

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problems

Sexual deviation behavior is known as one of society's diseases. Sexual orientation that commonly known by most people are heterosexual (relationship between men and women). However, there are also those who have different sexual orientations, such as homosexual as gay (same-sex relations between men and men) and lesbian (same-sex relations between women and women).

There is also bisexual (can accept to the same-sex relationship such as men and men or the opposite sex such as men and women). Therefore, most people cannot accept homosexual (gay and lesbian) and bisexual because they feel that homosexual and bisexual are not common. Because of that, the people are calling it as a sexual deviation.

The problems about sexual deviance also exist in literary works. Literature is pieces of writing that are valued as works of art, especially novels, plays and poems (Oxford Learner's Dictionary, 2020). Literature is written artistic works, especially those with a high and lasting artistic value (Cambridge Dictionary, 2020). So, literature is an art which can be in the form of novels, plays, and poems and literature has lasting artistic value.

As in the novel "Mrs. Everything" by Jennifer Weiner (American writer, based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). "Mrs. Everything" was published in 2019. In this novel, there are problems about sexual deviance. "Mrs. Everything" is about a smart, thoughtful, and timely exploration of two sisters' lives from the 1950s to the present as they struggle to find their places and be true to themselves, in a rapidly evolving world.

One of the main character, Josette Kaufman is living with a simple family. Josette's parents are Ken Kaufman and Sarah Kaufman. Josette has a younger sister named Elizabeth Kaufman who is usually called Bethy. Josette or who is often called Jo, is a tomboyish female figure who doesn't like to wear "dresses" unlike her younger sister, Bethy, who looks feminine. And because of that, Jo is often scolded by her mother because she doesn't behave like a "girl".

When Jo was a child, Bethy liked to play with dolls and help her mother in the kitchen, Jo would prefer reading books or playing outside with her friend, Frieda, like playing pin the tail on the donkey. And Jo often listens to the Tigers group's baseball game with his father.

When Jo already in high school, Jo was taller than almost all of her female classmates and a not-inconsiderable number of the male ones. Jo is also quite athletic as she follows basketball and tennis clubs. And also Jo had been out with plenty of boys, usually on double dates with Lynnette.

Jo is a teenage girl, and she realized that she likes her best friend, Lynnette, who is also a teenage girl like her. Even though in the end Lynnette and Josette aren't together, Josette is still like girls. In the novel "Mrs. Everything", it doesn't explain why Josette can fall in love with girls. And that's the problem, why Jo can fall in love with the same sex as her.

According to Sigmund Freud, the factors that is causing some people become a homosexual and lesbian are the principle of human life, environmental, free sex, genetics, hormone, and dissatisfaction with the wife or vice versa. Because of these factors, it can be said that homosexual according to Freud is fairness even said to be a necessity that cannot be denied and prevented.

In America, there are many organizations that support LGBTQ in order to be accepted by society. In 2003, LGBTQ is legalized but only in some parts of the country in the US. In 2015, Same-sex marriage in America is legalized. Until now, the LGBTQ are still struggling to be accepted by society, so that they are not considered as sexual deviants.

This research writing has purpose to describe sexual orientation that experienced by one of the characters in the novel "Mrs. Everything" by Jennifer Weiner, Josette Kaufman, who is a girl and she have sexual desire toward girls.

1.2 Identification of the Problems

Based on the background of the problem above, I identified the problem: the character, Josette Kaufman, is like the other girls that like to go out with plenty of boys. But then, she realized that she has a deviant sexual orientation because she started to falling in love with her own best friend who is also a "girl" like herself.

So, the assumption of the theme of this novel is The Causative Factors of Sexual Orientation in the Character Jo which is researched through literary approach, sexual orientation, and causative factors.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, I limit the problem to the causative factors of sexual orientation experienced by the character Jo with theory and concepts that the writer will apply as follow: analysis of characterizations, plot, settings, sexual orientation, and causative factors.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem above, I formulate the problem: Can Josette's character explain the causative factors of sexual orientation in the novel "Mrs. Everything" by Jennifer Weiner?

1. Can the theme of Jennifer Weiner's novel "Mrs. Everything" which reflects The Causative Factors of Sexual Orientation in the Character Jo be developed through analysis of characterizations, plot, and settings?
2. What factors that formed the character of Josette in the novel "Mrs. Everything" to become a lesbian? Can it come from internal factor (psychological) or external factor (social)?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

The objective of this research is to show that the theme of the novel is The Causative Factors of Sexual Orientation in the Character Jo in the Novel "Mrs. Everything" by Jennifer Weiner. In order to achieve this aim, I make several steps as follow:

1. To analyze the theme of Jennifer Weiner's novel "Mrs. Everything" which reflects The Portrayal of Sexual Orientation in the Character Josette Kaufman can developed through analysis of characterizations, plot, and settings.
2. To analyze about the factors that formed the character of Josette in the novel "Mrs. Everything" to become a lesbian trough sexual orientation and the causative factors.

1.6 Methods of the Research

The approach of the research that used in this paper is qualitative approach. Qualitative approach is descriptive which the data is collected in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers (Ahsan, 2015). I will apply the qualitative approach using the content analysis method. Content analysis is analysis of the manifest and latent content of a body of communicated material (such as a book or film) through a classification, tabulation, and evaluation of its key symbols and themes in order to ascertain its meaning and probable effect (Merriam-Webster, 2021).

The object of my research is Mrs. Everything novel written by Jennifer Weiner. This novel was published on 2019, by Atria Books. The Mrs. Everything novel has 409 pages. Any references (books, journals, and/or articles) employed to support will be considered as secondary sources.

1.7 Benefit of the Research

This research is expected to find out about the causes and depiction of deviant sexual orientations (lesbian, gay, transgender, and queer) in literary works such as novel. It is expected that the result of this research will be open for further research.

1.8 Systematic Organization of the Research

In accordance to the title of the research above, the order of the presentation is written as follows:

CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION, it consist of : the background of the problems, identification of the problems, the limitation of the problems, the formulation of the problems, the objectives of the research, the methods of the research, the benefit of the research, the Systematic organization of the research.

CHAPTER 2 : FRAMEWORK OF THEORIES, it consist of : explanation of the concepts and Theory that the writer used for the research.

CHAPTER 3 : ANALYSIS THE NOVEL “MRS. EVERYTHING” THROUGH INTRINSIC APPROACH, it consist of : analysis of

characterizations, plot, and settings. The concepts above must appear in the number of sub-chapters.

CHAPTER 4 : THE CAUSATIVE FACTORS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION IN THE CHARACTER JO IN THE NOVEL “MRS. EVERYTHING” BY JENNIFER WEINER, it consist of : a brief explanations of this chapter’s content, analysis of the novel which describe the causative factors of sexual orientation by the character Josette Kaufman. The concepts above must appear in the number of sub-chapters.

CHAPTER 5 : CONCLUSION, it consists of : an evaluation from the previous chapters and the implication of the evaluated result.

