Representation of Domestic Violence (KDRT) in *La Barka*: A Sociology of Literature

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**ABSTRACT**

This paper tries to explain and analyse how the domestic violence of women in the *La Barka*’s novel by NH. Dini. The data in this study were taken from the *La Barka*’s novel by NH. Dini. Data were discussed by using sociology theory of literature and analyzed with the content analysis method. Based on the results of data analysis, it was found that some form of domestic violence against women, namely physical violence, psychic violence, and sexual abuse, as well as the factors and impact that led to the act of corruption of women in the *La Barka*’s novel by NH. Dini.

**Keywords:** Domestic Violence, women, La Barka’s novel, NH. Dini.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Good literary work is a work that can contribute to the community. Literary works are not only created from delusion, but also created through impersonation of life in the community. Literary work is a reflection of the reality of social life of society that has lasting character by containing essential truths as long as humans still exist [1]. Literary work is a reflection of the state of society or mirrors of a time. In this case, the literary work is not only a imagination of the literary, but rather based on the social reality perceived by society [2]. Literature presents life and life consisting largely of social reality, such as the issues of tradition, conventions, norms, literary genres, symbols, and myths [3].

In literature, phenomena related to social aspects are interdisciplinary, namely literary sociology. Sorokin explains that sociology is a science that studies the relationship and influence of reciprocal between various social symptoms (economics, family, and morals) [4]. Sociology and literature have the same object of study, which is to understand the relationship between people and the process that arises from relations in society. While the difference lies in the objective and scientific study of people in society, find out how the public is possible, how it lasts, and how it persists, then literature appears in social life and shows how the ways of man internalize life with his feelings and conduct a subjective and personal study [5].

Women in literary sociology are identified as marginalized and stereotypical people. Hayati explains that women are always used as subjects and objects in violence. Women’s violence and oppression occur due to gender differences between men and women. In the scope of both public and domestic (households), violence against women is still common today [6]. According to article 1 of the law No. 23 of 2004 on the elimination of domestic violence, the definition of domestic violence is every deed against a person especially women, resulting in physical, sexual, psychological and or domestic affliction or suffering, including threats to perform acts, coercion, or deprivation of independence against the laws of the household to his wife. Forms of violence in households are divided into four parts, namely physical, psychic, economic and sexual violence. Gandhi says that violence can be eliminated if we know the cause. The cause of violence lies in the wrong structure, not on the other party’s evil actors [7]. Muhajarah states that according to the Pancasila and the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia 1945 “Every citizen is entitled to a sense of security and free from any act of violence” [8].

Based on data obtained from the National Commission on Anti-Violence against women (Komnas Perempuan), a recorded violence against women reported in 2018 reached 406,178 cases, an increase of 16.6% compared to 2017 which as many as 348,446 cases. The data is derived from the year-end record (Catahu) compiled based on the data of the courts handled by the religious court as much as 96% (392,610 cases) and 209 of the partner institutions service as much as 3% (13,568 cases). Over the past ten years, the amount of reporting from violence against women tends to increase. Only in 2010 and 2016 reporting figures declined. In 2010, the report decreased 26.8% from 321,752 to 259,150 cases. Meanwhile, in 2016 the number of reports decreased by 19.5% from 321,752 to 259,150 cases.
Discussions about domestic violence especially against women are of interest to be examined. Research on domestic violence (KDRT) on women has been researching. The research that is relevant to the study was conducted by Khalbina, Juita, & Nasution who conducted research on domestic violence in the novel Perempuan Berkalung Sorban by Abidah El Khalieqy. The results of his research found the forms of violence contained in the novel, namely physical and psychic violence that emerged from female figures do not want to do his duty as a wife, because the character of the husband has the nature of the temperament [11]. The study of violence against women in novels was also done by Moon with his research object, the novel Mimi Lan Mintua by Remy Silado. The results of his research showed some form of violence, namely physical and psychic violence, real and hidden violence, personal and structural violence, and violence based on areas with internal and external factors causing violence against women [12]. Puspitasari and Farhah also conducted research on violence against women in the novel Banattu’r Riyadhi by Raja’ Ash-Shani’i which results found physical and psychic violence in the household [13].

