

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Historian David Brion notes that “in the 320 years from 1500 to 1820 every European immigrant who arrived in the New World (now America) was matched at least two African slaves” (qtd in Torr 14). In *Slavery in America; Montgomery Slave Trader* stated that more than millions of African people were enslaved. They were kidnapped and shipped across the Atlantic Ocean to the New World. During the agonizing journey nearly two million slaves starved and died. Thus, those who endure during the journey have to serve their entire life under the barbarous inhumanity, oppression and cruelty of their master. An evolving of racial issue and slavery in America was created a movement to against slavery. Amending of the abolitionist against slavery triggered civil war in America in 1861. In the South, where the enslavement of black people was widely embraced, resistance to ending slavery persisted for another century following the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865. Today, 150 years after the Emancipation Proclamation, very little has been done to address the legacy of slavery and its meaning in contemporary life (1).

Since the issue of African-America slavery became huge toward the reality an American Slavery was often full of torture, misery and violent of the black people. *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* as an anti-slavery novel which was published in 1852 existed as the most influential slavery work in American history. The book’s

pathos, sensationalism, timeliness made it enormously popular. It indirectly changes how Americans view slavery and contributes the abolitionist movement which against the system that threatened people as a property. Harriet Beecher Stowe was a prolific author; none of her successive works could match the popularity or importance of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which became a powerful tool of the abolition movement. As well as Jane Austen's work, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is also reputed as *Magnum Opus* to its writer. "There it is. The beginning of her magnum opus. The books will change not only her life, her country, but the world. But, of course, she doesn't know that!". (Kirikham 5).

Tri Wibowo noted that, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was first published serially in abolition newspaper *The National Era* in 1851. It is published two volumes in book version in 1852 and directly became best seller book in 19th century, not only in America but also in the other country. It was sold more than one million in five years in America; antislavery novel had never sold well. Yet it is successfully influence most of the American people to against the slavery. The book was translated widely for more than 37 languages and several times dramatized (the first time, in 1852, without Stowe's permission). The drama version became popular in 19's century until the beginning of 20's century. At least there were seven *of Uncle Tom's Cabin* Drama, in 1903 (directed by Edwin S Porter), in 1913 (directed by Harry Polard) in 1914 (directed by William Robert Daly), in 1918 (directed by Searley Dawey), in 1927 (directed by Ap. Younger and Harvey Thew). In 1965 (directed by Geza Von Radvany in jerman version) and in 1987 (directed by Stan Lathan. Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896. During her life

Harriet Beecher Stow was created many great works such as *The Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1853), *The Minister's Wooing* (1859), *The Pearl of Orr's Island* (1862), *Religious Poems* (1867), *Old Town Folks* (1869), *Pogonuc People* (1878) (1).

Uncle Tom's Cabin offered such reflection of violence stories of the slaves which are truly happened to the slave in that era. This book tells about life of slaves in Kentucky. George Harris, the minor character in this novel is told as Eliza's husband who decides to escape because of master bridle and violence. George Harris, a brave, intelligent and innovative young slave is disappointed with his master because of his unjust treatment. During the escape there are many troubles that are undergone by George as fugitive slave. Thus this novel describes the struggle of George until he is able to deceive a slave catcher and to derive their freedom.

Meanwhile, The researcher realizes that as the human being, everyone has a desire, dream, goal and set to be free. They must fulfill their desires by self-actualizing themselves. George's manifestation which strives for his freedom and intensifies his ability is one of the character that uniquely interesting to discuss. George, an intellectually curious and talented mulatto is the representative of the one fugitive slave who willingly gets his right and freedom. He consciously realizes his quality and capability is more than other slaves or even his master. George depicts the struggles of strong slave's character who reaches his self-actualization around the cruelties of enslavement in America.

Relating to the fact above the researcher is interested in studying the novel to get deeper understanding about self-actualization and the researcher chooses Abraham Maslow's Humanistic Psychology approach focusing on the hierarchy of needs theory that will be used to analyze the struggle of character to reach his self-actualization.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background of the study explained above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the problems which are formulated as follows:

1. How does George Harris fulfillment to reach his self actualization in Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* ?
2. What are the impacts of George's self-actualization as reflected in Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem stated above, this study has two objectives that can be stated as follows:

- 1) To describe George Harris fulfillment to reach his self actualization in Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.
- 2) To describe the impact of George's self actualization as reflected in Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*

1.4 Scope and Limitation

In order to prevent non-relevant problem, the research will be focused on how the character of George Harris struggle to fulfill his physiological needs,

2. Source of Data

There are two sources of data, primary data and secondary one. In this research, the source of primary data is come from the novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* that is written by Harriet Beecher Stowe. Whereas the secondary data is come from some critical works, journals, website and some books that concern with the novel and explanation about Abraham Maslow's theory.

3. Method of Collecting Data

Since the data becomes the most important aspects in conducting a research, so it must be collected effectively. Method of data collection is one of the research methods parts that will explain how the data are collected to support the research. In collecting data for the research which based on the qualitative method, the steps of data collection are:

- a. Preparing the novel entitled *Uncle Tom's Cabin* as the main data.
- b. Collecting the data from the novel by reading comprehensively to get the accurate data.
- c. Selecting related references that can support the research data.

4. Method of Data Analysis

Data analysis according to Patton (103) is the process of arranging the data sequence to classify in a pattern category and description of the basic unit. As the data in this research is written text come from a novel, the data that have been collected will be analyzed using literary theory. The analysis data will involve some steps, those are:

