A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH OF THE WOMAN’S POSITION AND RIGHT
IN JAMES CAMERON’S MOVIE OF TITANIC.

Netty Herawati
Dosen Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Unrika Batam

Abstract
This study is about a sociological approach of woman position and right based on the Titanic Movie of the great- art director, James Cameroon. This study describes how woman has lower position in society and her right was neglected as well. This study explains that Rose (female-main character) could break the barrier of her society, and she could get her right in choosing her future husband.

Keywords: Sociological approach, Woman right, Titanic movie

1. Introduction

Human being will express his/her feeling by using many various kinds of media. Novel is most dominant in nineteenth century but for millennium era, expressing literary works mostly expressed by using multimedia such as movie. Therefore, movie or film is one of the literary works which explain the message by using word by words, or sentence by sentence. The literary work is an expression from a real social life in a community or society. Then human being will express their feeling and imagination by using literary works such as; poet, novel, and movie.

As quoted from Henry (1987) in Ismadi (2011:1) states that literature is not only the effect of the social causes but also the cause of social effects. Hence, the literary work will influence social life or another word can be said that the literary works are pictures of the real life in a society.

While Apriani (2012:1) explains about feminist theory aims to understand the nature of gender inequality and focuses on gender politics, power relations and sexuality. Feminist political activism campaigns on issues such as reproductive rights, domestic violence, maternity leave, equal pay, sexual harassment, discrimination and sexual violence. Themes explored in feminism include discrimination, stereotyping, objectification, sexual
objectification, oppression and patriarchy. While generally providing a critique of social relations, many proponents of feminism also focus on analyzing gender inequality and the promotion of women’s rights, interests, and issues.

This study focuses on the woman position in high class society in Bristih cocisty. Titanic movie describes two greatl-gap class between high level known as aristocrat and lower class known as labour. This movie exposed that all different classes have same right in love and life. This study describes Rose DeWitt who came from high level class met Jack Dawson as representative of lower level class. This movie greatly-arranged by James Cameron.

2. Review of Related Literature

The industrial revolution was started from France moved to England. The ivention of spinning threat will change the social realtionship. As stated by Ismadi (2011:4) that the Industrial development, the big industries needed to add devices and mechines. These were used to increase the number of the product.on the other side, it was also o gain new mechanization. The developing of the mechanization in the giant industries had ruined the small and home industries. These had created new class. This class jumped down to be working class or the lower class.

In addition, the rigid society limitted woman position changed becaome more tolerable. This was done because of woman who formerly worked in ‘domistic affair’ such as household handle became as labour at new companies built. This made social movement known as feminism movement. The British social scientist Christ Weddon in Mandel states(1995) in Kartikasari (2011:10) that Feminism is a politics directed at changing existing power relations between woman and man in the society.

Furthermore, feminism itself arises as the result of women disappointment to the evidence that for century’s women still do not have complete political, economic, and social equality with men. According to Mandell (1995:4) in Kartikasari (2011:10) that feminism constitutes a social, economic, and political commitment to eradicate
race, class and sexual domination and to reorganizing society so that individual self-development takes precedence over imperialism, economic expansion, and material desire. The goal of feminism is to change woman’s perspective of life so they realize that they are valuable persons possessing the same privileges and rights as every man (Bressler, 1999:180).

In principle, every person wants to be given equal opportunities and civil rights (Mandell, 1995:5). Norman Dorsen states that: Civil rights is used to imply that the state has a positive role in ensuring all citizens equal protection under law and equal opportunity to exercise the privileges of citizenship and otherwise to participate fully in national life, regardless of race, religion, sex, or other characteristics unrelated to the worth of the individual.

3. Methodology

This study uses descriptive qualitative research. Due to the data of this study is words based on the script of the Titanic movie. Narbuko & Achmadi (1997: 44) state that qualitative data tend to be in the form of words than series number. Using the qualitative data, the writer wants to describe the data based on the Titanic movie. The writer just focuses on the female main character, Rose. The writer will focuses on Rose’s position and right. The writer watches the movie frequently, then she tries to separate of the data into two types, namely Rose’s position in family, and her right as well.

4. Discussion of the Data.

In this study, the discussion only focuses on the Rose’s right and position. Her family (mother) limits to Rose in making Friends. Rose was forced to follow her mother. The following quotation will be clearerlier explained.

4.1 Rose’s Position
Rose is as a single child of her mother, she must be responsible to make living of her mother who was a widow. She was from aristocrat family but when her father passed away without anything but debt. Her beauty will be ‘capital’ of her family. This can be seen in following quotation.

Quotation 1
Rose mother: Mrs. Calvert: you’re not to see that boy again.
Do you understand me?
Rose, I forbid it.
Rose: oh, stop it, mother.
You’ll give yourself a nosebleed.
Mrs. Calvert: this is not game.
Our situation is precarious.
You know the money’s gone.
Rose: of course I know it’s gone.
You remind me every day.
Mrs. Calvert: your father left us nothing but a legacy of bad debts hidden by a good time.
That name is the only card we have to play.
I don’t understand you.
It is a fine match with Hockley.
It will ensure our survival.
Rose: how can you put this on my shoulders?
Mrs. Calvert: why are you being so selfish?
Rose: I’m being selfish.
Mrs. Calvert: do you want to see me working as a seamstress?

The quotation 1 above shows that rose’s position of the family is very centred. She has position as a single child to be exploited by her mother.

The next quotation is how she was limited in social intercourse. This can be seen in following quotation.

Quotation 2
Rose mother: Mrs. Calvert: you’re not to see that boy again.
Do you understand me?
Rose, I forbid it.
Rose: oh, stop it, mother.
You’ll give yourself a nosebleed.
Based on the quotations above shown that everything of Rose settled and arranged aby her mother. Her mother was very dominant even when Rose had dinner with high level family (aristocrat), Rose smoked, and then her mother got angry. Hockley then took cigaret from Rose’s fingers. This position of Rose was very difficult. This was an oppression of the weak person. Rose was weak because she was as a woman and poor, so did not have right to release or express her desire. The right of Rose can be seen in following quoatation.

### 4.2 Rose’s Right

Based the previous quotation that Rose is ‘property’ of her family to marry with a rich-handsome man, Hockley but Rose chose Jack Dawson. Actually she did not love Hockley. She will marry him because she just wanted to help her mother although she did not love Hockley. This story shows that Rose won her right in love as following quotation.

**Quotation 3**

Jack : Come on. (pulling rose inside the room)

Rose : jack, this is impossible.

I can’t see you.

Jack : I need to talk to you.

Rose : no, jack, no.

Jack, I’m engaged.

I’m marrying call.

I love cal.

Jack : rose... you’re no picnic.

You’re a spoiled little brat, even.

But you’re the most amazingly astounding, wonderful girl, woman

That I’ve ever known, and ....

The quotation above, shown that the power in community was for the have, rich and aristocrat. They could force or chose what they wanted. The lower level or the
weak person has no right and has lower position to determine her life. This story told that a woman (Rose) has position and right to determine her own life without any force.

5. Conclusion

The movie of Titanic describes woman position. That woman has only domestic affair such as look after babies, cooking and washing. In addition, industrial revolution era adds oppression of woman. The have or the rich person easily chose his wife even her wife did not love him. This movie told that woman (Rose) could determine her own life by choosing her lover without any force from others.

References