CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

Marginalizing certain groups repeatedly in society can cause some actions against it. This condition happens toward Marie Josephine de Tascer de la Pagerie, the main female character in the *Ambition and Desire* novel written by Kate William. Josephine lives during France Revolution in which the woman at that time places in different caste from men. The woman restriction and the less of consideration for their right put woman in inequality. Josephine who faces this condition tries to fight for her right as a wife on private property. In the previous chapter, it has already been discussed that feminism is one of woman exertions to get equality with man within society, including the social status, woman right and in economic field.

Moreover, this chapter is intentionally discussed to answer each number of research questions offer in this study. The analysis focuses on Josephine character in the Kate William novel entitled *Ambition and Desire the dangerous life of Josephine Bonaparte* and her struggle to get her prosperity toward her husband. She is the first empress in French who has marvelous wealth. The further analysis will be explained as this following description below:

3.1. Josephine's Character and Characterization.

Character is an object that has forceful role in the developing element of story. It is the way the author describes and gives soul for their characters which is usually called as characterization. This analysis takes Josephine as the subject by identifying her characterization in her action, conversation, behavior, physical appearance and her surrounding illustration.

3.1.1. Inexperienced

Marie-Josephe de Tascher de La Pangerie or well known as Josephine Bonaparte is the clan of blue-blood born at Martinique in 1763. This girl lives in cloisters Island which is wealthy of plantation harvest. In future, she becomes the first empress in France. Josephine is characterized as lack of sophistication woman in her personality.

Inexperienced is predicated for someone who has less of knowledge. This condition can lead someone looks clumsy in front of public. There are many factors that bring somebody has lack of sophistication inside themselves. In Josephine character, her lack of sophistication personality is comes from her innocent.

Person with innocent usually feels optimist that their surroundings are lovely, kind and fair. Without having their own experiences or knowledge about what will they face later. Thus, they are easy to believe in someone else without suspiciousness. Naive, romantic and dreamers are common characteristics that

indicate this personality. Those are depicted within Josephine character and lead her as lack of sophistication woman. It is seen from statement below:

"La Pagerie had been poor preparation for the cruelty of Marie-Josèphe's new world. Parisian ladies discussed the philosophy of Montesquieu or the labyrinthine politics at court. Marie- Josèphe—who had never seen an opera, knew nothing of poetry, and could not comment on art— was out of her depth. At dances, she was shy and awkward, and people laughed at her behind their hands". (William 158)

The condition above happens when Josephine and Alexandre is invited to the noble party as a new couple. Josephine is the one who look strange in her new world which is totally different from her home in Martinique. Every lady in ballroom is starting to talk about philosophy of Montesquieu or the cruel politic at court whereas Josephine almost knows nothing about the politics problem within this country because her homeland was far away from Paris.

The statement above also shows that Josephine is deficient in art thus she cannot comment the opera shows or poetry. She is also bad in dancing that makes everyone laugh at her silently. It is proof that Josephine is indicates as lack of sophistications or lack of worldly experiences characters.

"She refused to give in to sadness. Full of the joie de vivre of youth, she reminded herself that she was married to a handsome man her school friends would envy. She was eager to see fashionable society and be a good wife to her husband. Every day she waited excitedly for her invitation to court, since it was customary for aristocratic brides to be introduced to the queen". (William 159)

However, Josephine is still pretending that everything will be alright. It is shown clearly on narration above. Even though everyone is laughing at her manner and sees her as world less woman, she is still eager to see fashionable society and be good wife for her husband. Later, Josephine's lack of sophistication character awakes her consciousness that she must

have wide knowledge and explore her experiences so that everyone cannot underestimate her.

3.1.2. Courageous

Courageous is one of character which probably appears in human being. People can be identified as courageous when they are brave to take a risk on what they have already done. Courageous is a term which indicates someone buffetings to reach something in life. While, in Josephine life she is portrayed as a person with full of courageous.

