

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

All people in the world have the same rights which are called human rights. Whatever the people's nationality, sex, religion, language, skin color, and any other status, human rights are rights inherent to them and it must be respected by all human beings without discrimination. These rights are interrelated, interdependent and indivisible. Human rights are freedoms for all off people in the world that have been declared by United Nations which should be followed by all nations to make sure that every people in the world get their personal rights. There is no different right for all human. As written in the rules of universal declaration of human rights, it states that every people have the same rights to life, rights to free from torture, rights to get education, rights to work, rights to get liberty, and many more rights that must be applied universally to all human being. Human rights are distinct as civil liberties, which are freedoms established by the law of a particular state in its own jurisdiction.

United Nations state that human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status (United Nations). Kumar as quoted by Lestari (2015, p. 1) states that human rights are those minimal rights which every individual must have against the state or other public authority by virtue of his being a member of the human family, irrespective of any other consideration. Everyone has human rights and responsibilities to respect and protect these rights across political and social boundaries (Beitz, 2009, p. 13). Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more (United Nations).

Violation of human rights is an activity that breaks the norm of human rights and violate the declaration of universal human rights rules,

such as human trafficking, religious violation, discrimination, women abuse, etc (Weiss & Hubert, 2001, p. 144). Sozzi as quoted by Lestari (2015, p. 1) states that type of human rights include child trafficking, dowry, sexual harassment, early marriage, child labor, genocide, slavery, medical experimentation, war crimes and rape are common.

Sozzi as quoted by Lestari (2015, pp. 01-02) states that abuse is one types of violations but it can take different forms. An elderly person can be the victim of many types of abuse. There are different behaviors and attitudes which characterize the various types of abuse such as physical abuse, psychological or emotional abuse, and sexual abuse.

Some cases of violation of human rights happen in Indonesia. It should be important moral value for all Indonesian people and government to make some regulations in order to avoid these dark experiences re-occur in Indonesia. Below some description of violation of human rights cases in Indonesia. The first is the incident of September 30th PKI movement (G30S/PKI). This is a rebellion of Indonesian Communist Party by kidnapping and killing several military officers and generals on September 30th, 1965. The PKI kidnapped and massacred 10 general officers and their bodies were dumped in the crocodile pit. This event became one of the darkest tragedies in Indonesian history. The PKI was later declared as prohibited party because it was considered to have carried out a rebellion and betrayal of the state (Zakky, 2018).

The second case of violation of human rights happen in Indonesia is mysterious murder to Munir. Munir Said Thalib is human rights activist that ever handled some cases of violation of human rights. Munir died on September 4th 2004 in Garuda Indonesia aircraft when he did a journey to Amsterdam, Netherland. The cause of his death is unknown, but a lot of information said that he was poisoned. Until now, there is no clarity of this case (Zakky, 2018).

The earlier case of violation of human rights happened in 2015 in Lumajang, East Java. Started from mining activity of sands at Watu Pecak

beach illegally, an activist named Salim Kancil tried to stop the activity but he exactly was tied by a group of people then he was beaten and killed brutally. There are 22 subjects involved in this murder case and they had been handled by the police (Zakky, 2018).

Actually the topic of human rights violation is not only for law officers such as police, judge, or detective but it is also interesting authors of novel in the world to write a novel based on the human rights violations issue. One of the authors who writes a novel which full of human rights violations content is Sidney Sheldon with his novel *Are You Afraid of the Dark?*. This novel is written by Sidney Sheldon and published in 2004. *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* novel is an action-filled thriller that is exciting and makes the readers are reluctant to stop reading it. Tanner Kingsley tries to get many benefits for himself using a machine which can control the weather called PRIMA. Actually, PRIMA is Tanner's older brother original creation, Andrew who has the purpose to help people around the world in resolving global warming problem using PRIMA.

Tanner does not have the same purpose like Andrew who plans using PRIMA to solve world's problems. Instead, Tanner plans to use PRIMA as a machine that can gives him many profits. The first step to make his plan run well, he should get his brother Andrew out of the way. Tanner sabotages an experiment which Andrew is involved in the experiment. What Tanner does is causing brain-damaged to Andrew. Now, Tanner is free to do what he wants and as the head of the company he names his company Kingsley International Group, or KIG.

Unfortunately, four of the scientists who work in KIG manage to spread what PRIMA can do because they know that Tanner will not give PRIMA to the government. The scientists have a plan to meet Senator Van Luven as a member of the Senate Select Committee on the Environment in Washington, D.C to inform her about the existence of PRIMA. But before they can meet the senator, they are killed by Tanner. Tanner also plans to kill the men's families who probably know about PRIMA. Two of four scientists

who are killed are Richard Stevens and Mark Harris. The men's wife Diane and Kelly become Tanner's next targets.

