### **CHAPTER II**

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### **2.1 Theoritical Framework**

Chapter two intends to explicate the theory that is used in this research. The theory will be utilized to examine *The Danish Girl* by David Ebershoff under the concern of identity change through gender performativity. Queer theory is determined to be the most suitable to be utilized. The concern of the theory is identity change through gender performativity proposed by Judith Butler in her book *Gender Trouble* (1999) and *Bodies the Matter* (1993). This chapter also explains about transgender itself to support the analysis of the statement of problem.

## 2.1.1. Queer Theory.

For a long time, the term of 'queer' has been applied. According to Charter the word 'queer' means the pejorative term for homosexual or abberant activities (127). Other usage of the term 'queer' is very sadistic. The term queer is correlated to homosexual which is classified as abnormal. Moreover, 'queer' likewise is able to give a complete word to code of masculinity and femininity, or bisexuality, heterosexuality, and homosexuality, or other words of unconventional persons as the consequence of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender) strugle in 1970s (Izzah 8). Thus, the word queer becomes object discussion in the early 1990s.

Since 1990s the term of queer becomes a critical study, as explained by Teresa de Lauretis in a special adition feminist journal under the title "Queer theory: Lesbian

and Gay studies" published in 1991. The term of 'queer' is progressively developing in academic studies thus it is ensued in a new term called post-structuralism (Pratiwi 12). It aims to create 'liberation' identity and to deconstruct the traditional idea of queer that categorizes queer person as deviant's person. Moreover, according to Jagose queer theory challenges the idea of unity of identity (as in gay) and refuses the binary models as a man or woman (Beasley 164). Additionally, Eve Kosofsky Sedwick argue that 'queer' mentions to the open mesh of probabilities, spaces, overlays, dissonances, resonances, and intemperance of meaning of every person's gender and every person's sexuality (Sedwick 8). In short, the word 'queer' is able to know as umbrella term for gender and sexuality.

Gender and sexuality is explained as a basic element of individual. A basic element of individual is element of person as a male or female which has role to perform masculine or feminine. Rathus argue that human's sex is female or male, and human's consciousness as females or males is element of human's sexuality, then human's sexuality is a basic part of ourselves (5). Meanwhile literature is one of method which recites individual's life, queer theory mentions problem of individual's life which focuses on individual sexuality. According to Tyson queer theory examines text which shows the difficulties of interpretations of the dynamic variety of individual sexuality (336).

Developing on deconstruction's perception into individual subjectivity, queer theory states individual sexuality as fluid and fragmented of probable sexualities (Tyson 335). Homosexuality, bisexuality, transgender, and transexual and

heterosexuality are the variety of sexual probabilities. The behavior of two persons of the one sex which do erotic attitude and have romantic relationship can be called as homosexuality. Whereas erotic action and pretention to romantic relationships with both males and females can be said as bisexuality. Moreover, the behavior of two persons of dissimilar sex which do erotic performance and have romantic relationship can be known as heterosexuality (Rathus 262). Transgender is the behavior of person who has a gender identity, or gender expression, which is different or opposite from their assigned sex. Transexual is person does the operation of sex that contradicts of his or her bodily sex. As the result, individual sexuality is not permanent and can be dissimilar at dissimilar periods as long as human lives because sexuality is a dynamic variety of pretention.

As dynamic variety of wishes, individual's sexuality is flexible and adaptable. All sexualities, for example gay sexuality, lesbian sexuality, transgender, heterosexuality are selections of probabilities one may have. Sexuality has its own determination, creativity and appearance. Hence, being homosexual does not contrary of being heteosexual. Queer theory also considers that human sexuality is publically structured. The general public determines that being normal in sexuality is the right decision thus this norm is considered in numerous of social implements for instance family, education, religion, etc with the purposes to teach human to become normal (heterosexual).

The conventional sex-gender perception habitually gives the thought of heterosexuality. The concept of heterosexuality in society implies that if someone as a

male, he must essentially be masculine and handsome. Judith Buttler argues that relationship between sex, gender and sexuality with the word 'heterosexual matrix' (194). Heterosexual matrix conception believes that human born with certain sex, and gender are made with society. Maskuline and feminime is gender wich is created by public.

