

CHAPTER TWO

THEORETICAL REVIEW

2.1 Previous Studies

The basis or reference in the form of theories or findings through the results of various previous studies is very necessary and can be used as supporting data. One of the supporting data that according to researchers needs to be made a separate part is a previous research that is relevant to the issues being discussed in this study. The previous studies which have relatable topic can be a guideline. Meanwhile, the relatable theory will help the writers to analyze this research (Habibah, & Nurmaily, 2020). In this case, the focus of previous research used as a reference is the findings and the method of theoretical used. Therefore, researchers conducted a study of several research results in the form of thesis and journal articles via the internet. Thus, some previous studies with the same object and/or topic are chosen as the guidance for the researcher.

In 2016, (Permatasari, 2016) conducted a research paper entitled “An Analysis of Feminism in Maya Angelou’s poems by Using Historical and Biographical Approaches”. This study analyzes the discrimination toward negroid which appears in Maya Angelou’s poems, the researcher of this study chose three selected poems from Maya Angelou which are “Still I Rise”, “Phenomenal Woman”, and “Caged Bird”. The focus of this study is to convey and reveal Maya Angelou’s messages inside the poems and also to analyze the poems from a woman's point of view which focuses on feminist literary criticism. This study was conducted by using feminism theory and also biographical and historical approaches. The researcher used the

theory by Kennedy and Gioia (1995:1790-1818) as cited in (Permatasari, 2016). The researcher found that some types of feminism portray inside those poems, are radical, and Marxist feminism, which portrays in the poem entitled "Still I Rise" and "Caged Bird". Another type of feminism that portrays in the poem is liberal feminism that only found in the poem entitled "Phenomenon Wome". This study also describes why Maya Angelou put the perspectives of feminism in her poems by using the biographical approach, which shows that because the poet was born as a black race, Maya's parents n were divorced since she was 3 and she was sexually abused when she was 8. Those must be related to Maya Angelou's life. The researcher will use the study by Permatasari as the reference and insight about how the author of the poem put her perspectives on feminism. It also will help the researcher to know how to see the condition of the author by looking at the biographical aspects of the author's life and see the types of feminism.

In 2017, (Brown, 2017) Davis and Brown conducted a research paper entitled "Automatically Discounted: Using Black Feminist Theory to Critically Analyze the Experiences of Black Female Faculty". This study analyzing the literature related to the holistic experiences faced by black female faculty (BFF) in academia using the lens of black feminism. This study shows that Black women are contending with many issues that are preventing the same success enjoyed by other faculty members of different gender and/or races. The characteristics of black women in this study will help future researchers to do relevant research topics by using a similar approach to the black woman. Thus, the paper by Davis and Brown can be an insight for the researcher to understand deeply about black feminism, and how black women face in the academic environment.

Another related study was conducted in 2015 by Ayda Rahmani entitled "Black Feminism: What Women of Color Went Through in Toni Morrison's Selected Novels", also focuses to examine how women in the selected novels chosen that they define themselves. The researcher used a feminist racist and naturalist filter to approach the selected data of this study, and analyzing the situations, all the characters, and the themes of selected novels, the researcher also showing the status of women of color in Literature based on Morrison's selected novels are revealed and represented. In the findings, the researcher found that in the selected novels Toni Morrison portrayed the bitter experiences facing by the colored women in the selected novels. The selected novels reveal how the situation and the conditions of enslavement from the external world, have to give very deep negative influences on the individuals' internal world. This past research indeed correlates with the current study even though the object of the research is different, but the previous research and the current research both discuss and approaching a similar topic which is about feminism and women colored. Thus, the research conducted by Ayda Rahmani will be beneficial for the current research as a reference to understand how the author put the character of the black woman in the literary work. In 2018, Zafar has conducted research entitled "The Poetics of Black Feminist Narrative. A Literary Analysis of Maya Angelou's Poetry". The objective study of this research is to explore the black woman image depicted by Maya Angelou in her poems. This study used the black feminist theory and also focused on words, lines, and stanzas from the poems chosen. In the findings this study capture and explain some characteristics of the women inside the poems are different from each poem chosen, in the first poem entitled "Still I Rise" the researcher found that Maya

Angelou presented the black female as a leader of the movement and challenges the arrangement of society about black women. In the second poem entitled "Phenomenal Woman," the researcher found that Maya Angelou describes a standard of beauty that beauty is not having a beautiful face and slim smart body and thin lip. The poet says that black women can be phenomenal women through their good personality and their confidence and proud themselves to be black women. In the last poem entitled "Caged Bird," the researcher found that Maya Angelou shows the underdevelopment of black women due to tradition. Those findings are the result of the implementation of the theory applied to the poems of Maya Angelou. This study can be a guidance for the current researcher to conduct research related studies about black feminism in a poem, focusing on the language used in the poem.

