INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Victorian Era in 19th century has become the change of literature as well as the prominent writer. However, in the reign of Queen Victoria every person has their free will to state their own idea, but this era became the paradox for the social condition (Carter & McRae 270). The paradox in Victorian era was shown from the contrast of social unrest and the change movements. This change movements was refered to *'Victorian Values''* implying to the movement for justice, freedom against the greed, exploitation, and cynicism. Literature in this era was the reflection of the society, for instance Benjamin Disraeli in his novel *sybil* that reflect his novel based on the society condition. As the condition explained as the working class. The social condition in Victorian Era was pretty obvious that the social class was divided into three those are Upper Class, Middle Class, and Lower Class (http://www.hierarchystructure.com/victorian-england-social-hierarchy/).

Life and society have changed rapidly from every aspect in England in Victorian era. Improvements to steam engine led to increase more manufacture, which bring the huge amounts of wealth for the society. However, the industrialism in this era not only bring the opportunities for the workers, but also bring the stress. As the fact that cottage industries were done in traditional way such as handloom weaving but they were displaced by steam power, directly were changed by steam power. By the displacement of steam power it brought the protest from society, their fear was stirred among the propertied classes (Adams 2).

The beginning of steam power in the eighteenth century has transformed not only the rythms of daily life but also the sense of human possibility. However, the new economy bring a lot of wealth as well as loss. At the same time the dynamism encouraged a particular anxiety about identity and self – determination, like the illustration of Pip's transformation in *Great Expectation* '' I was a blacksmith's boy but yesterday; I am – but what shall I say I am – today?'' (Dickens 18).

Victorian novels developed into a form to represent these dynamics, capturing the social interaction, aspiration, and anxiety. In such way, the industrialism has become the mutual hostility from every social class, like the statement from Carlyle that '' We call it society and go about professing openly the totalest seperation, isolation. Our life is not a mutual helpfulness... it is a mutual hostility'' (Carlyle 19). A powerful response of the Victorian is the domesticity. This era has brought the insistance of '*separate spheres*' (https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/gender-roles-in-the-19thcentury).

The separate spheres rest with the definiton of '*natural*' characteristic of men and women. Though, women were considered physically weaker yet men are morally more superrior, which meant that they were best suited to the domestic sphere. In fact, women had such a great influence at home through which women used as argument against men to give their vote (Hughes). Gender in the context become the powerful arena of political conflict, which is the reason the domestic life became such a resonant preoccupation of Victorian literature. The description of feminine character implicitly attacked an aristocratic model, under which women derived their value from beauty, kinship, and money. And, masculinity was subjected to corresponding revision, particularly in pointed debates over the ideal of the gentleman (Adams 20).

Harriet Martineau, one of the most prominent feminist, stand her life on struggle of women's right. Besides, her works has many supports, especially in the Victorian era. Feminism grew around the society that time, that influenced such writer as Bronte sisters, Charlotte Bronte, Emily Bronte, Anne Bronte, and the others. They contributed not only to the development of the novel but also to the position of women's position at that time. Their novels described how women was posited, how they viewed around society, how they demonstrated new society, psychology, and emotion (Carter & McRae 311).

Charlotte Bronte's first novel *Jane Eyre* was published in 1847 to considerable critical acclaim. Jane Eyre, the character from the title of the novel, begins life as an orphan, many difficulties working as a governess, and finally marries the man she loves, Rochester. The novel tells the love, mystery and passion which poses profound moral and social questions. However, she is passionate and unafraid of her strong feelings. Charlotte Bronte has made the reflection of women that can experience deep love and begin to take responsibility for their own lives.

Emily Bronte with the novel *Wuthering Heights* was published in 1847, it was a tragic circle from relative peace and harmony to violence, destruction and intense suffering, and finally back into peace and harmony again. It is a work of extreme contrasts set in the wild moorland of Yorkshire, which is appropriate to the wild passions it describes between two main character, Cathy and Heathcliff. In the novel the incident is described as if it were a dream, but there is a strong emotional and psychological reality to it. It is balanced between dream and reality, lucidly capturing the extreme feelings of Cathy.

