THE IMPORTANCE OF SEX IN MARRIAGE

REFLECTED IN D.H. LAWRENCE’S

LADY CHATTERLEY’S LOVER NOVEL (1928)

: A PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE

PUBLICATION ARTICLE
Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education
in English Department

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SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA
2013
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THE IMPORTANCE OF SEX IN MARRIAGE IN LADY CHATTERLEY’S LOVER NOVEL WRITTEN BY D.H. LAWRENCE (1928): A PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

The major problem of this study is how the importance of sex in marriage is reflected in Lady Chatterley’s Lover novel based on psychoanalytic perspective. This research is a descriptive qualitative research. The object of the study is the importance of sex in marriage. The primary datum is Lady Chatterley’s Lover by D.H. Lawrence. The secondary data are some biography of the author and other relevant information. The method of collecting data is documentation by collecting and recording the primary and secondary source; library research by summarizing, paraphrasing and wording. The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. The result of the study shows that based on the psychoanalytic perspective, it is clear that in this novel D.H. Lawrence describes psychological phenomena in which one is seeking for the sexual satisfaction from a person other than one’s spouse.

Keywords: Lady Chatterley’s Lover, The Importance of Sex, Marriage, Psychoanalytic Perspective
A. INTRODUCTION

One of the factors that encourages marriage is love. The experience of being in love involves a longing for union with the other (Gilles, 339: 2007). Love is a process of loving and giving. Love is personal relationship between man and woman. Love is the part of human life. Paul in his article (2008) said that the central message of human life is an absolutely beautiful vision of complete married love. At its core human life talks of a total vision of man and married love. Without this vision, marriage is unstable, illegitimacy common and young people are denied the opportunity of a fulfilling married life. Human life states that marriage is the wise institution of the Creator to realize in mankind His design of love. Love can unite two people in the marriage tie but love can also become reason to divorce. Many divorce cases are because of the losing love from each spouse.

On the other hand, divorce cases are because of the badness of sexual life on marriage. Love and sex corroborate a loving relationship in marriage. Sex gives the physical pleasure and the psychological awards. Sexual intercourse can lead to satisfaction of feeling needed and desired by one’s spouse. Thus, the emotional need is sated with feeling of love and it becomes additional to the physical satisfaction that comes from sexual intercourse. That is why sex and love have a close relation (Byer, et al., 1988: 77-78). Sex is an important issue and the core in marriage. Even one of the reasons people get married is to do it. Marriage makes the sexual relation become legal. So the lack of sexual need can cause divorce. Divorce has increased from year to year. The percentage of the divorce cases occurred in Europe. In the 1910s is eleven percent; 1920s is fifteen percent; 1930s is twenty percent; 1940s is twenty four percent and 1950s is thirty percent.

The writer finds some related study. First, the study was done by Istiqomah Kurningtyas (2005). Her thesis is “Social Mobility in D.H Lawrence’s Lady Chatterley’s Lover: A Marxist Approach”. She analyzes the social mobility condition which happens to the main character. The mobility happens because of her marriage to a nobleman and it is also because of her forbidden relationship with someone. Second, the study is written by Sefty Dwi Rahmawati (UMS, 2002) entitled “Anxiety in D.H Lawrence’s Lady Chatterley’s Lover: A Psychoanalytic Approach.” Based on her analysis, she draws that the novel D.H Lawrence Lady Chatterley’s Lover is based on Lawrence’s biography. D.H
Lawrence shows the conflict in her family gives the impact of Lady Chatterley in her anxiety.

