

## An Analysis of Feminism in The Movie “Maleficent” by Robert Stromberg

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### ABSTRACT

The research aims to analyze feminism in Maleficent film by Robert Stromberg besides being interested, the research also found that there was an element of women oppression by men where men wanted to control women. This research uses applies qualitative method. The purpose of this research, namely; 1) To the explain type of feminism in the film Maleficent by Robert Stromberg 2) To the explain determine the factors that cause the emergence of feminism in the film Maleficent by Robert Stromberg. The results of this research, the writer had found one kind of feminism that existed in the Maleficent film, namely ecofeminism. For the factors that led to the appearance of feminism in the Maleficent film, the research had found, namely: ecological protection factors and ending domestic violence and abuse factors. The research also found the influence of feminism on the main character, namely: Women and nature are dominated and thus stresses the need for a more interdependent worldview and all living things are essential to the well-being of the planet and that humans are not separate or superior.

**Key Words:** *Literature, Feminism, Movie Maleficent*

### INTRODUCTION

Literature in today's encyclopedia and you will be struck by the ambiguity of its use as well as the inevitable lack of substance in attempting to define it. In most cases, literary works are referred to as whole written expressions, with the limitation that not all written documents can be categorized as literary works in a more precise sense. Therefore, definitions usually include additional adjectives such as "aesthetic" or "artistic" to distinguish literary works from everyday texts such as telephone books, newspapers, legal documents, and scholarly writings.

According to Klarer (2004: 22) since ancient Greco-Roman times, the classification of literary works into different genres has been a major concern of literary theory, which since then has resulted in a

number of divergent and sometimes even contradictory categories. Among the various attempts to classify literature into genres, triad epic, drama, and poet have proven to be the most common in modern literary criticism. Since epics were largely replaced by new prose forms of novels in the eighteenth century, recent classifications have favored the terms fiction, drama, and poetry as the designations of the three main literary genres.

From the above statement that literature has a broad meaning as a written expression as art in life to reflect feelings into literary works, everyone can interpret what literature is, based on the two statements of literary works such as: Drama, Poetry, Novels and Movies become the focus of writers who make films as objects of research in this thesis. How this film affects the audience in psychological conditions such as joy, sadness, fear, regret,

laughter, encouragement and hope that all represent feelings as human beings.

In the early twenty-first century, it was impossible to ignore film as a semi-textual genre influenced by and exerted influence on literature and literary criticism. Films are predetermined by literary technique; on the other hand, literary practice develops certain features under the influence of film. Many of the dramatic forms of the twentieth century, for example, have developed in interaction with film, whose ways of depicting photography go far beyond that of realistic portrayals in theater. Drama can, therefore, abandon its claim to realism and develop other, more stylized or abstract forms of presentation.

Maleficent is an American fantasy film directed by Robert Stromberg from a screenplay by Linda Woolverton. Produced by Joe Roth for Walt Disney Pictures, headline photography took place between June and October 2012. Maleficent went live at the El Capitan Theater in Hollywood on May 28, 2014, and was released in the UK the same year. The film was released in the US on May 30, 2014 in Disney.

According to Saptari and Holzner (1997: 47) Feminism is "the idea to raise the low position of women in society, and the desire to improve or change the situation". So far, the position of women in society has always been below or behind men. A position that is very unfavorable for women to develop themselves. Feminism is a movement to change the position of women in society.

Researcher chooses to analyze feminism in the film Maleficent by Robert Stromberg. Besides being interested, researcher also finds that there is an element of oppression of women by men where men want to control women, the emergence of feminism in this film is caused by several factors such as; protection of eco-feminism and ending domestic violence and abuse.

## **FEMINISM TEORY**

The term 'feminism' comes from the Latin word 'Femina' which means 'woman' and was first used in connection with the issue of equality and the Women's Rights Movement. Since ancient times, there have been women who have struggled to free half of the world's population from male oppression. According to Shodhganga Feminism is not a fad or a logical extension of the civil rights movement, but a protest against legal, economic and social restrictions on women's basic rights that have existed throughout history and in all civilizations. Naturally, the principles of feminism have been articulated for a long time. Wilfred (2005: 222) said: "Feminism often focuses on what is absent rather than what is, reflecting a concern for the silencing and marginalization of women in a patriarchal culture, a culture organized in the interests of men, feminism is an overt political approach and can attack other approaches to they. wrong assumptions about women."

The definition of the term 'feminism' varies from person to person. Nahal (1991:17) defines that feminism as "a mode of existence in which women are free from dependency syndrome. There is a dependency syndrome: whether it is husband or father or society or whether it is religious group, ethnic group. When women break free from dependency syndrome and I lead a normal life, my ideas about feminism materialize.

Feminism is a movement influenced by ideas postulated, popularized and fueled by thinkers and writers such as Alice Walker, Naomi Littlebear, Judith Felterbey, Michele Wallace, Lillian Smith, Elaine Showalter, Simone de Beauvoir, Kate Millet and others. It is a modern movement expressing protest against male domination. It provides a strategy for change. The feminist aim is to understand women's

oppression by taking into account race, gender, class and sexual preferences.

According to Victoria (2008: 163) in the Oxford Advance Learner dictionary, feminism is a belief in the same rights as men. Based on the definitions above, the writer can conclude that feminism is a movement for social, cultural, political and economic equality between men and women. It is a campaign against gender inequality and fight for equal rights for women.

