

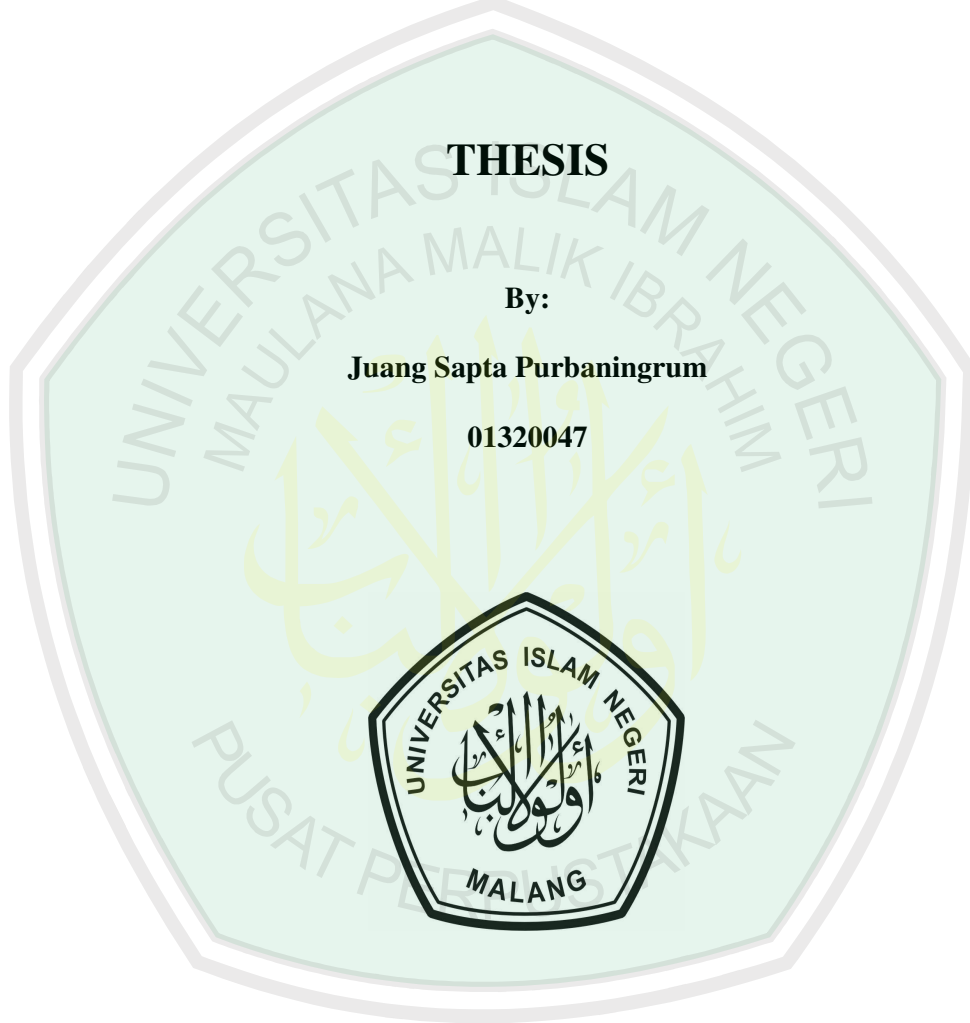
**THE PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE FOR WOMEN  
AS SHOWN IN *EMMA*  
BY JANE AUSTEN**

**THESIS**

**By:**

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Malang, 18 December 2007

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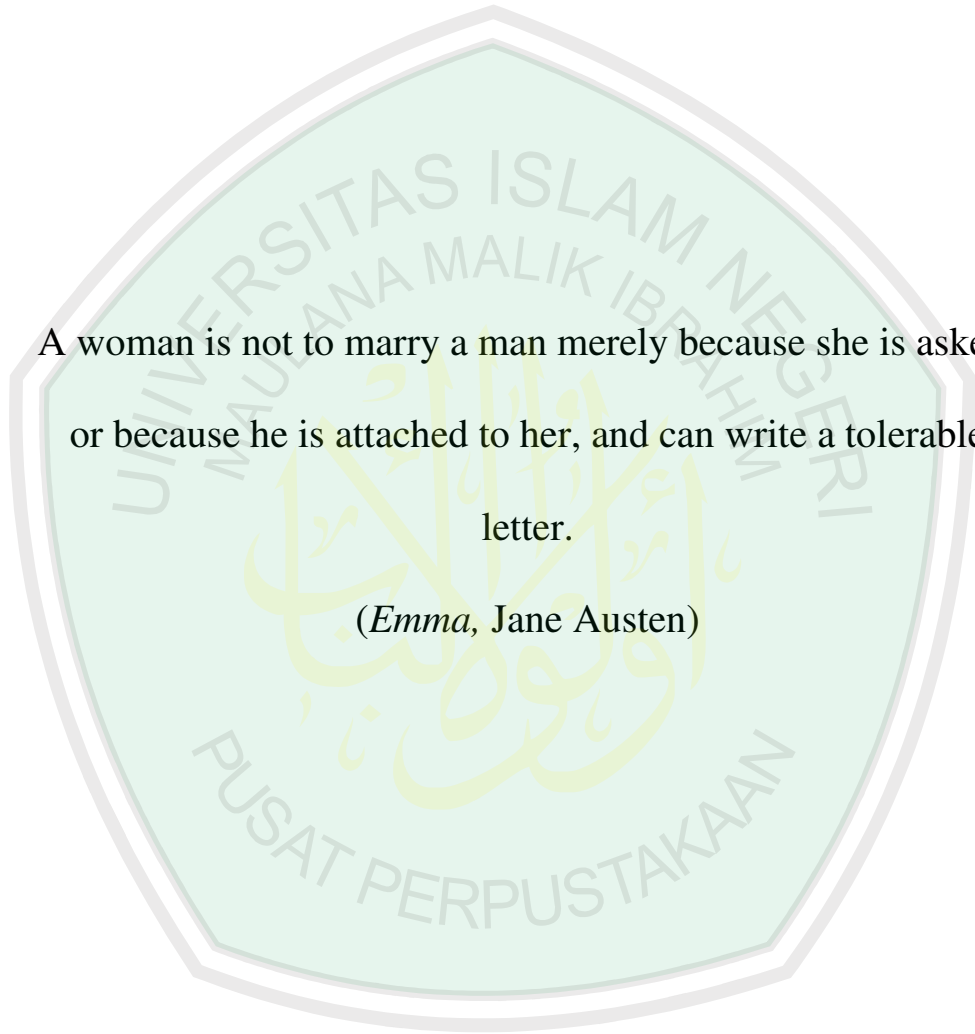
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## MOTTO

A woman is not to marry a man merely because she is asked,  
or because he is attached to her, and can write a tolerable  
letter.

*(Emma, Jane Austen)*



## DEDICATION

To my jewels in paradise, Mom and Dad (Soebinto, BA. (late) and R.ng Samrotun (late). Although they had passed away, their spirits guide me in every step of my life. “Mom, Dad,... thank you for all the love you had given me until the end of your life.” Their love and sacrifice are so bounty that I cannot picture them in words. And I will always send them my pray (Oh My God, give them the best place beside you, and love them as they love me. Amen).

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To someone who always be in my heart, my beloved mas Ajie, thanks for the sincere love and care. I am lucky to be yours.

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Writer,





## ABSTRACT

Purbaningrum, Juang Sapta. 2007. *The Purpose of Marriage for Women as Shown in Emma*. English Letters and Language Department, Faculty of Humanities and Culture, the State Islamic University of Malang. Advisor: Dra. Siti Masitoh M.Hum.

**Keywords:** marriage, sociological approach, sociology of literature, fiction.

There are so many theories state about the close relationship between literary work and social reality. Literary work is the inheritance of its time and environment. This statement means that as explained before, literature can not be separated from the place and the environment it was created. Arthur Golden, a novelist from America was able to create a story about Geisha that is a Japanese traditional courtesan because he has stayed in Japan for a long time. That is why sociological approach is very much right and relevant in analyzing a work of literature. This also occurred in *Emma* by Jane Austen. The story that happened in the novel is actually a reflection of social phenomena in England at that time.

This research is conducted based on two statements of the problem are to identify the purposes of marriage shown in *Emma* and to know the role of *Emma* in some marriage event.

This research design in this study is a descriptive qualitative research. In descriptive research, the result of the analysis is not mentioned in number of coefficient of cause of effect relationship but in words or phrases. And the research studied is designed to obtain the information concerning the current status of phenomenon and is directed toward determining of the nature of situation as if in the time of study.

Based on the result of the analysis, the thesis writer finds the following results. First of all, women have some consideration before accepting a man to be her husband as shown in *Emma*. Good income is the first consideration, and then the second consideration is social status. A woman who has had high social status does not think too much about marriage because getting married or not, she has been respected by her society surround her. This happened to Emma. In the beginning she decided not to get married because she has passed her days in happiness, and she will in charge of her father's household. Finally, she gets married to a man of equal social status. Secondly, Emma actually has an important role in the occurrence of marriage because she always has judgment in every wedding planning.

The thesis writer also has some suggestions. First, it is suggested that other researchers try to analyze the other aspects from *Emma* that has a relationship with women studies. Second, in accordance with this study, it is advisable to conduct a study on the psychological aspects. And the last, it is expected that this study can be used for reference in conducting and broadening the same field or the other fields.

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of study

Marriage is a very interesting topic nowadays. In some places in the world, marriage is not considered important anymore. Some groups of women tend to postpone their marriage until they get 30 or even some of them decide not to marry. Free sex culture which comes from the Western also gives much influence to the view of marriage by modern. Or as Prihantoro put it (in MATABACA, August 12th, 2006), people begin to question whether or not the institution of marriage is still relevant today. We can also see this phenomenon on television or other media. If we say that the viewpoint of the people is influenced by the Western culture, is it always like that in the Western culture. But what about the people of Western culture? Is it true that also begin to question marriage? Maybe the following statement will answer (Gallagher, 2001: 18):

*Marriage is an institution in crisis. Close to half of new marriages end in divorce. A third of our children are born out of wedlock. The majority of children, at current estimates, will experience a fatherless or motherless household. Making substantial progress in reversing the trend toward family fragmentation will require that law and society reject the deepest presumptions driving postmodern family as an ideological and legal construct: the idea that marriage is essentially a private choice created by and for the couple; that children do just fine in whatever family forms their parents choose to create; that babies are irrelevant to the public purposes of marriage.*

The following data may be interesting to note. For women graduates born

from 1930 to 1950, the average age of first marriage was around age 23, and then increases to 25.5 for those born in 1957 (Harvard Magazine December 2004). From the same source, Whyte points out that Americans seem to be more hesitant about getting married, and they're marrying later, but Americans have married at younger ages, and we still marry at younger ages, than in many European societies and in Japan. (Western societies show a general pattern of later marriage and more nonmarriage than most Asian and African societies, he notes. In both traditional and modern Chinese society, only a small percentage of men are "bare sticks," as single men are known, and marriage for women is virtually universal; but in European societies "bachelors" and "spinsters" have long made up 8 to 12 percent of the population or more. Ireland had the highest rates of nonmarriage in earlier times, when a quarter to a third of the Irish never married.) "There's very little evidence of rejection of marriage as an institution," says Whyte, citing polls reporting that 95 percent of Americans say they want to marry and think they will. (Among those who say they don't want to marry are some gays and lesbians "who reject marriage as a bourgeois, conservative, patriarchal institution," he notes.)

It seems the institution of marriage in U.S. or Western Culture is also being questioned, at least by some of them. What about in the past? We can trace it back in *Emma*. *Emma* discussed at length the marriage in the society of Highbury, London in seventeenth century. It is inevitable that some works of literature really reflect the condition of the society at that time and. Therefore,

regarding the theme of marriage, *Emma* is taken here.

*Emma*, published in 1815, has been described as a "mystery story without a murder". The main character the charming but perhaps too clever Emma Woodhouse, who manages to deceive herself in a number of ways (including as to who she really loves), even though she (and the reader) are often in possession of evidence pointing toward the truth. Readers are also curious whether she would really get married or not.

*Emma* contains a social phenomenon – in this case, marriage -- happened in England, exactly in Highbury in the early nineteenth century. The novel describes a year in the life of the village of Highbury, portraying many of the various inhabitants. The title of this novel is taken from the main character of the novel that is Emma. In this novel, Emma is described as a lady from middle class family who is close and appreciated enough by her neighbors. The typical character owned by Emma as told in this novel is that she liked matching her neighbors in marry. Even, she tends to state that a couple were match and appropriate or not from her point of view. In her course of life, successfully she matched some of her neighbors to be spouses. In the other hand, Emma her self made a commitment not to be married to anyone along her life. But in the end of the novel, it is being told that Emma married with a man who was also her fellow. The novel focuses on marriage because marriage offers women a chance to show their power, if only for a short time, and to decide their own destinies without adopting the labors or efforts of the working class. Participating in the rituals of courtship and accepting or

rejecting proposals is perhaps the most active role that women are permitted to play in Emma's world (<http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/emma/>, accessed on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007).

The interesting thing here is the reason Emma broke her commitment not to marry with any gentleman. Why did she virtually marry with Mr. Knightley, one of her fellow? From the core of this novel as if Austen wanted to tell the readers that marriage is an important thing, especially for women. That is why in this novel Emma was very much busy in matching his friends or neighbors to marry, as if Emma herself confessed that marriage is important, even she virtually married. As you can see here from Emma's statement in the novel:

*I made the match, you know, four years ago; and to have it take place, and be proved in the right, when so many people said Mr. Weston would never marry again, may comfort me for any thing. (pp.10)*

It is also stated that *Emma* has a theme about social culture in England in the early nineteenth century including how important marriage was for women at that time ([www.pinkmonkey.com](http://www.pinkmonkey.com)). The setting of time of the novel actually was in the seventeenth century and the place background is Highbury, London England. But, literature has no limitation of time and space. It means that the social reality in *Emma* may also be true in other places, and the phenomenon did not only happen in the seventeenth century. The mirror of the event also can be suit to other time and places. Marriage is actually important for woman not only in England and in seventeen century, but in many places until recent time or even in the time before without the author understanding.



This theory is based on the opinion that interpretation of literary work is independent, up to the reader (Kutha Ratna, 2004:58). Even sociology of literature considers that literary work belongs to people (Kutha Ratna, 2004:59). Thus, even though literary work history is affected very much by the time and place of the author's live, whenever the work was published, it becomes the right of the readers to give meaning and interpretation.

For this reason, then it can be said that a literary work gives no limit scope to the readers for research. So, no one has the right to say that one literary work may not be analyzed for more for it had been analyzed by many people. However, the literary work is classical one, however old it is, with the same title, there is still space to be analyzed and appreciated.

For the reason above, the thesis writer states that actually Emma is a classical novel and hundred of researchers have analyzed it. However, it is still acceptable to be analyzed for the theme about the importance of marriage for women has not been touched by any researchers before.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

From the background of the study explored above, then it can be stated that the problem of the study is:

1. What is the purpose of marriage shown in *Emma*?
2. How important is Emma's role in the marriage event in *Emma*?

### 1.3 The Objective of the Study

By the existence of the problem above, it is clear that the objective of this study is to find the answer of the question. The object of the study, then, is to identify the purposes of marriage in *Emma*.

### 1.4 Significance of the Study

Hopefully, this research will give contribution in the form of more knowledge and evidences that literary work can be analyzed by using other discipline of knowledge, mainly sociology. This research hopefully will give evidence how far sociology of literature can be applied in analyzing literary work, mainly *Emma* by Jane Austen.

Practically, it is expected that this study can help the readers understand *Emma* by Jane Austen easier. Beside that, it will also contribute to the variety of understanding of *Emma* among the readers.

### 1.5 Scope and limitation of the study

As it is stated in the background of study, literary work gives no limit scope to be analyzed, and when a literary work has been in the reader's hand, it can have many meanings or interpretations since one reader will have different meaning from the others. The differences are caused by the point of view, theory, or approach used by the readers. That is why, in order to this research easier to understand and to avoid broadening in discussion, the thesis writer limits the study only on the main problems as stated above that is the

importance of marriage as well as the purposes of marriage in the society in *Emma*. Beside that, the author also focuses her theory only on sociology, or more precisely on the sociology of literature. Some concepts of marriage will be presented in chapter two as guidance for the study.

### **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

In order to make the readers easier in understanding this study, here the thesis writer will give the definition of some key terms that are important to be understood as the following:

1. Woman : adult female human being
2. Marriage: is a sexual union between male and female which create or form a kind of kinship or family ties.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

This chapter will discuss the literature used in analyzing the novel. Here there will be discussions on the concept of marriage. Then it will be followed by the sociological approach. And at last, there will also be a discussion on the previous study.

#### **2.1 Marriage**

In this part, it will be discussed the definition of marriage, and the functions of marriage. Then the functions of the marriage will be explained one by one according to its factor.

