2. GENERAL CONCEPT OF LOVE

2.1 The Meaning of Love

Love has unlimited power and plays an important role in human’s life. Love does not need the formula of scientific studies. It is needed understanding, honor, respect and tolerance. The term of love is also applied to the state of feeling and love is also part of human life. Love makes life sweeter, and stronger. All of us have had love since we were young and will have it till someday when we leave the world also we experience love from our earliest moment.

Love is a force of nature. You can invite love, but you can not dictate how, when, and where love expresses itself. You can choose to surrender to love, or not, but in the end love strikes like lightening, unpredictable and irrefutable. Love is inherently free. It cannot be bought, sold, or traded. You can neither make someone love you, nor can prevent it. Love has no territory, no borders, no quantifiable mass or energy output.

Love is a form of human’s deepest and most expected emotions. Humans might lie, cheat, and even kill in the name of love and hope rather die than lose the love. Love can touch every person and of all ages (Sternberg, 1988).

Love itself is a very important requirement for mankind so that without love, growth and development of individual abilities will be hampered (Goble, 1991).

Love is also believed to be one of the most important emotion for humans so that almost all individuals have experienced falling in love (Roediger, 1987).
Love is a widely misunderstood although it is highly desirable malfunction of the heart which weakens the brain, causes eyes to sparkle, cheeks to glow, blood pressure to rise and the lips to pucker.

Meaning of love has changed over time. Bloom (1993) suggests that the distinction between love and sex become blurred in modern societies. Bloom observes that in earlier times the word love was reserved for describing the overwhelming attraction of one individual for another. In modern times, “Love seems to refer a much broader range of ways of relating to another person. And sex is a word that tells us that individuals are acting upon certain bodily needs.” Bloom comments that isolation, a sense of lack of contact with others, and loss of human connections seem to be prevalent consequences of modern society.

Mifflin (1987) defines that love is a strong affection or deep concern for another person. Love can be communicated in many different ways. It is expressed through words, for example, or through touch or other actions that show admiration and concern. Love often grows with time. The ability to love is one of most pleasurable parts of living. All people have the ability to give love and the need to receive it.

Love is described as an abstract thing found in every man’s and woman’s life. It can not be separated from human life. Love has been old already and even historians do not know how long it has been and will be live. The feelings and the behaviors of lover are: warmth, contentment, excitement, oneness, limitless, infinite, boundless, totally encompassing, lucky, faith, trust, dynamic, effort, commitment,
tender, multicolored, active, healthy, energetic, courageous, forward-looking, patient, robust, openness, honesty, understanding, and fun. Throughout these words, there is a clear emphasis on activity rather than passivity. Loving is an active process. When we feel loving, it seems like we can not keep what’s inside; we have to reach out, touch, embrace, hold, kiss.

The meaning of love is not strictly defined as passion of owning something completely. It is expressed and defined in a variety of ways. Friendship is a simple example that human being need in their lives. It is one form of love which links loyalty toward each other and shares interest and support. Such feelings and behavior are form of love. The caring among parents, children, brothers and sisters is an implementation of love, human beings may reciprocally.

Friendship have small differences with love, in friendships we do not needs physical contact like sex but in love we needs physical contact from someone we love. Beside that friendship have same enjoyment. Friendship involves enjoyment, such as; acceptance, trust, respect, mutual assistance, confiding, and understanding. However, relationships with spouses and lovers, unlike friendships, are marked by strong emotion and strong caring. Sometimes relationships with friends are more stable or reliable than relationships among spouses or lovers (Davis, 1985).

It is notable that the meaning of love can be wrongly implied. Love is not belong to an individual. It is shared in the nuance of true meaning of life itself. Yet, what love may give is the same as what love may take. It is equally and belongingness. However, if the implication of love is interpreted wrongly, it will tend
to destroy the good side of friendship and togetherness that human beings eternally
dream for.

Of what love has positively given to be understood is the sense of attention. It is an attention the love has made men realize to the feelings and symptoms of love socially and morally. Children are teased about whom they love and are taught to recognize feelings and symptoms of love. They are told that love is important. Love is universal human potential, but it is highly disruptive of existing social arrangements.

Walster in Popenoe (1986) believes that love is the basis for union. It can be traced the way of many people talk about it, sing about it, write about it into novels, plays, and poems. The kind of love that is typically thought of as the basis for togetherness is a mixture of attraction, feelings of excitement and idealization of loved one. the entire complex of norms surrounding love is tied to this ideal of building strong togetherness. The dream of love and happiness of people involved in this union where someone can share their feeling either in sadness or happiness.

