

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

My Sister's Keeper is a novel created by Jodi Picoult. The novel was published in 2004 by a division of Simon & Schuster, Inc. first publishing is in Great Britain by Hodder & Stoughton and first publishing in America is by Atria. The novel consists of 55 chapters and has 432 pages. *My Sister's Keeper* was adapted in a movie with the same title *My Sister's Keeper*, that was released in June 2009, and the stars are Cameron Diaz, Alec Baldwin, Abigail Breslin.

Jodi Lynn Picoult was born on May 19th1966, in Nesconset on Long Island in New York. Picoult's family moved to New Hampshire when she was 13. She lives in Hanover, New Hampshire with her husband, Tim Van Leer, and their three children, Sammy, Kyle and Jake. Picoult studied writing at Princeton University, where she earned her bachelor's degree. After graduation from Princeton University, she took on a series of miscellaneous jobs, from editing at a textbook publishing company to teaching English. She also earned a master's degree in education from Harvard University. Picoult wrote some novels, *My Sister's Keeper* (2004), *Vanishing Acts* (2005), *The Tenth Circle* (2006), *Nineteen Minutes* (2007), *Change of Heart* (2008), *Handle with Care* (2009), *House Rules* (2010), *Sing you Home* (2011), *Lone Wolf* (2012), *The Story Teller* (2013) and *Leaving Time* (2014). Picoult's novels usually deal with ethical issues and are told from a variety of view points with each chapter written in a different character's

voice. Picoult uses this technique to show multiple sides of a situation and underscore areas of moral ambiguity.

My Sister's Keeper novel explores moral boundaries when it comes to save a child's life, but at the same time putting another child's life in jeopardy. The story starts when Sara and Brian Fitzgerald live happy with their kids, Jesse and Kate. One day Jesse found bruises square between Kate's shoulder blade. In the hospital Sara is surprised with doctor's diagnose if Kate has acute promyelocytic leukemia. She needs of bone marrow donor to survive. But, both of Sara and Brian do not have a match bone marrow. Finally, Sara and Brian receive advice from the doctor to get pregnant and the name of their baby is Anna. Anna is programmed a scientist managed to create specific combination of precisus genetic material. Anna is designed to have a 100% matchs organ with Kate. One day Jesse tells how Anna was born and then Anna asks to her parents the truth. As an allogeneic donor she always becomes a permanent donor for Kate. When Anna was still baby she donated her cord blood for her sister. In the fifth she donates her lymphocytes, bone marrow, granulocytes and peripheral blood stem cells. Anna never complains with her conditions about it. One day, Kate became dropped when her boyfriend is death and she gets kidney failure. Her mother asks Anna to donor her kidney for Kate, but Anna refuses it.

Anna sells her locket to retain Mr. Campbell Alexander as a lawyer to sue her parents for the rights to her own body. Sara became very angry when she receives a petition for medical emancipation from the family court. After receiving a petition judge appointed Julia as a guardian ad litem for Anna. As an

ad litem Julia asks all of conditions about her client and her family, she also asks to Jesse. Jesse tells to Julia how live in this family. Despite Anna and Sara become rival in the counsel in the courtroom, Anna still lives with her family. It makes uncomfortable atmosphere between Anna and her family. Campbell is afraid if Anna changes her mind because of influences of her mother. In the courtroom Campbell explains about Anna's condition and asks the judge to send Anna to live separately from her mother and makes her mother go away from the house. The complicated condition makes Brian bring Anna to live with him in the fire department.

The result of first trial gives profit for Anna's side. In the courtroom, when Brian waits for his turn, suddenly he gets a service call because there is a school building burned. Brian knows that his son burns the school building. But he would not report to the police. Brian feels so sad and he promises he will make sure that his son's pyromania ends. In the second trial, Anna tells the truth if Kate asks her to refuse becomes a donor again. Anna never has any problem to give one of her kidneys. After knowing the truth, her mother is shocked and she cannot believe it. In the announcements of the trial, the result is Anna wins the case. She receives a medical emancipation. After the trial ends Anna wants to meet Kate in the hospital. On the way to the hospital, Campbell and Anna get into a serious car accident. Brian gets a service call to help car's accident victims. Brian is shocked when he knows the victims are Campbell and his daughter. In the ambulance Brian tries to save his daughter. From the accident Anna has irreversible brain damage and she is death. As an Anna lawyer, Campbell decided to do Anna's

Kidney surgery. Anna's organs are donated to Kate who needs her kidney. After Anna Passed away her mother often cries, her father works 24 hours a day, Jesse became a police and Campbell married with Julia. This story ends 6 years later where Kate works as a dance instructor who is still alive and health. Anna dies to replace her. When looks two sisters she always remembers of Anna.