##### **2.1.1 Definition of Marriage**

Of course, there are so many definitions on marriage. Let us examine some of them. For instance, let us take a look a statement from Muriati (2004:197):

*Marriage is a socially, religiously, or legally recognized as a union between two or more people for the purpose of building a family; legalizing sexual relations; social stability; education and development of offspring; transfer of property; security; and companionship, or any of such combinations. Marriage is likely a way to build family as a small unit of organization consists of husband, wife, and some children*

Meanwhile, another definition of marriage is that marriage across societies is a public sexual union that creates kinship obligations and sharing of

resources between men, women, and the children their sexual union may produce (Gallagher, 2002: 2).

It seems we can see similar aspects in both definitions, that are union and family or kinship. Let us take a look at another definition. It is stated in Lectriclawlibrary.com, accessed on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006) that definitions of marriage vary historically between and within cultures: modern understanding emphasizes the legitimacy of sexual relations in marriage, yet the universal and unique attribute of marriage is the creation of familial ties. Meanwhile, Weaver (1856: 105) stated that “Marriage is a union, intimate, strong-bound, and vitally active. The union is a compound or a mixture; it is natural, congenial, pleasing, or it is forced, inharmonious, and revolting.”

In addition, in sociology and anthropology, marriage is considered to be a domestic or kinship institution (Koentjaraningrat, 2000: 166). Moreover, it can also be said as a transition stage in one’s life. More precisely, it is transition stage from adolescence to family life (Koentjaraningrat., 1998: 93).

Marriage as an institution traces has been found in nearly every culture since long time ago. Until the late of twentieth century, marriage was commonly suggested as the unification of a man and a woman in a relation of sexual fidelity. In their marital roles, the terms husband and wife, respectively, are used; generically, both are called spouses (www.wikipedia.com. accessed on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006).

From the sources above, we can identify some elements before concluding what a marriage is. Those elements are union, sexual, and kinship

or family. Thus, in short we can conclude that marriage is *a sexual union between male and female which create or form a kind of kinship or family ties.*

### ***2.1.2 History of Marriage Definitions***

In the early Roman family existed very largely for the sake of perpetuating the worship of ancestors. Of course, ancestor worship could have had nothing to do with the origin of the family life among the Romans. The type of their family life was patriarchal, and we have already noticed the causes which brought about the existence of the patriarchal family. But while ancestor worship had nothing to do with the origin of the family, once it was thoroughly established it became the basis of the family life and transformed the family as an institution (Ellwood, 1991: 37)

In the West society the nuclear family appeared after 1100 AD. Most non-Western societies have a broader definition of family that includes an extended family network. Having children actually is not a compulsory thing, even some married couples remain childless by the choice or due to infertility, age, or other factors preventing reproduction (wikipedia.com. acces on December 29th, 2006).

Precise definitions vary historically between and within cultures: modern understanding emphasizes the legitimacy of sexual relations in marriage, yet the universal and unique attribute of marriage is the creation of affinal ties (Lectriclawlibrary.com accessed on December 29th, 2006).

However, there is a change in definition of marriage in modern societies. We can see such a change in an American Society as noted by Hodder in the *Harvard Magazine* November-December 2004 edition here:

*Historic change in American matrimony is especially pronounced in three areas, says Cott: the equalizing of the "respective rights and duties of wives and husbands," the dissolution of marital prohibitions based on race, and the evolution from state-defined grounds for divorce to couple-defined "no fault" divorce. The most recent area of contention, of course, is whether the state should sanction marital consent between same-sex couples. Although such a prospect is unthinkable to some, earlier forms of legal marriage are equally unimaginable now.*

Here marriage also covers same-sex marriage as legalized in some countries and some states in the United States.

### **2.1.3 Purpose of Marriage**

For some people, especially religious people, marriage is a holy institution or a holy matrimony. Even the Christians hold the belief that a marriage should not be broken by human being. In a famous saying, Western people say "till death do us apart." As we see from the quotation above, woman is created to accompany man. This belief is also hold by Muslims. Therefore, we can conclude that one of the purposes of marriage is religious purpose, to be united by God for the life here and hereafter. As also stated by Weaver (1856: 108):

*Marriage relation sunk by the unhallowed and unbridled sensuality of thousands who enter it! If there is any place in the world where the voice of God should be heard ringing in pealing thunder-tones the commands of virtue and religion, it is in the*

*seclusion of the Marriage relation. Men, and women, too, ought to look to Marriage with a profounder respect and a higher purpose. It is a holy institution. To degrade it is wicked and brings the most bitter unhappiness.*

The idea is also supported by saying that if we seek only the unity and love that is possible on a human level It will not last forever; but If we unite in a good spirit, then God will give us faithful love that can endure to the end (Arnold, 2002: 63)

Pope John Paul II wrote in his Apostolic Letter on the Dignity and Vocation of Women: “man and woman are called from the beginning not only to exist ‘side by side’ or ‘together,’ but they are also called to exist mutually ‘one for the other’ ...On the basis of the principle of mutuality being ‘for’ the other in interpersonal ‘communion’ end (Arnold, 2002: vii)

Another purpose of marriage is for the reproductive function. Marriage is a way for human being to generate children, create family, kinship, and finally society (Gallagher, 2002: 2). However, the views of some people toward children and families nowadays have changed. Regarding this, Arnold (2002 :89) noted the changes in modern societies in the Western culture: “Modern society despises the family. It is difficult for a family with several children to find a house, and in many places it is impossible to rent an apartment, even if there is only one child. Children are simply not wanted. Many people think it regrettable to leave jobs or other pursuits to have children, and they often look down on women who choose to stay at home to raise children instead of pursuing a more “acceptable” career.



Koentjaraningrat (1998: 93), has also approved that one of the purpose of marriage is creating families or kinship. He said that the functions of marriage are to protect children, to provide companions for human being, to fulfill economic needs, and to maintain good relationship in kinship.

Regarding economic aspect of marriage, it can be summed up from this statement ([www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com). accessed on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006) :

“marriage sometimes reaffirms the legal father of a woman's child; reaffirms the legal mother of a man's child; gives the husband or his family control over the wife's sexual services, labor, and/or property; gives the wife or her family control over the husband's sexual services, labor, and or property; establishes a joint fund of property for the benefit of children; establishes a relationship between the families of the husband and wife. No society does all of these; no one of these is universal.”

Thus, from the explanation above we can conclude that the functions of marriage are: (1) as a religious expression, (2) as means of reproduction in order to create a family, and (3) as a means of developing well being of individual and society at large in the form of household.

From this conclusion then it can be discussed some factors related to the marriage. Those factors are religion, reproduction, and economic/social status.

#### ***2.1.4 Marriage and Reproduction***

Marriage is conducted in order to have children. The children are expected to build a community and society. Thus, marriage not only serves

the interests of the two individuals, but also the interests of their children and the society. This view is well supported by Grossbard-Shechtman in her article (1993, 1 seminar paper) when she stated that “The institution of marriage is found in nearly all human societies. This fact clearly reflects the importance of sexual and reproductive functions in human life.”

In most of the world's major religions, marriage is a prerequisite for sexual intercourse: unmarried people are not supposed to have sex. Sex with a married person other than one's spouse, called adultery, is even less acceptable and also often been considered as a crime. Conversely, a marriage is commonly held to require a sexual relationship, in the hope of getting children ([www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)).

Regarding the matter of reproduction and family, Elwood (2004: 24) states that:

*“...it must be said that the family life is essentially a device of nature for the preservation of offspring through a more or less prolonged infancy. The family group and the instincts upon which it rests were undoubtedly, therefore, instituted by natural selection. Summing up, we may say, then, the animal family group owes its existence, first, to the production of child or immature forms that need more or less prolonged care; secondly, to the prolongation of this period of immaturity in the higher animals, and especially in man; thirdly, to the development, parallel with these two causes, of parental instincts which keep male and female together for the care of the offspring. It is evident, then, that the family life rests, not upon sex attraction, but upon the fact of the child and the corresponding psychological fact of parental instinct.”*

From the quotation, it can be concluded that marriage or creating a family life for human (here called as higher animals) is a means to preserve the offspring; or in another word, to preserve the species.

### 2.1.5 Marriage and Economics

The economics of marriage have changed over time. Historically, in many cultures the family of the bride had to provide a dowry to pay a man for marrying their daughter. In other cultures, the family of the groom had to pay a bride price to the bride's family for the right to marry the daughter

In some cultures, dowries were not unconditional gifts; if the groom had other children, they could not inherit the dowry, which had to go to the bride's children, and which, in the event of her childlessness, had to return to her family -- sometimes not until the groom's death, or his remarriage; often the bride was entitled to inherit at least as much as her dowry from her husband's estate.

