

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Brunell in *Feminism Reimagined* (2019) states that feminism is a movement of a woman to demand equality and justice, fight for sexist exploitation and oppression. The issue of feminism is always interesting to be discussed, given by the unequal comparison of the population between men and women and the society's mindset which is still underestimating women's abilities. Feminism as a philosophy and movement in society arises a consciousness, when in the history of mankind in the world shows the reality where women (feminine) feel disadvantaged in all fields and number two by men (masculine) especially in patriarchal societies. The condition of the feminine in the culture of society and their stretching to encouraged and urged in getting various access to life is what is then interesting to be the objects of study. And the deepest struggle in feminist is against attitudes that sustain such discriminatory practices.

Murphy in *Beyond Feminism* (1995) states that women are placed in the lowest level and are often treated both assumed as the second class. That is why feminism begins with premise that women and men's position in society is the result of social factors and natural ones, and they must be balance. Basically the feminism existence was forced by the oppression caused by the patriarchy system, a system that places men as the first class and priority while women is the second class who serve the men in every aspect of their life.

Feminist literary criticism departs from the phenomena that men dominate the literary theories and critics. It rejects the present theories and method, because they are considered patriarchal. Women finally raised and made critics toward patriarchal systems in many aspects. Though feminist rejects theories, feminism has an intrinsic relation with particular man theories whose work is questioning the basic basement of the dominant tradition of western thought. Based on the definition above, any works of female's issues can be analyzed from a womanly point of view, which is called as feminist literary criticism (Selden, 1985 : 32)

The topic of feminism above is also raised in Moira Fowley-Doyle's *All The Bad Apples*. This novel tells the story of a girl named Deena who is just turned 17 years old. Deena lives with her two sisters, Rachel and Mandy because her father leaves them since following a particular cult. Mandy is her older sister who taught Deena about freedom and always disputes with their father. It is contrast with Rachel who always saves Deena when their father gets angry but has certain intentions to shape Deena to be an obedient housewife in accordance with their family traditions. The fact that Deena turns out to be a lesbian makes Deena in two choices, revealing her true identity as a lesbian, be cursed as a 'Bad Apples' and punished to death by 'banshee' or complying with their family rules to be an obedient girl.

The writer chooses Moira Fowley-Doyle's *All The Bad Apples* because the novel criticizes the sensitive issues about women which is very interesting to be discussed. Furthermore, so far the writer hasn't found any studies discussing about this topic on Moira Fowley-Doyle's *All The Bad Apples*.

The work will be analyzed using Gynocritic feminist theory because the work is part of women's creativity which writes about women. And this theory had been discussed in previous study written by Evi Jovita Putri's a *Experiences in Different Cultural Backgrounds: Gynocriticism on Short Stories of Five Continents* that published on 2014 and *Virginia Woolf's Representation of Women : A Feminist Reading of "the Legacy"* by Hussein Al-Gweirien that published on 2017.

Gynocriticism is a study of women writing about women as a part of critics towards oppression happened. Term of gynocritics was mentioned by Elaine Showalter in her essay "Toward a Feminist Poetics" (1979), it refers to a form of feminist critic that is concerned to women as opposed side to women as readers of male writers. Gynocritics is establishing the study of woman writers and developing a wider methodologies of reading women's writing. In this research, the writer will focus in cultural gynocriticism as the topic of research. Following Showalter, theories based on cultural models may provide more complete and satisfying ways to talk about the specificity and differences of women's writing compared to theories based on biology, linguistics, or psychology.

## **1.2 Problem Statement of the Study**

Based on the background of the study above, the writer finds some problem statements that may be implied in the work :

1. How does the work reveal about the cultural oppression?
2. How is the main character's way against the oppression?
3. How does the work reveal about the character's culture?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study based on the statement of the problem are to reveal the cultural oppression depicted in the work, to analyse the way of the main character against the oppression and to reveal the character's culture.

## **1.4 Scope and Limitation of The Study**

The scope of the study is about patriarchal's issues in Moira Fowley-Doyle's *All The Bad Apples*. The discussion is limited on cultural oppression towards the main character (Deena) in Moira Fowley-Doyle's *All The Bad Apples* by explaining the story which leads to the cultural oppression using the theory of gynocriticism and descriptive qualitative method.

## **1.5 Significance of the Study**

Through this discussion, the research writer expects that theoretically it could fulfill the lack of references in feminism study especially in gynocriticism focused study. And practically could give the reader knowledge about women's issues from another country.

## **1.6 Organization of the Study**

There are five chapters in this study. The first chapter is introduction that consists of background of the study, problem statement of the study, objectives of the study, scope and limitation of the study, significance of the study and organization of the study. Review of related literature is the second chapter. It deals with the theories that support the understanding of the problem. The third chapter is research method. It consists of research design, literary approach, research instrument, data source, data collection procedure and data analysis procedure. Analysis is the fourth chapter. It focuses on analyzing the statement of the problem. The fifth chapter is conclusion. It gives the conclusion of the problem that has been analyzed. The last papers of this thesis are bibliography and appendix.

