

**GENDER INJUSTICE IN ANDY TENNANT'S *ANNA*
AND THE KING MOVIE: SOCIALIST
FEMINISM APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Gender is the word from Latin *genus* mean kind, type, or sort (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gender>). The society was identified the type of gender into men and women. The differences toward gender identity between men and women are not only biologically but also social behavior which attributed and formed by the tradition or the culture of the society (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gender>).

In fact, the phenomena of gender identity that is formed by the custom take women in second position. Extremely in the patriarchal system, the gender identity is completely injustice. Men “appropriate all superior social roles and keep women in subordinate and exploited” (Mandell, 2003: 14). The Men are socialized into competitiveness, rationality, and independence that is appropriate in public sphere. Here, men handle economic and social aspect. Whereas, women are identified relational, contextual, integrative that is appropriate in domestic sphere (Mandell, 2003: 12).

Furthermore, gender injustice that happens in society in which men have authority toward women both in public and domestic spheres. For example, most of kings or the presidents in the world are men. Besides, most of the head of the family, not only in patriarchal but also in capital country are

men. Women have a bit chance to explore their existence. It is clear that women are subordinate as long as women histories.

On the others hand, women tend to be wives or mothers who are suitable care children and keep housework. Besides serving their husband need (Mandell, 2003: 12). Generally, most tradition in the world put women is in subordinate position. They are considered as the people who should do the domestic sphere such as cleaning the house and taking care of the children. This tradition has existed for centuries as long as the patriarchal system still existed and dominant in society. Significantly, the ways of tradition toward women are seen as the stereotype that becomes strongly influence in the society.

Unfortunately, women who have chance in public sphere cannot be free from their responsibility in domestic sphere. It can be seen that the gender identity still dominant as long as the women histories. After they finish their jobs in the public they still have responsibilities in domestic activities such as cooking, washing, caring children etc.

However, along with the women experiences, they believe that stereotype culture presented gender injustice toward women. Women believed that most of their activity under and controlled by men. It is caused by the economical and patriarchal custom that is dominant in society. Hence, women should fight gender injustice. For example, working in public sphere, women should explore their potency working in public sphere to reach independent both economically and socially. Therefore, gender injustice can be lost. Based

on the feminism concept the real gender injustice toward women is caused by the economic and patriarchal system.

Modern literature movie becomes the great work to show the real stories of women's phenomena. It is usually inspired by life experience such as women effort to reach the gender equality. For instance, *Anna and the King* movie was directed by Andy Tennant. He was born in Chicago, Illinois on 1955. He is an American dancer, screenwriter, film and television director (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andy_Tennant). This movie was written by Steve Meerson corporate to Peter Krikes. *Anna and the king* movie is released by Twentieth Century Fox in 1999 and the duration of the movie is 148 minutes.

Anna and the King movie is interesting movie to analyze. It is because the movie describes about the portrait of gender injustice that happened in early of nineteenth century in Siam. At the time, King Mongrut used the patriarchal convention as the legal law toward his command. Men have power toward women. Women are forbidden in public sphere. Women do not have right to give order to men. Besides, they forbade sharing their opinion. Besides, the movie shows different culture between the English and Siam tradition.

The movie begins when Anna Leonowens came to Siam as the English teacher to teach the family's king. She gets new different cultures between her country and Siam who command by King Mongrut. King Mongrut has 23 wives and 42 courtesans. His children both sons and daughters

are 58 and 10 unborn baby. However, Anna disagrees with gender injustice in Siam. For example, it happens when Tuptim disagrees to become King Mongrut courtesan. It makes King Mongrut and his minister angry. She has injustice punishment. Tuptim has death punishment. Here, she faces the real patriarchal system in Siam where the men are powered to women. Women are under men control and authority. Besides, women have inequality toward law. He shows that in the nineteenth century the women amendments about women's right was ratified but as long as the patriarchal system exist and dominant there is women's oppression clearly happened.

Based on the explanations above, the writer is interested in analyzing the movie within the socialist feminism, with the title in this research paper **“GENDER INJUSTICE IN ANDY TENNANT’S *ANNA AND THE KING* MOVIE: SOCIALIST FEMINISM APPROACH”**.

B. Literary Review

Anna and the King is an interesting movie to analyze. As long as the researcher knows, there is no a research which has been conducted the study relates to the movie in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and Sebelas Maret University of Surakarta. Thus, the writer decides to conduct a research on the gender injustice by using Socialist Feminism Approach.

C. Problem Statement

The Problem of the study is how gender injustice is reflected in *Anna and the King* movies directed by Andy Tennant.

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer limits her analysis to understand the gender injustice which is reflected in *Anna and the King* movies directed by Andy Tennant. The writer investigates Anna Leonowens and the King Mongkut as the major character by using an approach of socialist feminism.

E. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem that has stated above, the writer formulates the objective of the study as follows:

1. To describe the movie based on structural elements.
2. To describe the movie based on socialist feminism approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The study of gender injustice on *Anna and the King directed By* Andy Tennant have several benefits, they are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge, particularly structural elements, and socialist feminism analysis on *Anna and the King* movies.

2. Practical Benefit

This study helps the researcher to enrich her knowledge dealing with structural elements and socialist feminism and to get more understanding about the movie, especially *Anna and the King* movie.

G. Research Method

The writer will describe the methods that use on research. There are four elements to support in research method they are:

1. Type of the Research

This research will be a library research. The data used on the research have been collected with the library research.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Sources

- a. The primary data source will be every data of the *Anna and the King movies* directed by Andy Tennant which is related to the study.
- b. The secondary data source will be from all referential data. It can be from books, internet, encyclopedia, journals, magazine, etc.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of the data collection in this study takes the following steps to the data analysis.

- a. The writer views the movie several times, until the writer understands an information or data to be analyzed.
- b. Reading some other resources related to the movie.

- c. Giving marks to particular parts, which are considered important for the analysis.
- d. Taking notes for important parts both in primary and secondary sources.
- e. Classifying the data into categories and develop them into a good unity.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

It is descriptive analysis. In analyzing the subject matters, the writer analysis structural elements of the movie and then analysis the subject of the study by using socialist feminist approach and the last draw conclusion from the analysis.

H. Paper Organization

This 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 of America in the Late of Twentieth Century. Fourth chapter deals with the Structural Analysis of *Anna and the King*. Analysis and discussion of *Anna and the King* movie is presented in fifth chapter. Finally, the sixth chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion.