

CHAPTER 2

RELATED STUDIES, REVIEW OF LITERATURE, AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Related Studies

As an issue that has been discussed worldwide, many writers have conducted studies of gender violence with different objects and variables. The writer uses these studies as references to get a better understanding of the issue and also as a comparison of exploring more related topics and variables that have not been discussed in these studies.

The first study was conducted by Wulaningtyas (2018), a student from UIN Sultan Thaha Saifuddin Jambi, entitled “Violence Against the Main Female Character in *Memoirs of a Geisha Film* by Rob Marshall.” This study focused on the main female character who experienced kinds of violence and how she solved the violence she experienced. This study used a feminist approach with Iris Marion Young’s theory of *Justice and the Politics of Difference*. The result of this study is the violence experienced by the main female character and how she faces the effect of violence in the *Memoirs of A Geisha*.

The second study was conducted by Adiva (2020), a student from UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, entitled “Women’s Struggles Against Violence in Okky Madasari’s *Bound*.” This study focused on revealing the types of violence and how women struggle against the violence suffered by the main female characters. This study used a qualitative approach with Johan

Galtung's theory of *Violence, Peace, and Peace Research* to analyze violence in the novel. The result of this study showed the types of violence and how women take action to suffer from violence.

The third related study was a journal article conducted by Syamsiah (2026) entitled "Women in Gender: Critical Discourse Analysis on Novel *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb." This study focused on describing gender-based violence against women and illustrating how gender-based violence is produced through the text written in *I am Malala*. This study uses a qualitative approach with Norman Fairclough's theory of *Critical Discourse Analysis*. The result of this study showed gender-based violence and injustice against women in *I am Malala*.

Based on the explanation of the three related studies above, there are some similarities and differences between the related studies to this study. The similarities are both this study and those related studies using the same method to conduct the data, which is a qualitative approach. Then, those related studies and this study reveal the violence that happens to women. The differences between this study and the three related studies above are the object in which the three related studies use novels and movies while this study uses poems. The theory applied to this study and those related studies is also different. The three related studies use the theory of Iris Marion Young, Johan Galtung, and Norman Fairclough, while this study uses the theory of Naomi Wolf.

2.2 Review of Literature

2.2.1 Poetry and Poetic Elements

Cuddon (2013) stated that poetry put words together to arrange the sounds, visual, and thoughts that may be abstract to explore. Poetry include an ambiguous words that make it has different meaning according to the readers. Cuddon (2013, p. 546) also stated that a poem is a composition of literary works that can be written in a rhyme or unrhymed lines. Rhyme in a poem can make the words or the text more alive and easy to memorize. A poem has physical and inner structure. Physical structure consists of length of line, rhythm, figurative language, and diction. Meanwhile, inner structure consists of tone, theme, feeling, and message.

There are six elements needed to understand the meaning of poetry which are theme, imagery, figurative language, sound, structure, and stanza. The first element is theme which is an idea that the poet used in making poetry which can be found explicitly or implicitly (Cuddon, 2013, p. 721). Later on, Cuddon (2013) mentioned the second element which is imagery as a component in a poem that uses sensory or sensory experience to describe the object, feelings, and ideas. The next element is figurative language which Cuddon (2013) described as a language that has different meaning from literal language, makes the words sound more colorful and alive to be read.

Figurative language has several types. Some of figurative languages that can be found in a poem are simile, metaphor, alliteration, paradox, personification, and hyperbole. The first one is simile, a figure of speech in

which one thing is likened to another, or a comparison between one thing to another in an explicit way (Cuddon, 2013, p. 657). In other words, simile means comparing one thing to another by including the word as or like to show that it is comparing in explicit way. The second one is metaphor, a figure of speech which compare one thing to another in an implicit way (Cuddon, 2013, p.432-433). In addition, metaphor is used to express a connection between two words and to represent the meaning in implicit way. The next one is alliteration which described by Cuddon (2013) as a repetition of consonant at the beginning of words. It can be says that the first consonant sound is repeated in several words in alliteration. Paradox is a view which contradicted accepted opinion. It is an absurd statement which opposite accepted opinion (Cuddon, 2013, p. 509-510). In other words, the statement which described as paradoxical is incredible, contrary to opinion or expectation. The next one is personification which is the impersonation which gives human qualities to inanimate objects (Cuddon, 2013, p. 529). It means that personification is making an inanimate object live by giving human abilities like see, touch, and hear. The last one is hyperbole which is an overstated a word used to emphasis (Cuddon, 2013, p.346). In other words, hyperbole is emphasize a word to show that is the point that usually in a funny manner.

The fourth element is sound. Sound is how the poet uses structure in the words can makes the reader hear the poem (Cuddon, 2013). The next element is rhymes. According to Abrams (1999), standard rhymes consist of repetition

in words, last stressed-vowel and all of the speech sounds following that vowels. The fifth element is structure. Structure relayed with how the word are formed, or in other words, structure deals with the organization of lines or parts in a poem (Cuddon, 2013, p. 687). The sixth element is stanza which is how the lines in a poem are grouping (Abrams, 1999, p. 294).

Beside that, poetry also has supporting elements outside the literary works or often said as the extrinsic elements that determine a work's content. Some extrinsic elements of a poem are biography of the poet, social or cultural circumstances at the time when the poem was created, and psychosocial states of the poet and the reader.

