

**FEMINISM ANALYSIS OF MARGARET THATCHER'S  
CHARACTERISTICS IN *THE IRON LADY* MOVIE**

**A GRADUATING PAPER**

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for  
Gaining the Bachelor Degree in English Literature**



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**2015**

## A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible of its content. Other writers' opinions or findings included in the paper are quoted or cited in accordance with the ethical standards.

Yogyakarta, 11 September 2015

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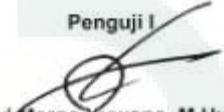
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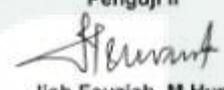
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Saya menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang Munaqosyah untuk memenuhi sebagian syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

Atas perhatian yang diberikan, saya ucapkan terimakasih.

*Wassalamu'alaikum wr. wb.*

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**FEMINISM ANALYSIS OF  
MARGARET THATCHER'S CHARACTERISTICS  
IN *THE IRON LADY* MOVIE**

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**ABSTRACT**

The Iron Lady is a film that reflects the life of the first female prime minister in Britain, Margaret Thatcher. The Iron Lady Movie describes all aspects of the life of Margaret Thatcher, both in family and public aspect. The writer looks at the two aspects that make up the film into a film with a lot of feminist teachings therein. Moreover, Margaret Thatcher was described as a young woman who had a great ambition to lead in the future. Therefore, the writer considers that all efforts made Margaret Thatcher to enter the political sphere is closely related to Liberal Feminist Theory. Which of this theory believes that women actually have authority over themselves, whether it is about the way of thinking or about what they would do someday. This paper took a qualitative descriptive analysis method, but the writer did not include Film Theory therein. But only includes movie script writer to support the analysis of the film without lessening its accuracy and precision when analyzing the data. Characters, struggles, and obstacles of Margaret Thatcher which correspond to the Liberal Feminist Theory as set out in the film are three important things that consider to be analyzed.

Keywords: Liberal, Characteristics, Margaret Thatcher, Britain, Politics, Prime Minister.

**FEMINISM ANALYSIS OF  
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**ABSTRAK**

*The Iron Lady* (Wanita Besi) merupakan film yang merefleksikan kehidupan seorang perdana menteri wanita pertama di Inggris, Margaret Thatcher. *The Iron Lady* menggambarkan keseluruhan aspek kehidupan Margaret Thatcher, baik dirumah keluarga maupun publik. Penulis melihat kedua aspek tersebut yang membentuk film ini menjadi film dengan banyak muatan ajaran feminisme didalamnya. Tokoh Margaret Thatcher memang digambarkan sebagai wanita yang sedari mudanya punya ambisi besar untuk memimpin dikemudian hari. Oleh karenanya, penulis memandang bahwa segala upaya yang dilakukan Margaret Thatcher untuk masuk dalam ranah politik berkaitan erat dengan Teori Liberal Feminist yang mana teori tersebut percaya bahwa wanita sejatinya memiliki otoritas atas dirinya sendiri, baik itu tentang cara berfikirnya atau tentang apa yang akan dilakukannya suatu hari nanti. Penelitian ini mengambil metode analisis deskriptif kualitatif, namun penulis tidak mengikutsertakan Teori Film didalamnya. Melainkan penulis hanya menyertakan skrip film untuk mendukung analisis dari film tersebut tanpa mengurangi ketepatan dan ketelitian ketika menganalisis data. Aspek karakter, upaya, dan rintangan yang dialami Margaret Thatcher yang sesuai dengan Teori Liberal Feminist sebagaimana yang tertuang dalam film adalah tiga hal penting yang penulis pandang perlu untuk dianalisis.

Kata Kunci : Liberal, Karakteristik, Margaret Thatcher, Inggris, Politik, Perdana Menteri.

## MOTTO

Watch your thoughts, for they become words.

Watch your words, for they become actions.

Watch your actions, for they become habits.

Watch your habits, for they become your character.

Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.

What we think, we become.

\*\*\*\*\*

“Those who have gifts are demanded to do many good things.”

–John. F. Kennedy



## **DEDICATION**

This graduating paper is devoted to my parents

Drs. H. Choirul Anwar, M. H.

Dwiyanti

Thank you for exemplifying the beauty of  
what are called;  
patience, humility, and love...