The writer also finds some relate journals with the novel. Doris Lessing analyzes testament of love in the novel. There are period sex romp on major characters. The story is influenced by Lawrence’s experience, he heir all of experience about love on the novel. So, the novel is testament of love from Lawrence. As the major characters, Connie and Mellors initiate the sexual contact. Both have to surrender to their mutual relationship which is fundamentally a system of various power relations (Edward, 2010). As the author Lawrence wants to show that he holds a chauvinist idea towards women and male dominance is easily seen all over the novel (Lauren, 1992). The novel shows the signs of life. There are the erotic and unconventional aspects of Lady Chatterley’s Lover which make it impossible for the book to circulate except in this subterranean fashion (Wilson, 1929). Piecing Together the Lady Chatterley Puzzle reveals the social and theatrical landscape of the times (Ganglani, 2003). The dual aspect of the concept of natural history as it applies to the study of social problems in the novel. Correspondingly, the natural history of social problems requires an examination of the dialectic interaction between the generic aspects of their "careers" and the variable development of each specific instance where the reprehensible condition is evoked (Clignet, 1998).

Connie and Mellors reflect the evil consequence of Mammon and the loss of humanity and harmonious sexual love. Mellors mirrors the author's love of nature, the yearning for the revival of humanity and the realization of harmony. Connie's final redemption reflects the author's concept of women. The wood where they live is indicated Lawrence's hope (Chen Yan, 2011). In the novel, a surge of male chauvinism is not too difficult to detect. Love needs the interactions of the two beloved minds; while Mellors and Connie rarely have real, intimate conversation. Lawrence seldom depicted the trace of the evolution of love (Rein, 2008). Based at Foucauldian power analysis of Connie-Mellors, the sexual relation proves that they both participate in a transformative relationship. They save each other through the sex act shared between two sides, not one dominating the other and the other surrendering to the one but each becoming a part of the other. The analysis intends to argue against such a bias by reevaluating sexual relation between Connie and Mellors in light of Michel Foucault's conception of sexuality and power (Autin, 2005). According to the perspective of archetypal theory, Northrop Frye’s theory of archetypal criticism is employed to identify the biblical archetypes attached to
the structure and imageries in Lady Chatterley’s Lover, and to compare the characters with their corresponding archetypes. Attention is also paid to displacement of the biblical archetypes in characterization of the novel so as to reveal Lawrence’s ideas of religion and Christian ethics (Jung, 2008). According to Ecocriticism Perspective, Lawrence found not only in his works reveal the natural ecological crisis, but also reveals the human spirit into a serious ecological crisis. At the same time, Lawrence made a solution to the crisis that humanity should return to nature, with nature, man and nature should live in harmony (Lei Yi, 2001).

Constance Reid and Oliver Mellors breach bliss and have blissful experiences that cause them to shed their modern selves and be reborn as their whole, true selves in tender love. By contrasting this blood connection with Connie and Clifford’s mental connection, Lawrence sets nervous sex in opposition to tender sex. The result of nervous sex is boredom and the outcome of tender sex is bliss. Thus, boredom is the opposite of bliss (Johnhon, 2011). Connie also has anxiety, loneliness, longing and unhappy life. The view of Connie to her marriage, in one side she feels mistakes to her husband and other hands she need very much sex (Hermawati, 1991). The marriage context shows offense on Connie as the major character. The offense and marriage context have relation between Clifford and Connie as a married couple and also relation between Mellors and Connie as Lover and wife (Situporang, 1996). The novel is profoundly and delicately from the relationships of human-nature, human-society, and human-other especially the relationship between men and women, to present Lawrence’s deep concern for human destiny (John, 1998).

Similarities of previous journal are analyzing Lady Chatterley Lover novel as data source. And the differences are from issues. The first journal is a Testament’s of Love; second is a Foucauldian Interpretation; third is on Male Dominance; fourth is Sign of Life; fifth is Piecing Together the Lady Chatterley Puzzle; sixth is Lady Chatterley's Lover as Social Problems; seventh is a Cycle of Literary Creation; seventh is a Necessity, Possibility, and the Revolutionary Landscape; eighth is On Death, Revival, and Disillusion; ninth are Sexuality and Power; tenth is the Perspective of Biblical Archetypes; eleventh is a Ecocriticism Perspective; twelfth is a Tender Bliss, Boredom and The Mind/Body Balance; thirteenth is Sikap dan Pandangan Connie; fourteenth is The Relationship between Man and Woman in Marriage Context and the last is The Call of Resuscitation of Humanity and As far as the researcher knows, there is no journal that
has been conducted on this novel, at least among the students in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. However, the researcher is sure that it is the only one who studies “The Importance of Sex in Marriage reflected Lady Chatterley’s Lover”.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

