CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Previous Study

There are some previous studies with similar topics. First, Anna Anganita Theresia Latumeten, in her research entitled "Discovering Environmental and Social Justice in Amitav Ghos's *Sea of Poppies*" found the effects of colonialism on the nature and the people and resistance as a mean to discover the environmental and social justice.

Next, Febrya Isyana Ros, in her study "Criticism of Social Injustice Reflected in Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*" concerns on characteristic of social injustice, the cause of social injustice and the effect of social injustice in Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables.*

Then, Saefudin Apri Perdana, in his study "The Social Injustice Reflected in Charles Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*" found that the negative effects of social injustice begin to class strugle. Because the situation in France was so dire, Dickens portrays the plight of the working class in England as rather difficult, though slightly less difficult than in other works such as *Hard Times* or *Oliver Twist*, which also emphasize social injustice.

All of the previous studies above explained social injustice in the social and economic field. This study is focused on social injustice issue in Jodi Picoult's novel entitled *Small Great Things*. The difference of this research and the previous ones is in the subject of the study, which also results in different findings.

To raise the issue of social injustice in this paper, the researcher tries to conduct the study with the sociological perspective. In this study, the research aims to analyze how social injustice is represented by Jodi Picoult's in her *Small Great Things* novel.

2.2 Theoritical Framework

2.2.1   Sociology of Literature

Sociology of literature is the literature approach that the study of human social life as a reflection of society at the time when the works is created. Goldmann (in Swingewood and Laurenson, 1972:81) argues that sociology of literature is an attempt to link the text of the particular authors in a meaningful way with particular historical condition. It means sociology

of literature is represented the relationship between history, literary work, and the author. The relationship among the cannot be separated because literary work is created by the writer. Hence, the writer is includes, the member of the society and he/she is the person who involve in society directly.

Wellek and Warren, (1962:110) claim that the relation between literature and social are includes 3 types: first is the sociology of the writer, second the social content of the work, and third the influence of literature on society. First the sociology of the writer, which means the social position of writers in society relation to the socio-cultural background of the author and the author of the social ideology that influence the work is created. Second, the social content of the work is what is in the literature as reflecting or redefine reality contained in the community. Third, the influence of literature on society, it means what is the extent of social impact of literature for people who enjoy a particular literary work.

Swingewood and Laurenson (1972:13) distinguish sociology of the literature into three kinds. First, sociology of the society that focuses on the social condition of the author in where he/she lives. Second, sociology of the author is the writer's life has an important role to create his literature work. Third, sociology of the reader is the response of the reader after reading a literary work.

According to Cragun (2006:7), sociology is the study of human social life; it shows us how the people interact with each other, how groups and societies differ, and how social affects human's behaviors.

Literature is an attempt to make sense of our lives. Sociology is an attempt to make sense of the ways in which we live our lives (Burns, 1973:9). Sociology and literature are two different things, but both of them have the same capacity which can give explanation about the meaning of literary text. In the perspective of sociology of literature, a literary work is not autonomous. It is always related to the society. It is considered as a socio-cultural phenomenon and a product of society. Madame de Stael is credited with the first explicit attempt to treat literature sociologically in her proposal to examine the influence of religions, customs and law on literature and the influence of literature on religions, customs and law (Burns, 1973:10-11). The study of sociology of literature cannot be separated from the society, because the author is a member of society, and what is presented in the literary work is mostly about the social phenomenon within the society itself. On the other hand, it explores the relationship among artists especially author with the society.

2.2.2   Types of Sociology of Literature

Swingewood and Laurenson (1972:13) state that there are three approaches to the sociology of literature. The first is sociology of the society, sociology of the author and sociology of the reader.

a. Sociology of the Society

Sociology of the society relates to the social condition of the author in where he/she lives. Thus, when the author writes a literary work directly or indirectly it affects the stage of writing literature work itself. Laurenson and Swingewood (1972:26) argue that literature can be analyzing with reference to history and the used as a means to understand history itself.

b. Sociology of the Author

According to Swingewood and Laurenson (1972:17) the second approach to a literary sociology moves away from the emphasis to the social situation of the writer. The writer's life has an important role to create his literature work. It means the status of the writer is influences the literary work itself, whether he/she is a lower to middle class or high class.

c. Sociology of the Reader

Sociology of the reader is the response of the reader after reading a literary work. According to Swingwood and Laurenson (1972:21) sociology of the reader's response to accept to the work of literature and how the literature can influence the readers in the social life. Every literary work has a message delivered by the writer to the reader. However, not all the messages that implied in the literary work are acceptable to the reader. It is depends on the reader respone about how they can receive the literary work and social message in their social life or they reject it.

