CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Humans have dark side that loves crime and violence. Peoples may deny it but the contrary is true. And it applies regardless of age, caste, social status, region, religion or education. One example of people's dark side its killing someone. They can kill another because they don't like someone and it might be the only way to survive in life or without any valid reason. So, it is possible for person killing another person or. In other words, it can be called "murder".

According to Legal Dictionary murder is the intentional killing of another person, or the accidental killing of another person while intentionally committing another crime. Murder is typically broken down further into several sub-categories, namely; first degree murder and second degree murder (Hg.org Legal Resources). First degree murder is the most serious of all homicide charges. It applies to situations in which someone is accused of killing another person after having planned to kill the victim. It requires malice (evil intent) and aforethought (planning). Second degree murder, on the other hand, usually applies to cases in which someone may have intended to kill another, but did not have time to plan it (a crime of passion).

First-degree murder is the most serious of all homicide offenses. It involves any intentional murder that is willful, deliberate and premeditated a with malice aforethought. Premeditation requires that the defendant planned the murder before it was committed or was "lying in wait" for the victim. First-degree murder is usually defined as an unlawful killing that is deliberate, premeditated and willful. (https://www.justia.com/criminal/offenses/homicide/first-degree-murder/)

Related to the explanation above, Gone Girl is one of the most global bestseller novels that tells about a woman's mysteries which is

related to first degree murder. This book was released in Mei 24, 2012. *Gone Girl* is one of the most popular legal thriller, mystery, and crime in America. Gillian Flynn is the writer of this novel. She was born on February 24, 1971 in Kansas City, Missouri. Gillian Flynn is an American author, screenwriter, comic book writer and former television critic for or Entertainment Weekly. Gillian Flynn had published four novels. She with the novel of *Sharp Objec*t in 2006, *Dark Places* in 2009, *Gone Girl* in 2012 and *The Grownup* in 2015. Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* is number one on the New York Times Hardcover Fiction Bestseller list for eight weeks.

     Gone Girl is a complex novel with several themes including of domestic violence, manipulative, adultery and murder. The main characters are Amy Dunne and his husband Nick Dunne. Amy Dunne is the diabolical dual protagonist and antagonist of Gone Girl. Amy is wealthy, beautiful, and born and bred in New York. She is the title's gone girl. She is a successful quiz-writer for a women's magazine and living in Manhattan off the trust fund that her parents writers of the insanely popular Amazing Amy series of children's books, cribbed from Amy's real-life successes and challenges alike have set aside for her. Nick Dunne sweeps her off her feet, and Amy and Nick live out a fairytale existence. Amy goes missing at the start of the novel, and her diary entries are interspersed with her selfish husband Nick's half-hearted involvement in the investigation. At the midpoint of the novel, it's revealed that Amy has masterminded her own disappearance and orchestrated the evidence left behind to frame Nick for her murder as a way of getting revenge for all the ways in which their marriage has gone wrong. Then in the middle of her gone she robbeb by other people. She was penniless so she decided to call her ex-boyfriend (Desi) to help her. Desi is a white knight type. He loves troubled women. He helped Amy. He brought Amy to his home. Unexpetedly, Amy want to come back to Nick when she was with Desi. She realized that Nick is the best patner for her but Desi didn't want to let

her go. It was really annoying to Amy. In the end she decided to kill Desi so that she can come back to Nick.

Gone Girl is very sucessfull novel. The novel is adopted into movie. The film was directed by David Fincher and was released on October 3, 2014 to critical acclaim. *Gone Girl* aslo successfully translated into many languages. According to good reads, Nicholas Spark (2012: August 01) said that *Gone Girl* novel is one of the best novels of the year. It's a thriller in the best tradition of Alfred Hitchcock and layered with brilliantly written characters; it's the kind of book that's nearly impossible to put down. The surprises and twists keep the reader guessing up until the final page, and my first thought upon finishing the novel was that I wanted to read it a second time. Kristin (2012: June 11), she give Gone Girl 5 star "While it feels a bit off referring to this deeply deranged book as a "fun read",that's exactly what I'm gonna call it. Because for the time spent reading, this book entirely owned me. My focus, my world, my thoughts, were swept away by these insanely unrivaled characters and the darkness of their story.(https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/19288043-gone-girl)

In the other hand *Gone Girl* also has bad resposes. From the reader's response by Shelley (2012: August 02), she said that the novel such a steaming pile of shit for so many reasons and hands down the worst book she have ever read. Emma Giordano (2016: November 28), she said that *Gone Girl* was such a mindfuck and she have never read anything like that before. (https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/19288043-gone-girl)

There is a reason why the researcher chooses this novel. Gone Girl is very interesting novel. It contasins of mystery that drawing the readers to always read the novel. The researcher raises an issue of first degree murde in this novel because Amy, the main charater of the novel kills Desi her friend and also her ex-boyfriend. Amy commit a murder. She

kills Desi after she planened it. Her case murder is first degree murder because it involves malice (evil intent) and aforethought (planning).

From the explanation above, the researcher is interested in analysing first degree murder in *Gone Girl* novel. This study will be analyzed by using Sociological Prespective. Finally, the researcher constructs the paper entitled **FIRST DEGREE MURDER REFLECTED IN GILLIAN FLYNS'S GONE GIRL (2012) : A SOSIOLOGICAL PRECPECTIVE.**

B. Problem Statement

Based on the problem statement, the writer formulates the research questions are as follows:

1. What are the indicators of first degree murder in the novel?
2. How was the first degree murder depicted in the novel?
3. Why did the author address first degree murder in the novel?

C. Objectives of the Study

Based on the above problem statement, the researcher gives the objectives of the study are:

1. To explain the indicators of first degree murder in the novel.
2. To describe how the first degree murder depicted in the novel.
3. To reveal the reason why the first degree murder is specifically addressed by the author in the work.

D. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the study conducted by the research were as follows :

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of this study gives information on knowledge and experience about the literary study in Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*. This study can be used as a reference to make better research about *Gone Girl* novel as a material object of the future study.

2. **Practical Benefit**

This study gives benefit to provide information, especially for the Department of English Education and the other can to learn this literary research in analyzing *Gone Girl* novel.