

CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Previous Studies

According to literary critics, literature is seen as something that is independent. Usually, literary criticism focuses more on its inner structure, such as parables, metaphors, rhythms, how to describe characters, and the storyline. Sometimes they allow outside society, but only as a descriptive background. Modern literary critics, who focus more on textual criticism, with the idea that an outside approach can shed light on literature. They reject the idea that sociology, one example of an outside approach, can uncover problems in literature without knowing its insides. Such a view can be vehemently rejected. To support this analysis, the researcher finally reviewed several previous studies in the same field as this research.

The study by Cita Hikmah Yanti and Dini Anggraini, published on December 26, 2022, the title “*Women oppression and struggle in the novel Moxie by Jennifer Mathieu*”. The novel tells the story of Rast Rockport High School, where the patriarchal system is the main cause of sexual violence. The study examines the types of sexual harassment and the struggle of women to defend feminists against such oppression. The writer focuses on the characters and social problems caused by sexual harassment in schools, using Alan Swingewood's theory. The study also uses feminist theories, such as radical feminism by Alison M. Jaggar, to analyze the patriarchal system and its impact on sexual coercion based on race and skin color. The study highlights the struggle of women in fighting for their rights by forming a feminism group called “*Moxie*.”

The second research, “Analysis of Feminism in the “*Moxie*” Movie by Natasya in 2022,” focuses on the portrayal of feminist values in the novel *Moxie*. The study aims to identify the

types of feminism depicted in the film and understand the factors contributing to its emergence. Using qualitative descriptive methodology, the research analyzes various forms of suppression and women's resistance against oppression in East Rockport High School. Findings reveal manifestations of sexual coercion, such as harassment and rape, and highlight women's struggle against the patriarchal system and sexism within the school. The study uses qualitative descriptive research, analyzing data collected through observation and recording techniques. The research focuses on the main character, Vivian, who feels unfairly treated by her friends. Vivian tries to rebel and defend the women in her school to avoid further harassment. The study uses the same methodology as the "*Moxie*" movie, but focuses on sexual harassment of all people, including the main character.

The next previous study was from a study entitled "*Violence Against Women In Moxie 2021 (Film)*" by Maharani Cahya Putri from State Islamic University. This study aims to find out what are the depictions of violence against women in the 2021 *Moxie* film. This study used qualitative methods and focused on analyzing verbal and physical violence experienced by women, this research was conducted by analyzing dialogue and scenes carried out by men in the novel. The results show that violence against women is an imbalance of position between men and women, making it difficult for women to take action. From this study, the author obtained information about what sexual violence was committed by men in the novel and how the consequences experienced by victims of sexual violence. In this study, we both examined physical sexual violence, it's just that the researcher also analyzed the consequences of the harassment while the author focused on researching the types of sexual violence in the novel.

Research from Rosmiati et al (2020) with the title "The Patriarchy System as the Trigger of Sexual Coercion in The Novel *Moxie* By Jennifer Mathieu". The study investigates how

Jennifer Mathieu's novel *Moxie* shows how the patriarchal system functions as a cause of sexual coercion. This research aims to identify the different types of sexual coercion found in *Moxie's* novel and how the patriarchal system causes such coercion to occur. The Smuts and Smuts theories are used to study how patriarchal systems lead to sexual coercion, while Jaggar's radical feminist theories are used to study the ways in which sexual coercion occurs. The study collected relevant data from *Moxie's* novel and found forms of direct coercion such as sexual harassment, intimidation, and rape depicted in the novel. This study also found patriarchal ideologies and stereotypes as the cause of direct coercion in a patriarchal society.

The research is a journal by Maharanny Setiawan Poetry at all, (2023) with title *Objectification in Moxie Film by Amy Poehler*. This journal discusses objectification in the form of rebellion based on women's solidarity. This study aims to analyze the occurrence of objectification issues that will be studied using objectification theory, and feminist approaches to overcome these issues. The results of this study are divided into two events. First, it describes the occurrence of objectification in the highschool of the main character, namely: instrumentalization, denial of autonomy, inertness, denial of subjectivity, reduction of body, reduction of appearance, and signage. Second, the main character's reaction to the issue of objectification is in the form of a rebellion based on solidarity and friendship and prioritizing concrete relationships Keywords: objectification, qualitative research methods, film, Moxie Introduction "Don't judge a book by its cover" This quote that we often hear in daily life has many responses.

