

## AN ANALYSIS OF PAUL MOREL'S CONFLICT IN D.H LAWRENCE'S *SONS and LOVERS*

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**ABSTRAK.** Penelitian ini membahas konflik-konflik Paul Morel dalam novel karya D. H. Lawrence yang berjudul *Sons and Lovers*. Penelitian difokuskan pada konflik-konflik yang dialami oleh Paul Morel dan bagaimana ia menyelesaikannya. Dalam penelitian ini digunakan metode kualitatif dan pendekatan intrinsik yang membahas aspek karakter, tema dan plot. Analisis menunjukkan bahwa ada empat konflik Paul Morel: konflik dengan ayahnya, dengan ibunya, dengan Miriam dan dengan Clara. Konflik dengan ayahnya terjadi karena ayahnya tidak memberi cukup uang untuk keluarganya dan menghabiskan sebagian besar waktunya dengan mabuk-mabukan. Ini menyebabkan Paul dan saudara-saudaranya tidak menghormati ayah mereka, dan oleh karenanya ibu mereka menjadi figur dominan di dalam kehidupan Paul. Konflik Paul dengan ibunya terjadi karena penentangan ibunya terhadap hubungannya dengan wanita lain dengan siapa ia selalu menghabiskan waktunya, dan mengabaikan ibunya. Konflik Paul dengan Miriam terjadi karena ibunya selalu berfikir negatif terhadapnya dan khawatir bahwa Miriam akan mengambil Paul dari kehidupannya, maka Miriam menentang hubungan mereka. Konflik dengan Clara terjadi karena Clara, yang menjalin hubungan dengan Paul, tidak mau berpisah dengan suaminya, sehingga Paul harus berhadapan dengan suami Clara. Semua konflik ini menyulitkan kehidupan Paul, maka ia mencari pemecahannya satu persatu. Setelah menyelesaikannya, ia memutuskan untuk tidak akan pernah menikah hingga ia menemukan seorang perempuan yang sesuai dengan saran ibunya. Dari analisis, ditemukan bahwa konflik adalah bahagian dari kehidupan dan setelah menghadapi konflik, seseorang akan merasakan kepuasan dan mengalami perubahan menuju kehidupan yang lebih baik.

**Kata kunci:** character, theme, plot, conflicts

### INTRODUCTION

Life problems may confront us on a daily basis such as the problem of how to pay the bills, the problems of marriage and career. They are the problems we find in our lives. The issues of life, the pressing matters, that arise in our day to day lives demand attention. Simply they will not go away until they are solved. All of the life problems can influence an individual personality to become for examples sensitive, insensitive, talkative or silent.

One of life problems is a conflict. Conflict is the struggle that grows out of the interplay of the two opposing forces in a plot (Holman, 1972:118). It can be said that conflict is situation that a person is involved in the unpleasant circumstances for example the opposing forces of ideas and interest as well as will. It can occur toward individual or a group. It creates emotions and makes frustration. Conflicts that are not readily resolved may cause a person to suffer helplessness and anxiety.

This study aims to analyze conflicts as they are expressed in D.H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers*. Lawrence was born on September 11, 1885 in the small village of Eastwood near Nottingham, England. Since childhood he showed excellence in reading and writing. He studies at Nottingham High School to which he wins a scholarship. He publishes a number of novels, essays, and poems including *The White Peacock* (1911), *The Prussian Officer* (1914), *Sons and Lovers* (1913), *The Lost Girl* (1920), *Women in Love* (1921), *Aaron's Rod* (1922), *Birds, Beasts and Flowers* (1923), *Studies in Classic American Literature* (1923), *The Plumed Serpent* (1926), and *The Lady Chatterley's Lover* (1928). *The Rainbow* is published in November 1915 but is suppressed. He is a gifted poet, painter and novelist, although some of his works may be

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considered pornographic. He died in a sanatorium on March 2, 1930. *Sons and Lovers* is his most autobiographical novel. He draws upon his own memories and experiences to write the story of Paul Morel. Editors cut out highly sexually charged scenes in *Sons and Lovers*. Whether or not his fascination and fixations are too sexual for the general audience, his appeal to the human mind and soul remains unchanged.

In this novel, D.H. Lawrence portrays conflict of Paul Morel as the main character. Paul is the third child in his family, the others are elder brother William, elder sister Annie and the youngest brother Arthur. Paul's father, Mr. Morel as a coal miner, comes from a lower class that has not been educated, while Mrs. Morel comes from middle class and civilized well. It is influence into their marriage that they ever argue and never united. It leads Mrs. Morel to transfer her love to her sons. Paul only gets love from his mother who also protects him exaggeratedly. However, his mother is the most important and the only lofty person in his mind. He makes love relationship with Mirriam and Clara, but his mother always has negative thoughts against them. He thinks his most passionate love belongs to his beloved mother, it seems that he faces the intense conflicts.

The focus of this study the conflict in the novel as it is a part of life problem which is sometimes found in human's life character. Specifically the study attempts to answer the following questions: (1) What are Paul Morel's conflicts? And (2) How does Paul Morel solve his conflicts? The scope of the study is analysis of Paul Morel's conflicts and also how Paul Morel solves his conflicts. The study is expected to enlarge the knowledge on literary work deeper in D.H. Lawrence's works.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Important elements in fiction include plot, setting, point of view, character, theme, and topic. Analysis of each element is important and useful to understand and analyze fiction. Character, for example, is used to show the figures in the story and analyze the attitudes of them. The concepts of character, plot and theme are necessary as the literary tools for analysis because each element is related to each other. In analyzing D.H. Lawrence's novel *Sons and Lovers*, the three elements above will be applied for analyzing the conflicts faced by the main character.

### Character

Character is the most important element in literary work. Character is a person or people that take part in prose and drama. So the reader is wished to imagine the character in order to understand much about the character itself. People know one's character from his dialog and action that show his idea, his morality and his thought. Holman (1986) defines character to include "the idea of the presence of the moral constitution of the human personality, the presence of the moral uprightness and the simpler notion of the presence of creatures in art that seems to be human beings of one sort on another" (1986:81). Character is more often used in reference to an individual's personal qualities and characteristics but it is also synonymous with person, human being, and literary figure. Character in general, and specifically in fiction, is an extended verbal representation of human being, the inner self that determines thought, speech and behavior (Robert, 1989:134). Furthermore, character is a person presented in dramatic or narrative works, which are interpreted by the readers as being endowed with moral and disposition qualities that are expressed in what they say which is called dialogue and what they do which is called action (Abrams, 1981:20). A character is used not only to refer to a person in a literary work but also concern with feature and personalities of the character itself. It generally refers to his whole nature, his personality, his attitude toward life, his spiritual quality, his intelligence, even physical build as well as his moral attributes (Potter, 1967:5). A character in prose (novel) is sometimes performed in descriptive way. The descriptive method presents the character through his description that simply tells about the characters. The disadvantage of this

method is, the character is little lifeless and the reader is not encouraged to judge the characters. With regard to the kinds of character portrayed, it may be helpful to know the kinds of fictional characters that are divided into two general categories. There are simple characters and complex characters. Other writers, in making the same division, sometimes use different terms. One of the most suggestive statements of the distinction is that of Forster (1927:54) who divides the characters of fiction into flat and round characters.

Flat or simple character is less the representation of a human personality than the embodiment of a single attitude or obsession in a character. It is called flat character because it can be seen only one side. Usually flat characters are minor, but not all minor characters are flat. The mark of the simple character is that can be summed up adequately in a formula. Then, a round character is the opposite of flat character. They embody a number of qualities and traits and are complex multidimensional characters of considerable Intellectual and emotional depth that have capacity to grow and change. Major characters in fiction are usually round character. It is more alive or more convince than flat one (Picking and Hopper, 1980:26). The round character or complex character is obviously more liked than the flat or simple one because in life, people are not simply embodiments of single attitudes. It would be pointless to list examples of complex characters from fiction. The mark of the complex character is that capable of surprising the reader.

Kenney (1966) explains that the function of simple and complex characters are distinguished in terms of their complexity, in that simple character is by definition consistent, but still it can perform many important functions in the work of fiction. while complex or round character is a higher kind of achievement than the simple one. Perrine (1966), stated that all fictional characters may be classified as static and developing (1966: 83). Static character displays the same sort of person at the end of the story as he does at the beginning. Static character is a minor character in a work of fiction that does not change or grow in the course of the story. On the other hand, developing or dynamic character undergoes a permanent change in some aspect of his character, personality, or outlook.

It is clear that character could be categorized into flat and round characters or static and dynamic characters. The flat or static character describes that this character does not undergo change or growth, one or two traits in some aspect of his character, inner change as a change in personality or attitude, or outlook at the beginning up to the end. Round and developing character describes undergo a permanent change. It is very complex that needs a full analysis.

