

## **SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS IN FLAUBERT'S *MADAME BOUVARY***

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### Abstract

This research aims to elaborate the The social circumstances and psychological analysis which are existing in *Madame Bovary*. Therefore, the researcher will analyze how social circumstance influences the psychological condition of Emma as the main character of this work. In order to analyze this research, the researcher utilizes the literary psychology approach as the main theory. Besides, to strengthen the psychological analysis in this work, the researcher uses Abraham Mashlow theory as the additional perspective. Furthermore, the researcher uses qualitative methodology both for collecting data and analyzing data. In collecting the primary data, the researcher gathers the information through the work and for collecting the supporting data, the researcher collects it from books which related to this research. The results research shows that the social circumstance in the novel has been influencing Emma's characteristics in some particular aspects such as (1) psychological needs, (2) safety needs, (3) the love and belonging needs, (4) self esteem, and (5) self actualization.

**Keywords:** Literature, Psychology of Literature, Social Circumstances, Maslow's Theory

### INTRODUCTION

It is surely assumed that a literary work is an expression of the writer's psychological experience. Literary work is viewed as a psychological aspect that appear through the characters in drama and prose ( *Endaswara, 2003 : 96* ). Based on the explanation, the researcher is interested in finding a psychological concern reflected in a novel. For the researcher it becomes something new to know more about psychological and social circumstance theory through a literary work id east the novel which entitled *Madam Bovary*. the researcher intends to present a psychological approach and social circumstances in the literary research and would like to explore some important problems which related to the psychology and social circumstances

The researcher analyzes a novel that focuses on the personality of the main character ( Emma Bovary ) and the social circumstances in the novel. The story includes the reality or the social circumstances in France in the 19 Century. When discussing about character, personality cannot be separated from the character. It is argued that personality is basically owned by human beings. The environment is one of the influence of our personalities.

Personality is included the aspect of psychology. Nowadays psychology has become one of the important problems. It can be used by some people who study literary works in novel, short story, poem and movie. It definitely does not mean that we have to be a psychologist. We only use the psychological approach as a tool of

understanding about our field. The object of the research is a novel.

Madame Bovary begins when Charles Bovary is ordinary man, uninterested, shy, but have a kindness. Because his study hard, finally he can get his doctor degree. Even though just the village doctor. He never have a ambition for everything his life. And more important in his life just do the best according to him.

Meanwhile, Emma is beautiful daughter from the landlord of the field. She is young, charming, imaginative, and need another life such as luxuries life. She dream about life with romantic, luxuries, beautiful and challenging. In her dream, she hope can wear a beautiful dress, spend the time to go party, watching opera, and come to the dance party like a nobility.

Emma dreams about someone who is handsome, rich, romantic man and can adore her with passion. Furthermore, she expects that there will be Someone who can give her love, life full of romantic, and beautiful. And of course life full of luxuries. Unfortunately, from all that dreams, Charles as a husband of Emma, cannot give what Emma really desires. Consequently, Emma starts her dirty journey in looking for her happiness based on her.

She finally encounters many men such as Leon and Rodolphe. And because of that she forget her husband and her daughter. For a while, Charles idealizes the memory of his wife. Eventually, though, he finds her letters from Rodolphe and Leon, and he is forced to confront the truth. He dies alone in his garden, and Berthe is sent off to work in a cotton mill.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study is categorized into literary criticism because in this study the researcher conduct discussion of literature, including description, analysis, and

interpretation of a literary work. The term of literary criticism is applied to the analysis, interpretation and evaluation of literary work (Baharuddin, 2019).

In order to be able to conduct a literary criticism, the use of appreciate approach is needed. The researcher applies Psychological approach. It is the approach to find out of the aspect of main character's personality in Madam Bovary and to elaborate the one of psychology theory.

Ratna (2007) states that psychology and literature study more analyze about humanm being. However, they have a different object of concern. Psychology deals with the real life situation and literature deal with imagery of human being. In contrast, psychology of literature Theory deals with the characteristic in the literary work.

'Psychology is the scientific study of mental process and behavior. Psychology also focus on phenomena as perception, cognition, emotion, personality, behavior, and interpersonal, relationship. Psychology refers to the application of life such as knowledge, moral value, human activity, including the issues that related to daily life example family, education, and work of the treatment of mental health problems.