In analyzing D.H. Lawrence’s Lady Chatterley's Lover, the writer uses qualitative research (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005:11) from the psychoanalytic perspective. Type of the study which will be used in this study is descriptive qualitative method (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005:3). The object of the study is Lady Chatterley’s Lover novel written by D.H. Lawrence, it was published in 1928.

The type of data in this study is a text that consists of words, phrases and sentences. There are two data sources in this study. They are primary data source and secondary data sources. Primary data in this research consist of data collected from Lady Chatterley’s Lover novel. The data are taken from the novel in Lady Chatterley’s Lover published in 1928. The secondary data source consists of some biography of the author, and other relevant information (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005:3). The method of collecting data is documentation by collecting and recording the primary and secondary source, library research by summarizing, paraphrasing and wording. The researcher uses note taking as technique of data collecting.

C. RESEARCH FINDING.

The writer takes the issue “the importance of sex in marriage” in the novel. The story was more telling about sex on the character. It is appropriate with the issue. So the writer analyzes Connie’s sexual life.

A. Connie’s Sexual Life

In Lady Chatterley’s Lover novel, Connie undergoes four phases of her life, especially her sexual life. Her sexual phases are divided into Pre-Marital Life, Early Marital Life, Middle Marital Life, and the Late Marital Life.

1. Pre-Marital Life

In adolescence Connie has some lovers and has sexual intercourse with some of them. For Connie, she considers that sexual is not the most important thing for Connie. It is only a complement in a relationship. The intimate connection with
discussions and non sexual activities are more attractive. Connie does not feel mind to do it but she must get satisfaction.

Connie very needs sexual and cannot avoid it. Connie finds a way to utilize the sexual intercourse. Connie lets men to reach his orgasm and then she reaches her orgasm with her own way, men is only as a tool.

2. Early Marital Life

Clifford and Connie live in normal marriage just a month. Only Connie that enjoys their sexual intercourse and Clifford looks the marital relation as closeness relation. He wants an intimate relation but not the physical contact or sexual. He does not expect satisfaction in sexual intercourse. After that, Clifford experiences paralysis because of the war accidents.

Clifford believes that marriage commitment based on the basis of willingness to live together and relations which are all sort of feeds. Clifford does not like with desire and sexual intercourse.

3. Middle Marital Life

Connie has a process in the development of sexual life. It is showed with Connie does affair. The affair is divided into Connie’s first affair and second affair.
a. Connie’s First Affair

There are four aspects to know Connie’s first affair deeply. They are cause of affair, length of the affair, experience of the affair and end of the affair.
1) Cause of Affair

Connie does the affair because of three reasons. They are physical interest, behavioral interest and sexual desire.

a) Physical Interest

Connie is interested in Michaelis physic. She likes his body. She begins to feel sympathy. He awakes Connie’s compassion. Connie never feels like these to Clifford. Michaelis has many things that are not belonged to Clifford. These make Connie like Clifford.

b) Behavioral Interest

The talks of Connie and Michaelis go very fun. He talks about himself, quite frankly, without affectation. Connie likes Michaelis, he speaks without
pretense. He is very different with Clifford. He is very gentle lover. He treats Connie softly and shocks her heart. He knows how to treat women nicely.

c) Sexual Desire

Michaelis seizes upon Clifford as the figure for a play. But Michaelis is better than Clifford at making a display of nothingness. Michaelis has a sexual desire and more appreciates Connie as women.

2) Length of the Affair

The first visit, Michaelis goes to Wragby to meet Clifford’s invitation. He is in Wragby only for some days. So His affair with Connie occurs in short time.

