

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Polygamy became a unique and controversial issue in every society, as if the country could not accept the customs which is beyond their daily habits. Polygamy can make a public figure, or vice versa just his popularity plummeted. Lack polygamous community will influence the way of the society view this phenomenon. This phenomenon is unique, not only a habit of polygamy in every country alone, but also in the European countries. In this country, polygamy are different from other country. Women in Indonesia, still have no power to struggle their condition in polygamy phenomena.

Polygamy is one of phenomena that suggest that women should be able to test themselves and also the family of the woman, to continue to serve and fullfill its obligations as a wife eventhough the soul and feeling hurt.

Kristeva said in *Revolution in Poetic Language*:

“What does “women” mean? Nothing can be said of woman”: “there is no such thing as The Woman There ‘woman’ only as excluded by the nature of things which is the nature of the word. Indeed, she (woman) does not exist with a capital W, possessor of some mythical unity. While marginalized, woman is not wholly negated. I understand by ‘woman’ that which cannot be represented, something that is not said, and something above and beyond ideologies.”(Julia Kristeva, 1984:4).

Polygamy consequences on the perpretators and also own a women as the victim of polygamy. Polygamy in the context of this film explain the female resistance againts male dominations and its culture. Although woman in the world still in second position, “be a women” like Simone de Beauvoir said “One is not born, rather becomes, a women” (Beauvoir, 1978:295). For

this purpose, polygamy is the place of women resistance and struggle with their position in their family and society.

The researcher takes the Duchess movie because this film related to the topic and issues in our country. This film was created by Saul Dibb. Saul Dibb was born in 1968. He is a director movie and an actor. He is active since 2003th until now. This film is an adaptation of Amanda foreman's biography of Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, whose marriage to William Cavendish was a struggle againts indifference and infidelity. While she marriage goes to pot, Georgiana cultivates a role for herself as political muse and celebrity clothes-horse, friend to both the adoring crowd and notables such as politician Charles Fox and playwright Richard Brinsley Sheridan.

The movies explore the marriage, relationship, and passions of 18th century aristocrat Georgiana, Duchess of devonshire. 17-year-old, Georgiana is delighted to have excited the notice of the much older Duke of devonshire and marries him amid high personal and family expectations. Unfortunately for Georgiana, the duke is an undemonstrative and tight-lipped man who is far more interested in his dogs than getting to know his new wife. She doesn't think to alleviate her wedding night fears, and does her husband duty with few words and a noticable lack of tenderness. She makes it clear at outset to both Georgiana and her mother, Lady Spencer that is Georgiana's duty to bear him a male heir in short older.

Georgiana was very disappointed with her marriage, She was attacked with her condition and require her mother for giving judgment. Her mother

gives suggestion to be calm, resolute, and back to her husband. Georgiana followed the suggestion a mother. When she back home, Duke gave her a daughter,for living with Georgiana. Early, Georgiana does not want to protect her daughter, at the last, Georgiana was protected and loved by him. Georgiana felt unhappy in her home, and then Georgiana visited a party in the British. In here, she met a new friend, her friend's name Elizabeth.

She was very happy after finding Elizabeth. Georgiana becomes the center of glittering social circle,attended not only by the British noble elite but also by the political figures of the time. She used her beauty, wit,charm, and social connections to advance the whig party—especially the policies and ambitions of a young nobleman, Charles Grey (Dominic cooper),with whom socialized, and to whom she was attracted, before her marriage. She indulges her love of parties and gambling, to the apparent delight of her peers, who joke that Georgiana is adored by all of England, except her husband. Shortly, after Georgiana married the Duke, She has a young girl brought to live with him. Initially shocked by her admission that the child is his illegitimate daughter, Georgiana soon takes on the role of the child's mother. In meantime, Georgiana gives birth two daughters,but fails to provide the duke with the expected male heir. The duke continues to have affairs with other women.

This film is adapted from the book *Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire* by Amanda Foreman. The film reflected the condition of women and her position in the palace. The setting of this film is around 18 century in the Dutch. Polygamy was one of the reason causing conflict and family not

harmony. In all of the world, couple usually don't have happiness because that. This film is not only a sample of the polygamy situation, but also the film will perform the phenomenon in 18 century and the phenomenon in the king environment.