In relation to the sociological of literature perspective aspect based on Swingewood and Laurenson (1962) in Theory of Literature book, the researcher focused on sociology of the society. It means, sociology of the society was reflected social phenomena where she lived. In another word, the work of the author and their society could not be separated because they got inspired from the society life. Twenty years ago in America, Jodi Picoult was inspired by the real incident that exist in NYC. She realize that racial issue in America is an important issue and it included the issues that burden the herats of many people. She thought any action that hurt and harm others or   certain race especially for African-American in America. Then, for Caucasian it is a beneficial for them in their success.

2.2.3 Social Injustice Definition

Social injustice is a phenomenon which has occured in the society since long time ago (Dogra, 2014: 1); it happens in almost every country in the world. Social injustice is a relation between the individual and society. This is measured by the explicit and tacit terms for the distribution of wealth, opportunities for personal activity and social privileges. In western cultures as well as in older Asian cultures, the concept of social injustice has often referred to the process of ensuring that individuals fulfill their societal roles and receive what was their due from society. In the current global grassroots movements for social injustice, the emphasis has been on the breaking of unspoken barriers for social mobility, the creation of safety nets and economic justice. Social injustice is related to unfair or unequal treatment experienced by the people who are considered to fit into one or more marginalized group. The marginalized group meant here can be the poor, an adopted, left-handed, aboriginal, female child, disable, and so on.

It means that social injustice can occur in a society as long as there is a group which marginalized rather than another group. In a place where social injustice happens, the people who have power cannot be questioned and they are believed to be right while those who are considered to be inferior should keep silent about what they feel and think. They have no right to express what is on their mind, they do not have any rights to question about the situation and condition around them. Simply, the marginalized group can not do anything to change the situation they face. The only thing they can do is to stay silent and let the dominant group act as they want. Injustice tends to vary among societies in the level of intensity, from very low to very high.

This variation reflects the differences in values and in degrees of inequality with respect to the key institutions of social life in praticular society at particular time (Gil, 2013: 16-17).

2.3 Types of Social Injustice

There are a lot of examples of social injustice, such as poverty, lack of freedom, hate crimes, bullying, high rates of unemployment or poverty among certain ethnic groups, ageism. Based on the examples of social injustice, it can be concluded that basically social injustice is the form of the violation of the human right. It deals with:

a. The unfair distribution of resources, opportunities, and responsibilities

b. Oppression of any form; In general, oppresion is the exercise of authority or power in a bundersome, cruel or unjust manner. Oppression is when people reduce the potential for other people to be fully human. In other words, oppersion is when people make other people less human. This could mean treating them in a dehumanizing manner. It is such as violence, persecution, rape and murder.

c. Anything that prevents people from exercising self-determination and realizing their full potential.

Dogra (2013: 1-2) in her online article entitled social injustice has written about some kinds of social injustice:

1. Unequal distribution of wealth
2. Casteism; Cateism is largely a condition that builds a community after a certain level of development. According to Dobriner (1994:214) cateism is essentially the organization of inequalities within society, the distribution of rewards, the allocation of scarties and the formalization of positions in some hierarcichal order.
3. Racial discrimination; Discrimination in plain english means make a distinction. According to Smith and mackie (2002) state that there are two types of discrimination, it is a positive and a negative discrimination. Discrimination refers to the positive and negative behaviour towards a social group and its members (Smith and Mackie: 2002).
4. Sexism— discrimination on the basis of sex
5. Ableism—discrimination on the basis of physical prosperity
6. Child labor; is one of examples of social injustice. It refers to the employment of children in any work field that makes children unable to enjoy their childhood (Dogra, 2014:3).
7. Homophobia—discrimination towards guy, lesbians and transgender.

Furthemore, in relation to the types of social injustice, in his book *Confronting Injustice* and *Oppression*, Gil (2013: 29) states that contemporary manifestations of injustice and oppression within societies, as well as in worldwide relations, are typically experienced, perceived and challenged as supposedly discrete, unrelated phenomena, such as racism, sexism, ageism, and discrimination by sexual orientation, disabilities, religions and so on.

