

# Gender Bias in Okky Madasary's *Entrok* Novel and the Novel of *Amba* by Laksmi Pamuntjak

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## ABSTRACT

This research is motivated by gender differences which give rise to the issue of gender inequality, resulting in a gender bias against women. This study aims to explain the gender bias against women in Okky Madasary's *Entrok* novels and Laksmi Pamuntjak's *Amba* novels. This type of research is a qualitative research with descriptive analysis method. The data collection technique of this research is by read and understand novels Okky Madasary's entry and novel *Amba* by Laksmi Pamuntjak, record, and make an inventory of data according to the object of research based on the data inventory format. The data validation technique in this study used triangulation techniques. The stages of data analysis in this study were carried out in several steps, namely describing the data findings, analyzing the data, discussing data that were in accordance with the form of gender bias against women, concluding the contents of the findings, and writing reports. The results of this study are gender bias against women in the form of marginalization, subordination, stereotypes, violence, and workload.

**Keywords:** *Bias, Gender, Female, Novel*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The birth of a literary work in the midst of society as a result of the author's imagination and reflection on the surrounding social phenomena [1]. As an art form with the medium of language, a literary work can express its imagination, observations, and reflections through language, one of which is the novel. These novels are produced as a result of the influence of social, economic, cultural, political factors at the time the work was created by the author [2]. Novel is considered as a recorder of people's lives at a certain time and in a certain place [3]. Wicakson [4] states that the novel is a work that is rich with amazing bodily actions, but because of the involvement of so many real thoughts, without any addition, life will be interesting as long as honest and worthy and forthright people can tell.

Various life problems that are discussed in the novel, one of which is the issue of gender. Language, violence, and gender are closely related [5]. Gender is a cultural concept that seeks to make a difference (distinction) in terms of roles, behavior, mentality and emotional characteristics between men and women that develop in society. Gender is also cultural expectations; towards men and women (cultural expectations for women and men). Gender is a concept used to identify differences between men and women from a socio-cultural perspective [6]. Gender differences will not create problems as long as they do not create gender inequality [7] PWomen are constructed by society with gentle,

beautiful, emotional, or motherly traits. Meanwhile, men are strong, rational, manly, and mighty. The characteristics and properties themselves are interchangeable properties [8].

PGender differences are caused by many things, including being formed, socialized, strengthened, even socially or culturally constructed, through religious teachings through the state. These changes lead to gender bias. Deviant gender assumptions tend to side with men, while women are defeated. Gender bias can be seen in various forms of bias, namely: marginalization or the process of economic impoverishment, subordination or perceived unimportance in political decisions, stereotyping or through negative labeling, gender bias, more workload (burden), ideological socialization and the occurrence of sexual harassment. against women on the value of gender roles[9].Violence committed against women can be found in limited grants as executor of reproductive functions at home as housewives which is suspected by the patriarchal ideology behind all the violence against women [2].

One of the literary authors who illustrates the existence of gender bias is the novel *Entrok* by Okky Mandasray. In this novel, there is a story about a woman who lives in a harmonious family relationship. Marni is a hardworking woman, but she always gets a lot of pressure in her life, Marni tries to make her family live properly and happily. Marni is the backbone of her family. Life is not on Marni's side. Even Rahayu,

Marni's son, doesn't want to help his mother, even Rahayu hates his mother. Until this makes Marni feel difficult in living her life. Marni has faced many challenges. Marni's husband who doesn't have a job and only drinks every day.

The novel *Entrok* by Okky Madasary shows a form of gender bias experienced by Marni's character. The form of gender bias that occurs in Marni is marginalization or the process of economic impoverishment, and more workloads (burden). The gender bias seen in Marni is the marginalization of economic impoverishment. Marni's economy was unable to run well, the business she founded went bankrupt so this became pressure for Marni. In addition, Marni is also burdened with more workloads, as a woman Marni not only acts as a mother, but also acts as the head of the household who pays for all her family needs.

In addition to the novel *Entrok* by Okky Madasary, another work that also discusses the issue of gender bias is the novel *Amba* by Laksmi Pamuntjak. Unlike the novel written by Oky Mandasari, in the novel *Amba* by Laksmi Pamuntjak there is also a gender bias. The form of gender bias that occurs in *Amba*'s novel is the existence of a gender bias that shows a gender bias. This form of gender bias is seen when a group of people are forced to work hard, sometimes tortured, clear land, or do whatever the army tells them to do all day long. Proven communist or not, it makes no difference. Although in the end they were released to return to their respective regions, they still bear the term 'ex-tapol' which has a very strong influence on their lives.

