

## **SOCIAL CRITICISM OF WOMEN CHARACTERS IN *KUMPULAN CERITA KITAB KAWIN* BY LAKSMI PAMUNTJAK: THE STUDY OF FEMINIST LITERATURE CRITICISM**

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**ABSTRACT** Feminism is a series of organized movements to achieve women's human rights, with an ideology of social transformation that aims to create a world for women. The purpose of this study is to describe the forms of infidelity carried out by female characters in “*Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin*” by Laksmi Pamuntjak, infidelity activities carried out by female characters are carried out for revenge or to prove that not only men can commit infidelity because women can too. The next goal is to describe the forms of gender equality actions taken by female figures to get justice such as getting their rights or to equalize degrees with men. The data collection technique in this study used two techniques, namely the reading technique which was carried out by paying attention to the things observed about the forms of infidelity and the forms of gender equality in “*Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin*” by Laksmi Pamuntjak. Furthermore, the recording technique is done by noting all the important things related to the topics discussed. The data analysis technique used was descriptive qualitative analysis technique, by analyzing, describing the data that had been collected in the form of words, pictures. The results of the study show that the social problems that exist in “*Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin*” by Laksmi Pamuntjak, in the forms of infidelity committed by female characters are divided into two, namely direct infidelity, infidelity carried out frankly known to male characters. The second is an indirect affair, an affair carried out secretly without the knowledge of the male character. Furthermore, in the forms of gender equality actions carried out by women leaders are carried out to obtain justice and rights for women.

**Keywords:** Social criticism, women characters, *kumpulan cerita kitab kawin*, feminist literature criticism

### **INTRODUCTION**

Literary works are the result of human activities who live in a society with all their feelings and experiences. Literary work is the result of human creation that has expressed the thoughts, ideas, understanding, and responses of the creator's feelings, about life that is beautiful and useful for the reader. According to Horace (in Sutardi, 2011), dulce et utile emphasizes that literature as a beautiful and useful work for readers, people who read literary works get pleasure from beautiful and moving writing, also gain knowledge that was never realized its existence. around. Literary works are known in two forms, namely fiction and non-fiction. Types of fiction works include prose, poetry, short stories, and dramas, while non-fiction works include biographies, autobiographies, and essays.

Various types of literary works that have been described previously, one of which is short stories. Short stories or commonly referred to as short stories are a form of literary work that displays a certain state of society about the picture of life. A short story is a literary work which is also called a type of fiction literary work. There are many short story writers in Indonesia with various types of works, such as Pramoedya Ananta Toer, Sapardi Djoko Darmono, A. Fuadi, Sitor Situmorang, Okky Madasari, Leila S. Chudori, Ayu Utami, and Laksmi Pamuntjak.

One of the short story writers in Indonesia that has been described previously is Laksmi Pamuntjak. Laksmi Pamuntjak is a Minang-blooded woman who was born in Jakarta on December 22, 1971. She studied at Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia, with a BA in Asian Studies (with First Class Honours). He returned to Jakarta at the end of 1993 and began his writing

career in 1994. He is a bilingual novelist, poet, journalist and culinary critic. He frequently writes about politics and culture in various local and international media including The Jakarta Post, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Die Welt, South China Morning Post and opinion articles for the British Guardian. His first novel in 2016 entitled *Ambal The Question of Red* won the German literary award Li Beraturpreis. Her latest work is *Kumpulan Cerita*, entitled *Kitab Kawin*, which won the Singapore Book Awards in 2020. In *Kumpulan Cerita*, she tells of various women with various types of social problems, one of which is infidelity and gender equality. Gender equality or commonly known as feminism, is a movement for equal rights for women to get gender equality with men.

