



## Gender Injustice in Photocopier Movie by Wregas Bhanuteja

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Yudha Pratama<sup>1</sup>, Bima Prana Chitra<sup>2</sup>, Djauzi Ilmi<sup>3</sup> 

Universitas Harapan Medan

### A B S T R A C T

This study aims to describe gender injustice in Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja using feminist literary criticism theory and Fakhri's theory of gender to explain the patriarchal culture that causes gender injustice in this movie. This research was conducted through the qualitative research method. The data source in this research is Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja on Netflix. The steps for data collection with qualitative techniques, library techniques, reading techniques, and note-taking techniques. The form of data in this research is the form of sentences, dialogues, and discourses contained in Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja, chosen according to the main problem in this study, namely Gender Injustice in Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja. The results obtained 5 forms of gender injustice by Fakhri's theory namely: marginalization, subordination, stereotype, violence, and double burden which are influenced by the patriarchal culture where men dominate and are powerful toward women.

**Keywords:** movie, feminist literary criticism, patriarchal culture

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### INTRODUCTION

Literature is a manifestation of the writer's response to the realities of social life in the society around him. A writer creates literary works based on the experiences he has gained, both in the form of experiences of himself and society which are processed through the writer's thoughts, feelings, and imagination which are realized in the form of writing in beautiful language so that the readers can enjoy them. This is in line with Esten's (1987) opinion which states that literature is the expression of artistic and imaginative facts as a manifestation of human life through language as a medium and has a positive effect on human life (humanity).

Movie is a literary work of fiction that portrayed a social life. Movie also can be said as a medium to share ideas or thoughts from the director. Alkhajar (2013) reveals that a movie is not a neutral and value-free entity. Movies are not born from empty space. More than that, the movie is an effective medium in conveying messages that are attached and implanted in them and then conveyed to all viewers.

Women are taken up as the object of research in Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja. Wregas Bhanuteja's movie, which has won many international and national awards, raises the reality that is still present in the middle of the social life of the wider community of women. The selection of Photocopier movie as the object of this research because the movie has the superiority of the main character of a woman who shows her toughness to get justice for the sexual harassment, she experienced so it is interesting to examine the gender injustice contained in it using the study of feminism. In literary works, the aspect of women is often used as an object of imagery. Women are figures that have two interesting two sides. On the one hand, women are also considered weak. This is in line with the opinion of Wardani & Ratih (2020) who stated, that many men think that women are weak creatures because of the figure of women who always behave weakly.

Patriarchal culture as a manifestation of Javanese social customs is often appointed as a sub-theme on the big screen. Women in the context of patriarchal culture are often considered inferior, while men are the opposite. So, there is a need for protection from men. The study of feminist literary criticism is precisely used to raise the equality between women and men. Men are always presented as heroes with their strong and brave nature as the anti-climax of the story. Against the women figure who is depicted as a weak being, an object of oppression, and inferior. Women are rational beings as well, so they demand the same rights as men (Fakih, 2013).

A movie is a good example of how feminist criticism in literature attempts to interpret and describe the experiences of women in a literary work. Feminist is a study that focuses on the analysis of gender injustice. The focus of this analysis is because it is seen from the amount of unfair treatment between men and women. The feminist goal is to balance, and gender interrelation. In a broader sense, feminism is the movement of women to reject everything that is marginalized, subordinated, and demeaned by the dominant culture, in the political economic, and social life in general. According to Bell Hooks (2000), feminism is a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression. Three things mentioned by Hooks are the influence of the concept of patriarchal culture which is constructed by society and places men more dominant than women due to misperceptions between gender and sex which result terms gender injustice.

## METHOD

This research uses the qualitative research method since it is subjectively interpreted and descriptively reported based on the data found by the researcher. This research uses feminist literary criticism to explain the patriarchal culture that causes gender injustice in this movie.

According to Moleong (2017), qualitative research method is research that aims to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the research subject such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, and others holistically and by way of description in terms of words and language, in specific natural context by utilizing various natural methods.

The main data source of this research is Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja, which was published by Rekata Studios and Kaninga Pictures in 2021. The data were presented in the form of words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, dialogues, and pictures that are related to bias or injustice in terms of gender influenced by the patriarchal culture that Sur experienced in Rama. The secondary sources of this research data were taken from some chosen previous research, theories, journals written by scholars, and experts, and articles from internet sources that are around the discussions on patriarchal culture, gender injustice, and about photocopier movies.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In the Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja, it can be seen that there is gender injustice that appears due to the influence of patriarchal culture using feminist literary criticism. So, in this research, gender injustice is the main element that is discussed. The following is a discussion of the result of gender injustice contained in the Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja.