Psychology maybe defined as the science that attempts to studies the behavior of human being. Besides, literary psychology is one of literary approach that consider the literary work as the psychology activity, the author uses thought, feeling, and work in working (Endraswara, 2003 : 96 ).

Besides, in conducting this journal, the researcher uses qualitative methodology as an academic procedure. Methodology will guide the researcher in collecting and analyzing the data. Therefore, this research separates three kinds of data id est the primary data, secondary data, and supporting data.

This journal will discover some literary discourses as the research question. The source will be found through the Flaubert's *Madame Bovary* as the primary data. Those source are; (1) how the Social Circumstances determines Emma's consciousness in the novel *Madam Bovary*? (2) what is the personality of the main character in the novel of *Madam Bovary*?

## **THE RESULT OF RESEARCH**

### **The Social Circumstances determines Emma's consciousness in the novel *Madam Bovary***

Fundamentally, social circumstance is the crucial thing that could influence people's consciousness such as idea, notion, perspective, and et cetera. Besides, people consciousness depends on what cluster they belong to. The Social cluster is a community where people live with similar character, culture, and perspective. Therefore, in this part of the research, the researcher will separate the discourse into several points id east; a). Emma Bovary's Cluster, b) Emma Bovary's Consciousness which refers to the Emma's circumstance.

#### **Emma Bovary's Cluster**

The cluster of Emma could be conceived through her family economic finance. Her father is the rich peasant who possesses the farm of *Les Bertaux*. He is called *Monsieur Rouault*. As a rich peasant, Emma and his father are sufficient and classified as the upper class (bourgeois). This phenomena could be perceived when Charles, as a doctor, goes to the Rouault's farmer to medicate his leg, "*Monsieur Rouault must be one of well to do farmers*" (Flaubert, 1994:11).

Although Emma and her family is classified as a bourgeois cluster, however, her mother has passed away. Therefore,

Emma substituted her mother's role in assisting her father. Flaubert narrates this condition, "*...his(Monsieur Rouault) wife had been dead for two years. There was only his daughter (Emma), who helped him to keep house, with him*" (Flaubert, 1994:11).

In spite of that, as bourgeois, Emma has an educational background who always read various books from her teacher. Emma is schooled in convent. As a young pretty lady and well educated, Emma is really smart. This thing causes Charles is love with Emma. Flaubert narrates, "*She (Emma) began talking of her convent (where Emma is educated). ,... She showed him (Charles) her old music books and the little prizes she has won ...*," (Flaubert, 1994: 18).

This condition determines her consciousness that loving each other is real. Flaubert Narrates as follow: "*before marriage she thought her self in love. ,... Emma tried to find out meant exactly in life by the words felicity, passion, rapture, that had seem to her beautiful in books*" (Flauber, 1994:27).

#### **Emma Bovary's consciousness**

On the previous point, the researcher has stated that Emma was born in a rich family circumstance that indicates her as bourgeois cluster. This data could be perceived when Emma receive a good education at her convent. Besides, her father also is a land lord who possesses *Les Bertraux*.

This above social circumstance triggers Emma's consciousness to be in love, someday, with affluent people. The researcher perceives that the chance of meeting an affluent person is when Charles takes care of Emma's father. They both (Emma and Charles) glance each other while looking after the patient (Emma's father). This situation is narrated through Flaubert's narration, particularly

when Charles need a hand of Emma. Flaubert portrays as follow:

*“are you looking for something?” asked Emma.*

*‘My whip, if you please’ he answered.*

*He began rummaging on the bed, behind the doors, under the chair. It had fallen to the ground, between the sacks and the wall. Mademoiselle Emma saw it an bent over the flour sacks. Charles out of politeness made a dash also, and as he stretched out his arm, at the same moment felt his breast brush against the back of the youn gilr bending behind beneath him,. She drew herself up, scarlet, and look at him over her shoulder as she handed him his whip” (Flaubert, 1994:13).*

This condition makes them in love each other. Moreover, after that moment, Emma always looks for Charles. Emma thought that Charles could be her husband whom belongs to her. Therefore, when Charles has medicated Emma’s father, he furthermore back home. However, Emma’s father realizes that they both are in love each other. Subsequently, he plans to marry Charles and Emma. Flaubert continues his narration, as follow:

