CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Theoretical Framework

In doing this study, the writer uses feminist literary criticism to help analyzing the object of the study. This theory is used to answer the statement of the problems in the previous chapter. The analysis focuses on the social issue about gender’s role and struggle of women in changing Jehanne’s life so that feminist literary criticism is chosen.

In order to make this chapter more organized, the researcher divides this chapter into three parts. The first part is about feminist literary criticism. The second part is about gender role.

2.1.1 Feminist Literary Criticism

Women studies emphases the study in many topics about women. It includes literary criticism. Feminist criticism also is a type of literary criticism, which may study and advocate the rights of women. The following feminism development, women started had consciousness to make their rights in every aspects of life equal as men. One of the efforts was to create a special study of women; it is called gender studies or women studies. (Djajanegara : 18)
Feminist literary criticism has likewise had a real-world effect. As Judith Fetterley puts it in her book *The Resisting Reader*, “Feminist criticism is a political act whose aim is not simply to interpret the world but to change it, by changing the consciousness of those who read and their relation to what they read” (viii). It means that feminism in general not only a theoretical pursuit but also a high profile public practice in our society. Feminist activists have worked tirelessly on behalf of women’s rights and interests---knocking down barriers, changing laws, entering halls of power and pointing out the ways women have been and continue to be oppressed, excluded, exploited, marginalized and silenced (Tim Gillespie).

Feminist literary criticism is the critical analysis of literary works based on feminist perspective. In particular, feminist literary critics tend to reject the patriarchal norms of literature, which are masculine ways of thinking or points of view and marginalizes women politically, economically and psychologically (Dalton 172). In addition, Bressler state that ‘As a social movement, feminist criticism highlights the various ways women in particular have been oppressed, suppressed and repressed…’ (185). Moreover, Feminist criticism is a type of literary theory that wishes to point out how different genders, races, classes, religions, etc are portrayed in a piece of literature. Feminist critics mainly care about how women are written about and how women write. Talk about women is not simple thing and become interesting object in literary work (feminist_critique.com).
One of the most aspects of feminist literary criticism is to uncover the latent dynamics in a novel relevant to women’s inferior role in society. There are two distinct modes of feminist criticism. The first mode is a concerned with the feminist as reader and it offers feminist readings of texts which consider the image and stereotypes of women in literature, the omissions and misconceptions about women in criticism (Showalter : 182). The second mode is the study of women as writers and it is subjects are the history, style, theme, genres and structure of writing by women (Showalter :184).

Generally, feminist literary criticism exist to counter, resist and eventually eliminate the traditions and conventions of patriarchy the ideology of belief system which see as natural the dominance and superiority of men over women in both private and public context as it exist in literary, historical and critical contexts. In practice, feminist literary criticism is not limited to text written and read by women, for its interest is not only how women have been treated in books, but how notions of gender and sexuality, generally, have determined or enforced an inferior place for many different voices of women, of racial, gay, and lesbian writer and reader of literature. (Zahroh :13)

2.1.2 Gender Role

Gender is a socio-cultural construct of female and male identity that shapes how individuals live and interpret the world around them. Gender is not natural, it is learned in society through direct and indirect means. Gender thus
refers equally to ideas about females and males, the social attributes, opportunities and relationships that are associated with being feminine and masculine (Knapp: 1).

According to Morris, gender categorizes the difference between masculinity and femininity and is “created through on-going social interactions”. Sigelman & Ryder add that society enlists particular expectations for each gender, rendering what is appropriate and inappropriate behavior for males and females. Research indicates that we are raised into our gender roles through a process called gender-typing (5).

A gender role, as defined by Susan Basow (12), refers to society’s evaluation of behavior as masculine or feminine, for example: cooking is feminine, while fishing is a masculine role in most society, just like the following example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feminine Role</th>
<th>Masculine Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooking</td>
<td>Fishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childcare</td>
<td>Hunting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housecare</td>
<td>repair work in the home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of issues in gender’s role is about cross-dressing. Put simply, cross-dressing is wearing the garments of another gender, for example: a man wearing what society deems is women’s clothing. According of definition, cross-dressing is dressing as someone from a different gender category, may be done by people from all genders and sexual orientation (gsanetwork.org).
Several people have many reasons to do the cross-dressing. Actress and actors cross-dress because of their role in their film or drama. The teenagers cross dress as a hobby because they love Japan anime or we call it Cosplay (Costume Play). In some place in the world, it is easy to find cross-dressing in Cosplay event. In daily activities cross-dressing (for women) is also can be found. Women wear jeans trousers to the College or Mall.

2.2 Review of Related Studies

This analysis is based on the previous analysis which has been done earlier. The first, researcher used Journal of Medical and Early Modern Studies 26:2, Spring 1996. Duke University Press. CCC0047-2573/96/ about Clothing and Gender Definition: Joan of Arc written by Susan Crane. That journal talks about Joan’s cross-dressing from the position that gender encompasses both the exterior, social interpretation of sexual practices and more diffused generation, expression and organization of desire that makes up sexuality its self.

As a matter of fact, Crane states that, ”Joan of Arc wore men’s clothes almost continuously from her first attempts to reach the Dauphin, later crowned Charles VII, until her execution twenty-eight months later. In court, on campaigns, in church and in the street she cross-dressed, and she refused to stop doing so during the long months of her trial for heresy. Joan’s contemporary supporters and adversaries comment extensively on her clothing, and the records of her trial
provide commentary of her own, making her by far the best-documented transvestite of the later middle Ages”. (297)

The difference between this research with the above journal article is the different data source; the article uses the biography of Joan of Arc but this research uses a novel about Joan of Arc written by Kimberly cutter. Moreover, this research analyzes the struggle of Joan from zero to be a hero and using feminist literary criticism theory to reveal the focus.

The second, the researcher reviews a thesis entitled “Before Joan of arc: Gender Identity and Heroism in Ancient Mesopotamian Birth Rituals” by Meredith Burke Hammons from Faculty of the Graduate School of Vanderbilt University (2008). This thesis talks about the relationship between gender identity and religious belief is a complex one. Within the ancient Mesopotamia, religious understanding included the presence of multiple deities characterized by the role they played, as well as understood as having a perceived gender. Because of the relationship, humans who showed these qualities also were not limited to either a feminine or a masculine gender performance. (194)

Based on explanation above, the difference between this research and the previous thesis is on the focus; The thesis focuses on religious beliefs which influence gender performance in Christianity but this research focuses on Joan’s struggle to prove her divine mission.

The third, researcher reviews “Nasionalist Symbols of a nation Divided: the Paradox of France’s Joan of Arc, 1940-1944” by Minerva Pinto from
Department of History Haverford College (2012). This thesis talks about comparing the ways in which Joan of Arc was portrayed by the France Resistance with the way she was depicted by the collaborationist Vichy government between 1940 and 1944. The fact that she could represent a Republican, anti-clerical, nationalist platform such as Charles de Gaulle’s while also representing a staunchly Catholic, authoritarian, collaborationist agenda such as Philippe Petain’s begs analysis of the ways in which her history was contorted and forced to fit into their respective ideologies. (2)

Based of explanation above, the differences between this research is its focus on gender role and struggle of women while the previous thesis focuses on Joan’s nationality.

Finally, the researcher can make a conclusion from three previous studies above. The research has similarity in subject, that is Joan of Arc but has different focus in analysis and theory.