

one hand, Protagonist, according to Griffith is a character that fights for something. On the other hand, the antagonist is the opposite of protagonist. Antagonist always related to cruel, evil and self-destruction (55). Minor character is a character supporting the major character and the function is to illuminate the major character. Minor character is often static or in the other word, unchanging. It means that from the beginning until the end of the story, the minor character is remaining the same (Di Yanni 55).

Character can also be divided into two which are round and flat characters. Round character is the same with major character or the protagonist. The character always changes and develops because in the novel, he or she has some experiences (Robert and Jacobs 145). There are multiple personalities of the round character which resemble real people. This multiple personality makes round character difficult to understand and describe. Flat characters have one or two personalities which are considered as stereotypes (Griffith 61). The meaning of flat character itself is the characters which have static personalities.

Meanwhile, "Characterization is the means by which writers present and the reveal characterization" (DiYanni 55). In characterization, the author of the story gives their personal judgment to the character and it makes the character live. According to Griffith, in order to develop the characterization, there are two ways which are done by the author: directly and indirectly. In direct method, the author gives the readers the explanation about the character by telling them what exactly the character is like. Indirect method means that the author gives the explanation about the character by showing them, not by telling them to the

A stereotype can be thought as a cognitive method or procedure, used by our mind in order to simplify the complex barrage of information it experiences. From this perspective, a stereotype is a method of understanding, which works through classifying individual people into a group category (Pilcher and Whelehan 166). This stereotype means that men and women need to follow their specific gender roles in order to be socially accepted. Gender roles have forced society to form a stereotype of what the “perfect woman” and “perfect man” should be. People base this “perfect woman and man” off of what they see in magazines, television shows, advertisements, music, and art. Gender and gender role refers to society's idea of how boys or girls or men and women are expected to behave and should be treated. A display of gender, as with a gender role, represents a public manifestation of gender identity. It can be said that one is a sex and one does gender; that sex typically, but not always, represents what is between one's legs while gender represents what is between

Gender stereotypes is a generalised view or preconception about attributes, or characteristics that are or ought to be possessed by women and men or the roles that are or should be performed by men and women. Gender stereotypes can be both positive and negative, for example; “women are nurturing” or women are weak”. A stereotype is harmful when it limits women’s or men’s capacity to develop their personal abilities, pursue their professional careers and make choices about their lives and life plans. Both hostile or negative or seemingly benign stereotypes can be harmful. It is for example based on the stereotype that women are more nurturing that child rearing responsibilities often fall exclusively on them (Joseph 7).

Masculinity and Femininity, Lewin says;

This separation was unprecedented in history, forcing men and women to adapt to different environment and roles. The women and men have their separate areas influence. For women, the areas influence are home and children and men areas includes work at the outside. Joseph also writes “the 19th century idealization of women also had implication for men, who are seen as the opposite of woman in under of ways. Women were passive, dependent, [ure, refined and delicate. Men were active, independent, coarse and strong” (162).

c. Stereotyping in media

There are types of stereotyping that based on the domesticity and sexuality. In media stereotyping, women are categorized as housewives and sexual objects, and domestic role in jobs. A woman's job reflected their role such as take care the house.

Research on gender stereotyping in the media also suggests that femininity is routine associated with domesticity and sexuality. In a classic study, Tuchman (1981) examined media depictions of American women from 1950s onwards. His findings were that women were stereotyped either as sexual objects, or as housewives, or in jobs which were reflections of their domestic or caring role (Pilcher and Whelehan 167)

2.2 Review of Related Studies

In this study, there will be presented some researchers who did the discussion on Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* and other discussions related to the study. It includes the theory used in this study.

Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* itself has been used by Gayuh Putri Pertiwi, the research attempted to explain about humanity and morality reflected in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*. The result of this research shows that the author delivers the moral message that humanity and morality values are important in social life, because it can make the harmonious relation between one and the others and based on the sociological analysis, it is evident that in this novel, the author reflects the social realities of the American society at the second half of the nineteenth century in which the

The result of this study shows that feminism appears through the four main characters; Jo, Amy, Meg, and Beth; they are all women the feminism is reflected through the main character's roles in society. Jo, the one whose behaviour shows the clear description of feminist characteristic, holds the view of domestic, liberal and equal-right feminism. Amy, who uses her feminine charms to gain social status, holds the equal-right and liberal feminism view. Meg, who concerns on domestic life, holds the view of domestic feminism view. Beth is the one who does not include in the three kinds of feminism-liberal, equal-right, domestic feminism. Although she does not hold a certain kind of feminism, she still considers as a feminist because she desires to have one just as her three other sisters.

Another research was conducted by Agustin Dwi Ratnaningrum, this study talked about the effects of civil war on families in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*. The major problem of this research is how the effects of Civil War are reflected in the novel based on Sociological approach. The result of this research shows the relationship between the novel and social reality in American society. In the novel, Louisa May Alcott describes how the effects of Civil War endanger the community especially families. Louisa May Alcott

also describes how Civil War influences the life in America through social, economic, political, cultural, religious, science and technology aspect.

The research using Stereotype theory has been done by Olivia Christine Suhendro for the thesis entitled “Stereotype of an Ideal Woman as Challenged through Polly Milton’s Characteristics in Louisa May Alcott’s *An Old Fashioned Girl*”. This study attempted to analyse how the characteristics of Polly Milton are described in the novel and how Polly Milton challenges that stereotypes in the novel. The result of all analysis after answering those two problem formulated problems shows that Polly Milton’s characteristics can be seen from her personal description, other’s opinion, her own speech, conversation of others, author’s comments and author’s thoughts. From those ways of character analysis, the reader can see that Polly is a shy and modesty fashioned girl. Also, she is strong, mature, cheerful, responsible, caring, and well educated person. Polly finally realizes that her characters do not match with the stereotype in fashionable city. In that city, glamorous things become very important for woman of nobles. In defending her principles, Polly challenged the stereotype in fashioned city.

Those previous studies mentioned above are quite different with the study conducted here. What makes it different is that this analysis will deeply give the analysis about the character of Josephine March characterized in the novel. Then this will also attempt to explain about the construction of gender stereotypes portrayed in the society and her reaction to the construction of gender stereotypes in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*.