From all the previous studies mentioned above, with the context of Sexual Harassment, Feminism, Violences Against Women and Patriarki in Moxie Novel. The writer use this previous study not to incriminate the women but rather to the response of the community at that time to the sexual harassment that occurred in the school. The main character in the novel "*Moxie*" is

part of a society where there is a lot of sexual harassment, the problem of sexual harassment is not only about women but more into the problem in the school community, that sexual harassment does not happen to women only but also happens to man and children.

2.2 Sociological Approach

Approach is a way of looking at learning and teaching. Underlying any language teaching approach is a theoretical view of what language is, and how it can be learned. An approach emerges as a method, a way of teaching something, that uses classroom activities or techniques to help students learn. Sociological approaches are various methods used to teach something. Sociological approach is an approach to find the meaning of imaginary in literary works that learns about the society, social classes, love affair, religion, nature, etc. a sociological approach can be used to develop what the author sees within society, which is delivered in his/her own style.

The sociological approach is a scientific method used to study and analyze society, focusing on patterns, structures, and dynamics. It acknowledges that individuals are influenced by their social environment and that social structures, institutions, and cultural values shape their behavior. The approach emphasizes context and power relations in shaping social structures and individual behavior. It uses both qualitative and quantitative research methods, such as participant observation, interviews, and case studies, to understand subjective experiences and perspectives. The sociological approach provides a framework for identifying social problems, generating solutions, and making informed decisions about individual and collective actions. John Laurens, a British sociologist, has extensively written on social stratification, class, and inequality, examining the impact of social class on life chances, education, meritocracy, work and employment, and globalization's impact on labor markets.

This study will apply theories from Catharine A. MacKinnon. This theory discusses sexual harassment that makes up the "power theory", which argues that it is a form of gender discrimination and how men have power over women. MacKinnon said that sexual harassment is not only related to inappropriate sexual behavior, but also related to power between men and women in society. Catharine A. MacKinnon's theory of power about sexual abuse can also be applied in educational settings. This theory shows that sexual harassment often occurs because of power. Not only does it apply to adults but can also happen to students. Sexual harassment can also occur in schools between students and educators or between students. According to MacKinnon, this harassment is a way to assert power where perpetrators use their position to bully or intimidate people based on gender. For example, a teacher or a male student can use their power to control or harass a female student.

The use of this theory in schools helps us understand sexual harassment. This theory can be applied in the school environment, we will better understand that sexual harassment is part of a greater power in the world of education. By understanding this, school policies and preventive measures can be more focused on addressing the causes of sexual harassment, such as power inequality and cornering gender norms. MacKinnon's books, especially her (1979) "Sexual Harassment of Working Women: A Case of Sexual Harassment", were very influential and played an important role in establishing a legal approach to sexual harassment in the United States. Her theory of power contributed to the establishment of sexual harassment as a legally recognized type of discrimination under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act 1964.

2.3 Sexual Harassment in Texas, U.S 1990's.

Sexual harassment is a significant issue that has gained increased attention and awareness in recent years. In the United States, sexual harassment refers to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, non-verbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that affects a person's employment or creates a hostile or intimidating work environment. Sexual harassment can occur in various settings, including workplaces, educational institutions, public spaces, and online platforms. It is important to note that both women and men can be victims of sexual harassment, and the harasser can be of any gender. In the United States, laws and regulations have been established to address and combat sexual harassment. The primary federal law is Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits sexual harassment in the workplace. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is the federal agency responsible for enforcing these laws and investigating complaints of sexual harassment. Victims of sexual harassment in the United States have the right to file a complaint with the EEOC or their state's fair employment practices agency. They can seek remedies such as compensation, changes in workplace policies, and disciplinary action against the harasser.