### **Plot**

Plot is a literary term defined as the events that make up a story, particularly as they relate to one another in a pattern, in a sequence, through cause and effect, how the reader views the story, or simply by coincidence. Plot is the series of events in a story that explain to the reader what is happening. Kennedy states that plot means the artistic arrangement of events in a story (1995:7). This arrangement has also a beginning, middle and ending. However, the different arrangements of the same materials are possible. A writer might decide to tell the event in the chronological order which begins with the earliest or he might open the story with the last event, then tell what led up to it. Muller and William (1985: 42-43) state that plot is the planned arrangement of actions and events in a narrative, actions and events are causally related, and they progress though a variety of conflicts and opposing forces to climax and resolution. They also state that plot has five elements, there are exposition, raising action, climax, falling action and the ending resolution.

### **Exposition**

Exposition is the opening portion that sets the scene, introduces the main character, tells the reader what happened before the story opened, introduces any other background information that the reader need in order to understand and care about the event follow (Kennedy, 1995:6).

The exposition introduces all of the main characters in the story. It shows how they relate to one another, what their goals and motivations are, and the kind of person they are. The audience may have questions about any of these things which get settled. The most important in the exposition, the audience gets to know the main character or protagonist, and the protagonist gets to know his or her main goal and what is at stake if he or she fails to attain this goal. This phase ends, and the next begins, with the introduction of conflict.

### ***Rising action***

Rising action starts with the death of the characters or a conflict. At a time when all of the major characters have been introduced, their motives and allegiances have been made clear at least for the most part, and they now begin to struggle against one another. Generally, in this phase the protagonist understands his or her goal and begins to work toward it. Smaller problems thwart their initial success, and in this phase their progress is directed primarily against these secondary obstacles. This phase shows us how he or she overcomes these obstacles. Thus, at the end of this phase and at the beginning of the next they are finally in a position to go up against their primary goal. This part begins after the exposition. It consists of the beginning of a tension or complication that continues with the development of conflict between the characters.

### ***Conflict***

Conflict is the struggle that grows one of the interplay of the two opposing forces in a plot (Holman, 1972: 118). It means conflict which provides the elements of interest and suspense in any form of fiction, whether it be a drama, novel, short story at least one of the opposing forces a person or an animal or an inanimate object, is treated as though it were a person. This person, usually the protagonist, may be involved in conflicts of our different kinds: (1) struggle against the force of nature, (2) struggle against another person, (3) struggle against society, (4) struggle against fate or destiny.

Conflict is an inherent incompatibility between the objectives of two or more characters or forces. Conflict itself creates tension and interest in a story by adding doubt as to the outcome. Conflict can also be understood from two opposite participant. "The conflict implies not only the struggle of two opponent forces a person against someone or something, but also the existence of some motivation for the conflict by him" (Holman, 1986:105). It means when someone has a conflict with other people or within himself, he must have motivation behind his action, such as desires for possession, attention, or understanding.

Conflicts occur when people or other parties perceive that as a consequence of a disagreement. There is a threat to their needs, interests or concerns. Although conflict is a normal part of organization life, providing numerous opportunities for growth through improved understanding and insight, there is a tendency to view conflict as a negative experience caused by abnormally difficult circumstances. Participants in conflicts tend to respond on the basis of their perceptions of the situation, rather than an objective review of it. As such, people filter their perceptions and reactions through their values, culture, beliefs, information, experience, gender, and other variables. Conflict responses are both filled with ideas and feelings that can be very strong and powerful guides to the sense of possible solutions.

Based in the types, there are two kinds of conflict. They are internal conflict and external conflict. Internal conflict is a mental struggle. It can be said that internal conflict is a conflict inside a man, conflict of himself. The conflict often happens in our life and frequently finds difficulties to solve the problem. The opponent of this conflict is himself, two elements with in him are struggling for mastery. The second type of conflict is external conflict. External conflict represents such a struggle between two or more people. According to Hugh, external conflict is a clash that happens between a person against another person, a person against society, and a person against nature or natural force (1986: 208).

