

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 RESEARCH BACKGROUND

Feminism has been raised in Indonesian literature since the early 20th century and is still discussed today. In literary works such as plays, short stories, poems, and films, feminism is often raised to challenge and criticize patriarchal social structures, such as the operation against women, female stereotypes, masculinity and others, seeking to give voice to those marginalized by the patriarchal social system. This phenomenon has been discussed in many people's research (Arivia & Subono, 2017).

For example, the film “Little Women (2019)” directed by Greta Gerwig adapts the classic novel to create a narrative that is more relevant to contemporary gender issues. The film highlights the struggles of female characters in achieving their dreams amidst social pressures to marry and fulfill traditional roles. By showcasing the ambitions and aspirations of its characters, the movie reinforces the message of the importance of women's freedom and right to choose their own path in life (Dewi & Ishlah, 2020).

The second example is the movie “Barbie”. The main findings show that “Barbie (2023)” functions as a cultural artifact that reflects ongoing societal debates about gender roles and female empowerment. The movie reinterprets the iconic doll, traditionally associated with a certain femininity, to convey a strong feminist message. The film underscores the importance of friendship and solidarity among women, a rejection of traditional gender expectations, and a critique of patriarchal structures by portraying women as strong and independent leaders (Ariska & Nisa, 2024).

The third example is in the movie “The Girl on the Train” which depicts liberal feminism through the main character, Rachel. Rachel's struggle against betrayal and domestic violence demonstrates women's ability to think rationally, make independent

choices, and defend themselves. The movie is not only reveals the reality of gender-based violence but also shows women's resistance and empowerment. As such, the film conveys important moral messages about women's independence, the importance of standing up to injustice, and resisting oppressive behavior in relationships. Although the analysis focuses on one film and one type of feminism, this research makes a valuable contribution to the understanding of the representation of feminism in popular media as well as the impact of domestic violence and betrayal trauma on women's experiences (Indriyani et al., 2022).

Feminism uses film as a means of conveying values and messages from filmmakers, in an effort to voice feminism issues to the audience. Films are able to represent the social conditions of society, raise issues that develop in society, and represent minority voices through narrative and cinematographic aspects (Boggs & Petrie, 2008). In film development, the early to mid-1970s are often considered part of the female image. In the film industry, this is considered one of the strategies of Classical Hollywood cinema in the 1930s to 1950s to make women's films an important category because the target audience was women (Haquu & Hidayati, 2023).

The involvement of women in Hollywood films is still relatively small and is often portrayed as a figure that only emphasizes beauty or physical beauty. However, this can be a motivation for women to play an active role behind the scenes and make movies by portraying strong, smart and tough women. As shown by Millie Bobby Brown in her movie *Enola Holmes 2* (2022), a sequel with the same title that aired in 2020. In the movie *Enola Holmes 2*, Millie Bobby Brown plays the main character, Enola Holmes. In this sequel, Milly succeeded in bringing her role as Enola who wanted to succeed in working as a detective or spy where at that time her brother Sherlock also worked as a detective (Humaira et al., 2023).

The movie also tells the story of how women are often underestimated in the workplace. For example, like the case that Enola managed to uncover when looking for her sister, Bassely Caphman, namely Cicelly. This case took place in London during Queen Victoria's time around 1800, known as "The Match Girls". These girls worked long hours for very low wages and could lose part of their wages due to fines for offenses such as arriving late, talking, and going to the toilet. According to Annie Besant in the article "White Slavery in London", these workers were born in slums and forced to work from childhood. They were also malnourished due to lack of food, oppressed, and helpless. To make matters worse, their working conditions were dangerous because they had to breathe in fumes from the phosphorus used to make toxic matches, putting them at high risk of necrosis, a form of bone cancer that leads to death (Besant, 1888). These symptoms show similarities with the goal of feminism, which is to strive for a comprehensive recognition of the humanity of men and women as equal beings.

In the movie *Enola Holmes 2*, there are many elements of feminism in it and have been studied by many researchers using approaches such as Linguistic Analysis, Feminist Literary Criticism, Speech Act, Semiotic Analysis, Feminist Perspective and other theoretical approaches. But, no one has used analysis from the perspective of Linda Brannon's theory in this study, therefore I am interested in analyzing from the gender psychology side by Linda Brannon in the film *Enola Holmes 2*, because applying Linda Brannon's theory in analyzing *Enola Holmes 2* not only enriches our understanding of Enola's character but also provides a critical perspective on the representation and reflection of gender issues in modern films.

The interesting story in the movie *Enola Holmes 2* makes researchers want to examine how the perspective by Linda Brannon theory can describe feminism with the title "An Analysis of Women's Resistance Against Gender Stereotypes in *Enola Movie Holmes 2*"

1.2 RESEARCH QUESTION

Based on the background, the researcher formulates the problem is:

- 1) What are the forms stereotype of ideal female in movie Enola Holmes 2 ?
- 2) How do the women characters of the movie resist against gender stereotyping?

1.3 RESEARCH PURPOSE

From research question above, the research purpose is:

- 1) This study aims to identify and categorize the various manifestations of ideal female stereotypes in the film enola holmes 2.
- 2) This research aims to analyze the strategies and methods used by women to challenge and resist gender stereotypes.

1.4 RESEARCH LIMITATION

Limitation of the research includes the focus solely on the character of Enola as the main representation of feminism in the film, potentiall overlooking other aspects of the film that also contribute to the feminist themes.

1.5 RESEARCH SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of this research is intended for the following :

1. For literature

It is hoped that this research can make an academic contribution by discussing the theme of women's resistance to gender stereotypes in popular media, and can add to the collection of literature in campus libraries and can be a reference for similar studies in the fields of gender, literature, and popular culture. this research also enriches interdisciplinary studies, especially in gender, literature, and media studies.

2. For student

It is hoped that this research can be a source of inspiration for students to understand gender issues in the media and how they are relevant in everyday life, and

students can learn methods of critical analysis of popular media, especially in identifying and examining narratives that challenge gender stereotypes. and The results of this study can also provide insight for students who want to explore topics related to feminism, social resistance, and gender representation.

1.6 DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

- Resistance

According to (Scott, 1985) resistance as all actions carried out by the people or inferior group intended for reduce or deny claims made by superior group against them. Scott divide the resistance into two types namely Public Resistance and Disguised Resistance. Public resistance is an organized, systematic, principled, observable, and concrete form of resistance due to direct communication between conflicted parties. Public resistance leads to movement carried out systematically with coordination between leaders and members. While Disguised resistance is a resistance carried out by someone through less systematic procedures.

- Gender Stereotype

According to (Baron & Kotthoff, 2001) gender stereotypes are the stereotypes concerning the traits possessed by females and males and those distinguish the two genders from each other. It is like gender stereotype more concern about the overgeneralization idea about the gender traits that makes them be easy to be differentiated. Further, gender stereotype is defined as the overgeneralization or simplistic idea about the gender role. It can happen when there is one gender – between male or female – treats unfairly, and feels discriminated.

- Movie

According to (Hornby, 1963) movie means a series of moving picture recorded with sound that tells a story, shown at cinema/movie. They are created through

cinematography, directing, acting, editing, and other production elements, providing an immersive experience for audiences to engage with storytelling, entertainment, artistic expression, or convey information.