

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background of the Study

We usually study literature as means of getting much more knowledge and to know the depth of human life, with literature we can express our ideas, feeling from our experience that happen in our daily lives and people can enjoy their lives in literature. Literature is a work of art, which uses language as its medium to express the author's idea. It supports human's brain to link all those important elements into unity to know and understand of literary works. Hudson (1965: 10) says as follows:

Literature is a vital record of what man have seen in life what they though and felt about those aspect of it, which is have the most immediate and. enduring interest for all of us. It is fundamentally an expression of life through the medium of language.

Furthermore, Literature is expressing the importance of human's issues. It includes human values, moral, love, family relationship, and the problem that happen in humanity. Commonly literature includes all written materials such as magazine, newspaper, and dictionary, so forth. The forms of literary works are Prose (short stories and novel), drama, and poems. By reading literature the reader can get pleasure as satisfaction, get more knowledge and get experience of life about literature.

Drama is a work of literature and the presentation of life and character through action and dialogues, some word action such as scenery, lighting, music

and so forth. Reaske (1966: 14) states that Drama is a work of literature or composition, which delineates life and human activity by means of presenting various action of and dialogues between groups of character. Drama is the form of literature designed performed by actors on the stage. By reading drama the other writers can improve their knowledge and their way of writing, such as in writing the character and society. Drama can be excited our imagination, our creativity and our inspiration. The writer interested in analyzing the drama entitled *A Doll's House* written by Henrik Ibsen.

Henrik Ibsen created *A Doll's House* became popular in 1879. By the late nineteenth century, the women's problem had become one of the explosive issues. That is why the author was interested to write a drama concerning with the condition of woman right of Norway at that time. Generally, women are less subordinated in certain crucial respect than they are in most, if not all, of the archaic states, or even in some capitalist nation (Freeman, 1979:94). In fact, women take a lot of sacrifices for her husband and woman is anything such as woman can be absorbed by the economy. Man is assumed as the subject while women as the object. Man is often associated with something superior, everything that is challenging as a leader in every position including patriarchy, until now, women is often associated with politeness. In fact, men have higher position than women, and men work outside of the house to make income of their family.

*A Doll's House* is almost as topical today as it was a century ago, since it deals with women's rights and women's self-sacrifice in marriage. This drama is about Nora who is treated as a doll by her husband. Nora leaves the house at the

end of the play becomes one of the reason for launching *A Doll's House* as a masterpiece. Ibsen's states in his speech at Banquet of the Norwegian league for women right that it was desirable to solve the women problem along with the other plays, although that had not been the whole purpose (Caputi, 1066:343).

*A Doll House* becomes controversy in the way of marriage without an equal and mutual relationship. Nora's rebellion is a feminist phenomenon if it is compared to women's attitude at that time in her society. The writer concerns with women and shows that women have the right to assert their self-existence.

The writer concerns in women's right since it is still fresh to be discussed and it deals with women's self sacrifice in marriage. The writer describes Gender study on Nora's rebellion in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*.

Gender is a term differences between men and women especially the differences of sex. Rothwell (1982:177) states that sex refers to the biological aspect of person such as their anatomy and physiology, whereas gender refers to the psychological, social and cultural components. Sex is revealed at birth while gender is learned within the context of culturally condoned and prescribed behaviors and characteristic considered appropriate for men to be Masculine and women to be Feminine.

This study analyzes Nora's rebellion especially in building her destiny of marriage. That's why the writer chooses this title to be a thesis.

### **1.2. The Statement of the Problems**

The writer feels so important to analyze main characters that exist in this drama. In this case, there are some problems will be discussed, that are:

1. What are Nora's rebellions against gender discrimination in *A Doll's House*?
2. What are the effects of Nora's rebellion on the other characters?

### **1.3. The Objective of Study**

From the previous problems, then the writer has some aims in writing this analysis, as follows:

1. To analyze Nora's rebellion in gender discrimination in *A Doll's House*.
2. To describe the effects of Nora's rebellion on the other characters.

### **1.4. The Limitation of the Problems**

The writer will discuss main character as the problem in *A Doll's House*. In order to make the discussion more specific the writer limits the scope of the study on Nora's rebellion in gender discrimination and the effects of Nora's rebellions.

### **1.5 The Significance of Study**

The thesis will discuss Nora's rebellion in Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll House*. By analyzing this thesis the writer hopes that the readers will increase their knowledge and solve many problems in the drama as a means of communication, ways of life but also as a means of moral values. Therefore, the readers will get much knowledge and comprehensive understanding of the issues of Nora's rebellion. The writer hopes that this thesis will be useful to improve some information about Henrik Ibsen's plays.