

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Humans are social being who cannot live alone. They need to communicate and interact with another people. Humans are also economic beings who need a wealth to fulfill their need. One of the purposes of people in their life is to get prosperity; prosperity here means a good education, a good job with good salary, and good social status. But not everybody be able to get prosperity and because of that discrimination occur. Discrimination is a treat unfairly to people or group from another people or group. Ansel said that “Discrimination refers to unfair treatment of some sort” (Ansel, ET all, 1988: 290), Ansel also mentions that “discrimination is costly both to individual and to society” (Ansel, ET all, 1988: 304).

Social class is referring to a strata or a stratum in social life. Social class is divided into three they are upper class commonly known as elite people or borguise, the middle class commonly known as working class or white collars people, and the last is lower class commonly known as poor people. Marx Stated that “all society that had ever existed had been class societies of one kind or another” (Saunders, 1990: 5). For an elite people it is easy to get prosperity but the opposite the poor people are hard to get a prosperity that is why the poor people struggle to get equality.

Based on reality the author of the novel tried to describe a condition of social life by writing it in the literary work and he hoped people will help to solve the problem in social life. The researcher tries to analyze the Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*. Jane Austen was an English novelist who works on romantic fiction and she is one of the most widely read writers in English literature. Jane Austen's realism, biting irony and social commentary have gained her historical importance among scholars and critics in her life. Jane Austen had written some novels, They are *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), *Mansfield Park* (1814), and *Emma* (1815), and because of that she achieved succeed as a published writer. Beside of that Jane Austen also had written additional novel that are *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* published in 1818. This time the researcher will use Jane Austen's *sense and sensibility* as an object of the study. *Sense and sensibility* is a novel written by Jane Austen and published in 1811, and it is one of the greatest Jane Austen literary works, *sense and sensibility* takes a theme as romantic fiction better known as a comedy of manner, *sense and sensibility* takes a place in southwest England, London, and Kent between 1792-1797. Jane Austen's *sense and sensibility* tells about the life and love of the dash wood sister, Elinor and Mariane. One of the main character Elinor Dashwood is an elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dashwood, she is 19 years old at the beginning of the book, she has high responsibility to her family and she places their welfare and interests above her own and suppresses her own

strong emotion in a way that lead others to think she is cold hearted. Opposite with Elinor, Marianne Dashwood is romantic and expressive, she is 16 years old in the beginning of the book Marianne undergoes the most development within the book, learning her sensibilities have been selfish.

The summary of sensibility is When Mr. Dashwood dies, his house, Norland Park, passes directly to his only son John, the child of his first wife. His second wife, Mrs. Dashwood, and their daughters, Elinor, Marianne and Margaret, are left only a small income. On his deathbed, Mr. Dashwood extracts a promise from his son that he will take care of his half-sisters; however, John's selfish and greedy wife, Fanny, soon persuades him to renege. John and Fanny immediately take up their place as the new owners of Norland, while the Dashwood women are reduced to the position of unwelcome guests. Mrs. Dashwood begins looking for somewhere else to live.

In the meantime, Fanny's brother, Edward Ferrars, a pleasant, unassuming, intelligent but reserved young man, visits Norland and soon forms an attachment with Elinor. Fanny disapproves the match and offends Mrs. Dashwood with the implication that Elinor is motivated by money rather than love. Mrs. Dashwood indignantly speeds her search for a new home.

Mrs. Dashwood moves her family to Barton Cottage in Devonshire, near the home of her cousin, Sir John Middleton. Their new

home lacks many of the conveniences that they have been used to; however, they are warmly received by Sir John, and welcomed into the local society—meeting his wife, Lady Middleton, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Jennings and his friend, the grave, quiet and gentlemanly Colonel Brandon. It soon becomes apparent that Colonel Brandon is attracted to Marianne, and Mrs. Jennings teases them about it. Marianne is not pleased as she considers Colonel Brandon, at thirty-five, to be an old bachelor incapable of falling in love, or inspiring love in anyone else.