In 2008, Novianti conducted a research study entitled "Character Analysis of Mary Ashley Based on Feminism Approach in The Novel Windmills of The Gods by Sidney Sheldon". The objective study of this research aims to analyze woman conditions and to prove the existence of the feminism movement inside the novel. The researcher used the theory of feminist approach to analyze the data of the study. All of the findings in this study were taken from the dialogue of the novel. The researcher found that the character from the novel Windmills of The Gods named Mary which has characteristics as a woman ideal feminist, the proof of the characteristics of Maya can be seen from the characteristics of Maya. The educational background, the struggles, and the bravery of the character portray the ideal woman feminist. So, this research is very beneficial for the researcher,

because, through the hypothesis in that paper, the researcher may know the role of high self-esteem of the character inside the novel.

2.2 Intersectionality Approach

Intersectionality is a way of framing the various interactions of race and gender in the context of violence against women of color. Yet intersectionality might be more broadly useful as a way of mediating the tension between assertions of multiple identities and the ongoing necessity of group politics (Crenshaw, 1991:1296). She also added in (Crenshaw, 1989:140) by stating that in feminist theory, black women are sometimes excluded. It happens because the feminist theory is predicated on a discrete set of experiences and it often does not reflect the interaction of race and gender accurately. However, this problem cannot be solved by including black women within an already established analytical structure only. Any analysis that does not take intersectionality into account cannot sufficiently address the particular manner in which Black women are subordinated, because the intersectional experience is greater than the sum of racism and sexism. Thus, intersectionality is a theoretical framework that used to understand one's aspects in political and social identities (race, gender, class, ability, sexuality, etc.) can be combined in creating the unique modes of discrimination in the society and used to understand how systemic inequalities and social inequalities occur.

(Rosem.Brewer, 2016) further, states that: Intersectionality has been accepted across a range of fields to represent the analytical approach to understanding how multiple categories of difference can and do overlap and intersect in the lives of black and non-black men and women. The result is unique social positions of marginalization and oppression that have been historically ignored by not only scholars and academics, but also society at large. Simply put, this mode of analysis represents the race, class, and gender paradigm that has been designed to address the multiplicity of these systems of inequality.

The intersectionality approach strongly ignores and rejects the continuous approaches of the oppression system, which means adding on a so-called “secondary” category of oppression such as a class to a central or “main” category of oppression such as race. (Rosem.Brewer, 2016) clearly point out that, socially, the life experience of people is positioned to the intersection of the categories of different oppression that represent a basic recognition that has been neglected for a long time, and under the intersectionality approach, it creates an unexplored field of analysis of the construction and inequalities of the social difference, that can shed more light on the processes and consequences. Hence, the intersectionality approach is broadening and specifying down the issue of oppression.

The broadening of this approach agenda means that intersectionality is used to find the combination of injustice felt by other members of society and the community. Crenshaw focuses on the issues involving multi-dimensional inequality, Crenshaw mainly raised the issue of race in understanding gender, where the interests of black women differed from the position of white women.

Intersectional feminism aims to changes the perspectives of certain communities and also society not merely to conclude that white women must fight for their rights, but rather, to recognize that women have different experiences without seeing their identities. This theory addresses women more only on a multidimensional basis. Intersectionality theory argues that oppression in society, such as racism, sexism, classism, and others based on trust, does not act independently of one another. These forms of oppression are interconnected, creating a system of oppression that reflects "discrimination" in the form of discrimination. Intersectionality theory also

shows that it seems that the forms and expressions of oppression are formed by each other.

2.2.1 Black Feminism Thought

Spitzack and Carter (1987, in (Harris, 2018), stated that black feminist thought is a theory that captures the unique experiences and standpoints of African-American women and came out of the continuing marginalization perpetuated in and by the feminist movement which aimed to capture the intersection of oppression and to recognize race and gender from the oppressive nature of gender construction and of race as a social construct, which can be affecting one's experience directly. Black feminist thought consists of ideas generated by black women who clarify the point of view for black women.