Werdiningsh examined violence against women in the novel Kinanti by Margareth Widhy Pratii. The results of his research are three types of violence experienced by the female protagonist in Kinanti’s novel, psychological, physical, and sexual violence. Perpetrators of violence against women are not only men, but also women [14]. This is in line with the opinion of Madden (in Payin, 2009, p. 36-37) explaining that among women with women also had a critical conflict caused by women who took the gap that the neighbor still could not give a sense of security in his social environment.

Prasetyo dan Haryadi doing research on violence against women in novels Seperit Dendam Rindu Harus Dibayar Tunas dan Lelaki Harimau by Eka Kurniawan. The results of his research are violence against female figures that occur repeatedly on victims and families resulting in prolonged suffering and misery and cannot be accepted by female figures both psychic and inner [15]. Fitriani and Wildan examined the violence against women in T. I Thamrin’s Bididar Hitam novel. The results of his research showed that violence against women occurred repeatedly when armed conflicts in Aceh were spread out, resulting in victims experiencing prolonged suffering and misery [16].

Wahyuni and Lestari examined the form and violence of women in Emma Donoghue’s novel Room. This study found the form of violence experienced by female figures, namely sexual violence, physical violence, and emotional violence and the impact of such violence was to be difficult to socialize and experience stress post traumatic events [17]. The study of violence against women was also done by Sari, Udu, & Ino with the results of his research found three types of violence in Ima Lawaru Savannah novel, physical, non-physical, and sexual violence backed by patriarchy ideology, sosio-cultural, and economy-law [18].

Systematically, the prevalence of violence against women around the world in a case study conducted by Alhabib, Nur, & Jones in North America (41%), followed Europe (20%), 56% of population-based studies, and 17% conducted in public health services. The results of this study emphasized that violence against women has achieved epidemic proportions in many communities [18]. Jahromi, Jamali, Koshkaki & Javapour in his research concluded that the prevalence of physical, psychic or sexual violence is still very high. Male violence against women in intimate relationships is a common occurrence in Iran [20]. The results of research from Ethiopia, concluded that the cultural domination of patriarchy caused gender violence against women was a common feature that occurred in households in Africa [21]. Accordingly, the results of the study conducted by Avila noted as many as 4,762 women were killed in Brazil. Intimidation of couples in housemates including an epidemic in Brazil, as many as four women were killed per day [22]. Based on the phenomena and problems described above, it can be concluded that the question of violence against women is interesting to be examined and researched. Thus, the author also interested in writing research under the title of “Representation of Domestic Violence (KDRT) on Women in the La Barka’s Novel by NH. Dini”.

2. METHOD
The study used a method of description with a qualitative content analysis technique. Ratna explains that the content analysis relates to the content of communication, both
verbally and nonverbal [23]. Moleong explains that qualitative research is a study that results in analytical procedures that do not use statistical procedures [24]. Sugiyono also explained that qualitative research is a naturalistic study because of its natural research [25].

This research is called qualitative research because the form of data in this study in the form of words, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and discourse that contains a form of violence against women obtained through the narrator or speech, the character's speech and pronunciation, and the actions of the character in the La Barka's novel by NH. Dini. The data source in this study is written data from La Barka's novel by NH. Dini, 236 pages, Gramedia, Jakarta, third print, 2000. The data collection techniques in this study, which are reading novels repeatedly, identify data that shows domestic violence (KDRT) to women, and to data on the specified format.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In the La Barka’s novel by NH. Dini is found the forms of domestic violence against women, the causes of domestic violence against women, and the impact of domestic violence on women that will be described as follows.

3.1. Form of Domestic Violence Against Women in the La Barka’s Novel by NH. Dini

In the La Barka’s novel by NH. Dini found three forms of domestic violence (KDRT) on women are physical violence, psychic violence, and sexual violence.

3.1.1. Psychic Violence

Psychic violence in households is usually spoken verbally or in a body language indicated by the perpetrator of the victim. Forms of verbal violence, such as from the likes of screaming against victims, swearing, threatening, demeaning, regulating, harassing, stalking and spying, and other actions that can cause fear (including those directed at people near the victim, such as family, children, husbands, close friends). It can be seen in the following quotation.

“Kepalaku mulai berpikir keras, setiap malam mengingat kembali kata-kata tak senonoh...” (LB, p. 47)

“My head began to think loudly, every night remembering the indecent words...” (LB, p. 47)

Based on the findings above, the form of domestic violence experienced by female figures in the La Barka’s novel by NH. Dini is psychic violence. From the quote above, it can be explained that a female figure experiences a psychic violence expressed verbally by her husband, where her husband berates or emits words that should not be sent to his wife. For, a husband is a role model who must model a good speech to his son and his wife. In daily life, the action of domestic violence in psychic forms has also been found in the social community. Although this violence does not leave a mark on the body, it will but certainly damage and hurt the inner and the victim's mind. This is in accordance with the results of the research of Prasetyo and Haryadi that psychic violence can be a swearing, threatening, demeaning, harassing, and actions that can cause fear [15].

3.1.2 Physical Violence

The physical violence committed by perpetrators against the victim can be actions that can injure a person, such as beating, slap, strapped, kicking, throwing goods into the victim's body, stepping on, injuring empty-handed or tools or weapons, killing, violent with sharp objects, flush of chemicals or hot water. It can be seen from the following quotation.

“...serta perlakuan-perlakuan semaunya yang semula kuterima dengan kelapangan dada” (LB, p. 47)

“...and the treatment of the reticeship of the Breastplate” (LB, p. 47)

Based on the findings above, the form of domestic violence experienced by female figures in La Barka’s novel is physical violence. From the excerpt above, it can be explained that the female figure suffered physical abuse performed by her husband. The arbitrarily treatment performed by men against women does not make the women immediately fight. Many women when experiencing violence prefer silence and resignation first. Then, when women have felt the unnatural threshold of treatment, women begin to seek refuge. Complaints in physical violence in households are usually difficult to do by the victim. This makes the perpetrators more freely to perform acts that hurt the victim. This is in accordance with the results of the Hayati’s research that the violence and suppression of women is due to gender differences between men and women. Women are considered weak and resigned, so that women serve as subjects and objects in violence [6].

3.1.3 Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is an act of perpetrators lead to the use of sexual activities against victims, such as touching, groped, kissing, or committing other acts that no victim would want. It can be seen in the following quotation.

“Ketika tangannya menurun dari leher menyentuh dadaku, dengan daya luar biasa aku berhasil meretakkan pengaruhnya yang kusadari amat membahayakan.” (LB, p. 220)

“When his hands were descending from the neck touching my chest, with tremendous power I managed to cracked his and I realized of harm.” (LB, p. 220)

Based on the findings above, the form of domestic violence experienced by female figures in La Barka’s novel by NH.
Dini is a sexual assault. From the above quote, it can be explained that the female figure is sexually abused by the male figure. The male character in the novel is told as a girlfriend of a female character. However, male character treatment is included in sexual violence. Because female figures do not want and reject the male character treatment against him. The stereotypical women who consider women an object of male lust is difficult for women to avoid. Some women who hold true dignity can resist the harsh desires and passions that men offer. Sexual harassment of women often occurs in daily life. This is in accordance with the results of the research of Prasetyo and Haryadi which explains that sexual violence can be a touch, touching, or action that is not desired victims [15].

"My friend told the dissensions of husband and wife is often caused by the rejection of the husband to the arrival or visit of some of Christine's friends. However, Christine has the power to be willing and able to be in a hurry." (LB, p. 197)

Based on the findings above, it can be explained that the factors that cause domestic violence (KDRT) to women often occur, namely because of the non-compliance of women. In the excerpt above, it appears that one triggers a quarrel in the household because both figures are equally unable to respect each other's will. The husband refuses when a female character named Christine is too open to her friends. Then, female figures insist on rejecting requests from husbands. It is one of the reasons women are vulnerable to objects in violence. Men who have always wanted to dominate make women difficult to give their opinions. So many women are ultimately opposed to men. This is in accordance with the research of Susanty and Julqurniati that the disobedience of wives against husbands causes women to be violent objects. The consequences of this disobedience can be psychic, physical, rape, other sex violence, abandonment, and others [27].

3.2.2. Foster Pattern

Foster patterns and poor family environment affect one's personality formation. The emotional problems that parents are less concerned with can pose a problem for the individual in their future. This is evident in the following text quotations.