Marianne, out for a walk, gets caught in the rain, slips and sprains her ankle. The dashing, handsome John Willoughby sees the accident and assists her. Marianne quickly comes to admire his good looks and outspoken views on poetry, music, art and love. Mr. Willoughby's attentions are so overt that Elinor and Mrs. Dashwood begin to suspect that the couples are secretly engaged. Elinor cautions Marianne against her unguarded conduct, but Marianne refuses to check her emotions, believing this to be a falsehood. Unexpectedly one day, Mr. Willoughby informs the Dashwoods that his aunt is sending him to London on business, indefinitely. Marianne is distraught and abandons herself to her sorrow.

Edward Ferrars then pays a short visit to Barton Cottage but seems unhappy and out of sorts. Elinor fears that he no longer has feelings for her, but feels compelled, by a sense of duty, to protect her family from knowing her heartache. Soon after Edward departs, Anne and Lucy Steele,

the vulgar and uneducated cousins of Lady Middleton, come to stay at Barton Park. Lucy informs Elinor of her secret four-year engagement to Edward Ferrars, displaying proofs of her veracity. Elinor comes to understand the inconsistencies of Edward's behavior to her and acquits him of blame. She is charitable enough to pity Edward for being held to a loveless engagement by his gentlemanly honor.

As winter approaches, Elinor and Marianne accompany Mrs. Jennings to London. Upon arriving, Marianne rashly writes a series of personal letters to Mr. Willoughby which goes unanswered. When they finally meet, Mr. Willoughby greets Marianne reluctantly and coldly, to her extreme distress. Soon Marianne receives a curt letter enclosing their former correspondence and love tokens, including a lock of her hair and informing her of his engagement to a young lady of large fortune. Marianne is devastated, and admits to Elinor that she and Willoughby were never engaged, but she loved him and he led her to believe he loved her. In sympathy for Marianne, and to illuminate Willoughby's true character, Colonel Brandon reveals to Elinor that Mr. Willoughby had seduced Brandon's fifteen-year-old ward, and abandoned her when she became pregnant.

In the meantime, the Steele sisters have come to London as guests of John and Fanny Dashwood. Lucy sees her invitation to the Dashwoods' as a personal compliment, rather than what it is a slight to Elinor. In the

false confidence of their popularity, Anne Steele betrays Lucy's secret. As a result the Misses Steele is turned out of the house, and Edward is entreated to break the engagement on pain of disinheritance. Edward, honorably, refuses to comply and is immediately disinherited in favor of his brother, gaining widespread respect for his gentlemanly conduct, and sympathy from Elinor and Marianne who understand how much he has sacrificed.

Mrs. Jennings takes Elinor and Marianne to the country to visit her second daughter who has just given birth to her first child. In her misery over Mr. Willoughby's marriage, Marianne neglects her health and becomes dangerously ill. Traumatized by rumors of her impending death, Mr. Willoughby arrives to repent and reveals to Elinor that his love for Marianne was genuine. Threatened with disinheritance because of his immoral behavior, he felt he must marry for money rather than love, but he elicits Elinor's pity because his choice has made him unhappy.

When Marianne is recovered, Elinor tells her of Mr. Willoughby's visit. Marianne comes to assess what has passed with sense rather than emotion, and sees that she could never have been happy with Mr. Willoughby's immoral and expensive nature. She comes to value Elinor's conduct in a similar situation and resolves to model herself after Elinor's courage and good sense.

Upon learning that Lucy has married Mr. Ferrars, Elinor is grieved, until Edward himself arrives to reveal that Lucy has jilted him in favor of his wealthy brother, Robert Ferrars. Edward and Elinor are soon married and in a very few years Marianne marries Colonel Brandon, having gradually fallen deeply in love with him. Colonel Brandon then invites Edward and Elinor to live at his estate with him and Marianne.

There are several reasons why the researcher chose this novel to be studied. The first is because *sense and sensibility* is one of the greatest literary works written by Jane Austen and it is one of the greatest literary works in England. The second one is because the story of the novel is portray a social life and with analyzing it the researcher hopes understand more about social problem and how to solve it. The third is this novel can be analyzed through Marxist approach.

From the reasons and illustration above the researcher decided to give the title of this study social discrimination in Jane Austen's *sense and sensibility* (1811): a Marxist approach.

B. Literature Reviews

To prove the originality of this research, the researcher wants to present the previous researches that deal with Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*.