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*Assalamu'alaikum wr. wb.*

In the name of Allah, Most Beneficent Most Merciful. All praise is due to Allah the Exalted and may Allah exalt the mention of His Prophet and render him and his household, his companions, and all those who follow their way safe from every evil, and grant them security on the Day of Resurrection. Praise be to Him, who has been giving His blessing to me to complete the graduating paper entitled "Feminism Analysis of Margaret Thatcher's Characteristics in The Iron lady Movie".

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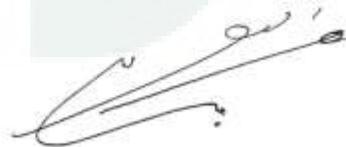
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Finally, I realize that there are some errors in writing this graduating paper. Thus, I really allow all readers to give correction and suggestion in order to make this graduating paper better.

*Wassalamu 'alaikum wr. wb.*

Yogyakarta, 11 September 2015



Roihatul Firdaus

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background of Study

Margaret Thatcher (1925-2013) is the first woman who successfully has served as a prime minister in Britain. Previously, she was a politician of the conservative party and became a leader of it. She led the British government during the third period (1979-1990) at the same time confirming her charm as the woman dubbed the Iron Lady. The nickname is given by the Soviet media as recognition of her perseverance in leading the country. It is associated with the important policies and decisions that she made as long as she becomes a leader i.e. the Falkland War in 1982 ([www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)).

Like a leader who remembered by history and the people, the life story of Margaret Thatcher is appointed to a movie. Then, a famous actress, namely Meryl Streep, is elected to portray The Former Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher. The movie itself won several awards; that are 15 wins and 22 nominations ([www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)).

*The Iron Lady* movie itself is a biopic movie which has the genre of history. **Biopic Films** (or *biographical pictures*) are a sub-genre of the larger [drama](#) and [epic film](#) genres ([www.filmsites.org](http://www.filmsites.org)). Since this movie has content of history, there were several ideas and messages which can be more enjoyable delivered than those which were delivered by the documents. As stated by Robert A. Rosenstone in his essay *Historical Film: Looking at the Past in a Post Literate Age*, "*Film creates a historical*

*world with which books cannot compete, at least for popularity.*”(2001: 51). Though he states that film emotionalizes, personalizes, and dramatizes history, but it does not mean that the film puts the reality aside.

The professional historians tend to trust history as a document more than history as a film because the documents seem closer in spirit and practice to written history-seems both to deliver "facts" and to make some sort of traditional historical argument, whether as a feature (2001: 53). Yet, at the same time, the film gives us a better way to feel the nostalgic effect by looking at the moving picture such as the scene when Soekarno proposes Fatmawati. Soekarno was the first president of Indonesia and Fatmawati was his wife. In the document, the dialogue of Soekarno will be just written as maybe “will you marry me?” and the readers freely imagine it how he spells the dialogue. But in film, when Soekarno proposes Fatmawati, there is no only dialogue which has to be imagined. The readers can also hear the voice of Soekarno, the sound of romantic song which played at the same time, and they see the visual effect like the beautiful sunset or romantic setting.

Movie, film, and cinema basically have the same meaning for they all demonstrate the motion pictures. They attract human beings who are also known as visual creatures because most of the information the human acquire comes through their eyes (and the related circuitry in our brains), rather than through touch, smell, hearing or taste (Russ, 2004: 1). For example, when a child is commanded to imagine a rose, ahe will imagine it in a picture of flower which has a beautiful shape, red color, and thorn; instead of imagining it as a combination of letters r-o-s-e.

While movie itself is one of the categorizations in literature alongside with novels, poems, and plays (Eagleton, 2003: 155). Literature, for the Russian formalists, has to do with *defamiliarization* (*ostranenie*): it makes the familiar strange, it challenges the readers' beliefs and assumptions about the world and about the nature of 'reality' (2003: 35).

Though movie/film has been used to be analyzed in this paper, but it does not use the film theory to support the analysis. This paper uses script of movie which is based on the conversations, or the incidents that are on the movie. Meanwhile, the definition of the script itself is the words of a film, play, broadcast or speech (based on *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary Third Edition/CALD 3*). The conversations and the incidents are transformed into the written form.

