

## **THE EFFECTS OF PATRIARCHY SYSTEM ON WOMEN CONDITION IN THE NOVEL OF THE TENANT OF WILDFELL HALL**

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### **Abstract:**

*Patriarchy system occurs in the era of Victoria and many women experience the effects of this system. The aims of the study is to describe the patriarchy system presented in the novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* by Anne Bronte. This research was conducted with descriptive qualitative method. The data were taken from Anne Bronte's novel, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* published by Anne Bronte in 1848. Data were collected from intensive reading of the novel and library research for resources related to patriarchy system. The result of study indicated that the patriarchy system which found in the novel 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall' (1848) touch some basic institution namely economic institution, education, religion, family, state institution and cultural values. This novel told us about the condition of society in the Victorian era especially related to the patriarchy system occurred in that era.*

**Keywords:** *Patriarchy System, The Tenant of Wildfell Hall, Anne Bronte.*

Patriarchy as a concept has a history of usage among social scientists, who used it to refer to a system of government in which men directed societies since they have a role as the heads of households (Walby, 1991). In this usage, man has authority over women, children and property in the household. Moreover, Sulthana (2010) states that "The word 'patriarchy'

literally means the rule of the father or the ‘patriarch’, and originally it was used to describe a specific type of ‘male-dominated family’ – the large household of the patriarch which included women, junior men, children, slaves and domestic servants all under the rule of this dominant male”.

Many debates about women’s position and their role in society since the gender issue became much discussed in the society. It was the era when women were regarded as the second gender. Women and men seemed to be accepting the fact that men had the right and women did not. Male attitude had been considered as the norm and that of women’s was restricted. Men ultimately determined women’s status in society. This condition was criticized by women who were called feminists. Women tried to fight for their right to have the same position in some aspects, namely in social culture, economic, education, marriage and etc.

The Tenant of Wildfell Hall was published in June in 1848 by Anne Bronte under the name of Acton Bell, she comes from the Bronte’s family. This novel is interesting to be analyzed because it tells about the social problems that happened in the Victorian era particularly, in the mid 19th century, due to the law.

The researcher found several studies which analyzed this novel. First is a research conducted by Vycpálková (2012), from Masaryk University, entitled "Mary Wollstonecraft's Concept of Marriage and its Reflection in the Tenant of Wildfell Hall". Mary Wollstonecraft is well known as a political writer . one of her famous work is A Vindication of the Rights of Woman. She provoked the equality of men and women . She divides A Vindication of the Rights of Woman into thirteen chapters in which she provides a detailed advocacy over the rights of women. She often repeats her arguments and puts them in new connections. She dedicates A Vindication to whole society as she pleads for her sex and strives for independence and freedom, as women are rather slaves than the equal part of social system. She proposes an idea of marriage as a partnership of two rational human beings as one of her concept in the book of “A Vindication of The Rights of Woman”.

This study reveals that Anne Brontë and Mary Wollstonecraft share many ideas on marriage and other topics. However Brontë often proves to be more radical in her ideas than Wollstonecraft. Anne Brontë reverses the traditional qualities of her characters in order to demonstrate that both sexes are equal. On the contrary, Helen, the main female character in the novel by Brontë (1848), plays a sensible member in their partnership. Helen is also the key character in terms of the relationship with Gilbert Markham, the protagonist character and one of the narrator in the novel when adopting an active role and proposing to him. Brontë's reversal of traditional roles stresses the importance of an active approach of women leading to the new and reformed ideal proposed by Mary Wollstonecraft. Anne Brontë's ideas in *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* are certainly comparable to the ideas of Mary Wollstonecraft as she proposes them in *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*.

Second, Lupold (2008), from University of Montana Missoula, USA analyzed the novel of *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* in his thesis entitled "Dwelling and The Woman Artist in Anne Brontë's *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*". In his thesis, Lupold used Heidegger's theory of Dwelling concept to analyze how the environment and home become comfortable for Helen to develop a career as a painter in Wildfell Hall and Grassdale, and able to support her life and her son from her career. Furthermore, Lupold analyzed Helen's relationship with Gilbert Markham, the protagonist character in the novel who is able to provide the desired dwelling, unlike her husband "Arthur Huntingdon".

Before marrying Arthur Huntingdon, Helen was a talented painter, but after the marriage she did not make it as a top priority, but the main priority was her family. After she left her husband's house because of mistreatment from Arthur so then she used her paint ability to fulfill her needs and her son. From this, it can be said that Helen tried to survive by relying on her ability and talent in painting and it was able to meet their needs at that time and the researcher could be interpreted that Helen was a strong female figure in living her life.