Anne Bronte, the third sister, wrote her novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* (1848), this novel was important in it's own right. The novel tells about the bitterly unhappy marriage followed by the escape of the wife, Helen Huntington, and her search for new freedom. This novel was related to feminism in eighteenth century, however the rebelation of Helen was showed that she wanted the freedom, protection for her son from the influence of her husband, also the action of her fights from her abbusive husband. However, to several feminist such as Mary Wollstonecraft and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, they stand for the rights of women voices to make their own decision that time. Hence, Mary Wollstonecraft thinks that women's expression of liberty is limited for example, women are not allowed to make their own decision, and

they were discouraged to make their own power, for Wollstonecraft she stated that every person deserve the education, deserve an equal chance to develop their moral and rational chances so they can achieve full personhood (Tong 15). Meanwhile, Elizabeth Cady Stanton stand for the right of women in women's parental and cosdity right, divorce law, birth control, employment and income rights. Furthermore, she gained the act of *Married Women's Property* in 1848 that every women will be legally granted of property from their husband (Stanton 110).

In this thesis the researcher analyze the novel of Anne Bronte ''*The Tenant of Wildfell hall*'' which related with the same issue about Feminism in 19th, this novel give the exact relation of Feminism in Victorian Era. However, the researcher try to find out the issues that related with the title about '' A study of First – Wave Feminism: Rebelation of Helen Huntington Against her Abusive Husband from the Novel 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall' by Anne Bronte''.

I.2 Statement of the Problem

As the First – Wave become the phenomena in eighteenth century with the reflection of several works such as the Brontes and Eliot, the researcher reveal one of the work from Anne Bronte '*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*' with the questions bellow:

- Why does Helen Huntington point out the act of rebelation in the novel "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall"?
- 2. How does Helen Huntington show the act rebelation against her husband?

I.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem, the researcher intends to find better way to understand the meaning of feminist based from the novel of feminist, Anne Bronte.

- 1. To find out the reason of Helen Huntington rebels from her husband.
- 2. To find out how the way of Helen Huntington shows the rebelationn act against her abusive husband.

I.4 Scope and Limitation

Based on the novel there are many characters that show the roles but only one character that with the theory, Helen hutington predominate the rebelation act in this novel. Therefore, this thesis limits in the dicussion of Helen's rebelation act only. The act can be seen from the way of Helen's rebel, and why she ran away from her abbusive husband.

I.5 Significance of the Study

The findings of this thesis expected to give valuable contributions theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this thesis is expected to be one of the sources in Feminism, especially in the First – Wave Feminism. Practically, it will gives some information about First – Wave Feminism from this novel. Hopefully, it will help the reader to define what is the rebelation act in First – Wave Feminism based on the character of Helen Huntington. The last, the researcher expects this study is helpful enough for the other researchers that have the same related topics.

I.6 Methodology of the Study

This research method that will be used in this thesis for the resources data collection and research analysis is descriptive qualitative method, which means that the resources of data can be collected from any kind of literature sources. Hence, this study is a library research as the data will be taken in the form of words rather than number. Therefore, the researcher will use some sources for the research such as from books, journals, articles, including the novel.

A. Data Source

The data source is a novel by Anne Bronte *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*, which tells the rebelion of Helen Huntington from the abusive husband as well to protect her son.

B. Data Collection

1. Reading the novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* to get completely understand the point of the whole story,

- 2. Selecting the data from the novel that have the relation with the research problem,
- Find out the sources, books, journals, or articles that relate with the novel and the research such as the historical of Victorian Era, Concept of the First – Wave Feminism, and the history of Feminism in United Kingdom,
- Collect the data which are relate with the rebelation of Helen Huntington based on the novel and relate the data with the First – Wave Feminism,
- 5. Make the conclusion after find out the final result.

C. Data Analysis

- 1. Analyze the data that relate with the main character problem in the novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*.
- Analyze the data that have the relation of the main character rebelation from her abbusive husband