(Collins, 2000:22) states that Black feminism remains important because U.S. Black women constitute an oppressed group. As a collectivity, U.S. Black women participate in a dialectical relationship linking African-American women's oppression and activism. Dialectical relationships of this sort mean that two parties are opposed and opposite. As long as Black women's subordination within intersecting oppressions of race, class, gender, sexuality, and nation persists, Black feminism as an activist response to that oppression will remain needed.

Black feminist thought is also against oppression, both in practice and the ideas that justify it. If intersecting oppressions did not exist, black feminist thought and similar oppositional knowledge would not have been necessary. As a critical social theory, black feminist thought aims to empower African-American women in the context of social injustice sustained by intersecting oppressions. Because black women cannot be fully empowered unless intersecting oppression is itself eliminated, black feminist thought supports broad principles of social justice that go beyond the specific needs of US black women. (Collins, 2000)

Black women have a unique perspective about, their experiences and there will be certain similarities in perception held by black women as a group. While living life as a black woman can produce certain commonalities, the diversity of classes, regions, ages, and sexual orientations that shape the lives of black women have produced different expressions of these general themes. Thus, universal themes included in the viewpoint of black women can be experienced and expressed differently by different groups of African-American women. Finally, the definition assumes that, although there is a point of view of black women, the contours may not be clear to black women themselves. Therefore, the intellectual role of black women is aimed to produce theories and facts about the experiences faced by black women that will clarify the perspectives of black women for black women itself. In other words, the practice of black feminist thought holds the interpretations and observations of womanhood by African-American women that explain and describe many different expressions in general themes.

2.3 Poetic Devices

Poetic devices are needed in analyzing the lyrics of the poem, the researcher needs guidelines to reveal the correct meaning of the texts in the poem. According to (Brinks, 2019) poetic devices are the deliberate use of words, phrases, sounds, or even shapes to convey meaning. **That has a very broad scope in which could encompass any kind of written expression, however, poetic devices generally, are used to convey the literal meaning of any written expressions by considering the form, sound, and function. In this study, the researcher only puts several types of poetic devices to analyze the poem.** Here are some types of poetic devices that are needed to be used in conducting this study.

2.3.1 Repetition

According to Brinks (2019), repetition **fairly self-explanatory, and it is the process of repeating certain words, phrases, lines, and stanza. In poetry, repetition represents the author of the poem that she or he wants to use the same words for emphasizing that the author still expresses the same thing, or repetition is partly only to be enjoyed as a repeating pattern that is pleasant to hear.**

2.3.2 Metaphor

In analyzing the lyric of the poem the researcher needs guidelines to reveal the correct meaning of the texts in the poem. Thus, a deeper understanding of the metaphor and simile theory is needed to help the researcher analyzing the lyrics of the poem. Metaphors and simile are not merely poetic imaginative tools and rhetorical decoration but reflect the nature of the poet's thoughts, actions, and experiences. Metaphors reflect who and how to implement the language into a literary work. Abrams (1999) was clear to point out that, metaphor is a word or expression that in literal usage denotes one kind of thing that is applied to a distinctly different kind of thing, without asserting a comparison as a rhetorical of figurative expressions from the similarities or dissimilarities that is made between one to another thing. Metaphor aims to describe a thing by referring to other things that are considered to have characteristics similar to something or someone who wants to be described. The example of metaphor: "Her eyes are **the stars** in the night sky." In this example what the researcher wants to explain is "eyes" and what is used as a comparison is "stars". The selection of other things used as a reference or comparison is based on the similarity in quality or characteristics of the two

things. In this case, what might be considered similar is that the "eyes" are sparkling and beautiful as a "star" at night.

2.3.3 Simile

A simile is a comparison between two distinctly different things that are explicitly indicated by the word "like" or "as." It compares two different things directly in order to give a description or an explanation of one of the two things (Abrams, 1999:97). This understanding of Simile might seem similar to Metaphor because both of them are figurative statements or parables that compare two different things. However, it is necessary to know that there are differences between Simile and Metaphor. The difference is, in Simile the comparison is explicitly or explicitly written using conjunctions such as: like, so, as, than, resemble and so on which indicate directly that something is being compared, whereas in Metaphor it is not. Or the easy way is that the readers need to remember that Simile states "A is like B" while Metaphor states "A is B". Those two understandings toward the theories of metaphor and simile will help the researcher revealing the meaning of the lyrics in the poem.