Third is the research by Maarif (2010), from The State Islamic University of Maliki Malang with the title of his thesis “Woman's struggle against gender inequality in *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* by Anne Bronte”. In his thesis, Maarif used feminist literary criticism to analyze the main characters, especially female characters in the novel of Anne Bronte. The analysis took point of view about feminism that presents problems women’s struggle against inequality and domination of men over women. The main focus is on the position and the role of female characters who placed inferior or marginalized by men.

The next study was conducted by Diederich (2013), from the University of Findlay with the title “The Art of Comparison: Remarriage in Anne Brontë's *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*”. Diederich stated that this novel is a novel that brings ideas about feminism and a critique toward the relationship which harm women in the Victorian era. In Law marriage in the 19th century, the British limiting opportunities for women to divorce, to keep custody of the child, and to keep all of their property after marriage. Thus was the case in the main female character in the novel by Anne Bronte.

Furthermore, research conducted by Zedníková (2013), from Masaryk University, entitled “*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* as a Critique of *Jane Eyre*.” In this study, the researcher stated that both Charlotte and Anne are unsatisfied with the state of the contemporary society but they choose two different strategies of dealing with such a situation: Charlotte’s conclusion is to be lenient to those who are superior and provided the situation becomes unbearable, shun the society altogether; Anne’s solution is to address the pressing issues and attempt to better it. Anne Brontë and her work represent the courage and strength women of the past, present and future could see as an inspiration.

From the above-mentioned five studies that discussed novel of Anne Bronte, for the present research, the researcher tries to take different things from previous studies above namely about the effect of patriarchy system on women condition as revealed in the novel of *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* by

Anne Bronte which happened in the Victorian Era . Hence, this current study aims to find out the effect of patriarchy system endured by many woman characters in the novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### ***Type of Research***

This research is conducted by using descriptive qualitative method. Descriptive qualitative is a kind of research that gives better understanding into describing the entire phenomenon related to patriarchy system in the novel of *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*. The aim of such an analysis is to summarize a set of data related to the phenomenon of patriarchy system that come from the novel that may in the form of utterances and action. In this research, the research applies the descriptive qualitative method to describe the phenomenon of patriarchy system presented in the novel and the effects of patriarchy system on the main female character of the Novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*, Helen.

### ***Method of Collecting Data***

The procedures of collecting data are presented in chronological order as follows. First, the researcher reads intensively the novel of Anne Bronte entitled *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* the work of Anne Bronte, tries to catch the ideas related to the topic investigated. In this case, the researcher investigates the occurrence of patriarchy system in the novel through the action or statements of characters and the effect of this system to the main character in this novel. The second, the researcher takes some sentences in the novel that probably becomes the clues to get better understanding about the topic investigated. The third, the researcher conducts library research to find some useful resources which relate to analyzed topic namely relate to the patriarchy system and the effect of patriarchy system to the main character in the novel.

### ***Method of Analyzing Data***

In analyzing the data, the researcher conducts descriptive qualitative method. He conducts a literature review techniques to obtain data that will support the researcher in assessing the topic to be studied. Sources of data are obtained from books, journal, articles, and website on internet and other scientific reports that have relevance to this research. Then the researcher makes the selection of samples or data to be examined with a paper record along with pages of data, namely texts containing elements identified to be assessed. In the next step, the researcher conducted an analysis of the data done through reading strategies using the sociology of the literary work approach which related to its social content of the literary works by Wellek & Warren (1956), in analyzing the phenomenon of patriarchy system in the Novel 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall' (1848). In addition, it is supported by the books of *Theorizing Patriarchy* by Walby that support the researcher to analyze the topic investigated in the novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*. Moreover, the researcher also used the theory of voicing and ventriloquation by Bakhtin (1981), in analyzing the utterances and description in the novel.

## **DISCUSSION**

### ***Patriarchy System in the Novel "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" (1848)***

This research focuses in how the patriarchy system presented in the novel 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall'. To analyze the patriarchy system in the novel, the researcher uses the sociology of the literary work approach by Wellek & Warren (1956), and the theory of patriarchy by Walby (1991), and also the theory of Neubeck & Glasberg (2005). Moreover, the researcher classifies the finding of this study based on the legal institution namely economic, education, religion, family life, state institution and cultural values and structures or types of patriarchy as quoted by Masniati (2014).

The novel consists of two different points of views as we deal with a story presented through the form of diaries, so we have two level of narrators.

The first is the writer of the letter which is Gilbert Markham, a farmer and the other protagonist in the novel. The second person point of view is Helen Graham, the main female character in the novel who narrated what she endured and what she said through diary. Consequently, there are two important point of views. In the present study, the analysis of this research determines which point of view in every single data presented to make it clear since there are two points of view in this novel as explained before.