2.4 The Causes of Social Injustice

The problem of the social injustice is phenomena in of life that deals with condition of the society that perceived unfairness or the situation that peoples do not getting their due. Each time someone cheats, there has been injustice. Other people can treat others unjustly. The doers usually work in their own interests. They don't

pretend to be fair, or work on behalf of others. When the government acts unjustly, it hurts more. The Injustice Line will focus mainly on injustices committed by the government, especially those arising fromthe court system. The condition above is appearing the problem of the social injustice. The causes of social injustice are that it happens because of :

a. **Stereotypes**

Hilton and Hippel (1996) argue that stereotypes are mental representations of real differences between groups. It is allowing easier and more efficient processing of information. Thus, stereotypes are a belief about positive and negative belief. The positif belief such as a person who judges a group is good. For example, a positive belief in America is usually used to assess white people as a person who have a good personality, smart, rich and active in a work. Then, the negative stereotype usually used to assess black people. All of black people are regarded as lazy, stupid and always doing violent. In fact, not all white people are good and not all black people are bad. In the result, stereotypes are giving characteristic to a person and group.

b. **Prejudice**

Prejudice is a suspicion and a negative or positive attitude that is addressed to someone in a group. However, that attitude is usually more likely to negative attitudes. According to Baron and Byrne (1997) state that prejudice is an attitude that tends to negative toward a member of a group. Offentimes, the information or knowledge of prejudice objects is usually unfounded. The people who are prejudices only mark other people from the perspective of the general society. The prejudice or a suspicion that is based on the general assumption of people is not entirely true and not all wrong.

c. **Discrimination**

According to Smith and Mackie (2002) state that there are two types of discrimination. It is a positive and a negative discrimantive discrimination. The positive discrimination such as a recognition and understanding of the difference between one thing and another (oxford living dictionaries: 2018). It is unequal treatment of the individual or group, based on something usually categorical or unique attributes such as race, ethnicity, religion, or membership of social classes. It is an act that distinguishes an individual or a group because if the striking differences of them. Such as someone being rejected because of their skin color, get an accusations because of hatred over certain races and gets an insults. In addition, there are many forms of negative discrimination like class discrimination, religion discrimination,

social discrimination, gender discrimination and also discrimination based on racial.

d. Oppression

Iris Young (2004) claims that oppression is when people reduce the potential for other people to be fully human. In other words, oppression is when people make other people less human. This could mean treating them in a dehumanizing manner. It it such as violence, ersecution, rape and murder.

e. Marginalization

According to Iris Young (2004) state that marginalization is the act of relegating or confining a group of people to a lower social standing or outer limit or edge of society. The marginal condition in America usually occurs on elderly people who are fired from their jobs, young black people or Latinos who cannot find their first or second jobs, many single mothers and their children, other people involuntarilu unemployed, many mentally and physically disabled people. They are categorized as useless people in society, so they are marginalized.

f. African-American and Caucasian

African-American is one of the largest of the many ethnic grous in the United States. African-American are largely the descendants of slave-people who were brought from their African homelands by force to work in the New World. Their rights were severely limited, and they were long denied a rightful share in the economic, social and politic progress of the United States. Nevertheless, African-American have made basic and lasting contributions to American history and culture.

Then, the term Caucasian dating comes from the time when race studies were based on skull measurements and travel diaries. Caucasian to mean white was popularized in the late 18th century by Johann Friedrich Blumenbach, a German anthropologist, who decreed that it encompassed Europeans and the inhabitants of a region reaching from the Obi River in Russia to the Ganges to the Caspian Sea, plus northern Africans.

2.5 The Effects of Social Injustice

Social injustice has some effects on its victims. Below are the effects of social injustice:

1. Poverty

   Poverty refers the condition of having little or no money, goods, and means of support. According to Soekanto (2010:320) poverty is a

condition where a man cannot take care of himself in the respect of the living standard of the group where he lives in and he cannot take benefit from his ability in his group. Social injustice has affected every civilization in human history.

2. Human Right

According to Nickel (1992:561-2) argue that human right are frequently held to be universal in the sense that all people have and should enjoy tem, and to be independent in the sense that they exist and are available as standards of justification and critism whether or not they are recognized and implemented by the leal system or officials of a country.