CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Theoretical Framework

In this chapter, the researcher will explain more about the theory that will be used in analyzing *The Casual Vacancy* novel. Then, the researcher uses New Criticism theory to analyze it. In analyzing this novel, the researcher focuses on analyzing the character, characterization, and theme in the novel. But the researcher takes only one character from the novel. She is Krystal Weedon. The researcher uses New Criticism to answer all of the statement of the problems. The theory is explained as follows.

2.2 New Criticism

According to David Carter, New Criticism was active from the late 1930s to the late 1950s, also took on most of the ideas of Eliot and Richards, as well as those of Empson (26). Tyson said in his book *Critical Theory Today* that the most important concepts in New Criticism are concerning the nature and importance of textual evidence – the use of concrete, specific examples from the text itself to validate our interpretation (135). So, the analyzer who wants to analyze uses New Criticism theory will go inside the story without taking outside the story.

New Criticism's purpose in analysis is to reveal the true meaning of the text based on the text itself. Tyson added that "the text itself" became the battle cry of the New Critical effort to focus our attention on the literary work as the sole source of evidence for interpreting it (136). It is believed that a single best or most accurate interpretation of each text could be seen when it best represents the text itself and best explains what the text means and how the text produces the meaning (148). New Criticism focuses on internal element of the text. It does not explain about external factor. The internal element itself can be characterization,

D H Lawrence stated in his essay *Morality and the Novel* (1925) he wrote: 'If a novel reveals true and vivid relationships, it is a moral work, no matter what the relationships may consist in.'And in *Why the Novel Matters* (1936) his concept of 'Life' is as mystically and vaguely defined as 'To be alive, to be man alive, to be whole man alive: that is the point. And at its best, the novel, and the novel supremely, can help you' (qtd. in Charter 30).

theme, setting, plot, point of view, symbols, images, rhyme, and so on.

2.2.1 Character

Characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it—the dialogue—and from what they do—the action (Abrams 35). Character is going to bring the reader into their imagination by knowing the character from the story.

Moreover, Bennet and Royle also agreed that characters are considered as the life of literature. Characters become the objects of the readers' curiosity and fascination, affection and dislike, admiration and condemnation. Indeed, our intense relationship with literary characters makes them to be more than becoming simply objects because in which through the power of identification, through sympathy and antipathy, they can become part of how we conceive ourselves, a part of who we are (60). Sometimes the readers imagine themselves to be one of the characters in the story. By imagining it, the reader can get the real meaning and goal from the story.

In fiction, characters are divided into some types. Based on its significance role in developing a story, characters are separated into major and minor characters. Major or main character refers to character which appears in almost all or totally in the whole story. He or she is character which is mostly told and always relates to other characters. On the other hand, minor character is character which appears only in some parts of the whole story and he or she is told less than major character. Minor characters may exist just when they are having correlation with the major characters (Nurgiyantoro 176-177). In the story, there are some kinds of character. They can have positive and negative side. It is like good and bad character. Sometimes good character can cover whole story. The reader will like the good character then the bad character.

2.2.2 Characterization

Characters are generally known to undergo some process in how they are told in a story; this process is what is called a characterization. Commonly in characterizing the characters, there are two ways that an author usually used. Those are direct and indirect characterization. Using direct manner means that the author describes directly about the character. The author attributes the qualities of characters in direct description. Otherwise, in indirect manner of characterization the author does not merely tell the characters but showing them to the readers through how the character looks, what the character does, what the character says, what the character thinks, and how the character affects other characters (Baldick 37). From these five things, the reader can understand and get a clear description of the character's personality. So characters and characterization cannot be separated each other. Also, characters become an important point to analyze in this study.

2.3 Psychology of Behavior

B. F. Skinner's entire system is based on operant conditioning. The organism is in the process of "operating" on the environment, which in ordinary terms means it is bouncing around its world, doing what it does. During this "operating," the organism encounters a special kind of stimulus, called a reinforcing stimulus, or simply a reinforcer. This special stimulus has the effect of increasing the operant – that is, the behavior occurring just before the reinforcer.

