

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND OF THE RESEARCH

At the beginning of life, humans try to work to fulfil their lives based on the high supply and demand needs. The need for food comes first, then the need for a place to live, and finally, the need for clothing. The working fields were inevitably divided up by the people who lived there. The male, the clan commander, performs the most complex jobs, while the female, the clan supporter, performs the easier ones. In patriarchal societies, this event persists. Modern division of labour has weakened some freedoms, notably for women. In patriarchal culture, women face discrimination by male domination, known as female inferiority.

Women are working hard in today's world to break out from the shell of their submissive status. They tried to break stereotypes, speak up for themselves, and strive for equal rights. They have achieved their position via centuries of struggle and numerous waves of feminism. Still, sexual orientation and place of residence inequality and injustice must be seen as extending beyond gender if women are to oppose male subordination. Not just boasting, the Taliban agreed to the prior statement.

The Taliban, who has ruled Afghanistan since the 1970s, have succeeded in subduing women there. The regime enforces all laws in the

name of Islam and propagates its interpretation of the "true" Islam it submits throughout the country. In Afghanistan, significant problems emerged after they dictated to the state, including gender inequality, lack of educational opportunities for girls, insufficient independence and mobility for girls, unwanted sexual attention in the workplace, lack of inheritance or property rights for women, and male ownership of a female body. This statement is proven by Roshan (2019) after the Taliban took over the country, those years began to be known as harsh, violent years for women. Social injustice—socioeconomic reliance on men, illiteracy, poverty, and being stoned to death—disempowered Afghan women during this time. Women were barred from working, educated, and required to wear hijab also banned from using cosmetics, laughing out loud in public, wearing high heels, and many more.

The writer also considers the treatment received by women in Afghanistan and women in Indonesia. In Indonesia, women who work, even professionally, get underestimated if they lead a big project on behalf of their company. Although the prior statement shows similarities, Afghanistan and Indonesia showed differences in the manner they treat their people. Afghanistan with Taliban regime rules, while Indonesia has Pancasila and Undang - Undang Dasar 1955, which guarantees equal rights by doing democracy for the Indonesian people. It is strengthened by Haken et al., in the Fund for Peace (FFP) Fragile States Index 2022 – Annual Report stating that Afghanistan, South Sudan, Yemen, and Nigeria are the most fragile and racist countries in danger of collapsing. Haken et al. said that the country's massive

protests were one factor that made the country collapse. According to Hayeri (2022) in Amnesty International news, five out of 12 women who objected after the Taliban took over get illegally arrested, detained, disappeared, tortured, and poorly treated.

In essence, the reality that existed from the past until now, both in Afghanistan, Indonesia, and various other parts of the world, women still feel inferior. Although the movement for women's rights, Feminism have developed, inequality still exists and is accurate. Indeed, some of the lost rights of women have been acquired from time to time. But there are still some discriminations that only change its form of the discrimination. For example, working women are labelled people who avoid their obligations as housewives. The women's movement got an excellent chance to fight male inferiority after Deborah Ellis became interested in what was happening there. Through sympathy and humanity among women there, Deborah dared to promote women's rights through her work.

One of the best voices regarding the inequality of rights in Afghanistan is by voicing it through writing and disseminating it to the general public. Deborah Ellis believes spreading information should be done in a literary work that anyone can read. Therefore, Ellis wrote the events in Afghanistan through the novel *The Breadwinner* and labelled it for all ages. Ellis wrote all of *The Breadwinner's* female characters are images of women living in Afghanistan. She also seeks best background to the story then she goes to best

conflict Afghanistan had, when Taliban interfering Afghanistan political agenda.

Afghanistan was affected by political controversies and conflicts throughout 2011. So, Ellis employs Afghanistan as the setting for her novel *The Breadwinner*. The government's capture by the Taliban regime precipitated the outbreak of war and continues to haunt Afghanistan persistently. The war's death toll can also be measured as who fought back in response to what transpired. The story is wrapped with problems between women and the Taliban, where Nurullah (Parvana's father), the family's breadwinner, is suddenly detained by the Taliban. He left his family, which consisted of Fatana (Parvana's mother), Nooria (Parvana's sister), Parvana, and two others of Parvana's siblings who had not even gone to school. Their life becomes difficult because there is no male figure in the family, which means there is no supply to support their lives. After all, only men can leave the house to work or buy men's necessities. Even if women leave their homes, they must be escorted by men.

In light of this, the writer entitled, *Resistance Toward Subordination of Women in The Breadwinner Novel by Deborah Ellis: A Feminist Study*, in order to assist other women in obtaining their own independence or learning about a "new" society. Hence, Beauvoir's central ideas which critiques patriarch society are supported by her existentialist feminism, in which women are seen as '*others*' in social life, especially men, and are used as the main approach of this study. The writer believes that Beauvoir's view toward

women oppression is closest to the subordination of women that occurs in general society.

B. QUESTIONS AND SCOPES OF THE RESEARCH

Based on the study above, the writer constructed this study through the following question:

1. Question of the Research

- a. What are the forms of subordination that can be found in The Breadwinner novel?
- b. How did the women resist subordination in The Breadwinner novel?

2. Scope of the Research

In this study, the writer focused on identifying the forms of subordination and women's resistance towards men in Afghanistan. Which is shown in The Breadwinner novel by Deborah Ellis. Within Feminism Approach by Simone de Beauvoir in her book *The Second Sex*.

C. OBJECTIVE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH

In this study of domestication, the writer hopes some benefits can reader's take, such as:

1. Objective of The Research

- a. To identify the forms of subordination in The Breadwinner novel by Deborah Ellis.
- b. To analyze the deeds of the characters against subordination in The Breadwinner novel by Deborah Ellis.

2. Significance Of The Research

For this study, the writer has an expectancy that this can provide benefits for others. For the field of literary theory, this study demonstrates that feminism's values will remain as pertinent in every era as they are in the Breadwinner novel. For the reader, this study has an expectancy to share new knowledge. Last but not least, for the field of humanity, this study illustrates the rights of every human being matter in spite of their gender.

D. OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

Ambiguities often meet when doing research. to avoid that case, the writer will give a brief explanation of the definition in this study:

1. Subordination

Subordination is where women's activities, interests, thoughts, feelings, and freedoms tend to be the second option or women should live with their entitled to inferior human beings.

2. Characterization

Characterization is the exhibit of the personality of the character being portrayed in the literary works.

3. Feminism

Feminism is the movement or activities of communities that stand, aid, and oppose any kind of cruelty against human beings, especially women around the world. And with that, Feminism demands to the world gender equality between men and women.

4. Resistance

Resistance is the form of resist, fought back, and dare to against subordination in society.

E. SYSTEMATIZATION OF THE RESEARCH

The significant explained primary arrangements are divided into five main chapters in this study. Such as:

Chapter I is Introduction explains the background of the research, the questions and scope of the research, the objectives and significance of the research, the operational definition, and the systematization of the research.

Chapter II is Theoretical description consists of literature, feminism in glance, the conceptual of novel, and relevance of the research.

Chapter III is Research methodology consists of methods of the research, procedures of the research, technique of the data collection, technique of the data analysis, and data sources.

Chapter IV is Data analysis consists of data description, data analysis, and interpretation of the research findings related to the theory written in chapter II.

Chapter V are Conclusion and suggestion describe conclusions and suggestions for all the readers of this research.