After her mother knows Josephine marriage is in complicated condition, she begged her daughter to back in her little country, "our arms are always open to welcome you ... and console you for the injustice you have suffered" (William, 206). However, Josephine refuses her mother kindness. She decides attempts to take a new way to solve each problem by her. When she is in debiting problem because her husband's does not care about her anymore, she chooses to join with her aunt's homes in Fontainebleau. Bravely, she motivates herself to metamorphose for being less elegant woman by learning to dress up well and how to use make up.

She is also courageous to involve herself in small exciting social group of minor aristocrats and spent her time at card parties, promenades, and the occasional ball. It aims to get quittances in society for gaining her prosperity. It is shown clearly in statement below:

"As one friend wrote, since she was desperate to have the "luxurious enjoyments of her era," she found that her "attractiveness gave her certain advantages." She did not care about polite society and indeed "defied

public opinion rather overtly."The vicomtesse was playing a dangerous game. She began to depend on the kindness of her older gentlemen friends, such as the banker Denis de Rougement, who invited her to stay with him in Paris" (William 249)

Since she has divorced with her husband, she becomes a courageous woman who uses her attractiveness to get some advantages for her. She begins to be more closed with older gentlemen who make profits for her to build a new life. She is ready to take a risk for her dangerous games. She is motivated only by money. She never falls in loves unless she can reach her motives to earn money.

Those dominant characterizations in Josephine bring her to survive for her own victories later on. She is major female character who has three dimension characters which has complex temperament and motivation. Her action is unpredictable because of many experiences change her characteristic.

3.1.3. Rebellious

Another characteristic appears in Josephine is rebellious. Rebellious character is characterized with "rules are made to be broken". Someone who has this character usually does not care about rules and choice to be who they really are. In Josephine, her rebellious character is already shown when she was a little girl. When she was child she was known as a messy girl whose future leads her as rebellious woman. For the beginning, the reader must understand that in France culture, daughter from large-scale-merchant should have a proper education to create a polite personality. In contrast, a good manner and discipline attitude do not reflect the young Josephine. The statement below shows the evidence:

"As an adult, Josephine traded on her reputation as seductive—but the other characteristics were true of her as well. She had scant discipline as a child. While she was running wild on the grounds of La Pagerie, her future friends in France were strictly educated in chilly houses, dressed in stiff frills for show, always told to sit up straight, and kept to a rigid timetable of lessons and a diet of plain food" (William 67).

As in the statement above, the young Josephine has lacked on having a discipline education from her parents. When her friends in similar age have already known about how to be discipline on dressing, diet and manage their personality, a young Josephine still plays in plantation yard with her maids. This condition leads her as a messy personality. Generally, France nobility family believed that discipline is a key term for regularity in good attitude, especially for a girl who comes from wealth family. It also becomes measuring for other nobility family to keep the girl as daughter in law.

People also can identify Josephine's rebellious characters by her psychical appearances. She always looks untidy in dressing, clumsy in attitude, and has course in manner. It definitely appears in young Josephine performance. As in the statement below:

"Yeyette barely understood fashion, and she was ill at ease with the heavy brocade gowns and elaborates coiffeurs she was expected to wear. She looked like a child in her mother's clothes" (William 139)

The statement above describes when she comes to meet Alexandre for the first time. In Alexandre opinion, Josephine looks like a child in her mother's clothes which means that the way she dresses up is terrible enough then makes her look messy and out of date.

Another reasons which shape Josephine becomes messy is because Rose-Claire, her mother, the one who supposes to give her first education about being discipline at home is too busy that she cannot educate her daughter well.

However, Rose-Claire entrusts her child with a maid. Thus, the indiscipline character by Josephine maid influences her behavior. This messy character brought along Josephine marriage life with Vicomte Alexandre de Beauharnais.