### Gender Injustice

According to Fakih (2013), gender injustice manifested in various forms of injustice, namely: marginalization or process economic impoverishment, subordination or assumptions are not important in decision politics, stereotype or negative labeling, violence, and double burden.

#### 1. Marginalization

Marginalization also referred to as social exclusion, occurs when certain groups of people get denied access to areas of society. Many factors that lead to marginalization arise including gender differences that lead to poverty, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability status, socioeconomic level, and age. Marginalization of women does not only occur in the workplace, but also occurs in the household, society culture, and country. In this part, marginalization will be analyzed in details:

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Data 1

"Let us get to the point. We will have to deliberate on this. And whatever the result, we will be sure to let you know immediately. To be honest, your session is over, anyway. We are done. Look at yourself. I do not believe you are even fully sober yet." (Lecturer, 00.21.07 – 00.21.14)

From the excerpt above, Sur lost her scholarship because her drunk selfies were circulating online and the campus considered it a disgrace to the faculty and good image of the faculty. To protect the good name and good image of the faculty, the faculty revoked her scholarship instead of listening to Sur's explanation, the lecturers even cornered Sur. The process of marginalization in this movie is due to the revocation of Sur's scholarship. Sur went to college because he got a scholarship so she did not have to pay tuition fees. There was an impoverishment process carried out by the faculty to Sur.

Data 2

"From now on, you should no longer consider yourself as a member of this family."

"Consider this as your punishment." (Suryani Father, 00.24.10 – 00.24.14)

From the excerpt above, the process of marginalization or impoverishment occurred when Sur's father no longer recognized her as a family member and kicked her out of the house as punishment for embarrassing her family by being driven home drunk by a man at three in the morning and waking all the neighbors.

By expelling Sur from the house, there is a process of impoverishment because Sur does not work and does not have the money to survive outside without the shelter of her parents.

## 2. Subordination

It turns out that gender views not only result in marginalization but also result in subordination of women. There is the assumption in society that women are emotional, and irrational in thinking, women cannot appear as leaders (as decision makers), so as a result women are placed in positions that are not important and strategic (second person). One of the forms of subordination experienced by Sur in Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja is irrational because she wants to prove that she has been harassed by someone. As followed by the data below:

Data 3

"Let us take these to the forensics team and we can check the other installations. These were taken without my consent!" (Suryani, 01.33.19 – 01.33.24)

From the data above, Sur wants to prove that she is a victim of sexual harassment by Rama by taking private photos of her body without her permission and using it as his theatre installation. But no one believes in Sur even her father blames her because he knows that Rama is a person who has power and domination.

Rama's power and domination can be seen below:

Data 4:

"All I want is for Sur to make a sincere public apology and clarification. Then after that, tomorrow, we can go back to being a family again in the theater. Sir, ma'am. If you are worrying about Sur's scholarship, my father has agreed to pay for Sur's tuition until she graduates. Also, she can still work for my father, doing what she does best while receiving her salary." (Rama, 01.34.52 – 01.35.15)

From the excerpt above, Rama's power and dominance asked Sur to make an apology video and explain that he was innocent, if Sur did not want to do what Rama asked for then Rama's lawyer would take the case to the police on charges of defamation. Sur is subordinated because Sur is on the inferior side while Rama is on the superior side.

## 3. Stereotype

The stereotypes that occur are often used as negative labels towards a certain group. For example, a label that originates from the assumption that women preen themselves to attract to the opposite sex. So, every case of sexual violence or harassment is always associated with this label. Society has the assumption that women must serve their husbands. The following is the data about stereotypes that occur in the Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja.

*Gender Injustice in Photocopier Movie by Wregas Bhanuteja*

Data 5

"Answer me. Do you often like to go out to party at nightclubs?" "Partying and drinking alcohol are not Indonesian culture." (Lecturer, 00.20.16 – 00.20.18)

From the excerpt above, shows that the lecturer generalized that Women who like to go to parties and drink are bad characters. Sur, in this case, is a good person who is the first time she joins the party to celebrate the victory of Matahari Theatre and for the first time, she drinks because of Anggun's invitation. Data 6

"I do not care what you are doing! I want every single one to come tonight! I will not have any mistrust among us! You got that?" (Anggun, 00.57.47- 00.57.54)

From the excerpt above, Anggun shows another image of a woman. Sur breaks the stereotypes of women being weak and unable to do anything by ordering all the Matahari theater members to go to Rama's house to view CCTV footage. The action taken by Anggun is a feminist movement in which women want to break the stereotype of women being weak.

