

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Research

In human life, many things happen, not all humans have a good relationship with each other. One of the bad things that often happens in human relations is discrimination. It is a group that treats other groups differently. In every country, there must be different ethnicities, races, religions, and also types. Often, there are cases of disputes on the grounds of different ethnicities or other reasons, then discrimination occurs. It usually occurs around the world, is gender discrimination. It types that is often disadvantaged is women.

Many men have opinion that women are weak, should treat women gently, and must be respectful. In contrast, there are also some who underestimate the existence of women because they consider themselves to be higher in nature than women. As a result, there is a stereotype against women in every country. Due to this discrimination, violence is experienced by most of the women, as well as patriarchy. In reality, patriarchy is always occurring, and automatically, feminism was born which aims to equalize gender and to end sexism, sexist exploitation and oppression of women. Struggling for dreams, having special treatment, and getting access to the same chance as men in the society and also family, they are remarkable things that women hopes.

The purpose of feminism is often misunderstood by some people. Some people agree feminism is an ideology to hate men. Whereas, feminism only wants to eliminate gender discrimination, then life can be more peaceful with others. From ancient times, the social movement that fought for gender equality was feminism. Obviously, the aims are to cut discrimination against gender, sexual orientation, skin color, ethnicity, religion, and culture or lifestyle. Belief that human being has the same rights. It is strengthened by Scarlett Curtis' idea (2018), "A movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression named feminism" in *Feminists don't wear pink* (p. 230).

Discrimination continues in various places up to now, such as what happened in California, the United States. As stated by Suara.com News (2017) there are three female ex-employees at the Google company, they reported the company of Google to courts. The discrimination's experienced of them was about the difference in salary, that is lower than men, and stated that Google makes women were a quite hard to get promotions.

Gender discrimination against women stems from religious traditions or customs. Discrimination experienced by women occurs in the world of work, politics, and marriage. In this life, all human beings are entitled to human rights no matter what their status, gender, or position. Therefore, women have the right to have the choice they want to make without being forced.

Even though many people know about human rights, gender discrimination against women often occurs. In the world of work, women are always considered to get a position in the world of work. By the reason that

women will marry and give birth, it is less likely that women will last long in the world of work. In addition, in the world of education, there are some who think that women do not have the right to go to high school, because women concerned to work in the kitchen and just be a good wife for her husband later, mother for their kids.

It can be called patriarchy, where men are prioritized or are more powerful than women. Women just have to follow the orders of men and they have no right to vote. This patriarchy is also considered that men hold power in the social and political world. According to British feminist Sylvia Walby in Alexandra Black et al (2019, p. 21) that politics, culture, family household, paid work, attitudes towards sexuality, and violence are the six keys that support patriarchy. These keys, shows about the inequality that persists. At home, women's rights still do most of the housework. In the workplace, legal rights to equal pay do not close the gender pay gap.

It is hard for women to enter the world of politics, because political patriarchal culture can only be for men. In this patriarchal culture, women alone do not have the right to voice their opinions, let alone to become leaders in the world of politics. In fact, there are stories from women activists in America who fight for women's emancipation rights. This story is adapted into a film called Iron Jawed Angels. At that time America did not give women political rights to participate in elections.

In order to get NAWSA (National American Woman Suffrage Association) support, Alice Paul and Lucy Burns met with Anna Howard

Showel who served as chairman of NAWSA and Carrie Chapman Catt. Alice Paul and her friends fight for women's rights in voicing their political aspirations. In their struggle, they got a lot of bad treatment. However, its matter did not discourage them from fighting for women's emancipation rights. The demonstration was running well, but most people did not agree about women entering politics. The reason is, women tend to be emotional in making different decisions than men who mostly think more logically.

Think about this case. Why only men get a space in politics while women are also the part of society? Not only men who follow orders in the country. Naturally, women want to have the right to vote in elections. People who follow the right to vote, will provide access to participate in determining government policies. In Alice Paul's struggle with her colleagues, they went through many obstacles, even Alice Paul and Carrie Chapman Catt had disagreements, resulting in a split in NAWSA. Then, Alice Paul formed the NWP (National Women's Party) with sympathizers who sided with her. The NWP's initial strategy was to march on President Woodrow Wilson's inauguration day. This parade managed to attract the attention of the masses. Next, the NWP held a demonstration in front of the White House and put up a banner containing the speech of the President of the United States before he became President. However, when World War I occurred, the government's attention was more focused on winning the war. This action attracted a lot of attention from the public and the media. Again, it also did not violate the law

because this demonstration was carried out peacefully and featured a speech by the US President.

In the other side, this action also attracted media attention and entered the news if this action affected the image of the United States abroad. Due to the United States is known as a democratic country. So, Alice Paul and other sympathizers were arrested on behalf of the United States. They did not want to pay the fine of crime they never committed. At last, they end up in prison and receive bad treatment while in prison.

