

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Oppression

Oppression is the act using the power by one superior group to empower group at the expense of disempowering, marginalizing, and subordinating another. It is particularly closely associated with nationalism and derived social systems, where an identity is built by antagonism to the other. This act causes an inferior group feeling of being heavily weighted down in mind and body (Dawkins,1989:20). Oppression is the action to use the power by one superior to empower another inferior group. A government or political organizations that have more power usually oppress the powerless group for their benefit.

Oppression refers to relations of domination and exploitation, economic, social and psychology between individuals or social groups. Oppression creates injustice (e.g., unemployment, poverty, homeless, and lack of health care). Oppression motivated exploitation (i.e., exploit from the resources, capacities, and productivity of others). The goal of oppression is to increase the standard living of the oppressor. (Gil, 1994:233). Oppression makes the victim into a loss of confidence, making the victims isolated from the environment, and making them under pressure.

2.2 The Reason of Oppression

People can be regarded as a group whose members have different power, wealth and opportunity to reach their needs than another group. Some groups live in inferior position and the other members live in superior position of society. A person lives within domination and oppression if other groups have the power to determine her actions. There are any reasons lead to oppression. The reasons of oppression are powerlessness and cultural dominance. Differences in power privilege constrain interactions and relationships. Powerlessness aspect of oppression brings in the important dimension of status. The positions and power affect a person's ability to develop her or his capacities and to make decisions about her or his life conditions. The causes of oppression are powerlessness of class, race and gender.

Cultural dominance refers to the way that one group's experiences, cultural expressions and history are defined as superior to all other groups' experiences and histories. (Thomas,1992:4). The cultural differences are seen in physical variations, such as skin color, ethnicity, accents, gender, sexual identities, etc. The cultural dominance can be the causes of oppression.

2.3 Types of Oppression

There are four types of oppression that are faced by people who ever experience oppression. They are psychological oppression, physical oppression, exploitation, and marginalization.

2.3.1 Psychological Oppression

The psychological oppression ends when people simply decide to stop being afraid. Psychological oppression is the incorporation and acceptance by individuals within an oppressed group of the prejudices against them within the dominant society. Psychological oppression consists of self-hatred, self concealment, fear of violence and feelings of inferiority, resignation, isolation, and powerlessness. Psychological oppression is the mechanism within an oppressive system for perpetuating domination not only by external control but also by building subservience into the minds of the oppressed groups. (Pheterson, 1986:146).

When the victim of oppression is led to believe the negative views of the oppressor, this phenomenon is called psychological oppression. Psychological oppression takes the form of self hatred, which can express itself in depression, despair and self abuse, self concealment, fear of violence and feelings of inferiority, resignation, isolation, and powerlessness.

Moane (1999) identifies four areas of psychological functioning that are impacted by oppression: self and identity, emotions, interpersonal relationships, and mental health.

According to Kaufman, What we see and observe then transfers inside the self through the medium of visual imagery. The inner process of seeing visual images in the mind's eye mediates the transfer from outer to inner. What is first experienced or observed outside the self is taken inside, or internalized, through identification. The

psychological image then forms the basis for the evolving relationship which the self comes to have with the self. (1992:36). Psychological oppression means the oppression occurred in someone mind. Therefore in the case of oppression, psychological oppression has become an interesting issue to be discussed since the victims of oppression or oppressed group of the prejudices are made to accept and believe the negative views of the oppressors or the dominant society.

Someone who experience psychological oppression may become less sensitive to the pain and suffering of others, the victim may be more fearful of the world around them, and they may be more likely to behave in aggressive or hurtful ways toward others. Psychological oppression toward people can make the oppressor easier to control the physical oppression. The psychological oppression can affect the serious psychological problems, unconfidence, depression, frustration and become introvert person. Because the victims feel that they live in oppressed and live without freedom, injustice, so they will feel frustration with their lives.

2.3.2 Physical Oppression

Some inferior groups live with fear because of humiliation or live in under pressure beneath the power group. The inferior group disability and unequal style of living with the power group is therefore a particular form of social oppression. Members of some groups that experience physical oppression live with the knowledge that they must fear to the power group.

The dictator government usually uses physical oppression to keep and to control the society. The physical oppression is to make the society fear, so they have no choice but sides obedient the government's rules.

Physical oppression is hurt physically, such as beatings, harassment, slapping, punching, pushing, hair pulling, kicking, pushing, pinching, slapping, shoving, stabbing, burning, and hitting. Physical oppression is an extreme form of aggression, such as assault, rape or murder. Physical oppression means oppress with brutal violence.

Physical oppression has many causes, including frustration, exposure to violent media, violence in the home or neighborhood and a tendency to see other people's actions as hostile even when they're not. Certain situations also increase the risk of aggression, such as drinking, insults and other provocations and environmental factors like heat and overcrowding (Dawkins,1989:21). Physical oppression is the most obvious and visible form of oppression.

2.3.3 Exploitation

Exploitation refers to the engagement of people in work or other activities which others will benefit. These activities affect of the physical or mental health, education, or spiritual, moral or social-emotional development (Krug et al., 2002).

Exploitation is always connected with economy. The people who become the owner factory changes raw materials into products need labor power. In a market

economy, labor is a commodity. Usually the owner use force labor to keep the surplus for getting more the result of production than they are paying in actual labor costs. The labor also increases the power labor to get more salary. Because of the nature of profit, the owners built exploitation. The wealthy owner maintains and increases their power with expense of many powerless worker. This is one way that people experience oppression.

According to Young in *Oppression, Privilege, & Resistance*, exploitation is the act of using people in community to work in force labor for the power group's benefit. (Heldke and Peg O'Connor, 2004:1). The exploitation's victims do not get proper treatment, because they get little salary although they work even full-time. The power group does not always bring an end of poverty. Exploitation creates a system of class differences, keeping the rich, richer and the poor, poorer. The result of exploitation is the benefit of the power group for their own needs.

2.3.4 Marginalization

Marginalization is exclusion from social lives at individual, interpersonal and societal levels. People who are marginalized have relatively little control over their lives and the resources available to them. They may become often receive negative public attitudes. Their opportunity is to make social contributions limited and they have low self confidence and low self esteem. Marginalization is the process in which individuals or entire communities of people are blocked or denied full from various

rights, opportunities that are available for another member, for instance: housing, employment, healthcare, civic engagement, and communication. This pushes the community to poverty, misery and discrimination. (Burton and Kagan, 2004:4). If the marginalization victims do not have work, they will have limited opportunities for meeting with others, and may become isolated. Marginalization is detaching groups and individuals from social relations of the society in which they live.

Marginalization usually connects with economy. Not everyone is able to participate in the labor market. People who do not have skills, low basic education or characteristics searched by employers does not appropriate. They are involuntarily unemployed and give up to try for finding the job. These groups of people are experiencing marginalization.

According to Young in *Oppression, Privilege, & Resistance*, “marginalization is the act of confining a group of people to a lower social standing or outer limit or edge of society”, (Heldke and Peg O’Connor, 2004:2).

Being poor and unemployed will bring them into marginalization. People who are marginalized have relatively little control over their lives and the resources available to them. They become easier to be controlled by the dominant group in society.