

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Bob Dylan was one of popular singer at 60th era. He was born on May, 24 1941 in Duluth, Minnesota with the name was Robert Allen Zimmerman. But in Jewish generation, his name was Shabtai Zisel ben Avraham, many people called him Bobby or Bob. He had one brother, his name was David. His father's name was Abraham. People called him "Abe" Zimmerman. He was born at 1911. Bob was popular as child as prude and sensitive. He was different with another child. But, he was intelligent child, deft and good in his religion. (Jeremy, 1956: 9-10).

Bob had married with a widow. Her name was Sarah Lowndes. But she had original name was Shirley Noznisky. They had married in a privacy party at November 22, at 1965 years ago. In their marriage, they got four children and 1 sister adoption from Sara's marriage, after a few years, they had divorced at 1977. (<http://www.angelfire.com/folk/devoted2dylan/sara.html>). Then, Dylan married again with his backing vocal who named Carolyn Dennis. Then they had divorced. They were married hold out about to six years. ([www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk)). Dylan was graduated from Senior High School at Hibbing in 1959. Because he had no idea in making anything, he decided to work. His mother suggested him to continue his study so he studied at University at Minnesota in Minneapolis, but he was failed in

finishing the study. Actually, he was more interested in music. (Jeremy, 1956: 19).

At early period 60th, Dylan had released 9 albums, there were: “ Bob Dylan” (1962), The freewheelin’ Bob Dylan (1963), The Times They Are A-Changing’ (1964), Another Side of Bob Dylan (1964), Another Side of Bob Dylan (1964), Bringing It All Back Home (1965), High Way 61 Revisited (1965), Blonde On Blonde (1966), John Wesley Harding (1967), and Nashville Skyline (1969).

In first and second album, Bob Dylan told about his life, some song contented about someone who he loved. His inspiration was to play music (Woody), and his experiences were about marriage. In third album until nine albums, he was more over to sing about critic and problem that was felt by him. Some problems were critic about his family, social discrepancy, war, religion, and government agency. His critics described people who worked to government agency, artist, race and the right in law, and anything historical could be sad at past time. In the last sixties, his album at 1969, Dylan was come back to write songs about love.

Whereas, at seventies period, Bob Dylan released 13 albums. There were: “Self Potrait” (1970), “New Morning” (1970), “Pat Garret & Billy The Kid” 1973, “Dylan” (1973), “Planet Waves” (1974), “Before The Flood” (1974), “Blood On The Tracks” (1975), “The Basement Tapes” (1975), “Desire” (1976), “Hard Rain” (1976), “Street Legal” (1978), “Slow Train Coming” (1979), and “At Budokan” (1979). In these albums, he still retold

about social critic but his topics were narrower. There were about love, family, women, police, work, dominance, law, economic, believed buffetings to life, surroundings around, religion, and society.

Album at eighties period had nine albums, they were “Saved” (1980), “Shot Of Love” (1981), “Infidels” (1983), “Real Live” (1984), “Empire Burlesque” (1985), “Knocked Out Loaded” (1986), “Down In The Groove” (1988), “Dylan And The Dead” (1989), and “Oh Mercy” (1989). From these albums, Bob sang about love, religion, dominance, women, government, family, social and society. But, in this album, they were more than story about love and life.

In nineties period, Dylan released six albums, these albums were “Under The Red Sky” (1990), “Good as I Been to You” (1992), “The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Celebration” (1993), “MTV Unplugged” (1995), and “Time Out of Mind” (1997). In these albums, he retold about reality critic in society. He described about surrounding around, television, women, dominance, religion, and members of army, Ministry of justice, culture and life.

In two thousand periods, Bob released seven albums. Some albums were; “Love and Theft” (2001), “Masked And Anonymous” (2003), “Modern Times” (2006), “I’m Not There [Original Soundtrack]” (2007), “Together Through Life” (2009), “Christmas In The Heart” (2009), and “Tempest” (2012). In these albums, he would to balance in theme of each his song. The half songs of Bob had theme about social critic, family, society, and religion.

Bob Dylan was a singer and famous musician with his protest song that told more about politics, social, culture or war. His protest songs made by him were very famous and the songs influenced a lot of American in the tradition of radical political movement. This case could be aware for youth generation about their civil rights as American citizenry. (<http://www.redpepper.org.uk/The-Politics-of-Bob-Dylan/>). In the most of his songs, he told about poverty, teasing allusion to religion, government agency, the violence in war, the law whose sell-buy, races, gender different, the problem in family, and a culture behavior of society whose negative. Besides that, He also wrote the theme songs of regret and love which is truth brutally. He criticized his condition and surrounding around as widely. Through his works, he expressed what he felt in his song.