Heterosexuality thus does not agree each occasion for the similar relationship or homosexuality. This binary opponent is basic rule of heteronormativity. Berlant and Warrer claim that heteronormativity of sexuality indicate to :

"The institution, structures of understanding and practical orientation that make heterosexuality seem not only coherent-that is, organized as a sexualitybut also privileged. Its coherence is always provisional and its privilage can take several (sometimes contradictory) forms; unmarked as the basic idiom of the personal and the social; or marked as a natural stated; or project as an ideal or moral complished. It consist less of norms that could be summarized as a body of doctrine than of sense of rightness produced in contradictory manifestation – often unconscious, immanent to practice or to instutions ( qtd in E.H Lake 17).

In conclussion heteronormativity says that heterosexuality is higher to homosexuality and another elements of non-normative of sexuality. It decides the conception that heterosexual is the normative of sexual orientation, and homosexual is known as aberrant. The deviation can be described through gender performativity by Judith Buttler.

Judith Buttler says standarts in biology do not determine our status as a man or woman, it can be determine with gender performativity, we have to show gender action and attitude to verify our gender classification. It can be seen in how we eat, how we laugh and how we act each our action. In conclussion, as the umbrella of gender and sexuality, queer theory is the theory to examine a deviation in gender through gender performativity conception in Buttler's explanation. Gender is not a human's thing but gender is human's doing.

## 2.1.2 Gender Performativity.

The opinion of gender performativity is proposed by Judith Butler. She developes and evaluates the opinion of sex from Simone de Beauvoir. Simone de Beauvoir argues in her book *The Second Sex* that "person is not born a woman but rather develops one". This idea is comprehended by Buttler as a recommendation that woman is only cultural achievement hence gender is unnatural act, no person is born with gender. Thus, it proposes that sex is rational aspect of the person it is unreasonable to transform. It gives an comprehending that gender is the cultural action which contrasts with sex (Buttler 142).

Buttler believes that if gender is created consequently makes sex. For the reason that the condition we recognize our sex is via civilization. The time when baby was born, the civilization selects a sex for baby. Hence not only sex but also gender is public structure. The meaning of Beauvoir theory that sex comes from birth and gender is the result of creation is that gender is not bound by sex. Female physique does not represent woman, and man does not comprehend as male. It indicates that one physique can create dissimilar gender. Buttler argues in her book *Gender Trouble* states; "If sex does not limit gender, then perhaps there are genders, ways of culturally interpreting the sexed body, that are in no way restricted by the apparent duality of sex" (Buttler 143).

This thought of the purpose of gender guides to a comprehending that gender is able to mean beyond the duality of sex. Subsequently gender is an action of person to convert a details of gender structure. Buttler believes that when gender is not control by sex, as a result it is demeanor that can revise outside the limitation of the dualistic of sex.

To reinforce Buttler's thought, the researcher describes Wittig's conception of gender and sex. Monique Wittig says two thoughts. First the classification of sex is not natural, it is governmental practices of the classification of natural world to reinforce heterosexuality. Second is the conception that woman is not always be lesbian. The concern of this chapter is to explain Butler's primary idea of gender performativity thus it is required to concern on the first conception. Witig as mentioned in Buttler's provides another meaning separately from Beauvoir knowledge of sex. In Witig idea,

"Sex is taken as an "immediate given," "a sensible given," "physical features," belonging to a natural order. But what we believe to be a physical and direct perception is only a sophisticated and mythic constuction, an "imaginary formation," which reinterprets physical features (in themselves as neutral of relationhips in which they are perceive". (Witig, cited in Buttler 145).

This idea is a basis that sex is created and it is created by gender. This idea is also continuation of the heterosexual matrix's Buttler.

Foucault perception about language which applies between prisoner also is examined by Buttler. This perception contributes her a meaning of classification which is an recognized an imagination. It intends that performs, gestures, and wish influence the internal however on the outside of physique. Then, prisoner are performative which indicates that the principle or characteristies that they show are creation by cultural form (Buttler 173).