The second visit, Michaelis goes to Wragby again in summer. They lead affair only when he is in Wragby.

3) Experience of the Affair

Connie feels afraid of her affair. She feels anxiety and erratic feeling. He was worrying about Clifford’s feeling if he knew her affair. These will hurt him so much. She also feels guilty on him.

But in the other side Connie loves Michaelis. He is perfect; exactly the same melancholic, attentive to Connie. He makes Connie really comfort. But Connie sometimes must think to have forgotten him because he does not take the love-making altogether personally.

Connie also cannot understand him but she loves him. She can feel his hopelessness. She quite loves him in hopeless. When Connie has sex with Michaelis, Connie had to find his own satisfaction after Michaelis reached his orgasm. Michaelis provides himself as instrument for Connie to get her satisfaction that she did not get before.

Connie is not satisfied with her sexual intercourse with Michaelis. Michaelis only finds his happiness. He feels objected to Connie gets satisfaction in such manner. He rouses a certain carving passion in her, with his nakedness and softness, but she rouses crisis after he had finished. He lets her bring about her own crisis. These make Connie sad, she little cries weirdly. She only cries inside.
Then Michaelis invites Connie to get married and he does not care with Clifford. He is like forcing Connie to marry him. So Connie realizes that he is selfless.

4) End of the Affair

She does not want to be with Michaelis and leaves him. The coarse utterances from Michaelis are a slap life for Connie. It deadens Connie’s love feeling and sexual desire in her.

Finally, Connie refuses Michaelis’s invitation to marry with him. She chooses to live with Clifford. Early, Connie likes with his physic and his sexual desire, something that cannot be found in Clifford. But then Connie realizes that Michaelis is selfish and he does not care Clifford as his friend. In sexual intercourse, Michaelis is also selfish; he does not give satisfaction to Connie. So Connie does not like Michaelis and feels sad. She is sad because her affair is fail. And she goes through the days drearily again. There is only nothingness, emptiness and loneliness. She starts again a boring life with Clifford.

b. Second Affair

Connie does second affair. It becomes her last affair. She finds true love and sexual satisfaction. There are four aspects to know second affair deeply. They are cause of affair, length of the affair, experience of the affair and end of the affair.

1) Cause of Affair

Connie was failing in the first affair and she becomes afraid to have affair with men again. But Mellors has four interests that make Connie like Mellors. They are physical interest, behavioral interest, Mellors’s career and Mellors’s mental.

a) Physical Interest

Early, Connie and Mellors’s relation is not good. It is caused by Mellors has coldness with women, and Connie also responds Mellors with no good. One day Clifford sent message on Mellors by Connie. Accidentally Connie came out to the back of Mellors’s cottage; she saw Mellors was bathing naked. Connie was surprised with Mellors’s body. It hits her in the middle body. Connie was amazed with Mellors’s beauty body. It wakes up Connie’s loneliness.
b) Behavioral Interest

Mellors does not much talk, even he is quieter. It makes Connie like him. He is a passionate man. Mellors reveals his love with actions because he is expressive men.

c) Mellors’s Career

Connie likes Mellor’s career. Mellors is the lower class. He is clever boy and has a scholarship. Then he becomes army and he ever becomes the middle class when he is civil servants. But finally he decides to be the lower class because it is appropriate with him. He does not like with middle class life that is full of pretense. Struggle of his life makes Connie amazed.

d) Melors’s Mental

Connie admires his book collection in shelf. It shows his intelligence. It is proved by Mellors thought and he is unlike other lower class. For Connie, Mellors is special one from the lower class.

2) Lengths of the affair

Mellors and Connie do affair quite long time. In the end of her marriage with Clifford, Connie takes the importance of her life. She feels happy and comfort with Mellors. Then she decides to divorce Clifford and wants to get married with Mellors.