There are some public responses about this book from readers and market. From readers, many people give good and negative responses for this book. One of people who gives good response says " This book is really amazing because it shows two sides of the story. One is about saving Kate which sounds like a really good idea when you look at it from Kate's perspective. But when you look at it from Anna's perspective it sounds horrible that your parents are making you donate a kidney that takes you out of some very important sports and events that are natural to happen in life. It also shows everything from different points of view which introduces you to how hard it is to deal with this. The only thing that is confusing about this book is how they use long medical terms that are hard to understand, though it is still very easy to enjoy the book. I never want to finish, because it the book is incredible".

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10917.My_Sister_s_Keeper

The negative response is from Lobeck. Lobeck is the one of many people who gave negative response. He says "his book is a shameless and unskillful manipulation of human emotions. I felt dirty when I was done with it. The story is on par with cheap natural disaster movies like deep impact that are formulated to tug at your heartstrings in very predictable ways. The author painfully over uses

the dramatic blackout technique where she writes a line that's trying too hard to be clever or profound and then fades to black - aka, leaves extra space before the next paragraph or ends a chapter - sometimes with no time break between one sentence and the next''.

(http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10917.My_Sister_s_Keeper)

Starred Review, Booklist says “Expect to be kept up all night by Picoult's latest novel, but it's much more than a page-turner; it's a fascinating character study framed by a complex, gripping story. Told in alternating perspectives by the engaging, fascinating cast of characters, Picoult's novel grabs the reader from the first page and never lets go. This is a beautiful, heartbreaking, controversial, and honest book.”

(<http://www.jodipicoult.com/my-sisters-keeper.html>)

My Sister's Keeper is a great novel to read. The novel gets good responses from many readers and has good rating from many booksellers. This novel has some awards, The Gold Book Award from Nielsen Books can UK, Virginia Readers' Choice Award, and Vermont Green Mountain Book Award Master List. Jodi Picoult as an author of this novel shows off her ability towards the reader. The bulk of the story takes place in the present. She makes the story from different points in the past but moves gradually toward the present. One final chapter, the epilogue, occurs in the future. She has done a great job in presents the conflict in this novel. She brings up the issues dynamics.

In *My Sister's Keeper*, Jodi Picoult employs a unique style in ordering each chapter. All of characters become a narrator. The voice of the narrator changes

with each chapter. Each member of the family tells about his part in the story. On the first chapter she draws Anna as the narrator, the second chapter she draws on Sara as the narrator. On the other chapter she draws others narrator Campbell, Julia, Brian, Jesse, and Kate. Each time the narrator changes, the font changes. In this novel, Picoult uses flashback plot technique.

There are three reasons why the researcher is interested in analyzing this novel. First, the characters and characterization of *My Sister's Keeper* novel, especially the character of Anna Fitzgerald. Anna struggles with her own identity but she never complains when her mother asks to donor her blood and bone marrow to help her sister. In unconditional selflessness, Anna shows how utterly giving humans can and should be. Secondly, the writing style of Jodi Picoult. She uses flashback plot technique, narrates of the story from different points in the past from each characters but moves gradually toward the present with the ends in the future. It is interested to see everyone's s side of the story. The last, this study can beneficial for readers with moral values contained in this novel.

From the previous reasons, the researcher decides to use sociological approach to analyze the novel. So, the researcher conducts this research paper entitled **“CHILD RIGHT FOR THE PHYSICAL BODY IN JODI PICOULT’S NOVEL *MY SISTER’S KEEPER* (2004): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH”**

B. Literature Review

For this study the researcher finds so many researchers about *My Sister's Keeper*. First is done by Beti Kristiani (2010) from English Language Education Program Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers training and Education, Sanata Darma, Yogyakarta. She researched a paper entitled "The meanings of a Mother's Love to Her Dying Daughter as Seen in Jodi Picoult's *My Sister Keeper*". She focuses to analyze Sara that struggles to save her dying daughter and she tries to do the best for Kate's health.

