CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Hypermasculinity is a psychological term for exaggerating stereotypes of male behavior such as physical strength, aggression and sexuality, demonstrating resilience through emotional self-control, and showing that they can be calm and patient in dealing with problems and severe stress (Ankita Siddhanta and Singh SK, 2015). Basically, men's behavior can be shaped according to what value they receive from their environment. When a man lives in an area that threatens himself and his family, his enthusiasm will burn to train his physical strength to look strong and tough. Looking calm and patient does not mean he is okay, but they try to look tough with his attitude. Problems always come without stopping, but men have a thousand ways to solve these problems. We can see many people who think that men are strong, brave, and protective, but not all men are like that. Men have been indoctrinated as the most powerful creatures than women, but when they are born into the world, all these doctrines will not necessarily survive and in the end men's behavior will be formed according to the culture and environment in which they live (Diane M. Turner Bowker, 2004). The theory of hypermasculinity is highly relevant in contemporary times with the redefinition of sexuality and gender, spearheaded by LGBT and feminist movements, constantly questioning and critiquing certain hypermasculine traits that were championed in the whitemale dominated media and society.

The hypermasculinity can be seen when someone has the attitude to protect the people around him. A man can not control his emotions when he feels that all these problems can still be with a cold heart. However, emotions can come out at any time if indeed this problem cannot be resolved by discussion and it has to be violent. This was done in order to free his family from bad people. The significance of hypermasculinity is can make men realize that they have a big responsibility towards their family, relatives and the environment. Because of the hypermasculinity stereotype, it can make men realize that they have the nature of being the strongest person than women (Munroe, 2001). If even a small problem cannot be resolved, it will become a talk in the community and be seen as cowardice. No matter how big the problem, they must solve it immediately. However, this gender role can also have a negative mental impact on men. If men don't have masculine criteria, it can lead to feelings of insecurity, embarrassment to speak in public, inferiority complex, and other psychological distress. As a result, there is a belief that the inability to fulfill gender roles can make them think twice about appearing in social communities.

The writer found that hypermasculinity as the same as **Machismo** (Goldbreg M. , 2013) that means exaggerated pride in masculinity, perceived as power, often coupled with a minimal sense of responsibility and disregard of consequences. In machismo there is supreme valuation of characteristics culturally associated with the masculine and a denigration of characteristics associated with the feminine. It is also very important that machismo can be positive in the or of taking care of the family, showing valor amongst peers, working hard for money to support the family, and taking pride in the raising of children (Villereal, 2005).

When people find a man they will think that generally man is strong, brave, aggresive, resilient, and toughness that is all what's people think about man even not all man enter into those criteria that is a real man (Saptandari, 2015). According to Greenberg and Baron (1998), there are two important variables that influence one's perception of others, namely the 'bias' of perception, or the type of judgment that people often make, and stereotypes, or people's tendency to categorize others based on the groups from which other people are originated. So no wonder anymore, if people quickly decide on something wrong with someone.

Movie or film is one of literary works. The existence of movies has a good influence on society because it can create awareness and knowledge about the importance of education, art, sports, and politics and also can warn us about the dangers of drugs, alcohol and other criminal activities. It also lets people know and understand the values held by other cultures (Fairman, 2016). Films not only have a positive influence on society, but they also communicate ideas, thoughts and information, and they show the places and ways of life that we might know about (Bordwell and Thompson, 2008). Thus, film is able to illustrate a thought or idea that came up from someone such as the idea of the real object, events, setting by seeing the moving picture from every scenes in the film.

There are many movies which the topic is about hypermasculinity issue such as *The Wolverina* (2013), *Aquaman* (2018), *Rambo 3* (1988), and *Rambo: Last blood* (2019). Those movies which was made from many years ago until this era show that social issues are still be the main discussion nowadays. There are many kinds of social issues such as gender stereotypes, discrimination, violence and crime. Gender stereotypes is happen nowadays and in reality, it causes many victims.