From the problems above, it can be seen how the different views between the two authors in describing the gender bias represented in literary works. Both novels are produced by the same sex but with different thoughts, because they both form their own version of the ideal female figure with all its advantages and disadvantages, at a time when there are so many growing beliefs that only women can experience the world of women in a holistic way. intact. The gender bias contained in the novel above is a form of deviation that takes sides between men and women, because in the novel it is seen that women are cornered and required to carry out heavy burdens which are not proper for a woman to do. In addition, gender bias is also seen by the existence of gender bias and injustice carried out by some groups towards subordinates, the discrimination carried out causes inequality in one's social life.

Atmazaki [10] says that gender refers to the socially determined personality and psychological traits associated with being male (masculinity) or female (femininity). Sex and gender are clearly related, although their exact nature has always been a matter of debate

among sociologists, feminists and other experts. Fakih [6] divides several forms of gender differences that occur in society, as for the types of gender, namely (1) marginalization or impoverishment of women, (2) Subordination means an assessment or assumption that a role performed by one sex is inferior to the other. Women are considered responsible and have a role in domestic or reproductive affairs, while men are in public or domestic affairs, (3) stereotypes, (4) violence, and (5) workload. Then, the causative factor The main thing that becomes the root of the problem is the inequality of gender relations formed by patriarchal culture so that in various aspects of life women are considered as number two beings. While the other causes occur because the main cause has mastered all sides of life and entered various fields of politics, economics and even religion [11]. The impacts caused by gender bias against women are: (1) gender differences, gender disparities, genderization or the low center of self-identity or the views of others, (4) gender identity or gender description, and (5) gender roles or differences in women's roles and men (Sugihastuti, 2002). This study aims to describe the form of gender bias against women in the novel *Amba Karya* by Laksmi Pamuntjak.

## 2. RESEARCH METHODS

This research is a qualitative research with descriptive analysis method. Ratna(2010), states that qualitative methods pay attention to scientific data, data in relation to the context of its existence. It is these ways that encourage qualitative methods as multi-methods because research in turn involves a large number of relevant social phenomena. descriptive method of analysis is done by describing the facts which are then followed by analysis. This method is used to view and describe gender biased data in Novel *Entrok* by Okky Madasary and Novel *Amba* Laksmi Pamuntjak's works broken down into words. The data source of this research is novel *Entrok* Okky Madasary's works and novels *Amba* Laksmi Pamuntjak's work with the research instrument is the researcher himself.

The data collection technique of this research is to use the opinion of Muhardi and Hasanuddin [12], namely in the following way. First, read and understand the novel *Entrok* Okky Madasary's works and novels *Amba* by Laksmi Pamuntjak. This is done to obtain a clear understanding of the content of the novel to be studied. Second, record the words and sentences of the narrator's explanation and or the story's character's utterances as well as the actions of the story characters that indicate a form of gender bias against women in the novel. *Entrok* Okky Madasary's works and novels *Amba* by Laksmi Pamuntjak. Third, take an inventory of the

data according to the object of research based on the data inventory format. Then, the data validation technique in this study used the observations of literary experts and colleagues (triangulation). Moleong [13] stated that Triangulation is a data validity checking technique that utilizes something other than the data for checking purposes or as a comparison against it. The stages of data analysis in this study were carried out in several steps, namely describing the data findings, analyzing the data, discussing data that were in accordance with the form of gender bias against women, concluding the contents of the findings, and writing reports.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section describes the findings of research that discusses gender bias against women in Okky Madasary's Entrok novels and Laksmi Pamuntjak's Amba novels. The data on the form of gender bias in Okky Madasary's Entrok novel are 42 data and the form of gender bias in Laksmi Pamuntjak's Amba novel is 20 data. Data on gender bias against women in Okky Madasary's Entrok novel and Laksmi Pamuntjak's Amba novel are divided into five indicators, namely: (1) marginalization, (2) subordination, (3) stereotypes, (4) violence, and (5) workload.

#### 1.1 Marginalization

Marginalization or impoverishment of women means a process of marginalization due to gender differences which results in poverty. There are many ways that can be used to marginalize a person or group. One of them is by using gender assumption. There are 4 data of marginalization in Entrok novel. Data about this marginalization are found in the character's speech, the narrator's speech and the character's actions contained in the novel Entrok by Okky Madasary. This can be seen in the following quote.