### ***The Economic Institution and The Patriarchy Values***

In this novel, the researcher found that Helen as the second narrator explains about the bad treatment that she get from her husband through her diary. When the infidelity between Annabella Wilmot, the female antagonist in the novel and Arthur Huntingdon disclosed, Helen ask permission to leave the house with her son, but Arthur disagres and seems not to care about the condition of his wife is hurt when cheated with another woman. She wants Helen to stay at home and be a dutiful and obedient wife after the incident occurred. Seeing this condition, Helen just keeps silent and she does not complain to her husband's conduct. Moreover he monopolized the family's economy by giving a small monthly allowance to his wife and he requested that his business should not be managed again by his wife. It can be seen from the utterances below;

“I shall put you upon a small monthly allowance,” in future, for your own private expenses; and you needn't trouble yourself any more about my concerns; I shall look out for a steward, my dear – I won't expose you to the temptation. And as for the household matters, Mrs. Greaves must be very particular in keeping her accounts; we must go upon an entirely new plan - ' (Page : 286)

From the data above that is taken from Helen's point of view, we can see that Arthur has not give confidence to his wife to take care of household needs. We can see how Helen's tell the reader that Arthur, a male antagonist in the novel explicitly state that Helen is no longer involved in the care of the household even Arthur entrust the management of household matters to

Mrs. Graves which she is an outsider and not part of their little family. He planned a novelty in the financial affairs of the family that of course this makes the heart of Helen increasingly tormented and suffering.

“I can ill afford to leave anything behind, since I have no money, except a few guineas in my purse; and besides, as Rachel observed, whatever I left would most likely become the property of Miss Myers, and I should not relish that”. (Page : 302)

From the utterances stated above, we can see that Helen cannot keep money before leaving the house because her husband only gives a small allowance in a month for her needs. She feels sad since there is no property that she can bring along from this house, no money except a few guineas.

### ***Education and Patriarchy Values***

Education, is one of basic institutions that is also touched by the patriarchy system in the novel and it may be as the reflection of social condition in the 19th century. Education is directly related with knowledge and capabilities, it plays a big role in determining the social status of men and women. All through the novel, women are considered subordinate to men and it is understood that men have a higher level of education because their jobs which are mostly about their landed properties require mathematical calculations and marketing information. Hence, Anne Bronte inevitably touches upon the issue of education as well. The author is revealing how much education has a role on sexual discrimination and criticism of the issue is creating a dialog between Helen Graham and Mrs. Markham, Gilbert's mother.

In the conversation that takes place when Mrs. Markham makes a small party on Monday, the fifth of November and she invites Helen Graham to join to the party. In that small party, there is a small discussion between Helen and Mrs. Markham about the necessities of raising a child especially in education sector. Mrs. Markham, Gilberts' mother, explains about the distinction in teaching the boy and the girl in the family. However Helen and Mr. Markham can not agree on a point because Helen's understanding of



how to bring up a girl and a boy is much more equalitarian than the general acceptance of the society. The conversation can be seen below;

'Well, Mrs. Graham,' said my mother, wiping the tears of merriment from her bright blue eyes - 'well, you surprise me! I really gave you credit for having more sense. - The poor child will be the veriest milksop that ever was sopped! Only think what a man you will make of him, if you persist in -

'I think it a very excellent plan,' interrupted Mrs. Graham, with imperturbable gravity. 'By that means I hope to save him from one degrading vice at least. I wish I could render the incentives to every other equally innoxious in his case.'

'But by such means,' said I, 'you will never render him virtuous. - What is it that constitutes virtue, Mrs. Graham? Is it the circumstance of being able and willing to resist temptation; or that of having no temptations to resist? - Is he a strong man that overcomes great obstacles and performs surprising achievements, though by dint of great muscular exertion, and at the risk of some subsequent fatigue, or he that sits in his chair all day, with nothing to do more laborious than stirring the fire, and carrying his food to his mouth? If you would have your son to walk honourably through the world, you must not attempt to clear the stones from his path, but teach him to walk firmly over them - not insist upon leading him by the hand, but let him learn to go alone.'

'I will lead him by the hand, Mr. Markham, till he has strength to go alone; and I will clear as many stones from his path as I can, and teach him to avoid the rest - or walk firmly over them, as you say; - for when I have done my utmost, in the way of clearance, there will still be plenty left to exercise all the agility, steadiness, and circumspection he will ever have. (Page : 25)

Helen's suprisingly strict opposition, although it is the first time she meets Markham family, to the idea that girls should be raised more delicately and the conversation can be seen below;

'Granted; - but would you use the same argument with regard to a girl?'

'Certainly not.'