At sixties period, there was movement of nationalism. It was used by writers and historians to material or object arts, one of the writers which taken from Bob Dylan's songs. Some example of national movement were the war of Vietnam (1954-1975), the fight for civil right, a booming nuclear, the big change of culture and society in America, developed and progression of technology, violence, the protest of war and the right of civil society, where these were based on correct of the truth, and some of disturbance which caused to dead. Until President John Kennedy, as brother of Robert Kennedy who was member of Senate and the leader of the truth named King Martin Luther became victim at that era. At sixties period, there were some young people who hoped very extreme. They believed that could change world

better. Whereas at seventies periods, they did not more hopefully. They were just sad to see and hear about violence of war which happened in Vietnam. Any other problems were about races which did not success. But, the big of changes at 1964 and 1968, there were action to justice for civil society, that was only hope and aspiration by childhood at past. (Jeremy, 1956: 31).

A writer who named Manzela had written that Dylan's friends believed that the album entitled "The Times They Are A-Changing" would be released that was to be big jump in music industry. Because, in his songs seemed a musical shape and lyric which developed in his song. They believed that progress and characteristic could influence to discover. When, we were looked to straight, Dylan's songs had shape and composition, although he wrote in a flow manner with his pen or typing machine. Manzela said that Dylan had expressed the works through people's expression. The lyric contained the desire. At generally, the lyric was about truth. Bob Dylan was great to manage sound and calculation. He got everything around his environment until Dylan became popular. Manzela said no special for him in written lyric. (Manzela, 2012: 26-27).

Based the explanation above, the works of Bob Dylan contain social critic's values. But, to know more deeply about his song, the researcher will take same Bob Dylan's songs in sixties decade, because the albums of Bob Dylan at the years contain of critical value. There are some songs contain of critic's themes about government, family, war, race, the power of dominance, the story of sad at past time, job, life, arts, politic, religion, surrounding

around, and culture. These albums used by researcher as the material of research are fourth album entitled "The Times They Are A-Changin'" at (1964), the fifth album entitled "Bringing All Back Home" (1965) and the sixth album entitled "Highway 61 Revisited" at (1965).

Besides the adding of knowledge about music, the songs of Bob Dylan also are interest in language style that he applies in the lyric's content. In lyrics of Bob Dylan song's also contain the story which is interesting to be studied by researcher. Because, there are humanism values and lesson which are in a part of each event. Based on the explanation above, the writer interested to analyze about song, with title "**SOCIAL CRITICISM OF BOB DYLAN'S SONG LYRICS: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF LITERATURE**".

## **B. Literature Review**

In previous study there are some references which is used by the writer in this research. Researches on the lyrics of the song are also often discussed as a study in their research, thesis and article. One of the discussions about the song lyrics is researcher, Niko Fediyanto (2006), an UNS-FSSR Fak.Sastra with his study "**Social criticisms in E.E. Cummings' poems**" which analyzes the E.E. Cummings' poems. This study focuses on the social criticisms in poems. The major problems of the research are what social criticisms appear in Cummings's poems and How does Cummings deliver the social criticisms in his poems.

Another researcher, Student of English Teaching Learning Program (TBI), The State of Islamic College (STAIN) Pamekasan, Madura, Najibul Khairi, Akhmad (2012) has conducted his research **The Social Problem in Bob Dylan's Song Album in Soejono Soekanto's Perspective**, this study deals with social problems in Bob Dylan's song and how the social problems in Bob Dylan's song. In the theoretical approach employed in this study is the Soejono Soekanto's perspective. Student of Communication Faculty of Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Riddle Bette, Laura (May 2010) has conducted her research **Bob Dylan Pete Seeger And The Movement Persona**, of those fighting for social change in 1960s America using Aristotle's concept of ethos and Edwin Black's theory of the second persona, This study deals with a textual analysis of three songs of Bob Dylan and three songs of Pete Seeger serve as the artifacts for her thesis.

Christopher Ph.D (2011) has conducted his research **Hispanicised Dylan Reflection on the translation of Bob Dylan's Chronicles, Volume I Into Spanish**. This study deals with the target audience of Spanish translation, there are some problems: what are particular translation cruxes and difficulties in Dylan's text, especially for Hispanophone readership and finally, how much in the text of Chronicles is ultimately untranslatable. The target translation employed in the study is the nature of chronicles as text requires comment, since a successful translation strategy will necessarily be predicated on the characteristic of the source text, among them genre, style and intertextuality.

In this case conducive to use of concepts developed by Translation studies such as foreign section or documentation or does it subvert those concepts.

There are some researchers who conducted different studies of Bob Dylan's *Song Album* and Social Criticisms. Among the lists are "The Social Problem in Bob Dylan's *Song Album*: Soejono Soekanto's Prespective" by Akhmad Najibul Khairi. "Hispanicised Dylan Reflection on the translation of Bob Dylan's *Chronicles, Volume I* Into Spanish" by Christopher Ph. D. "Bob Dylan Pete Seeger and The Movement Persona" by Laura Riddle Bette. Then Social Criticism approach was conducted by Niko Fediyanto in his study entitled "Social criticisms in E.E Cummings' Poem".

