people assume that films are part of literary works because some films adapt stories from literary works such as novels and are produced into cinematics that contains visuals, audio, and are played by actors and actresses. Klarer (2004:1) says that in most cases, “literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word”. This explanation proves that films are very different from literary works, both in terms of ideas, content, goals, and the process of making films that are more inclined to cultural studies. Cultural studies are a discursive formation, that is, a cluster (or formation) of ideas, images, and practices, which provide ways of talking about, a form of knowledge and conduct associated with, a particular topic, social activity, or institutional site in society. Even so, films are currently widely used as research material for students of English Education or English literature, namely film studies with a literary approach.

Law No.33 of 2009 concerning films, Article 1 explained that film is a work of art and culture which is a social institution and mass communication media that is made based on cinematographic rules with or without sound and can be shown. The process of making a film is very complex, starting from determining the target audience, making a film synopsis, writing scripts and scripts, casting talent, setting locations, preparing technical tools, determining the production budget, filming, and editing, then reviewing and revising. Many elements are contained in filmmaking such as director, scriptwriter, producer, assistant producer, logistics, camera operator, lighting, soundman, wardrobe, makeup artist, hairstyle, actor, actress, editor, etc. It's no wonder that making a film takes months or even years, the main goal is to buy or make a profit from the production of the film. Currently, film is one of the works that are very much interested in by many people, with many film genres such as romance, horror, history, documentaries, biography, etc.

The Zookeepers Wife is a historical drama biographical film that is a real-life dramatization of a character, directed by Niki Caro and produced by Jeff Abberley, Jamie Patricof, Diane Miller Levin, Kim Zubick, and Robbie Tollin by the Scion Film company. Quoted from the

IMDb website, *The Zookeeper's Wife* film awarded the Political Film Society USA award nominated PFS, in the "Human Rights" category. Starring Jessica Chastain as Antonina Zabíńska who has played in various films and won many awards, and in 2012 became the 100 most influential people in the world, and Johan Heldenbergh as Jan Zabíński is a Belgian actor, playwright, screenwriter, theater director and director films. The screenplay for the film was written by Angela Workman based on Diane Ackerman's nonfiction book *The Zookeeper's Wife* of the same name. Diane Ackerman is a poet who has written many books and poems in the style of true or non-fiction stories, most of her books dealing with nature, animals and people such as *The Rarest of the Rare* and *The Moon by Whale Light*, where she explores suffering and fascination with endangered animals, *An Alchemy of Mind* about the wonders and mysteries of the brain, based on modern neuroscience and *The Zookeeper's Wife*, a nonfiction narrative set in Warsaw during World War II, a story about humans, animals, and subversive acts of mercy.

The Zookeepers Wife is set in World War II when the genocide was carried out by the Nazi Germany party led by Hitler, they had ambitions to get rid of the Jews and rule over parts of Europe, and Poland was one of them. Spouse, Dr. Jan Zabíński, and Antonina, the main characters of *The Zookeepers Wife* are the owners of the Warsaw Zoo in Poland, they try to save hundreds of Jews from Nazi atrocities by hiding in the basement of a zoo villa and changing their identities. Of course, what they are doing has many obstacles and conflicts that must be faced both by Jan and Antonina, the Jews, the Polish community, and the Polish military as well as the enemy.

Conflict in a film plays a very important role in the course of the story. *The Zookeeper's Wife* film is set in World War II which of course has a social conflict in it. Conflict is a perception of a perceived divergence of interest, or a belief that the aspirations of the conflicting parties cannot meet a common ground (Pruitt and Rubin, 2009: 9). The interest in question is how people feel about what they really want, where these feelings tend to be central in people's thoughts and actions that form the core of many of their attitudes, goals, and intentions. Social conflict is a social relationship that is interpreted as a desire to impose its will on other parties. According to Lewis Coser, social conflict is functional and is directed at the integration of conflict theory and structural functionalism. Lewis Coser mentions several functions of conflict, Conflict can strengthen group solidarity, Conflict with other groups can produce solidarity within the group that can lead to alliances with other groups, Conflict can also cause

isolated members of society to play an active role, and Conflict also functions for communication.

Therefore, the writer is interested in analyzing the social conflict in the film the Zookeeper's Wife using Lewis Coser's theory. The writer gives the title "**SOCIAL CONFLICT IN THE WIFE OF ZOOKEEPER: SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE**".

B. Research Question

The research questions in this study are formulated as follows:

1. How is social conflict reflected in the film The Zookeeper's Wife?
2. What are the functions of social conflicts in the film The Zookeeper's Wife?
3. How does social conflict impact the characters in film The Zookeeper's Wife?

C. Objective of The Study

The objectives of this research are as follows:

1. Describe social conflict reflected in the film The Zookeeper's Wife.
2. Describe the functions of social conflicts in the film The Zookeeper's Wife.
3. Describe social conflict impact the characters in film The Zookeeper's Wife.

D. Benefits of Study

The significances of this research are:

1. Theoretical Benefits

The author hopes that this study can provide information, references, and used to understand the form and function of social conflict in the film The Zookeeper Wife and can be a source of data for further literary researchers.

2. Practical Significance

This research can be enriching knowledge about social conflict, history, especially World War II in the film The Zookeeper Wife. The readers can use this research as source of data for further literary researchers.