*“old Rouault would not have been sorry to rid of his daughter who was of no use to him in the house. In his heart, he excused her, thinking her too clever for farming .... He certainly thought him (Charles) as the son in law, ... ” (Flaubert, 1994:18).*

### **The personality of main character in the novel of Madam Bovary**

As has been mentioned in the previous point that in analyzing Emma’s personality, the researcher uses psycho-analysis theory in Abraham Maslow’s perspective. Maslow perceives that in analyzing people’s personality, there must be 5 points that should be discussed id east psychological needs, safety needs, the love

and belonging needs, estem needs, self actualization. Therefore, in this journal, the discourse of this research set out from the first point.

### **Psychological needs**

Psychological needs is a human needs such as clothing, shelter, sleep, rest, food, drink, sex, oxygen. This need is pass the human life. The main character here also a psychological need and draw in paragraph below :

*“After the fashion of country folks she asked him to gave something to drink. He said no; instead, and at last laughingly offered to have glass of liqueur with him. So she went to fetch a bottle of curaco from the cupboard, reached down two small glasses, filled one to brim, poured scarcely anything into the other, and, after having clinked glasses, carries her to her mouth. As it was almost empty she bent back to drink, her head thrown back, her lips pouting, her neck on the strain. She laughed at getting none of it, while with the tip of her tongue passing between her small teeth she licked drop by drop the bottom of her glass” (Flaubert,1994: 17-18).*

Based on the above quotation, there are so many things and hint that explain about Psychological needs, it start with,” so she went to fetch a bottle of coraco from the cupboard,”. And last with,” while with the tip of her tongue passing between her small teeth she licked drop by drop the bottom of her glass,” those are tell about they drink something, enjoy every single drop.

*“Emma’s dress, too long, trailed a little on the ground; from time to time she stopped to pull it up, and then delicately, with her gloved hands, she picked off the coarse grass and the thistledown, while Charles,*

*empty-handed, waited till she had finished” (Flaubert, 1994:22)*

In the above, when, ” Emma’s dress, too long, trailed on the ground,” that paragraph show that how Emma wear something that know as a dress. In psychological needs when the character wear something, like clothes, it can explain as a basic needs.

### **Safety Needs**

Safety needs include the need to be free from physical danger and to be secure in the feeling that physiological needs can be met. Need to be safe from physical and physiological harm in the present and future, and trust in a predictable future, like safety, protection, free from right and anxiety. Everyone wants to be free to pass their life without any annoyance. In this case, the main character ( Emma ) also wants and need the safety from her husband. The situation describe in the paragraph below :

*“She now let everything in her household take care of itself, and , Madame Bovary senior, when she came to spend part of Lent at Tostes, was much surprised at the change. She who was formerly so careful, so dainty, now passed whole days without dressing , wore grey cotton stockings, and burnt tallow candles. She kept saying they must be economical since they were not rich, adding that she was very contented, very happy ,that Tostes pleased her very much, with other speeches that closed the mouth of her mother in law” (Flaubert, 1994:50).*

Flaubert continues his narration as follow:

*“Besides, Emma no longer seemed inclined to follow her advice; once even, Madame Bovary having thought fit to maintain that mistresses ought to keep an eye on the religion of their servants, she*

*had answered with so angry a look and so cold a smile that the good woman did not try it again (Flaubert,1994: 50-51 ).*

In that above paragraph, Emma mentions about her economics need. Emma hope they still can maintain the economical ,because they are not rich anymore. It is really clear Emma worry about their economical. She is shock with that situation. *“It took them a good quarter of an hour to say goodbye. Then Emma cried. She would have wished never to leave Rodolphe” (Flaubert, 1994 :125).*

In the above paragraph it explain Emma cried because Rodolphe will leave him. In the safety needs, as a human beings, we need to feel safety from someone or something. And of course can free from anxiety or anything else. Emma feel sad and anxiety because someone she love will leave.