Regarding this matter, Friedman in *Price Theory*, stated that:

*In many societies, marriage is commonly accompanied by payments--bride price paid by the groom or his family to the family of the bride, dowry provided by the bride's family to the new couple, and so on. While explicit payments of this sort are not a part of our marriage institutions (unless you count expenditures on the wedding and the wedding gifts), one may still see a marriage as containing an implicit price. When two people get married, they do so with some general understanding of the terms they are omitting themselves to: how free a hand each will have with the common funds, what duties each is expected to perform, and so on. One may think of the terms of this understanding as corresponding to a price and serving the same function as an explicit price in other markets.*

In some legal systems, the partners in a marriage are jointly liable for the debts of the marriage. This has a basis in a traditional legal notion called the Doctrine of Necessities whereby a husband was responsible to provide necessary things for his wife. Where this is the case, one partner may be

sued to collect a debt for which they did not expressly contract. Critics of this practice note that debt collection agencies can abuse this claiming an unreasonably wide range of debts to be expenses of the marriage. The cost of defence and the burden of proof is then placed on the non-contracting party to prove that the expense is not a debt of the family.

Another view is stated by Grossbard-Shechtman (A seminar paper without year: 1) who said that *“Marriages and firms share many characteristics in common. Both institutions deal with a set of promises between two parties and therefore need contracts to encourage individual parties to stand by their promises and commitments.”*

According to Grossbard-Shechtman (1993: 2) *“Most economic analyses of marriage have been part of applied micro-economics, and they have relied on the same theoretical tools that economists use in all micro-economic applications of economics: cost/benefit analysis, game theory and market analysis.”* The explanation of the analysis is below:

1. The most basic economic theory of marriage is cost/benefit analysis. Costs and benefits can be compared whether one searches for lasting romantic love, or for a companion who will replace the maid. Men and women may all perform such analyses, even if the factors that they consider as costs and benefits may differ somewhat. Cost/benefit theories of marriage are rational choice theories.
2. Game theory is a second theoretical tool that is commonly used by economists of marriage. Game theories apply whenever behavior is

strategic. Whether its goal is holy matrimony or the satisfaction of biological needs, marriage involves strategic behavior and therefore game theory is applicable. If strategies differ by gender, game theories can be used to model gender wars or cooperative behavior between husbands and wives.

3. *Market analysis* applies whenever choices are available on a demand side or a supply side. The existence of any possible substitute opens the door to potential competition. If there can be competition, there is a market, even if the competitive spirit is totally eradicated, and if the workings of a market for mates are not so obvious to most observers. The process of competition for potential mates can be observed universally, but takes different forms from one culture to the next. In the West, it can be observed at bars, church socials, proms, etc. In India it is more likely to take the form of a list of available grooms and grooms printed in the local newspaper. In Japan and Korea, the need to compete drives parents to circulate numerous copies of the resume of their marriageable children.

### 2.1.6 Marriage as Institution

In the perspective of sociology, marriage is classified as an institution; or, more precisely social institution, so this section will give an explanation on the institution. Then, there will be an exploration on this concept.

Before, we go on further, let us study the definition of *institution*.

Koentjaraningrat (2000:163) suggested that *institution is a special system of norm which organizes a course of established actions in order to fulfill the need of the people in society.*

Further, Koentjaraningrat (2000:166-167) classified institution into eight types. The types of institution, then, can be classified into the following categories:

1. *kinship or domestic institution*: institution which serves to satisfy the need of kinship; for example, marriage, kinship system, and child rearing, etc.,
2. *economic institution*: institution which fulfill the need of living, producing, storing, and distributing products. The examples are farming, hunting, banking, industry, etc.,
3. *educational institution*: institution which functions to educate people such as library, university, schools, etc.,
4. *scientific institution*: institution to serve the scientific needs of human in understanding the nature such as research, methodology, etc.,
5. *aesthetic and recreational institution*: institution which fulfill the need of human to express beauty and as a means of recreation such as painting, music, literature, drama, etc.,

6. *religious institution*: institution used by human to communicate with God and/or supernatural being. For instance, ceremonies, prayer, magic, etc.,
7. *political institution*: institution serves to fulfill the need of human to manage the power and the society such as government, political parties, general election, etc.,
8. *somatic institution*: institution to serve the physical needs and convenience of human life such as beauty, health, sport, etc.

From the explanation on the types of institution, we can see that marriage is included in *kinship* or *domestic institution*.

Domestic institution in the form of a family is very important. As stated by Turkamani (1992: 40) that "a marriage couple will create a new foundation - an institution which is higher than any other institution. And this institution will become the place to prepare the children for the next generation." In short, it can be said that good families will create good societies, and support the children as the future generation.

## **2.2 Sociological Approach**

Recently theory of literature has progressed into a remarkable stage. Theory of literature has influenced and has also been influenced by other discipline of knowledge/science. This idea is supported by Budiman (in Rokhman, 2003 :118) who stated that "the theories of literature and their

components have influenced and have given alternatives to other disciplines such as psychoanalysis, history, sociology, and anthropology, and vice versa.

Regarding the relationship between literature and other disciplines, Rokhman (2003 : 4-6) suggested that there some advantages for literature itself. The *first* advantage is that literature studies will not be alienated from other humanity studies. The *second* one is that the study of literary works will be leveled with anthropological, sociological, and historical studies, as well as with other studies. The *third* is that literature will give a chance for people to think in a democratic way. Then, the *fourth* advantage is that literary studies will enrich the knowledge on human behavior that can be learned by the social scientist or people from other disciplines. At last, the *fifth* advantage, is that in the long run there will be a change of attitudes of views on literary studies. It means that in the future people will not think that literary studies can only be done by literary experts, but it can also be conducted by experts of other disciplines in social studies.

Based on the reason above, then it is acceptable if it is stated that *Emma* can be analyzed using a sociological approach. Therefore, in this research, the approach used to analyze the novel is a sociological approach. Because the object of the study is a literary wok, so there will be discussion on the sociology of literature too. But, first the discussion will be on sociology.



### **2.2.1 Sociology**

Sociology, as Koentjaraningrat (2000: 26-27) stated, was at first a part of philosophy. Before nineteenth century, it was considered as a social philosophy. However, after the big crises in Europe which resulted in French Revolution and Industrial Revolution, some scholars such as H. de Saint-Simon (1760-1825) and Auguste Comte (1789-1857) tried to make sociology as a discipline of science by its own.

What is actually sociology then? Let us learn first from the definitions given by some experts. Swingewood (in Faruk, 1999: 1) defined sociology as a scientific and objective study on human in society, social process, and institutions. Meanwhile, Ritzer (in Faruk, 1999: 1) stated that sociology is a multi paradigm discipline. Another definition is suggested by Ellwood (2004: 6) that “sociology is a science which deals with society as a whole and not with its separate aspects or phases. It attempts to formulate the laws or principles which govern social organization and social evolution. This means that the main problems of sociology are those of the organization of society on the one hand and the evolution of society on the other.” Similarly, Giddens (1989) Sociology is the study of human social life, groups and societies. It is a dazzling and compelling enterprise, having as its subject matter our own behaviour as social beings.

The scope of sociology is extremely wide, ranging from the analysis of passing encounters between individuals in the street up to the investigation of world-wide social processes” ([www.sociologyguide.com](http://www.sociologyguide.com), accessed on

August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007). According to Soekanto 1985: 2) sociology is aimed at studying all aspects of human life scientifically. Kahmad (2000:9) said that sociology is a study about the life of human in society. Thus, it can be concluded from the explanation that sociology is “a study of human in societies as well as social process, and institution.”

### ***2.2.2 Sociology and Literature***

Goldman in Faruk (1999: 17) stated that a literary work differs from sociology in that the author tries to express the worldview by creating the imaginary world of the characters and objects. On the other side, sociology refers to empirical matters.

With this view Wolff (Faruk: 1999: 43) identified that the relationship between literature and society can be mediated by three mediation, namely semiotic mediation, conditions of literary production, and socio historical mediation.

### ***2.2.3 Sociology of Literature***

Wolff (in Faruk, 1999: 3) said that sociology of literature is a undefined discipline of knowledge. Further he stated that there will be no general concept of sociology of literature. Then, it is also stated that sociology of literature is “a study on literary works related to the influence the social status of the author, such political, social, and economical conditions” (Laelasari and Nurlailah, 2006: 236). It stated in [www.answers.com](http://www.answers.com)

(accessed on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007) that sociology of literature is a branch of literary study that examines the relationships between literary works and their social contexts, including patterns of literacy, kinds of audience, modes of publication and dramatic presentation, and the social class positions of authors and readers. It seems that there are many definitions on sociology of literature. However, one thing to be sure is that *it concerns with the relationship between sociology and literature*. In short, then, it can be said that sociology of literature is a discipline used to analyze a literary work in relation with the social circumstances around which the work was created.

Aminuddin (1990 :109) stated that the sociology of literature theory is used not only to describe social facts which is transferred or copied by the author in the work of fiction. The theory is also used to analyze the relationship between the author and his/her work, between the work and a social group, between the mass and the quality of the work, and between the social phenomena around the author and the work.

Concerning how sociological approach can be used to analyze a literary work, Damono (in Faruk, 1999: 4) said that there are three types of approach in the sociology of literature. The first type is sociological approach to the social background of the author such as his/her status, his/her ideology, etc. Then, the second is an approach toward the literary work itself. At last, the approach toward the reader and the social effects of the work.

Meanwhile, Junus (in Aminuddin, 1990: 109) divides sociological approach into three types. The three types are (1) an approach that views a

literary work as a sociocultural document, (2) an approach that views the social position of the author, and (3) an approach that emphasizes on the reader's reception toward a literary work.

On the other hand, Abrams (in Amminuddin, 1990:109) argued that a literary work can be approach from four elements which are interrelated. Those elements are the world, the author, the readers, and the literary work itself.

### **2.3 Previous Study**

In an article written for *Literary Encyclopedia* published on January 8th, 2001, Clark states that “Jane Austen has the distinction of being widely read all over the world, and being considered by specialists as one of the most important English-language novelists.” It can also be said that *Emma* is one of the major works written by Austen. It is indicated from the studies that have been conducted by the experts and people who group themselves in Austen's communities in some countries. In addition, this novel has also been adapted into a movie under the title *Clueless*, directed by Amy Heckerling, and starred by Alicia Silverstone and Paul Rudd produced by Paramount Picture in 1995.

A thesis written by Heather Lea Nelson, under the title “‘Till This Moment, I Never Knew Myself’: Developing Self, Love, and Art In Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Emma*”, which submitted to the Graduate Faculty of Wake Forest University in North Carolina in the year of 2005 tried to compare Austen's works, in this case *Sense and*

Sensibility and *Pride and Prejudice*. This research did not focus on *Emma* only, but also compared it with the other two major works of Austen, *Sense and Sensibility* and *Pride and Prejudice*. Beside that, it also used the theory of female development to analyze the major female character personalities in the novels. Regarding *Emma* the novel itself, the study uses the concept of popularity and rejection to analyze main character in order to know whom she really loves and wants to marry.

Then the previous study can be compared with the thesis conducted by the thesis writer. At least, there are three differences between the two studies. Firstly, there focus is different, the previous study compares the female characters in the three novels by Jane Austen, while the study conducted by the writer only focuses on *Emma*. Secondly, the previous study uses the theory of development, while the study conducted by the writer uses sociological approach. And the third, the previous study uses the concept of popularity and rejection to analyze main character in order to know whom she really loves and wants to marry, while the study by the writer uses the concept of marriage to explain the urgency of marriage for women. The thesis writer chooses the concept of marriage because there had been no studies about *Emma* which touched this concept. It seems interesting to study the urgency of marriage for women in the novel.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

#### **3.1 Research Design**

According to Kahmad (2000: 10) descriptive method of research is aimed at giving description, pictures, and images systematically, factually, accurately about the facts, attributes, and the relationship between the phenomena being studied. In this study, descriptive qualitative method will be used as the research method since descriptive method means to describe information concerning the current status of phenomena. This study is also called qualitative for it has soft data, that is the data in a form of word and rich description and analysis since qualitative study has characteristics, those are: has natural setting as the direct of the data source and the writer is the main instrument. Descriptive is the data collected in a form of word or picture rather than number; inductive data analysis in which the thesis writer does not search out the data or evidence to prove or disprove the hypotheses. This study also uses sociological approach to explain the data as stated in that previous chapter. The data in the novel will be seen from the sociological perspective. Because it emphasizes on the concept of marriage so the sociological approach will be used to analyze the novel.

### **3.2 Research Instrument**

Because this is a library research, meaning that the data are only from the literary works, so that instrument of the research is the thesis writer herself.

### **3.3 Source of the Data**

The primary source of the data in this study is *Emma*, a novel written by Jane Austen. The data in this study are in the form of phrases or sentences from the conversation or explanation in the story in the novel. The social background context will not be regarded in this study.

### **3.4 Data Collection**

In this study, the data are collected by finding out statements on the importance of marriage and the factors that are considered by women to get married as shown in *Emma*. The statements can be gathered from texts written whether in the form of narration told by the author or in the form of dialogues between characters in the novel.

### **3.5 Data Analysis**

The data of this study are analyzed in the following steps: first collecting the data related to the objective of the study; secondly, after the data are gathered then they are matched with the theories used, i.e., sociological approach on the topic of marriage and society; afterwards, the data are

evaluated whether they support the assumption; and finally, the thesis writer make conclusion based on the data that have been analyzed.





## CHAPTER IV

### ANALYSIS

This chapter presents the data obtained from the data sources. The data of each category are presented, analyzed, and then concluded. Based on the problems of the study, here it will be discussed the importance of marriage, and also factors that make marriage important as they are found in *Emma*.

#### 4.1 The Purposes of Marriage

There are three functions of marriage, namely marriage (1) as a religious expression, (2) as means of reproduction in order to create a family, and (3) as a means of developing well being of individual and society at large in the form of household.

##### 4.1.1 Economic and Social Status as the Factor of Marriage

Economy becomes very much important thing to be considered when somebody decides to get married. Husband usually becomes the main role in fulfilling the needs of a household in everyday life. That is why, frequently a woman must think over before she decided to accept some man to be her husband. This kind of statement can be found in *Emma* as in the following part:

*Sorrow came--a gentle sorrow--but not at all in the shape of any disagreeable consciousness--Miss Taylor married. It was Miss Taylor's loss which first brought grief. It was on the wedding-day of this beloved friend that Emma first*

*sat in mournful thought of any continuance. The wedding over, and the bride-people gone, her father and herself were left to dine together, with no prospect of a third to cheer a long evening. Her father composed himself to sleep after dinner, as usual, and she had then only to sit and think of what she had lost. (page 5)*

The paragraph above shows that there are some qualifications or criteria that should be considered, moreover by a woman, before choosing a man as her husband in marriage. As it is stated by Emma above, some of the points that should be considered are *the character or trait or personality, age, and also the income*. Emma considers that Mr. Weston is suitable for Miss Taylor because his personality is good, and also the age is suitable. But, after all, the important thing is that Mr. Weston has good income. Furthermore, the consideration of economical factor or income of the husband also has a close relationship with the status of a woman herself. That is why sometimes a woman is still in doubt of herself when the husband comes from a lower social class or has low income. This phenomenon, the doubt of a woman, can be seen from the following passage:

*"To be sure. Yes. Not that I think Mr. Martin would ever marry any body but what had had some education--and been very well brought up. However, I do not mean to set up my opinion against your's--and I am sure I shall not wish for the acquaintance of his wife. I shall always have a great regard for the Miss Martins, especially Elizabeth, and should be very sorry to give them up, for they are quite as well educated as me. But if he marries a very ignorant, vulgar woman, certainly I had better not visit her, if I can help it." (pp 24-25)*

The paragraph above indicates that Emma is in doubt whether she will hook Harriet up with Mr. Martin or not because he is actually a farmer. Emma considers that Harriet should not be married with a farmer otherwise she gets nothing at all for that. At the first, Emma does not agree with such kind of the idea because she guesses that Mr. Martin has family such a wife and son, but even though Emma realizes that Mr. Martin is still single she finds another new factor that makes her in doubt to match Harriet with Mr. Martin, that is because he is a farmer. This fact can be an indication that an occupation as a farmer is not a good job or income. Occupation as farmer is not a high level social class. Maybe for this reason than Emma declares not to give agreement if Harriet is suitable with Mr. Martin in marriage.

*"Only think of our happening to meet him!--How very odd! It was quite a chance, he said, that he had not gone round by Randalls. He did not think we ever walked this road. He thought we walked towards Randalls most days. He has not been able to get the Romance of the Forest yet. He was so busy the last time he was at Kingston that he quite forgot it, but he goes again to-morrow. So very odd we should happen to meet! Well, Miss Woodhouse, is he like what you expected? What do you think of him? Do you think him so very plain?" (pp. 25)*

As stated in the quotation above, actually Harriet appreciates Mr. Martin as a good man, and Mr. Martin himself states that he is a good man and will be a good husband when he gets married. However, Emma is sure that Mr. Martin is not a suitable person for her for some reasons as stated below:

*"I think, Harriet, since your acquaintance with us, you have been repeatedly in the company of some such very real gentlemen, that you must yourself be struck with the*

*difference in Mr. Martin. At Hartfield, you have had very good specimens of well educated, well bred men. I should be surprized if, after seeing them, you could be in company with Mr. Martin again without perceiving him to be a very inferior creature--and rather wondering at yourself for having ever thought him at all agreeable before.*

*Do not you begin to feel that now? Were not you struck? I am sure you must have been struck by his awkward look and abrupt manner, and the uncouthness of a voice which I heard to be wholly unmodulated as I stood here." (pp. 26)*

The paragraph above clearly suggests the importance of social status of a man for a woman. Even though Harriet has ensured Emma that Mr. Martin is a good man, Emma still disagrees and has no idea if Harriet marries him. Emma says that should marry to a suitable man because she is sure that Harriet comes from wealthy family. It means that person from wealthy family should get her husband from wealthy family too. The case is nearly the same as the traditional beliefs in some countries that still split their society into some social strata. Even though in modern era, the belief that a person from high social level should get the same level of social status man or woman as a husband of wife still frequently occurs anywhere.

The case happens in Harriet. It may indicate that is one of the reasons why people get married. It shows social status motive in getting married. It means that the disagreement of Emma about Mr. Martin to be a husband of Harriet is caused by social status consideration. If the reason of getting married is to increase social status, so the idea of Harriet's marriage to Mr. Martin is not a good idea or nonsense because Mr. Martin is just a farmer who cannot give prestige to Harriet.

Marriage is one way to increase social status. It means that a person from low social level or a commoner can get higher social status when he or she is married with a person from high social status. For example, an ordinary woman can get more prestige on honor after marrying a minister, soldier, or anyone with good occupation. That is why a farmer for Emma is not a prestige work so that she does not agree if Harriet is married to Mr. Martin who is only a farmer.

*"I lay it down as a general rule, Harriet, that if a woman doubts as to whether she should accept a man or not, she certainly ought to refuse him. If she can hesitate as to 'Yes,' she ought to say 'No' directly. It is not a state to be safely entered into with doubtful feelings, with half a heart. I thought it my duty as a friend, and older than yourself, to say thus much to you. But do not imagine that I want to influence you."(pp 41)*

Emma is described as a woman who actually has certain purpose for getting married. That is why a woman does not always accept a man who engages her to get married without any consideration. The reason for the consideration is described clearly in the following quotation:

*'Nonsense! a man does not imagine any such thing. But what is the meaning of this? Harriet Smith refuse Robert Martin? madness, if it is so; but I hope you are mistaken.'*

*"I saw her answer!--nothing could be clearer."*

*"You saw her answer!--you wrote her answer too. Emma, this is your doing. You persuaded her to refuse him."*

*"And if I did, (which, however, I am far from allowing) I should not feel that I had done wrong. Mr. Martin is a very respectable young man, but I cannot admit him to be Harriet's equal; and am rather surprized indeed that he should have ventured to address her. By*

*your account, he does seem to have had some scruples. It is a pity that they were ever got over."* (pp. 47)

There is a word 'respectable' here for describing Mr. Martin and Emma admits it, but for Emma respectable is not adequate to qualify Mr. Martin as a suitable man to be Harriet's husband. She says that Mr. Martin is not Harriet's equal. The paragraph below will show the reason of Emma's disagreement.

*"Not Harriet's equal!" exclaimed Mr. Knightley loudly and warmly; and with calmer asperity, added, a few moments afterwards, "No, he is not her equal indeed, for he is as much her superior in sense as in situation. Emma, your infatuation about that girl blinds you. What are Harriet Smith's claims, either of birth, nature or education, to any connexion higher than Robert Martin? She is the natural daughter of nobody knows whom, with probably no settled provision at all, and certainly no respectable relations. She is known only as parlour-boarder at a common school. She is not a sensible girl, nor a girl of any information. She has been taught nothing useful, and is too young and too simple to have acquired any thing herself. At her age she can have no experience, and with her little wit, is not very likely ever to have any that can avail her. (page 48).*

The statement of Emma that Mr. Martin is not Harriet equal has actually surprised Mr. Knightley, because in fact Mr. Martin is a respectable man as Emma herself has admitted it. In addition, he is also has good enough settlement and work, even though he is just a farmer. On the other side, Harriet has no clear certainty about her parents; in other words, she has not explained well about her background. That is why for Mr. Knightley, Harriet should be so grateful being a wife of Mr. Martin. For

this reason, what Emma has said about her disagreement to Mr. Martin and Harriet marriage is nonsense and absurd.

*"I cannot help wondering at your knowing so little of Emma as to say any such thing. What! think a farmer, (and with all his sense and all his merit Mr. Martin is nothing more,) a good match for my intimate friend! Not regret her leaving Highbury for the sake of marrying a man whom I could never admit as an acquaintance of my own! I wonder you should think it possible for me to have such feelings. I assure you mine are very different. I must think your statement by no means fair. You are not just to Harriet's claims. They would be estimated very differently by others as well as myself; Mr. Martin may be the richest of the two, but he is undoubtedly her inferior as to rank in society.--The sphere in which she moves is much above his.--It would be a degradation."(page 48)*

Again, the paragraphs above shows us that social status is an importance factor in considering marriage. Even though Mr. Knightley has said that Mr. Martin has good settlement or rich, he is only a farmer. Furthermore, Emma has another reason to disagree. Social status is the reason of Emma to reject Mr. Martin to be her intimate friend's husband. Emma states that actually Mr. Martin is rich, even richer than Harriet herself. But rich is different from social rank. For Emma, richness does not mean high social status or rank in society. The point to be viewed is the occupation. A farmer, like Mr. Martin cannot be included as a high social status of a work. A farmer, even though he has much money and rich, is only a farmer that is one of low social status of work in a society. This is enough to be the reason that Mr. Martin is not suitable to be Harriet husband.

*'Whoever might be her parents' said Mr. Knightley, 'It does not appear to have been their plan to introduce her into what you call society. She has been given a poor sort of education and is now left in Mrs. Goddard's house to have Mrs. Goddard's friendship and society. Her relatives evidently thought that was good enough for her. And it was good enough. She herself desired no better. She was as happy as possible with the Martins in the summer. She had no sense of superiority then. If she has it now it is because you have given it to her. Emma, you have been no friend to Harriet Smith. Robert Martin felt certain that she returned his affection otherwise I am sure that he would never have approached her.'* (pp. 49).

This paragraph shows the disagreement of Mr. Knightley that social status only viewed from the background of the parents. Mr. Knightley says that Harriet actually cannot be classified as a high social woman because she has poor education. In other word Harriet is a commoner and no reason to say that she is not Mr. Martin equal.

If it is stated that social status is the main reason to get married, then it means that a woman who has good social status does not need to get married. This case is affirmed by Emma in the paragraph bellow:

*"But then, to be an old maid at last, like Miss Bates!"*

*"That is as formidable an image as you could present, Harriet; and if I thought I should ever be like Miss Bates! so silly--so satisfied-*

*- so smiling--so prosing--so undistinguishing and unfastidious--and so apt to tell every thing relative to every body about me,*

*I would marry to-morrow. But between us, I am convinced there never can be any likeness, except in being unmarried."*

*"But still, you will be an old maid! and that's so dreadful!"*

*"Never mind, Harriet, I shall not be a poor old maid; and it is poverty only which makes celibacy contemptible to a generous public!"*



*A single woman, with a very narrow income, must be a ridiculous, disagreeable old maid! the proper sport of boys and girls, but a single woman, of good fortune, is always respectable, and may be as sensible and pleasant as any body else. And the distinction is not quite so much against the candour and common sense of the world as appears at first; for a very narrow income has a tendency to contract the mind, and sour the temper. Those who can barely live, and who live perforce in a very small, and generally very inferior, society, may well be illiberal and cross. This does not apply, however, to Miss Bates; she is only too good natured and too silly to suit me; but, in general, she is very much to the taste of every body, though single and though poor. Poverty certainly has not contracted her mind: I really believe, if she had only a shilling in the world, she would be very likely to give away sixpence of it; and nobody is afraid of her: that is a great charm." (pp. 67)*

The paragraph above shows that Emma does not need to get married because without getting married she has got happiness in her days. She is an active woman with busy mind and many activities. She also does not need any love or affection from a husband because she will get it from her relatives such as her nephews and nieces. However, we can see at the concluding part of the novel that finally Emma is married. And still she considers the social status. She gets married to a man of equal status, Mr. Knightley.

A very clear indication that economic factor really counts can be seen in the following passage:

*And all the grandeur of the connexion seemed dependent on the elder sister, who was very well married, to a gentleman in a great way, near Bristol, who kept two carriages! That was the wind-up of the history; that was the glory of Miss Hawkins (pp. 138)*

It can be seen that Miss Hawkins is considered to be in the glory or very fortunate because she is married to a gentleman who owns two carriages. So people view that economic factor is very important in considering marriage.

There is also one paragraph that states the two factors in one. It is stated by Emma when she gives comments about Mr. Martin:

*"Only four-and-twenty. That is too young to settle. His mother is perfectly right not to be in a hurry. They seem very comfortable as they are, and if she were to take any pains to marry him, she would probably repent it. Six years hence, if he could meet with a good sort of young woman in the same rank as his own, with a little money, it might be very desirable."(pp. 23-24)*

The two factors are stated in the last sentence "...in the same rank as his own, with a little money, it might be very desirable."

Marriage is actually so much important for everyone. But there are many things should be considered as the reason why people get marriage. The most of them are for getting better social status. There are many indications about this in the novel. Moreover for woman, because by marrying a good social status man, a woman from low social class in society automatically can increase her status for her husband. In another word, the social status of her husband affected her social status very much.

*Emma* is structured such a way that it shows the significance of social status in the society. The social status is determined by a combination of family background, reputation, and wealth—marriage is one of the main ways in which one can raise one's social status. This

method of social advancement is especially crucial to women. It is so because women avoid the possibility of improving their status through hard work or personal achievement.

Mr. Weston's first marriage to Miss Churchill has been a good movement for him, because she came from a wealthy and well-connected family (Mr. Weston is a tradesman), but the inequality of the relationship caused hardship to both. He marries Mrs. Weston just prior to the novel's opening, and this second marriage is happier because their social status are more equal—Mrs. Weston is a governess, and thus very fortunate to be rescued from her need to work by her marriage. Emma's attempt to match Harriet with Mr. Elton is also shunned by the other characters as inappropriate. Since Harriet's parents unknown, Emma believes that Harriet may have noble blood and encourages her to reject what turns out to be a more appropriate match with Robert Martin. By the time it is revealed in the last chapter that Harriet is the daughter of a tradesman.

*Emma*, a novel by Jane Austen, has many explanations about marriage related to social status in society. One of them is when Harriet wants to be hooked up with Mr. Martin. Actually Harriet herself doesn't have any problem with Martin, but Emma suggests her not to marry him because of social status reason. Even though Mr. Martin is a rich man with good settlement, because his occupation is just a farmer, so he is included as a low social status person.

Because the main reason of marriage by a woman is to increase the level of social status, then in another word a woman who has had enough income and high social status does not need to be married. This is the reason why Emma in the beginning has decided not to get married. She feels that her life is good enough with good income, money, and also social rank. She also enjoys her life everyday in happiness, so that she does not need to get married anymore.

It can also be stated, then, that economic factor is also an important factor in considering the marriage. It seems from the paragraphs being quoted that social status or rank go hand in hand with level of economic. Thus, a woman should only marry a man with a good income and an equal social status as the woman. If we view it from the purpose of marriage, then *the purpose of marriage in Emma is to develop the well being of individual and society at large in the form of household.*

#### **4.1.2 Reproduction Factor in Marriage**

Although it is not much indicated by the novel, marriage as a means of reproduction to create a family can also be included in the purpose of marriage here. There only a few indications in *Emma* which show that the marriage is for the sake of reproduction. It can be seen from the following paragraph:

*Mrs. Weston's friends were all made happy by her safety; and if the satisfaction of her well-doing could be*

*increased to Emma, it was by knowing her to be the mother of a little girl. She had been decided in wishing for a Miss Weston. She would not acknowledge that it was with any view of making a match for her, hereafter, with either of Isabella's sons; but she was convinced that a daughter would suit both father and mother best. It would be a great comfort to Mr. Weston, as he grew older-- and even Mr. Weston might be growing older ten years hence--to have his fireside enlivened by the sports and the nonsense, the freaks and the fancies of a child never banished from home; and Mrs. Weston-- no one could doubt that a daughter would be most to her; and it would be quite a pity that any one who so well knew how to each, should not have their powers in exercise again. "She has had the advantage, you know, of practising on me," she continued--"like La Baronne d'Almane on La Comtesse d'Ostalis, in Madame de Genlis' Adelaide and Theodore, and we shall now see her own little Adelaide educated on a more perfect plan." (pp.349)*

From the above quotation it is clear that children are important for a person who gets older. Children, for Mr. Weston is to sit by fireside with him and for Mrs. Weston for her to educate. So, children are important for Mr. and Mrs. Weston.

Another indication is shown in the following paragraph:

*Captain Weston, who had been considered, especially by the Churchills, as making such an amazing match, was proved to have much the worst of the bargain; for when his wife died, after a three years' marriage he was rather a poorer man than at first, and with a child to maintain. From the expense of the child, however, he was soon relieved. The boy had, with the additional softening claim of a lingering illness of his mother's, been the means of a sort of reconciliation; and Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, having no children of their own, nor any other young creature of equal kindred to care for, offered to take the whole charge of the little Frank soon after her decease. Some scruples and some reluctance the widower-father may be supposed to have felt; but as they were overcome by other*

*considerations, the child was given up to the care and the wealth of the Churchills, and he had only his own comfort to seek, and his own situation to improve as he could. (pp. 13)*

It is described that because Mr. and Mrs. Churchill doesn't have any children, they are willing to take care of the child. It can be seen here that actually children are also important in the society presented in the novel.

Thus, from the explanation above it can be stated that reproduction, although there are not many indications about it, can still be considered as a factor in marriage as shown in *Emma*. There is also another reason for the marriage in *Emma*, that is for the sake of reproduction. Marriage is intended to have sons and daughters for the parents to teach and to accompany them in the old age.

#### **4.2 Emma's role in some marriage events**

There are some marriage events in this novel. And Emma as the main character in the novel has a very important role for the marriages. The marriage of Harriet, Miss Taylor, and some others has got Emma's involvement because she always has some judgments for any marriage. She always judge and gives opinion weather this one is suitable or not for the other one.

*"Poor Miss Taylor! I wish she were here again. What a pity it is that Mr. Weston ever thought of her!"*

*"I cannot agree with you, papa; you know I cannot. Mr. Weston is such a good-humored, pleasant, excellent*

*man, that he thoroughly deserves a good wife. And you would not have had Miss Taylor live with us for ever, and bear all my odd humors, when she might have a house of her own.*

Emma in this paragraph has a different point of view from his father about Miss Taylor marriage. Even though his father take a pity on Miss Taylor for having a husband like Mr. Weston, but Emma completely agree with that marriage. For Emma, Mr. Weston is a perfect man for Mr. Taylor. Emma judge him as a good, kind, excellent and pleasant man an really suitable for Mr. Taylor.

*A great deal of her conversation was naturally about Mrs Goddard's school where she had spent so many years. But she also talked of the martins of Abbey Mill Farm. She had lived with them for two months and loved to tell Emma of the pleasure the visit had given her and of the comforts and wonders of the place. Emma was most amused by Harriet's description. At first she imagined that the familiy consisted of Mrs Martin, her son and daughter and her son's wife. Gradually Emma realized the true situation. Mr. Martin, whom Harriet always mentioned with approval, was not married. The two young ladies of whom Harriet spoke were both Mrs Martin's daughters. Emma now sow the danger to her plan for the improvement of Harriet. It would all come to nothing if Harriet should fall in love with the farmer and become young Mrs. Martin. (page 18).*

The paragraph above indicates that Emma really gives a great reaction for the news she heard about the marriage between Harriet and Mr. Martin. She personally has her own opinion about that news. For her that planning is not such kind of a good idea. She considers that Harriet is really

not suitable to be the young Mrs. Martin because Mr. Martin is only a farmer.

*'I want you to remember, Harriet, that when he marries his wife may not be a suitable person for you to know. Because of the misfortune of your birth you must be particularly careful whom you have as your friends. I am sure that you are the daughter of a wealthy gentleman, so you must support your claim by acting as though you were. I want to see you in good society, not a friend of farmers' daughters.'* (page19).

This paragraph shows Emma's involvement in Harriet's life. She remains Harriet to be careful even in environment socialization or whom she should get approach to be her friend and whom that is not. Emma wants Harriet not to have such any kind of relationship with a farmer's daughter but with a good society. This actually the of Emma to avoid the marriage between Harriet and Mr. Martin. Emma is afraid if in turn Harriet will be closer to Mr. Family and get temptation to be his wife. By forbidding Harriet to have relation with Mr. Martin famili means giving distance for Harriet from Mr. Martin.

*'Nonsense! A man imagines no such thing. But what is the meaning of this? Harriet Smith refuses Robert Martin? Madness if it is so. But I hope that you are mistaken,' he added hopefully.*

*'I saw her answer,' said Emma. 'Nothing could have been clearer.'*

*'You saw her answer?' Mr. Knightly exclaimed. 'You wrote her answer too, I am sure. Emma, this is your doing! You pursued her to refuse him.'*

*'And if I did, I should not feel that I had done wrong,' said Emma, defending herself. 'Mr. Martin is a very respectable young man. But I cannot believe that he is Harriet's equal, and I am surprised that he thought that he could approach her.'* (page 33)



Emma's act is finally working. After reminding and persuading Harriet not to get married with Mr. Martin, a news is spread up that Harriet refused Mr. Martin. Mr. Knightly considers that this must be Emma's thing. Even though at the first Emma doesn't admit it, finally she confesses that she did the thing. Even she said that it would not be something wrong if she had done all that things. It means that what has Emma done is a good thing and good for Harriet.

*'I cannot help wondering that you know so little to me.' Replied Emma. 'Do you think a farmer is a good enough husband for my intimate friend? Do you think that I am not regret Harriet leaving Highbury to marry a man whom I could never have as one of acquaintances? And I think that you are not being fair in what you say. You are not just to Harriet's claims Mr. Martin may be the richer of two but he is definitely her inferior regarding his rank in society. There can be no doubt but that her father is a gentleman and a gentleman of fortune, far superior to a farmer.'* (page 34)

The paragraph above shows that Emma really cares with Harriet life, such as who should be her husband and who should not be. She really believe that a farmer should not become her friend's husband.

*"You think so, do you? I wanted the opinion of some one who would really judge. She appeared to me to play well, that is, with considerable taste, but I know nothing of the matter skill or right of judging of anybody's performance. I have been used to hear hers admired; and I remember one proof of her being thought to play well: a man, a very musical man, and in love with another woman—other woman to sit down to the instrument, if the lady in question could sit down instead—never*

*seemed to like the hear one if he could hear the other. That, I thought, in a man of known musical talent , was some proof.”*

*“ Proof, indeed!” said Emma, highly amused. “Mr. Dixon is very musical, is he? We shall know more about them all, in half an hour, from you, than Miss Fairfax would have vouchsafed in half a year.”*

*“Yeah, Mr. Dixon and Miss Campbell were the persons, and I thought it a very strong proof.”*

*“certainly, very strong it was; to own the truth, a great deal stronger than, If I had been Miss Campbell, would have been at all agreeable to me. I could not excuse a man’s having more music than love—more ear than eye – a more acute sensibility to fine sounds than to my feelings. How did Miss Campbell appear to like it?”*

Here show Emma’s enthusiasm about the relation between Mr. Dixon and Miss. Campbell. For her, they two are really agreeable and the idea about Miss. Fairfax is not a good thing for Mr. Dixon.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

After analyzing this study, the thesis writer has come to some conclusion and suggestion related to the result of previous chapter. In this chapter, the writer presents the conclusion of the whole analysis. This chapter contains the conclusion based on the result of the analysis and the relevant suggestion for the further researchers related to this study.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

From the analysis and discussion in the preceding chapter, some points can be concluded here. *Firstly*, that the purpose of marriage in the society shown in *Emma* is *mainly* to develop the well being of an individual and society at large in the form of household. However, reproduction is also considered, although there are not many indications about. It can be concluded that reproduction is less important than economic and social status factors.

The main purpose of marriage is to develop the well being of an individual and society at large in the form of household. It can be seen from the economic and social status factor in considering marriage. Women have some consideration before accepting a man to be her husband. Good income is the first consideration, but then the second consideration will decide the final decision that is social status. Good income does not mean has good or high

social status. This case is undergone by Mr. Martin. Even though he is rich, he has low social status since his occupation just a farmer.

A woman who has a high social status not too much think about marriage because getting married or not, she has been respected by her society surround her. It happens to Emma. Initially she decides not to get married because she has passed her days in happiness, she will be in charge of her father household. Finally, she gets married to a man of equal social status.

Actually, reproduction is also considered as the purpose of marriage. However, it can be concluded that this is only a minor factor for it is not given very much attention in the narration as well as in the dialogues between characters in *Emma*.

There some wedding or marriage events in Emma novel. And Emma as the main character actually has very important role in the occurrence of the marriage because she always has judgment in every wedding planning. She always considers weather which man should marry which woman and vise versa. And the consideration of Emma in judging someone wedding cannot also be separated from the first problem study that is about purpose of factors to be the consideration in marriage. Emma give a big role in everyone marriage by considering those factors.

## 5.2 Suggestion

Several suggestions can be made for this study. First, it is suggested that other researchers try to analyze the other aspects from *Emma* novel related to

women study. It is an interesting and suitable to discuss topics or subjects that had not been discussed here. The study of those aspects will enrich the appreciation of this work.

Second, in accordance with this study, it is advisable to conduct a study on the psychological aspects and perhaps to relate them to the author's life especially related to feminism criticism, which may affects his work.

Finally, it is expected that this study can be used for reference in conducting and broadening the same field or the other fields concerning with crime conflict. The thesis writer also expects that the reader can give correction and criticisms toward this work in order to make this study as a good criticism because this study is far from being perfect.

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## SYNOPSIS

Although convinced that she will never marry, Emma Woodhouse, a twenty-year-old girl of Highbury, England, imagines herself to be naturally gifted in matchmaking. After a success at matchmaking between her governess and Mr. Weston, a village widower, Emma tries to find an eligible match for her new friend, Harriet Smith. Though Harriet's parentage is unknown, Emma believes that Harriet deserves to be a gentleman's wife and directs her friend toward Mr. Elton, the village vicar. Meanwhile, Emma persuades Harriet to reject the proposal of Robert Martin, a well-to-do farmer for whom Harriet has a feeling.

Harriet becomes mad about Mr. Elton because of Emma's encouragement, but Emma's plans go messy when Elton makes it clear that his affection is for Emma, not Harriet. Emma realizes that her obsession with making a match for Harriet has blinded her to the true nature of the situation. Mr. Knightley, Emma's brother-in-law and treasured friend, watches Emma's matchmaking efforts with a critical eye. He believes that Mr. Martin is a worthy young man whom Harriet would be lucky to marry. He and Emma quarrel over Emma's meddling, and, as usual, Mr. Knightley proves to be wiser. Elton, offended by Emma's intervention, leaves for the town of Bath and marries a girl there almost immediately.

Emma is left to comfort Harriet and to observe the character of a new visitor expected in Highbury—Mr. Weston's son, Frank Churchill. Frank is set to visit his father in Highbury after having been raised by his aunt and uncle in London, who have taken him as their heir. Emma knows nothing about Frank,



who has long been deterred from visiting his father by his aunt's illnesses and complaints. Mr. Knightley is immediately suspicious of the young man, especially after Frank rushes back to London merely to have his hair cut. Emma, however, finds Frank delightful and notices that his charms are directed mainly toward her. Though she plans to discourage these charms, she finds herself flattered and engaged in a flirtation with the young man. Emma greets Jane Fairfax, another addition to the Highbury set, with less enthusiasm. Jane is beautiful and accomplished, but Emma dislikes her because of her reserve and, because she is jealous of Jane.

Suspicion, intrigue, and misunderstandings arise. Mr. Knightley defends Jane, saying that she deserves compassion because, unlike Emma, she has no independent fortune and must soon leave home to work as a governess. Mrs. Weston suspects that the warmth of Mr. Knightley's defense comes from romantic feelings, an implication Emma resists. Everyone assumes that Frank and Emma are forming an attachment, though Emma soon dismisses Frank as a potential suitor and imagines him as a match for Harriet. At a village ball, Knightley earns Emma's approval by offering to dance with Harriet, who has just been humiliated by Mr. Elton and his new wife. The next day, Frank saves Harriet from Gypsy beggars. When Harriet tells Emma that she has fallen in love with a man above her social station, Emma believes that she means Frank. Knightley begins to suspect that Frank and Jane have a secret understanding, and he attempts to warn Emma. Emma laughs at Knightley's suggestion and loses Knightley's approval

when she flirts with Frank and insults Miss Bates, a kindhearted spinster and Jane's aunt, at a picnic. When Knightley reprimands Emma, she weeps.

News comes that Frank's aunt has died, and this event paves the way for an unexpected revelation that slowly solves the mysteries. Frank and Jane have been secretly engaged; his attentions to Emma have been a screen to hide his true preference. With his aunt's death and his uncle's approval, Frank can now marry Jane, the woman he loves. Emma worries that Harriet will be crushed, but she soon discovers that it is Knightley, not Frank, who is the object of Harriet's affection. Harriet believes that Knightley shares her feelings. Emma finds herself upset by Harriet's revelation, and her distress forces her to realize that she is in love with Knightley. Emma expects Knightley to tell her he loves Harriet, but, to her delight, Knightley declares his love for Emma. Harriet is soon comforted by a second proposal from Robert Martin, which she accepts. The novel ends with the marriage of Harriet and Mr. Martin and that of Emma and Mr. Knightley, resolving the question of who loves whom after all.

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