According to Humm (in Wiyatmi, 2012:12) feminism combines the doctrine of equal rights for women which has become an organized movement to achieve women's human rights, with an ideology of social transformation that aims to achieve a world for women. Women consider gender/sex differences to be one of the causes of injustice, which causes women to always be oppressed. This oppression is both social and sexual. In the field of sex, one of which is infidelity, resulting in the loss of loyalty between men and women. Infidelity in everyday reality in society is mostly done by men, while women become victims. However, in *Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin* by Laksmi Pamuntjak, a female character who commits an affair, perhaps it is a form of gender equality movements carried out by women in *Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin*. Those who think that not only men can commit infidelity but women can too.

As a comparison material to conduct this research, the researcher has reviewed several relevant previous thesis, namely the thesis by Rejeki (2013), a student of Yogyakarta State University with the title of the thesis entitled *Citra Wanita Jawa in Cerbung Teratai Wungu* by Ibne Damayanti A Study of Feminist Literary Criticism. Then the thesis by Anthonia Mbulu (2017), a student at Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, with the title *Citra Perempuan in the Novel Suti* by Sapardi Djoko Damono, A Study of Feminist Literary Criticism. Then a thesis by Dewi (2010), a student of Sebelas Maret University, Surakarta with the title of a thesis entitled *A Review of Feminist Literary Criticism in the Novel Mimi Lan Mintuno* by Remy Sylado. The three previous thesis are used as comparison materials in this study.

This study aims to describe the social problems that exist in *Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin* by Laksmi Pamuntjak, especially the problems in the forms of infidelity committed by female characters and the forms of infidelity.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This study uses a descriptive qualitative research type, the data analyzed and the results of the analysis are in the form of descriptive phenomena, not in the form of numbers or coefficients about the relationship between variables. Qualitative research (in Sugiyono, 2016: 19) is likened to a person who wants to go on a picnic, so he just knows the place to be visited but does not know for sure what is in that place. He know after entering the object, by reading various written information, pictures, thinking and seeing objects and activities of people around him, through interviews and so on.

The method of data collection is carried out with qualitative research methods (in Sugiyono, 2016: 9) is a research method based on the philosophy of postpositivism, used to examine the condition of natural objects, (as opposed to experiments) where the researcher is the key

instrument, data collection techniques conducted by triangulation (combined), data analysis is inductive/qualitative, and qualitative research results emphasize meaning rather than generalization.

The data collection technique was carried out using several techniques, the first of which were reading techniques, reading (in Siswantoro, 2005: 87) is the entrance to the world of understanding which acts as the main pillar supporting research because without reading there never be research. The second technique is the note-taking technique, the note-taking technique (in Muawanah, 2018:68) is the process of recording the relevant linguistic data carried out with certain transcripts.

The instrument of data collection in qualitative research (in Sugiyono, 2016:222) which is the instrument or research tool is the researcher himself. Therefore, the researcher as an instrument must also be "validated" how far qualitative researchers are ready to carry out research which then goes into the field. The data analysis technique used in this research is descriptive qualitative analysis technique, qualitative data analysis according to Bogdan (in Sugiyono, 2016:244) states that data analysis is the process of systematically searching and compiling data obtained from interviews, field notes, and other materials. other materials, so that they can be easily understood, and the findings can be shared with others.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Forms of infidelity of female characters**

The view of psychoanalytic feminist literary criticism theory about the differences between men and women about penis jealousy, which considers women to be weak because they don't have a penis. According to Freud, (in Wiyatmi, 2012: 31) it causes women's inferiority, which is termed as girls' jealousy of the penis (penis envy).

Freud's opinion of women is very contradictory in the events in *Kumpulan Cerita*. Because in some of the stories contained in *Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin* by Laksmi Pamuntjak. Women are superior in the sexual field, even though women do not have penises. Many forms of infidelity are carried out by the female characters in *Kumpulan Cerita*. Not only men who can commit adultery, women can too.

There are several forms of infidelity perpetrated by female characters, including direct infidelity and indirectly infidelity

#### ***Direct form of infidelity***

In several stories that are included in the form of direct or frank infidelity committed by female characters, among others:

#### ***Book 3 Selingkuh untuk Mencintai dengan Lebih Baik (Cheating to Love Better)***

Sarah is a woman who is almost the age of five, she already has a husband named Hanin, however there are problems in her marriage that result in Rosa having an affair with another man named Jodi. Sarah spoke frankly to her husband, Hanin, about her affair with another man named Jodi. But Sarah's husband was not angry, he just kept quiet and seemed indifferent to what Sarah said about his affair with Jodi. Seeing Hanin's response about Sarah's affair with Jodi, he didn't seem angry. Which resulted in Sarah continuing his affair with Jodi.

On Hanin's 47th birthday Sarah and Hanin went to a restaurant where they used to frequent when they were first married. There Sarah explained why she had an affair, if the household was

fine she would not have had an affair with another man. After Sarah's meeting with Hanin at the restaurant on Hanin's 47th birthday. Their household has started to improve again, Hanin and Sarah have understood each other.

From this explanation, it can be concluded that Sarah is the main character of the story of book 3, she has an affair with a man named Jodi so that her husband can love her better because their household has problems, Sarah's husband in recent years has never wanted to sleep with her. Sarah doesn't know what's wrong with Sarah's husband's genitals. Sarah confesses to her husband about the affair he had committed with another man.

Sarah recounts her five-year affair with Jodi. At first Sarah's husband was silent about the statement of his affair, but when Sarah's husband had his 47th birthday they ate together at a restaurant. After the incident at the restaurant, they understood each other, that's where the beginning of their relationship began to return which resulted in their household getting better. Even Sarah, two days before Jodi's birthday, she sent a letter to Jodi that said "send" so that Jodi would secrete his feelings for Sarah. Because Sarah was able to love her husband Hanin even better.

From this explanation, it was explained that the affair was carried out because of problems with Sarah's husband's genitals. Psychoanalytic feminist literary criticism theory which discusses the difference between female and male genitalia, especially because women do not have penises. According to Freud (in Wiyatmi, 2012: 31) it causes women's inferiority, which is termed as girls' jealousy of the penis. It turns out that even though women do not have penises, they are still capable of infidelity and still want sexual satisfaction.

### **Book 7 Sang Pemuja (The Worshiper)**

Lila is a twelfth grader in high school who stands out from the crowd. He is very talented, insightful, and has a slightly ironic sense of humor. Lila is close to a man named Eddy who is 26 years old. In the quote, it can be seen that Lila's character adores Eddy very much. Until what Eddy likes he immediately likes, what Eddy doesn't like he immediately avoids. It was as if Lila's life depended on Eddy.

From these two quotes, it is clear that Lila is not the only woman in Eddy's life. Because Eddy has a lot of other women. That also often sleeps with him. Even though Lila already knew about Eddy's behavior.

Lila used to be afraid to sleep with men because she remembered her mother's advice. But at the age of twenty years, Lila left her mother's advice and that night did not refuse to be slept with by Eddy in one of the hotels.

Eddy last met Lila. Lila left without a word, even in the past twenty years Lila has slept with seven men. While Eddy after breaking up with Lila, he is married and has two children. But Eddy's household divorced because it was caught cheating. And Eddy's life is ruined after being fired from the company and he becomes a drunk.

One day at the cafe, Lila accidentally met Eddy. Who haven't seen each other in a long time. At that time Eddy was drunk because he had drunk liquor. At that meeting they chatted very much. Until the restaurant was about to close, when the restaurant was about to close, Eddy grabbed Lila's hand so she wouldn't leave her.

Lila used to adore Eddy very much, as if Eddy was everything to Lila. However, Lila began to realize that worshiping Eddy was like paying an annual insurance premium. And since then Lila

disappeared from Eddy's life. After Lila's meeting with Eddy at the Café, three years after that Eddy died from too much alcohol and stress.

From this explanation, it can be concluded that when Lila was still in high school, she adored Eddy very much. It was as if Eddy was everything to her, to the point that Lila wanted Eddy to sleep in a hotel. Even though Lila already knows that Eddy also has many women except Lila. After that Lila began to realize, and disappeared from Eddy's life, even in approximately twenty years Lila had not been with seven other men. Meanwhile, Eddy, who was abandoned by Lila, is married and has two children. However, Eddy's household divorced, because it was proven that he was having an affair. Eddy's life begins to take a turn for the worse when Eddy is fired from his company and becomes an alcoholic. When at the cafe, Lila unexpectedly met Eddy drunk, at the meeting Eddy whined so that Lila would not leave him again. But at that time Lila explained why she left Eddy. Three years after the meeting, Eddy died from too much alcohol and stress.

In the analysis contained in book 7, according to Freud (in Wiyatmi, 2012: 22) women's inferiority occurs because of the lack of daughters for penises, women become narcissistic, experience emptiness, and shame. But in this story the female character is able to commit an affair, which is caused because the male character also commits an affair. So that the female character named Lila proves that it is not only men who can change partners.

### ***Inirect form of infidelity***

In some stories that are included in the form of infidelity indirectly or secretly without the knowledge of the male character committed by the female character, among others:

#### **Book 1 Rosa dan Empat Lelaki (Rosa and the Four Men)**

Rosa is a woman who already has an official husband, but her marriage to her husband is not clear. Rosa was her husband's first wife, but her husband also had a second wife. In fact, her husband more often stays at his second wife's house than he lives with Rosa. Rosa accepted what her husband had done to her by having two wives. But she still feels that she still belongs to her husband. But he feels he has more freedom, he can freely date anyone. In fact, he has 3 girlfriends.

All that Rosa did was to take revenge against her husband who had doubled her. And more often lives with his second wife in Bandung. Rossa has an affair and has 3 girlfriends, she also often sleeps with her boyfriend. All the affairs that Rosa had with her 3 boyfriends were not known to her husband. Even Rosa's boyfriend from boyfriend 1 (P1), boyfriend 2 (P2), and boyfriend 3 (P3) didn't know what Rosa was doing. Starting from going out with girlfriends to sleeping in hotels. Finally Rosa got sick and somehow disappeared.

Rosa in the main character of the story of book 1, commits an affair to take revenge on her husband. Rosa's husband has remarried and lives more often at his second wife's house in Bandung. Which makes Rosa feel freer and can date anyone, to the point that she has 3 boyfriends. When Rosa's boyfriend was often invited to sleep with her at the hotel. All what Rosa had done was unknown to her husband.

In the analysis contained in book 1, according to Freud (in Wiyatmi, 2012: 22) women's inferiority occurs because of the lack of girls for penises, women become narcissistic, experience emptiness, and shame. But in this story the female character is able to avenge the affair committed by the male shop. The male character of Rosa's husband remarries and often lives in his new wife's house. So that the female character named Rosa proves that it is not only men who can change partners. Even in the story, the female character is able to date three men at once.

### **Book 6 Kisah Mukaburung (The Story of Mukaburung)**

Mukaburung is the younger sister of Mukabelen, Mu Kabelen is the daughter of Honolong from Soa Baman, the highest ruler in this country after King Kayeli. Meanwhile, Mukaburung is the son-in-law of Hinolong who is all-powerful and all-knowing. Mukaburung has a husband named Manahonja.

The Mukaburung affair began when several foreigners visited his island. At that time, Mukaburung was secretly attracted to one of the foreign men. Mukaburung's affair with a foreign man named Sentanu began when Sentanu cut down his family's sago tree. From that incident, Mukaburung began to secretly like Sentanu.

After some time Mukaburung quietly watching Sentanu, finally one night Mukaburung appeared in front of Sentanu in a forest. Sentanu was scared and begged Mukaburung not to kill him. Sentanu, who was afraid because of the arrival of Mukaburung, thought he would be killed by him. It turned out that Mukaburung didn't mean to hurt him, but just wanted to feel free to feel Sentanu's body. Mukaburung's affair with Sentanu, over time, Mukaburung's husband became suspicious of the changes in his wife.

Manahonja's suspicions began to come to light. After seeing his wife Mukaburung who had an affair with one of the men from a stranger who came to his island. From the three quotes above, it shows Manahonja's anger over the actions of Mukaburung and Sentanu. He was punished and judged by Manahonja to take responsibility for his actions.

From this explanation, it can be concluded that Mukaburung had an affair with a stranger named Sentanu, because to satisfy himself or his desire for love for Sentanu which was secretly growing when Mukaburung began to secretly watch him. After the affair was discovered by Mukaburung's husband, Manahonja, Mukaburung and Sentanu were immediately punished for their actions. Mukaburung's who felt guilty for his actions after serving his sentence, he left the place where he was born and grew up.

### **Book 10 Anna dan Partner Anaknya (Anna and Her Son's Partner)**

Anna is a woman who is about fifty years old. Daily activities as a housewife, has a husband and one daughter named Brenda. Brenda was the only child in the family, and she worked in London.

The beginning of Anna's affair began when your daughter Brenda and her partner were returning from London to visit her house. Brenda came home because she hadn't been home in a long time, and had lived too long in London.

*“Kau baru sungguh-sungguh melihatnya-partner anakmu itu-ketika ia mengambil cuti setengah hari dan mengantarmu ke bandara siang-siang, tanpa anakmu yang tak bisa meninnggalkan kantor. Kau tak yakin persis momennya. Yang jelas, ketika kau menoleh ke arahnya-mungkin ketika ia sedang meyetel pemanas, atau ketika ia sedang mencari-cari lagu dari playlisttiba-tiba kau menyadari bahwa ia ganteng sekali.”* (Pamuntjak, 2021:223)

The quote explains how Anna started to like her son's partner, Paul. Anna secretly likes him without Brenda and her husband knowing. Anna begins to like Paul. Anna got out of control she dared to wipe Paul's sweat even, Anna kissed him one night without her husband and Brenda knowing.

From this explanation, it can be concluded that Anna had an affair with her son's partner, Paul. Anna begins to like her son Paul's partner when Anna is driven to the airport. Anna's affair was not known to her husband and son, Brenda. Anna's affair started from secretly meeting Paul and in the middle of the night, she ventured to wipe Paul's sweat and kiss his lips.

### **The Forms of Action for Gender Equality Female Characters**

The act of gender equality for women or commonly called feminism is one of the movements to achieve women's human rights with the aim of creating a world for women. According to Humm, (in Wiyatmi, 2012:12) feminism combines the doctrine of equal rights for women which has become an organized movement to achieve women's human rights, with an ideology of social transformation that aims to create a world for women.

There are many types of feminist movements, one of which is liberal feminism. According to Tong, (in Wiyatmi, 2012:20) classical liberal feminism discusses the attitude and structural barriers that hinder the progress of women. Classical liberal feminism believes that after discriminatory laws and policies are eliminated, since then women are formally enabled to compete equally with men. man.

*Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin* by Laksmi Pamuntjak. There are several forms of gender equality actions carried out by female figures, including:

#### **Book 2 Azul Maya**

The main character in the story of book 2 is named Azul Maya or commonly called Maya. As the main character, the name Azul Maya is often mentioned or told in this story. But the female character who does or struggles to get justice for women is a Maya bulik named Lia Mintarto.

The beginning of the story of Maya is a girl from one of the families. But there is something strange in the family. Maya's biological father, Sigit Toha, committed the act of raping his own son, Maya.

In the beginning, the behavior of Maya's father, Sigit Toha, was exposed. The one who raped his son, that night the police and the Wakades went to Maya's house to arrest Maya's father and sent him to jail. That night, Maya's uncle, Hadi Mintarso, as the father of the village head, could not come. Maya's uncle, Hadi Mintarso and his wife Lia Mintarso, are ready to accommodate Maya in their family and protect women, one of them Maya from her father.

Maya's aunt, Lia Mintarso, who knew that the sentence handed down to Maya's father seemed unfair. Feeling the punishment is not comparable to what Maya has suffered so far. And want to question where the justice lies.

After that, Lia Mintarso realized that there is a law that deals with child protection who punish the rapists. The conclusion of this explanation is that Maya's biological father, Sigit Toha, had raped his own son, which had taken away Maya's future. Seeing the incident in Maya's house, Lia Mintarso did not remain silent. She and her husband Hadi Mintarso as the village head want to fight for the justice of her nephew. Maya's father was arrested by the police and in prison. While Maya is accommodated by her aunt.

From the analysis in book 2 entitled "Azul Maya" there is a time dailan that has been done by Maya's father. He had raped his own son, which put Maya's father in prison but the law was unfair. Make Maya's aunt, Lia Mintarso, demand justice. According to radical feminism (in Wiyatmi, 2012:21), the oppression of women is rooted in patriarchal ideology as the main value and authority that regulates the relationship between men and women in general. The main concern of radical feminism is the campaign against violence against women.

### **Book 7 Sang Pemuda (The Worshiper)**

The main character in the story of book 7 is named Lila. He is one of the twelfth graders of high school, who is very smart. Even though Lila is a female student, Lila is a very talented student than the other students. Lila is very talented, insightful, and has a slightly ironic sense of humor, in fact she is brilliant in all areas.

Lila adores Eddy very much, although when Lila worships Eddy, she puts herself in a weak position. Even so, Lila was still able to amaze Eddy by Lila. Eddy is amazed in terms of Lila being able to be more mature than her age, and strong and personable. That's what amazed Eddy with Lila.

Even though Lila is a woman she does not want to be silent, she is also able to work and is able to equalize the social status of women with men in the social field. This was proven after Lila's 20th birthday was accepted at a life insurance company. Lila works to secure her own future. This is in accordance with the view of liberal feminism theory (in Wiyatmi, 2012:20) which states that society should not only compensates women for past injustices, but also removes socio-economic barriers as well as legal barriers to the advancement of women today.

After Lila was able to work and have her own salary. Lila and Eddy one night after dinner they opened the room again. In the past, it was Eddy who always paid for or paid for dinner every dinner, but this time it was special because that night Lila also paid for it, and Lila felt free because she could pay for herself without having to depend on Eddy.

It has been explained previously about Lila's departure from Eddy after her 20th birthday. The quote explains that after Lila's departure, Eddy's life became even more chaotic. Lila who used to worship Eddy who put herself as the weakest now when Lila left Eddy as if it was the other way around. Eddy's life without Lila makes him a mess. Lila disappeared without a trace like a ghost. One evening Lila accidentally met Eddy at a cafe. After a long time Lila left without news of leaving Eddy. At that meeting, Lila saw Eddy as if he wasn't Eddy, not the Eddy Lila once worshiped who once thought Eddy was so beautiful.

From this explanation, it can be concluded that Lila, who used to adore Eddy, seemed like Eddy was everything to her. And Lila has put her life at the bottom. After some time Lila realized, even though Lila is a woman she can definitely change. As a result, after her 20th birthday, Lila was able to work alone and was accepted by an insurance company, had her own salary and was able to equalize her rank in the social field, which she proved that not only men who are able to work, women can also work. Even Lila was able to make Eddy's life chaotic after Lila's departure from Eddy. Which makes his life a alcoholic and heavy stress that makes Eddy die.

From the analysis in book 7, entitled "Sang Pemuda", a female character named Lila takes a form of gender equality by leaving her boyfriend named Eddy. Lila wants to find freedom, because as long as Lila is dating Eddy, it seems that Lila is limited because she adores Eddy too much. One day Lila realized that she left Eddy to live a free life. According to Humm (in Wiyatmi, 2012:12), feminism combines the doctrine of equality to achieve women's human rights, with an ideology of social transformation that aims to create a world for women.

### **Book 8 Pembunuhan Pukul Delapan Malam (Murder At Eight At Night)**

The main character in the story of book 8 is named Sofia. One of the high school students who subscribed to the class champion. Sofia in high school is close to one of the male students named Rashid. Rashid is the student council president and a pea-grade playboy.



*“Suatu siang, menjelang ujian kenaikan kelas, mereka tepergok ciuman di belakang aula sekolah. Digelandanglah mereka ke kantor Kepala Sekolah, dan dimarahi habis-habisan.” (Pamuntjak, 2021:164)*

From the quote explains the first time Sofia and Rashid made a mistake that made him called the Headmaster. And get scolded. Sofia and Rashid's relationship lasted for about five years. But Sofia's life with Rashid seemed to change, because Rashid only had a mission to fuck Sofia. Rashid fucks Sofia like an animal, Sofia seems to be oppressed by Rashid's behavior.

Sofia's life doesn't seem to belong to her anymore. Her life with Rashid was getting harder and harder. One day Rashid even brought two men and told them to have sex with his wife. Since that incident, Sofia once or twice a week has allowed herself to be raped. Seeing Rashid's actions, it was as if Sofia was living in torture.

One day Sofia takes Oki to bed, one of the men her husband had invited to have sex in his apartment. Sofia took Oki to bed without her husband's knowledge of Rashid. Sofia's actions seemed to be against Rashid. Not only Rashid can invite people, but Sofia can too. So far, Sofia has just resigned herself to being slept with by another man who was invited by Rashid.

Sofia wanted to kill Rashid, who had taken everything from her. In that incident Sofia wanted to kill Rashid using the knife Sofia was holding. And as a result, Sofia managed to stab her knife into her husband Rashid's chest with the knife in front of his chest.

### **Book 9 Penjara Esmeralda (Prison of Esmeralda)**

One of the only independent daughters of a married couple. Esme, an only child and independent spirit who has lived abroad for years, Esme there learns to live and survive on her own. Even though Esme is a woman, she doesn't want to be called weak, she even proves that she can live alone abroad to continue her studies there. Although she is a woman but she is able to become a woman who is strong in education and personality. This opinion is supported by the theory of liberal feminism (in Wiyatmi, 2012: 19) that women's rights have begun to be considered, the working hours and salaries of these people have begun to be improved and they are given the opportunity to participate in education and are given the right to vote, something that has only been enjoyed by women. men.

When Esme finished college at the age of twenty-one, she only found out that Emse was a child born out of wedlock. And it turns out that her parents who have been raising Esme are her aunt. Esme's biological father is the younger brother of her adoptive mother. It turns out that Esme's biological mother is a bitch. His mother had children here and there but was never married by her boyfriend, because her biological mother was considered a crazy woman who did not deserve to be married.

The adoptive mother (Auntie) Esme cares about her life. Esme's adoptive mother wants to change her life even though Esme is a child born out of wedlock. And from the mother who is from a bitch, who often changes boyfriends. How Esme's biological father seemed to look down on his biological mother. His biological father did not love Esme's biological mother. Esme did not accept what her biological father had said, as if condescending to women. Even at that time Esme wanted to punch her own father.

After Esme finds out what her father is thinking, Esme hates the family. He doesn't expect approval from his family or wants to stop worrying about his family. His own biological father seemed to despise Esme's biological mother. Esme seemed to want to get out of her household (family) prison. He wants to try to live alone, away from his family which he considers a prison, considers women, namely Esme's biological mother, to be weak and at worst so unfit for marriage.

From this explanation, it can be concluded that Esme, who demands justice for her biological mother, is considered a bitch who does not deserve to be married because she often changes boyfriends with anyone. Even though it was her mother who gave birth to Esme even though her birth was in a state before she married her father. So Esme was adopted as an adopted child by her biological father's sister (her aunt). After finishing college, Esme found out that she was an adopted child, and that her biological mother was a bitch. Even Esme's biological father didn't love her biological mother, looking at her biological mother as if she were a weak woman. Seeing her biological father's statement, Esme did not agree so that after finishing college she immediately did not live with her family and did not want to expect blessings and was worried about her family's condition.