The true meaning of love that shines togetherness is as sweet as the name is. It is not enough to define as what it is because the word of love gives more than what it means. Though it is understood and practiced differently, it is kept in one eternally, and morally that is to treat others as what others want to be treated equally. To say simply, it is a love that can make people know who they are able to live together far from hatred and prejudice and understanding each other.
2.2 Some Aspects of Love

The word “love” makes our mind automatically move to something special which concerns without heart, a feeling that makes us feel warm. This world also reminds us many splendid things.

Love has its own power with a strong affection and tender feeling love can not be separated from human life, whatever and however no matter he or she is from high or low class. Love is abstract, but when it comes to someone, then he or she is ready to sacrifice and take the high risk.

There is an important aspect of love that may bridge unity among individuals. It is universal to understand and accept painfulness, awesomeness, and pleasure that love may transmit. Love teaches how to forgive the mistake in order to get the missing part of humanity.

Love is incidentally confusing as well as delighting. It can bring both happiness and sadness. It controls our moods and sometimes can cause people to act strangely. It can change a person from bad to good and even good to bad, but it plays important role in human life. The term of love can not be separated from human life such as love for the children or family and love for someone special. So God creates human beings with the feeling of love.

In this case, the writer will try to discuss it by giving some definitions from expert. “Love is the attraction, desire or affection felt for a person who arouse delight and admiration or elects tenderness, sympathy, interest or benevolence. Love usually arouse warm attachment, enthusiasm of devotion. The writer examines that there is
something appearing by the existence of love. It comes from the inner of our heart and whenever a person is falling in love, he will behave awkwardly.

Collins Cobuild says: “If you love someone, you have very strong feeling and affection toward them and feel romantically or sexuality attracted to them and they are very important to you and you feel that their happiness is very important to you and usually show this feeling in the way you be have toward them” (1984:46)”. We believe that love encourages a person to do everything good for somebody he loves and deep the feeling of love is shown by one’s behavior. Love can only move smoothly in the relationship of two person who have understood each other very well and care for one another deeply.

The feeling of love is very inherent in the life of a normal human being. This is a common truth. This statement implies that “love” is one thing that makes one’s life more meaningful and interesting. It can create a more energetic and delightful life to the person in love. We realize there are some processes when we feel that we are in love with other, such as the process of linking between people of the opposite sex.

Another contemporary theory of love, and one that has produced a widely used measurement instrument, is the typology developed by Lee (1977, 1988). Each variety of love is likened to a primary and secondary colors or styles of love (hence the title of Lee’s book, Colours of Love, 1973).
These are three primary colors or styles of love:

1. Eros

Eros is an intensely emotional experience that is similar to passionate love. In fact, the most typical symptom of eros is an immediate and powerful attraction to the beloved individual. The erotic lover is “turned on” by a particular physical type, it is prone to fall instantly and completely in love with a stranger (i.e., to experience “love at first sight”), rapidly becomes preoccupied with pleasant thoughts about that individual, feels an intense need for daily contact with the beloved, and wishes the relationship to remain exclusive. Erotic love also has a strong sexual component. For example, the erotic lover desires the beloved sexually, usually seeks some forms of sexual involvement fairly early in the relationship, and enjoys expressing his or her affection through sexual contact. In sum, the erotic lover is “eager to get to know the beloved quickly, intensely—and undressed” (Lee, 1988, p. 50).

2. Ludus

Ludus (or game-playing) love. The ludic lover views love as a game to be played with skill and often with several partners simultaneously. The ludic lover has no intention of including the current partner (or partners) in any future life plans or events and worries about any sign of growing involvement, need, or intense attachment from the partner. As the quintessential commitmentphobe, the ludic lover avoids seeing the partner too often, believes that lies and deception are justified, and expects the partner to remain in control of his or her emotions. In addition, ludic
lovers tend to prefer a wide variety of physical types and view sexual activity as an opportunity for pleasure rather than for intense emotional bonding.

3. Storge

Storge is the third primary love color. Described by Lee (1973) as “love without fever or folly” (p. 77), storge resembles Lewis’s concept of Affection in that it is stable and based on a solid foundation of trust, respect, and friendship. Indeed, the typical storgic lover views and treats the partner as an “old friend,” does not experience the intense emotions or physical attraction to the partner associated with erotic love, prefers to talk about and engage in shared interests with the partner rather than to express direct feelings, is shy about sex, and tends to demonstrate his or her affection in nonsexual ways. To the storgic lover, love is an extension of friendship and an important part of life but is not a valuable goal in and of itself.