The character of Margaret Thatcher in *The Iron Lady* movie is variously described as this movie uses the flashback plot. Old Margaret has a melancholy nature, which is illustrated by her behavior that often recalls her late husband and plays the family video. Old Margaret, although she does not become a prime minister any longer, still notices the latest news and gives her opinion about it. Old Margaret also still has a clear memory and she is still charming with her aura as a leader. Yet, on the other hand, old Margaret shows her humanism side such as she becoming fragile because of her loneliness after the death of her husband. Then the story backs into young Margaret who recently graduated from Oxford. She is portrayed as a woman who has a great ambition to be elected to Parliament. Young Margaret is also

very sensitive, especially when someone implicitly or explicitly underestimates her parents' job as a grocer, which categorized into low social class at that time.

The movie which is directed by a woman named Phyllida Lloyd raises the prime minister's biography entitled *The Iron Lady* which also has accordance with the epithet for Margaret Thatcher. A movie directed by a woman indirectly affects the spirit of the story on the movie which are loaded with feminism value. In the movie, there are several scenes which depict how these feminism values are applied to the life of Margaret Thatcher. For example is when Margaret Thatcher is in a conversation with General Haig:

GENERAL HAIG. Margaret but with all due respect when one has been to war.

MARGARET. With all due respect sir, I have done battle every single day of my life, and many men have underestimated me before. This lot seem bound to do the same but they will rue the day.

*(The Iron Lady, 00:21:03 – 00:21:22)*

In *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, feminism is defined as

“The belief that women should be allowed the same rights, power and opportunities as men and be treated in the same way, or the set of activities intended to achieve this state.” In other words, feminism talks about equal rights and obligations between men and women.

In the Qur'an, there are some verses mentioning about equality between men and women. The writer cites the verses and its translations below from quran.com as in Surah an-Nisa': 124,

وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِنَ الصَّالِحَاتِ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ أُنْثَىٰ وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ  
فَأُولَٰئِكَ يَدْخُلُونَ الْجَنَّةَ وَلَا يُظْلَمُونَ نَقِيرًا ﴿١٢٤﴾

*"And whoever does righteous deeds, whether male or female, while being a believer - those will enter Paradise and will not be wronged, [even as much as] the speck on a date seed."* (quran.com)

And Surah An-Nahl: 97

مَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا مِّنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ أُنْثَىٰ وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَلَنُحْيِيَنَّهٗ  
حَيٰوةً طَيِّبَةًۦ وَلَنَجْزِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْرَهُمْ بِأَحْسَنِ مَا كَانُوا  
يَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٩٧﴾

*"Whoever does righteousness, whether male or female, while he is a believer - We will surely cause him to live a good life, and We will surely give them their reward [in the Hereafter] according to the best of what they used to do."* (quran.com)

This paper focuses on analyzing Margaret Thatcher's characteristics, her struggles and obstacles in aiming her goal as a politician. While the characteristics which cling to her are closely related to the liberal feminism's approach. The writer

analyzes those aspects above through *The Iron Lady* movie. The writer also focuses on the script of the movie since it is include to the literary work.

### **1.2. Research Questions**

The research of this paper aims to find the answer of the questions:

1. What are the characteristics of Margaret Thatcher on the movie?
2. What are her struggles and obstacles in making her ambition come true?

### **1.3. Objectives of Study**

The research of *The Iron Lady* movie aims to understand what Margaret Thatcher's characteristics represented in the movie are; and what the struggles and obstacles of Margaret Thatcher character in the movie are. Those objectives of study are based on the perspective of feminism approach that is Liberal Feminism.

### **1.4. Significances of Study**

This research is very significant to the development of cultural both theoretically and practically:

1. The objective of this research is to understand how Margaret Thatcher is represented in the movie.
2. Theoretically, as language always develops, so does the literature, the research of *The Iron Lady* movie is needed in order to understand the

development of feminism theory in the work. Another significance of this research related to literature as the product of culture is that by understanding the feminism approach behind the character named Margaret Thatcher in *The Iron Lady* movie.

3. Practically, this research is important for:
  - a. Students, to help them understand about feminism in the movie, especially a biopic movie;
  - b. Lecturers, as a reference to give an overview about feminism perspectives in the biopic movie.
  - c. Feminist: this research can stimulate them to do more researches related to feminism and biopic movies.
  - d. The people: this research hopefully can make them interested to learn about feminism and its relation to history movies to upgrade their knowledge about history itself.

