

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Sexual violence is a leading public health violation of human rights. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that one out of three (30%) women had experienced physical or non-physical violence. Intimate relationship violence accounts for most of this violence. Nearly a third (27%) of women aged 15 to 49 who had ever been in a relationship report their intimate partner had perpetrated some violence and/or sexual violence against them (WHO, 2021). At least once in their lives, an estimated 736 million women had been victims of intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both violence against women was never acceptable, excusable, or bearable in any country, society, or community.

Sexual violence defined by World Health Organization as any compelled sexual act, effort to get a sexual act, or other acts directed at a person's sexuality by anyone without victimization in any environment. The penetration defined as physical compulsion or other types of forces, was involved.

Additionally, Herman (1984) also defined rape as sexual intercourse between a male and female without consent and involving force, duress, intimidation, or deception as a natural act. In other words, rape was defined as sex without consent. Following Edmunds and Gupta's (2016) theory, consent was a concept that was negotiated, learned, and communicated by both parties by mutual agreement, deciding to engage in sexual activity with each other. Consent must be confirmed by an evident yes and enthusiasm, not by a lack of saying no

(Klement et al., 2016). Rape was a socio-cultural issue and refers to acts that range in severity and criminality from non-physical sexual harassment, including jokes promoting rape culture, sexual assault, groping to penetration (Willing, 2020). The term rape culture was used in this study to emphasize the cultural aspects of rape, which could include harmful practices, such as rape jokes, sexual harassment, cat-calling, sexualized banter; the routine policing of women's bodies, dress, appearance, code of conduct and the re-direction of blame from the perpetrator in an assault to the victim (Keller, Mendes, & Ringrose, 2018). The perpetrator separating them from resources, taking advantage of them, robbing them of their independence, and abusing them to obtain sex, controlling behavior aims to make a person dependent.

Based on the previously described theory, the researcher believed that sexual violence, particularly rape, was a social phenomenon that needs to investigate. This phenomenon happened in real life and seen in literary works such as novels, poetry, drama, and movies. Movies as literary works had much attention-getting more and more popular to spread information, teach, and entertain audiences. It could successfully educate society and contribute to share culture (<https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2012/11/9/movies-books-harvard/>).

Movies could communicate information far more quickly than books because it was visual rather than written. As a result, movies were more effective at reaching and informing a large audience, and the concrete images of cinema, as opposed to the imagined images required for reading, were easier to recall long after they had been seen. An unprecedented number of films or movies in American cinema

feature rape, a method by which patriarchy suppressed active female sexuality through Hollywood cinematic representations in response to the woman's liberation movement. Even though sex education had been enlivened, many movies told about how rape and sexual violence represented and showed. According to this theory, rape and sexual violence still exist and were worthy of research.

Several movies presented kind of sexual violence such as *The Invisible War* (2012), *Room* (2015), *The Hunting Ground* (2015), *Audrie & Daisy* (2016) and *Three Billboard outside Ebbing Missouri* (2017). Most of these movies showed women raped or felt any kind of sexual violence in the school campus, even in the war, did not dare speak up and make a movement. The characters tried to escape to avoid that kind of situation. The researcher finally chose to investigate *Bombshell* (2019) movie, the newest movie about rape and where sexual violence happened in the workplace, Fox News. This movie was worth investigating because it was different from those movies. Some harassed women at first kept quiet and hide it but finally moved by speaking up and telling the world that bad behavior need to stop, even if they would face risky situations related to their career. The movie depicted various forms of masculine power, including sexual coercion and nonconsensual sex, which discussed in greater depth in the following discussion. As shown in the first scene, "We did a segment on a recent coverage of his ex-wife's rape claim" was a representation of rape in the violence category because it portrayed sexual violence such rape claim or asking for sex without consent.

*Bombshell* (2019), directed by Jay Roach and written by Charles Randolph in the same year, got 6.8/10 IMDb rating and 104k people who voted for this movie. In 2020, in 2019 won an Oscar; Best Achievement in Makeup and Hairstyling in Academy Awards, USA, "Best Movie about Women," "The Cinema for Peace Award for Women's Empowerment," "Most Valuable Film of the Year" nominee, got 25 wins and 62 nominations in totals. ([https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6394270/awards/?ref\\_=tt\\_awd](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6394270/awards/?ref_=tt_awd)).

This parameter enabled the study to consider reactions to the movies in an era where questions of permission and power were more prevalent in reviews, even if that was not the primary emphasis of such texts. The researcher used this phenomenon to collaborate with rape culture and sexual violence to produce new outcomes beneficial for English Department students who wanted to identify some phenomenon in literary works. The researcher developed supporting insights and theories was a reference for further research for English Department students interested in learning about various types of rape and sexual violence depicted in movies. This study was expected to show its representation in movies, using movie utterances as data and descriptive qualitative methods to analyze.

## **1.2 The Objective of the Study**

The objective of the study were to uncover the representation of sexual violence in *Bombshell* movie.

## **1.3 The Problem of the Study**

In order to reach the objective of the study, the problems of the study were formulated as follows:

1. What sexual violence was presented in *Bombshell* 2019 movie?
2. How was the sexual violence realized in *Bombshell* 2019 movie?

#### **1.4 The Scope of the Study**

The scope of this study was an investigation of “Bombshell” movie, which consisted of 11442 words with 1 hour and 49 minutes length. Researcher studied the utterances in this movie to see how it depicted representation of sexual violence.

#### **1.5 The Significance of the Study**

Findings of the study were expected to offer both theoretical and practical significance.

##### **a. Theoretically**

As a references for students’ research topic who want to know about rape culture and representation of sexual violence in movie or film related to feminism

##### **b. Practically**

- To increase the knowledge about representation of sexual violence in literary works like movie or film.
- As guidance for the next researcher who want to discuss about representation and kinds of sexual violence in movie or film
- The readers in understanding the theme and aspects of literary works