*Unfortunately there are no female workers here, no matter how much I want to pay them as much money as male workers. The same amount of wages, no less just because she was a woman, moreover only with eggs. But there are no women who join in cutting sugar cane. Sugarcane is only a labor ration- male workers. The female workers only nderep or mbethot peanuts. But try asking the women how much they get paid. At least not more than three hundred a day. Unfortunately, I don't grow rice or beans. If Mbah Mother Earth, Father Power allows, I hope my sustenance will be smoothed out, I have money to buy more land where I will plant rice and beans. I will employ*

*the women and I will pay no less than what their husbands receive*[14].

Based on the quote above, it is explained that My character reveals that there is a job gap between female and male workers. Women do not deserve to work like men who can cut sugar cane because the work is only the work of men, not women. Inequality of work causes women to earn less than men. Women are only considered as breadwinners, their salary is only part of the salary of men. Habits and traditions that perpetuate the process of marginalization of women. Women in the village only do work such as harvesting rice and pulling beans. Furthermore, marginalization is also found in the following data quote.

*Why, yo, there are still people who say I'm a sin. The one who sins is the person like Mali, who sleeps in the violet all day, his wife and four children are hungry every day. I often see Mali's wife and children eat aking mixed with salt put in the bin. They sat around the winnowing and eat together. Long ago, when I was little, eating aking mixed with salt was incredibly delicious. But that was before. War era. The age of people's clothes from burlap and looking for mice in the fields to eat. Here's how come there are still people who eat like that? I used to eat like that too because my father ran away. Well, the father is still there, still fresh, eee... in fact do not want to work, every day just waiting to break. what yo iyo, whose name is Gusti Allah wants mthrow sustenance from the sky?*[14]

In the quote above, it can be seen that above marginal gender bias it can be seen that Mali as a husband is not responsible for making a living for his family. Mali every day only violated sleep without thinking about the condition of his wife and four children. Mali's wife and four children have to bear the brunt of Mali's irresponsible behavior. Mali has impoverished his family's economy so his children have to eat aking (dry rice) mixed with salt. Even though it is proper for children to be given the best for their growth. Furthermore, it is also found in the following data excerpts.

*after living married life for sixteen years, after taking care of all the necessities her family without being required by her husband to help make a living, it's only been the last year*

*Nuniek dare to peddle her homemade cakes*[15]

In the data quote above, it can be seen that The marginalized character is Amba, who has been married since he decided to work because he wants to help his husband earn a living and doesn't feel comfortable staying at home. Marginal is reflected in women who participate in meeting household needs. Women are not required to earn a living, salary or the results obtained are only in addition and it is men who are obligated to earn a living. It has become a habit in life from time to time that women and men are able to meet their own needs.

### 1.2 Subordination

Subordination means an assessment or assumption that a role performed by one sex is inferior to the other. Women are considered responsible and have a role in domestic or reproductive affairs, while men are in public or domestic affairs. There are 3 data of subordination in Entrok novel. The form of subordination can be seen in the following data quote.

*One day, Bu Jujuk's husband came home when Bu Jujuk for the umpteenth time told him about Pak Jujuk's play and his gendakan kledek. Bu Jujuk who did not realize the presence of her husband continued to spill feelings while crying. Everyone immediately stopped when they heard her husband's screams. Bu Jujuk immediately wiped his tears, then hurriedly entered the house. From outside, I heard Mrs. Jujuk's husband swearing. "Wife doesn't know! The work feels great!" There was no answer from Bu Jujuk's mouth. Get rid of all the curses that were previously said to me. Bu Jujuk returned to his world, a world full of obedience and fear*[14]

In the data excerpt above, it can be seen that Bu Jujuk is a victim of subordination. She felt sad about her husband's cheating behavior. Bu Jujuk had to accept the fact that her husband was having an affair with another woman. As a wife, Bu Jujuk felt that she was under pressure because her husband had an affair without her knowledge. To reduce the feeling of inner pressure he told Marni. Although Bu Jujuk felt sad and disappointed with her husband's behavior, she still considered that in the family, her husband was the person she had to obey. The Bu Jujuk incident shows that women are in a lower position in the family. Women are required to always obey and this illustrates that women cannot freely voice their opinions that she does not like the treatment of men even though it is her husband. Furthermore, gender bias

against women in the form of subordination is found in the following data excerpt.

*Yes, but we both know that Amba will not sharpen his instincts like that based on university education," said Nuniek, who suddenly became so fluent, "The university will only teach her knowledge, not how to be a wise, patient and resourceful woman. Only a firm and determined companion, a strong anchor, will provide it all. And that would help him create a little distance between himself and himself. Also how to ward off demons*[15]

In the data quote above, it can be seen that Nuniek's subordination is of the view that education in seeking knowledge is only obtained in education, not choosing wisdom, patience and using reason. Amba doesn't care that a woman must have a wise attitude. This view depicts the subordination of women who cannot determine their attitude in doing something. Women are always considered as second-class beings who are the benchmark in determining attitudes.

### 1.3 Stereotype

Stereotype is the giving of a standard image or label stamp to a person or group based on an assumption, one of which is deviant. There are 5 data on stereotypes in the novel Entrok. This can be seen in the following quote

*Ni, you are nothing. There are no cool women. Nothing strong. Yes, the woman has a light job. Peel the cassava.*[14]

In the quote above, showing gender bias stereotypethat local women worked at that time only as cassava peelers. It can be seen from Teja who laughs at Marni who really wants to work as a coolie. There is an assumption that women are weak. However, their assumptions are not always true. Women can be stronger than men, they are able to do all the housework and are also able to work outside the home. When it is Marni's character who thinks that doing housework or domestic work is not as comfortable as working outside the home. Furthermore, stereotypes are also found in the following data excerpts.

*Simbok and I weren't the only people walking the streets this morning. In front of us, behind us, also beside, women carrying their necks towards Ngranget Market. We are always like buffalo being dragged in the early morning, towards the source of life.*[15]

Based on the data quote above, show that Simbok does not approve and refuses to let his son work as a coolie. This is because the job of being a coolie is a job that is inappropriate or inappropriate for a woman to do in Javanese is ora ilok. Simbok opposes and firmly disapproves of his daughter being unfit to work as a coolie. Furthermore, stereotypes are also seen in the following data quotes.

*nowadays there are more and more old women, especially if **still beautiful, who is dating a younger guy*** [15]

*They haven't even discussed how they will separate in public, how they will meet in Yogya, what should he do with his old life after **she is no longer a sacred flower to be presented to a future husband, after she no longer has a husband.** At that time something that **lighter jolted him: sadness realized that he has changed, while not clears why he thunderously pressed into that path, the path of god's work*** [15]

Based on above shows the stereotype experienced by Amba being approached by young men from her. Because Amba's beauty is admired by men even though she is old. Amba feels comfortable and enjoys being approached by men younger than her. Stereotypes occur that women are seen from facial features only, if they are old as long as they are beautiful, then men will approach them. The beauty of women is the yard to satisfy men's lust. Some views that beautiful women must like a lot. Everything has become a culture of various circles. With men's closeness to beautiful women, women's judgments are only for display.

#### 1.4 Violence

Violence means acts of violence, both physical and non-physical, perpetrated by one gender or an institution of the family, society or state against the other sex. There are 6 data on violence in the novel Entrok. Data about violence are found in the character's speech, the narrator's speech and the character's actions contained in the novel Entrok by Okky Madasary. This can be seen in the following quote

*In my memory, I can vaguely imagine that you hit Simbok, who was sick with fever and couldn't go to the market.*[14]

*If Simbok can't go to the market, we won't have food. And the man casually just waits for food. He's like a mad dog who **angry saat hunger.***[14]

*Yes, he is a mad dog. Only crazy dogs right? **biting his lovely wife I'm sick. At that time I was very scared. Hiding behind the door while sobbing. The boy left after **beat up his wife and never came back.***** [14]

Based on the data above, it can be seen that the violence experienced by Simbok was physically abused by her husband only because Simbok was sick, unable to go to the market to find food. Violence like this should not be done by a husband against his wife who is sick. A father should reflect a good attitude to his family, not violence. This incident traumatized Marni and Simbok and made them feel safe from violence even without the presence of a husband and father figure. Gender differences have put women in a lower position and have the right to be treated as they please by men. The symbol of the victim of the violence by her husband so that his wife and children are traumatized by the violence. In this violence, it is seen that women become an emotional outlet for men so that women become oppressed. Violence in the form of beatings and physical attacks that occurred in the household, namely when the sick Simbok was beaten by her husband for not having food. Furthermore, gender bias against women in the form of violence is also found in the following data excerpt.

*Lots of examples all around. Just look at mom, **For example, those who are often trampled on because they feel they always have to be nice to everyone who flatters them***[15]

*Murder is definitely a consequence **the most external beauty, and should be avoided wherever possible. That's what happened to the youngest child The famous Sleman merchant, almost as beautiful as the twins, was found buried in a **ripe on the outskirts of town,****...*[15]

In the data quote above, it can be seen that Violence experienced by Amba is uncomfortable with her beauty because she feels uncomfortable with the people around her. Men look at women from their physical appearance, women become an outlet for lust. Amba's acts of violence made her feel uncomfortable with the views of men. Men only look at women from the physical point of view, so that women are trampled on and not appreciated by men.

### 1.5 Workload

The workload received by one gender is more than the other gender. The reproductive role of women is often considered a static and permanent role. Although there has been an increase in the number of women working in the public sphere, this has not been accompanied by a decrease in their burden in the domestic sphere. There are 2 data of workload in Entrok novel. The workload can be seen in the following data excerpt.

*"Naah!"*

*This is always how it goes. Mother, who a few minutes earlier was smiling and obedient, was now in a trance. His face, full of anger. His mouth keeps cursing about many things, it's not clear why. Tonah came rushing over. "You're not very good at cleaning. It's still all dirty like this, what's your intention to work or not?" Tonah, who had worked in this house for a long time, was used to such things. He already knew, everyone in uniform came, that meant it was time for him to accept all the insults. Never argue, never hurt. [14]*

Based on the data quote above, it can be seen that women in this Entrok novel. One example is Tonah. The woman who works at Marni's house as a household assistant. She has been doing domestic work (household) such as washing, cooking, serving her husband, taking care of her husband and children. But he also has to work outside the home to be able to make ends meet, namely by working at Marni's house. The data shows that Tonah works at Marni's house. It is a high or rich habit to oppress the poor. The upper class took actions that made them feel burdened. However, because of the need to make a living, he was forced to work as a housemaid for the rich. Women have to work as household assistants or maids in order to fulfill their daily needs regardless of what work they will do.

*Lots of examples all around. Just look at the mother, for example, who is often trampled on because she feels **always have to be nice to everyone who flatter her** [15].*

*Murder is definitely a consequence the most external beauty, and should be avoided wherever possible. That's what happened to the youngest son of a Sleman merchant who was famous for being beautiful, almost as beautiful as The twins, who were found buried in a ripe on the outskirts of town,... [14]*

In the data quote above, it can be seen that Violence experienced by Amba is uncomfortable with her beauty because she feels uncomfortable with the people around her. Men look at women from their physical appearance, women become an outlet for lust. Amba's acts of violence made her feel uncomfortable with the views of men. Men only look at women from the physical point of view, so that women are trampled on and not appreciated by men.

Based on the above, efforts to improve the position and role of men and women in various family and community lives can be carried out by taking into account the results of the analysis of the occurrence of gender gaps through the writing of teaching materials. The introduction of teaching materials with a gender perspective should start early, starting at the basic education level. It is time for gender bias or injustice to be eliminated by issuing regulations and laws concerning women's rights on this earth. It does not stop there, the level of understanding of religion in everyone needs to be increased, expanded and deepened so that it no longer harms one party, especially women. The issue of gender bias also needs to be emphasized in a literary work.

### 4. AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTION

The results of this study can be used as an effort to improve the position and role of men and women in various family and community lives which can be done by taking into account the results of the analysis of the occurrence of gender gaps through writing teaching materials.

### 5. CONCLUSION

Gender bias in Okky Madasary's Entrok novel, there are several forms of gender bias found, such as marginalization or the process of economic impoverishment, subordination or women are always placed in an unimportant position or under men, stereotypes or negative labeling and labeling, violence both physical and spiritual, as well as the double workload experienced by female characters. Likewise with gender bias in novels *Amba* by Laskmi Pamunjat There are several forms of gender bias found, such as marginalization or the process of economic impoverishment, subordination or women are always placed in an unimportant position or under men, stereotypes or negative labeling and labeling, violence both physical and psychological. Gender Bias in Okky Madasary's Entrok Novel and Lastmi Pamunjat's *Amba* Novel can be seen from the problems narrated, in Okky Madasari's Entrok novel the problem of gender bias is more directed to discrimination against women whose lives are abused and looked down upon by society,

while in Laskmi's *Amba* novel Pamunjak describes injustice against women who are descendants of a noble. Even though she is of noble descent, she does not have the freedom to carry out her activities as a woman.

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