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MARRIAGE BASED ON SOCIAL CLASS IN THE NOVEL OF PERSUASION BY JANE AUSTEN

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the marriage of the main character in the novel Persuasion, a classic novel written by Jane Austen, which reflects the concept of social class classification. The method used in this research is a qualitative descriptive research method. Anne Elliot is a wonderful person, charming, friendly, intelligent, open-minded, multi-talented and helpful. The issue that women at that time was considered powerless to make decisions and had to obey the rules of her family and society, did not prevent Anne from fighting to get what she really wanted. Anne, who came from a prominent family where her father was in a high position at work, was willing and able to break the rules against relations of different social status and class. Her awareness and power to make decisions eventually lead her to true love and true happiness, without interference, coercion, and persuasion from others. Trying to fight for her love with Captain Frederick Wenworth. Namely a simple young man and also loves Anne. The theory used is based on the theory of social class according to M. Arifin Noor in general, social class can be classified into three groups, namely the upper class, middle class and lower class.
Keywords: Character, love, social class, struggle, power

INTRODUCTION

Characters or characterizations are two different things in writing a literary work. Characters are classified by how much their presence can affect the content of the story. The division is the main character and additional characters. The main character is the person who has the most influence compared to the other characters. It has the potential to change the plot, create conflict and even solve the problem. Meanwhile, additional characters are actors who do not really affect the storyline as much as the main character (Prinada, 2021). Abrams argues that characters are the names of people from a story that give a description of each actor in the story. According to Aminuddin, events in a work of fiction are things that happen in everyday life, these are influenced by certain characters or actors

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(Nurdini, 2020). From some of the expressions of these experts, it can be said that the character is the actor or the person who does something that makes the story come alive because of the character, so it is very influential on the course of the story. In a life, desires can not always go according to what one expects, especially regarding position. A person's life is a process to form a mature personality. The process cannot be separated from the influence of the surrounding environment. A person will face a phase where they will enter into a social environment, which of course life in a social environment is quite different because it involves the community. Every society has a culture and a different perspective, especially in terms of choosing a life partner, this is influenced by habits and traditions that are the basis for people to carry out their activities.

For example, when two people love each other, but local social and cultural circumstances force them to give up their relationship over the years. A young girl who is beautiful, brave and comes from noble descent loves a man who she knows well, is simple and affectionate but unfortunately doesn't come from a prominent family. Within society itself, economic problems are seen as another aspect that has a major influence on social life. To carry out a marriage, the woman's family demands that the groom must have a high social status. Social status is seen from the royal family or people who have noble titles, higher education, have abilities in sports such as archery, fishing, and horseback riding. The habits that characterize the community have a major influence on individuals, especially in shaping their personality (Dary, 2017).

In this case, this phenomenon is illustrated in the novel Persuasion by Jane Austen. In the novel, it is described that the characters consist of the upper class, the middle class and the lower class. Based on this phenomenon, the writer took the research entitled Marriage Based On Social Class In The Novel Of Persuasion By Jane Austen. The reason why the writer took Jane Austen's work is because the novel clearly describes the differences between the upper, middle and lower classes.

Related to relevant research, the author takes three types of research that are almost similar and have few similarities related to the author's study to support this research.

First, the research was conducted by Agnia Nurdini, a student at the Muhammadiyah University of Sukabumi in 2020. In her research, she discusses how the social environment that occurs in Catherine's life is seen through aspects of place and social background and its influence on her own life seen through the physical aspects of the characters, psychological aspects and social aspects of Catherine's character (Helmie, 2018). Where the life that is told in the novel tends to be glamorous, it is evident from the habits of the people who always visit the gathering places of the upper middle class, especially the nobles. But even so, Catherin remained wise in living her social life as an ordinary person, easy to get

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along with anyone and liked by her environment. The difference with the research conducted by the author lies in the data sources and objects in this study. The data source used in the previous research was the novel Northanger Abbey by Jane Austen, while the data source in the author's research used the novel Persuasion by Jane Austen. In addition, the object used by previous research is also different from the object of research conducted by the author. Previous research used the object of social life and its influence on the character, while the author discussed marriage and social class of the character as the object of research. The second study is entitled The Concept of Marxist Feminism on the character of Anne Elliot in the Novel Persuasion by Jane Austen. This research was conducted by Sinta Fitriani, a student at Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta. This study discusses the description of Anne Elliot as a woman, as the daughter of a noble family and the issue of Marxist feminism that occurs in Anne Elliot's life. The difference between this research and the author's research lies in the method of study. Previous research used the point of view of feminism. While the author uses the study of the sociology of literature on the literary work itself. The third study is entitled Analysis of Social Class and Its Influence in the Novel Crazy Rich Asian by Kevin Kwan. This research was conducted by Arifah Ulfa Nasution, Siti Norma Nasution, and Riko Andika Rahmat Pohan, who discussed how life views social class in China and its influence on social life. Similar to the first study, the difference between this research and the research that the author did lies in the source of the data and the object of the research. Sources of data in previous studies using the novel Crazy Rich Asian by Kevin Kwan. Meanwhile, in this research, the writer uses the novel Persuasion by Jane Austen as a source of research data.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

Social class can be defined as a strata (layer) of people who are the same in the continuum (series of units) of social status. Social class is a class in society based on certain criteria, whether according to religion, education, economic status, ancestry and others (Akhmad Riyadi, 2019). Every society always has a certain appreciation in the society concerned and every society must have something that is appreciated. Usually the items that are valued are in the form of money, economic objects, physical beauty, land, power, knowledge, and higher awards in the community such as descendants from a respected family or rank. If there is a small group of people who have these valuables in large quantities, then society generally considers them to be a group or class that is at the top. On the other hand, those who have very little or almost nothing of value have a low position in the eyes of society.

Classification of Social Class

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The definition of social class according to M. Arifin Noor in general, social class can be classified into three groups, namely:

Upper Class, the people of the upper class are those who are rich, such as conglomerates, executive groups and so on. In this group, they can fulfill all their needs easily.

*Middle Clas*s, the middle class can include professionals and shopkeepers and smaller businesses. Usually occupied by people with mediocre levels. The position of parents in society is quite respected, parents' attention to their children's education is fulfilled and they do not feel worried about shortages even though the income they get is not excessive.

Lower Class, according to Muliyanto Sumardi, the lower class is a group that receives income or income in return for the results of their work which are far less in number in their main needs. This group can be categorized as poor people, usually including household assistants, garbage collectors, and others. Desires such as the upperclass are lacking for economic and social reasons (Wijianto & Ulfa, 2016).

From the above definition it can be concluded that social class is the differentiation of the population or society into classes in a hierarchical manner, in which the occurrence of class distinctions in society is based on economic factors, education, work and the relationship status (position) of a family member. with the status of other family members, when the position of the head of the family increases, the status of other family members also increases (Akhmad, 2019). So that in sociology this layered system is known as "Social Stratification".

Social Stratification

Social stratification comes from the word stratum which in plural is strata and is usually better known as layers or what is commonly referred to as social class. The term layers contained in a society have existed since humans recognized the existence of shared life in a social organization. The layers of society were originally based on sex differences, differences in leaders and those who were led, non-slave groups and slave groups, division of labor and social distinctions based on wealth. But the term class also does not always have the same meaning, although in essence it embodies a system of basic positions in society. The sum of the classes in society is called the class system, namely all people and families who are aware of their position are known and recognized by the general public.

Social Mobility

Social mobility is a change, shift, increase, or decrease in the status and role of its members. The word mobility comes from the Latin mobility which means easy to move or move a lot from one place to another. The word social in

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the term contains the meaning of motion that involves a person or group of citizens in a social group. Social mobility is a movement / social movement carried out by a person or group of people with the aim of improving the quality of life. The mobility carried out by a person will place that person in a different social class (social stratification) than before. In social stratification there is a categorization of classes called the class system which puts them into classes according to the conditions they have (Riadi, 2020).

According to Suyanto (2004), social mobility is a movement of movement from one social class to another or the movement of moving from one strata to another, either in the form of an increase or decrease in terms of social status and (usually) including in terms of income, that can be experienced by several individuals or by all members of the group. For example, someone who experiences a change in social status, either from lower to higher, or vice versa. Social mobility is influenced by social interactions that occur between people.

There are two forms or types of social mobility, namely vertical social mobility and horizontal social mobility. Vertical mobility is the movement of a person or group from one social position to another that is not equal, either higher or lower. Meanwhile, horizontal mobility is the transfer of the social status of a person or group of people in the same social layer.

METHOD

This research is a descriptive research with a qualitative approach. According to Sugiyono (2016:9) qualitative descriptive method is a research method based on the philosophy of postpositivism used to examine the condition of natural objects (as opposed to experiments) where the researcher is the key instrument of data collection techniques carried out by trigulation (combined), data analysis is inductive/qualitative, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning rather than generalizations. Qualitative descriptive research aims to describe, describe, explain, explain and answer in more detail the problems to be studied by studying as much as possible an individual, a group or an event. The research method is one of the factors that is quite important in conducting a research, because basically the research method is a scientific way to obtain data with certain goals and uses. The research method is an attempt to find, develop, and test the truth of knowledge by scientific means. Therefore, the method used in a study must be appropriate. Based on the approach and the type of data used, this research is included in qualitative research so that it will produce descriptive data in the form of words. The data analyzed in it is in the form of descriptive and not in the form of numbers as is the case in quantitative research. According to Arikunto (1998:309) qualitative research is intended to collect information about the status of an existing symptom, namely the state of the symptoms according to what they were at the time the research was conducted.

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Therefore, qualitative research is able to reveal phenomena in a subject that wants to be studied. in depth.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The results of the analysis show that Anne Elliot is an extraordinary, attractive, friendly, intelligent, open-minded, multi-talented, and helpful person. Anne is also an introvert, who sometimes keeps her feelings to herself. Based on the background story which is the end of the Middle Ages in British society. Anne looks like a weak woman but actually she is tough and brave. Although at first he had been coaxed by his relatives, but the maturity of his feelings and thoughts eventually helped him change the condition where he was forced to not be himself. The issue of women at that time was considered powerless to make decisions and had to obey the rules of the family and society, did not prevent Anne from fighting to get what she really wanted. Anne, who came from a prominent family where her father was in a high position at work, was willing and able to break the rules against relations of different social status and class. Anne made a decision that ultimately led her to her true love, Frederick Wenworth and true happiness, without interference, coercion, and persuasion from others. However, the obstacles they face are very heavy. The following data describes the twists and turns of Anne and Frederick's love journey

The data that researcher found showed social class differences that matched the theory used.

Data 1

"Anne Elliot, with all her claims of birth, beauty, and mind, to throw herself away at nineteen; involve herself at nineteen in an engagement with a young man, who had nothing but himself to recommend him, and no hopes of attaining affluence,".

The data explains that Anne's figure is extraordinary, beautiful and young and her nobility is very unfortunate if she has to marry Frederick Wenworth who is a simple young man and has nothing but himself. From the quote it can be seen how social class greatly influences a person's self-image, economy and position in a society

Data 2

"Nay, Sir Walter," cried Mrs Clay, "this is being severe indeed. Have a little mercy on the poor men. We are not all born to be handsome. The sea is no beautifier, certainly; sailors do grow old betimes; I have observed it; they soon lose the look of youth. But then, is not it the same with many other professions, perhaps most other?"

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The data explains the views of Mrs. Clay that we are not born to be beautiful. Frederick Wenworth is just a sailor, whose face looks old and has lost its youthful appearance due to sea life. which in the early mid-18th century a sailor was despised economically, shabby and with nothing but to go to sea.

Data 3

"Wentworth? Oh! ay, Mr Wentworth, the curate of Monkford. You misled me by the term gentleman. I thought you were speaking of some man of property: Mr Wentworth was nobody, I remember; quite unconnected; nothing to do with the Strafford family. One wonders how the names of many of our nobility become so common."

The data explains that the term gentleman does not seem to be for Wenworth. Because when talking about the term gentleman, it means talking about someone who has material wealth. And Captain Frederick Wenworth has absolutely nothing to do with the topic of discussion because it is considered not to have criteria for discussion, especially with the Stafford family.

CONCLUSION

A character is defined as a person who is shown in a dramatic or narrative work, which is interpreted by the reader as endowed with moral and dispositional qualities that are expressed in what they say (dialogue) and in what they act. Anne Elliot has a big role in telling stories about women who deal with issues of gender, social class, and economic status in the sphere of love issues, especially about how to choose the right partner. The author tries to find out how Anne and Wenworth's love story is. The author has found several conclusions about the characters of Anne Elliot and Frederick Wenworth as the main characters in the novel Persuasion. The journey of Anne and Wenworth's social life has many twists and turns to arrive at the happy ending of their marriage.

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