

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Pregnancy for a woman has various meanings. The planned pregnancy has a meaning as a hope, happiness and as a symbol of love between a woman and her husband in a family life and may be welcome willfully as a gift from the God.

However, may be perceived as a burden when it is an unwanted by woman. Certainly, some women see it as a tragedy even though their views may change as they have delivered their babies. The unwanted pregnancy often urges any family member to take a prevention action that causes them to do abortion.

Having children for a family is a valuable gift. It is not only representation of human's reproduction and it does not merely convey biological process of multiplication. It conveys the process of emotional and social ones. Biologically, the pregnancy is viewed as a biological process for a woman. According to Chodorow quoted by Setija Utami (mengapa banyak ibu membunuh bayinya [www suara on line.com](http://www.suaraonline.com)). Pregnancy and giving birth for a woman is "the ultimate of woman's sublimation for they are able to reproduce new creatures". In the emotional and social perspective, pregnancy represents emotional relationship between women and their husbands and their babies.

On the contrary, the unwanted pregnancy can cause negative effects that are physically and psychologically toward the baby and the mother herself. It may cause woman to harm themselves in the efforts of aborting the unwanted pregnancy. Many women who have the unwanted pregnancy try to abort their baby in various ways, such as using drugs that may endanger their own life.

The unwanted pregnancy may be perceived submissively by some women. They keep on wanting the unwanted the babies delivered. Initially, the newborn babies are perceived with a great disappointment. They gradually grow their own motherly feelings and morality to perceive the newborn babies. The presence of babies from unwanted pregnancy often have less emotional relationship with their mothers and fathers, which in turn may cause an emotional gap among them.

The unwanted pregnancy may happen. It usually occurs in premarital condition. This condition is caused by some reasons, such as: sexual violent, making love etc. This condition is not wanted by their family, and society. The women also are not ready to be mother. It can cause them do abortion..

The phenomena of unwanted pregnancy can become the inspiration and attractive materials for authors to created their work. One of the famous novels that illustrate this phenomenon is Danielle Steel's *The Gift*.

Danielle Steel comes from Los Angeles, USA. Danielle Steel started writing when she was a child. In her late teenage years, she developed a real passion for it, and wrote a lot of poetry. She completed her first novel when

she was 19 years old. She is one of pop writers who almost all her novels has become major features TV movies.

“Danielle Steel was born on August 14th, 1947” (www.daniellesteel.com). She is one of the famous woman writers in America. Some of her works are *Going Home* (1973), *Passion's Promise* (1976), *Now and Forever* (1978), *Once In lifetime* (1982), *Full Circle* (1984), *Irresistible Forces* (1999) and etc. Almost number one international bestseller, and there are sold over 436 millions copies of his novels in print throughout.

The Gift was published in 1994 consist of 310 pages and 11 chapters. This novel tells about a young woman namely Maribeth Robertson. She is the girl who has premarital pregnancy. That even happens when Maribeth comes in dance party. Maribeth met Paul. Then they made love in front of the seat of Paul's car. Then a month later, She was pregnant. But Paul refused to be responsible. One day, her father knew about Maribeth's problem. He was angry and had isolated Maribeth in the convent Sisters of Charity. Her father claimed that Maribeth had to stay there until the baby was born and adopted by other persons. She didn't like to live, and then she ran a way from the place to go to Chicago. There, She worked as a waitress in Jimmy D's restaurant. Then, she met a man named Tommy Whittaker and then they falled in love each other. After some months she born a baby whose name was Kate, and whitaker family adopted the baby.

This study is conducted by using analyzing psychological theory to analyze the major character personality in facing the problems in her life. By

employing the individual psychology, this study discusses about the struggle of the major character in coping with unwanted pregnancy.

B. Literature Review

One of Danielle Steel's popular novels is *The Gift* published by Danielle Steel in 1994 in New York. As far as the writer concerns, there is only one person conducted a study on the novel, namely Ulfa, (2005) her research is entitled: *The Struggle For Women's Rights In Danielle Steel's The Gift: A Feminist Approach*. She describes about woman's struggle to get women right.

In this research paper, the writer tries to analyze the same novel in different perspectives. As far as the writer knows, there is no research has been conducted in study Danielle Steel's *The Gift* by using an individual psychological approach.

C. Limitation of the Study

To carry out of the study, the writer needs to limit the study. The writer is analyzing the major character by applying the psychological approach. The psychological aspects that are analyzed including fictional finalism, inferiority feeling, striving for superiority, social interest, styles of life, and creative power.

D. Problem Statement

The problem of the study is how the major character; Maribeth, copes with the problem of her unwanted pregnancy.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel.
2. To analyze the novel based on the individual psychology perspective.

F. Benefits of the Study

The benefits of the study are as follows:

1. To give contribution to the body knowledge particularly, a literary study on Danielle steel's *The Gift*.
2. To give deeper understanding in literary field as the reference to the other researchers in analyzing this novel into different perspective.

G. Research Method**1. Type of the Research**

In this research, the researcher uses a qualitative research. This is a library research, which takes the sources of the data from words and another writing materials.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is the novel *The Gift* by Danielle Steel, which has published in New York copyright in 1994

3. Types of the Data and the Data Sources

In doing this study, the writer uses the two data sources, namely primary data and secondary data source.

a) primary data source

The primary data source is in the novel itself, *The Gift* by Danielle Steel's.

b) Secondary Data

The secondary data source is includes the references of some books of psychology and the theory of literature.

4. Technique of Data collection

The method of data collection in this study is library research. The researcher collects and records either the primary or secondary data.

5. Techniques of the Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the writer employs descriptive qualitative analysis of content analysis. The analysis is started from the author and his work and then the structural analysis of the work and finally the individual psychology analysis of the literary.

H. Paper Organization

This Research Paper is divided into five chapters. The first chapter consists of introduction, which explains the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, objectives of the study, limitation of the study, benefits of the study, theoretical approach, and paper organization. The second chapter is underlying theory of individual by Alfred Adler used in analyzing the novel. The third chapter is structural analysis, which include characters and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style and theme. The fourth chapter is psychology analysis of the novel, and the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion.