

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of Study

Literature cannot be separated from human life. It becomes part of human life from time to time. Furthermore, human beings think that literature is considered identical with problems that happen in daily life. It is also closely related to thought, feeling and attitudes on the life process. Literature serves a lot of experience of human beings as stated by Grace (1965: 5) in his book *Responses to Literature*. He states that:

Literature is, first of all, a creative work of art on object that an artist makes. It is not merely an idea, a theory, a system of thought enter into it, as an object made by an artist, it has two purpose. They are: firstly, a creative work experience in terms of "beauty to be contemplated". And, in this sense, a creative work meets the human necessity for a means of communicating ideas of intellectual and social significance. In this sense, a creative work indicates what the artist thought, and also, through its germinate power, it is the source of new ideas in the future, forming a living tradition.

Another idea of Literature is delivered by Jones (1968: 1) in *An Outline of Literature*, he says that:

Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imaginations, sense or feeling and thought. Literature, in its broadest sense includes all written materials. It means that literary falls into history book, philosophical works, short stories, novels, poems, and plays.

According to the statement above, literary works such as in form of novel, play, and poem can become a source as well as an inspiration in forming a living of human being. A literary work contains of daily problems that may come from inside and outside of people. It is also possible that a literary work is a work reflecting author's life or author's idea in order to give much pleasure for people.

In this writing, the writer of the thesis has been motivated by analyzing the drama entitled *A Doll's House*. It is one of the exciting drama written by Henrik Ibsen. Drama is a kind of art that make us amazed by reading the dialogue. The word drama itself comes from the Greek word *Dran* that means to act or to do (Kennedy, 1978: 834). Then, the study also knows that drama is not only writing form but also performing on the stage. David (1960: 12) in *Modern American Drama* states that "drama is character in action or a drama is a story intended to be spoken and acted on the stage". Drama is composed through the images of characters and actions.

*A Doll's House* is a play created by Henrik Ibsen in 1879. It is a social drama on marriage, in which a woman refuses to obey her husband and walks out from her apparently perfect marriage. By the condition in Victorian period, the exploitation of women becomes stronger. Ibsen in *A Doll's House*, also shows the need of women liberation of exercising free will. "Men, either unconsciously or consciously, have oppressed women allowing them little or no voice in the political, social, or economic issues of their society" (Bressler, 1999: 180). Furthermore, in *Literary Criticism : An Introduction to Theory and Practice*, he also says that "women feminist declare, must define themselves and assert their

own voices in the arenas of politics, society, education and the arts. By personally committing themselves to fostering such change, feminists hope to create a society where the male and female voices are equally valued." It means that in the process of creating new condition of women, they try to find their own ways which is aimed at discovery of new dimensions of their rights against men.

In fact, women frequently take a lot of sacrifices, victims and time. Commonly, societies consider that women as second class after men. Male can do anything that they want to do while the functions of women are just to support male's desire. Actually, women never want to become the victim of men's violence. However by fate, men have higher position than women. By inequality of duties and responsibilities, women are only related to household matters, such as cooking, cleaning, etc. On the contrary, men do their work outside of the house to earn money for their family.

Further, in one's personality there are two sides either masculine or feminine which known as anima and animus. Anima is an archetype representing the feminine side of the male personality while animus is an archetype representing the masculine side of the female personality (Jung, 2005). Then, on the paragraph before has illustrated the condition of male and female life which considered that woman becomes the subordinate of man. Regarding the existence of masculine and feminine in one's personality and the condition of man and woman, the writer of the thesis is interested in analyzing masculine values of male and female characters in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. The writer also thinks that this

writing has an exciting problem that still up to date and never discussed before.

This is the reason why the study chooses this title to be her thesis.

### **1.2 The Statements of Problem**

In Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, the study has three problems that will be discussed. They are formulated as follows :

1. What are masculine values of the male characters in Ibsen's *A Doll's House* ?
2. What are masculine values of the female characters in Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House* ?
3. How are the effects of masculine values of the male and female characters in Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House* ?

### **1.3 The Limitation of Problem**

In this thesis, the study analyzes the play entitled *A Doll's House* which written by Henrik Ibsen. To avoid some problems out of context, in analyzing this play, the study limits the writing on masculine values of the male characters, the masculine values of the female characters, and how are the effects of masculine values of the male and female characters in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*.

### **1.4 The Objectives of Study**

To find the answer for the proposed problems through the analysis, the study has three objectives of the study. They are as follows:

1. To analyze masculine values of the male characters in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*.
2. To know masculine values of the female characters in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*.
3. To find the effects of masculine values of the male and female characters in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*.

### 1.5 The Significance of Study

By studying Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, the writer of the study hopes that the reader will get a better understanding about masculine values of male and female characters in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. Knowing that women's position in the Victorian period as human beings are not considered equal to men. Moreover, it causes the appearance of masculine values of female character. The study, further, hopes that this thesis will be useful as additional information for other students who want to discuss Henrik Ibsen's plays. Besides, this study also tends to improve the using of English through the context of drama and to consider that a literary work is not only as a means of entertainment but also as a means of moral teaching.