And these are three secondary love styles that identified by Lee. The secondary colors or styles of love is formed and contained by features of the primary love styles but also possess their own unique characteristics.

1. Pragma

A combination of storge and ludus, is “the love that goes shopping for a suitable mate”(Lee, 1973, p. 124). The pragmatic lover has a practical outlook on love and seeks a compatible lover. He or she creates a shopping list offeatures or attributes desired in the partner and selects a mate based on how well that individual fulfills the requirements (similarly, he or she will drop a partner who fails to “measure
up” to expectations). Pragmatic love is essentially a faster-acting version of storge that has been quickened by the addition of ludus.

2. Mania

The combination of *eros* and *ludus*, is another secondary love style. Manic lover is lack of the self-confidence associated with eros and the emotional self-control associated with ludus. This obsessive, jealous love style is characterized by self-defeating emotions, desperate attempts to force affection from the beloved, and the inability to believe in or trust any affection the loved one actually does display. The manic lover is desperate to fall in love and to be loved, begins immediately to imagine a future with the partner, wants to see the partner daily, tries to force the partner to show love and commitment, distrusts the partner’s sincerity, and is extremely possessive. This love type is “irrational, extremely jealous, obsessive, and often unhappy” (Lee, 1973, p. 15).

3. Agape

A combination of *eros* and *storge*. Agape is similar to Lewis’s concept of Charity and represents an all-giving, selfless love style that implies an obligation to love and care for others without any expectation of reciprocity or reward. This love style is universalistic in the sense that the typical agapic lover believes that everyone is worthy of love and that loving others is a duty of the mature person. With respect to personal love relationships, an agapic lover will unselfishly devote himself or herself to the partner, even stepping aside in favor of a rival who seems more likely to meet the partner’s needs. Although Lee believed that many lovers respect and strive
to attain the agapic ideal, he also believed that the give-and-take that characterizes most romantic relationships precludes the occurrence of purely altruistic love.

Robert Perucci says love is an intense form of linking and love is the characteristic of our Primary relationship. In popular wage, love can note the types of its commitment, trust and willingness to sacrifice. It shows that love also involve our social relationship. Our great need in social relationship to attain the of equality with other people. So, we can say that love, is very unique thing that all of us have had a love experience since we were young until we leave the world.

Love is something unique. It can be felt but can not expressed verbally, because it mainly concerns with the role of feeling and also usually varied according to time, situation and person involved. Needless to say, the meaning of love is sharing the deepest empathy to the others and reflecting how empathy gives amazing moment of self-recognition. With love the real union human relationship will stand strongly and harmoniously.

2.3 The Meaning of Triangle Love

A love triangle is a romantic and complicated relationship scenario where there’s love in the air, it is involving three people. When love is mutual and shared between two people, everything is perfect, simple and easy. But when a third person enters the picture, everything changes just like that.

The relationships can be friendships, romantic, or familial. In come the complications and the frustrations, laced with intense happiness and a flow of
bitterness. One person typically ends up feeling betrayed at some point. For example “Person A is jealous of person C who is having a relationship with person B who, in person A's eyes, is "his" person”.

A love triangle starts only when there is reciprocation. When a single person starts to feel a reciprocating connection with someone who’s already dating, or if someone in a relationship with one person and start loving someone else who reciprocates that love. It doesn’t matter if someone in a relationship or single, what need to be realized is that love triangles can never ever be created because of one person’s weak moment. It always takes two people to start the complication while the third person suffers for no fault of theirs.

Although the romantic love triangle is formally identical to the friendship triad, as many have noted their actual implications are quite different. Romantic love is typically viewed as an exclusive relationship, whereas friendship is not.

According to Sternberg (1988), there are three components of triangle love. They are:

1. Intimacy

Intimacy refers to feelings of closeness, connectedness, and bondedness in loving relationships. It thus includes within its purview those feelings that give rise, essentially, to the experience of warmth in a loving relationship. Sternberg and Grajek (1984) cluster-analysed data from the loving and liking scales of Rubin (1970) and a close-relationships scale of Levinger, Rands and Talaber (1977), as a result of which they identified 10 clusters in intimacy: (a) desire to promote the welfare of the
loved one; (b) experienced happiness with the loved one; (c) high regard for the loved one; (d) being able to count on the loved one in times of need; (e) mutual understanding with the loved one; (f) sharing of one's self and one's possessions with the loved one; (g) receipt of emotional support from the loved one; (h) giving of emotional support to the loved one; (i) intimate communication with the loved one; and (j) valuing of the loved one in one's life.

