

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

In a sense the Judeo-Christian the tradition of slavery begins in the Egyptian age taken account the Hebrew slaves by the Egyptian and how they conveyed themselves more rather than a master but as a God with their Godly laws. Through the book of Slavery and The Idea of progress (Davis, 1979, p.3) this epic stoics added to indoctrinate by nature that all men must follow orders and called this as a universal reason as slavery is the true value rather being a human that none the less does nothing in their lives. Though, this has to do nothing with references that someone having an external status none other than the king. Thus, the kind may the only person that had the privilege of having something as such.

For other explanation taken from the book of From Slavery to Freedom by Seymore Drescher (1999, p.1) that for almost a century and half of the determine slavery that has been dominated by the British colonials that the called it the “Whig” as an interpretation over the years. Which, from this point the object can have a corelate to the thesis that the writer made. The author's life story as a free black man from the North who was kidnapped and sold into slavery

in the pre-Civil War South is told in Solomon Northup's 12 Years a Slave. Northup was born free, the son of an emancipated slave. He grew up in upstate New York, where he lived, worked, and married. He was a skilled laborer as well as an accomplished violinist.

In 1841, two con men offered him a lucrative job playing fiddle in a circus, so he traveled with them to Washington, D.C., where he was drugged, kidnapped, and sold as a slave into Louisiana's Red River region. For the next twelve years, he was the human property of several different slave masters, with the majority of his time spent as a slave. Edwin Epps, a cruel southern planter, owned them. Northup was finally set free in January 1853 by Northern friends who came to his aid. He returned to his family in New York.

This book really represents the slavery that happened to Northup as other common slavery experience that happened during that time of the period. From start to finish, it all shows the time, places that happened, people who experienced or performed, and some other practices that happened, sometimes some other excessive details that happened to Northup's story throughout his writing. On the book he detailed what are the things that happened to him and how he warned the future generations what is the morals and cost of slavery from everyone's involvement. The slave's

themselves is degraded. Made some of the victims suffers from cruel physical robbery and spiritually to the riches.

There's one simple data of the research that the writer found on the novel itself by Solomon Northup himself, from the page 44 he stated "I was seized and roughly stripped of my clothing as soon as these formidable whips appeared. As previously stated, my feet were firmly planted on the floor. Radburn drew me over the bench, face down, and planted his heavy foot on the fetters, between my wrists, painfully holding them to the floor. Burch began beating me with his paddle. My naked body was subjected to blow after blow. When his unyielding arm became tired." From this we can see that he was blatantly undressed and beaten by these people because he's once a slave and as a people of colored, where this settlement's still matters in that era even when he is a free-man himself.

The purpose of writer's thesis is to analyze this slavery and other similar conducts that happened through the novel of Solomon Northup. And from the understanding of the object of the analysis the writer would like to corelate subject of the Sociology of literature, the meaning itself as approach or strategy of reading and comprehending interdisciplinary literature that embraces literary phenomena in relation to social aspects as a result, before explaining the nature of sociology literature, a literary scholar.

Based on (Swingewood, 1972, p. 21) first defines the boundaries of sociology as a science, and then describes the differences and similarities between sociology and literature. Furthermore, showing the silver lining towards the further understanding on acknowledging the knowledge itself and Swingewood outlined that sociology in literature is a scientific study and objectively on society and humanity, a study about institutions and process in society.

Sociology itself answers some of the questions about how society can be made possible, how everything about it that works, and why the society itself can survive through every community. What Swingewood outlined can be related towards the meaning of Sociology that put forward by Soerjono Soekanto, that sociology is a scientific study on society that generalized and try to find a general pattern in everyday social life.

The Literature of sociology itself had its improvement over the decades and we can even say that this is one of the oldest ages that exist, because Plato is the person that pioneered sociology of literature. Started from the mimesis theory right until the effects towards every reader, as Plato stated that everything that exist in the world are merely a fictive of an imagination from a higher thought in the world of ideas.

Based on that information that is presented in the background, Society is the base pillar that made everyday issue in society. Therefore, the act and effects of slavery is one of the examples that can change how sociality itself. How the characteristics and habits showed in the war and slavery that portrayed through the eyes of slavery and what the effects that occurred through ought the history of every single individuals, how people addresses this as a social problem towards the racism and oppression through book's and novels and how it affected the African-American today. Thus shown, how they manage to find some solutions on this problem as it is today.

B. Question and Scope of the Research

1. Question of the Research

Based on the background of the research, the problem in this research will be identifying as followed:

- a. What the impacts of the African-American slavery in the U.S are as reflected through the novel?
- b. What slavery portrayed on the novel historically accurate through the real live slavery conduct?
- c. How does slavery conducts embody the concept of Sociology?

2. Scope of the Research

The writer focused on how the novel portrayed slavery conduct on the civil war and how accurate it is on the level of historical value and how it was used as the object of the research. The writer uses method through the theory of the book of Lucien Goldman on Sociology of Literature.

C. Objective and Significance of the Research

1. Objective of the research

The objective of this research is what are the main purposes that the writer wishes to accomplish, such as:

- a. To know the impact of the African-American slavery in the U.S through the novel.
- b. To acknowledge Slavery conduct through the novels of “Twelve years a slave” by Solomon Northup and how it correctly accurate through the real live slavery while taking the concept of sociology.

2. Significance of the Research

This writing and research paper hopefully this research can be useful for students and society. Not only for writers but also can contribute to developing their interest in the unique culture out there. This study hopefully could give a worth significances as follows:

Based on the purpose of the study that is displayed is expected to give information to the reader all about the American historic events on the slavery conducts that happened throughout the novels and how they display of how every suspect behaved towards their slave's.

As the results of the study are likely to provide academics with important information about American slavery that conducted on the novels and how it was correctly implemented on the historic point of view and how the novel portrayed.

D. Operational Definition

1. Novel

A novel is a long and sophisticated fictional prose tale that explores human experience in a creative way. Although its origins in English are typically dated to the 18th century, its roots can be traced back thousands of years.

2. Sociology Literature

Sociology of literature is the analysis of a literary work related to social values and norms. Social aspects are related to the intrinsic and extrinsic elements as a social background.

3. Slavery

The African-American resistance toward the whites change the racial status based on moral feelings towards the traditional American values as individualism and self-reliance. And by that the white supremacy took the chances to use this opportunity to use the black race as an object of slavery as a free labour yet

And as the novel portrayed the slavery itself towards how slavery was conducted on the civil war, the things that Solomon Northup was always a proof as a crime against humanity as it is.

E. Systematization of the Research

In this research, The Systematization of this paper means to make the writer easier in taking the understanding of this paper and to make the paper completed in good composition. The writer divides the writing into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I Introduction, in this Chapter the writer explained background of the research, question and the scope of the research, objective and significance of the research, operational definition, and systematization of the research.

Chapter II Theoretical Description, this chapter discusses of the slavery that happened, characters that dismissed the use of slaves and historic events that happened during the civil war. As writer take other theoretical reference such as Sociology of Literature.

Chapter III Methodology of the Research, this chapter is telling about time and place of the research, population and method of the research, instrument and variable of the research, Technique of the data Analysis that writer take from the novel of Solomon Northup.

Chapter IV Data Analysis, it shows about data description on the novel Twelve Years a Slave by Solomon Northup, analysis of data would where the writer would take from the novel and other journal resources taken that discusses about slavery conducts that happened on the civil war.

Chapter V Conclusion and Suggestion, it shows the overall summary based on the previous chapter and some suggestion for the next in future