"The coming guests are both Daniel's parents. The sentences that he spoke show an education that did not care about Sopan-santun." (LB, p. 158)

Based on the findings above, it can be explained that in the La Barka's novel by NH. Dini factors that led to domestic violence against women were caused by foster pattern. From the quote above, it is obvious that the fruit prolingual falls not far from the tree has been obtained from the character of the husband. Male figures have no good behavior because from the parents of the perpetrators also have a behavior that is not good. The absence of the behavior of manners makes the husband grow and develop into a rude person. So, he also could not be polite to women. This is in accordance with the research of Ramadani and Yuliani explaining that one of the factors causing the action of domestic violence comes from family factors such as poor parenting patterns [28].
3.3. Impact of Domestic Violence Against Women in the La Barka’s Novel by NH. Dini

3.3.1 Physical and Sexual Impacts

The impact of the domestic violence can usually be from the victim's physical changes, such as bruising, ringa wounds to severe wounds, the dysfunction of the victim's body, mild to permanent physical defects, and may even cause death to victims of violent acts. This is is visible from the following quotation.

"...karena kuhlat kau sering tampak suram, walaupun bergaul atau tertawa bersama kawan-kawan kita..." (LB, p. 220)

"...Because I saw you often looked gloomy, although hanging out or laughing with our friends..." (LB, p. 220)

Based on the findings above, the impact of domestic violence on women in the La Barka’s novel by NH. Dini is the physical change suffered by victims. From the quote above, it can be explained that the physical change experienced by the violent victim figure can be directly seen by other figures. For example, a change in facial expression that looks moody and unexcited when mingling in social life. This is in accordance with Purwati, Herniyatun, & Astutiningrum’s research, which explains that the physical change in domestic violence causes a person to have low motivation so as to lack care for themselves [29]

3.3.2 Economic Impacts

In the act of domestic violence, usually victims suffer economic losses, such as spending costs for medical treatment due to physical contact between perpetrators and victims, victims can also suffer loss of their work because of the violence experienced, and also the victim has no income because it does not get a financial responsibility (abandoned) by her husband. It can be seen from the following quotation.

"Saya rasa Ibu juga mengerti bahwa Daniel tidak lagi mengirim uang untuk makan dan barang-barang lain yang saya perlukan. Saya bekerja sendiri sejak beberapa bulan ini..." (LB, p. 161)

"I think mom also understands that Daniel no longer sends money to eat and other items that I need. I work alone since a few months... " (LB, p. 161)

Based on the findings above, it can be explained that the impact of domestic violence on women is in terms of economics. From the quote above, it can be explained that the figure of women who fall victim to domestic violence is finally abandoned in terms of economics. Women who are early in marriage always hang the need to the husband, when problems in his household will have a big impact on economic needs. It is so the basis that women should have their own income in order not to always depend on her husband.

3.3.3 Psychological Impact

The psychic impact of emotional violence suffered by victims is usually a sense of anxiety and excessive fear. The trauma suffered by the majority of the victims will differ between the victims and the other victims. It can be seen from the following excerpt.

“kalimat-kalimat yang ditujukannya kepadaku tajam menyakitkan hati.” (LB, p. 47)

"The sentences which is directed to me are sharply painful.” (LB, p. 47)

Based on the findings above, it can be explained that the impact of domestic violence against women can interfere with victims psychological. In the quotation above, the female figure felt the inner pressure of verbal abuse given by the husband figure. The verbal violence given by the perpetrator to the victim does not scar into physical wounds. However, when viewed in a psychiatric sense, it can lead to trauma to the victim. This is in accordance with the research results of Maisah and Yenti which explain that some psychological impacts of violent victims, namely feeling anxious, frightened, always feeling confused, and trauma [30].

4. CONCLUSION

Based on findings in this study, it can be described several sympulsion as follows. First, there is a form of domestic violence that is experienced by female figures in the La Barka’s novel by NH. Dini, namely physical violence, psychic violence, and sexual violence. Secondly, there is a factor in the causes of domestic violence in the La Barka’s novel by NH. Dini, because of the cultural factors that position men as superior beings and women as inferior, there is a factor of disobedience from female figures that caused the action of domestic violence, and foster pattern factors. Thirdly, the impact of domestic violence on women in the La Barka’s novel by NH. Dini, the physical and sexual impacts, economic impacts, and psychological impacts of women figures.

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