Additionally, many organizations and institutions have implemented policies and procedures to prevent and address sexual harassment. These include creating clear guidelines, providing training to employees, establishing reporting mechanisms, and ensuring a supportive and respectful work environment. The MeToo movement, which gained prominence in 2017, has played a significant role in raising awareness about sexual harassment and promoting a culture of accountability. It has encouraged survivors to come forward, share their experiences, and advocate for change.

While progress has been made in addressing sexual harassment, it remains a persistent problem in the United States. Continued efforts are needed to raise awareness, educate individuals about their rights and responsibilities, and foster a culture that rejects and actively prevents sexual harassment. Discussing about sexual abuse that occurred in Texas in the 1990's the main victims were women, women who were always considered weak and could not do anything by men, this is what exposes the perpetrators of harassment to abuse women because according to him women will also not be able to do anything. So it's no wonder that around the 1990's there were so many sexual abuses and even murders of women in this area of Texas, as depicted in the *novel Moxie* . Sexual harassment committed in the 1990's has many types such as touching women's bodies without women's permission, doing cat calling and all kinds of forms of bullying that can harm women both physically and mentally.

Sexual abuse is a very powerful problem in damaging the mentality of its victims. Usually sexual harassment is in do by the individuals who have power, either because of differences in social, political, educational, age differences or employment relationships. Sometimes someone who wants to gain benefits such as promotion, may engage in sexual harassment, by persuading the victim to improve her position.

Here are some common relationships in sexual harassment:

1. Perpetrators: employers, supervisors, co-workers, clients, teachers or professors
2. Victims: male or female, who have a lesser role,
3. Place: workplace, school, university.
4. Gender: both the perpetrator and the victim can be of any gender, and the perpetrator is not necessarily the opposite sex.

2.4. Sexual Harassment Law

In the U.S., courts and companies are generally governed by sexual harassment laws as outlined in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964: "*Unwanted sexual advances, requests for sexual services, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when compliance with or denial of these behaviors explicitly or implicitly impacts a person's employment. impair work performance unreasonably, or give rise to intimidation, a hostile or offensive work environment.*"

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in the United States prohibits workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation, among other categories.

The two main categories of workplace sexual harassment under this act are quid pro quo and hostile work environment. Quid pro quo occurs when an employee is required to provide sexual information as a way to get a promotion, bonus, or other benefits related to their job. In contrast, a hostile work environment occurs when sexual acts, comments, or behaviors that are not intended to create an uncomfortable, frightening, or humiliating work environment, and may come from a supervisor, co-worker, or others outside the workplace. The Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) strongly opposes violations of this law. Employees who experience sexual harassment can report it to the EEOC, which will investigate the matter and try to resolve or mediate the issue. If successful, the business or individual may be held liable under the law and required to pay compensation in the form of emotional support, lost wages, or medical expenses, as well as other financial penalties.

2.5 Types of sexual harassment

Sexual harassment takes many forms, as many acts tend to offend others. There are 3 main types of sexual harassment:

2.5.1 Gender Harassment

Gender Harassment is a form of sexual harassment that is usually through words or conversations that have the purpose of degrading a person based on their gender, without the element of explicit demand for sexual treatment. For example, comments that demean or insult someone or other things that have the purpose of degrading someone based on gender, this usually looks like:

- Sexual comments or words that demean a person regarding gender.
- Harassment through words or conversations that have the purpose of insulting what a person should or cannot do based on gender.

2.5.2 Sexual Coercion

Sexual Coercion is an attempt to force a person to perform sexual acts through physical actions or psychological actions. This action is usually carried out by someone who has power in the environment. Sexual coercion, as described by Catharine A. MacKinnon in "Sexual Harassment of Working Women," is a behavior that encourages sexual activity, often in power-based situations, schools, and workplaces. It can take various forms, including threats, manipulation, and using power to influence behavior. MacKinnon links gender harassment to systemic sexism, perpetuating inequalities in the workplace and society.

