

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of The Study

Woman issue has become a very intriguing topic since it first emerges in the 19th century. The debate sparks angry audiences which struggle to fight for the equality between men and women. In the 1960, a feminist movement that approach new, wider range of issues broke out throughout the United States. This movement is known as second-wave feminism. While first-wave feminism focused on achieving legal equality, such as voting rights, addressing de facto inequalities, and eliminating official legal disparities, second-wave feminism pursued broader goals. This is the year that the society sees massive changes in women's right and paradigm as the conservative view of women started to fade away into background. Social life is arranged with the hierarchical binary categories of man/woman, masculine/feminine, male/female, and other gender-based categories where gender inequality might exist because women are constructed as inferior to men (Nash, 2020)

In literature, feminism has taken part as a them be in the form of various women's issues since the 15th century up until the 21st century. Some of the most notable titles are the Tale of Joan of Arc as one of the oldest works, and pride and Prejudice (1813), The Scarlett Letter (1850), Little Wonal (1868), The awakening (1899), The second Sex (1949), The Handmaid's Tale (1985) Saman (1998) and Kim Ji Young Born 1982 (2016) as the more recent ones. Starting from the 1960s,

feminism started to manifest across various forms of popular media, driven by ongoing social transformations. Since the emergence of second-wave feminism in the 1960s, feminist theory and ideals have increasingly influenced popular literature, continuing to expand as a significant literary and societal influence through the progression into the fourth and subsequent waves of feminism. The feminism and woman issue as a theme in the media and literature will continually grow alongside the progress of social changes regarding gender role in society.

The Enola Holmes novel is one of the literary works inspired by stories and conditions in society, and tries to criticize and provide views. Enola Holmes is a novel that tells A mystery adventure unfolds, setting up a fierce rivalry between the world's foremost detective (Sherlock Holmes) and his teenage brother (Enola Holmes). Enola Holmes is a sixteen-year-old girl who discovers that her mother has mysteriously disappeared. Her mother left her a series of peculiar gifts but provided no indication of her whereabouts or the reasons for her departure from Enola's life. Previously, Enola had a joyful upbringing with her mother. However, she now finds herself under the guardianship of her two older brothers, Sherlock and Mycroft, who disapprove of her unconventional attire, behavior, and lack of supervision, they are determined to send Enola to a place where she lives. which are all girls, a school that educates its students to act and behave like women at that time. Enola bravely refused to follow their wishes and chose to run away to find her mother in London. While attempting to escape, Enola unexpectedly becomes entangled in a mystery involving a young aristocrat named Louis Partridge, who is also on the run.

The Case of Missing Marquess written by Nancy Springer is one of the novels that took massive attention from public and reader. This famous novel even

took one of the movie productions to produce it as a movie and also take a very big attention from people around the world. Presenting Enola as a woman with a liberal feminism inside her soul, this novel says success to make some impacts for the reader. How she got inequality because of her gender from her brother makes her become braver and fiercer. The inequality that often occur in the field of family is called family gender inequality. Enola Holmes enough to drawing that inequality can happened even in the middle of the field of family. What happened to Enola leads Enola to become a feminist.

Gender roles are essential for understanding the work-home interface. In the western societies, the home sphere, and the household chores as part of this sphere, it is assumed to be in charge of women, which could in turn affect more highly the home to work conflict of women than of men (Cerrato, Cifre 2018). Women used to be a cleaner a washer or someone that has a job desk to responsible to a household chore. Enola has a plot to indicate that even though the plot was long time ago but it still has a spirit that has to be flowed over the generation until today. Gender inequality that occurs in the middle of Enola's family shows how the inequality of gender can happen in every field. The character of Enola that draw in this novel is not easily to commanded, even though how hard and strict her siblings told her she really knows how to do something that is suitable and is the best for her character. The Enola Holmes: The Missing Marquess centered most of the plot to the drawing of the character of Enola

Published in 2006 but takes place in 1884, during the reign of Queen Victoria in Victorian London. It was described by Nancy Springer, as a writer, and

connected to the novel *Enola Holmes*, that in the 19th century the issue of the existence of women had appeared in English literature. In some literature, there are many female characters who are brave, can solve the problem between tradition and religion rules, they can overcome the negative perceptions of society, they also survive to live in society, expose women a lot, focus on the rules of tradition and religion, most of the main characters depicted men and social rules, and they have the courage to fight like men. The character Enola Holmes, also described as having courage and dressing like a boy, becomes a detective to find her mother. Even though she was not well regarded by her two older brothers, Sherlock and Mycroft, she was considered far from the stereotypes about women at that time. Enola is 14 years old, forced to attend an all-girls school, reprimanded and ridiculed every time she dresses like a boy and is asked to give up her dream of becoming a detective. What her two older siblings did made Enola move her feminist side.

Several studies have been conducted on feminism theory on novels “A *Enola Holmes Mystery #1: The Case of Missing Marquess*. Chandra (2022) argues that the dialogue or monologue in this novel prove Enola owns liberal feminism concept, and there are signs of liberal feminism reflected by Enola Holmes to reveal a meaning or message contained due to the demands of changing the world or naturally. It discusses the idea that Enola Holmes, a character in a novel, embodies the concept of liberal feminism through her dialogues or monologues, and these instances in the novel serve to convey a message or meaning related to the changing world or societal expectations. The first, Enola Holmes, is a fictional character created by author Nancy Springer, is depicted as the younger sister of the renowned detective Sherlock Holmes. She is portrayed as intelligent and independent. Liberal

feminism, a branch of feminism, emphasizes equal opportunities and individual rights, advocating that women should possess the same legal and political rights as men. It seeks to address gender-based inequalities and discrimination through legal and social reforms rather than radical changes to society's structure. The third, dialogues and monologues in this novel indicates something. In literature, dialogues and monologues are the spoken or thought expressions of characters. They are used to convey character traits, beliefs, and ideas, as well as to advance the plot or convey themes.

Arsi (2021) argues that character of Enola Holmes is made strong and determined from the beginning in both materials. Enola's character has a feminist voice that drives her actions. Chandra (2022) suggests that Enola Holmes, as a character in the novel, embodies the principles of liberal feminism. This means that she is portrayed as advocating for women's rights, individual freedom, and equal opportunities, and her actions and words reflect these ideals. Neisya (2021) argues that the liberal feminist's point of view had evolved throughout time. Feminism emphasizes the value of freedom, asserting that a just state should ensure individual freedoms while also defining the role of the state. It advocates for the freedom of women to have equal rights and opportunities. Enola, portrayed as a courageous, intellectual, and independent woman, pursued pursuits that were unconventional for adolescent girls during the Victorian era. Chandra (2022) discusses how Enola Holmes, as a character in the novel, represents liberal feminism through her actions and words. Her portrayal serves to convey a message or meaning related to women's rights and gender equality, and this message may be seen as a response to the evolving demands of a changing society.

Azis (2022) argues that there are types of gender stereotypes depicted by the main character, Enola Holmes, based on the conversations and action she performs. This study also indicates that there are 2 types of gender stereotypes described by Enola Holmes in the novel *Enola Holmes*, namely femininity and masculinity. Gender stereotypes are widely held beliefs or assumptions about how individuals of a particular gender should behave, based on societal expectations and norms. These stereotypes often encompass notions of femininity (traits and behaviors associated with females) and masculinity (traits and behaviors associated with males). The first femininity stereotype depicted in *Enola* may exhibit traits or behaviors that align with what is traditionally considered feminine, such as empathy, nurturing, gentleness, or sensitivity. The second masculinity stereotype, *Enola* may also display traits or behaviors that align with what is traditionally considered masculine, such as assertiveness, independence, courage, or decisiveness.

From the previous studies above, none of the studies used Beauvoir's approach to analyze the portrayal of gender inequality from its cause until the process to overcome the inequality which will be analyzed in this study. This study will analyze the character development of *Enola Holmes* which experiences gender inequality in her family and it leads her to become a feminist.

## **1.2 Research Question**

1. How does the novel reveal gender inequality on *Enola Holmes*?
2. How does the novel reveal the character of *Enola Holmes*?

## **1.3 Scope and Limitation**

By analyzing this novel, this study only focused on the character of Enola Holmes and how her brothers, Mycroft and Sherlock treat her and how she responds to it using Feminist theory. Further studies need to be done by analyzing another character and examining the connected between feminist and that time setting.

#### **1.4 Objective of The Study**

This study aims to:

1. Reveal the gender inequality in *An Enola Holmes Mystery #1: The Missing Marques* novel.
2. Expose the character of Enola Holmes in *An Enola Holmes Mystery #1: The Missing Marques* novel.

#### **1.5 Significance of The Study**

This research is expected to contribute to developing feminist theory in this era through literary works, especially novels. This study will also be a reference for further research in understanding how much influence the feminist movement has on a child.