"Alexandre could hardly smile. It was even worse when Yeyette spoke. Lightly educated, lacking in elegance, and without style, it was clear the girl who had run wild in the baking sun belonged in the schoolroom, not at a soirée. She was a poor comparison to his glamorous mistress, Laure—Yeyette had neither beauty nor accomplishments, and her deportment was terrible." (William 139)

This narration happens when Alexandre gets surprised by Josephine clumsy manner. In her letter, his aunty, Edmee recommends Josephine to marry with him because Josephine comes from wealthy plantation family. Besides that, his aunty also mentions Josephine as a charming and interesting woman.

Unfortunately, Josephine's personality is far from his expectation to be his fiancé. Her clumsy manner already tells him that Josephine is non-elegance woman, lightly education and not stylist. Josephine bad first impression makes Alexandre underestimates her rebellious personality.

3.1.4. Ambitious

Ambitious is also depicted clearly within Josephine character. This character comes along with suffers she faces after getting failure in her first marriage. It is also the way to get consideration from people in her surroundings. Precisely, having an ambition means a person eagerly desires on achieving or obtaining success either in power, wealth or other specific goals. This is what Josephine has faced in her life. She is eager to reach her power, wealth and statues.

Before Josephine divorces with Vicomte Alexandre de Beauharnais she becomes a prisoner in Revolution era. Her husband is suspected as enemy for the state. Thus, it makes her also following as a prisoner soon. No longer after this terrible condition happens, she releases from the prison innocently. But, her husband still arrest to be investigated. Life without husband leads Josephine to keep alive by herself. It is difficult for a woman in post Revolution era to survive without clear status in society. It is shown in statement below:

"Marie-Josèphe needed to join the circles of those with money in the post-Terror world—the moneylenders, the arms profiteers, the bankers, and the men of the political elite" (William 408)

Those statements show Josephine's future that plans to get a wealthy man and ensures her life for a several times. She is ambitious to get a better life with someone who brings benefits for her. She plans to have closed friend from the moneylenders, the arms profiteers, the bankers, or the men who works in the political elite.

Her terrible experiences in her first marriage lead her to be ambitious character continuing in her second marriage. Josephine eagerly attracts man who has a greater power in France. Barras, someone who closes with her, introduces Napoleon who is actually younger than her. Napoleon Bonaparte is a candidate for French Emperor at that time. The author also describes Josephine's ambitious character in this following narration:

"Everything was riding on how she conducted herself in what would be the most important test of her life so far. If she succeeded, she would be crowned empress, first woman of the empire and the consort of the greatest man the century would see. But if she failed, she would be condemned to disgrace, humiliation, and poverty." (William 13-22)

The statement above happens before the coronation night. She pawns her self-respect to create a new title as a mother for all Frances. Her ambition to have powers has proven when Napoleon agrees to marriage her formally in civil law. It aims to make her position stronger in front of law and nobody can ignore her position. She intends to show everyone who against her, or those who want to seize her power, she is dedicated as the princess today. Nobody can take her in difficult situation anymore.

3.1.5. Gorgeous

Somebody can be described as gorgeous if people around find they has very sexuality attractive, lovely or beautiful that can impressed somebody else who watch. This outlook is appearing at Josephine characterization. She finds herself as a women with attractive excess after she is divorced with her husband and slowly learns how to be gorgeous toward the people.

"Madame de Beauharnais is the first to have reassured me. She said flattering things about my military talents one day when I found myself seated next to her. Her praise intoxicated me; I addressed myself only to her". (William 450)

The statement above is taken from Napoleon's statement about Josephine. He claims that he is already impressed by Josephine's appearances when Barras introduced Josephine to himself. Josephine's sophistication stuck him with amazement and admiration. It is a proof that after all suffers condition leads Josephine to be gorgeous women instead. Later, Josephine uses her gorgeous character as a weapon to get her own right especially in private properties.

