

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

War is action both physically and non-physical between two or more human groups to dominate in some places where be opposed by using violence. It happened a long time ago even until now we still can find it. The duration of the war itself also various, it can be in a short duration or long duration. War also has various trigger. It can be caused by politic, economy, social, or culture. United States already faced a lot of war, such as World War I, World War II, Iraq War, and many more. A war gives impact for both countries who attack and got attacked whether in a good and bad impacts. The good impacts of war are can share the ideology to other places, acculturation and assimilation of cultures, and help the developing country by exchange technology or industry. A lot of bad impacts that arise from war, one of them is a lot of people died. Not only the army who died but it also can be civilians. A war could make people lost the beloved one it can their relatives, parents, siblings, and maybe their spouse.

Therefore, a lot of films present war as the theme e.g *The Great Escape* (1963), *Schindler's List* (1993), *Saving Private Ryan* (1998), *Pearl Harbour* (2001), *Black Hawk Down* (2001), *We Were Soldiers* (2002), *Letters From Iwo Jima* (2006), *Defiance* (2008), *Valkyrie* (2008), *Lincoln* (2012), *Red Tails* (2012), *Lone Survivor* (2013), *American Sniper* (2014), *Fury* (2014), *The Imitation Game* (2014), *Beasts of No Nation* (2015), *13 Hours* (2016), *Dunkrik* (2017), and *Dear John* (2010). Talking about a movie, it cannot be separated from the director. Here are some directors who had to direct war movies, they are Clint Eastwood, Christopher Nolan, Ridley Scott, John Sturges, Steven Spielberg, Michael Bay, Randall Wallace, Edward Zwick, Bryan Singer, Anthony Hemingway, Lasse Hallström, and many more. Here, the researcher wants to talk more

about Lasse Hallström. Lasse Hallström is a Swedish director. At first he known as the director of all music videos of pop group named ABBA, later on he became a director of film. Even though he made music videos at first but he has already made a lot of films since 1975. One of them is *Dear John* in 2010.

*Dear John* is an adapted movie from a novel with the same title written by Nicholas Sparks. This movie is about a soldier named John who fell in love with a college student named Savannah when he off from his duty. Starting from John rescued Savannah's bag that fell into the sea until they are in love and in a relationship. Then, when their day off was ended, John and Savannah have to in a long-distance relationship due to his duty and her school. They kept communicating using letter. Until one day, John got a letter from Savannah which written that Savannah already engaged with someone else. It broke John's heart so he burnt the entire letters from Savannah. Later on, when John's father got sick, John went back to take care of his dad. Unfortunately, not long ago his father died. After attending his father's funeral, he met Savannah after a long time. John found out the man who married Savannah was Tim, and Tim got cancer. At the end, John no longer in army, he became an ordinary civil then he unexpectedly met Savannah in the coffee shop.

This film has been nominated for several awards, in 2010 was being nominee at MTV Movie Awards with categories Best male performance and Best Female Performance, at Teen Choice Awards with categories are Choice Movie: Drama, Choice Movie Actor: Drama, Choice Movie Actress: Drama, and Choice Movie: Chemistry. In 2011 at People's Choice Awards with category Favorite Drama Movie as nominee, at ASCAP Film and Television Music Award as Top Box Office Films, at CinEuphoria Awards won as Top Ten of the Year-Audience Award, Top Ten of the Year-International Competition, and Best Actor-International Competition. In IMDb web, this film gained 230 reviews. Each reviewers also give their opinion about the movie from one-star until ten-stars.

Although this film received five-star review and below, but still there a lot of other viewers who gave high reviews. Around 32 viewers gave ten-star reviews about this film, the highest star with the most voters. Mostly viewers who gave this film reviews below five-star were having high expectation on this film, so when the film does not get what they expected make them disappointed. Besides, the viewers who gave ten-stars were in love with the story. They said that the story was so touching and make them emotional because the story successfully moves their heart.

The reason of the researcher chose this film because the film is very interesting. The storyline is simple, not too complicated, and easy to understand. The researcher raises the issue of effect of war to romantic relationship from the film because the main role, John breaks up with Savannah when he does his duty because she found someone new. When he backs from his duty he finds out Savannah married another man.

From the explanation, the researcher has interest in analyzing the effect of war in *Dear John* movie. The study will be analyzed using Sociological Perspective. Therefore, the paper entitled **THE EFFECT OF WAR TO ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP IN *DEAR JOHN* MOVIE: SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE.**

## **B. Problem Statement**

For the problem statement, the researcher assembles the research question, namely:

1. What are the impacts of war in *Dear John* movie?
2. How is the effect of war to relationship depicted in *Dear John* movie?
3. Why did Lasse Hallström address the issue of war on romantic relationship?

**C. Limitation of the Study**

The researcher analyzed the issue about the effect of war to relationship in *Dear John* movie. The theory is using sociological perspective by Alan Swingewood.

**D. Objectives of the Study**

From the problem statement, the researcher provides the objectives of the study, they are:

1. To identify the impacts of war in *Dear John* movie
2. To depict how war influence relationship in *Dear John* Movie
3. To reveal the reason of Lasse Hallstrom addressed the issue of war on romantic relationship.

**E. Benefit of the Study**

Hopefully, this research can give some benefits for the other both in theoretical and practical.

1. Theoretical benefit  
The result of this research can be as a reference for those who analyze the same object, *Dear John* movie.
2. Practical benefit  
The researcher can understand sociological theory more deeply. Besides, from this research, the researcher could get a bachelor degree.