# CHAPTER II

# REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

To answer the research questions, the researcher needs to understand the related theory. Then, the theory explained in this chapter is about Feminism in the First – Wave, and the researcher will find the exact point with the theory used.

## 2.I Theoretical Framework

Gender problem has become the phenomenon in this globalization. However, the difference of gender position between men and women make the modes of gender power and the disadvantage (Tyson 92). Mostly, this gender differences tend to bring the oppression to women, since women are physically weaker than men. According to Tyson ‘’some feminists call their field feminisms in order to underscore the multiplicity of points view of its adherents and offerways of thinking that oppose the traditional tendency to believe there is a single best point of view’’ (Tyson 83). It means that feminist call their field feminism because most of feminist insist the traditional tendency in one single point of view.

## 2.II Feminism

The term of feminism can be described as the gender movements in women position, in this case, the feminist resists the gender patriarchal assumption that

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will oppress them from their position. However, according to Lois Tyson she stated that:

‘’Patriarchy continually exerts forces that undermine women’s self-confidence and assertiveness, then points to the absence of these qualities as proof that women are naturally, and therefore correctly, self-effacing and submissive’’ (Tyson 87). The statement means that Patriarchy always has the power that gives the oppression to women’s self-confidence and their assertiveness. However, traditional gender roles shows that men are rationally and physically strong, protective, and decisive, while women tend to show their emotion (irrationality), weakness, nurture, and submission (Tyson 85).

Feminist perspective has denied such differences as physical size, shape, and body because it could mean that men are naturally superior than women. Fundamentally, feminist movement has its goal for the elimination of social, economic, and cultural oppression to women, although the pressure place to different elements that bring the variety during the history of movements. According to Gardner, the movements are divided into three waves, those are: firsts wave of feminism from the mid – 1800s to 1920 in the United State and United Kingdom; second wave that covers the period of intese feminist activity in 1960s and 1970s in both Europe and United State; the third wave of feminism happened in the early 1990 in US ( Gardner 26-28).

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**First wave (1800s – 1920)**

The first wave was the period of challenges to the legal and social inequalities in the United States and United Kingdom. This period of feminist political activity began earlier, with the publication of feminist philosopher Mary Wollstonecrafts that give the call for female equality in her work *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman.* However, mostly the works in the first waves of feminism refered to the social and economic barriers to the women, for instace that women were not allowed to control their own property and earnings. Instead, marriage was the appropriate destination and goal for women's energies. Hence, philosophical writing of Harriet Taylor Mill in the late 1800s has argued that women should be given for their economic opportunities, and against the oppressive institution of marriage. Furthermore, the reformer of this first waves often focused on reforming different aspects of women's lives, such as marital laws and education (Gardner 26).

**Second wave (1960s – 1970s)**

The second wave of feminism bring the intense for the feminist activity in 1960s until 1970s around Europe and United Stated. The Feminine Mistique work of Betty Friedan described the frustration experienced by women that were trapped in domestic roles. Fruthermore Freidan founded the National Organization for Woman (NOW) in 1966 in order to campaign for equal rights of women in that areas of society such as

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education and the work place. The feminism of NOW that concerned in civil rights, was grounded in the theory of political liberalism.

The women's liberation movement was a more radical movement. Typically, these groups were formed by women of the 1960s such as, civil right movement but who had been discouraged by the sexism within these male dominated movements (Gardner 27).

**Third waves**

According to Tong, third-wave feminists are more than willing to accommodate diversity and change. They are particularly eager to understand the ways in which gender oppression and other kinds of human oppression co-create and co-maintain each other. For third-wave feminists, difference is the way things are. (Tong 272)

Feminism still catagorized based from the ideology of feminist those are, Liberal Feminism, Radical Feminism, Marxist and Socialist Feminism, Psychoanalytic Feminism, Care – Focused Feminism, Multicultural Feminism, Global Feminism, Post – Colonial Feminism, Ecofeminism, Postmodern Feminism, and Third – Wave Feminism (Tong 1). Hence, in this research the researcher has focused on discussing this thesis with using the theory of Feminism in the First – Wave, because based on the novel research Feminism theory in the First – Wave has the exact data from the novel itself, for instance based from the novel the character Mrs.Graham or can be called as Helen Huntington try to show that Helen does not agree with male dominance like what her husband did

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and with her husband friends do; Helen Huntington also wants to show the strength of her to be free from her abbusive husband, which is show the way she ran away from her abbusive husband and free from her boundaries with her husband. Feminism in First – Waves tend to be more focus to equal education, married women property right, cusdoty of infants right, etc. Hence, for the concept of feminism in the First – Wave this thesis using the concept of Marry Wollstonecraft, John Stuart Milll, and Harriet Taylor Mill. However, the concept of these three feminist have the exact like the novel.

