

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Women oppression becomes the evilness cases, which always exist in modern era. Today, many kinds of women oppression become wide around us. Those are not only in domestic sphere but also in public sphere. Firstly, women oppression in domestic sphere are the duties to follow and to receive the husband as roles, to take care her husband needs, to keep the house perfect, and keeps the children. Besides, the strange condition of women oppression in domestic sphere is when her husband has bad treatments to her. The bad treatment includes beating, fronting, slapping, kicking etc. Secondly, women oppression in public sphere is the limitation of women participation to enter the public area. It means the public sphere is dominated by men. Public spheres are law, education, politics, society, science, and technology.

Men domination both in domestic and public sphere is real women oppression. There are not only existed in stereotype culture such as our country but also in capitalize or secularize culture like in America. America becomes the first country which was ratified the human right. Nevertheless, Women's right is lost in reality. Hence, it becomes high problem for women in life.

Normally, women have an ability to solve or get out from their problem in oppressive men especially by abusive husband. There are many ways to get out from abusive husband they encounter. Women have different ways to

solve their problem. It depends on their attitude and ability. Usually women avoid from the abusive husband by running away from him. They look for place that gives them safety and comfort. However, it is not complete enough, they need more ability to solve their problems.

Women's ability can be reached by independent and brave mental that is important to support their own selves to face the cruel life, especially abusive husbands. Besides, it becomes the properties to find their own rights equal to men. In fact, women have no rights for many centuries. They are only the inferior creatures who can stand on men as authority. However, in recent years women's movement emerges to consider their position. Women's movement to fight from oppressive men and to find equal rights from men authority is called feminism. In America, it is emerged in early of 18th centuries. It is influenced as the responds to women's condition in subordinate condition. They lost their rights. For instance, Lucretia Mott and Cady Stanton who become the pioneers of *the Declaration of Sentiment* in 19-2- July 1848 (Jurnal Perempuan, 14, 2001: 19).

It continues in contemporary period. Today, to reach women emancipations is not only by declarations but also by movies. Movies have been created since of the early of nineteenth century. It exists to describe the real phenomena. For instance, *Sleeping with the Enemy* (1991) directed by Joseph Ruben.

Sleeping with the Enemy was released in 1991 by Twentieth Century Fox feature film. It is one of woman oppression movies that are very interesting to

see in many aspects. This movie was starred by the great and the popular actress Julia Robert as Laura Burney. She is beautiful, kind, respectful, and loyal. Besides, she is a wife of rich and protected man. He is as person who loves the perfect things. Because of it, he always manages the house perfectly and she must follow and receive his roles, without understanding his wife's feeling.

The other aspect of this movie that is interesting to see because the director of this movie is Joseph Ruben. He takes the setting of times of this movie is in modern era around twentieth centuries taking place in United States. He comes from Briarcliff, New York, USA. He was born in 1951. There are more than 15 titles of movies were directed by him during 1974 to 2006 and he was as the produced in *The Pom Pom Girls* (1976) and *The Good Son* (1993).

Sleeping with the Enemy is based on the Nancy Price's novel that has title *Sleeping with the Enemy* (1987) published by Simon and Schuster. Besides, it was a Literary Guild alternate and a Berkeley paperback in 1988. Nancy Price becomes one of the great authors of fiction, poetry, and short stories. In *Sleeping with the Enemy*, she wants to say that American women face oppression against them in many aspects. Besides, women tend in subordinate position than men.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in analyzing *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie within the liberal feminist approach. Therefore, the writer intends to conduct a research of the movie with the

research title “WOMEN OPPRESSION IN SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY:
A LIBERAL FEMINISM APPROACH.”

B. Literary Review

The writer does not find the previous study related to the research around Yogyakarta and Surakarta library for the study to this research. The writer analyzes the women oppression in *Sleeping with the Enemy* starred by Julia Robert and director by Joseph Ruben using the Liberal Feminism Approach.

C. Problem Statement

The Main problem of the study is how women oppression is reflected in the *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie.

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer limits her study of women oppression that exists both in domestics and publics spheres, which is reflected in the *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie. The writer analyzes Laura Burney as the major character.

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem that stated above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie directed by Joseph Ruben based on structural elements.
2. To analyze *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie directed by Joseph Ruben based on Liberal Feminist perspective.

F. Benefit of the Study

The study of Women Oppression *sleeping with the Enemy* movie directed by Joseph Ruben have several benefits, there are:

1. **Theoretically**, this research will enrich the study of literature especially on *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie directed by Joseph Ruben and its contribution for English Department students particularly in learning about movie.
2. **Practically**, the result of this study will increase the writer's knowledge in different cultural custom and its elements.

G. Research Method

The research is a qualitative. Dealing with it, there are four points in research method they are:

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie directed by Joseph Ruben.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Sources

- a. The primary data comes from the *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie itself.
- b. The supportive data will be from data related to the study. It can be from books, internet, magazine, encyclopedia, etc.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of data collection is documentation. The writer collects both primary data and secondary data as references.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

First, the writer views the primary data repeatedly to reach more understanding the content both explicit and implicit. Second, the writer searches relevant data in internet such as original script. Finally, the writer clarifies and interprets the story in some categories to analysis.

H. Paper Organization

The research paper consists of six chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which contains the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, objective of the study, benefits of the study, research method, and paper organization. Second chapter is underlying theory. The third chapter deals with social background. Fourth chapter is structural elements of this movie. Analysis and discussion of *Sleeping with the Enemy* movie presented in fifth chapter. Finally, the sixth chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion.