

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter the thesis writer explains about the literary theories, namely the theory of characterization and the theory of conflict. She uses both theories in order to analyze Raskolnikov's character development

2.1 Characterization

Character is one of four essential elements of fiction. Without character, there will be no story (Perrine 83). The term character has been applied to a literary form that flourished in England and France since the seventeenth and

eighteenth centuries (Holman 81). Holman regards character as “a brief descriptive sketch of a personage who typifies definite quality” (81). Furthermore, he mentions that the person’s character can be used as an example of some good and evil (81). Therefore, a person with bad character traits can be used as an example of evil and vice versa. While according to Roberts, character is “the total sum of typical qualities and propensities in any given individual that are controlled by that individual’s drives, aims, morals and ideas of conscience” (11). The technique that is used by an author to depict clear images of a person, or a character and also the personalities of the character, which is written by the author, is called Characterization (Perrine 84). Therefore, the author uses characterization to describe the character of a person that he/she writes about so that readers can understand the character of a person that he/she wants to describe.

According to Roberts, an author can use one, or more ways to show his characters’ personalities to his readers. First, through the speech and the thought of the character himself. Whenever a person speaks, whenever he converses one another, whenever he puts forward an opinion, the author can give readers a clue to a person’s character. Second, through the action of the character himself.

What a person does often speaks louder than what he speaks of. Thus, by the character’s reaction to various situations and events, readers may know his/her character traits. Third, through what other character says about him (Roberts 12).

Here, the author describes him/her through the eyes and opinions of another character. People talk and make conversation about other people and things and from their conversation readers may have a clue about a person’s character (Perinne 84). Fourth, through the author’s speech. From the author’s comment on

his character directly readers have a clue about that character (Roberts 12). In order to find out who Raskolnikov is and how his characters develops in Crime and Punishment, the thesis writer uses the four elements mentioned above.

Through Raskolnikov's speech, his thought, his action, the author's comments as well as other characters' comments, she tries to find out his character traits from the start to the end of the novel in order to know his character development.

2.2 Theory of Conflict

Conflict is a necessary element in fiction. It is the backbone of a story. The word "conflict" is derived from the Latin's word "contra" meaning against and "fligere" meaning to strike (Finney 23). According to Holman conflict is the struggle of protagonist against someone or something (107). According to Perrine, something, here, can represent the actions, ideas, desires or will (59). Holman mentions that there are five kinds of conflicts, they are: a man's struggle against the forces of the nature, a man's struggle against another person, a man's struggle against the society, a man's struggle against himself, and a man's struggle against fate or destiny (107-108). The writer will use only the second and the fourth theories in order to analyze Raskolnikov's conflicts.

The struggle against another person is usually known as conflict with another person or outer conflict. Here, the main character has a clash with other characters or it can be said that it is a conflict between man to man. In Crime and Punishment, Raskolnikov, also, faces conflict with others, particularly with his family. He faces conflict with his sister due to his rejection on her marriage. His sister gets married in order to improve family's finance and Raskolnikov does not

approve it. Hence, there is a clash between them. Therefore, the writer will use this theory to analyze Raskolnikov's outer conflicts.

The struggle within himself is usually known as inner conflict. Here, the main character has a conflict within himself. In this kind of conflict, a person faces a kind of complicated situation in which he or she should choose the best alternative according to his/her own consideration (Holman 108). It means that an internal conflict may take the form of a mental struggle, in which the main character tries to make a difficult decision or overcome fear. A story ordinarily ends when the main conflict is resolved (Finney 19).

In Crime and Punishment, Raskolnikov faces a lot of inner conflicts. He wants to stop his sister's plan to get married. However, he does not have the power to stop it. Then, after he commits the crime, he is confronted into two choices whether or not he confesses his crime. Hence, the thesis writer will use the theory to discuss his inner conflicts. In Chapter 3 readers will come to the events that lead Raskolnikov to his character development.