Based on the description above, the writer is interested in conducting a study based on the sociologi of literature entitled: Social Criticisms of Bob Dylan's Song Lyrics: A Sociological Study of Literature.

### **C. Problem Statements**

In this study, there are three issues to be questioned:

1. What social problems are reflected in Bob Dylan's song lyrics?
2. How are social problems reflected in Bob Dylan's song lyrics?
3. Why did Bob Dylan address the social problems in his song?

### **D. Limitation of the Study**

In the research, the writer limits the problem as follows: the research concerns only with the sociology of literature perspective in Bob Dylan in song's lyrics.



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

There are three objectives in this study:

1. To identify the social problems reflected in Bob Dylan's song lyrics.
2. To describe how the problems are reflected in Bob Dylan's song lyrics.
3. To reveal why Bob Dylan's song address the social problem in his lyrics.

## **F. Benefits of the Research**

This study is expected to provide both theoretical and practical benefits:

### **1. Theoretical Benefits**

The study is expected to adding the knowledge; especially the areas of analysis based on a review of sociology of literature the song so that it can be used as a reference for future research.

### **2. Practical Benefits**

#### **a. For writer**

Through the understanding of social criticism on a work in the form of song, in this case songs by Bob Dylan, the writer is expected to take the lessons to the next as a way to improve the function itself so that it can face the problems of life more wisely.

#### **b. For Education**

The results are expected to be used by English Language and Literature teacher at the school as a teaching literature especially in the form of songs.

c. For Other Researchers.

Research on songs by Bob Dylan is expected to motivate other researchers to conduct studies with similar problems and expected to obtain better results.

## **G. Research Method**

Dealing with research method, at least five points that need to be involved in this research:

### **1. Type of the Research**

According to Mann, Steve and Richards, Keith, Denzin and Lincoln (1994: 2) say that Qualitative research is multi method focus on interpret with naturalistic approach are subject matter. It means that the researcher is study of thing in their natural settings attempting to make sense or interpret at phenomena. Qualitative research involves the studies and collection of a variety of empirical materials contain problem study, personal experience, introspective, life story, interview, observational, historical, interactional, and visual texts. It has described that problematic moments and meanings in individual's life. Accordingly, the researcher explains that wide range of interconnected methods. It has hopes that always try to get a better fix on the subject matter to explore.

### **2. Object of the Study**

The object of the study is Bob Dylan's song lyrics in sociological study of literature.

### **3. Type of the Data and the Data Source**

According to Mann, Steve and Richards, Keith , Wolcott H F. (1994: 159) said that data are simple terms that the ‘things’ collected. It is about really matters that about the context of your research aims and procedures. The form should not be treated as ‘facts’ or ‘information’. But, the qualitative researcher data are affected by what is as ‘readable’ or ‘writable’. The reasons that correlated to fusion are primary and secondary source. There are the descriptions of them as follow:

#### **a. Primary Data Source**

Primary data source is contained of actual document. It usually is produced through historical period based on investigation. Interview historical is special kind of primary data typically that connected in many years events which have happened. But, based on memories it is created at the time depend on some questions. The book and article of academic used for field primary source for biography. The primary data source is the Bob Dylan’s Song’s Lyrics.

#### **b. Secondary Data Source**

Secondary data source is literature about period, such as book, article, and written material. For example: the book about “A Learner Biography” tells the Bob Dylan’s biography that written by Jeremy Robert entitled “Bob Voice of a Generation”. Another data has taken from articles written by Bob Dylan.

#### **4. Technique of the Data Collection**

The method of data collection of literary research is by collecting and selecting both the primary data and secondary data. The researcher will involve some required steps:

- a. Reading the song's lyrics repeatedly to get deep understanding.
- b. Determining the content and message that will be analyzed.
- c. Reading some related books to find out the theory, data and information required.
- d. Taking notes part in both primary data and secondary data sources.
- e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- f. Arranging, researching, and developing the selected material into a good unity toward the topic of the study.

#### **5. Technique of the Data Analysis**

The technique of data analysis of the research is descriptive analysis. In this case, the researcher tries to describe the structural elements of the songs and sociology of literature theory in analysis. Hence, the collected data will be interpreted and analyzed in detail through the structural sociology of literature. In this case, social criticism approach is to show the influence of social criticism on Bob Dylan's song by sociology of literature Approach.

## **G. Paper Organization**

The writer makes an organization of this paper in order to make an easy understanding. There are six chapters in this research paper.

Chapter I is introduction which explains the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, research limitation, objectives of the study, benefit of the research study, and paper organization. Chapter II is dealing with the underlying theory, research method and the elements song lyrics, and theoretical application. Chapter III consists of social background of American society in the middle of twentieth century. Chapter IV is structural analysis and discussion, which consists of rhyme, meter, figurative language, imagery and theme subject of the song's lyrics by Bob Dylan's. Chapter V is social criticism analysis of the song lyrics, and finally, the writer concludes his research paper into conclusion and suggestion in to Chapter VI.