Data 7

"Let us take these to the forensics team and we can check the other installations. These were taken without my consent!" (Suryani, 01.33.19 – 01.33.24)

In the excerpt above, Sur shouted in front of the people to take her case to a forensic expert to prove her innocence. Sur breaks the stereotype of a weak and submissive woman by shouting and insisting that she is innocent.

#### 4. Violence

The action of violence in the Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja can be seen below Data 8

"Sur: Open the drawer right now Or I'll expose you for selling other people's theses.

Amin: What the fuck, Sur? What is wrong with you? Huh?

Sur: What are you hiding in the drawer? Are you selling drugs?

Amin: No! What the hell?

Sur: Then open it now! Or I'm sending this to the dean.

Amin: You will get fired.

Sur: Hurry up! Open it!

Amin: Yeah, I am on it! Do you see any drugs?

Sur: What's this then?

Amin: That's just my... That is my hard drive!" (Sur & Amin, 01.22.22 – 01.22.59)

From the dialogue above, the act of violence occurred when Sur opened the hard drive and was shocked by the contents many private photos of students were stolen secretly when they printed out their assignments at Amin's place and sold them to Rama to be the objects of his sexuality fantasies and turned them into theatre installation. On the hard drive, there are many semi-nude photos of both male and female students.

Data 9

"What is going on? You are my daughter, Sur. My flesh and blood. When you were holding those photos earlier, I knew immediately...it was the birthmark on your back. Sur Please, tell me everything. What did they do to you?" (Suryani Mother, 01.38.00 – 01.38.26)

From the excerpt above, As the person who gave birth to Sur, her mother knew very well that it was a photo of Sur's birthmark. Sur has been sexually abused by Rama by taking photos of Sur's back without Sur's permission and turning it into a theatre installation. The photocopier movie depicts the body that is the right and privacy of every individual has been tainted as an object of expression of desire. After being investigated by Sur, the perpetrator behind the collection of intimate body photos is Rama, his senior at the Mata Hari Theater. The photo was taken when the victim was drunk at a party at his house. Rama stripped off her clothes and photographed the victim's body shape, which was then used as a fetish object and used as an installation for theater performances.

Even though it is only a photo, Rama's actions are a form of sexual harassment. Harassment is not only limited to physical treatment but also verbal and symbolic, which is

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carried out on sexual urges and harms the victim harmed. Here, the body that belongs to everyone has been illegally confiscated without the consent of the owner. Moreover, it is done on an intentional basis and is used for certain purposes.

Data 10

“[Rama on video] Mr. Burhan, I am all done here now. The technician should be here soon. After you change the tire, just take Sur home immediately.

[Burhan] Understood. Yeah. Just leave it to me.” (Rama, 01.52.25 – 01.52.30)

From the dialogue above, the action of sexual harassment is seen in the video footage obtained from Mr. Burhan’s phone which shows Rama stripping Sur and taking a photo of her back as an object of his fetish and turning it into his theatre installation. Sur, Farah, and Tariq who are the victims of Rama’s crime, wanted to go to the police but Rama’s people and Rama came to them by ambulance and fumigation car. This film also always shows smoke when harassment occurs, where the smoke in this movie symbolizes obstruction or silencing by the powerful to the weak so that the victim cannot do anything to get justice.

## 5. Double Burden

Data 11

“So, who's gonna be helping your mother in there?” (Suryani Father, 00.09.55)

From the excerpt above, when Sur wants to go to a party at Rama’s house, her dad asks so who will help your mother sell? It proves that apart from having to go to college, Sur also must help her mother sell when her dad does not work and does not want to help them sell and is only good at managing Sur and her mother.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the analysis above, Gender Injustice in Photocopier movie by Wregas Bhanuteja experienced by the main female character Suryani can be seen in five forms of gender injustice namely: marginalization, subordination, stereotype, violence, and double burden explained by Fakhri in his book entitled “Analisis Gender dan Transformasi Sosial” where gender injustice arises due to the influenced of patriarchal culture. In fact, Wregas Bhanuteja describes in the movie that every time injustice occurs, there is always mosquito fogging where the smoke is symbolized as an obstruction of crimes committed by people who have power.

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