3.2. The Factors which are Influence Josephine's thought

Usually, some phenomenon which are occurred in our surrounding can influence the way someone thinking. Depend on what they perceive and what problem that they face. Thus, in this point will analyze the prominent factors which shape Josephine's thought. The analysis as follow:

1.2.1. France Revolution

The time when Josephine's life was marked by notorious event in the 1789s -1794s is known as France Revolution. Under Louise XVI reign Frances faces a terrible crisis in economic sectors. The collapse and the falling price of harvest hurt farmers and workers. Besides, the social crisis is depicted clearly in the human right issue and the social class perspective of the observed which is seen that the woman and child's places in minority class.

The turbulences are held in whole France, in Paris more than a thousand people attacked the Bastille, freed the prisoner and murdered the governor.

Everyone is demanding for Revolution. Attempt to overthrow down King Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette reign. Josephine husband who work in the military being suspected royalists as enemies of the state thus, make him arrested (339). No longer, Josephine is also being a prisoner.

During her times in jail, she is learning how to survive and still alive by making connecting with people surrounding her to get information. It seems that Josephine wants to get better experience in life after being freely from executes. It shows clearly below:

"Marie-Josèphe was "one ofthe most accomplished and one of the most amiable women I have ever met. She thought Marie-Josèphe had been on the side of the revolutionaries and had now changed her mind—which was probably what most people believed of the estranged wife of Alexandre" (William, 353)

The narration above tells that Josephine is being different person while she is in the prison. She becomes amiable woman who likes to hear about new knowledge from other prisoners. She is being open minded personalities who enjoy sharing with influential person there. It is proves that French Revolution is one of the crucial factors that influences Josephine mind for being independent woman.

3.2.2. Marie Antoinette's Experience in Collecting Properties

Marie Antoinette is the queen of French sits in state with King Louise

XVI. She was almost seven years older than Josephine. According to her tracking

history, she is married at fourteen years old with the future king in France by motive as political interest to strengthen the unstable alliance between France and the Austrian Empire. When she was crowned as a queen, people are sympathizing by her personality and beauty. However, slowly the people hate Marie Antoinette's attitude easily and call her as *L'Autrichienne* means improvidence woman from Austria. In seven years her diplomatic marriage life's leading her to welfares herself by abusing her power to acquire expensive jewelry, diamond and some precious stones.

She orders four new pairs of shoes a week and three yards of ribbons every day. Until Versailles being labyrinth of the jewel in the French crown. Ironically, those much money comes to taxes from the sugar island of the Caribbean. It is resulted in an increase in government taxes to the average French.

Those notorious event is motivating Josephine to renewing her social status in society. Josephine, who already faces her unhappy married with Viccomtte Alexandre de Beauharnais eagerly to changes her destiny to be someone who has power. In her second married with Napoleon Bonaparte, she proof that she can being more glamour than Marie Antoinette. After her marriage with the French Emperor left for several times she is beginning plan to rebuild her old house in plantation island Martinique.

"In January 1800, the two young architects Charles Percier and Pierre-François Léonard Fontaine were called upon "to rebuild a badly constructed house which is falling into ruin and which was only built for a very ordinary person." Percier and Fontaine kept a detailed notebook in which they recorded the modifications. This invaluable document gives a sense of the scale. Entire sections of the house were demolished and

rebuilt. As always, Napoleon grumbled that his wife was spending too much money but did little to stop her". (William 992)

From the narration above shows that Josephine intended to renovate her house as her intention. She deliberately uses great architects to design and modified her ruins house. Even though it is spending much money for Napoleon income he cannot stop his wife's intention. This lucky opportunity is uses by Josephine to get more invaluable things from Napoleon. Silently, she arranged to buy more land and built it as a luxurious garden.

"By 1802, the now-jaded Percier and Fontaine had done their work, and Malmaison had been transformed. Josephine turned her attentions to developing the grounds of her new home and buying more land. She had originally purchased a rather measly 150 acres, but by the end of her life, the land had increased more than ten times, with grounds stretching to the banks of the Seine" (William 1004)

Statement above is one of unpredictably Josephine intention for her desire.