Why is this film very interesting for the researcher?, This film shows the woman is not only an object in their family. Women could be a subject and manage their position although in king environment. Women struggle their position with the risk and conflict. Conflict in this film show the women position is equal and women has a power for getting their position and their equality.

Polygamy in this film is also the good topic. The film performs the cultural, and the habitual condition in the Dutch kingdom. Polygamy has the historical background, and gives us a knowledge, if we could explore and analyze this phenomenon in this film. Polygamy in this film is not only a main factor. It causes conflict in this film, but the reason struggle of the character (Georgiana) to give the resistance and made her become strong women.

Women in this film is a public figure and could influence the people and another political figure. Women in this film is very perfect person. Women in this film is a feminist, and struggle her condition, the position and give attack with her husband. It is very interesting for the writer to explore far the main actor and how the actor could do the feminist characteristics.

Based on the reasons above, the writer will observe and find the relation of the polygamy and the women struggle in this film *The Duchess*

Movie used by feminist approach. So the writer constructs the tittle **POLYGAMY IN *THE DUCHESS MOVIE* DIRECTED BY SAUL DIBB(2008) : A FEMINIST APPROACH'**

B. Literature Review

The *Duchess* movie is the interesting object to be observed. After the researcher search in the Muhammadiyah university, there are no research with the same and relevant with this topic. However, the researchers found some research about this movie outside in UMS. The research from Amanda Vickery shows the historian and the point of this film is speaking about the beats heart of modern girl (Vickery, 2008). The other study on the *duchess* movies was made by Brandon Fibbs. He gave resume and the note related to the movie (Fibbs, 2008). The researcher focuses the main character of Georgiana viewed from feminist approach.

C. Problem Statement

Knowing the problem in the research is the most important part of research. The writer proposes the problem statement as follows “How does polygamy influence the main character “Georgiana” in the *Duchess Movie* if it is viewed from feminist approach?”

C. Limitation of the Study

The limitation of the research is polygamy and the influence to the main character (Georgiana) that is analyzed using feminist approach reflected in the *Duchess Movie*.

D. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the research are as follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of *Duchess Movie*.
2. To analyze the influence of polygamy to the main character (Georgiana) in the *Duchess Movie* based on the feminist approach.

E. Benefits of the Study

The benefits of the study are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is hoped to give the contribution to body of knowledge of information in relation to the polygamy and the women characteristic especially in the film study.

2. Practical Benefit

The study is hoped to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and other students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or another university who have interest with literary studies on the movie from feminist approach.

F. Research Method

The writer analyzed the polygamy and the influence toward the character Georgiana viewed from feminist approach. The study of research paper will cover:

1. Type of the Study

In analyzing *The Duchess movie* ,the researcher uses qualitative research.

Qualitative research involves the studied use a collection of a variety of empirical materials- case study; personal experience: introspection; life story: interview, artifact: cultural texts and production; observational, historical, interrelation, and visual texts that describe routine and problematic moment and meanings in individuals live (Denzin, 2000: 25)

2. Type of Data and Data Sources

a. Primary data source

The primary data source in this research is *The Duchess Movie(2008)* . The data are taken from the dialogue, character's

description, plot and all of the statements related to the problems of the research.

b. Secondary data source

Secondary data source are books, a script, the movie responses, the official web “*the duchess movie*”, and the other related to the movie that support analysis.

3. Data-Collecting Method and Technique

The technique of the data collection is library research, the steps are:

- a. Watching the movie several time
- b. Reading the movie script
- c. Determining the character that will be analyzed
- d. Taking note of important parts in both primary and secondary data
- e. Classifying and determining the relevant data
- f. Taking notes from the material and some other resources related to the movie.

4. Data-Analyzing Technique

The technique of analyzing data is descriptive analysis. It concerns with the structural elements of the movie and feminist analysis approach. The analysis uses word, sentences or picture as the data of research, and the data reports will contain quotation or documentation.

G. Paper Organization

To give clear understanding of the contents of this study, the writer has appointed the presentation of the study. This paper organization consists of six chapters. **Chapter one** is the introduction that consists of background, problem statement, literature review, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, limitation of the study, research method and paper organization. **Chapter two** is underlying theory. **The third** is social historical background of England in 19 century. **The fourth** chapter deals with the structural analysis. **The fifth** chapter presents the feminist analysis, and **chapter six** is conclusion and suggestion.