### **1.5. Literature Review**

*The Iron Lady* movie and Margaret Thatcher have been discussed in some researches and essays.

The first one is a thesis entitled *Margaret Thatcher, Golda Meir, and Indira Gandhi's Actions and Rhetoric Regarding Feminism and Gender During Their Ascent To Power* written by Ariel Katz (2012).

The writer states the career of Margaret Thatcher, her ideology, and her journey to be a politician, also be a mother for her children: Carol and Mark. Margaret writes the book *What My Daughter must Learn in The Next Nine Years*. Yet, she ensures to emphasize the importance of women's domestic responsibility. "Mrs. Thatcher believes in educating girls on the same level as boys in maths, science, languages, and all the subjects that train the mind to think. She would add domestic science as essential to girls—but she does not under-rate (and how right she is) the valuable lessons every girl can learn in Mum's kitchen."

Ariel Katz declares the three women above as the first female prime minister of their countries. Margaret Thatcher herself has been explained by the author as a woman who rose to power, mobilized as voters, and pursued work outside the home. These actions are based on her formal speeches, public statement, and letter interview.

The second discussion of *The Iron Lady* movie comes from an essay: *Feminism Analysis in Phyllida Lloyd (2011) Iron Lady Movie: A Study of Women Stereotype, Oppression, and Movement*. This essay publishes in [www.ukessays.com](http://www.ukessays.com) but unfortunately there is no name of author stated. This second essay uses the marxist feminism approach and it analyzes the cinematographic visualization in the film which confirms women stereotype, oppression, and movement towards the character.

The third discussion comes from Merlia Windiana's paper entitled: *The Representation of Margaret and Denis Thatcher in The Iron Lady Movie (2015)*. In

her paper, Merlia Windiana considers to use representation theory to analyze Margaret and Denis Thatcher in the movie. The representation of Margaret Thatcher is divided into two kinds; role domination in the public and domestic sector, and the characterization and Margaret Thatcher in the old day. The data are analyzed by elaborating the dialogue, the sense, and the event that directly involve Margaret Thatcher as the subject of representation to the constructionist approach.

The sameness between this research and the three researches above is the sameness in the focus of research that is Margaret Thatcher. Meanwhile, the differences are the first research analyzes Margaret Thatcher's ideology and her journey to be a politician compared with the other figures such as Golda Meir and Indira Gandhi. The second research analyzes the cinematographic visualization in *The Iron Lady* movie and it uses marxist feminism approach. The third research analyzes how Margaret and Denis Thatcher are represented in the film and it uses representation theory. After finding the sameness and the differences between the three researches above and the research which will be analyzed here, the writer of this research draws a conclusion. The conclusion is this research analyzes *The Iron Lady* movie using liberal feminist approach which is in the characteristics of Margaret Thatcher.

#### **1.6. Theoretical Approach**

This research analyzes the characteristics of Margaret Thatcher that can be categorized as a representation of feminism theory.

Bell Hooks in her book entitled *FEMINISM IS FOR EVERYBODY Passionate Politics* (2000: viii) defines feminism as a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression, while the person who believes or acts with something which has to do with feminism is called a feminist.

Freedman states the series of feminism are only two, but Tong has the different thought. Tong adds the third wave feminism which is also called postmodern feminism which is defined as invitation to each woman who reflects on their writings to become the kind of feminist she wants to be. There is, in their estimation, no single formula for being a “good feminist” (Tong, 2009: 270).

Tong has explained the variety of feminism theory in her book entitled *Feminist Thought: A More Comprehensive Introduction*. There are eight feminism schools of thought: Liberal, Radical, Marxist/Socialist, Psychoanalytic, Care Focused, Multicultural/Global/Postcolonial, Ecofeminism, and the last is Postmodern/Third Wave.

In this research, the school of feminism thought which will be used is the Liberal one for some reasons. Christina Hughes in her book titled *Key Concepts in Feminist Theory and Research* (2002: 62) states:

*“These schools of thought, as Barrett notes, draw on women’s experiences of being different from men. This difference from men is not in terms of liberal feminism that argues that there are no important differences between the sexes that should stand in the way of equality.”*

Hughes mentions two key words of Liberal Feminism, those are difference and equality based on Barrett's research. Difference here means that there are no important differences between the two sexes. Both of men and women are different in terms of sexual preferences, class, race, and so forth. In linguistic discourse, men and women are different in producing through discourse. In political aspects, the difference is recognition of diversity of social experience both between women and men and within groups of women.