The interpretation guides to a deduction that the verity about gender is a creation consequetly it cannot be mention to be correct or wrong but it is merely made an identity that cultural structure needs. *The assumption of a primary gender personality is imitated and satirized by performs of drag, cross-dressing and butch/ femmen personalities (Buttler 174)*. Gender imitation does not indicates that the gender being imitated is the first mentioning to the reality that gender is a 'symbol'. Then, gender imitation confirms that the first personality which gender makes is an replication without orisinil (Buttler 175). Persons stay in fervent cultural form, persons are educated to show a detail gender from person's sex. The failure from action gives abuse from social order. A verity that gender performativity is a tactic for person to persist and evade abuse has been comprehended by Buttler (176). The presentation of gender with the purpose to develop a protection from abuse. Butter argues,

Performativity must be understood not as a singular or intentional 'act' but, rather, as the repeated and citational practice by which discourse produces the effects that it names (Buttler 1993, 2).

Based on statement above, performativity through gender's conception is the repeated stylization of the body, a set of repeated actions within a highly rigid regulatory framework that congeal over time to create the appearance of substance, of a real sort of being. In result, gender is something that we often do.

Unnatural of gender is the key concern of Buttler's idea. Woman often becomes object in Buttler's examination. First, Buttler describes in her book under the tittle "subject of sex/gender". Buttler observes a gender's performance of transvestite. Transvestite acts and imitates some actions and some procedurals to obtain an idealized form in which their gesture and their performance have been considered as feminime. This practice shows that a femininity is merely imitation practice, whether can be performed by transvestites or women (Buttler 129). The action of transvestites is a representation that gender is the engineering of an action. Second, Buttler evaluates the concept of a woman's sex from Simone de Beauvoir. Simone says woman are not born with gender as female (Buttler 142). This perception gives Buttler idea to see social culture as the factor to construct a gender.

The construction of Buttler's gender uses woman as the object. It is contrary to this study. The researcher tries to deconstruct Buttler's idea in which focuses in woman as the object. The researcher in this study makes man as the object of problem. Einar in this study experiences gender confusion. The confusion of his gender identity becomes interesting thing to observe. The confusion of Einar who feels that his identity is not same as his identity when he borns. The confusion of Einar's identity can be illustrated by Einar's performance.

Based on the discussion of the theory above, queer theory through gender performativity of Buttler's idea are required to analyze this study. Gender performativity is used to know and describe the confusion of Einar's identity. Einar's identity can be described by Einar's action in daily life. The best strategy to apply gender performativity is by keeping the ordinary opposition of the gender and by seeing the repetition of human's act.

# 2.1.3 Transgender

At birth we are calls and specifies our sexual (genital) kinds; soon after; we advance our sex and specific beahaviors or gender position based on our social practices as males and females. Nonetheless sometimes the person shows cross-gendered behaviors, or believes she or he should have been born (or even is) the opposite sex. This condition is called as transgender. Transgender is the action of the people who change the sex appropriate with their want. The people whose gender personality (feel of themselves as male or female) or appearance dissimilar from that habitually related with their birth sex (Stryker 2). Several transgender people exist part-time or full-time as participants of the another gender. Every people whose identity, appearance, or attitude falls outside of conventional gender norms can be defined as transgender. For example a man wears skirt and make up, a man attitudes like a girl. There is no person as a rule accepted explanation for why several persons are transgender. The variety of transgender argues against any simple or unitary explanation. Biological factors for example genetic influences and prenatal hormone

levels, early happens in a person's family of origin, and another social influences is believed authorities as the reason of why the people becomes transgender.

# 2.1.4 Transexual

Transgender and transexual are not same but interrelated. Transsexual is the continuation condition of transgender. Many transgender want to act operations that change their sex. Koeswinarno (2005) says that transsexuality is a symptom of having sexuality that is opposed to its physical structure (Dwinanda 10). Sue (1986) says that a transsexual is a person who may have the opposite sex where there is a conflict between gender identity and gender of biological (Dwinanda 10). Not all transgender people categories as transsexual people. There are several characteristics which make a transgender status change to transexual. One of characteristics is the desire for hormonal therapy to match sex in doctor. Doctor is expected to be able to help the problem of hormones in transsexual people, because one of the causes of the transsexual's condition is the existence of hormones that are not balanced so they tend to be confused with sex. As Maslim (2002) argues :

Person can be regarded as a transsexual if it has certain characteristics (Dwinanda 13-14)

a. The transexual identity is not a temporary sense of identity. The transsexual identity should have been settled for at least two years, and should not be a symptom, disease of other psychiatric disorders for instance schizophrenia.