'No; you would have her to be tenderly and delicately nurtured, like

a hot-house plant - taught to cling to others for direction and support, and guarded, as much as possible, from the very knowledge of evil.

But will you be so good as to inform me why you make this distinction? Is it that you think she has no virtue?'

'Assuredly not.'

'Well, but you affirm that virtue is only elicited by temptation; - and you think that a woman cannot be too little exposed to temptation, or too little acquainted with vice, or anything connected therewith. It must be either that you think she is essentially so vicious, or so feeble-minded, that she cannot withstand temptation, - and though she may be pure and innocent as long as she is kept in ignorance and restraint, yet, being destitute of real virtue, to teach her how to sin is at once to make her a sinner, and the greater her knowledge, the wider her liberty, the deeper will be her depravity, - whereas, in the nobler sex, there is a natural tendency to goodness, guarded by a superior fortitude, which, the more it is exercised by trials and dangers, is only the further developed. (Page : 26-27)

The data above is taken from Gilbert's point of view which explicitly tells us how Helen disagrees with the opinion of Mrs. Markham about the difference in treatment in teaching a boy and a girl in the family since they are young.

From this point of view, it can be seen it is a result of Anne Brontë's effort of commenting her contradistinction to education is onset of sexual discrimination. The following lines of Helen towards Mr. Markham as a result of her misunderstanding of his intention proves that education is included in Anne Brontë's targets to criticize the patriarchy system in education which happen in the Victorian era.

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Moreover, from Helen's point of view, we can see also how husband became the most powerful person in determining the children's education.

In some conversation in the novel, we can see how Arthur tries to dominate his child in education sector. Not only control the property owned by Helen, he also wants to control his children born by Helen. Arthur tries to keep his wife from their only child. It can be seen from his action that finds a governess for his son Arthur. He does not want Helen teach their child again. From the description below we can see about his insults to Helen on how to teach the child where it is the way that he traveled to dominate her;

He said I was not fit to teach children, or to be with them: I had already reduced the boy to little better than an automaton; I had broken his fine spirit with my rigid severity; and I should freeze all the sunshine out of his heart, and make him as gloomy an ascetic as myself, if I had the handling of him much longer. And poor Rachel, too, came in for her share of abuse, as usual; he cannot endure Rachel, because he knows she has a proper appreciation of him. (page :298).

The descriptions above are taken from Helen diaries and it means that it is the form of Helen's point of view which describes the difference notion of education between husband and wife. We can see the concept of voicing and ventriloquation through this description. The concept of voicing can be seen when novelist in this case Anne Bronte portray characters as —speaking with different voices,|| by describing and putting certain words into the other character's mouth in this case the words of Arthur Huntingdon, Helen's antagonist husband who tries to interfere about the matter of the child. Not only taking over property owned by Helen, but also he tried to take the child born by Helen. When Helen asked about the qualifications of governess, Arthur firmly interrupted his wife that she did not have to deal with it. From this point of view, it can be seen that Arthur was trying to eliminate the role of Helen, his wife in managing the household and taking care of their child.

I calmly defended our several qualifications as nurse and governess, and still resisted the proposed addition to our family; but he cut me short by saying it was no use bothering about the matter, for he had engaged a governess already, and she was coming next week; so that

all I had to do was to get things ready for her reception. This was a rather startling piece of intelligence. I ventured to inquire her name and address, by whom she had been recommended, or how he had been led to make choice of her. (page :298).

The concept of ventriloquation can be seen in the above description when —authorial voice enters and takes a position with respect to a character. The author, Anne Bronte through Helen, Arthur's wife defends in the second paragraph about her concept of education and several qualifications as nurse and governess for the children but then the author explains how Arthur, Helen's husband ignores and does not consider his wife opinion and it is one of form of patriarchy values that can be seen in education institution and it may be the reflection of condition of education in the era of Victoria

### ***Religion and Patriarchy Values***

In the novel, Arthur Huntingdon, as Helen's husband feels and thinks that his wife does not love him as much as she loves God. If a woman, in this case Helen, as his wife should also worship him as she does toward God. However, Helen disagrees with Arthur demand to worship him by saying that she would give all her love and soul to her God. She is questioning Arthur demand to be worshipped. Helen argues that her hearth is for God and no one can spare it even Arthur. From this point of view, we can see Helen's faithful to God. Her faithful gives her a strength to be brave to challenge Arthur's disagreement to her worship to God. Helen shows us her rebellion to get her freedom to worship her god. The situation above can be seen in the conversation between Arthur and Helen below.

'Helen,' said he, with unusual gravity, 'I am not quite satisfied with you.' I desired to know what was wrong.

'But will you promise to reform if I tell you?'

'Yes, if I can, and without offending a higher authority.'

'Ah! there it is, you see: you don't love me with all your heart.'

'I don't understand you, Arthur (at least I hope I don't): pray tell me what I have done or said amiss.' 'It is nothing you have done or said; it

is something that you are - you are too religious. Now I like a woman to be religious, and I think your piety one of your greatest charms; but then, like all other good things, it may be carried too far. To my thinking, a woman's religion ought not to lessen her devotion to her earthly lord. She should have enough to purify and etherealise her soul, but not enough to refine away her heart, and raise her above all human sympathies".

'I will give my whole heart and soul to my Maker if I can,' I answered, 'and not one atom more of it to you than He allows. What are you, sir, that you should set yourself up as a god, and presume to dispute possession of my heart with Him to whom I owe all I have and all I am, every blessing I ever did or ever can enjoy - and yourself among the rest - if you are a blessing, which I am half inclined to doubt. (page: 159-160)

Helen believes that Arthur does not love her as much as she thinks. She advises Arthur to love his God deeper. Helen thinks that if Arthur does not love his God meaning that how Arthur can love her. From the description above, we can see that Helen shows us her effort to change Arthur faith and belief. She tries to change Arthur view about her faithful to her God so he can allow Helen to worship his god.

### ***Family life***

The researcher tries to elaborate about the patriarchy system which touch in the family life institution in the novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* (1848) into two classification namely marriage life and male violence in the family.

### ***Marriage***

*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* presents three couples who undergo the hardship in an unhappy marriage: First, Helen and Huntington, Second, Milicent and Hattersley and the third, is Lord Lowborough and Anabella. All three couples are distressed and deal with their situation differently accordingly to their position in the society and also gender/ roles.

The first couple who has a marriage problem in the novel is Helen, the main female character and her husband, Arthur Huntingdon. In analysing the marriage of Helen Graham, the female protagonist in the novel and Arthur Huntingdon, the antagonist in the novel where we find the kind of marriage most deliberately is presented for the reader's information, it is possible to see that marriage is an institution formed in favor of man. The lives of both sides, Helen and Arthur, give very important ideas about the duties of man and woman in a marriage. The most explicit proof of the man's domination in marriage is the continuous repetition of wife tasks as 'duty for the husband' throughout the novel. A husband is responsible for bringing home the food. His only responsibility is to provide for his family. Besides being the financier, he is also the only one responsible for 'how to spend the income'. A woman's duty, on the other hand, is to raise her children, maintain the order and peace in the house, amuse her husband and supply all his needs and to be a proper hostess for her guests. Briefly, marriage is an assemblance between the woman, to labour and serve and the man, to provide the nobility of the breed.

The marriage of Helen Graham and Arthur Huntingdon initially is fine but it gradually becomes more and more unstable until the end. At first, their marriage problem is the difference in views between Helen and Arthur about the concept of marriage. Arthur is a husband who likes to do what he wants and he does not like to hear and listen complaints from his wife, Helen. On the contrary, Helen always advised her husband if she felt that Arthur was doing the wrong thing. As the novel continues, Arthur's bad behavior became more tangible.

The second couple that explained by the researcher is Lord Lowborough and Anabella. Lord Lowborough has been striving for a wife for a long time. As he states, he needs her to stay reformed and also for money. He succumbs to the charms of Annabella Wilmont who plays an active role during their courting. In a sense, Annabella might serve as a male character for she is strong in terms of her will. While courting, she actually deceives Lord Lowborough when telling him that she has no interest in his title and

assures him of her love. In their marriage she does not fulfil traditional duties of a wife. It can be seen in the description about Anabella below;

There are two children, both of whom he keeps under his own protection. The son and heir is a promising child nearly the age of my Arthur, and no doubt a source of some hope and comfort to his father; but the other, little girl between one and two, with blue eyes and light auburn hair, he probably keeps from conscientious motives alone, thinking it wrong to abandon her to the teaching and example of such a woman as her mother. That mother never loved children, and has so little natural affection for her own that I question whether she will not regard it as a relief to be thus entirely separated from them, and delivered from the trouble and responsibility of their charge. (Page: 272)

It can be seen from the description above that Lord lowborough did not believe to Annabelle to teach his children because she never loved children and did not has responsibility to their charge.

Lord Lowborough lapses into depressions and when discovering Annabella's affair with Arthur he is broken and does not know what to do. It can be seen from the description below when Lord Lowborough find the dishonesty between Annabelle Wilmot and Arthur Huntingdon which described by Helen, the second narrator through her diary;

He flung the door to with unusual violence, and cast his hat aside regardless where it fell. What could be the matter with him? His face was ghastly pale; his eyes were fixed upon the ground; his teeth clenched: his forehead glistened with the dews of agony. It was plain he knew his wrongs at last! (Page: 266).

Helen plays the active role here when reminding Lord Lowborough on his possibilities and powers within society. In the end, Lord Lowborough divorces Annabella and later he marries again. Certainly Lord Lowborough has the most possibilities how to solve his unhappy marriage as opposed to Helen and Milicent whose marriage life will be presented below.

The third couple who has a marriage problem that elaborated by the researcher is the marriage of Milicent and Ralph Hattersley. Milicent marries

Ralph Hattersley due to her mother's wish and even though she is not fond of him, she attempts to be a good wife to him. Her obedience results from her naturally weak character and strict upbringing. The researcher states that she is a weak character since she does not complain about anything even when her husband abuses her. One fragment in the novel which tells that Milicent never complains his husband can be seen in the conversation between Helen and Ralph, Milicent's husband below;

'I can enlighten you on that subject, Mr. Hattersley,' said I: 'she does mind it; and some other things she minds still more, which yet you may never hear her complain of.'

'How do you know? - does she complain to you?' demanded he, with a sudden spark of fury ready to burst into a flame if I should answer "yes."

'No,' I replied; 'but I have known her longer and studied her more closely than you have done. (Page: 227)

The problem also is that Ralph does not know his wife properly because their marriage is arranged. Both of them are not able to recognize their true feelings before they married. Similarly to Lord Lowborough's case, Helen plays an active role also in the story of the Milicent-Hattersleys. She attempts to enlighten Ralph and thus to help Milicent. She helps him understand his wife's true feelings when disclosing Milicent's letters to him and thus proving her emotive nature and romantic feelings for Ralph. Consequently Helen makes the second attempt which finally reforms Ralph and since then their marriage becomes a happy one. Even though Helen actively helped the both characters, Lord Lowborough and Milicent, it seems that in terms of her own marriage she stays passive and willing to endure Arthur's abusive behaviour for years. However apart from Milicent, Helen becomes active and decides to leave Arthur but not for the sake of herself but because of her son. Lord Lowborough who is married to Lady Anabella Lowboroug has the most possibilities on how to solve his situation as for him, as a man, obtaining a divorce is not difficult. On the other hand, both female characters Helen and Milicent have less possibilities because, according to the law, they are not



permitted to get divorced so easily. Even though their situation is the same, they decide on different solutions and also their marriages end up differently. Helen decides to escape from her husband and hide at a distant and secret place as a refugee. On the contrary, Milicent decides to be the obedient wife and endure all the suffering. Luckily her husband reforms towards the end of the novel and consequently their marriage becomes a happy one. Certainly, fact that Helen influences both other relationships, of Lord Lowborough and Annabella and of Milicent and Ralph Hattersley is the most striking.

From the data above, we can see some unhappy marriages presented in the novel "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" (1848) eventhough there are also some idealized marriages. It can be seen in the marriages of Helen Graham and Gilbert Markham, Milicent Hargrave and Ralph Hattersly, later on Frederick Lawrence and Esther Hargrave. Helen's second marriage which is to Mr. Gilbert Markham, is the one that is most clearly presented to support a criticism not only because the relationship is really based on love and respect but also because both Helen and Mr. Markham against the corrupted society values and they are the most ethical characters in the novel. Both Helen and Mr. Markham are different from the society with their perspectives and priorities however even they can not escape from the lectures of the society and once this brings their relationship to a breakpoint.

### ***Male Violence***

Dealing the problem of this study, the researcher presents the data and analysis of violence reflected in the novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* (1848). Based on the whole contents of the novel, the researcher finds some utterances and descriptions in which consist of violence action.

### ***Psychological Harassment.***

Many women experienced violence from their husband because various reasons such as dissatisfaction of the husband with his wife. The researcher found some violence which are committed by male character, Arthur toward female character, Helen.

There are some forms of violence toward women with different effect. This section explains about psychological harassment which can be found in the novel. Based on the analysis of the researcher, there is no other kind of harassment except psychological harassment which is reflected in the novel.

There are some couples in the novel but here the researcher limits to the three of them already mentioned in previous sub chapters to be analyzed related to the psychological harassment. They are Helen Graham – Arthur Huntingdon, Lord Lowborough- Annabelle Wilmot, and Milicent- Ralp Hattersley.

