GENDER ISSUES
IN JANE AUSTEN’S SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

THESIS
Presented in Partial Fulfillments of the requirements
for the Completion of Strata 1 Program
of English Department Specialized in Literature

By
Novi Ari Viani
C11.2001.00258

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PAGE OF APPROVAL

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ABSTRACT

This thesis presents gender issues in Jane Austen Sense and Sensibility. The aim of the thesis is to analyze how the society in Sense and Sensibility captures Gender through the main characters.

The library research method was used to gain information related to the discussion. Structural approach was applied to analyze the character and characterization, conflict and setting. The sociological approach was used to analyze how the society in Sense and Sensibility saw gender since this approach related the literary work, social condition and the period of time.

The discussion began by analyzing intrinsic element of the novel including character and characterization, conflict and setting. How the society in Sense and Sensibility sees gender is used in analyzing the extrinsic element. The intrinsic and extrinsic analysis describes the picture of gender in that time.

The result of analysis describes the society culture and tradition in that era. It shows that there are several indifferences about women and men in Inheritance, Education and Free Expression in particular. The society in Sense and Sensibility describes that women could not inherit property in term of land, estate nor money. The property is usually heritance by male patriarchal. In term of education, the higher qualities of women in Sense and Sensibility when they can speak a little French and Italian and good at music and drawing. Meanwhile high professional education is more important only for the man. Here the society not only portrays men as a gentleman with high education, moreover higher qualities of a gentleman is also expressed by high expectation of good position in parliament or in political concern. Last, in term of free expression, love in particular, women could not express their feeling because of the society oppression as seen in main characters. The society mentioned if a woman was to open and to frank in expressing her feeling would be considered impolite. Moreover, women in Sense and Sensibility were often marriage to advance their social status and also can secure and increase their wealth. In the end the analysis described that married because of wealthy and social status were merely untrue, in other words it is possible to get marry because of love and there was nothing wrong about expressing feeling as long as in the right time, right place and right purpose or responsible free expression.
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