

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Human are created by God in upper position compare to other creation like plants and animals. Human are gifted by God with thought and conscience to make it different with others. In pursuing the purposes of life, human will employ all skills to ease their process in reaching their final goal. They will work with other people to create a same path for self establishment to be recognized in society. In the relation with their social development, human as a living organism is being influenced by their society in establishing their personality. It can be concluded that every individual is coming from one certain group, whether it is genetically or traditionally based on geographical, physical and social context. The sense of discrimination of human being to differentiate their room and purpose of life create a different need of space for self pleasure. Some people are enjoy having themselves in public sphere but some other need more private sphere for their personal purposes.

Woman which is often considered as a subordinated of man are often being neglected by other in terms of freedom. Society thinks that information about woman are legally accessible for other people especially man. Social stereotype of patriarchal system still consider that woman is created as a complement for man so that they do not deserve one certain place which is inaccessible from others, man. The researcher

sees that in every part of social constructions, woman can no longer accept that they are an object for public consumption. Society also has to recognize personal border for woman which is their private authority. Woman who is also busy as social organization, for example as a career woman, or even mother and a wife in a family, they must have their own room for their personal importance. They sometimes also want to be separated from daily life and separated from society. This need basically must be well understood by other member of society.

The idea of public and private sphere for human is to differentiate what is open and closed from one certain person to all society. Habermas (1998) sets the terms of public sphere as a mean to open for all. The public sphere is a specific public domain which is set against the private. Habermas further states:

“We call events and occasions ‘public’ when they are open to all, in contrast to closed or exclusive affairs. So every part of human need which is accessible and open for other group of society belongs to public sphere.” (Habermas, 1998:1)

In contrary, people also need special room to express themselves which is out other people influence. This need of space drives people to find a private field. The private sphere is the complement or opposite of the public sphere. It is sure that man and woman undoubtedly need a very special room which is separated from society for their pleasure for example gathering with families, working privately or even being separated from other people in certain period of time.

By having many hectic and exhausting activities, women need something to release their thought and body as a relaxation of them. Every individual in society have their own way to take their turn in order to change and find what they need as psychological fulfillment; children will play with their mates or man by hanging out with friends. In other hand, woman sometimes have a unique and different treatment to spoil themselves, to express their feeling and needs that is private sphere.

The idea of this private sphere needs for women are brought to many literary works like movie, novel, poetry, etc. *The Hours* is a 2002 drama film directed by Stephen Daldry, and starring Nicole Kidman, Meryl Streep, Julianne Moore and Ed Harris as the main character in this movie. The screenplay by David Hare is based on the 1999 Pulitzer Prize winning novel of the same title by Michael Cunningham. This *The Hours* follows three women through one day in their lives. One of the narrative strands explores the day in 1923 when Virginia Woolf begins to write *Mrs. Dalloway*. Another centers around a day in the life of Laura Brown, an American housewife, in 1949, in which she spends part of her time reading *Mrs. Dalloway*. The third narrative takes place on a day in the late twentieth century, in which Clarissa Vaughan hosts a party for her poet-friend Richard. The chapters alternate with rough regularity between these three main characters.

To put it in a larger context, the film underlines the sense of universality instead of specificity in the multicultural environments of L.A., New York, Richmond, and London. Therefore, it expands the social and cultural surroundings among cities for three women who represent the women's needs of private spheres in dissimilar time zones. Generally speaking, not only does the film tell a story for a writer Virginia, who creates a great novel *Mrs. Dalloway*, but also it describes a narrative for a reader Laura who admires Virginia's book and it bridges possible parallels between Virginia and her fictional character Clarissa.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher can conclude that the idea of women private spheres is as an important need to be covered in living time. As a member of society as like the same with a man, woman also need self recognition from themselves or/and from other people to own a private area without any disturbance from outside for any reason.

1.2 Formulation of Problem

Considering the idea that has been presented in the background of study, the writer formulates the problem as follow;

1. What are the private spheres for women as described in Daldry's *The Hours* movie?
2. How does Daldry's *The Hours* describe women's needs of private sphere?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the formulation of the problem, the objective of this research is to reveal the idea of women private spheres that described in Daldry's *The Hours*. Then this research is objected to examine how this movie describes women's needs of private sphere that is drawn from the characters' actions. Dealing with the empowerment of feminism, this research is based on theories that have been developed by Simone de Beauvoir.

1.4 Uses of the Study

This research is expected to give some contribution to of these two major uses: theoretical use and practical use.

1.4.1 Theoretical Use

This research is expected to enrich and deepen any knowledge of such theories of women private spheres, since it is interested to be conducted. Hopefully additional information in this research will give some contribution and understanding *The Hours* movie that covers the issue of women private spheres.

1.4.2 Practical Use

This research is to provide some academicals contributions for other researchers who are interested in similar topics to do further research in the future.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The scope of the study is intended to make the analysis not to be far-ranging. In addition, it is considered to make the object of analysis clearer. Therefore, the research will focus on the kinds of private spheres for women as described in the movie and how the way Daldry's *The Hours* describe women's needs of private spheres based on Simone de Beauvoir theory.