### 2.II.1. Marry Wollstonecraft's Feminism Concept

Marry Wollstonecraft write in time (1759 – 1799) it was when the economic and women position were declined. At first, the industrialization moved slowly and unevenly, this make the biggest impact to marriage, borgouise women. However, these women lefted with little productive to do. Married to relatively wealthy professional and entrepreneurial men, these women had no incentive to work outside the home or, if they had several servants, even inside it (Eisenstein 96).

Middle-class ladies in Wollstonecraft's estimation always sacrificed health, liberty, and virtue for whatever prertige, pleasure, and give the power their husbands could provide. Because, women were not allowed to excercise outdoor, and make them lack with the healthy bodies. Also, they were not allowed to choose their own decision, and makes them lack of liberty

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(Tong 13). Although, Wollstonecraft did not use the term of ‘’social constructed gender roles’’ Wollstonecraft denied that women are by nature more pleasure seeking and pleasure giving than men. Wollstonecraft stated that men can develop the same flawed as women (Ibid 23).

Emile (novel) written by Jean-Jacques Rosseu explained that men should be more educated in virtues such as courage, temperance, justice, and fortitude, whereas women should be educated in virtues such as patience, docility, good humor, and flexibility. While, the ideal women based from the novel is like dabbles in music, art, fiction, and poetry while refining the homemaking skill. Wollstonecraft agree with the description of Emile character in the novel but not the Sophie as the woman character, Sophie would become a detriment rather than a complement to her husband, a creature of bad sensibility rather than good sense (Wollstonecraft 61). In this case based from the novel emile, Wollstonecraft provide the education just like the man character in emile, with this kind of education can develop their rational and moral capacities, their full human potential. Furthermore, Wellstonecraft develop her arguments about the education parity in beneficial term (Tong, 14).

Wollstonecraft has claimed that to be distinctive from animals, people need to be more rational, since women and men have the capacity. However, society owes to women for the same education as men. It is because every person deserves the equal education to develop their own rational and moral capacities so they can achieve their full personhood (Tong 15).

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Wollstonecraft show the perception of strong women in mind and body, a women who is not a slave to their passion, her husband, or her children. Hence, for Wollstonecraft the ideal women should be less intereted in fulfilling herself, if by self-fulfillment is meant for fulfilling the desire then there will be no excercising self – control. Wollstonecraft wants women should have their personhood, she claimed that a woman should not be reduced to the "toy of man, his rattle," which "must jingle in his ears whenever, dismissing reason, he chooses to be amused" (Wollstonecraft 34). In other words, a woman is not a "mere means," or instrument, to one or more man's pleasure or happiness. Rather, she is an "end-in-herself," a rational agent whose dignity consists in having the capacity for self-determination (Kant 63). For instance, if husband treat his wife as no more special, he treats her as an object to his own pleasure. (Tong16).

### 2.II.2. John Stuart Mill and Harriet Taylor Mill's Feminism Concept

John Stuart Mill and Harriet Taylor (Mill) have joined Wollstonecraft about the idea of rationality. But they consider that rationality not only morally as autonomous decision making, but also prudentially as calculative reason or using the thought to get what people want. Different with Wollstonecraft, for Mill and Taylor they stated that the usual way to maximize the happiness/ pleasure is to allow individuals to chase their eagerness, provided for the other individuals will not hinder or obstruct the process. However, Mill and Taylor also agree with Wollstonecraft that if society want the sexual equality, or

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gender justice, then society must provide women with political rights, econimic oportunities, as well the equal education as men can (Tong 16).

Mill and Taylor focus on the topic of marriage and divorce which are not surprising for them. They have a good relationship but does not mean they have to agree each other. However, Taylor assumed that women will be the one that rear their children to adulthood in the divorce. From that way, Taylor warned women to have few children. On the contrary, Mill insist couples to marry late, have children late, and live in extended family or communelike situations to minimize the effect of divorce in children. Hence, Mill thinks that divorce in men or even women can effect to their children lives (Mill et Taylor 75).

For Taylor and Mill did not contest traditional assumption about men and women Child-rearing roles, but for Taylor did contest traditional assumption about women's choice for marriage and motherhood rather than career or occupation. For Mill stated that even women were full of education and freedom, most of them would choose to stay in the private realm, where their main function would be ''adorn and beautify'' rather than to ''support'' life. While, in the book ''Enfranchisement of Women'' by Harriet Taylor argued that women need to do more than read books, and cast ballots. However, they also need to be partners with men''in the labors and gains, risk and remunerations of productive industry'' (Tong 17).