### **Climax**

According Kenney, climax is reached when complication actions its highest point of intensity, from which point the outcome of the story is inevitable (1966:18). The point of climax is the turning point of the story, where the main character makes the single big decision that defines the outcome of their story and who they are as a person. The dramatic phase that called climax is occupies the middle of the story, and that contains the point of climax. The beginning of this phase is marked by the protagonist finally having cleared away the preliminary barriers and being ready to engage with the adversary. Usually, entering this phase, both the protagonist and the antagonist have a plan to win against the other.

### **Falling action**

Falling action is the part of the story that following the climax. Falling action is the time of greatest overall tension in the play, because it is the phase in which everything goes most wrong. In this phase, the villain has the upper hand. It seems that evil will triumph. The protagonist has never been further from accomplishing the goal.

### **Resolution**

Resolution is the final confrontation between the protagonist and antagonist, where one or the other decisively wins. This phase is the story of that confrontation, of what leads up to it, of why it happens the way it happens, what it means, and what its long term consequences are. Stanford (1999:30) says that resolution is the ending of a work in which often show the effects of the climactic action or decision.

### **Theme**

In literary studies, a theme is a central topic, subject, or concept that the author is trying to point out, not to be confused with whatever message, moral, or commentary. Theme is used by the author to reveal his or her purpose to the readers along with his literary work. Theme also used to develop the story by the author. Theme controls and binds other elements of literary work such as character, plot, setting, and point of view become unity. Without theme the story can not flow from beginning to the end.

In analyzing theme the readers should know the whole story. They should understand and discover the relationship among the whole elements in the literary work because theme depends on other elements of literary work its self. The theme of the story can also be found in a single sentence or paragraphs. In simple story it can be found in a single sentence. In a complex story it can be found in paragraph.

Theme can be stated explicitly and implicitly. Its can be stated explicitly when the author guides the readers to understand his work. Sometimes the theme of the story is explicitly stated somewhere in the story either by the author or by one of the characters (Perrine, 1966:104). Implicit theme is when the work is implied, rather than expressed, whereas explicit theme is the work that is fully and clearly expressed or demonstrated that leaves nothing just merely implied. An implicit theme we contemplate the meaning more than feel it and the explicit theme is mood more than think our thoughts.

### **METHOD**

The study uses qualitative research that involves a procedure that produces the descriptive data form of written data. The data emerge from qualitative study are descriptive (Creswell, 2003:199). The data were taken from D.H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers*. This study applies intrinsic approach which is used to understand and analyze the literary work based on element from inside of literary work such as point of view, character, theme, setting and plot (Nurgiyanto, 2007:23). It discusses the inter-related intrinsic elements in *Sons and Lover* including the character, plot and theme.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

This section is divided into two main parts: (1) Paul Morel's conflicts and (2) Paul Morel's solution to the conflicts.

### **Paul Morel's Conflicts**

Paul Morel, the main character in the novel, faces intense conflicts. He faces external conflicts with his father, his mother, Miriam and Clara.

#### ***Paul Morel's Conflict with his Father***

Paul has a bad relationship with his father. As a coalminer, his father does not provide enough money for his family, but he almost spends all of his time by drinking in the pub. His father is a liar, he is unable to communicate intimately, and his apparent increased drinking soured his mother. He only has little affection to his children. His bad behavior to drinking on the pop also influences his manner and attitude. He becomes temperamental to his children. It can be said that he becomes a bad figure for his family. The economic condition of the family is bad, which makes his mother feels lonely, therefore his mother turns her loneliness and disillusion into passionate love for her children especially to William and Paul. The mother hates her husband because whenever he has an audience, he whines and plays for sympathy. The sons hate him because of his sentiment and the stupid treatment of the mother. And his daughter never likes him and she merely avoids him. Because of this, Paul, his brothers and sister show but a little respect for his father, and his mother becomes a dominant figure in Paul's life. When Mr. Morel was sick in the hospital, the family feels peaceful and extraordinarily happy and hope that he never came back to the house. As Paul's old brother work in London and his father stays in the hospital, Paul declares that he is the only a man in the house now. Paul's conflict with his father continues, even when his mother is sick and he has to stay with his father. Although he stays with his father, he does not want to get along with him. When his mother finally died, they cannot bear to be alone in house together.

#### ***Paul Morel's Conflict with his Mother***

Before Paul was born, his mother cannot afford to have another child, and she despises her husband because of his drinking. Her only solace is in her two children. His mother feels confused and hesitated to have the third child, because she lives in poverty and suffering as her husband not only works as a miner that only has little income. She feels powerless. Paul is an unwanted child in the family. However, when Paul was born, his mother, who loves and protects him exaggeratedly, and becomes a dominant figure in Paul's life. The conflict begins when the mother who feels lonely because Paul's older brother William leaves the house for a new job in London, turns her attention to Paul and makes him dependent on her. As William stops supporting the family, Paul is forced to find a job in his fourteenth of age. Despite his lack of qualification for a good job, he is hired as junior spiral clerk. His mother overprotection and dominance continues and it turns to be a jealousy when Paul starts a relationship with a young woman, named Miriam.

Always when he went with Miriam, and it grew rather late, he knew his mother was fretting and getting angry about him-why, he could not understand. As he went into the house, flinging down his cap, his mother looked up at the clock. She has been sitting thinking, because a chill to her eyes prevented her reading. She could feel Paul being drawn away by this girl. And she did not care for Miriam (Lawrence, 1962:247).

Conflict after conflict continues and later Paul breaks off his relationship with Miriam, for he thinks that their relationship suffered his mother. He hates her and gives all of his love

and time to his beloved mother. But, his soul is still love Miriam. And it makes him frustrated. When his mother was diagnosed of tumor and finally died, Paul was more frustrated.

“Paul—Paul—she’s gone!”

He knelt down, and put his face to hers and his arm round her:

“My love—my love—oh, my love!” he whispered again and again.

“My love—oh, my love!”

He heard the nurse behind him, crying, saying:

“She’s better, Mr. Morel, she’s better.”

When he took his face up from his warm, dead mother he went straight downstairs and began blacking his boots (Lawrence, 1962: 608).

Paul’s love-hate relationship with his mother causes conflicts, but the effects of his mother illness and death has an adverse effect on Paul.

### ***Paul Morel’s Conflict with Miriam***

Paul first time meets Miriam when he is visiting the Leivers’ farm. Miriam is a shy girl and her parents introduce her to Paul to her. She has very strong religious and spiritual convictions. This strikes Paul as enormously different from his own mother’s logical manner:

Almost they would interest the Leivers more than they interested his mother. It was not his art Mrs. Morel cared about; it was himself and his achievement. But Mrs. Leivers and her children were almost his disciples. They kindled him and made him glow to his work, whereas his mother’s influence was to make him quietly determined, patient, dogged, unwearied (Lawrence, 1962:230).

Intimacy between Paul and Miriam is growing. It begins from Miriam’s perspective to learn since she cannot have pride in her social status. She is interested in Paul to learn France and mathematic, but she scorns him because he only sees the swine girl side of her and not the princess she believes. They spend their time exchanging thoughts, that Paul concludes that Miriam has a developed mind. However, his conflict with Miriam begins when his mother is jealous at him, because he does not care with his mother anymore and spends more time with another woman.

Paul tries to find common interests between the two women when he fuses his mother and Miriam through his painting. His mother provides the artistic inspiration, and Miriam helps him shape the final product. But this blending confuses Paul’s sexual desires, evident when the image of his mother, and not Miriam, presides in his head at night. Perhaps Miriam is simply a way for Paul to get to a younger version of his mother, before she is ruined by her husband and William’s death. Paul’s conflict with Miriam continues. Paul tells her they should break off and they can love each other only spiritually, not physically and breaks off hope for a marriage between them. After breaking-off with Miriam, Paul’s ties to his mother become stronger.

A new conflict begins when Miriam introduces him to a woman named Clara Dawes. Paul’s growing intimacy with Clara causes Miriam’s jealousy. Paul chooses to have an affair with Clara, and misses Miriam. However, he returns to Miriam to see what she feels by giving her a test. After Paul and Miriam have sexual intercourse, he decides that they are not good for each other. He breaks off their relationship again and it causes Miriam’s anger and bitterness.

Based from the explanation above, it is clear that Paul’s conflict with Miriam happens because his mother does not like her and against strongly their relationship. And this conflict continues since Paul has relationship with Clara. The effect of Paul’s conflict with Miriam is their relationship become break off. Miriam is very sad and patient, and Paul in the other hand, feels frustrated. He loves her but that makes his mother suffered. After his mother died, he goes

to see Miriam. They ponder getting married, but Paul confesses that he can not marry her despite Miriam's long, patient waiting.

### ***Paul Morel's Conflict with Clara***

Paul's first impression of Clara Dawes is her being an independent and defiant woman despite her separation from her husband. Her handsome husband, Mr. Baxter Dawes is a smith at Jordan's factory and is characterized as an unloving husband. Paul's interests in Clara grow as much for his desire for sex as his view of her being an clever woman. As their relationship grows, Paul is quickly opposed by both his mother and Miriam. For his mother, Clara represents a displacement of her as a maternal figure for Paul, but a far younger, healthier, and more beautiful maternal figure. His mother approves of neither Miriam nor Clara, and urges him to meet a woman who will make him happy. This becomes the beginning conflict between Paul with Clara. Paul and Clara begin to realize that not just friendship but more the attraction between men and women that attracts them. Although Paul believes if he ever marries, it will be to Miriam, and that he can only be friends with Clara, since she is still married, her attraction are stronger than that of Miriam. Clara's friendship with Miriam wanes. Both Clara or Miriam are jealous each other. Then Paul tries to come back to Miriam, but to realize that his passionate love is only to his mother, so he decides leave Miriam and return to Clara.

The conflict is increasing when he faces has to face Clara's husband with whom Clara is not legally divorced. An incident in a bar between Paul and Baxter later continues with a fight, and Paul was wounded. His relationship with Clara grows worse as she refuses to divorce her husband. Again, the incidents make him realize that only his mother can give him passionate love. He feels that he can never belong to any woman while his mother is alive. And the effects of his conflicts with Clara are; actually Paul feels broken heart, he loves Clara but she does not want to be separated from her husband. The last, because of their relationship, Paul faces conflict with her husband.

### **Paul's Solution to his Conflicts**

Paul's solutions to his conflicts with his father, his mother, Miriam and Clara are dealt with separately.

### ***Paul's Solution to his Conflicts with his Father***

The first, he has to solves his conflict with his father. Paul still hates his father because he has bad temper to his children, spends all of his time drinking in the pop, and he does not provide enough money for his family. His father also makes his mother feels suffer, so that he never forgive him.

Paul's mother illness and death, however, has an adverse effect on both Paul and his father. when his mother is sick, they live and nurse her together. His relationship with his father more closely than before. Although, in his deepest heart he still hates him. Now his mother is died. He feels frustrated because of this and also his father is unable to deal with his wife's death, refusing to look at her in sickness and death. His father wants only to remember her as his young wife with whom he shared a passionate, physical relationship, and not as the cancerous woman who hates him.

And after his mother died, Paul informs his father and suggest other business that relating to his mother's death. It seems emty in their house. He thinks that he and his father cannot live together. Although, his father wants that they can live together through a new life after their conflict and his mother's death. But it seems in vain. Paul moves to Nottingham, and his father lives with another family in Bestwood.

Walter Morel seemed to have let all trouble go over him, and there he was, crawling about on the mud of it, just the same. There was scarcely any bond between father and son, save



that each felt he must not let the other go in any actual want. As there was no one to keep on the home, and as they could neither of them bear the emptiness of the house (Lawrence, 1962: 623).

### ***Paul's Solution to his Conflict with his Mother***

The second is Paul's conflict with his lovely mother. His mother still stands with his argument that she does not approve his relationship with Miriam. His mother worries that Miriam will take him away from her life. So the first way to solve his conflict with his mother is he makes sure his mother that he does not love Miriam. It can be seen from the quotation below:

"You know it isn't, mother, you know it isn't!"  
"It looks a great deal like it," she said.  
"No, mother—I really don't love her. I talk to her, but I want to come home for you,"  
"I can't bear it. I could let another woman—but not her."  
"Well I don't love her, mother," he murmured, bowing his head and hiding his eyes on her shoulder in misery. His mother kissed him along, fervent kiss (Lawrence, 1962: 326).

The second way, Paul promises to his mother to be a successful man. It can be proven that he becomes successful as a painter. The third way, he confides to his mother that he does not care about Miriam and Clara. He feels that he can never belong to any woman, while his mother is alive he plans to go abroad when his mother dies. And he will get married if he finds someone who can make him happy such as his mother wants to. It is stated below:

"And now I should have done with them all," she said quietly.  
"I will, mother."  
"and don't think about it," she said—"only try to go to sleep."  
Clara came to see him. Afterwards he said to his mother:  
"She makes me tired, mother."  
"Yes; I wish she wouldn't come, but she seemed almost like a stranger to him."  
"You know, I don't care about them, mother," he said.  
"I'm afraid you don't, my son," she replied sadly (Lawrence, 1962: 562).