Actually the both women do not expect that Tanner, their husbands' boss is behind this mysterious murder case. The women are panic when they know that Tanner also targets them to be killed. However, the assassins asked by Tanner to kill them miss their targets. With several ingenuity and luck, the women can run from Tanner's traps and they work together to uncover the mysterious murder case that happen to their husbands.

Diane is an artist and Kelly is a beautiful supermodel. They learn about the other related murder cases that happen to other scientists. The women decide to go to the United States to meet Lois, Gary's sister. Gary is a scientist whose is the airplane mysteriously crashes in Denver. Diane and Kelly discover that Lois is still alive after escaping a firebomb and from her the women know about the existence of PRIMA. Then they plan to meet Senator van Luven to inform her about PRIMA.

Unfortunately, the women do not know that they are walking to Tanner's trap. Senator Van Luven is secretly Tanner's girlfriend and they work together to succeed their project. In the senator's home, Tanner sets his goon, Harry Flint, to trap the women. Kelly and Diane manage to elude Flint's clutches and the women go straight to the press with details about PRIMA. This forces Tanner to destroy his prized weather machine, but he has one more surprise in store for Kelly and Diane. He has secretly built a second PRIMA in the French Polynesian islands.

Tanner and Senator Van Luven board to Tanner's private jet and leave PRIMA I set to self-destruct. They want to use PRIMA II as their tool to hold the world. Tanner underestimates Andrew's brain-damaged. Tanner leaves Andrew to die in PRIMA explosion. Andrew, even with his mental disability, knows that his brother has become an evil man. Then Andrew sets PRIMA to destroy the KIG jet where Tanner and Van Luven inside. With the death of Tanner Kingsley, his conspiracy collapses. Diane and Kelly have survived their ordeal and can continue the pieces of their lives.

Many readers in the world read this novel. The readers leave various kinds of responses after reading this novel. As the researcher finds in www.goodreads.com some of the readers say that this novel is very good, but also not a few are disappointed with the content of the novel. Here the researcher elaborates the positive and negative response of the readers. The positive response is written by Diane. She explains that this novel is very exciting with the author's ability to mix many things in this novel that makes it very interesting to be read. Here is Diane's comment regarding this novel "Excellent! great writing: villains, money, power, murder and heroines plus lots of other devious stuff umm one of the good books to read of S.S. .recommended to everyone (paperback!)" (www.goodreads.com). One of the negative responses for the novel is written by a reader named TeeKay. The reader considers that this novel is the worst novel that he ever read. TeeKay says that it is better to throw this novel away after reading it. Here is his negative comment for this novel "This is the worst book I have ever read. It's as simple as that. Everything about it was terrible. Annoying characters, a senseless plot and a dialogue which was incredibly lame. The most rewarding part of this book was finally finishing it and throwing it away." (www.goodreads.com).

Are You Afraid of the Dark? novel is a novel which is translated into any other languages. It can be seen from the comments of the readers in a website www.goodreads.com. The readers leave their responses in several languages such as Russian, Arabic, Indonesian, and many more. It shows that this novel is not only written in English, but also it has been translated to many languages which make it understandable by the readers around the world.

As the reader of this novel, the researcher also has his own comment regarding the *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* novel. The researcher appreciates this last Sidney Sheldon's work in his life. This novel is interesting to be read because the author can mix thriller, action, and science genre that makes this novel is not boring. The plot of this novel is written very well and many

unpredictable events can be found in the novel that make the readers are curious and reluctant to stop reading it.

Based on the researcher's interest in the first time reading this novel, then the researcher elaborates some reasons of why the researcher is choosing this novel to be analysed. The first reason is because the researcher learns that many violations of human rights cases are unresolved in people's society. Then the researcher assumes that violation of human rights case is not a simple case. Based on those phenomena, the researcher is interested to study more about this issue.

The second reason is that the violation of human rights issue is delineated in this novel. Then the researcher tries to analyze this aspect and find out the message that the author tries to deliver through this novel.

B. Problem Statement

The problem statements of the research are:

1. What are the indicators of violation of human rights in Sidney Sheldon's *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* Novel?
2. How is violation of human rights delineated in Sidney Sheldon's *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* novel?
3. Why is violation of human rights specifically addressed by the author in the novel?

C. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the researcher makes limitation to focus on sociological approach. It is pointed on the violation of human rights delineated in Sidney Sheldon's *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* novel by using sociological perspective as the main approach.

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statement above, the researcher formulates the objectives of the study are elaborated as follows:

1. To know the indicators of violation of human rights in *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* Novel.
2. To observe how violation of human rights is delineated in *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* Novel.
3. To analyze why violation of human rights is specifically addressed by the author in the novel.

E. Benefits of the Study

The researcher wishes this study can be useful for others. The benefits of this study are separated into two parts. Both are described as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This research is expected to give new information and contribution to the larger part of knowledge especially for literary study on Sidney Sheldon's *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* (2004) Novel.

2. Practical Benefit

This research is done by the researcher to fulfil the final project as the requirement to get bachelor degree from English Education Department of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.