The story of Alice Paul's struggle was made into a film, making it a film means that Alice Paul's struggle can be known to many people. Some people nowadays prefer to watch history movies rather than reading history books. Therefore, the world of cinema has an important role in today's era, apart from entertaining people, films can also add insight. Literature is not only about poetry, rhymes, saga or fairy tales. Film is included in the literary work and the equivalent of theater. The difference is, the theater is an art performance that is performed directly from the stage, while film is a performance in the form of moving images or recordings.

In the story of Alice Paul and her comrades who fought for equal voting rights with men in elections, there was a lot of suffering and abuse that they had to accept from various circles, more often from men. In this study, the writer analyzed the film *Iron Jawed Angels* concerning the beginning women got their emancipation rights in the political world in the United States of America.

## **B. Questions and Scopes of the Research**

### **1. Question of the Research**

Based on the background above this study formulates about gender discrimination experienced of the main character in Iron Jawed Angels movie (2004). There are three questions raised as the problem of this analysis:

- a. What kind of gender discrimination under patriarchy society was experienced in movie Iron Jawed Angels?
- b. How does the main character to fight the gender discrimination under patriarchy society in movie Iron Jawed Angels?

### **2. Scopes of the Research**

The writer focuses on gender discrimination that occurs in the film Iron Jawed Angels. Iron Jawed Angels is a 2004 American historical drama film by Katja von Garnier. Iron Jawed Angels is a film based on the story of women activists fighting for emancipation rights as women. This film illustrates how difficult it is to get a chance in a political space. Takes quite a long time to achieve it. This film is made with a background like in 1912. The writer tries to find out the reasons for gender discrimination in the film.

## **C. Objective and Significance of the Research**

### **1. Objective of the Research**

Based on the problems mentioned above, the objectives of this study are to:

- a. To find out what gender discrimination under patriarchy society was experienced in movie Iron Jawed Angels,
- b. To find out how the main character fight gender discrimination under patriarchy society in movie Iron Jawed Angels,

### **2. Significance of the Research**

This study is made as a condition for completing an undergraduate English education in STBA JIA, and in this research the writer also expects to achieve significant in theoretically and practically as below:

#### **a. Theoretically**

To increase knowledge about discriminatory behaviour found in films. The results of this study will show that reasons must know about discrimination to reduce the nature of discrimination against others and know the bad effects of discrimination.

#### **b. Practically**

This analysis can be of use to readers, especially English students who are interested in Literature. The results of this study are useful for teachers or lecturers who want to learn more about discrimination because the subjects in this study include films based on true stories. Those who want to write about this thesis are

expected to use a different theory because literature is very broad so that we can get more developed knowledge.

#### **D. Operational Definitions**

This research term or variable needs to be defined to avoid misunderstanding and serve as a guide for writer to have further discussion. This study will focus on gender discrimination that occurs in the film Iron Jawed Angels. The following is a brief explanation of the terms used in this thesis;

##### **1. Feminism**

In this life, there are many things that everyone needs to strive for. Especially for women, fighting for the rights of gender equality is called feminism. The aim of feminism is not to rebel but to fight for freedom of choice and human rights that are equal to men. In addition, the aim of feminism is also to eliminate gender discrimination so that there is no more oppression that always occurs in this world.

##### **2. Gender Discrimination**

Without realizing it, gender discrimination often occurs in everyday life, why? Because the cause of one of the predecessor teachings, or religious teachings that always distinguish caste, type and others. Gender discrimination has been confirmed to have happened all over the world. If this gender discrimination occurs, it will lead to discord, distrust and conflict.



### 3. Discrimination

Discrimination is an attitude of deliberately differentiating against groups associated with certain interests. This distinction is usually based on religion, ethnicity, and race. The majority group tends to discriminate against minority groups. Discrimination is not much different from bullying other people. Discrimination often occurs in various circles, namely at work, school, or otherwise. There are various types of discrimination that have occurred in human life.

### 4. Movie

A movie, also known as a film, live image, theatre film, or motion picture, is a series of still images, which when displayed on the screen creates the illusion of a moving image due to the effect of the phenomenon. In addition to displaying moving images, movies also make sounds that match the image when displayed. Movies are one of the entertainments in various circles, but there are some movies that are only recommended for a certain age, depending on what kind of movie is being shown.

### 5. Literature

Literature is an expression of human expression in the form of written or oral works based on thoughts, opinions, experiences, feelings in an imaginative form, a reflection of reality or original data wrapped in aesthetic packaging through language media. In this life it is impossible if there is no literature, in fact, from ancient times and now literature still

exists even though there are slight changes due to the times. In ancient times, opera was one of the most popular literatures in various circles at that time. Meanwhile, nowadays, one of the most famous literatures in various circles is film.

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

Chapter I is introduction consists of background of the research, questions and scope of the research, objectives and significance of the research, operational definitions, and the systematization of the research.

Chapter II is theoretical description consists of description of concept 1, and concept 2, then research of the relevance.

Chapter III is research methodology consist method of the research, procedure of the research, technique of the data collection, technique of the data analysis, and data source.

Chapter IV is analysis data consists data description, data analysis, and interpretation of the research findings.

Chapter V is in conclusion and suggestion consists conclusion and suggestion.