

CHAPTER I

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1.1. Background of the Study

Literature is a form of human expression. Literature is a kind of art that offers pleasure and illumination. It is made for relaxation and it brings distraction from the monotonous of daily life. Literature seems to give something important and valuable about perception of the world and its situation with the intrigues of human beings (Kennedy, 1991:1).

A study of literature involves the readers' imagination and feeling so that they feel as though they become the part of literary texts they read. "Literature means imaginative writings, which can be stories, novels, plays, poems which reflect or deal with human existence". (Hollander and Bromwich, 1979:2).

Reading and studying literature can teach people about some values of daily life, although some people might say that it is just a waste of time. We can enjoy studying literature if we understand what literature is and why it is important. Literature might be difficult to define, but here I will follow what Little says:

"Literature is something worth saying and something well said. Good literature adds to our knowledge of life in the world around us. It is based on observation and thought on matters of human importance." (Little, 1963:2)

Literature is not an easy thing to learn. It needs a deep discussion to tell the message from the author or the narrator to the reader because all forms of

literature are something purely personal or subjective. For this reason, most learners or students are not interested in learning literary works. However, in certain condition, they have to learn them anyway.

Most of the students do not realize that by learning certain literary work, they not only learn about it, they can also learn and understand about other people's culture, way of life, life value, and many other things through poems, short stories, novels, and dramas. "Literature of people is the principal element of its culture. It contains the record of the peoples' values, thoughts, problems, and conflicts-in short, their whole way of life. Whether transmitted through the spoken or the written word, literature maybe regarded as the chief art of mankind." (Little, 1963:3)

According to Roberts and Jacobs (1989: 2) there are three types of literary forms, they are: prose fictions or narrative fictions (the novel, the short stories, myths, parables, romance), the drama, and narrative poetry. The aims of all these literary forms are telling story and they are something worth saying and also help people to grow, both personally and intellectually, and to appreciate and criticize about the value of other people's life and culture.

The writer here is interested in studying novel because of some reasons. Reading a novel could be a social event: people read to each other as a means of sharing experience. In the novel, there is also a significant message whether implicitly or explicitly stated that implies to the truth. The message usually deals with the problems of life. We may get the message through characters and the setting, the social and physical setting, conflicts and the resolutions from the

novel. Novel has its own specialty. According to the Foster (1955:84), the specialty of a novel is that the writer can talk about his characters or can arrange to listen when they talk to themselves.

A novel is part of a literary work, that teaches people about life facts. So, a novel is like a mirror that reflects human attitude and behavior towards society and way of life itself. According to Jacob and Robert (1989: 54-58), there are three main elements of the novel, they are: plot, character and setting. A plot is a story containing a strong sense and causality. And the elements of a plot are exposition, conflict, suspense, climax and resolution. The best plot arises out of character in action. A character is a reasonably feature of human being, with all the good and the bad behavior of human being. A story can be understood well by the reader if there is a good description about the setting. Setting is the physical and social background of a story. It holds an important role for success in the narrative forms.

In this study the writer would like to take David Herbert Lawrence as a novelist because she's interested in Lawrence's works which deal with the social condition of England at the time, the conditions after World War I, especially the situation of the working classes. Lawrence is a famous novelist in describing human relationship. As Kettle says,

“Lawrence sees human relationship essentially in terms of conflict out of which a synthesis is possible but no means inevitable. It is his ability to convey across this sense of conflict-which does indeed go deeper than a rational level-which gives his finest descriptions of personal relationships their unique force and insight” (1976:104).

The writer would like to analyze *Lady Chatterley's Lover* since in this novel Lawrence describes the social morality of the late 20th century in its frank engagement with explicit subject matter and vulgarity. "The greatness of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* lies in a contradiction: it is simultaneously and reactionary, modern and Victorian." (www.sparknotes.com/lit/ladychatterley/analysis.html). *Lady Chatterley's Lover* is one of the most controversial works of English fiction ever published. This novel was banned as pornography and was not allowed in Britain until 1960. As William says: " His outspoken on sexual relations went beyond anything so far known in English fiction, and he was interested in the perverse and neurotic." (1951:240).

David Herbert Lawrence was born in 1885 in Nottinghamshire, England where his father was an illiterate miner and his mother was a well-mannered schoolteacher in the mining village of Nottinghamshire. He registers at the University College, Nottingham to begin a teaching career. He began to write his first two novels and several short stories in the years of 1909-1911. The four novels that make Lawrence well known are *The White Peacock* (1911), *Sons and Lovers* (1913), *The Sisters*, which is later split into *The Rainbow* (1915) and *Women in Love* (1921). In these novels, Lawrence deals with the problems of human relations, applying his theories in particular to the relationship of man and woman. Besides that, Lawrence is a good novelist in describing human relationship.

Lady Chatterley's Lover was written in 1926. This work bravely portrays the distressed lives and loves of its three main characters, Constance Chatterley,

Clifford Chatterley, and Oliver Mellors. The book, originally entitled *Tenderness*, shocked the world with its intimate, frank portrayal of Connie's extra-marital affair and the couple's sexual exploration. The affair is caused by the unhappy marriage that Connie has due to her impotent husband. But the frankness of the novel's attitude towards sex and human intimacy held *Lady Chatterley's Lover* in the high position in the future English literature. This novel has had a deep impact on the way that 20th-century writers had written about sex, about the deeper relationships. Thanks to Lawrence, sex can no longer be ignored as a crucial element.

