

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

In social life, there are norms that limit the attitude of human. The norms in community regulate what is right and what is wrong of person's action. According to Billari and Liefbroer, social norms emphasize human to realize regarding prescriptions (what person would act) or proscriptions (what person would not act) of a natural activities. Norms can depend on opinion and subjectivity of each people, thus norms can relate with punishments, especially negative activities . Marini et all argue that human agree or disagree of norms and can distribute gift and sanction (Harris and Bernardi 9). When social norms are legal or institutionalized, punishments can be written officially.

Nowdays, people get to know the term of LGBT. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender cannot live normally like other persons because they are different based on social norms. Social norms can bound their life. LGBT is diversity in sexuality and gender and can be influenced by culture. As Chatterjee Subhrajit argue that accentuate a variety of sexuality and gender personality-depend on cultures and is occasionally used to denote a person who is non-heterosexual as an alternative of solely to person that are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender is LGBT (2). In the beginning, LGBT does not have name and identity. In 1960, when the sexual revolution arise, there was no common non-pejorative words for heterosexuality; but

the closest terminology such , "third gender", but it was not allowed in the United States (Subhrajit 2). Thus, the struggle of LGBT started at 1966. One of the struggle is awarding of the identity name. Word Q is the name for queer (verified ever since 1996) to prove the movement (Subhrajit 2). The discrepancy of reality occurs in the Universal Declaration for Human Rights (written in 1948). The declaration does not contain sexual goal, and mention the rights of LGBT in detail (Subhrajit 2).

LGBT is not fully accepted by society. In reality, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) challenge fabulous problems arise in a public that heterosexuality is regularly represent as the one standart and homosexuality is consider as abberant. They keep on challenge bad bias and rejection through the realm in whole parts of life. Homophobic ferocity and bad treatment pursuing LGBT persons happen on a standart basis. In majority European of countries, the rights and securities of homosexual couple are not equal less than the heterosexual couple, eventually, they suffer from violence, disturbance and difficulties in gaining access to public security programs for instance health attention and pensions, in the job fair, a most of LGBT persons keep on their secret as the member of sexual abuse because they feel fear of losing their occupation (Subhrajit 2). Then, globally people are increasingly familiar with the figure of LGBT. Many media have introduced LGBT including literary works.

A lot of actualities which happen in life can be adopted as plot components of literature. According to Aristotle, literature is the work out as copy of life (Kennedy 1378). Literary works are collection of the literary that consist of interpretation of

life. Furthermore, as Terry Eagleton argued that literature is easily other manner we have incident in the world surrounding us (qtd in zuhriyah1). In conclusion, literary works retells human's incidents and events in the society which relates to his fantasy.

One of the new literary works related to LGBT movement is *The Danish Girl* novel. *The Danish Girl* is released in 2000. It is a fiction written by American author, David Ebershoff. David Ebershoff is one of famous writer that was born in Pasadena, California in 1969. His novel has been inspired by a true story. He was well known as an award-winning writer, an editor and a teacher. His second novel also became New York Time best seller and was inspired by the history of his home town. The title of the second novel is *The 19 th Wifes*. Another form of his literary is short story. *The rose city* also won the Ferro-Grumley Award for excellent in LGBT fiction.

*The Danish Girl* takes place in Copenhagen in the early years of 1920s. *The Danish Girl* concerns on the way Einar, as the main character, can survive from all difficulties that occur in his life. It can become hindrance to acquire his desire. At the first, Einar and Greta is a happy couple. They have been married for 6 six years. They are painters. Einar is a landscape artist, and his wife Greta Wegener, is a portrait painter.

As they become a perfect couple, they are both enthusiastic for sex. Serenity in their life does not occur forever. The problem emerges. This disturbance initially occurs when Greta's friend, a ballet dancer, come late to become of Greta's model of painting. Thus, Einar is standing while pulling on stockings, and wearing a fabric dress, and slipping on the shoes longingly. At the first, Einar as Lili is a bit of game,

which amuses Greta who passes her off as Einar's cousin from the countryside. Afterwards, Greta paints Einar and call Einar as Lili. There is a dance party held every year for the artist. . In artist ball moment, Lili attracts the attention of another man. It accidently become stops being funny for Greta. Greta realizes she is losing her husband. Einar is having a dilemma in his life, he is confronted by 2 choices that remain to be Einar a man or become Lili Elbe-a woman

Einar, in *The Danish Girl*, experiences confusion in determining his identity. Identity occurs in numerous steps as an important position of individual. It aims to decide human personality. This study becomes important because it decides exactly how a participant from the civilization will be identified and regarded. The dominant elements from our individual personalities are our gender, sex, and sexual identities. There are different explanations from each of them. Sex in biology's knowledge and anatomy's knowledge divides person into male and female. In contrast, gender is behavior of each sex in public formation. Gender divides person into masculine and feminine. Furthermore, sexual identity makes the person can choose one of sexual desire in society. Heterosexual is the one selection of sexual identities. According to Blakemore et al, the form of sex, gender, and sexual identity are permanent form (2-4). It implies that if someone as a male, he must essentially be masculine and handsome. It is contrast from the appearance of transgender. As Currah, Juang, Minter said that transgender is usually related to persons whose gender identity is not suitable to the public beliefs (xiv). Transgender person is person who has a gender identity, or gender expression, which is different or opposite from their assigned sex.