### **The love and Belonging needs**

Human being need to feel have a sense of belonging and acceptance, whether it comes from a large social group and include family members, intimate partners, and friends, need to love be loved by others. This situation describes in the paragraph below :

*“Why had she not seized this happiness when come to her? Why not have kept hold of it with both hands, with both knees, when it was about to flee from her? And she cursed herself for not having a Leon. She thirsted for his lips. The wish took possession of her to run after and rejoin him, throw herself into his arms and say to him, ‘ It is I; I am yours’, But Emma recoiled beforehand at the difficulties of the enterprise, and her desires, increased by regret, become only the more acute” (Flaubert, 1994: 94).*

It is really clear, at the paragraph, show that Emma Bovary, thirst to love by someone, even what he is not her husband. Emma needs love from someone, and that man is Leon. she is upset because she can have Leon in her life.

*''Do you know what your wife wants?'' replied Madame Bovary Senior. ''She wants to be forced to occupy herself with some manual work. If she were obliged, like so many others, to earn her living, she wouldn't have these vapours, that come to her from a lot of ideas she stuffs into her head, and from the idleness in which she lives''* ( Flaubert, 1994 : 96 )

In that paragraph, the other person it means in the text, Emma's Mother in law, ask his son, that his wife have a hard work to serve her husband. She think that his son can't understand what actually Emma's work.

### **Esteem Needs / Self Esteem**

Human beings in our society have a need or desire for a stable, firmly based on high evaluation of themselves, for self-respect, or self-esteem and for the esteem of others. Self-esteem needs leads to feelings of self-confidence, worth, strength, capability, and adequacy, of being useful and necessary in this world. In this discussion Emma have a self-esteem, self-respect and to respect others. She needs to engage themselves to gain recognition and have an activities that give the person a sense of contribution to feel accepted and self-valued. That statement could be found in the paragraph below :

*''Leon walked up and down the room; It seemed strange to him to see this beautiful woman in her nankeen dress in the midst of all this poverty. Madame Bovary reddened; he turned away, thinking perhaps there had been an impertinent look in his eyes. Then she put back the*

*little girl, who had just been sick over her collar. The nurse at once came to dry her, protesting that it wouldn't show''* (Flaubert, 1994: 71)

In the above paragraph, Leon really adore Emma's beautiful. With leon adore and confess her beautiful, it means someone can see self value from Emma. emma get the confidence from that.

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In that paragraph, Emma get the appreciation from her mother in law. Charles's mother ask his son to understand what Emma's wants. It is very clear Emma's get the respect from her mother in law. Unfortunately her husband can't understand him.

### **Self-actualization Needs**

Usually every human being has the instinctual need to make most the of their abilities and to strive to be the best in what they can, and human beings do what he is fitted for, self-actualization involved the need to achieve one's fullest potential. That statement could be found in the paragraph below:

*''She is a woman of great parts, who wouldn't be misplaced in a sub-prefecture.' The housewives admired her economy, the patients her politeness, the poor her charity''* (Flaubert, 1994: 82)

That paragraph explains that Emma is good woman. She is a housewife can organize her economy, she can be good in

politeness also about charity. That sentence show the sentence have the elements of self actualization.

*“For six months, then Emma, at fifteen years of made her hands dirty with books from old lending libraries. With Walter Scoot, later on, she fell in love with historical events, dreamed of old chests, guardrooms and minstrel...”* (Flaubert, 1994: 28).

That paragraph explains that Emma, love to lend many books from library. She really excited to lovebook about historical events, that show Emma is actually a smart girl. With this paragraph Emma know her potential. She can found it from books. Spend her time in the library.

*“In this music class, in the ballads she sang, there was nothing but little angels with golden wings, madonnas, lagoons, gondoliers, mild composition that allowed her to catch a glimpse athwart the obscurity of style and the weakness of the music of the attractive phantasmagoria of sentimental realities”* (Flaubert, 1994: 29)

## **CONCLUSION**

After analyzing the personality and psychological aspect based on humanistic study Abraham Maslow of Madam Bovary, the researcher found that Madam Bovary has many kind of personality include of all that theory.

The personality of the main character in the novel In Madam Bovary described human behavior that to achieve desired, the passion, ambition that hide in a dream of young woman. It become a problem, when she believe in and start her journey as a wife, she can understand her husband can make it come true.

Individuals might be able to held physiological needs, security, love and

self-esteem needs, but not easily and would not last long so individuals often act unnaturally such as showing ambition, unrealistic woman and make it happen.

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