Lady Chatterley's Lover begins by introducing Connie Reid, the female protagonist of the novel. She had been raised as a civilized bohemian of the upper-middle class, and introduced to love affairs and sexual relationship- as a teenager. At 23, in 1917, she marries Clifford Chatterley, a noble English man. After a month's honeymoon, he is sent to war and returns paralyzed from the waist down, and impotent.

After the war, Clifford becomes a successful writer, and many intellectuals get together to the Chatterley's mansion, Wragby. Connie feels isolated: the famous intellectuals prove nothing about life, and she has a brief and dissatisfying affair with a visiting playwright, Michaelis. Connie searches for a real human contact, and falls into misery, all men seem scared of true feelings and true passion. There is a growing distance between Connie and Clifford, who have moved back into meaningless mission of success in his writing and his obsession with coal mining, and towards whom Connie feels a deep physical hatred. A

nurse, Mrs. Bolton, is hired to take care of the handicapped Clifford so that Connie can be more independent, and Clifford falls into a deep dependence on the nurse, his manhood fading into childish dependence.

Into the emptiness of Connie's life comes Oliver Mellors, the gamekeeper on Clifford's estate, newly returned from serving in the army. Mellors is cold and cynical, and yet Connie feels curiously drawn to him by his natural style, his purposeful isolation, and his natural sensuality. After several chance meetings, in which Mellors keeps her at arm's length, reminding her of the class distance between them, they meet by chance at a hut in the forest, where they have sex. This happens on several occasions, but still Connie feels a distance between them, as if she remains extremely separate from him despite their physical closeness.

One day, Connie and Mellors meet by coincidence in the woods, and they have sex on the forest floor. This time they both experience real-time orgasm. This is a great experience for Connie: she begins to adore Mellors, feeling that they have truly connected on some physical level. She is proud to believe that she is pregnant with Mellors' child: he is a real, "living" man, as different from the emotionally dead intellectuals and the dehumanized industrial workers. They grow progressively closer, connecting on a basic physical level, as woman and man rather than as two minds or intellects.

Connie goes away to Venice for a vacation. While she is gone, Mellors' old- wife returns, raising a scandal. Connie returns to find that Mellors has been fired as a result of the negative rumors spread about him by his distressed wife. Connie admits to Clifford that she is pregnant with Mellors' baby, but Clifford

refuses to give her a divorce. The novel ends with Mellors working on a farm, waiting for his divorce, and Connie living with her sister, also waiting: the hope exists that, in the end, they will be together ([www. sparknotes.com](http://www.sparknotes.com)).

1.2. Statement of the problem

Based on the background of the study, the writer intends to conduct a study in order to answer the following questions:

1. What are the causes of unfaithfulness of Connie Reid as the main character in *Lady Chatterley's Lover*?
2. What are the effects of the unfaithfulness done by Connie Reid?

1.3. Objective of the study

The objective the study is to find out the causes of unfaithfulness of Connie as the main character in the *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. This objective can be elaborated into the following objectives:

1. to find out the causes of unfaithfulness of Connie Reid as the main character in the novel.
2. to find out the consequences of Connie Reid's unfaithfulness, as the main character in the novel.

1.4. Significance of the study

The purpose of this study is to give some contribution to the teaching of literature at the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University.

The writer hopes that through her study, people may know more about D.H. Lawrence as one of the greatest psychological English novelists because almost of his works deal with psychology matters. The expectation is that literature will become more interesting to the students and the study on the causes and effects of the unfaithfulness of the main character is as well as expected to give insight for understanding the novel.

1.5. Scope and limitation

The writer limits her study only in one of the Lawrence's works of *Lady Chatterley's Lovers* particularly the relationship between Connie Reid and the other two main characters, Clifford Chatterley's and Oliver Mellors and especially the causes and the effects of the unfaithfulness done by Connie Reid.

1.6. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding, some key terms used in this study are defined:

1. A novel is "a fictional prose narrative of considerable length, typically having plot that is unfolded by the action, speech and thoughts of the characters". (Soukhanov, 1996:1239)
2. A character is a reasonable feature of human being, with all the good and the bad traits of human being. A story usually concerned with a major problem that a character must face. This may involve interaction with another character, with a difficult situation, or with an idea or general circumstances that force action (Robert, 1989:56)

3. Unfaithful is not faithful to marriage vows. (Merriam-Webster's Dictionary).
4. Cause is a reason, which produce an effect (Merriam-Webster's Dictionary).
5. Effect is something produced by some causes, the result upon the mind of what is apprehended by the faculties (Merriam-Webster's Dictionary).

1.7. Theoretical Frameworks

There is a fundamental theory, which deals with analyzing *Lady Chatterley's Lover* novel. In this study, the writer uses the following theories to support her analysis: the theory of literature particularly about novels and elements of novel. All those theories in studying this novel will be discussed in chapter II including the previous study done by Magdalena Sulastri, student of English Letters Study Program, Department of English Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta (*Lady Chatterley's Lover. A Picture of 20th Conditions In England*, 1999) studies about the effect and the situation after the World War I especially in England using socio historical approach to get the idea about the background of the novel.

1.8. Organization of the Thesis

This thesis is divided into five chapters. Chapter one presents the background of the study, the statement of the problems, the objective of the study, the significance of the study, the scope and limitation, the definition of key terms,

theoretical framework and organization of the study. Chapter two deals with review of the literature, which covers related theories and related study. Chapter three concerns about methodology. Chapter four discusses about the analysis of the causes and effect of the unfaithfulness done by the main character. Finally, chapter five is dealing with the conclusion and suggestion.