Some of husband's obligation is to provide a sense of security, give affection and joy to his wife. But in this novel, Arthur as a husband does not do it, on the contrary, he makes his wife's life sorrowful. He thinks that a wife should obey her husband, serve him, respect and honor her husband. In addition, he believes that good wife should stay at home, do domestic duties and she has to be calm and no complain anymore to his husband. In this case, it can be not talkative that Arthur wants to be superior in his family. He is the head of the family and he wants to be honored and obeyed by her wife, but he does not respect his wife. In the novel, many utterances and description which tell us how sorrowful Helen's life as can be seen in the datum below;

'You promised to honour and obey me, and now you attempt to hector over me, and threaten and accuse me, and call me worse than a highwayman. If it were not for your situation, Helen, I would not submit to it so tamely. I won't be dictated to by a woman, though she be my wife.' ( Page 185)

From data above, it can be seen that Arthur bluntly speaking about his wants to be honored by his wife but he does not want to be dictated. He feels that he has a privilege as a husband so he can do anything he wants.

Moreover, in the novel, Arthur compares Helen to his friend's wife who never complains and always obeys her husband.

„If you don't mind, my pretty tyrant, you'll make me regret my choice in good earnest, and envy my friend Hattersley his meek little wife: she's quite a pattern to her sex, Helen. He had her with him in London all the season, and she was no trouble at all. He might amuse himself

just as he pleased, in regular bachelor style, and she never complained of neglect; he might come home at any hour of the night or morning, or not come home at all; be sullen, sober, or glorious drunk; and play the fool or the madman to his own heart's desire, without any fear or botheration. She never gives him a word of reproach or complaint, do what he will. He says there's not such a jewel in all England, and swears he wouldn't take a kingdom for her.'(page:202)

From the data above, it can be seen that Arthur wants to form his wife like his friend's wife. He wants his wife never complain or comment anything he does. The word "tyrant" that Arthur uses to annoy his wife's feelings as if she was a real one, and yet from other data we know that it is not true. He is also comparing his friend's wife with Helen by using the word "meek" which makes he thinks of lambs, which are obedient, do not make any action. He thinks that he will not regret if he has a good and dutiful wife as his friend's wife.

Helen should be very sad of this complain since no one who wants to be compared with others. But, she just follows and accepts her husband demand. She is just silent without complaining anything.

The second couple that is analyzed by the researcher is Annabella Wilmot and Lord Lowborough. In the novel, we can see that actually Annabelle is a wife who is not devoted to her husband, even though she is still afraid of her husband as the head of the family, and it may be caused by the patriarchy system in the family life where husband is considered as superior to wife, but behind her husband, her way of life does not reflect a good behavior as a wife, for example her infidelity with Arthur Huntingdon and irresponsibility towards her domestic house.

Helen as the second narrator tells the reader about how Lady Annabella Lowborough tries to convince Helen to not tell her husband, Lord Lowborough about her infidelity. It can be seen in the content of Helen's diary below;

On the day of Lady Lowborough's arrival, I followed her into her chamber, and plainly told her that, if I found reason to believe that she still continued her criminal connection with Mr. Huntingdon,

I should think it my absolute duty to inform her husband of the circumstance - or awaken his suspicions at least - however painful it might be, or however dreadful the consequences. She was startled at first by the declaration, so unexpected, and so determinately yet calmly delivered; but rallying in a moment, she coolly replied that, if I saw anything at all reprehensible or suspicious in her conduct, she would freely give me leave to tell his lordship all about it.

From the data above, we see that Lady Lowborough tries to convince Helen that if she still continues her wrong connection with Arthur Huntingdon, Helen can inform Lord Lowborough about her bad attitude, in this case, about her connection with Arthur Huntingdon.

The third couple that will be analyzed is Milicent and Ralph Hattersley. Milicent's marriage life was so dramatic. In this novel, Milicent never complains about her husband's bad attitude, Ralph Hattersley. Helen as the second narrator in the novel exposes in her diary about the attitude of Milicent who just keeps silent when there is something wrong with her husband without telling what was happened. Hence, Ralph cannot understand about what he has to do after all.

'What do you want, Ralph?' murmured she, reluctantly approaching him.

'I want to know what's the matter with you,' said he, pulling her on to his knee like a child. 'What are you crying for, Milicent? - Tell me!' 'I'm not crying.'

'You are,' persisted he, rudely pulling her hands from her face. 'How dare you tell such a lie!'

'I'm not crying now,' pleaded she.

'But you have been, and just this minute too; and I will know what for. Come, now, you shall tell me!'

'Do let me alone, Ralph! Remember, we are not at home.' (Page: 218)

Furthermore, Helen as the second narrator tells us through her diary that she talks to Ralph Hattersley about what happened with Milicent. Actually, Milicent was sad and cried because of Ralph's bad behavior. She cried because of the feeling of shame and humiliation for her husband, Ralph.