Since his mother is sick, Paul spends his times to give all his love and attention to her beloved mother. His relationship with his mother grows more strained and fearful as they pretend she is not dying. He does not want to lose his mother and he feels that makes his mother disappointed. He only concerns with his own self. Although his mother is dead, his passionate love still belongs to her and he believes that his mother always beside him forever.

### ***Paul's Solution to his Conflict with Miriam***

Paul's conflict with Miriam happens since they spend time together that make them fall in love. They also like painting, but his mother always against their relationship. So he breaks off his relationship with her. He leaves her and has a relationship with Clara. That makes Miriam feel jealous, but Paul on the other hand missing Miriam in his life. So he feels frustrated that he must choose one of them.

After his mother died, he meets Miriam and they ponder getting married, but he confesses that he cannot get married with her. So that to solve his conflict with Miriam, they are friends now. They can learn French and mathematics together. And Miriam now becomes a teacher in one of the schools in Beastwood. Both Paul and Miriam try to forget their problems.

### ***Paul's Solution to his Conflict with Clara***

Since Paul has relationship with Clara, he faces more complicated conflicts. Besides he has conflict with Clara, he also faces conflict with Clara's husband, Mr. Dawes as the effect of his relationship with her.

Paul's conflicts with Clara happens because Clara does not want to be divorced from his husband, so Paul cannot continue his relationship with her since she still married with her husband. Their relationship break off And it makes Paul broken heart. And now they are friend. Paul sees that Clara gets happy life with his husband it makes Paul realizes that she is the one that makes complicated conflict in his life.

Paul faces conflict with Clara's husband. They ever fight since he spends more time with his wife. When his mother's doctor tells Paul that Mr. Baxter Dawes is in the hospital. Paul asks him to tell Mr. Dawes that he will visit. The doctor reports to Mr. Dawes and he seemed angry at first, then refused to say anything. Paul visits and the two men trade gruff, but in impolite comments. Dawes looks very sick with typhoid. Paul leaves him some money before going.

Paul informs Clara about Dawes's illness. She is shocked, and grows distant from Paul. She feels guilty for having treated Dawes badly, and feels that he loves and respects her more than Paul does. She visits her husband and tries to make up, but there is too great a distance between them.

Paul and Dawes is friend now. He heals slowly and stays with him for a few days at the seaside, their friendship much stronger now. Paul reveals that his relationship with Clara remains distanced. Paul also suggests that Clara wants Dawes and belongs to him. He also suggests that they should be reunited and have a happy marriage. After his conflicts are solved, Paul is alone, he decides never to get married until he finds a right woman like his mother suggests him.

### **CONCLUSION**

Conflict is situation that a person is involved in the unpleasant circumstances. Paul, the main character in D. H Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers*, faces the intense conflicts such as his conflict with his father, his mother, Miriam and Clara. He is in the difficult situation and this makes him feel frustrated. First, Paul is in conflict with his father because his father does not provide enough money for his family and almost spends all of his time by drinking in the pop. However, it makes his mother fell suffer and changes his affection to her sons, especially to Paul. His father has only a little affection to his children, so his mother becomes dominant figure in his life. After his mother death, he and his father cannot bear to be alone in the house together, so Paul moves to Nottingham and his father lives with another family in the Bestwood. Second, Paul's conflict with his mother is due to her disapproval of his relationship with another woman, Miriam, because Paul always spends his time with her and does not care his mother. He tries to solve his conflict by promising to his mother that he will become a successful man and never belongs to any woman. He will get married if he finds someone who can make him happy. Third, Paul's conflict with Miriam occurs because his mother dislikes Miriam and worries that she will take him away from her life, as she disagrees with their relationship. To solve his conflict with Miriam, they become friend and learn French and Mathematics together. Last, Paul's conflict with Clara happens because Clara does not want to separate from his husband. He faces conflict with Clara's husband as the effect of their relationship. To solve his conflict with Clara and her husband, they become friend. He lets Clara come back to her husband and gets happy married with him.

Paul's conflicts make his life complicated. Through these conflicts the main character develops. After solving his conflicts, he decides never to get married until he finds a right women as his mother suggests him. Based on the explanation above, it is concluded that life should have a conflict and cannot be denied. It triggers emotion and frustration. After facing conflict in life, everyone will get satisfaction and make great changing to make a better life. On

the other hand, conflicts that are not readily resolved may cause a person to suffer helplessness and anxiety. So it should be solved to make great changes.

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