

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Problem

Patriarchal society gives absolute priority to men and to some extent limits women's human right also. (Sultana, 2010). This system casually urges women about what should they do or what they should not do through men's glasses. Desmawati (2018) refers to Handayani and Novianto, stated that men are more competent, having a good orientation, strong, active, competitive, and confidence than women. Because of this statement, men will more feel confident enough to rule the system, so the patriarchal society can spread into every aspect of life.

Patriarchal society such as described above has strongly denied by feminist movement whose ideology helps women to gain the same opportunity as men. In other words, this feminist movement seeks for gender equality. Feminism is happened to embraces women for gaining gender equality in every aspect. According to Rhiannnon Wardle (2021) Feminism can be defined as the advocacy of women's right on the basis of gender equality. It can be concluded that feminism is against gender inequality because it does not fit their ideas.

Gender inequality or gender discrimination refers to unfair rights between male and female based on different gender role that leads to unequal treatment in life. The potential of seeing Gender inequality found at anywhere. Such as workplace, household, and social. In work place, women are usually treated less respected by people in workplace because they are women. Unfortunately, they cannot gain the same opportunity as men in their workplaces. In household, gender inequality can result a child labor and child marriage. In social, we can see that the girls cannot get a higher degree just because they are just a girl.

Gender inequality is depicted on Billie Eilish's album, *Happier Than Ever*, that released on July, 30<sup>st</sup> 2021. It consists with sixteen songs with lead single "*Happier Than Ever*". The songs in this album are showing about Billie's struggles as a woman in her workplaces, and when she was growing up with fame title. This album also shows her love life that was not easy due to her popularity. This album can be the one of the proofs of how being a famous person is not easy, especially if you are the women in the industry.

To analysis the gender inequality in the song lyrics, Figurative language is in use as the tool to analyzing song lyrics. As cited in Rejeki, Yulianti, and Kustantinah (2022) According to Gibbs, Jr & Colston, figurative language generally refers to speech where speakers mean something other than what they literally say. In which, figurative language is using to analyzing the song lyrics in the album because the song lyrics are usually not implied the meaning in literal ways.

This analysis can inspire people, especially a young girl who trying to achieve their dream in different areas. They need to raise their voice if they have a problem with people they meet in their environment.

## **1.2. Identification of the Problem**

Based on the background of the problem, this paper will talk about the identification of the song lyrics in Billie Eilish's album *Happier Than Ever*. The problems that included from the first song *Getting Older* to the last song in the album, *Male Fantasy* is about a girl who experiences the hardship of being successful in young age and how her gender affect her to be treated like an object in her environment. In the album, it is also depicting of how she is struggling to grow up as women. She is unable to do anything because people keep telling her how to be a woman in industry. She is also unable to fall in love like a usual teenager because men are scared with her popularity that she receives.

## **1.3. Limitation of the Problem**

In this research, the problem will be limited to the analysis of gender inequality reflected in the song lyrics in the album *Happier Than Ever*. Gender

inequality being the main issues and figurative language as the tool to identify song lyrics.

#### **1.4. Formulation of the Problem**

1. How is gender inequality depicted in song lyrics in *Happier Than Ever* album through figurative language analysis?
2. What types of gender inequality are found on song lyrics in *Happier Than Ever* Album?

#### **1.5. Objectives of the Research**

1. To explain the gender inequality that is depicted in song lyrics in *Happier Than Ever* Album.
2. To find types of gender inequality in the lyrics on *Happier Than Ever* Album.

#### **1.6. Benefit of the Research**

This research can be a reference for further research about literature specifically social literature. This research also expected to be beneficial for the writer who hopefully can develop their knowledge about the materials. This research can be used to other students who expected to make other studies and want to use same study such as feminism, specifically gender inequality, and figurative languages.

#### **1.7. Systematic Organization of the research**

The framework of the term paper that titled “*Gender Inequality Reflected on The Lyrics in Happier Than Ever (2021) through The Use of Figurative Language*” is as follows:

### **CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION**

This chapter consists of background of problem, problem identification, problem limitation,

problem formulation, research benefits and objective, and systematic presentation in research.

**CHAPTER II : THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

This chapter consists of theories by the expert to supporting the analysis. There are theories about Figurative Language, Figurative Language as lyrics, Feminism Approach, Gender Equality, and Previous Related Studies.

**CHAPTER III : RESEARCH METHOD**

This chapter consists of the explanation of research method that applied on this research.

**CHAPTER IV : GENDER INEQUALITY REFLECTED ON THE LYRICS IN HAPPIER THAN EVER (2021) THROUGH THE USE OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**

This chapter consists of data analysis. The song lyrics in Billie Eilish's album *Happier Than Ever* will be analyze to find gender inequality.

**CHAPTER V : CONCLUSIONS**

This chapter consists of conclusions.