Therefore, this issue is raised into this movie and become a discourse. Moreover, the writer used the issue of gender stereotypes toward hypermasculinity identity is very important to be discussed by many people.

The writer took *Rambo: Last Blood* as the main material of the research. *Rambo: Last Blood* released on September 18th, 2019. This movie was directed by Adrian Grunberg and the writer was David Morrell. The writer choose this movie because it is presenting a good illustration and description about the existence of hypermasculinity and how the character faces the problem with their identity in society. The movie showing many conflicts than the other series before, where the main character Rambo struggle to faces the problem with his identity and he always win. The movie attract many people to watch because people will get a pounding feeling when seeing all the dramatic and sadistic scenes. The movie is about human trafficking that happen in Mexico. Human trafficking in Mexico uses many young women as a means to fulfill men's pleasure. But the owners of human trafficking really treat these girl inhumanely. Inmitigated, if there is a girl who counter the mafia and do not serve customers well, they will be punished and given a phychotropic anesthetic injection that causes rapid death to the victim. Everyday there will be new girls entering the operational headquarters of the human trafficking mafia. The girls were obtained from the nightclub. So, the mafia send their members to order girls while looking for beautiful and sexy women, then they take the girls to the place where they will be traded.

One of the women being sold is Gabrielle. Gabrielle is a teenager who originally intended to find her father in Mexico accompanied by her friend, Jessel. However,

her arrival to that place would give a new problem for Gabrielle. Jessel invites Gabrielle to go to a nightclub and there Gabrielle meets an unknown man and takes her to the women's trafficking center. Her uncle, Rambo who has a great character, is hard to beat, and also a former vietnamese soldier who ventured to save Gabrielle from that place. Gabrielle was treated so badly that until Rambo and Gabrielle returned, Gabrielle died and added to his uncle's growing resentment. Rambo took revenge by making a bomb that was assembled by himself and several traps to kill the enemy in his underground home in Arizona.

The significance and the urgency of this research is as a tool for building knowledge, give informations that hired researchers missed, and for facilitating learning. This paper can help the future researchers in conducting the same theory and the same cases. Besides that, this paper will be more focus on how gender stereotypes are depicted through hypermasculinity that are related to the people's opinions in the movie.

1.2 Research Question

According to the background which has been written by the writer, the writer formulates the research questions of the problem into:

1. What are the portrayal of hypermasculinity depicted in the main character in *Rambo: Last Blood* movie?

1.3 Research Objective

From the researched questions noted above, the research objective of this research is to reveal the portrayal of hypermasculinity depicted in the main character in *Rambo: Last Blood* movie.

1.4 Use of Study

This research will give important points. There are two implications of this research:

1.4.1 Practical Use

This research will give an understanding and became a warning to society as a human being about gender stereotypes issue. Also, it can be a reference for the other researcher who bring the same research about gender stereotypes issue from Rambo*: Last Blood* movie.

1.4.2 Theoretical Use

This research will be useful for the future researcher to criticize a literary work using gender stereotypes theory, especially the author's world view by Judith Butler. By using this theory, it will help future researchers to find out what happens in society. And this research can give knowledge to the reader about the portrayal of hypermasculinity.

1.5 Scope of Study

In order to limit the discussion, this research will focus on the portrayal of hypermasculinity that depicted through men character of *Rambo: Last Blood (2019) that* will be analyzed and discussed in this research. The writer will analyze the main character Rambo. The writer chooses Rambo because he show the characteristics of hypermasculinity through the scenes and dialogues in the movie. This paper only looks at supporting characters or minor character especially male character in *Rambo: Last Blood* movie because in general, the depiction of hypermasculinity is used by male characters. The writers also decides to use *Rambo: Last Blood* movie because the writer likes enjoying the story, contains a lot of lesson about life and goodness, the presentation of the film is very detail, the storyline is clear, in the way, by looking at the visualization effect.