In this research, if a person has more than one sex in on body, person can have numerous opinions what actually his/her gender and sex is. Person agrees which there are just one gender and one sex in one body. They terminate being more than one gender and two sexes, and then they will act the surgery to choose what type of gender they want. Finally, this paper examines the gender insubordination of Einar Wegener in *The Danish Girl* novel. This study uses *queer theory* and follows Judith Buttler thought of form of ideology and sexual stereotypes in the novel.

*Queer theory* is the theory regarding identity and gender. *Queer theory* is suitable for exploring *The Danish Girl*. *Queer theory* performs the contrary to the domination of traditional movement that attempts to correlate sex with definite gender and sexual standards. According to Hall, D.E in his book, *Queer theory* is a disagreement to the public formation in which the situation identifies a “singular permanent, or conventional” and it determines difficulties for the nonconventional and breakdown to acquire area in the earth of ordinariness (177). *Queer theory* thus refuses the rules separation in social life from sex, gender, and sexual classification that is arranged by general publics. With this explanation, gender is something about the result of action unnatural. As Buttler said that gender is a process that has neither origin nor end, and final somewhat that we ‘action’ rather than we are (46). From the quotation above, the process has the meaning as the rule which is created consistently and ongoing finished by the subject matter (person) through the measure and acting. It has no norm how the basis capacity to begin, it is only as a language which is constantly created devoid of detecting time and where it is began and finished.

## 1.2 Statement of The problem

Based on the research background above, this present study formulates the problem statements as follows:

1. How does Einar experience the confusion of his identity in *The Danish Girl* novel?
2. Why does Einar decide to change his identity?

## 1.3 Objective of the study

1. To depict Einar's experience about the confusion of his identity
2. To describe the reason why Einar decides to change his identity.

## 1.4. Scope and Limitation

To avoid a wider discussion, the study will be limited to the novel written by David Eberhoff entitled *The Danish Girl*. This study focuses on the characters represented in the novel. To answer the statement of problems above, the character of Einar Wegener becomes the most important point to analyze. Hence, the scope of this study focuses on the part of novel in which Einar Wegener changes his life as Lili after deflection in his identity. The process of Einar's life deflection becomes the scope of this study.

### **1.5 Significance of The study**

This research is expected to provide a valuable contribution theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this study can be useful for the reader in understanding some of novel that focuses to transgender issue. New gender of einar's deflection also can enrich the knowledge of life to readers who have a gender's problem in life through literature.

Practically, this study can be used as a reference, especially for students of literature of english department faculty of letters and humanities state islamic university of Sunan Ampel Surabaya who analyze this novel or another novel using queer theory. For literary scholars or people who are mostly interested in literature, this study become a comparison for other studies, even this is debatable to use the queer theory or other one. Since this study focuses to someone that seeks truth identity, it also believes that this study will be useful for public to understand their gender's problem in the world so the person can be a unique person, brave to think differently and does not underestimate a gender's issue.

### **1.6 Method of the study**

This chapter illustrates how the research takes the data conduct. It consists into four chapters. It contains of research design, data resources, data collection and data analyze.

### 1.6.1 Research design

For answering statement of problem number one and two, this study mainly utilizes descriptive qualitative method. According to Raco, the data in descriptive research will concern to text (qtd in Naufal 12). Therefore, the result of the research explains the portrayal of transgender.

### 1.6.2 Data Resources

In accomplishing this reasearch, this study utilizes several verifying data that is perceived from library and internet researches. Thus the data is separated into two: primary and secondary data. The primary data is the novel *The Danish Girl* by David Ebershoff. This study examines pharagraph, sentences and phrases that is correlated with the identity change of the Einar as main character in this novel. The secondary data is got from several books and internet sources that reinforce this research eaxamination that are correlated to this analysis.

### 1.6.3 Data collecting

Because the data becomes the key aspect in doing research, it must be collected effectively and carefully. The step of collecting data are:

1. Preparing *The Danish Girl* as the main data.
2. Finding the interestic topic in *The Danish Girl*.
3. The interesting topic in *The Danish Girl* is identity change.
4. Identity change happens in Einar as the main character
5. Collecting some data related quotation including dialogue and prologue according to the statement of problems.



6. Collecting other references like thesis, website, electronic book and journal that reinforce the data collection

#### 1.6.4 Data Analysis

The data which have been collected will be examined. The step of analyzing data are :

1. Connecting the data which have been collected with the theory.
2. Analyzing the data in novel based on the *queer* theory.
3. Making conclusion from the analysis.

#### 1.7 Definition of key Term

- a. Identity : Identity is several distinguishing characteristic or characteristics that human takes a exclusive pride in or views as socially consequential but more or less (unchangeable). ( Fearon 2).
- b. Sexual Orientation : Emotional, responsive, physic, and/or sexual attractiveness to anothers, it can be concern the same sex (homosexual), the other sex (heterosexual), or both sexes (bisexual). (Subbhrajit 13).
- c. Transgender : Represents to people whose self-principle as male or female is dissimilar than their biological sex and who live until the death as the other sex. (Subbhrajit 14).

- d. **Transsexualism** : A condition in which a person's gender identity-the sense of being a man or a woman-contradicts his or her bodily sex characterist and does the operation of their sex.  
(Cecilia Dhejne et al 1).

