

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In life, gender is really close to human identity. When someone is born in life, they will get a certificate that matches their gender, and it's become the identity for them until the end of life. For example, dress is only for women and the shirt is for men. That stereotype shaped by society because of the stigma of gender is only divided into two. In literary work, gender exists in characters inside the literary works to support the literary work's characterization. It could help us identify the characterization supported by gender besides all the things in literary works.

Gender is a term related to the biological system in someone's life, and gender also becomes the biggest thing that always makes a person's perspective towards something that must be followed by another perspective related to social and cultural things in society. The perspective here makes a stereotype of whether men or women have their own roles and regulation to make themselves can be accepted in society as a normal person based on their gender. In society's perspective, in general, there are two kinds of gender sense: 1. *Masculinity* and 2. *Feminine*, or usually called *male* and *female*. Because of society's perspective, sometimes thought if someone gets other sense in their gender could be wrong (Morelli, 2020).

Based on the journal article entitled *Sex and Gender: What is the difference?* humans' neurobiological condition supports gender. In biological terms, it is called genetic factors. The XY chromosome is more dominant for males than testosterone, whereas for women XX chromosome

is more dominant with estrogen and progesterone. The conditions that reflect on our desire, behavior, and social reaction in society, can be called the social reaction with a gender stereotype. This is a perspective or preconception towards the character's role. Whether it is about men or women, society must be followed by society because that the straightforward rules that society agreed on since they were born. This stereotype will shape the circle that negatively impacts those who get the treatment. For example, people thought that men should wear men's attire and women should wear women's attire. So, when they face something weird in society, they will judge them for breaking the stereotype. It means women could be called women if they act like women, and men could be called men if they act like men (William, 2014).

Based on the journal article entitled *The neurobiological basis of gender dysphoria* in 2019, gender sense could change because of several things, and it becomes extreme distress in gender cases. It happens when someone feels their birth gender does not match their feelings and behavior. This condition can be called gender dysphoria. It is supported by internal and external and impacts the internal condition in someone's gender sense, which are culture and external feedback. Both could build a sense of distress and reaction in our body ownership & perception, and if those happen in our life, it could change our gender sense because of the condition in society (Gliske, 2019).

So from the explanation above, the writer believes that gender dysphoria is included as part of gender trouble, stated by Butler in her book *In our body*. Humans have unconsciousness that can support the orientation in real life. In general, humans have two kinds of gender that are legal in government and society, which are male and female. Those two genders are the representatives of masculine and feminine. From those two orientations as humans, sometimes we just put our desire to become a secret, and when we show our desire, people thought that those are not part of a heterosexual person. But in fact, there are many kinds of gender and orientation in the world, those

we can call as queer people or in general we can call them as part of *Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, and Transgender*. The term Queer is based on its the meaning, which is "strange," and it becomes the umbrella of sexual or gender minorities that are not included as part of heterosexual and cisgender; however, they are part of gender. Yet, they are not accepted by society because they have a different orientation. (Butler, 1990)

From their different orientation, there is a term queer in part of gender trouble. People who suffer from gender dysphoria usually face discrimination from society. It does not only happen in real life, because literature is a formula of real-life action. It happens in literature too. Thus, the problem faced by society also can be seen in the formula of art. In literary work, the case of what is really faced by people who suffered gender dysphoria can be seen in the movie entitled *Normal*. The movie was published in 2003 in the United Kingdom. This movie describes the social life reaction towards transgender and homosexual life. In this movie, the audience can get a sense when someone in their surroundings suddenly declared themselves to live in the wrong body and decided to be transgender sooner. This situation affected to the occurrence of pro and contra conditions in their life and their family. The main character of this movie showed the impact of being a transgender in social life, the discrimination here given by the main character surrounding include their friends in the office and also their closest person such as wife and also children (Anderson, 2003). Discrimination is reflected in the culture of our society. Gender discrimination could be the result of the assumption of human's life that could not accept the differences, and it happens because they have the power as a majority, so then they could take handle of someone's life because they have the power to handle the others (Efrilia & Setiawan, 2020).

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of the study written by the writer, the writer formulates a research question: how is the portrayal of gender dysphoria as seen in *Normal Movie*?

1.3 Research Objective

This research aims to answer the research question; it focuses more on the main character of *Normal Movie*. The objective is to identify the portrayal of gender dysphoria described in the movie *Normal Movie*.

1.4 Uses of Study

This research will have an impact on the readers, such as:

1.4.1 Practical Use

Practically, the writer hopes that this research will give more understanding and will build people's awareness of gender dysphoria in society. From this research, the writer also hopes society could respect and accept those people who are suffering from gender dysphoria, the same as heterosexual people because they are human.

1.4.2 Theoretical Use

Theoretically, the writer hopes that this research will be useful for other researchers to get more information and knowledge that they can implement in their daily activities when they face people who are suffering gender dysphoria and how to treat them in life. The writer hopes this research will be useful for those who are interested in discussing gender dysphoria and need to apply the same theory, especially those who want to use gender dysphoria as their leading theory.

1.5 Scope of the Study

This research focused on the portrayal of gender dysphoria in the main character as seen in *Normal Movie*, to limit the discussion inside this research. Through this research, the researcher explains

the portrayal of gender dysphoria and the behavior of being part of gender dysphoria in society as seen in *Normal Movie*. For the primary data, the writer chooses all the main character activities categorized as the opposite activities from his birth gender. The writer analyzes the main character Roy who suffers gender dysphoria inside the movie through the figure of activities shown in the movie.