

LIBERAL FEMINISM PORTRAYED IN DIALOG ON THE MAIN CHARACTER OF CINDERELLA 2021 MOVIE

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Abstract

This paper discussed feminism in Cinderella 2021 movie directed by Kay Cannon in 2021. This movie is adapted from Charles Perrault's fairy tale which was written in 1697. The aim of this research is to analyze how feminism is described by the main character. The other objective is to find out the example of liberal feminism on the main character based to Tong's theory. The researcher used descriptive qualitative methods which analyzed the content of the movie. All data is presented in the form of words, and sentences are also used in library research to collect data by reading and selecting quotations from the Cinderella 2021 movie. As the result of the study, liberal feminism that described through the main character are shown when Ella against the inequality that happens to her. And shown through the dialogue, body language, voice tone, as well as choice of word.

Keywords: Feminism; Cinderella 2021; Liberal Feminism

INTRODUCTION

Literature is part of human lifestyles that imagines human and social life that would be felt, understood, and can be used by society. Dewi (2021) states that literature is the creation of written or verbal content that concerns the author's intention, imagination or ideas which is referred to as a literary work. The shape of literary work which includes drama, poem, short story, movie, and novel. Literature offers an audience some messages that include values of life. In line with Wellek and Warren (1962) literature should be interesting. It should have a structure, a special purpose that especially contains a value that can be applied in our life. There is literary work that can be analyzed, one of them is a movie. Movie is chosen as data that will be used by the writer. Movie is defined as a type of modern literature and a form of visual communication that uses moving graphics and sound to tell the story. Parcinti (2020) states that a movie is defined as a textual object that consists of a series of photographic images which is an output of the illusion of movement and action in real life. Also, the purpose of movies is as a medium used to educate someone to get understanding and insights for a part of learning methods. There are several functions of movies, such as entertainment, education, and communication. Because movies can deliver expression of feeling which includes concept, motivation, experience, and self-belief with a concrete description by using language. Some of the movies are adapted from literature, which includes novels, poems, prose, and folktales. There are a few points within the movie that may be analyzed, as an example is feminism. Feminism is an interesting topic to discuss because it mentions about gender inequality between male and female. Dewi (2021) states that the movement of feminism is still around of women's experiences since many years ago. Because these issues are common in women's lives. Besides that, Ritzer (2003) states that feminism is one phenomenon about critical social concept which includes in social – political context, financial, also history faced by injustice people. Feminism tells that female needs to have the equal opportunities to outline, set up, and achieve the same political, financial, cultural, personal, and social rights as a man. According to Tong (1998)

feminism is divided into several types, one of them is liberal feminism. Liberal feminism in the 18th century it is about the same education for woman as for men, in this century a woman has the same education same like a man, liberal feminism in 19th century it is about the same right economic opportunities for woman, it means a woman have independent to work same like a man, and liberal feminism in the 20th century is about woman's right, a woman has a right to equal treatment, like women need economic opportunities and sexual freedom. In theory book Rosemary Tong (1998) she is a feminist who authored of book entitled "A Vindication of The Rights of Woman" 1792 in her book it is about a woman did not have independence, because they are not allowed to make their decisions and they do not have freedom. The aim of liberal feminism is to get woman's suffrage that every woman will get the individual freedom and should have equal access to employment and education. Liberal feminism is not about the women who can do anything that men can do, but it is more about some woman who can do anything that they want. It means that women have the same freedom and the same rights as men. According to Tong (1998), liberal feminism focuses on the justice of the gender to establish women's ability to maintain their equality through their own actions and their choice. Women should have the same right, educational and work opportunities as a man. An example of a liberal feminist is a woman who can become a dress maker and can own the shop, a women brave to choose her own way of life and pursue education the way that she wants. In terms of literature, this topic is relevant to be analyzed in this analysis. Therefore, the researcher decided to choose Cinderella story that was written by Charles Perrault, modified and directed by Kay Cannon as "Cinderella 2021" film because in this film consist of feminism value into the dialog of the main character.

METHOD

The method of study is descriptive qualitative research and library research. Beck and Polit state that qualitative description is used in qualitative research for studies that are described naturally. In analyzing, all the data are presented in the form of words and sentences. This research focuses on analyzing the feminism described by the main character. Also, to search the example of liberal feminism on the main character refers to Tong's theory. While the process of collecting data, there are some steps that are followed by the researcher, such as: (1) Downloading Cinderella 2021 movie from the internet. (2) Watching the Cinderella 2021 movie. (3) Take some notes to highlight the important things that were found in the dialog of the movie that related to feminism theory. In collecting the data, the researcher watched the movie several times to get comprehension and connected it to the theories of feminism. Then, the researcher finds some information in books, journals, or articles related to feminism and made an interpretation based on those data. After that, the researcher selected the data which are the words or phrases and sentences in the dialog of the movie. Data analysis was applied when the data from the movie was collected. Finally, this study analyzed the data focusing on the feminism aspect, especially liberal feminism based on Tong's theory.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

The result of this research presented about feminism are described through the main character also there are some examples of liberal feminism that applied by the main character. The feminism is supported by her expression, her voice tone, and her body language during her statement.

Data 1

This scene happens right after Cinderella's stepmother told Ella to find a person for herself. After that Ella goes to the basement and imagining herself being a dressmaker and owning a shop while sing a song



Figure 1. The screenshot of the scene when Ella sings a song to cheer her up.

(09:23 – 09:35)

Ella : If it's a million to one, I'm gonna be that one. And if it's a shot in the dark, I'm gonna be the sun.

Data 2

This conversation happened when Cinderella tried to sell her dress at the market. But, when she looks around, there are only men that open the shop there. She also gets the mockery from the people there because only men can do business. In this scene, she starts her journey to struggle against the inequality



Figure 2. The screenshot of the scene when Ella states her inequality

(33:42 – 34:00)

Robert: Sounds like you need to lower your price.

Ella : Sir, please do not pile on, okay? Not today.

Robert: No, no, I am sorry. It is a beautiful dress.

Ella : Right? I should be allowed to sell it.

Robert: Sure, but women can't own shops.

Ella : Uh-huh. And that's unfair.

Robert: Is it?

Ella : Yes! Us ladies give birth. We run households. Surely, we can run a business. Can't be that hard. I mean, wouldn't it just be great if I could have my own shop? Right here. I could hang my garments on that side. And I'd say things like, "Thank you. Come again."

Data 3

This dialogue occurs when the stepmother is helping her daughter get ready to go to the palace to attend the ball. Then, their eyes were diverted by Ella who came wearing a very beautiful dress. The stepmother immediately did not allow Ella to go to the ball because Thomas had already stated that he would propose to Ella. However, Ella refused because she also had the right to choose the best partner for herself.



Figure 3. The screenshot of the scene when Ella against the inequality

(42:20 – 43:04)

Stepmother : Did you make that dress?

Ella : Mm-hmm.

Stepmother : I suppose it is nice. It is tasteful.

Ella : Thank you.

Stepmother : I am sorry, I should have said something earlier, but, Cinderella, you don't need to go to the ball.

Ella : What do you mean? Of course, I do.

Stepmother : No, it's for girls who are unbetrothed, and as of this morning, you are spoken for.

Ella : That's impossible. I speak for me.

Stepmother : No, Thomas has expressed his intentions to marry you.

Ella : Thomas? But I don't want to marry Thomas. I reject his intentions.

Data 4

This conversation appeared when Robert asked Cinderella about his willingness to marry Ella. But Ella refuses Robert's proposal even though she loves him because she has the desire to realize her dreams to become a dressmaker. Also in this scene, Ella tried to state that she wants to be a dressmaker.



Figure 4. The screenshot of the scene when Ella states that she is a dressmaker (01:10:00 – 01:10:58)

Robert: Okay? We'll-we will get married, and you will live the rest of your life as royalty.

Ella : Royalty? What about my work? M-My dresses can...

Robert: Well, that would be frowned upon. Women have a very prescribed role in court.

Ella : "Prescribed role in court"?

Robert: But I would make sure that you were dressed by the finest dressmakers - in all the land.

Ella : I am a dressmaker!

Robert: I know. There is just no one else in this world I would rather be with than you.

Ella : Robert, stop. I do not want a life stuck waving from a royal box any more than a life confined to a basement. I have dreams that I have to chase. So, if it is a choice, I choose me.

Discussion

The detailed analysis about feminism that described through the main character will be explained as follows:

Data 1

From the scene above, it shows Ella has a big dream, but it is difficult to realize it. Because Ella is an orphan and especially a woman. However, Ella always encourages herself by singing. The scene above shows Ella smiling while sewing her homemade dress and singing a song that has a message for herself **“If it's a million to one, I'm gonna be that one. And if it's a shot in the dark, I'm gonna be the sun.”** Which means if there is a small chance, then I will be the one. And if there's only one chance, then I want to be the best. From this scene, it can be concluded that Ella wants to be free to live like other people and get a chance to do anything she wants to do.

Data 2

The utterance above shows that Ella as a main character struggle against the rule that women are not allowed to own a shop. Women should have the same opportunities to do anything as men can do. Ella firmly fights the injustice directly to Robert, who is the prince of the kingdom. This can be seen from the sentence **“I should be allowed to sell it.” Ella on the other hand also said the sentence “And that's unfair.”** to emphasize that the rule in the kingdom is unfair. Because women can do everything like giving birth, taking care of the household, and owning a shop and doing business. This statement includes liberal feminism because Ella tries to struggle the rule that is not fair for women to doing something in term of economy.

Data 3

From the conversation above the conflict is happening between Ella and Stepmother. The source of conflict is different opinions between them. Stepmother thinks that only she can determine Ella's life, one of them by accepting a proposal from Thomas. In fact, Ella as a woman and an individual has the right to determine her future life partner. The visual above shows how Ella's gaze and facial expression firmly stated rejecting the stepmother's decision to accept Thomas's dish without Ella's approval. The expression above shows liberal feminism that Ella as the main character fights for her rights as a woman who also has the right to choose a partner.

Data 4

From the conversation above the conflict is happening between Ella and Robert. The source of conflict is because Ella does not want to leave her dream to become a dressmaker and own a shop and refuses Robert's proposal. The scene above contains liberal feminism, especially when Ella said, **“I am a dressmaker!”**. It shows Ella firmly stating that she rejected Robert's proposal and chose to make her dream come true.

CONCLUSION

Cinderella 2021 movie is about Cinderella who was struggling against the inequality she got. Ella is an orphanage girl who lives with her stepmother and two stepsisters. Ella has a dream to become a dressmaker and own a shop. But, as shown in the movie, only men can own a shop and do the business. Therefore, she wants to live independently like the other people. Especially in terms of economy. As the result of the study, liberal feminism that described through the main character are shown when Ella against the inequality that happens to her. And shown through the dialogue, body language, voice tone, as well as choice of word. It can be concluded that the story is about women needing to have the equal opportunities to outline, set up, and achieve the same political, financial, cultural, personal, and social rights as a man.

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