From the analysis in book 9 entitled "Esmeralda Prison", a female character named Esme takes a form of gender equality seeking freedom for her life. Esme wants to find freedom, because Esme's life is not free to live with a family that does not respect women, one of which is Esme's biological mother. According to Humm (in Wiyatmi, 2012:12), feminism combines the doctrine of equality to achieve women's human rights, with an ideology of social transformation that aims to create a world for women. The parents who took care of Esme when she was little turned out to be adoptive parents, Esme's biological mother was a bitch, which resulted in Esme's biological father not wanting to marry her.

#### **Book 11 *Asrama Korea* (Korean Dormitory)**

The main character in the story of book 11 is Amira, but in this story there are several female characters such as Citra, Hesti, and Nisa. However, Amira's character is mostly told in this story, as a character who does not want to be oppressed by men.

Amira is a character who is often mentioned in this story, a child from a hard-working family. Junior high school students who come home from school every time have to help cook, sell snacks for their mother, and take care of their grandmother who is old and sickly. Amira's character is suddenly asked by her parents to marry Fawzi. Fawzi is one of the children of the Haji Zainuddin family, one of the richest traders in the area, has a shop in the market. After hearing that Amira were married off by Fawzi, he does not agree because Amira does not love him.

Amira is resigned to the situation. Even though Amira doesn't want to marry Fawzi, she is forced to marry. Because they want to see Grandma and her family, her father and mother are happy with their marriage to the man their parents chose. After the birth of their first child, Fawzi's family seemed to move away from the Amira family. Even Fawzi remarried with another woman, and often lived with his wife and abandoned Amira and her child (Alma).

An Amira who has a very strong personality, she does not want to just stand still with the situation. Even though she is a woman she is still able to provide for her family, able to work. The action taken by Amira is a form of feminism, which is in accordance with the opinion of liberal feminism (in Wiyatmi, 2012: 19) women's rights have begun to be considered, working hours and salaries of these people have begun to be improved and they are given the opportunity to participate in education and are given the right to vote. , something that has only been enjoyed by men.

The determination of Amira's character in carrying out her life. Being a strong woman is able to work alone to provide for her family. After giving birth to Alma and leaving her husband, she remarried. Amira does not want to just surrender to the situation because she was not educated to be a woman who gives up easily. Amira is looking for work to support her family starting from being an administrative employee at the elementary school where she used to study, and becoming

an employee at a mini market in the Cilegon area. The actions taken by Amira in the *Kumpulan Cerita* from book 11 are included in the form of feminism to equalize with men in the social welfare field. This opinion is supported by the theory of liberal feminism (in Wiyatmi, 2012:21) which struggles for the achievement of equal rights of women in all areas of social, political, economic, and personal life.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and discussion of the Book of Marriage Stories by Laksmi Pamuntjak, it can be concluded that there are a lot of gender equality actions carried out by the female characters in *Kumpulan Cerita*, such as committing adultery and other actions. Everything that is done by the female characters in each story of the Book of Marriage is all done with several actions.

Infidelity committed by female characters in *Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin* is described in several forms of infidelity. Because not only men can have an affair, women can also have an affair. The form of infidelity committed by female characters is carried out in two forms, namely directly and indirectly. The form of infidelity is directly carried out by the female character frankly so that the male character knows what he has done.

The forms of gender equality actions carried out in *Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin* are carried out by female characters, some of these female characters have received various acts of injustice committed by male characters. Male characters in *Kumpulan Cerita Kitab Kawin* consider women to be weak, and sometimes they torture or neglect them. So that the female characters take several forms of action such as to equalize their status with men, and other forms of gender equality to seek freedom.

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