2.3.4 Personification

Personification is a type of figure of speech that describes inanimate objects as though having human behavior. Personification is also defined as an abstract concept of inanimate objects as if endowed with life and with human attributes and feelings, (Abrams, 1999:99). Personification occurs when the author of the poem assigns inanimate objects or abstract ideas within human behavior, actions, and qualities.

2.3.5 Theory on Symbol

The symbol within the poem symbolizes the intended purpose of the poem. The symbol comes from the Greek word *Symbaloo* which implies toss together, throw, or put together in one idea or idea of a visual object, so that the item represents a plan. Theory on symbol is needed to explain further symbolic words that appear in the "*homage to my hips*" poem. According to (Abrams, 1999:311) a symbol is anything that signifies something, in this sense all words are symbols. However, in the literature term, a symbol is applied to a word or phrase that signifies an object or of an event which in turn signifying something, or it has a range of reference beyond itself.

Symbol is seen as a concrete sign, as a rhetorical means, as an instrument of action of psychological identification or of mystical revelation, as which modifies the relation with the referent and alters the context, as a non-sign, as an unmotivated sign, as a cipher of absolute realities, as a figure in relation to the metaphor, the metonymy, and the allegory (Pedersen, 2015). Symbols are manifested in images, shapes, movements, or objects that represent a plan. The symbol is required for the good thing about the values they represent. Symbols are often used for any purpose, like science, social life, additionally as religion. The symbol form is not only within the kind of visible objects, but also through movement and speech. Symbols are used united of the language infrastructures, called symbol languages. A symbolic word could be a word that compares a thing with other symbols, it is often a logo, figure, animal, or object. The symbol used contains a specific meaning that represents something that's to be conveyed.

2.4 Tone in Poetry

The tone in the poem contains an attitude of how the poem is read whether it is advice, criticism, satire, ridicule, or story. The use of tone is used to understand the expression of a literary work to show that there are speakers who have defining personal qualities, and who express good attitudes towards the characters and material in the work and towards the audience to which the work is aimed (Abrams, 1999:215). The tone will be felt by the readers after reading the poem that is a certain atmosphere change in the reader. The tone of criticism can cause an atmosphere of rebellion, the tone of sarcasm causes shame, the tone of ridicule can cause anger, and so on. The tone also relates to the theme and taste. In addition, the tone also serves to have a soft, loud, low, high sound in a poem that is closely related to the feelings, thoughts, and attitudes of the poet in conveying his poetry. The poet can convey the theme in a patronizing tone, dictate, cooperate with the reader to solve the problem, leave the problem to the reader, in an arrogant tone, consider the reader stupid and low.

2.5 The Poet

Lucille Clifton is an Afro-American writer and an educator from Buffalo, New York. Lucille Clifton is a black writer from the United States who was born in New York on June 27, 1936. She is the wife of Fred James Clifton, who is a philosophy lecturer from the University of Buffalo and a sculptor whose carvings depicted African faces. Lucille Clifton worked at the State Division of Employment, in Buffalo (1958–1960) New York, and as a literature assistant in the Office of Education in Washington, D.C. (1960–1971). During that time, she met with her husband at The Buffalo Community Drama Workshop that introduced by a writer

named Ishmael Reed. Lucille Clifton is a poet for the Maryland area from 1979-1985. Lucille Clifton is a figure who frequently takes up themes of feminism, and is also always related to the African-American heritage with some emphasis on the female body, and her pride in the African-American culture that runs in her blood. Most of Lucille Clifton's works are influenced by the lifestyle experiences, challenges, and problems facing by her family as well as the African American challenges problem. She also wrote poems about identity and the issue of racism and some of her poems talk about segregation and discrimination toward African-Americans in the United States. Lucille Clifton is one of the woman writers who use the feminist approach in her work. In her poems, Clifton expresses what the women were facing during racial segregation, discrimination, and male domination. From that information related to her life background and her works, Lucille Clifton is a feminist who fights for justice for black women through her works that are mostly influenced by her experiences during her life. Lucille Clifton died in Maryland the day before Valentine's Day in February 2010.