

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **THEORETICAL REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Previous Study**

There are several studies that have been conducted by researchers in previous years that examine the issues contained in the *War and Peace* novel and there are also some of them who studied the justice of different novels, before the writer decides to discuss related studies about the issue of justice which appears in the *War and Peace* novel. By paying attention and studying previous studies, the writer will have a deeper understanding about the concepts, methods, and theories that will be applied to the present research.

The first research has been conducted by Laia (2019). The writers conducted a research entitled “Social injustice Reflected in Novel “Social Injustice in Stella Knightley's Novel *Girl Behind the Mask*”, The objective of this research is to analyze how social injustice affects Stella Knightley's novel *Girl Behind the Mask*, particularly focusing on the main character Luciana, who experiences mental suffering due to her father's arrogant and overprotective behavior. The writer used sociological approach to analyze this novel. As the result the writer found a correlation between the topic of social injustice and the underlying theory that was used by the writer after analyzing the novel *Girl Behind the Mask* by Stella Knightley's. The first previous study helps the writer understand how to analyze data and implement theory in this study through a narrative in the novel. Both studies focus on analyzing social injustice, with the only difference being that the novel chosen by writer is *War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy.

The second research has been conducted by Asma (2009). The article entitled “*Discussion on ‘War’ and ‘Peace’ in the past and Our Time's Agendas with a Reference of Tolstoy's Novel War and Peace*”. His research objectives are to emphasize what is the real meaning of ‘peace’ and ‘war’ in the light of the eminent novel writer, Leo Tolstoy’s *War and Peace*. This article has been taken as an example to evaluate the developments of the modern times and to explain the meaning of 'war' and 'peace' and human rights with a philosophical view of universal understanding. His purpose in this study is to promote 'peace' which aims to find specifically 'peace' and 'war' by explaining the notion of what is "peace and war" in a negative and positive way; and clean up what peace is and what war is according to his understanding. Furthermore, it aims to ask and answer what caused wars in the past, and what is happening in the present. The similarity of the writer's analysis and the second previous study both focus on the novel *War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy, while the differences of the study is in object of the analysis. So, the writer can add some information about the novel to the present research.

The third research has been conducted by Winarsih (2015). The article entitled “*Protest against Social Injustice in Charlotte Bronte’s Jane Eyre*”. This research aims to uncover social injustice as depicted in Charlotte Bronte’s *Jane Eyre* and to demonstrate the author’s protest against social injustice through the novel's main character. Winarsih's used theory of sociology of literature as her theory. To obtain representative data in the discussion of this thesis, the writer uses data collection techniques through reading, taking notes, selecting and analyzing quotes from

novel. The research method used in this thesis is descriptive qualitative method which describes the analysis in accordance with the description of the results related with the research in this thesis. At the end of the research, there are eight indicators of social injustice are shown in Jane Eyre, such as; neglected orphan, child abuse, rigid social class relation, erroneous impression of governess, harsh school regulation, health, disease and death, fallen women, and disputed bequest. This research has contributed to providing some information about social injustice and to get an overview of data analysis. The difference of the study is the novel that has been chosen by the writer is *War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy.

The last research has been conducted by Astuti (2018). The article entitled “A Protest Against Social Injustice in Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables* (1862): A Marxist Criticism”. This research aims to analyze how social injustice and its causes are protested in the novel using Marxist criticism. The research method used in this paper is qualitative research based on a literature review that describes the analysis in accordance with the description of the results related to the research, and the technique of analyzing data is descriptive analysis. The result of this research is that the novel's author protests the social injustice occurring in France in the mid-nineteenth century. The writer advocates for a revolution to achieve social justice in society. This research has contributed to providing information and knowing how to analyze social injustice and get an overview of data analysis.

## **2.2 Theoretical Framework**

### **2.2.1 Marxism Approach**

Karl Marx was a philosopher, economist, and political theorist who were highly influential in shaping ideas about social injustice. Marxism presents both a philosophical framework and a strategy for effecting societal transformation, offering humanity an encompassing comprehension of the reality, structure, and individuals within social, political, economic, and cultural contexts. Marxism broadens the conventional historical approach to literary analysis by addressing sociological concerns that encompass not just the characters within a fictional work, but also the authors and readers involved (Bressler, 1994). His views centered on the concept of class struggle and the need for a more equitable society. Marx believed that societies throughout history have been shaped by conflicts between different social classes, primarily between the wealthy elite (bourgeoisie) and the working class (proletariat). He argued that capitalism, where the means of production are owned by the bourgeoisie, exploits the labor of the proletariat for profit, creating social inequalities. Marxist say that reality can be understood and that society shapes our thoughts. It believes social and economic conditions influence our beliefs and values (Bressler, 1994). Marxism also offers a plan to change the world from one filled with bigotry, hatred, and class conflict to a classless society where everyone has access to wealth, opportunity, and education.