2.5.3 Verbal or Non-Verbal Harassment

Verbal or Non-Verbal Harassment is an action that a person takes through non-verbal words or gestures such as sexual jokes or sexual comments about a person's body. Non-verbal harassment is a form of sexual harassment that involves non-verbal actions or gestures, such as body movements or derogatory glances, without causing significant physical violence. These

actions are often more harmful than verbal abuse and are closely related to gender power. Men often use non-verbal abuse to demonstrate dominance, while women are positioned as helpless objects. This type of harassment limits women in social and professional spaces, making them feel watched, uncomfortable, and vulnerable.

Women in Texas since the early 1990s have experienced injustice in their area both in society and government. Women cannot be heroes or politically wrestling, women are only considered the "Mother of the Republican Party" which means they are used to raising their sons to be good citizens. Women are also considered unable to become citizens, and can only create them. Women can't be heroes, they can only create them. Women are considered very weak and can do nothing. In Texas, women are excluded in both the Republican and state constitutions and in the 1876 constitution. Women are considered invisible, not only in public life, but also in Texas history. However, the historical practice of Texas has changed significantly as gender assumptions have developed in Texas, feminist activism in the 19th and 20th centuries sparked a debate about equal legal rights for women.

2.5 The Biography of the Writer

The novel *Moxie* was written by Jennifer Mathieu, an American author. Mathieu was born in 1973 and grew up in a small town in Texas. She attended college at the University of Texas at Austin, where she studied English and received a Master's degree in teaching. After college, Mathieu worked as a high school English teacher for several years before turning to writing full-time. She has written several young adult novels, including "The Truth About Alice," "Afterward," and "Devoted." *Moxie*, which was published in 2017, is a coming-of-age story that follows a teenage girl named Vivian who starts a feminist zine to combat the sexism and harassment she and her classmates face at their Texas high school. The novel received critical

acclaim for its portrayal of teenage feminism and its honest depiction of the challenges and triumphs of adolescent life. In addition to her writing, Mathieu is a frequent speaker and presenter at schools and libraries, where she talks about her work and encourages young people to explore their own creative potential. She currently lives in Texas with her family.

Jeniffer Mathieu created the *Moxie* story adapted from a work of fiction inspired by the author's life and her connection to the Riot Grrrl movement, from the 90s that existed in Texas. Jeniffer wrote the main character named Vivian. Like the novel, *Moxie* follows Vivian as she tries to navigate her school at Rockport High School, where bullying and sexism are accepted as the status quo: it's an institution full of obnoxious athletes, mean girls, clueless teachers, and a deliberately ignorant principal. To combat the school's toxic culture, Vivian anonymously launched her own feminist zine, *Moxie!* which calls for misogyny and unbridled prejudice is rampant in the hallways. Inspired by the zine, more and more students banded together to fight for the cause and eventually united to start a movement. Many elements of the story are drawn from Mathieu's own experiences.

Like Vivian, Mathieu has been an outspoken feminist since her high school days in the '90s when she also began writing feminist zines influenced by the Riot Grrrl movement. "That's why I wrote *Moxie*," Mathieu said in an interview with CultureMap, "I love grrrl riots, I love feminism, and stories that center on how hard it is to be a teenager." In the interview, Mathieu went on to discuss how the '90s punk rock band influenced the story. The Riot Grrrl movement began in Olympia, Washington, where a group of musicians came together to tackle issues of sexism in the punk scene. Mathieu cites Sleater-Kinney and Bikini Kill as two of her favorite bands associated with the movement and later known as advocates of equality in the arts. *Moxie's* soundtrack is full of songs from and inspired by the era. Bikini Kill's "Rebel Girl" is

arguably one of the most iconic songs of the movement. The song plays during the pivotal scene when Vivian first discovers Riot Grrrl's relics from her mother's rebellious past. "Double Dare Ya," another Bikini Kill favorite, is also in the film.

Since its founding in the early 90s, Riot Grrrl has inspired feminists, artists, and revolutionaries in the real world to unite in the name of "girl power," a slogan originally taken from Riot Grrrl's zine pages. Some claim that the Riot Grrrl movement ended when pop stars like the Spice Girls started using the slogan. But Riot Grrrl lives on through groups that emerged from the original, such as the Russia-based collective Pussy Riot that formed in the late '00s. And it continues to inspire small gestures like those of Vivian and her friends at *Moxie*.