

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

The situation of women being an under pressured gender is started in the nineteenth-century. The perception that most of men had in that time was that women were powerless and weak. Men believe that the existence of women at that time did not make a great influence to the environment and even they did not have a power to do huge things. Based on what has happened in the past, the gender problem seems to be a world's problem. This issue becomes one of the themes that usually being used by the people who created arts. They like to use women as the topic in their works such as movie, song, book, or the other literary works. Through the arts that have been said before, the issue of women nowadays will be brought to the air and born to be an issue which people want to talk about.

The problems related to women still can be found nowadays. In Indonesia, the survey result of the harm that is done by men toward their wives has reached 51,1 percent as cited from the wordpress of Musni (2012). The case that can be seen from this fact is that there are still a lot of women who have not had their freedom. Men who are physically stronger than women, occasionally do things that hurt women.

Michael (2009) states that feminist literary criticism, arising in conjunction with sociopolitical feminism, critiques patriarchal language and literature by exposing how these reflect masculine ideology. It examines gender politics in

works and traces the subtle construction of masculinity and femininity, and their relative status, positionings, and marginalizations within works. He says that feminist criticism concern itself with stereotypical representations of genders. It also may trace the history of relatively unknown or undervalued women writers, potentially earning them their rightful place within the literary canon, and helps create a climate in which women's creativity may be fully realized and appreciated.

There is a lot of numbers of movies that have brought feminism as their topics. The points are usually built by the strength of the characters to play and deliver their acts and speeches along with their characters. Some title of feminism movies which already got the attention of the world's audiences are: "*Iris*", "*Sisters*", "*Janis*", and "*She Named Me Malala*" where all of the movies were launched in the year of 2015. "*She Named Me Malala*" itself is one of the best example of feminism true story that is brought to the air by an outstanding documentary movie by Davis Guggenheim. The movie talks about the story of a young girl, Malala Yousafzai who received a Nobel Peace Prize because of her efforts to change the world.

"I speak not for myself but for those without voice... those who have fought for their rights... their right to live in peace, their right to be treated with dignity, their right to equality of opportunity, their right to be educated."

"In many parts of the world, especially Pakistan and Afghanistan, terrorism, war, and conflict stop children to go to their schools. We are really tired of these wars. Women and children are suffering."

"I do not want to be remembered as the girl who was shot. I want to be remembered as the girl who stood up."

As accessed from <https://secure.aworldatschool.org/page/content/the-text-of-malaya-youafzais-speech-at-the-united-nations/> on March 2, 2016, those

are some of the famous feminism quotes that Malala said through her wide and brilliant way of thinking when giving a speech at the Youth Takeover of the United Nations on July 12 2013.

Through the words, people can catch her idea about how strong does she want to be a girl who will change the world especially to rid the women and children who are suffered from the world's problem especially in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Similar like *She Named Me Malala*, *Brave* is a movie that tells about the characters of women. Through the characterization of Merida and Queen Elinor, the feminism values can be revealed. As cited at <http://wikipedia.com/Brave-movie>, this film won a BAFTA Award as a Best Animated Movie because its strong characters.

Brave, even though a kids movie, it has some good points of being a woman who does not just follow, but also rule. It is interesting to be analyzed from feminism perspective because of the strength of its women main characters. As a young princess of a kingdom, Merida should be free of doing anything but in this story, the princess does not get the opportunity of doing what she wants at first. Elinor, as the queen has a tremendous opportunity to control the life in her family and the society. Both of Merida and Queen Elinor are women with strong characters which makes this movie becomes more interesting to be analyzed.

Thus, based on the reason above, this study is proposed to analyze the feminism reflection through characterization of the women main characters, Merida and Queen Elinor in *Brave* movie. This study is going to reveal the

character styles that both of the character have and their feminism representation in the story from some aspects of their lives namely domestic and public relationship.

B. The Problem of Study

Based on the background, the problems of this study are formulated as followed:

1. What are the characterizations of Merida and Queen Elinor in Disney movie: *Brave*?
2. How are the feminism values reflected by Merida and Queen Elinor characters in Disney movie: *Brave* through their each domestic and public relationship?

C. The Objective of Study

The study is aimed to know:

1. The characterizations of Merida and Queen Elinor in Disney movie: *Brave*.
2. The feminism values reflection of Merida and Queen Elinor through their public and domestic relationship in Disney movie: *Brave*.

D. The Scope of Study

The study is focused on two characters, Merida and Queen Elinor as the women main characters in Disney movie: *Brave*. It deals with their circumstances in public and domestic relationship related to the characterization and feminism values reflection analysis.

E. The Significance of Study

The findings of this study are expectedly useful whether it is theoretically or practically to the readers.

Theoretically, this study is expected to enhance the knowledge about the literary criticism of feminism perspectives and give a deeper understanding about it.

Practically, this study is expected to be useful for:

1. The students of English Literature Department of State University of Medan who want to do a similar research about feminism perspective, this study is expected as one of the references to do the analysis.
2. The readers who want to know more about how to analyze the characterization of the characters in a specific movie, this study is expected as one of the addition sources to get a deeper comprehending.
3. All of the women who read this research, this research is expected as a reading experience that will open up their minds to have no fear, but brave.