First, *The Iron Lady* is a film which more tells Margaret Thatcher's journey as a political person than a mom for her family. Second, Margaret Thatcher is a woman who fights for her ambition to be a politician. Thus, the school of feminism which the writer prefers to use is Liberal because this movie tells a lot about Margaret Thatcher's struggles to aim her ambition in political matter.

Cambridge Advance Learners' Dictionary defines liberal as:

(adj) politics : (of a political party or a country) believing in or allowing more personal freedom and a development towards a fairer sharing of wealth and power within society

Abdurrahman Wahid says in the book *Membela Kebebasan Beragama (Defending to Embrace Religion)*:

*“the aim that is on liberalism has to be related with morality. Liberalism must have to do with the betterment of people's life. The neglectful of people's prosperity, honestly just to be owned by people who have a narrow religion perspective.”*

According to Abdurrahman Wahid, liberalism is defined not only about freedom which just be beneficial for whom the pertinent. Liberalism which is useful to one person cannot be said as the real liberalism. As an example, freedom of speech cannot be categorized as liberalism, if there is no people's importance in it. Freedom of speech is categorized as liberalism, if one speaks -for instance, of people's injustice and unrevealed truth by the government. Wahid also said; "*The neglectful of people's prosperity, honestly just to be owned by people who have a narrow religion perspective...*" because the aim of the understanding of the religion, especially in Islam, to be considered as *kaffah* (perfect) is about to be the true human upon others. In other words, he/she is the one who humanizes the others, such as they are willing to help and caring about the condition of society.

While liberal itself has ideas of equality and freedom. Rusli said that liberal feminism mainly focuses on women's issues which are related to public realms (*outside*) rather than private issues (*within*). It is concerned with how to achieve equal position and treatment in society (2010: 2).

Those general concepts of feminism are applied in the research as the basic of analyzing feminism in *The Iron Lady* movie.

## **1.7. Method of Research**

### **1.7.1. Type of Research**

This paper uses qualitative method. Qualitative research itself concerned with developing explanations of social phenomena (Hancock, 2002: 6). While Bogdan and Biklen (via Sugiyono, 2014: 21) explain that qualitative research has some

characteristics such as; it has natural setting, descriptive, concerned with process, analyze the data inductively, and “meaning” is the essential to qualitative approach.

This method can be described as a method of collecting data, so that this paper does not require any interviews but the writer only gathers and observes data from some referential books, website, and other data resources.

### **1.7.2. Data Sources**

The data of the research is taken from the *The Iron Lady* movie which is directed by Phyllida Lloyd and distributed by 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox, Pathe, The Weinstein Company. Thus, the data which have been compiled will be analyzed alongside with the movie script.

### **1.7.3. Data Collection Technique**

The collection technique that the writer chooses is documentation. Several steps are conducted to find out the accurate data related to the research. First, the writer watches *The Iron Lady* movie to understand the whole story of this. Second, after watching the movie, the writer compares the movie and its script. Third, the writer interprets the script and writes down the acts and dialogues which are related to the analysis or theory. Fourth, the writer classifies the data from the movie related to feminism theory. Fifth, both data are classified by the writer to make a conclusion.

This paper aims to analyze liberal feminism theory which is in the characteristics of Margaret Thatcher in *The Iron Lady* movie. The focus in analyzing this movie is the character of Margaret Thatcher. Firstly, the writer classifies Margaret Thatcher’s dialogues and marks the supporting dialogues and acts which are

related to liberal feminism theory. Secondly, the writer eliminates the dialogues which do not support the analysis. Finally, the writer gets the appropriate data of the main character in the movie. Thus, the data are ready to be analyzed to answer the research questions objectively. Those steps above are related with the documentation technique which is used to analyze the data.

#### **1.7.4. Data Analysis Technique**

As the data have been collected, based on content analysis steps, the writer uses four ways based on content analysis method to analyze the movie. This way, the data are analyzed using literary theory descriptively. The results of the analysis are presented on the description of the main data to draw the conclusion of the analysis.