After her new house already done she bought a super large area in Martinique to build garden with a certain plantation within. Thus, make her husband spending very much money for pay it.

In the result, Josephine are motivates by Marie Antoinette's experience in the way she collecting propert she likes to spend state incomes to buys a luxurious diamond and her glamour dress and make up. Actually, it is also happens toward woman in aristocrat family because they does not has their own right for private property.

3.2.3. Inequality status between Man and Woman

Inequality status between Men and Woman becomes miserable issue in France during the eighteenth century. In social aspect it seems clearly by divided the French society into classes. The first class places by the Clergy who no need to pay any tax because their responsibility to manage churches and educational institution of Frances. The Clergy life's full of luxurious and extravagances because people respect on their statue in society. The second classes places by the people who has noble's statues. This class involves a bourgeois and intelligences people. In third classes are belonging to common people who uneducated enough or life's in poor conditions. The labor, slave who places in this circle faces suffers every time.

An inequality term is including the differences between male and female valuable in society. During this time, woman usually located as the second place that is in the first places dominates by man. Woman was bounded by sex. A couple who has female baby feels regret and worrying about her futures. It is also happens in Josephine life's. As statement below:

"Rose-Claire's husband, Joseph de Tascher de La Pagerie, desired a boy who one day might gain greatness for his line. Her family wished for a boy to take over the land. As a girl, Marie-Josèphe was not valuable, intended at best for an early marriage to one of the local landowners and life as a busy matron to half a dozen children. (William 39)

The statement below happens when Josephine mother, Rose-Claire announce her husband Joseph-Gaspard that their first child is a girl. He feels disappointed for having a girl. In her father though a girl only creates new burdens for his family. Not valuable and cannot make earn for them.

This mindset already appears in France family. Because of inequality term makes woman becomes inferiority. They often views as the property or a commodity of a husband, father or society in general. For a father man is getting more valuable for family because they can control production and distribution for family earning.

In the truth the reason for Josephine marriages with Alexandre de Beauharnais is because Edmee, her distant aunty already make a plan to exploitation her for her own prosperity.

"She wanted to keep this money for herself and suggested Alexandre marry her niece, in the hope that the couple would care for her after her husband's death. Alexandre agreed, for he needed to wed in order to come into his inheritance". (William 111)

The statement above shows that a woman can be exploited easily by the other woman who has higher social classes than her. Even in marriage life's they does not have their own right to assist their self. In statement clearly show that Edmee uses her niece to keep her life by cared her.

3.3. Josephine's Success on Getting her Private Property's Right

After her failure on the first marriage with Vicomte Alexandre de Beauharnais, Josephine is facing debt problem. Continuing life with two little children without occupation and assurance from her ex-husband makes her depressed and homeless. No longer, her aunty accommodated Josephine with Eugene and Hortense to join her to Paris.

Rose-Claire, Josephine's mother ask her to come back home in Martinique, promising her family will receive her happily but she refuse it with respect.

Josephine is already making decision to continue her life in Paris and to struggling to get prosperity. Josephine is already facing similar problem that happens to women in this era either in Paris or Martinique. It is losing right on private property. Woman does not have authority for inheritance. Besides, they are marrying with someone who has statues toward the people such as marquis or noble.

The way Josephine to get self-independence on private property right can be seen clearly as follow:

1.3.1. Marrying the Empress Napoleon

Josephine's great victory begins when she was coronation as an Empress in Frances. She becomes an influential woman in a whole Frances at that time. The day before she was crowned as a queen, Josephine begged to the pope for private audiences. She attempts to persuade him for allowing herself to marry Napoleon legally; both government and religion view. In French's society, it indeed that marriage by civil is more famous than in the form of religion.