3) Experience of the Affair

Connie and Mellors do not have sexual intercourse in early meetings. Mellors always keeps a distance to Connie. Their first physical contact occurs when Connie cries because she feels affliction. Mellors hugs her. Mellors can feel Connie’s affliction. Their physical proximity doesn’t begin sexual desire but based on a sense of humanity and compassion. First intercourse, Connie feels like a dream. She feels softness and touch. She really enjoys it. It is the moment of pure peace.

But she also feels still vague and confused. She does not know what to think and do. She did not know how Mellors’s characteristic. She is afraid Mellors do it to any woman. Connie tries to avoid Mellors because she still has not believed Mellors. When Mellors holds her fast, her body refuses him.
but her old instinct cannot lie. She also feels strange, inert and heavy. She cannot refuse if he is nearby.

Then she realizes that love brings out the passion and intimacy. So Connie really enjoys Mellors’s beauty body. A passion that has never Connie felt before, even with Michaelis.

Mellors’s and Connie’s love comes from both sides. They meet and do sexual intercourse when they really want to do it. Passion and intimacy blend when they are together. They enjoy their body. Connie feels warmth and tenderness. The affair makes Connie like she was born again as the purity of women. She realizes her loveliness to Mellors. So she can feel tender love to him although he is like the unknown man.

Mellors feels blend with the intercourse which is conducted with Connie. He does it because he loves Connie and heals the inner wounds that he felt for long times. For Connie and Mellors, sex is being a remedy for their psychological condition. The depth of sexual makes the genital organs which are not attract visually, they can bring up beauty when they see it sexual desire peaked when they viewed with increasing of sexual desire. Mellors and Connie are in warm and smooth. They are through the affair which is warm and honest. Connie is fresh woman and young like a flower. Helpless body replaces by body of full passion. They have a term to call their sex organs. Mellors’s sex organ is John Thomas and Connie’s sex organ is Lady Jane. Nothing is taboo for them. They really appreciate sexual intercourse. Connie feels the real tenderness or real sensuality. Love makes Connie a great difference. She changes in such thing like life, sexual, physical and love.

On contrary, Connie realizes that she sometimes feels fear of her affair. She is in helpless condition. If she adores him too much, she will lose herself become effaced. She will be considered like a savage woman. She does not want to become a slave like Mellors. She feels shy because he is only forest keeper. She cannot receive this condition. She is also afraid the effect from her affair. She should fight it if she loves Mellors. She feels happiness with Mellors. She can feel him and his child. Something that is long she wants.
One day Connie tells Mellors about her holiday to Venice. She has plan that she has child from her affair with man in Venice. Those can be a reason for her to leave Clifford. But Mellors feels that Connie has affair with him to get child. Mellors is angry and says a painful thing to Connie. So Connie feels very much downcast and annoyed. Although it was true, he should not to have said it. Connie is divided between two feelings: resentment against him and a desire to make it up with him. She is in bad condition so she cannot think quietly. She must have to do something about it. Then she goes back to hut to solve the problem.

Connie is in Venice when Mellors’s wife makes disorder in Tevershall. Then Connie is angry with Mellors because he does not divorce Bertha quickly. Connie thinks Mellors and Bertha, they are really rather disgust. It is same as her affair with Mellors. She has a revulsion against the affair and afraid if anybody knows about herself and the keeper. It is unspeakably humiliate. She also dreads with Clifford and worries Clifford’s respond. Even she almost wishes to get rid of the child again and be quite clear. Connie thinks again her affair. She is confused to solve the problems. If she leaves Mellors she will not get warmth and tenderness.

Then Connie decides to lay Clifford about father of her child. She claims that Duncan is her lover and father of her child. Duncan is Connie’s friend and the upper class. If Connie tells the truth of her affair so she will be difficult to get a divorce with Clifford. Then Connie tells it with Clifford. An unexpected turns that Clifford wants Connie back to Wragby. Clifford will recognize child who conceived Connie as his child. Connie is frightened to receive Clifford. It is bullying of an insidious sort. Connie is in worry and harassment. Connie believes that Clifford does not divorce her and the child will be his. Hence she must back to Wragby and talks it with Clifford.