Taylor believed that women have their own way to choose where they want to be a housewife and mothering or the other side they want to work outside

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the house. However, Taylor believed that women have three options; those are adding a career or an occupation to her domestic, maternal and responsibilities (Tong 17). Taylor claimed that women cannot be the same equal as their husband place, unless they have confidence and sense of entitlement that come from the contributing ‘’materially to the support of the family’’ (Ibid 105). Taylor argued the statement of Mill which is about that women’s economic equality would depress the economy and subsequently wages (Mill and Taylor 74). Taylor statement is :

‘’ Even if every woman, as matters now stand, had a claim on some man for support, how infinitely preferable is it that part of the income should be of the woman’s earning, even if the aggregate sum were but little increased by it, rather than that she should be compelled to stand aside in order that men may be the sole earners, and the sole dispensers of what is earned (Taylor 105).’’

Which means from the statement that women should not being the slave of their husband, they should earn an income outside the home.

In further explanation Taylor view about married women and single women that should work. Taylor has changed the statement that she states women cannot do both as worker full of time outside the house and becomes a good house wife at the same time rearing their children is not an easy way. Taylor claimed that every woman who works outside the house and becomes a good house wife will actually need a domestic servant, but only upper class women can afford to pay servant in their house (Eisenstein 131). Even Taylor did not write so much to all women in certain privilage class of married women, but her writings help the poor women as well as rich women into the public world. It is the same as Mill, he argued in ‘’The Subjection of Women’’ that if

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women's rational power were recognized as equal as men, then the society will get significant benefit such as: public – spirited citizens for society itself, intelectually stimulating spouses for husbands, a doubling of "mass of mental faculties available for the higher service of humanity,'' and a multitude of very happy women (Mill and Taylor 221).

In Mill cases of Women Liberation, this did not depend on the ability to prove that all women can do anything that men can do, it depends on the ability that some women can do anything that men can do (Okin 197). Mill states that even women cannot do the things like the men do but do not mean women were forbidden to do the things men do. However, Mill believe that if women have the same liberties as men do, and if women were taught to get the good value of the whole then women would develope the real unselfishness. Also Mill insist that men are not intellectually superior to women, and intuitiveness as a superior form of knowledge not often found in men (Mill 156).

**2.III. Review of Related Literature**

In review of related literature, the researcher finds out several previous studies about the research that have the simililarities and the differences with the researcher thesis. The first previous study is from Airlangga University, the thesis titled ''*The Potrayal of Women as Seen in Anne Bronte's Agnes Grey.''* This thesis is about the potrayal of Victorian women based from the novel Anne Bronte's *Agnes Grey*, women are influenced by some aspects in traditional gender

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roles and patriarchy but also capitalism ideology. This thesis analyze the events, dialogues, and conflict in the novel with the concept of Victorian women.

The second previous study is from University of Kentucky, the research titled ‘’*The Contest of Marriage: Domestic Authority in The Victorian Novel’’* by Morgan Richardson. This thesis explain about the contest in marriage and the novel ‘’*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall’’* included in this research. Neverthless, this thesis put several novel for the research that discuss about the difficulties in marriage.

The third is from a journal by Jessica Cox the title ‘’*Gender, Conflict, Continuity: Anne Bronte’s The Tenant of Wildfell Hall (1848) and Sarah Grand’s The Heavenly Twins (1893).’’* This research discuss two novels with the related issue about Gender and Conflict where women in both novel have the difficulties with the problem of marriage.

These previous studies have the similarities and differences with the researcher thesis, like from the first study is about women potrayal in Victorian Era, which is the same as the researcher thesis from the character of Hellen shows the characteristic of middle class women live in Victorian Era, where women get difficulties with tradition gender roles, and patriarchy. But the difference, this research analyze the novel ’’*Agnes Grey’’* by Anne Bronte, while the researcher discuss the novel ’’*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall’’* by Anne Bronte. The second previous study similarities with the researcher thesis is that this research discuss about the difficulties in marriage, the causes of conflict in marriage, but the difference with this research and the researcher thesis is that this research discuss

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more than one novel while the researcher only use one novel for the object. The third previous study similarities with the researcher thesis is that the research is about gender, conflict, and also continuity which is tells about the gender position in women specifically. Hence, this research has the same content with the researcher thesis that discuss about gender differences and the conflict itself, but there is difference betweem the researcher thesis that this research discuss with two novels and compare them while the researcher thesis only use one novel.

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