Josephine who already faces failure with her first husband learns to get better in her second marriage with Napoleon by taking an oath in front of God and the

Pope. Thus, by her soft manner, Josephine tries to convince the pope in order to merry them legally in the form of religion.

"She simply had to tell him her secret: The marriage had been a civil union, so they were living in sin in the eyes of God. She was afraid, she told him, so desperately afraid, that the emperor was destined for hell" (William, 18)

In the narration above shows that Josephine attempts to get her right as a legitimate wife for Napoleon. By a violently worries faces, she said that they will live in sin in the eyes of God, and the Emperor will be destined for hell. Actually, this trick aims that Josephine will get the confession legally in religion because they have promised in the name of God and being watched by pope. Other motives also no one who cannot deny her position as Napoleon's wife and as Empress in French.

Josephine's effort is pointing out the result. One day, she live it up her triumph. She is already beating everyone who is envy on her position. She gives the evidence to the politicians who whisper against her and all the actresses and duchesses who are trying to usurp her. Now, they are watching her crowned as powered woman (William, 21). Public are welcoming her with happiness and tears. They called her as *Notre Dame des Victoires* or Our Lady of Victories.

1.3.2. Building an Artistic House in Malmaison.

Martinique is Small Island which is popular as a great plantation area in Frances. This is a place where Josephine was born and grown up as a daughter

of merchant family. Her parents are landowner of agricultural field, sugar estate and plantation. Since childhood, she really likes to play in the field and enjoying a garden. She always misses the foliage and flowers of Martinique. She hopes to get her chance to cultivate gardens full of exotic plants in Malmaison. It becomes one of reason why she is interested to build home with full of plant and flower.

Firstly, she starts to send her mother letter about her intention to build a large garden in Malmaison and ask her to send her seed and trees of many species like in her old house in Martinique. Her mother agreed to send over the plant for her new house in Malmaison. No longer, Josephine succeeds to persuade her husband to buy more land near Malmaison to build a garden with many plants. It is shown clearly in narration below:

"Josephine filled the gardens with orchids and exotic magnolia trees from St. Lucia and also exploited her husband's empire by collecting seeds from his representatives all over the world, including Africa, South America, and the Middle East".(William, 1009)

As in narration above, Josephine finally receive seeds of rare orchids and some exotic magnolia trees from St.Lucia. She also exploits Napoleon Empire by collecting seed from his representative like Africa, South America, and the Middle East. She likes to see her foreign plants pilulating in her garden and presenting her garden as glory of France. On the other hands, in her latter Josephine also hopes that Malmaison can be a model of good culture and becomes a source of riches for the departments.

Josephine continues her gratified to pile up her desire on wealth. By her attractiveness, after she persuades Napoleon to buy a house in Malmaison district. She plans to renovate that old house as a marvelous one. Later,

Malmaison has functions as their primarily home for all honors guest entrances.

Though she already spends much cost to decorate that space. Nevertheless, the

Emperor always follows Josephine granted for glamour's item. It can be shown by

statement below:

"Josephine spent thousands on the salon, the dining room, the gallery, and the billiard room on the ground floor. The architects remodeled them along classical lines with stucco columns and decorative panels, the best means of display for statues stolen from Italy. They created a music room, which Josephine decorated with her incredible collection of art". (William, 994)

The narration above tells us that Josephine's desire on luxurious things is true. She combines her sense of art with the entire glamorous item to decorate her house. It gives details attention starting from the dining room until the ground floor. The dining room is also equipped with the heat system to keep warm in cold weather. Josephine is already known as the queen with highest sense of art work. Thus, in her new house she decorates with her incredible collection of art.

Slowly, Josephine finds a new way to get her own right on private property. It is by doing her hobbies to collect classic and limit the stuffs from other countries to comply her desire. Sometimes, she is insisting Napoleon softly for granting her wish. It is proven when Napoleon cannot refuse his wife wishes for having larger land to plant many exotics flower over there. This makes them have a luxurious small palace in Malmaison.