Second is done by Reni Puspitasari. Department of Language and Arts Education UNNES Semarang, who wrote a paper entitled "Parents Role in Children Psychology Development as Reflected in Jody Piccolts *My Sister Keeper*". She focuses on how parents try to look for ways to solve problems in their family and to discuss the roles of parents in children psychology development.

Third is done by Ruri Reviani Furi (2012) Department of English Cultural Studies University of Sumatera Utara who wrote a paper entitled "Anna's Sacrifices in Jodi Picoult's Novel *My Sister's Keeper*". She focuses on Anna's Sacrifices as a permanent donor for her Kate.

The last is done by Novi Ridho'ah (2008) Faculty of English Education Ahmad Dahlan University of Yogyakarta who wrote a paper entitled "The Sue Of Medical Emancipation Of The Main Character In Jodi Picoult Novel's *My Sister's Keeper*". She focuses to describe the characterization of the main character observed psychologically.

From the analysis above the researcher tries to make a different analysis. The researcher uses a sociological approach to analyze the data and uses *My Sister's Keeper* novel as an object. The researcher analyzes Child Right for the Physical Body in Jodi Picoult's Novel *My Sister's Keeper* (2004): A Sociological Approach.

C. Problem Statement

The problem is “ How is Child Right for the Physical Body in Jodi Picoult's Novel *My Sister's Keeper* (2004)?.

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the researcher focuses this research on the analyzing of child right for the physical body in Jodi reflected in Jodi Picoult's novel *My Sister's Keeper* (2004) based on a sociological approach.

E. Object of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel in order to identify the unity of the novel.
2. To analyze the Child Right for the Physical Body in Jodi Picoult's Novel *My Sister's Keeper* (2004) based on Sociological Approach.

F. Benefits of the Study

The benefits of this study will be distinguished into two benefits:

1. Theoretical benefits

The result of this study is expected to be able to give information and contribution the development of the knowledge.

2. Practical benefits

The result of the study is expected to broaden the researcher own comprehension about Jodi Picoult's novel, and also to enrich knowledge of the researcher and another student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or another university who have interest with literary study on the novel from a sociological approach.

G. Theoretical approach

In this research, the researcher uses Sociological Approach to analyze the novel. The researcher focuses on analyzing the child right for the physical body that happens in Jodi Picoult's *My Sister's Keeper* novel. There are some steps to analyze novel. First, the researcher begins from the structural elements of the novel, consists of character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, and theme. Second, the researcher will be used the Sociological Approach to analyze the novel. In the next, the uses of the previous technique will be apply to deepers the understanding.

H. Research Method

1. Type of Study

In this research, the researcher applies descriptive qualitative research. It is library research while data source is literary data. It purposes to analyze novel uses sociological approach. The steps to conduct the research this research are: (1) determining the type of the study, (2) determining object of the study (3) determining data and data source, (4) determining technique of data collection, and (5) determining technique of data analysis.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the research is child right for the physical body of Anna Fitzgerald Jodi Picoult's Novel *My Sister's Keeper* (2004): A Sociological Approach.

3. Types of the Data and the Data Source

There are two types of data sources that are used in this research, namely primary and secondary data sources as follows:

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source is *My Sister's Keeper novel* (2004) by Jodi Picoult.

b. Secondary Data Sources

The secondary data sources are from other sources related to the study, such as: website, dictionary, and some books that support the analysis.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The method of collecting data in this research is note-taking *My Sister's Keeper* novel. The researcher has some steps in analyzing the data as follows:

- a. Reading *My Sister's Keeper* novel to understand the novel deeply.
- b. Reading some related books to find the theory, data and information.
- c. Accessing to the internet to get several information and articles related to the object of the study.
- d. Making a summary and determining title, issue, topic, and theory about that novel.
- e. Taking notes of important thing both of primary and secondary data sources.
- f. Selecting particular parts considered important and relevant for analysis.
- g. Drawing conclusion based on the data analysis.

I. Paper Organization

This research paper is divided into six chapters. *Chapter I* consists of Introduction, which consists of background, literary review, research problem, research objective, research limitation, research benefit, research methodology, and the last is research organization. *Chapter II* consists of the Underlying theory, which presents notion of sociological approach, the structure of novel and theoretical application. *Chapter III* consists of with social historical background of the novel. *Chapter IV* consists of structural analysis of the novel. *Chapter V* consists of sociology analysis, and the last. *Chapter VI* is Conclusion and Suggestion.