It can be seen from the statement as follows:

'I'll tell you, Mr. Hattersley,' said I. 'She was crying from pure shame and humiliation for you; because she could not bear to see you conduct yourself so disgracefully.' (Page: 219)

### ***State Institution and Patriarchy Values***

The position of women and men was treated differently in front of the law and government, this can be found in the novel "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" (1848), namely in judiciary life. In the Victorian Era, men only had to prove that their wife committed adultery in order to get divorced but women had to prove incest, bigamy, cruelty or desertion together with adultery in order to get divorced from their husbands. Two different situations can be compared between the marriage of Lord Lowborough, Arhurs's friend and Helen. Lord Lowborough lapses into depression and when discovering his wife, Annabella's affair with Arthur, he is broken hearted and does not know what to do. He talks to Helen on the subject. Their dialogue portrays a change of Helen's attitude due to her unhappy marriage and also sadness over the traditional role of wives in society and their subjection, for Lord Lowborough has more rights as man.

'Two years ago; and two years hence you will be as calm as I am now, - and far, far happier, I trust, for you are a man, and free to act as you please.'

Something like a smile, but a very bitter one, crossed his face for a moment.

'You have not been happy lately?' he said, with a kind of effort to regain

composure, and a determination to waive the further discussion of his own calamity.

'Happy!' I repeated, almost provoked at such a question - 'Could I be so, with such a husband?'

'I have noticed a change in your appearance since the first years of your marriage,' pursued he: 'I observed it to - to that infernal demon,' he muttered between his teeth - 'and he said it was your own sour temper that was eating away your bloom:

it was making you old and ugly before your time, and had already made his fireside as comfortless as a convent cell - You smile Mrs. Huntington – nothing moves you. I wish my nature were as calm as yours!"

'My nature was not originally calm,' said I: 'I have learned to appear so by dint of hard lessons, and many repeated efforts.' (Page : 268)

The data above are taken from Helen's point of view. Helen tries to convey that in the Victorian era men and women have a different position in front of law. Man has power to divorce his wife and women cannot do anything since the state gives the complicated requirement if they want to divorce his husband as stated before. Helen plays the active role here when reminding Lord Lowborough on his possibilities and powers as a man within society. In the end, Lord Lowborough divorces Annabella, and later, he marries again. Certainly Lord Lowborough has the most possibilities how to solve his unhappy marriage as opposed to Milicent and Helen. Helen does some struggles to overcome the problem of her marriage which is falling apart due to the infidelity of Artur by going out from the house, but eventually returned to the house to keep Arthur who was dying of the disease. On the contrary, the novel illustrates that Milicent still chooses to be the obedient wife to her husband even though he felt tortured but, then it is told that Milicent's husband eventually turned into a nice husband and a good father to his child.

### ***Cultural Institutions and Patriarchy Values***

In Victorian society, man has the first position in society. Father or husband needs to be in precedence in the family. This is supported by the local culture so that the role of the man is stronger in the community especially in the family.

"Make that pie a large one, Rose; I daresay the boys'll be hungry; and don't put so much pepper in, they'll not like it, I'm sure" - or, "Rose, don't put so many spices in the pudding, Gilbert likes it plain," - or, "Mind you put plenty of currants in the cake, Fergus liked plenty." If I say, "Well, mamma, I don't," I'm told I ought not to think of

myself. "You know, Rose, in all household matters, we have only two things to consider, first, what's proper to be done; and, secondly, what's most agreeable to the gentlemen of the house - anything will do for the ladies." (Page:45)

The data above is a point of view of Gilbert Markam, A male protagonist in the novel. It was stated by Gilbert's mother by explaining to her daughter about how women should act in the Victorian Era.

Based on the data from Gilbert's point of view, we can see how Gilbert Markham, the protagonist in the novel explains about what Rose has to do act in the family. Rose was taught by her mother to serve the man in the family accustomed to patriarchy system of culture and adopts it. Most of the women do not think about themselves but they need to think about the needs of the father or older brother in the family. As it is said above that there are two things to be done related to all household matters, first, what's proper to be done; and secondly,

## **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

Every novel is born into its time's social conditions and it is involuntarily evaluated due to the time's moral values. Therefore, it is not surprising that 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall', being published in the Victorian Era, drew a lot of reaction. In the novel we find that the patriarchy system which found in the novel 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall' (1848) touch some basic institution namely economic institution, education, religion, family, state institution and cultural values. This novel told us about the condition of society in the Victorian era especially related to the patriarchy system occurred in that era.

The limitation analysis that has been done by the researcher is because of the limitation of references about patriarchy system which happen in England . Therefore, the researcher hopes for the next researcher who use the same object to analyze this novel can compare it to the real system of

patriarchy in England in order to give the best understanding to the reader about the system of patriarchy which happen in England. The novel takes the setting in English on 19th century, so by the next research that compares it to real world, can enrich the knowledge about the English culture beside patriarchy system from the novel itself.



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