This is operant conditioning: "the behavior is followed by a consequence, and the nature of the consequence modifies the organisms tendency to repeat the behavior in the future." (Boeree 4).

Behavior is a primary characteristic of living things. We almost identify it with life itself. Anything which moves is likely to be called alive—especially when the movement has direction or acts to alter the environment. (Skinner 45). Human's behavior is controlled by external factor. It can be environment and social-culture. Skinner also states that many theories of human behavior, nevertheless, neglect or ignore the action of the environment. The contact between the organism and the surrounding world is wholly disregarded or at best casually described. This is almost always true in clinical psychology, for example. The clinician often speaks of people, places, and things as "facts" entering into the interpretation of his patient's behavior, without further specifying their action (129).

Human comes from the environment. He/she was born by having some talents which can be developed in every way. By passing shaping process, human can be the certain character who has certain behavior (Farozin 74). It can be concluded that human is able to do some actions based on his/her initiative in his/her environment. He/she is known as an active object. So that is way, the environment has the important role to build human's character and behavior.

The environment which can build human's character can be the world around his/her. It can be from family lives around his/her. Those can be explained in the following point.

2.3.1 Family

Family is a group of people live together with special bond either emotionally or economically. It is about how to live together with some aspects like economy and emotional aspect and how to create the good relation inside. According to George Murdock, in his book *Social Structure*, family means social group which has the characteristic by living together and there is cooperation in economy and there is also reproduction. But that statement is disputed by Ira Reiss. She stated that the main characteristic in family is socialization process which accompanied by support of emotion called nurturant socialization (qtd. in Lestari 4).

In generally, the relation of family is started by marrying man and woman. As the beginning of relation, it determines the harmony inside the family (9). If the family can create the harmony, they can solve the problem easily. Not only harmony, belief is also needed inside the family. How husband and wife can support each other if they do not have belief. There are five important aspects in the happy family. They are communication, flexibility, closeness, personality harmony, and conflict resolution.

Communication is the most important aspect because it concludes all other aspects (11). All needs and problems can be solved by communication. It determines how important communication is. Style and diction in communication are also important. If husband uses bad style or diction to speak with his wife, it can create disharmony inside the family. Miscommunication also can cause the

problem in family. So, to decrease some problems inside the family, husband and wife have to often introspect themselves.

Beside communication, flexibility and closeness are also the aspects to create the happy family. Flexibility reflects the ability of husband and wife to change and adapt when it is needed. It has relation with job and role between husband and wife (12). In flexibility, husband and wife have their own responsibility in managing the family. They have to do their job well in order to create good situation in the family. But in deciding each responsibility, they have to be fair. The decision has to depend on both decision. Closeness between husband and wife describe the level of emotional closeness and the ability of balance between separation and gatherness (12). Closeness here does not mean that the body between husband and wife together. It means the closeness of emotional between them. If they do not have any closeness, they must have many problems in their family life.

The following aspects are personality harmony and conflict revolution.

Personality harmony means the character and behavior between husband and wife do not make negative effect to one of them. The harmony does not depend on the same character and hobby. The differences of them do not become the problem as long as they can take and understand each other (13). If they can take and understand each lack of their partner, their family life must be happy because there are some problems which come from the differences. Take and give from their character is very needed to create the harmony in the family. Conflict revolution relates with behavior, feeling, and belief toward the solving problem in

their relation. It covers the understanding to know and solve the problem. Not only that, it also covers strategy and process to end the disputation (13). The problem which always comes inside the family does not have to be avoided, but it has to be solved as soon as possible. Solving problem functions to keep the family harmony.

After explaining about the relation between husband and wife, the following explaining is about the relation between parents and child. Having baby can also make the harmony family. It is the transition era for the parents when they have the first baby. Sometimes, it can cause the new problem for them.

Moreover if they also have problem of economy. When it is happened, the support from husband and their family is much needed. Children grow in the environment and relation. The relation which is built by parents and child from childhood can help the growing of child. Child will feel closely with someone who takes care with him. It can also build the emotional relation between them. So, parents and family is the important aspect in growing a child.