- b. The desire to live and be accepted as a member of a group of the opposite sex, usually is accompanied by uneasiness or disagreement. Rejection is received that emerged from the public. Public generally support a straightforward gender norm.
- c. The desire to get hormonal therapy and surgery to make the body as closely as possible with the desired gender.

A person cannot always be referred as a transsexual. There are specific characteristics that can limit this division. In short, transgender is a condition in which a person has gender abnormalities such as feminine, while transsexual is a continuous condition of transgender where one has a strong desire that is opposite to sex. For instance a male transvestite who not only turns into a feminine but he does hormone therapy and wants to be accepted as a woman.

### 2.1.5 The causes of transgender and transexual

Transgender and transexual are problems that do not arise by themselves, there are two factors that influence transgender and transsexual appearances. Biological and environment factors influence transgender and transexual.

A. Congenital factors

Biological factors from within can be the cause of a person becoming a transgender and transexual. Puspitosari and Pujileksono (2005) say that the factors of transsexual and transgender are biological factors from his self (Dwinanda 15). Additionally, a powerful boost of self also causes the big desire. Desire must be accepted by society to create peace in life. Oemar mentions that a great desire will require a big boost from the environment, if it is inhibited, the self that must reinforce (4-6). After that, other biologist gives detail characteristics in transexual. Hermaya (in Nadia, 2005) argues sexual abnormalities from biological lenses are divided into two categorizes (Dwinanda 15-16).

 $\checkmark$  Sexual abnormalities due to chromosomes.

Biologists argue that human has XX chromosomes is normally decided as female, whereas human with XY chromosomes is usually decided as male. In men the excess X chromosome can be XXY, or even XXYY or XXXYY. Thus there is separation of sex chromosomes during meiosis (cell division) of the first and second's process of cleavage. This is because the age of the mother that gives effect to the production process. The older a mother, the more unfavorable the process of cell division and as a result, the more likely to cause a sex disorder in her child

 $\checkmark$  Sexual abnormalities are not chromoses's factor.

Moertiko (in Nadia, 2005) mentions that in the medical review, the outline of sexual's abnormalities has begun since in the mother's womb. The group is divided into four types, namely:

a. Pseudomale

Or refers as disguised men. She has a female cell but she is physically a man. The testicle contain little sperm or are completely barren. This situation can be different in each person. There are some cases when stepping on an adult, her breasts grow larger while her whiskers and beards are reduced.

b. Pseudofemale

Also called a disguised woman. Her body contains male cells. However, on examination of the gonads (the hormone-releasing device in the embryo) the sex instrument possessed is female. When stepping on adulthood, her genitals and breasts remain small and often cannot experience menstruation. Because of this case, this woman can be difficult to have children

c. Female-pseudohermaprodite.

This patient basically has a chromosome as a woman (XX) but her physical development tends to be male. This case requires further examination in the medical field about her chromosome.

d. Male-pseudohermaprodite.

this patient basically has male chromosome (XY) but its physical development tend to woman.

The biological complexity's factors from transgender and transsexual become the things that researchers need to pay attention. Medical observation decides chromosomes and sex instruments include the biological factors of transgender and transexual's condition. Both of two conditions can be seen and known from childhood.

### B. Enviromental factor

Environment supports transgender and transsexual condition. Parents, education and friends are environmental factors that requires to pay attention. False education in childhood by permitting boys to develop in the behavior of women, during puberty is one of environmental factor of a person being transgender. The parents allow their children to do what their childrent want, although sometimes it deviates from the norm. Losing the role of parents and replacing the closeness with friend also one of factor that influence the person being transgender. Parents died or busy in the work, then the children do all the activities with similar peers and generate a sense of comfort with similar peers than dissimilar peers.

