

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Research

The minute that people are born the fact of their sexes is obvious, as indicated by physical attributes, genital body, chromosomal and hormonal characteristic. Even they are still in uterus, it is predictable, but this sex characteristic can be misidentified at birth, due to distortions of the genitals. Gender roles is a different phenomenon than sex. The relevant terms are not “male” or “female”, which are a sex terms but “masculine” or “feminine” as in gender roles. Masculinity is gender characteristic which describes the traditional value from men’s attitude or behavior that is accepted by society (Merdeka & Kumoro, 2018). Masculinity is also called as Manhood or Manliness. It is a package of attributes, behaviors and roles related to boys and men. Some social experts also said masculinity as a performance of men. Masculinity is socially constructed. Others have suggested that masculinity may be influenced by biological process. Infant raised as members of the other sex find it difficult if not impossible to function like other members of their own sex. Man who works as fashion designer, especially on woman’s fashion, would also reflect woman’s traits in his behavior. In other words, masculinity is human individually aspects that is obtained in process of human’s social

interaction. It shapes character of people, according to where the people live on, with whom the people live in, playmate, workmate, schoolmate, all environmental aspects influence every individual in person. Moreover, it can be said that the masculinity is socially prescribed and individually learned, and its phenomena not innate to the human's life, and hence changeable.

Masculinity has vital role in every joints of life. Masculinity as gender characteristic conducts a man's social-culture life, attitude and behavior that is acceptable for environment. Unconsciously, this term becomes the main element that shapes and guides the man's behavior in social interaction. Moreover, its concept sometimes limits and forces to do a man's thing. Many of men are depressed by the stereotypes, all of those genuine male's attributes. Men who do not have those characteristics are not considered as men. In this case, masculinity not only talks about human behavior, but also creates a social perception of all man's traits in every social aspects of life.

Scholes (1994) defined that character itself is the accumulation of details about the people appearance, actions and responses, as seen, heard and felt into physical realities. Same as the attributes of masculine which are come in individuals as encouragement, it binds on someone and makes that as the some person's character. A newborn baby has no concept of self. By the time baby grows up, turns to child, enters school, it has begun

to develop fairly coherent picture of who it is and what the appropriate behaviors are for the identity. This process of developing the pictures is probably never-ending, but by adulthood it is usually subject to relatively less change than it was earlier. The patriarchal society, which is still dense, often affects a character shift of some individual. It can be seen that there are many transgender issues that can be found in the socio-cultural life of today's society. Transgender is the term that people have a gender identity that differs from the sex that they were assigned at birth. They seek some medical treatments such as hormone replacement or sex reassignment surgery. Based on *The Journal of Sexual Medicine*, the number of population of transgender are significantly increased. According to a review, an estimated 9,2 out of every 100.000 people are transgender. If the population of the world is about 8 billion, it means the population of transgender is about 736.000. In 2016, a research article said that in America transgender community is 0,8% of America population. This phenomenon happens because of character imposition. A stiff public perception about masculinity, a forced perception that men must be courageous, aggressive, active, not even a inch of femininity, has driven it all.. Those traditional point of view about masculinity bring up people's perception that men must be able to endure the pain, men cannot look weak, men do not crying, and men do not giving up. Its doctrine of masculinity also went to social roles. Men are prohibited for taking a job in woman fields, for example a secretary. Furthermore, even though being

crybaby, weak, and hopeless are universal human characteristics that can happen to anyone without seeing a gender, men are not allowed to have them.

Men also show masculinity traits in their daily lives, whether at home, at workplace, or in public places. Men's masculinity is also adopted in fictional works, including a film where it remains as an extrinsic value. It happens because masculinity traits has own dynamic characteristic. It makes an interesting aspect to be adopted in film. Film is a medium to spread an information and deliver message to the audience. It has broad characteristic as a media. Film has its own uniqueness in delivering the messages, because film has two contents of messages which are visual and audio. Scene by scene, frame by frame, act by act seems so real. It causes film has a strong appeal for most of people. In the film *The Equalizer* (2014), Robert McCall is the main character as former of FBI agent. This character brings a portrayal of masculinity concept in the movie, which is a man must be a protector of weaklings. In physical appearance, this character also shows a typical a strong man, completed with the muscular body. The standard of masculinity is not limited in physical appearance. In the movie *Titanic* (1997), Jack comes from lower class family, no property and wealthy. Moreover, he is a man who has no physical appearance of masculine man, thin body and dull skin, but his act, being respectful and loyal towards woman, especially in relationship is still considered as masculine. The other film that gives an action of masculinity traits is *Troy*

(2004). It is shown by an action of Achilles, one of protagonist characters in that film. He is a Greek warrior who fights for his own dignity and beliefs. He is a dynamic character that shows a portrait of masculine man.

Janet Saltzman Chafetz (1979) implied as her contribution of this issue that masculinity of man is described in seven areas: man's physical appearance, man's function of life, man's sexual aggressiveness, man's emotional tense, man's intelligence, man's interpersonal, and man's other personal characteristic. She is an American sociologist who has studied social issues of gender inequality. Her conclusion in the context of male masculinity makes her theory as a standard in masculinity study. Her term has been used as the conceptual framework for fictionanalysis in many studies. The study of an extrinsic element in fictional works is an academic study in literature.

