

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Agnes Grey is woman of the main character in this story that appears from the beginning to the end to narrate all the experiences she has. She is a youngest daughter of a clergyman of the north England and this circumstance puts her into middle class status. Her family is just decent which is one day becoming more unfortunate by the fact that her father loses a lot of amount of money in the case of failure of his business and creates the worse condition of finance. Being aware of this situation, Agnes wants to give help by deciding to be a governess as the way which is considered that such job cannot degrade her middle class status because the patriarchal custom in that era limited women from the workplace but governess is viewed as an extraordinary profession.

The struggle depicted by the character of Agnes Grey in this story is not only performed in her survival against her employers oppression within her being of governess but also the struggle she has to convince her father, mother, and sister that she is able to be a governess. Her decision to be a governess is at the first time denied by her family. They see Agnes, as the youngest child, must be incapable of that great responsibility to teach and take care of children. However, she tries to convince them over and over again until they let her to do so at last. Through the deeper analysis, the writer reveals that the motive which leads Agnes Grey to be a governess is for two reasons. The main aim is to help her family to get better condition of finance after the bad luck of her father's loss of money in business. So she wants to earn money which is although not so much because the salary of governess is just so little but at least she can liberate her family from her life needs. The second motive is to give evidence to her father, mother, and sister who are always regarding her still as a child in her

teen age that she has been capable enough with her own self living. Moreover, she is also able to cope with such huge responsibility of teaching and caring other people children as a governess.

Then, after having felt of being a governess her own self, she has to admit the facts that being a governess is actually not easy. She is not respected well enough by her employers. The employers who come from the upper class always lower their governess who just belongs to middle class, lower status than theirs. Furthermore, she often gets oppressive treatments from her employers even their children. In Bloomfield family, her first experience of becoming a governess, she has to deal with children who are so naughty and uncontrolled. Violence from the children and exploitation of her work by the parents are the kinds of oppression she ever got but she never just accepts those things helplessly. She always struggles a lot for her right to still survive. Although she is at last fired from the Bloomfield, but she does not give up directly. Next, she is employed by the Murray family. In Murray family, the condition is not so far different. Here, she also often gets oppressed. Besides exploitation, she is also marginalized. However, Agnes once more attempts to make some efforts in order to defend for her right. Her highest achievement of struggle is when she finally builds a school of her own with her mother which releases her from the necessity to be a governess so she does not need to accept oppression from her employers anymore.

From the result of analysis of this novel as it has been explained above, we can see that Agnes Grey character really depicts the hard struggle done by woman. Woman is not always becoming the weak figure who can do nothing to achieve her rights. Agnes's struggle which does not easily come to an end and her character who never gives up with the difficulties coming into her life can inspire other women with such spirit of woman to do the same thing. Therefore, it is not too much to call Agnes Grey as the heroine character since she represents some good moral values inside herself.

The character of Agnes Grey also indicates Feminism in which she decides herself what she wants to do for her own life. She chooses herself her career. Additionally, she seeks the equality between man and woman that woman can run into employment and earn money too. Furthermore, she is a Marxist feminist who successfully break down the patriarchal system that places father as the ruler in family. Besides, she can survive in hard situation within capitalism and eventually release freely from the oppression.