2.3.1.1 Parents and Children's Relationship

Having baby can make harmonious family. It is the transition era for the parents when they have the first baby. Sometimes, it can cause the new problem for them. Moreover if they also have problem of economy. When it is happened, the support from husband and their family is much needed. Thompson stated that children grow in the environment and relation (16). The relation which is built by

parents and child from childhood can help the growing of child. Child will feel closely with someone who takes care with him. It can also build the emotional relation between them. So, parents and family is the important aspect in growing a child.

Family is the place where child grows physically, emotionally, spiritually, and socially. Family is source of affection, protection, and the identity for child. The important function of family is curing and socializing for child. Socialization means the process undergone by child to get belief, values, and behavior which is considered appropriate by parents. Family is not one of place of socialization. But family is the first place for child to undergo his life (22). Parents will always teach how to live until the child can get his following era, from child to adolescent era and so on.

Adolescent era is transition era when someone grows between childhood and mature. Simply, adolescent era can be started by showing the evidence of puberty and followed until sexual maturity and development of emotional by measuring intelligent test (Panuju 4). The age of adolescent is between fifteen until twenty one years old. In adolescent era, adolescent begins to ask who he is actually. He also begins to think what he will be in his future. He will face same phases in his life. It is what some experts said that the growing of each individual passes some certain phases which have each specification. The phases are begun by the development of physic. It is followed by the development of emotional and also the intelligence (17). They have to be smart in choosing their environment because it is the transit era before they become the mature one. For example when

the child will continue their school to university, parents have to give some understandings about the positive and negative side in choosing the certain university. The child can choose their choice based on the parents' agreement.

To appreciate the nature of the interaction between parents and adolescent it is necessary to recognize that the parent-adolescent relationship extends back to the time when the adolescent was born. It is essential, to recognize that, in the typical family situation, parents are not all-powerful persons who can control a child's destiny, for better or for worse. It is true that harsh, abnormal, and abusive parents can have traumatic effects on children, especially at the infancy level. But in the usual family, there are limits to what parents can or cannot do. These limits are determined to an important degree not only by the qualities of the parents, but also by temperamental qualities of their children, often manifested from the time of birth. The influence of the social environment, especially the young person's peers, also obviously is an important factor (Jersild 305). So, the parents' attention is very needed in adolescent life in order to they will not fall in wrong world.

2.3.1.2 The Adolescent Life

The adolescent era is the time when the children grow to the mature. The growth can be some changes. Those are not looked only by the body changes which can be femininity and manliness but also by the changes which cannot be looked by the other one easily. The adolescent him/herself gets the changes from inside him/herself (Gunarsa 91). Sometimes the changes will make him/her get

effect in learning process in the school. He/she will have big question about it. Moreover he/she will ask to his/her friend each other.

Friend also has big role to the adolescent's growth (91). The good friend will bring the good effect to his/her life. There are many behaviors which can make his/her life useless. It can be like the using of drug, cigarette, and so on. In other hand, the bad friend will bring him/her get worse life. It can be like he/she will interest in joining some positive organization in the school or outside of school.

2.4 **Review of Related Studies**

The researcher finds only one previous study from the same object, the novel untitled The Casual Vacancy by J.K. Rowling, but from different perspective. It has been written by Impian Nopitasari titled Exclusivism Reflected in J.K. Rowling's The Casual Vacancy Novel (2012): A Sociological Perspective. In her analysis, she tried to analyze implication of exclusivism from the novel used sociological perspective. The reason why the writer uses that theory causes she wants to answer her statement of problems. Those are about to describe and identify the characteristic of Exclusivism in the novel and to reveal the necessity for J.K. Rowling to address exclusivism.

From the previous study above, there is a difference between the previous study and this one. Although both discuss the same novel, but they have different focus. If the previous study uses sociological approach to analyze the novel, the

researcher uses Psychological approach in analyzing which focuses on Krystal Weedon's character in Weedon family.