The following is an overview of literature studies that focus on male masculinity as main topic. For the first, Merdeka and Kumoro (2018) in their study *Masculinity: Male Traits in 1930s Portrayed in Public Enemies*, examine how John Dillinger's character expresses his masculine side in the film *Public Enemies*. In that study, both of them reveal Dillinger's traits as a man who lives in early 20<sup>th</sup> century, a time where the roles of men and women are fragmented into two different functions. Men function as a provider or a 'breadwinner' as contrast to women's functions as 'homemaker'. Its study also shows how masculinity transformed in early 1930, from Victorian era to Modern masculinity.

Modern masculinity focuses on men's personality, youth and expressiveness, cooperativeness and sexuality, while Victorian era stuck in stigma of patriarchy. In conclusion, man in that study takes a dominant role as a leader to lead, care, protect and support where as he stands in.

Second, In 2020, Akhsanul Marom also had done a research about masculinity. His *The Representation of Masculinity in American Assassin Movie* described masculinity character using Janet Saltzman Chafetz's as the basic theory. Masculinity in his study is represented by a man named Mitch Rapp who worked as an agent of CIA. His Masculinity is considered as unique and unusual. In the film, his masculinity is constructed by his environment, instead of his social life. In the study also illustrates the types of manliness. This manliness is considered by character's action. Everything else surrounding a character determines any of actions performed by character and this will break into each types of manliness. Akhsanul in his study also explained how a man as agent of CIA showed his masculinity in order to accomplish his mission.

A study about masculinity traits showed by Achilles in *Troy (2004)* which is directed by Wolfgang Petersen and David Benioff has never been done before. A masculinity that is embedded in a Greek warrior. Achilles dominations in the film bring a lot of masculinity portrayal. His actions and reactions towards his environment, his bravery, leadership, even more his soft-hearted towards his crush in the film shows his masculinity is interesting to be analyzed. The study aims to analyze the masculinity traits

in the character of Achilles through Janet Saltzman Chafetz concept of masculinity and categorize the character into types of masculinity stated by Brett and Kate McKay.

## B. Question and Scope of the Research

### 1. Question of the Research

Based on the background of research that writer has written above, the problem of this study are presented in questions as follows:

1. What are masculinity traits acted by Achilles character in the film *Troy (2004)* by Wolfgang Petersen and David Benioff?
2. What types of masculinity showed by Achilles character in the film *Troy (2004)*?

### 2. Scope of the Research

In this research the analysis only focuses on Achilles as one of male characters in film of *Troy* which is directed by Wolfgang Petersen and David Benioff. This research uses seven masculinity concept of Janet Saltzman Chafetz and types of masculinity by Brett and Kate McKay.

### C. Objective and Significance of the Research

#### 1. Objective of the Research

Based on the problems of research that writer mentioned above, objective of the research are described as follows:

1. To understand masculinity traits acted by *Achilles* character in *Troy* (2004) film.
2. To identify the type of masculinity showed by *Achilles* character in *Troy* (2004) film.

#### 2. Significance of the Research

The result of the research is expected to be useful for anyone who takes masculinity as their topic of research. The writer hopes that this research may contribute in developing masculinity theory in literature study, especially masculinity concept developed by *Achilles* character in the film of *Troy* (2004). Generally, to give an information about masculinity concept which developed in *Achilles* character in *Troy* (2004) film.

### D. Operational Definition

After an intensive reading for understanding the theory used, the writertakes a note for his own understanding for a several terms found, which are:



1. Masculinity

It is described as male attributes that is socially constructed. It is formed by socio-cultural process. Its term commonly used to label a men traits.

2. Character

It is described as a person that perform an actions. It is interacting each other. Having communication, conflict and relationship.

3. Characteristic

It is described as some manners or traits that inherent in a character. It has authentic feature in each character.

4. Film

It is described as motion picture or some work of visual art. It is completed with a spoken words, music and other sounds to support the images in motion. Film is also manifestation of a written manuscript or transcript that acted by an actors or actresses.

5. Literature

It is described as all of the written work, includes fiction and non-fiction. In recent centuries, its meaning not limited in written work, it includes a film and recording as electronic literature.

## **E. Systematization of the Research**

The writer divided this research into five chapters in order to get an appropriate writing composition.

Chapter I, Introduction presents the reason of the writer to take this research in Background of the Research. Based on the reason, the writer also formulated two problems and limited the research by subject of research and theory in Questions and Scope of the Research. The writer describes his aim and willing in Objective and Significant of the Research. To help the writer understanding the term of its study, the writer states the definition of the key terms in Operational Definition. The writing composition of this research is arranged in Systematization of the Research.

In Chapter II, the writer sorts out the theories used in this research in Theoretical Description.

Chapter III explains about when, where, what and how this research is conducted. Research Methodology includes Time and Place of the Research, Kind of the Research, Procedure of the Research, Technique of the Data Collection, Technique of the Data Analysis and Data Source.

Chapter IV shows the writer's Data Description, Data Analysis and Interpretation of the Research Findings. It presents the research process including analyzing the subject, considering related theories and presenting the results.

Chapter V is the summary of all the process that is done by the

writer. It includes the writer's Conclusion relating to the hypothesis of discussion and Suggestion connecting to significance of the research.

