

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A.1 Background of the Research

Literature has been a medium for mankind to deliver or to share their ideas, thoughts, experiences and wisdom from generations to generations. Literature had been existed along with the existence of mankind. It can be used as a source of entertainment, information, knowledge and wisdom in an aesthetic way.

The main purpose of literature is to tell a story or writings. The subject of the story is particularly human, describing and detailing a variety of human experiences. Thus, literature gathers human values, emotions, actions, and ideas in the form of a story. It allows us to experience the story throughout the characters. Through these characters we observe people in action, making decisions, struggling to maintain their humanity in often inhumane circumstances, and embodying for us a variety of values and human characteristics that we may embrace, discard, enjoy, or detest (Bressler, 1994: 10).

The previous research related to this topic that the researcher this research based on is *Public Knowledge about White-Collar Crime : An Exploratory Study* by C. Michel et al. (2015). This research reveals the white collar

crime and the financial cost and physical harm of white-collar crime which overshadow the impact of street crime on American society.

The reason the researcher chooses this topic is because of two reasons. The first reason is, the novel *Rogue Lawyer* is relatively new, for it was first published in the year of 2015. The second reason is, the researcher have not find the same or the similar research that discusses about the violation of law and the novel *Rogue Lawyer* in Indonesia, especially in Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto. In conclusion, the reasons why the researcher decides to use this topic is the novelty of both the object of the research and the issues that the researchers would like to analyse further.

Robert Edgar explained in his book (2003:89), that literature helps us grow, both personally and intellectually. It opens doors for us. It stretches our minds. It develops our imagination, increases our understanding, and sympathy. It helps us to see the beauty in the world around us. It links us with the cultural, philosophical, and religious world which we are apart of. It enables us to recognize human dreams and struggles in different places and times. It helps us to develop mature sensibility and compassion for all living beings.

Humans are complicated beings. They have will, ego and needs that must be fulfilled immediatelly. In order to achieve all of their will and needs they will do anything and everything, but sometimes what they do to achieve them causes disadvantage or loss to another beings, whether other people, animals, or the

environment around them. Law were invented by humankind since the beginning of time with the purpose to minimize the damage and disadvantage that might happen because of certain actions being committed. Law consists of rules that control people's live in order to create more harmonious, peaceful, and civilized society.

While all those reasons law was established to begin with seems resonable, a lot of violations towards the law that rotting it from the inside are often found for numerous reasons. The form of violations itself are various; false accusations, bribery, prejudice, play victim, corruption of the system by the elites (white collars), etc. The cases mentioned are very obvious in the novel *Rogue Lawyer* by John Grisham. As it is also commonly found in real life society, the writer found the topic is interesting to be discussed further.

Social issues, especially in the scope of violation towards the law never fails to triggers the writer's curiosity. It is interesting how relevant this novel is to reality. Not to mention that the violation issues brought up by John Grisham in the novel *Rogue Lawyer* picture what have been happening in the United States of America which is universally considered as one of the developed western countries. This case shows that not even a progressive and developed nation can protect their law for being brutally violated.

The topic that the researcher will discuss later is about violations of law in John Grisham's *Rogue Lawyer*. The reason the researcher finds the topic

interesting is simply because the novelty of the research, both the object of the research and the object of the research as well as the researcher's personal interest and fascination towards legal thriller as a genre of literature.

The author of the novel, John Grisham himself is known for his legal thriller novels. Having his own personal experiences in the legal system as a prosecutor, John Grisham is well known to bring justice and legal issues that are quite common within society into spotlight. His recent novel, *Rogue Lawyer*, is no exception.

A.2 Problem of the Research

Considering the topic that the writer is interested to discuss even further is how the novel *Rogue Lawyer* pictures real social phenomenon, mimetic will be used as the main approach. It is an approach that focuses on a literary work in terms of imitation. This is the earliest way of judging any work of art in relation to reality whether the representation is accurate or not. The approach hopefully can help the writer to emphasize that the novel reflects the corrupted laws in the society of the USA. The hypothesis of this research is violations of law in John Grisham's novel *Rogue Lawyer* as the "mirror" of the real phenomenon in the real world, especially in the place where the author, John Grisham, lives and the causes of those act of crimes are due to differential association factors.

That being said, the question that will be answered by this research is: How the violations of law is depicted in the novel *Rogue Lawyer* by John Grisham?

A.3 Objective of the Research

The objective of this research is based on the problem statement is to analyze and explain how violations of law happen. This research analyzes case by case of violations of law within the novel and how this novel represents the real violations of law in the USA.

A.4 Significance of the Research

This significances of the research are divided into two ; theoretical and practical significances. The theoretical advantage and the purpose of this paper is to enrich both the researcher's and readers' knowledge about violations of law and to contributes to analyze other literary works that involves a similar issue, similar approach and similar theory. While the practical advantage of this paper is to show the readers the image of several cases of violations of law presented in the novel which later the information can be used by applying the knowledge in real life. This research is expected to be a guidance for the readers, to understand that violation of law or crime can happen everywhere, everytime to everyone and it is very damaging to every society, for one act of crime can lead to another act of crime. This research were made to emphasize that being a law

abiding individual is very important, for there will be less damage, less harm, or fewer rights being violated in our society. Thus, together we can create a harmonious, respectful and peaceful environment to live in.

A.5 Limitations of the Research

This research is limited to the novel *Rogue Lawyer* as the object of the research and will focus on the violations of law as a topic, the mimetic in literature as an approach and differential association theory as the theory used to analyze the topic within the object.

A.6 Definition of Key Terms

- 1. Society** : The aggregate of people living together in a more or less ordered community.
- 2. Law** : The system of rules which a particular country or community recognizes as regulating the actions of its members and which it may enforce by the imposition of penalties.
- 3. Legal** :
 - a. Deriving authority from or found on law (de jure).
 - b. Having a formal status derived from law often without a basis in actual fact.

c. Permitted by law.

4. Violation :

a. An infringement of the rules.

b. An act of irreverence or desecration.

5. Lawyer : A profession that conducts lawsuits for clients or to advise as to legal rights and obligations in other matters.

6. Prejudice : Preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience.

A.7 Research Report Organization

This thesis is organized into five chapters. The initial chapter consists of background of the research, problem of the research, object of the research, significance of the research, limitations of the research and research report organization. The second chapter explains more about literary view regarded to mimetic approach in literature, violations of law, differential association theory, etc.

The third chapter contains research methodology such as type of research, data source, data collecting method, data collecting technique, and data analyzing method. The fourth chapter data analysis will be discussed

further. As for the last chapter, conclusion and suggestion related to to the research will be added.