The first researcher is Nurhayati, Erna (2010) from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, in her study *A Pragmatic Expression in Sense and Sensibility Novel*. This research is linguistic study. The purpose of her research is to describe the linguistics form, the intention of the speaker and the politeness strategies of phatic expression. Her research focuses on describing the data (phatic expression) in its linguistics form by employing in novel by using speech act theory and cooperative principle, describing the politeness strategies of phatic expression used in the sense and sensibility novel by using context of speech and politeness pattern. The researcher finds that from 25 data there are 16 sentence of declarative, 2 sentence of imperative and 7 sentence of interrogative. The similarity of this research is in the object of the study. The researcher tries to analyze the same object with the previous study but in different source.

The second researcher is Triyani, Triyani (2009) from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, in her study *Anxiety in Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility: A Psychoanalytic Approach*. In this research the researcher tries to analyze the novel in literature point of view. The purpose of her research is to reveal how the major characters reflect her anxiety. In her research her finding is Sense and Sensibility is a novel that reflects the author's idea and intention that Jane Austen wants to show that there is no benefit from keeping secret in deep feeling. Jane Austen tells that the problem of the major character causes the conflict of

her mental condition. It brings her into anxiety because the influence of her personality. Her personality is driven by her id, but her superego always warns her not allow her id controlling her behavior.

The third research is Lathifahanum, Muannisa (2007) from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, in her study *A Conflict of Love in Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility: A Marxist Approach*. This research is literary study. Her finding are, Austen tries to explore the balance between social and materialistic life. Wealthy is not the most important thing in having happiness. Happiness is an important thing in human's life supported by faithfulness and trust worthy. Second, in Marxist perspective, Jane Austen criticizes the social condition, why there must be any different classes in the society. Marriage is the solution that happens between the two different classes. The marriage will erase the social classes, because the rank between man and woman, bourgeoisie and proletariat become equal after the marriage happens. The similarity of this research is in the object of the study and the theory that is used. The researcher tries to analyze the same object with the previous study but in different issue.

The previous study above is really important for the researcher to help the researcher to find the right book to the research. For this study the researcher analyzes the social discrimination with the data source is *Sense and Sensibility* novel. The researcher uses the different data source in order to prove the originality of this research.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of the study is how the social discrimination is portrayed in Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*.

D. Limitation of the Study

The limitation of the study is how the struggle of Dashwood's daughters to get equal prosperity in Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* in Marxist perspective.

E. Objective of the Study

The objective of the study are following:

1. To analyze the novel in term of its structural elements.
2. To analyze the novel based on Marxist perspective.

F. Benefit of the Study

The researcher hopes that this research will be benefical to the following :

1. Theoretically, this study is purposed to give some additional information to literary research especially to those who deal with Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*.

2. Practically, this study can develop the researcher's skill and ability in applying Marxist approach in Jane Austen's *sense and sensibility*.

G. Research Method

In this research the researcher uses library research by using restrictively qualitative method. In this study the researcher has some steps as follows:

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is Jane Austen's *sense and sensibility* written.

2. Type and the Data Resources

In this research, the researcher uses two sources of data, primary and secondary data source.

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source of this study is Jane Austen's *sense and sensibility*.

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data sources are biography of the author, the historical background of England, Marxist

theory book, and other relevant information related to the study.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The method data used in this study is documentation, which means that the data from both primary and secondary source are collected in the form of document used as evidence.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

The researcher employs descriptive analysis in analyzing the data through Marxist approach. Here the researcher tries to describe the structure elements of the novel and Marxist analysis. Hence the collected data will be interpreted and analyzed through Marxist approach.

H. Paper Organization

This is paper organization of social discrimination in Jane Austen's sensibility: Marxist approach as follows:

First chapter is introduction, background of the study, literature reviews, problem statement, and limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and paper organization. The second chapter comprises underlying theory which presents nature of Marxist, major principle of Marxist theory, theoretical application; the

third chapter is structural analysis: character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, theme, and discussion. The fourth chapter is the theory that consists of five basic principle of Marxist approach namely dialectical materialism, historical materialism, alienation, class struggle, revolution the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion.