

## CHAPTER 4

### CONCLUSION

After analyzing *Long Day's Journey into Night* by using Kate Millet's Sexual Politic theory, the writer finds how Eugene O'Neill, as a male writer, through his works degrades and exploits female characters. Eugene O'Neill still used sex and gender to differentiate his characters. It suits with Millet's statement in sexual politics about how several male writers describe female characters negatively in their works. Eugene O'Neill depicts his female characters in *Long Days' Journey into Night*. Mary Tyrone and Cathleen negatively. Moreover, the dominations of male characters in this play indirectly suggest that Eugene O'Neill support and strengthen patriarchal ideology in his work.

Mary is described as a submissive wife. She obeys everything what Tyrone, her husband, asks her to do. Even though Mary is not happy and feels forced with Tyrone's request, but Mary still obeys him because she loves Tyrone. From Mary's character, it is shown how patriarchy constructs women to be submissive figures to their husbands. This construction could give a chance for men to exploit women. Later, Mary is described as addicted to morphine. Mary is portrayed as a weak person because she can not escape from addiction. Because of her addiction, Mary stays at home, and she is isolated by her own family. She is not allowed to interact and socialize with others. It happens because an addict is considered a disgrace to the family.

Then, Mary is portrayed emotionally because she always talks about the past of their family. Mary often tells how she misses the days when she was young

before she meet with Tyrone. This situation makes men in the family feel so upset because they think it is useless and cannot be fixed. Women's emotional nature is often stereotyped that women are irrational and emotionally unstable.

From Cathleen, we can see how men's dominations have a negative impact on women. Women are forced to follow social construction made by men. Besides, men's domination also makes a woman not have authority over her own body. The patriarchal culture enhances the position of men provides a broad opportunity for men to be able to control women.

Moreover, the dominations of male characters increasingly show that Eugene O'Neill supports the value of patriarchy. It can be seen from the Tyrone dominations as a father and also a husband. As a husband, Tyrone has full control over Mary's body. He exploits Mary by utilizing her love so Mary wants to have another child after the death of their baby.

Meanwhile, as a father, Tyrone harms his children's health by giving them alcohol when they are sick. Later, as he the breadwinner in his family, he just sent Mary and Edmund to a cheap and incompetent doctor, so he did not lose his money. From the domination of Edmund and Jamie, which is Mary's sons, we can see how they easily humiliate and do not respect Mary as their mother from the way they treat and mention Mary as their mother.

Finally, the writer concludes that the different portrayal of female and male characters by Eugene O'Neill in *Long Days' Journey into Night* aims to maintain patriarchal value. Throughout the story, female characters in this play are described as weak, submissive, subordinate, and relies heavily on male characters.