Karl Marx's theory of social injustice is rooted in his broader critique of capitalism and his analysis of class struggle. He envisioned a society where wealth and resources are distributed more fairly, eliminating class distinctions and promoting

equality. His ideas emphasized the importance of workers' rights, fair wages, and the elimination of private ownership of the means of production to achieve a more just and equitable society. Marx's writings and theories laid the groundwork for various social justice movements and continue to influence discussions about economic and social inequality to this day. There are some concepts to know about social justice and Marxist principles from Karl Marx through dialogue and narration, there are:

### 1. **Historical Materialism**

Marx has a key idea about history. Historical materialism is the study of historical societies and events. Focus in particular on the material lifestyle and economic situation. According to Mayo (1960), the most insightful way to understand Marxist theories is through Marx's philosophy of materialism. This philosophy posits that matter exists independently of ideas, and ideas are simply reflections or manifestations of matter. Marx saw the evolution of society as a historical process marked by different stages of development. Social justice is achieved through the dialectical movement of history. He and Engels use the term "historical materialism" to explain social structures without using myths or religion. Marx's idea about work begins with studying a specific historical situation, like how capitalism developed in his time, the idea that the structure of society is determined by its economic base. Bressler (1994) stated that capitalists control the economy and are the central power in society. They decide what beliefs are acceptable, what values should be upheld, and what laws are made. Essentially, capitalists, not workers, control the society's structure and its ideology. He argued that social

institutions, ideologies, and power structures are shaped by the mode of production in any given historical period. This involves looking at things like producing goods, taking land, government protection of property, and colonizing the Third World for resources and cheap labor. Marx's value theory says that in capitalism, society and production have changed to produce private economic surplus value, in a capitalist society, exchange value is important because it comes from abstract labor.

## 2. **Class Struggle**

Karl Marx said that the history of class socialism is scientific socialism (class struggle). Ally and Kasih (2017) stated that class struggle and class conflict can occur in different communities, but they are interrelated. Barry (2002) explains that Marxism aims to create a classless society where production, distribution, and exchange are commonly owned. Class struggle arises from competition for economic, social, and political benefits. In a capitalist society, especially in the nineteenth century, one class inevitably exploits another. It describes how socioeconomic classes—low and high—are distinct from one another. Class struggle is a central concept in Karl Marx's social injustice theory. There are some roles to know about class struggle:

- **Basis of Class Struggle:** Marx viewed society as being divided into two primary classes: the bourgeoisie (owners of the means of production) and the proletariat (working class). The class struggle, according to Marx, arises from the inherent contradictions and conflicts of interest between these two classes.
- **Economic Exploitation:** The class struggle, as Marx saw it, is rooted in the economic relationships of capitalist societies. The bourgeoisie, who own and

control the means of production (factories, land, resources), exploit the proletariat by extracting surplus value from their labor; this exploitation is central to the capitalist mode of production.

- **Labor and Value:** Marx emphasized the fundamental role of labor in the creation of value. The value of commodities is derived from the socially necessary labor time required for their production. However, under capitalism, workers receive wages that are often less than the value they produce. This disparity constitutes a source of class conflict.

### **2.2.2 Social Injustice**

Political philosophers often describe social injustice simply as the absence of social justice. Consequently, by concentrating on issues of social justice, they also indirectly illuminate the concept of social injustice. John Rawls is arguably the most influential advocate for the central role of social justice in contemporary political philosophy. Rawls (1999) stated that justice can be defined as the equal distribution of all social values – including liberty and opportunity, income and wealth, and the foundations of self-respect – unless an unequal distribution of these values benefits everyone. He further states, "Injustice, therefore, is essentially inequalities that do not benefit everyone." In other words, for Rawls, injustice is merely the lack of justice.

Social injustice arises from the systemic inequality embedded within a society. This inequality encompasses the inability to obtain citizenship rights, achieve personal goals, and attain material progress due to social discrimination and the hierarchical

positioning of individuals. The occurrence of injustice is closely linked to the social structure and identity conflicts within a society. Historically, the caste system has been designed to favor a few while denying the same opportunities to others solely based on their birth. The notions of purity and pollution dictate an individual's social position.

According to Wong (2012), social injustice refers to the inequities faced by individuals who are seen as part of marginalized groups. These injustices can manifest as neglect, illiteracy, or harmful acts inflicted through various means and interests. Wong also notes that these marginalized groups are often considered inferior and pressured to remain silent about their true feelings and thoughts, while dominant groups bolster their own self-esteem. Wong (2012) explains that on a personal level, injustice often stems from daily misunderstandings. It occurs when two belief systems conflict, with both parties failing to listen to each other while simultaneously expecting to be understood and believing they are correct. She adds that injustice can stem from individuals who hold positions of authority and possess qualities such as seniority, physical stature, strength, assertiveness, aggressiveness, and toughness.