She hates all of Wragby. Clifford continues to force Connie to stay in Wragby. She cannot hide and keep silent for the truth. She recognizes Mellors as her lover and father from her child. She is glad if Clifford hates her. She reveals all of her affair with Mellors.
4) End of the Affair

Connie wants Clifford to divorce her and Clifford can use Duncan as a pretext. Duncan does not mind. It is better than tell Mellors as her lover.

Sexual relation with Mellors carries Connie to the function breeding because then she has pregnant with Mellors. Then Connie decides to leave Clifford and grabs new life with Mellors. They plan to live together even though they are still bound by marriage. They try to divorce with each couple and operate to get married.

4. The Late Marital Life

With Mellors, Connie found something which she dreams like might, warmth, beauty and tenderness. Both equally enjoy the intercourse which they do. Both have also attached strongly. Connie finds life passion and happiness and she is like reborn.

End of the story, Connie changes to be ordinary woman. She leaves her social class as ladyship without disappointment. She chases the meaning of marriage and purity of love. She wants the nature of marriage which fulfills the sexual need and gets child. Those are goal of marriage. The happiness in marriage is more important than social class status.

D. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The analysis of the major character’s personality elements above shows that each classification of them gave the important part in building the major character’s condition. In describing the condition of elements, the researcher collects and relates these elements into discussion of analysis.

D.H. Lawrence gave attention to two aspects. They are psychology phenomena and hypocrisy. First is based on psychology phenomena. Lawrence reveals some phenomena in Lady Chatterley’s Lover novel. Sexual living is the most important aspect and one of features in marriage. So if it is not fulfilled, it will cause great problems. In marriage living, husband and wife need for openness. Next is about the bed position. Marries couple should be in the one bed. At last is about sexual. Sexual is the crucial thing in life. Sexual intercourse does not just find husband or wife’s satisfaction but should pay attention to the satisfaction of his or her couple.
The explanation above is according to the Freud’s theory. He explains that most of human mind comes from unconscious mind. It contains everything which does not bring in conscious mind such as libido, desire, and instinct. He says that the unconscious mind is the source of motivation and desire in human (Freud in Hjelle and Ziegler book, 87: 1992). So it will bring up sexual desire. Sexual desire is also included Id. It is a psychic representation of human biological needs. The libido is total energy which manages Id impulse or energy psychic in the most raw. So there is a tendency that the sexual drive has purpose to achieve the pleasure of life. If in the process of accomplishments is disorder or failure it will cause deviations sexual intercourse. One of the behavioral deviations of sex in marriage is affair.

Second aspect is about hypocrisy. It can be divided into morality and social. Morality aspects, at that time Tevershall society do some sexual hypocrisy. When they considered Connie and Mellors’s affair, they seem disgusted and refused it. In fact, they often do but they hide it. They only make a good impression but cover their badness. Socially, Connie and Clifford present married life which seems fine but actually they cover some problems. They try to keep good name of the upper class family. Most of the upper or middle class characters consider sexual is not important thing in life so sexual need is only for the lower class. But Connie is as the upper class, Connie really needs it. It can be concluded that all of the social classes need sexual need and should be no distinction of their sexual. These show awareness about conflict of the social class.

Based on the psychoanalytic perspective, it is clear that in this novel D.H. Lawrence describes psychological phenomena in which from the lack of sexual. An individual is seeking for the sexual satisfaction from a person other than her husband. By using Sigmund Freud’s theory of psychoanalytic perspective, the researcher can analyze the major character, Connie. Psychoanalytic theory relates to the sexual desire and it is important in marriage. It is also the feature of marriage. So if it does not fulfill, it will great problems in marriage. Connie always places forward her Id. Connie is general woman who needs the sexual intercourse. So, to reach the sexual need, she has affair with Mellor and wants to get married with him.
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