### **KINDS OF FEMINISM**

#### 1. Liberal feminism

Liberalism, the political school of thought that became the embryo of liberal feminism, is in the process of reconceptualization, rethinking and restructuring. Although liberals define reason in general terms of morality and prudence, they agree that a just society will enable a person to demonstrate his autonomy, as well as to satisfy himself.

#### 2). Radical Feminism

In order to understand the views of radical-libertarian and culturally radical feminism, it is important to first define the sex / gender system. The sex / gender system is "a series of structures used by society to transform biological sexuality into a product of human activity".

#### 3). Marxist Feminism

Like the liberal concept of human nature that is present in liberal feminism, the Marxist concept of human nature is also present in the thought of Marxist feminism. Marxists reject the liberal conception of human nature, and emphasize that what makes us human is that we produce our means of living.

#### 4). Psychoanalysis and Gender Feminism

In contrast to liberal, radical and Marxist feminism, psychoanalysis and gender feminism believe that fundamental explanations for women's ways of acting are rooted in women's behavior, especially in women's ways of thinking. Unlike psychoanalytic feminism, gender feminism

tends to argue that there may indeed be biological differences as well as psychological differences, or cultural explanations of male masculinity and female femininity.

#### 5). Existentialist feminism

At first, narcissism was beneficial for women. As someone who is in puberty, he can build from his ego worship the courage to face a very unpleasant future. In the end, narcissism hinders women's progress. She was bound by the need to fulfill men's desires and adapt to people's tastes. Narcissistic self-esteem depends on male and community approval of it.

#### 6). Postmodern feminism

Because the relationship between postmodernism and feminism is rather difficult, feminism, which clarifies itself as postmodern feminism, often finds it difficult to explain how they can become postmodern and at the same time feminism. Postmodern feminism, trying to avoid any action that would restore phologocentric thinking, every idea that refers to the word (logos) which has a "male" style, postmodern feminists look suspiciously at any feminist thought that seeks to provide a certain explanation, regarding the cause.

#### 7). Multicultural and Global Feminism

Multicultural and global feminism have similarities in the way they view the Self, that is, the divided Self. However, for multicultural and global feminism, this division is more cultural, racial and ethnic than sexual, psychological, and literary.

#### 8). Ecofeminism

Like multicultural and global feminism, eco-feminism seeks to show the relationship between all forms of human operation, but it also focuses on human efforts to dominate the world rather than humans, or nature.

### **THE CAUSES OF FEMINISM**

#### 1. End Domestic Violence and Violence

You may not realize it, but most people know a woman who has been a victim of domestic violence.

## 2. Reproductive Rights

Ensuring that every woman has the ability to make the best decisions for herself and her family regarding reproduction is a major issue in the feminist community.

## 3. Same Salary and Maternity Leave

It seems absurd that two people doing the exact same job, under the same conditions and with the same experience, might not make the same amount of money.

## 4. Ecological Protection

Also known as eco-feminism, this is a movement that links the subordination of women to the deprivation of nature.

## 5. Legal and Economic Autonomy

This is of less concern in the United States today than in other regions, particularly in Asia, South America and Africa.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research uses qualitative research methods, because qualitative methods are in accordance with the objectives of this study. Qualitative research can take the form of descriptive. Data were collected in the form of words as a descriptive method of explanation rather than numbers. According to Moleong, (2005: 11) Descriptive is: "the data collected is in the form of words, pictures and not numbers. This is due to the application of qualitative methods. In this theory, Moleong explains that qualitative research is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of words spoken by the person or behavior under study.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

After analyzing the kind of feminism (Liberal feminism, Radical Feminism, Psychoanalysis and gender feminism, Marxist feminism, Existentialist feminism, Postmodern feminism, Multicultural and Global feminism, and Ecofeminism and the

causes (End domestic violence and abuse, Reproductive right, Same salary and Maternity leave, Ecological protection and Legal and economic autonomy). The researcher only found the kind of feminism of ecofeminism.

There are 7 dialogues that contain ecofeminism and there are 2 factors causing the appearance of feminism in Maleficent; Ecological protection and ending domestic violence and abuse. The researcher found 8 dialogues of Ecological protection, Ecological Protection occurred because the main character especially women want to save the nature. Then, the researcher found 2 dialogues of Ending domestic violence and abuse, ending domestic violence and abuse occurred because not only happened in family but in relationship of someone that has loved without married al status.

This research found some the influence of feminism on the main character in Maleficent; Women and nature are dominated and thus stresses the need for a more interdependent worldview and all living things are essential to the well-being of the planet and that humans are not separate or superior. The researcher did not find the kind of feminism such as Liberal feminism, Radical Feminism, Psychoanalysis and gender feminism, Marxist feminism, Existentialist feminism, Postmodern feminism, Multicultural and Global feminism.

## CONCLUSION

After analyzing the data collection from Maleficent film by Robert Stromberg, the research concluded as follows:

1. The kind of feminism in Maleficent film by Robert Stromberg included in ecofeminism, because in this film tells about how a man want to dominate nature in a cunning and evil ways, namely by oppressing the weak (woman). In this film also shows how a woman wants to protect her nature from man greed. The researcher found 8

ecofeminism in this Maleficent film by Robert Stromberg.

2. The factors causing the appearance of feminism in Maleficent film by Robert Stromberg are; ecological protection factor and ending domestic violence and abuse factor.

The influence of feminism on the main character in Maleficent film by Robert Stromberg are; Women and nature are dominated and thus stresses the need for a more interdependent world view and all living things are essential to the well-being of the planet and that humans are not separate or superior.

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