

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Nowadays, men and women have equalities in the world. In fact, it is contrary from reality. Men have higher position than women. Man is super - ordinate and woman is subordinate. It means that the position of women are lower. Because of this, men always oppress women. Women are created different from men, physicaly. However, it influences the position of men and women. The different position of men and women can be seen in Rubin's statement. Rubin ( in Glover, 2000: 179-180):

Men and women are of course different, but they are not as different as day and night, earth and sky, yin and yang, life and death. In fact, from the stand point of nature, men and women are closer to each other than either is to anything else must come from some where other than nature. ...Far from being an expression of natural differences, exclusive gender identity is the suppressions of nature similarities. It requires repression: in men of whatever is the local version of "feminine" traits; in women, of the local definition of "masculine" traits. The division of the sexes has the effect repressing some of the personality characteristics of virtually everyone, men and women.

From the illustration above, we can take some examples. If women and men follow the official test and they succeed it, usually men want to be the main priority because men think that women are weak people. Women are not equal with men. It makes them constraint. There is a problem that is faced by women when they work. They often leave their job because of pregnancy. It is important problem for women, so the main priority of acceptance of official test is men. This reason makes women disagree. They want to equal with men

in all jobs. Women think that men and women have some equalities, such as right, position, role, and participation.

Basically, God creates human beings are equal. They are different physically and naturally. Because of these differences, women are considered as weak people. It is not a good reason to consider women subordinate. Although women look weak, they have equalities as men. These equalities consist of position, role, right, and participation. The other examples are women presidents and women leaders. It is sign that women have authorities such as men. In this example, they have position higher than men. Men must obey women's order. It is very contrary with reality. In fact, women become presidents or leaders. Men disagree with their position. Men want to do some fashions to defeat women.

Women have natural differences from men. They experience menstruation, the process of pregnancy, and giving birth. By this condition, women think that men must honour them. They do not oppress them.

From the examples above, women struggle to get equality as men. The form of equality can be seen in some forms, namely, position, role, right, and participation. Women's struggle is a branch of feminist study. Generally, feminism talks about women in some cases. Here, feminism relates with women's struggle for equality. This problem becomes the attention of all people. They are sociologists, psychiatrists and men of letter. One of men of letter is Sidney Sheldon. In his novel *Bloodline*, he creates the story about women's struggle for equality.

Beside *Bloodline* the other works of Sidney Sheldon are: *The Naked face*, *The other side of Midnight*, *The stranger in the Mirror*, *Tell Me Your Dreams*, *The Best Laid Plans*, *Nothing Lasts Forever*, *Morning, Noon, Night*, *The Stars Shine Down*, *Memories of Midnight*, *The Sands Of time*, etc. The writer chooses *Bloodline* in this Research Paper. *Bloodline* has been published in 1977. It has been translated into Indonesian language. In English language, it consists of 460 pages, while in Indonesian languages, it consists of 546 pages. In English edition, there are other languages in expression of sentences.

This Research Paper is analyzed by using Feminist Approach. The writer chooses this approach because the major character in *Bloodline's* novel is a woman. She struggles to get equality as man, namely Elizabeth Roffe. She struggles to get position, role, right, and participation as what men have. Her position is a leader in a company. In her position, she is threatened by mysterious man who disagree with Elizabeth's position, so man wants kill her by some fashions. In fact, the mysterious man is one of her cousins. Her cousins want the company's stock. They ask her to sell it. However, she does not want to sell it. She tries to defend her position by some efforts. Finally, she can avoid the danger and succeed in protecting her company.

Based on some points above, the writer interests in analyzing the novel of *Bloodline* by using Feminist Approach dealing with Elizabeth's efforts to get equality.

## **B. Literature Review**

As far as the writer is concerned, there is no study on Sidney Sheldon's *Bloodline*, at least among the University students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, Sebelas Maret University, Diponegoro University, Gajah Mada University, Sanata Dharma University and State University of Yogyakarta.

## **C. Problem Statement**

The major problem of this study is how women's struggle for equality is reflected in Sidney Sheldon's *Bloodline*.

## **D. Limitation of the Problem**

In this study, the writer limits the study on the major character, especially Elizabeth Roffe. In addition, the writer also limits the feminist perspective on the liberal feminism.

## **E. Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze the novel based on its structural elements
2. To analyze the novel based on feminist approach, especially the liberal feminism.

## **F. Benefit of the Study**

There are some benefits of the study in analysis the novel. These studies are:

### **a. Practical Benefit**

To give benefit to readers in understanding novel from Feminist Approach.

b. Theoretical Benefit

To give a view and knowledge about Feminist Approach in literary study, especially on Sidney Sheldon's work in *Bloodline*.

**G. Research Method**

1. Object of the Study

The research object in this study is women's struggle for equality in Sidney Sheldon's *Bloodline*.

2. Source of Data

- a. Primary data source is the novel *Bloodline* that is written by Sidney Sheldon.
- b. Secondary data source is taken from different references that include.
  - 1) The materials about feminist literary theory.
  - 2) Books about feminist approach especially, equality theory.
  - 3) Some articles from Internet related to the study.

3. Technique of Data Collecting

To collect the data, the writer takes library research steps:

- a. Looking for important data from some book references.
- b. Reading books about feminist theory and other books that relates with feminism.
- c. Making important notes that is taken from some books
- d. Underlying some parts that relates with books theory to support in analyzing the novel.

#### 4. Technique of Data Analysis

Technique of data analysis is descriptive analysis or content analysis in which the writer tries to explore the content or story of novel. This analysis is started from Basic concepts of Feminist Theory, especially Equality theory. It consists of some branches of equality itself.

#### **H. Paper Organization**

This Research Paper consists of six chapters. The first chapter discusses about introduction of the study. It consists of background of the study, the objective of the study, benefit of the study, and research method and paper organization. The second chapter talks about of underlying theory. The third chapter is the social background of America in the Second half of the twentieth century. The fourth chapter is structural analysis. In this chapter, the writer wants to analyze about character and characterization, plot, point of view, style, setting, theme and discussion. The fifth chapter is Feminist analysis. Finally, the sixth chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion.