

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a term used to describe written or spoken material. Broadly speaking, "literature" is used to describe anything from creative writing to more technical or scientific works, but the term is most commonly used to refer to works of the creative imagination, including works of poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction. Sometimes people think that reading literary work is only wasting their time because there is something that is more important to do besides reading literary works.

Furthermore, to read the literary works need more concentration and imagination. On the other hand, there are many people who are interested in literary works. They think that after reading literary works such as novel, drama, poem, and short story, those will relax their mind. People also think that reading literary works can improve their concentration because when they are reading literary works for instance, drama, they should memorize the plot, setting, character and et cetera. It is also gaining their imagination. Jones states in *An Outline of Literature*: "literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination (1968: 1)". Similarly, Hudson (1965: 10) defines that, literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced of it, what they thought, felt about those aspects of it which have the most immediate enduring interest of all of us.

It is clear that literature is the way to express opinions and imaginations through experience in life.

Drama is one kind of literary works containing character, plot, setting and dialogue. Drama is a play written for theatre, radio or television. It is usually combined with both music and dance. Forms of drama includes opera, pantomime and creative drama. Drama is a form of art that explores and expresses human feelings through performance. The term is derived from the Greek word meaning 'action'. Drama is also aimed to express conflict, an action crisis or a certain atmosphere through actors and actress who are normally skilled to perform on stage. On the other hand, poetry and prose do not have characters which are performed on the stage. This statement is supported by Rosenheim in *What Happens in Literature* by saying,

Drama, unlike the other kinds of literature, is written to be performed and hence is dependent upon the over words and actions of actors, representing its characters, for the achievement of much of artistic effects or not (1960: 93).

It means that drama is composed through the images of characters and actions. The characters who play a drama will speak dialogues of the drama, and it is usually performed on the stage.

In this thesis, the writer is interested in the drama entitled *The Respectful Prostitute* written by Jean Paul Sartre. Jean Paul Sartre was born in June 21, 1905, Paris, France - died April 15, 1980, Paris. He was a French novelist, playwright, and exponent of existentialism a philosophy acclaiming the freedom of the individual human being. Jean Paul Sartre was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1964, but he declined it. *The Respectful Prostitute* is one of the

greatest works of Sartre. This drama contains some interesting ideas. In this case, the writer analyzes one of the interesting ideas that is the oppression of woman which happens to Lizzie. Woman oppression is a discrimination based on gender, especially discrimination against women. In this drama, Lizzie is the white woman who is a prostitute, and is being oppressed by the white man named Fred. Her oppressions begin when she is asked by Fred to sign the letter which says that The Negro is the suspect of the murder in the train. In fact, Lizzie refuses to sign the letter because she wants to tell the truth. Finally, Fred gets angry and oppresses Lizzie until she signs the letter.

According to the description above, the writer chooses the woman oppression as a topic of the study for his analysis. Thus, the appropriate title is Woman Oppression in Jean Paul Sartre's *The Respectful Prostitute*.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

According to the background of the study, the writer formulates research questions as follows:

1. How is Lizzie oppressed in Sartre's *The Respectful Prostitute*?
2. What are the causes of Lizzie's oppressions?
3. What are the effects of Lizzie's oppression toward herself?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In *The Respectful Prostitute*, there are three purposes which are withdrawn. Those purposes are:

1. To explain the oppressions of Lizzie in Sartre's *The Respectful Prostitute*.
2. To describe the causes of Lizzie's oppressions.
3. To describe the effects of Lizzie's oppressions toward herself.

1.4 Limitation of the Problem

The writer analyzes the drama entitled *The Respectful Prostitute* which talks about woman oppression. In analyzing this drama, the writer limits the writing on the term oppression dealing with woman. The writer also discusses causes and effects of Lizzie's oppressions.

1.5 Significance of the Study

In reading Sartre's *The Respectful Prostitute*, the writer knows how to appreciate woman. The writer also knows the effects of the oppression itself. The writer hopes that this analysis will be useful for the readers especially for men to appreciate the woman well. The last, the writer hopes that this analysis is useful to encourage other researchers to conduct the research with different approaches in other title of literary works.