2.2.2 Gender-Based Violence in Wolf's *The Beauty Myth*

Gender and sex are related, but actually different. According to WHO (2019), sex refers to different biological or physiological characteristics of males, females, or intersex persons such as chromosomes, hormones, and reproductive organs while gender refers to characteristics of men, women, girls, and boys that are socially constructed including norms, behaviors, and roles associated for being a women, men, boys, and girls as well as relationship with each other. From the quotation above, it can be concluded that sex refers to biological and physiological structure of people that brings since they were born while gender is the identity that appears on a person when they were grown. It is what the society seen from the people.

Women are seen from their beauty and every aspect that women do was according to their beauty and their status in which a single woman who work

was seen as sexy (Wolf, 2002, p.31). From the explanation above the word sexy is related to women's body or physical appearance which seen as an interesting things from women. It implies that even in their job or workplace, women were judged by their look and appearance. The work state looked at women's energy in order to observe if they are competent for work or not. Later, when they have a job, the work state forces women to work harder, which make them lose their energy easily. This situation then makes women look weaker than men.

Hof and Richters (2000, p.56) argued that the concept of gender-based violence talking about disrespectful judgements of others from women. Wolf (2002) explained that women experienced gender-based violence directly and indirectly. Direct gender-based violence can be seen in sexual harrassment, rape, eroticized, and physical attack while indirect gender-based violence can be seen in being judged with sexual eyes and receiving comments about their appearance. Wolf (2002) explains that "women bodies are portrayed as attractives packaging around an empty box". This implies that women's bodies are always looking as an interesting things from women that can be judged and looked by others. In addition, Mehta (2022) describes that there are eroticized which is normalization against women in beauty pornography. She mentions that women are forced to think if they are desirable or not and lok after their physical appearance. In the end, she mentions that this conditions lead women to have lack of understanding between sex and men who taught to objectify women sexually are look at them as fascinating.

A general understanding of gender-based violence is such phenomena as violence against women which involves male perpetrators and female victims. The focus of gender violence study can be various depending on its objectives. It may concern the sphere of violence, the various forms, and the relationship between the victim and perpetrator. There is some objective ideal of perfect beauty replace the idea of an objective ideal of purity. In other words, people do not look at women from their purity, but from the beauty objective. Wolf (2002) states that men are created perfect while women are created raw and imperfect. The term raw implicitly stated that women are created incompletely and they need some touch to be complete. It implicitly says that only women who need to take care more of themselves.

According to Wolf (2002, p.132) the sexual urge is shaped by society. Women is the object of men's sexuality because they let themselves being watched while others are violence their body. The quotation proves that in a relationship with a sexual experience, women got bad effect as they cannot feel pleasure from the relationship they had. Women's pleasure is ignored. Besides that, women also look as the object of pornography by the society because of the spread of contraception and legal abortion which make women look like they are the only one who do it. The society forced to see women in negative way because of those sexual things and women feel shame because of the way society judged them. It makes them look like a full of sin person and they got nothing for the relationship except bad experience, shame, and pain.

Women looks like an object of sexuality and the society was making the standard of perfect women. It seems that women are able to shoot and show their body to others as they are the object of it (Wolf, 2002, p.132). Later on, many people will see their pictures on a magazine or other public and they will examine it. That will make women does not have any privacy of their own bodies. According to Wolf (2002, p.214) women and desire are related in which women must be beautiful to be desirable. The quotation above implies that beauty is the basic things that a woman must have to be desirable. The standard of beautiful itself has been shaped by our society as they look for women with tall, slim, and ideal body. Women cannot feel desirable if they don't feel beautiful. If women are struggling over whether they are desirable or not, they will be working hard to be beautiful in order to be desirable.

Wolf (2002, p.133) stated that in a commercial purpose, women are the inferior while men are the superior in which women are just keep staying and receive what the superior do to them. The illustration in the quotation above makes people look that it is normal and usual for women to do it. Wolf (2002) also stated that women keep worrying their body as they need to look like the standard of society. The quotation above implies that women are not comfortable with their own body as others always judge them from their look and physical appearance. Women think they are overweight when they are not so that they do many things to make their body lose fat as slim as they want which those actions can cause anorexia. Some women feel they are too thin so that they feel hungry every time. It makes them looking for food every time as

they always feel hungry when they are not. Those acts can cause obesity. In other words, there is always women who have done something to be desirable while men done nothing. Women do everything to reach their goals.

Beauty myth contains and supresses female sexuality. It relates to how our society, our environment treats female sexuality. According to Wolf (2002, p.135) women are the object of men's sexuality. They let themselves being watched while others are violence their body. Women are questioning themselves that to get what they want, they need to suffer and they have to suffer to be loved. They are not sure if they can be loved or not if they cannot suffer the pain. There is a naturalization of man's desire and inversion of woman's sexuality. In other words, in life, women are given violence from others and even from themselves in order to be loved.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

This study is guided by Naomi Wolf's perspective on gender-based violence in the theory book *Beauty Myth* (2002) in order to find out the acts and the effects of gender-based violence in *Postcolonial Love Poem* (2020) by Natalie Diaz. Naomi Wolf, in *Beauty Myth* talks about physical violence which is sexual force that women receive in the relationship. Moreover, women also being judged as object of men's sexuality which make women feel afraid and worthless to show herself to others.