

## **CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION**

### **A. Background of The Study**

Women are seen as objects of subordination in patriarchal society. This suggests that no leadership position, including that of the head of the smallest group, a nation, a king, or a president, is ever appropriate for a woman and she will receive a complimentary treatment. As a result, we may come across tales of forced marriages, women who were the victims of domestic abuse, women who were trafficked, women who were used as payment for debts, and numerous more tales that unmistakably highlight the fact that women are objects of male dominance and cultural authority (Boangmanalu & Nainggolan, 2021). The practice of gender inequality is an entire observable fact it is undeniable that there is gender inequality in practice. The word "gender inequality" refers to the apparent or actual unequal treatment of people depends on their gender, which is something that every country in this world is dealing with other. Gender disparity is a kind of social discrimination, despite the fact that men and women vary inherently based on their biological sex. Cultural disparities in gender roles, which are socially built systems, gave birth to gender inequity. Women have made significant progress in several sectors over the years, narrowing certain gender gaps in the process. The load of adversity shared between men and women in unequal manner, nevertheless widespread disparities still exist in their access to education (Ashraf wani & Ghosh Dastidar, 2018).

Women and men should have equal rights in terms of politics, decision-making, careers, and having children, according to the feminism concept. It consists of several social, cultural, and political movement that work toward achieving equality between men and women in terms of rights (Kumar Mohajan, 2022). Meanwhile, the same rights, opportunities, and dignity in society that males enjoy is seen as a struggle. According Mary Wollstonecraft (Menig, 2018) Women should be granted equal civil rights as men, allowing them to explore new realms of activity such as business, medicine, and political representation. An educated woman, a capable citizen, and a prudent homemaker have the potential to significantly contribute to the advancement of humanity. Modifying the social standing of women will result in a broader transformation across society as a whole. Feminism provides a perspective for analyzing the social and environmental experiences of groups and individuals, regardless of sex or gender, and it explain and suggest the direction for changing social and environmental factors. It it also

tried to highlight the proposed interventions for women's intrapersonal and interpersonal concerns. The lives of millions of women have been altered by it.

Feminism perspective could be seen as the chronological as socio-political movement. Feminist perspective force in the forms old class, ethnic and gender with masculine patriarchal domination (Alhumaid, 2019). Social and political movements pose the same challenges to anthropological theories and methods proposed by factions (Nicholasl, 1973). Patriarchal masculinities are terms that can be used to describe those ideas about and practices of masculinity that emphasize the superiority of masculinity over femininity and the authority of men over women. Ideas about and practices of patriarchal masculinities maintain gender inequalities. The factor cause gender inequality are; 1) Male organization that not given an opportunities for women to optimally develop, 2). Man as the salaryman in the family, 3) The culture in society that always support men, 4) Discriminatory norms and political policies, 5) Women are very vulnerable to sexual harassment and if this happens it will damage image of the family and society.

This novel is about the Bridgerton family, a charming and powerful family in London, England where they have 8 children there are 4 girls and 4 boys, whose first names are in alphabetical order. In the ballrooms and drawing rooms of Regency London which has many rules. From childhood, noble children learn how to address an earl and salute in the presence of a prince, while other commandments were unspoken but universally understood. A good duke should be proud and aloof. A young married woman should be friendly but not too friendly. Daphne Bridgerton always failed in love. Everyone loves Daphne for her kindness and intelligence, but no one really want it. Friendliness is not a characteristic of Simon Basset, Duke of Hastings. His aims are to avoid marriage and society, just as her heartless father avoided Simon throughout his painful childhood, but a meeting with his best friend's sister offers another option. If Daphne agrees to a fake relationship with Simon, Simon can stop the mothers who flaunt their daughters in front of him. Meanwhile, Daphne saw her prospect and reputation soar so she finds it easy to find a future husband. Anthony, Simon's best friend and Daphne's older brother, is against their relationship. Despite Anthony's protective nature, Daphne and Simon cannot escape their mutual love. The plan worked very well at first, but they were facing the glittering, gossipy, and cruel world of London's elite, there is only one certainty, love ignores every rule in the middle.

The historical romance in the regency era novel *Bridgerton: The Duke and I* has it owns appeal for readers. The Bridgerton family and the sibling dynamics were the kind that the reader remember forever, because the warmth, humor with spicy romance makes more compelling,

memorable and feels at home. While reading a novel regency era, the reader can experience all that prim and proper etiquette, the extravagant balls and high society, the social norms, etc and the tension that ensues because of all the pent-up feelings and desires. A novel that shows compassion and love for family. The most delightful surprise about this novel was how funny it was. *The Bridgerton* novel can be understood by readers, and the author skillfully add the feminism values which succinctly encapsulated, because the plot is straight forward and represents real life in terms of women who are willing to challenge harmful gender stereotypes, this book deserves to discuss and read.

The novel *Bridgerton: The Duke and I* has the issue of feminism is currently growing, many women are already aware of the importance of feminism. Feminism as it exists today is still evolving because so many women around the world continue to support it. Women in the modern world understand the significance of feminism. Despite the fact that women still experience the same negative stigma and unfair treatment as in the past, the existence of a feminist movement for justice for women is becoming better and more widely acknowledged in the world. This book addresses the feminism issue that will be discuss in this study because, as gender equality for women becomes more widely accepted in the future, women will have better career and educational opportunities.

According to the social phenomena explanation above, the researcher interested to explore feminism about gender inequality including the patriarchal and arranged marriage with the title *Gender Inequality in Bridgerton the Duke and I* (2000) by Julia Quinn: A Feminist Perspective.

## **B. Research Questions**

This research conducted to two problems. It could be formulated, as follows:

- a. How does gender inequality reflected in the novel *Bridgerton: The Duke and I*?
- b. What are the types of gender inequality in the novel *Bridgerton: The Duke and I*?

## **C. Objective of the Study**

The objective of the study related to the focus of the study above could be formulated as follow:

- a. To analyze how the way gender inequality is reflected in the novel *Bridgerton: The Duke and I*.
- b. To identify the types of gender inequality in the novel *Bridgerton: The Duke and I*.