2. Passion

Passion refers to the drives that lead to romance, physical attraction, sexual consummation, and related phenomena in loving relationships. The passion component includes within its purview those sources of motivational and other forms of arousal that lead to the experience of passion in a loving relationship. It includes what Hatfield and Walster (1981) refer to as ‘a state of intense longing for union with the other’. In a loving relationship, sexual needs may well predominate in this experience. However, other needs, such as those for self-esteem, succorance, nurturance, affiliation, dominance, submission, and self-actualization, may also contribute to the experiencing of passion.

3. Decision/Commitment

Decision/commitment refers, in the short-term, to the decision that one loves a certain other, and in the long-term, to one's commitment to maintain that love. These two aspects of the decision/commitment component do not necessarily go together, in that one can decide to love someone without being committed to the love
in the long-term, or one can be committed to a relationship without acknowledging that one loves the other person in the relationship.

The three components of love interact with each other: for example, greater intimacy may lead to greater passion or commitment, just as greater commitment may lead to greater intimacy, or with lesser likelihood, greater passion. In general, then, the components are separable, but interactive with each other. Although all three components are important parts of loving relationships, their importance may differ from one relationship to another, or over time within a given relationship.

And the various combinations of these psychological aspects of love create eight separate permutations that cover almost all relationships. They are:

- **Nonlove** refers simply to the absence of all three components of love. Nonlove characterizes the large majority of our personal relationships, which are simply casual interactions.

- **Liking/friendship** is used here in a nontrivial sense. Rather, it refers to the set of feelings one experiences in relationships that can truly be characterized as friendship. One feels closeness, bondedness, and warmth toward the other, without feelings of intense passion or long-term commitment.

- **Infatuated love** is infatuation results from the experiencing of passionate arousal in the absence of intimacy and decision/commitment. Romantic relationships often start out as infatuated love and become romantic love as intimacy develops over time. Without developing intimacy or commitment, infatuated love may disappear suddenly.
 emptiness love is characterized by commitment without intimacy or passion. A stronger love may deteriorate into empty love. In an arranged marriage, the spouses’ relationship may begin as empty love and develop into another form, indicating “how empty love need not be the terminal state of a long-term relationship the beginning rather than the end.”

- **Romantic love** derives from a combination of the intimate and passionate components of love. Romantic lovers are not only drawn physically to each other but are also bonded emotionally - bonded both intimately and passionately, but without sustaining commitment.

- **Companionate love** is an intimate, non-passionate type of love that is stronger than friendship because of the element of long-term commitment. This type of love is observed in long-term marriages where passion is no longer present but where a deep affection and commitment remain. The love ideally shared between family members is a form of companionate love, as is the love between close friends who have a platonic but strong friendship.

- **Fatuous love** can be exemplified by a whirlwind courtship and marriage – fatuous in the sense that a commitment is made on the basis of passion without the stabilizing influence of intimate involvement.

- **Consummate love** is the complete form of love, representing an ideal relationship toward which people strive. Of the seven varieties of love, consummate love is theorized to be that love associated with the “perfect couple.” According to Sternberg, these couples will continue to have great sex fifteen years
or more into the relationship, they cannot imagine themselves happier over the long-term with anyone else, they overcome their few difficulties gracefully, and each delight in the relationship with one other. However, Sternberg cautions that maintaining a consummate love may be even harder than achieving it. He stresses the importance of translating the components of love into action. “Without expression,” he warns, “even the greatest of loves can die.” Thus, consummate love may not be permanent. If passion is lost over time, it may change into companionate love.

And yet, almost all of us end up in one. **No one wants to be in a love triangle.** A love triangle may start off as an interesting distraction at first, which then unexpectedly turns into love. And this can lead to sticky love triangles where one person could be in love with two people at the same time. When one person doesn’t want to take a step ahead, nor want to take a step back and stay happy in their own relationship, a love triangle starts to form even if try the best to avoid it. Unless there’s a lot of love and bonding in the relationship, a love triangle always leaves a deep scar that tests the person’s faith in the relationship. And almost always, a relationship that is put through the test of a love triangle fails or never regains its former glory.