Sue (1986) explains that one of factor that shapes transgender is the support of the wearing of distorted clothing (Dwinanda 17). This means that the situation comes when adults. Some incidents make a human shapes. Some incidents which forces a person to act against his or her sex. A situation which did not provide other choice but to act different by gender, such as job demands. Then the relationship father and child also support this condition.

Yuanita says that the relationship of children and parents is supported by gender deviations (45). Male transsexual has a very close relationship with the mother (close binding mother). In other hand, female transsexual has a very close relationship with the father (detached-hostile father). The father has a harsh nature toward the child, so the child becomes afraid. Boy chooses to be close to the mother and absorbs her behavior. Boys becomes feminine Thus other experts divides environmental factors into several factors. Tjahjono (1995) states that the factors that cause the transsexual namely (Dwinanda 17-18)

- Boys grow without father's presence for long periods of time show feminine interests, attitudes and behaviors. Boys does not have a vivid or real example of a father and his personality as a man.
- 2. The relationship is too close between children and parents that contrasts in sex. Children and parents tend to have intimate contacts both physically and psychologically. Consequently, the children have little chance of identifying the same gender of parent and less developing the behaviors based on their gender. Because children perform actions based on what is seen.
- 3. Parent's desire for a child of another sex, thus parents try to make the girl behave like a man she never had or vice versa. This factor is influenced by the psychology of a mother.
- 4. The child has relationship closely with the friend that has the different sex. Children feel comfortable with the friend and sometimes admire the personality of her friend. From the admiration, he can imitate the personality of a friend who is admired. For example a man admiring a woman, he can imitate her and becomes feminime.

Based on citation above, parents become the main thing of the emergence of transgender and transsexual condition. Parents become the closest neighborhood to a

person. Moreover, friend and other family besides parents also become the thing that need to observe. The environment in which we live, the environment that shapes us.

#### 2.2 Review of related study.

A review on related studies is required to validate that a literary work has not been utilized before by utilizing a close-fitting approach comparable with other research and although it has been used, a review of literature is very important. It is proposed to differentiate a previous study with a new one to verify that this research is original.

There first review related studies uses the same object. The research uses *The Danish Girl* but in film since the film won awards. The previous studies from Annalena Lorenz that wrote journal in 2016 under the tittle *The Danish Girl and The Deconstruction of Gender Identity*. She focuses on the evaluation of if and how, in its potrayals of Einar can dismantle notions of identity. The idea applies in this research is Judith Buttler's ideas of gender performance and Jacques Lacan's perception of the mirror stage. The result of this journal is the depictions of Einar's action that deconstruct gender identity in society. The husky voice, the timid smile, the hands – all these are stereotypical tropes which are increasingly emphasised as the film progresses are the depiction of Einar's action that dismantles the idea of identity.

The second previous studies use the similar theory. The thesis from E.H. Lake, a student of University of Airlangga Surabaya. He wrote his thesis in 2012 under the tittle *Calliope's search for her desired gender sexual identity in Jefferey Eugenide's* 

*Middlesex*. E.H. Lake's thesis focuses to examine the theme of intersex in dealing with the heteronormativity of sex, gender, and sexuality. The manner of Cal/Calliope tolerances and deals with his or her sex are explained with the queer theory. And the result is Calliope chooses become man. Thus, the next thesis which uses the similar theory from Dewi Izzah, a student of UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. She wrote his thesis in 2015 under the title *Reading the Dimension of Human Sexuality: Threesome with a pair of gays in Francesca Lia Block's Weetzie Bat.* The thesis concerns about action in threesome with a pair of gays. This thesis use queer theory as the main theory to analyze the cause Weetzie does threesome. The result of Weetzie action threesome is because her baby and loving friendship.

Those previous research are not same with this study. The first literary review focuses the human rights through semiotic conception in the characters in Film. The similar barely in the object The Danish Girl. The second literary review focuses on the depiction intersex of the main character. The third literary review focuses on the sexual orientation issue : thresome action. The similar of the second and the third barely in the queer theory. Thus, this study itself focuses on the depiction of the confusion of his identity and focuses the reason why Einar decides to change his identity. The theory will be used in this research is queer theory through gender performativity by Judith Buttler.