After the writer gets the appropriate data, the next step is analyzing data by using Liberal Feminism theory. However, before the writer analyzes the focus of the research, the writer firstly analyzes the intrinsic element of the narration including character and characterization, setting, plot, and theme. Thus, the writer analyzes the focus of this research. The focus of this research is finding out the Liberal Feminism theory which is in Margaret Thatcher's characteristics. Finally, the writer concludes the analysis comprehensively.

### **1.8. Paper Organization**

This paper is divided into five chapters. The first chapter describes the general information of the research including the background of study, research questions, objectives of study, significances of study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. The second chapter explains the intrinsic

elements of *The Iron Lady* movie including the theme; character and characterization; setting; and plot. The third chapter explains the theoretical framework which is used in this paper. The fourth chapter is the analysis that contains the data analysis including the analysis of the movie using Liberal Feminism theory. Finally, the last one is the conclusion of the research.



## CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION

This chapter is considered to be conclusion of this paper. The conclusion is drawn based on liberal feminist theory which is applied in analyzing Margaret Thatcher's characteristics in this paper entitled "Feminism Analysis of Margaret Thatcher's Characteristics in The Iron Lady Movie." This paper's objectives are to understand the two questions: what the characteristics of Margaret Thatcher on the movie are and what her struggles and obstacles in aiming her ambition come true are.

*The Iron Lady* is a biopic movie for it depicts the public figure's life and pour it into a movie. The plot that is used in this movie is flashback. This is based on the first appearance of setting is 2011 after Margaret Thatcher retired. The events that appear is Margaret's remembrance since she was young until she became prime minister for third period.

Margaret's characteristics related to the theory of liberal feminism are five: being ruling, being confident, having principle, being realistic and being romantic. The first behavior is bossy. The basic idea related with liberal feminism in being bossy is equality.

The second behavior is being confident. As Hendricks and Oliver (1999: 83) said that some aspects can strengthen people. One of them is one must be struggling in education matter. Margaret did it for she had accepted in Oxford. So, it increases her status in the people's eyes.

The third behavior is having principle. The individual is free to select whatever action she or he desires or may discriminate between different available options and pick the most suitable. These ideas extend from purchasing food to selecting a lifestyle. The basic idea is freedom to make choice.

The fourth behavior is being realistic. Alison Jaggar via Tong observes that liberal political thought generally locates our uniqueness as human persons in our capacity for rationality (Tong, 2009: 11). Uniqueness means that a person has to be different or distinguishes themselves from animal. Rationality is just owned by the human, not the other creature. The basic idea is rationality.

The fifth behavior is being romantic. Friedan said (via Tong, 2009: 28) that the assumption of your own identity, equality, and even political power does not mean you stop needing to love, and be loved by, a man, or that you stop caring for your own kids. Being wife and also mother are the valuable experience for woman. It is ingrained into her as the fate which God had chosen to her. God puts woman in special place in al quran and He often mentions woman in specific condition or rule.

Margaret's struggles and obstacles in making her ambition come true is divided into three aspects. Those are in social position which is divided into three parts: education, economy (marriage) and politics. The second is mental-physical and the third is obstacle which is divided into two: outside and inside obstacle. Then, inside obstacle is divided into three parts: less confidence, arrogant and stubborn.

The first struggle is education. Margaret is an Oxford-graduated. While the women in her young age are not bussed by being taught, she does not influenced by

this situation. She believes in her capacity as a human so that she concerns of herself to be educated. As stated by Wollstonecraft, as cited by Saulnier, “if women were provided access to educational opportunities similar to those afforded to men, distinctions between men and women would be eliminated” (Rusli, 2010: 4).

The second struggle is economy or marriage. Margaret’s father, Robert, is a grocer and mayor of Grantham as well. The grocery that he has is small, so that Margaret is always bullied by her friends for being a grocer’s daughter. However, she is not ashamed of being grocer’s daughter.

The third struggle in order to get a high social position is politics. Gender inequality and women’s oppression, according to liberal feminism, basically results from the fact that women lack opportunities to maintain equality with men in public realms (Rusli, 2010: 2).

The second struggles and obstacles after getting in social position is building mental-physical. In some occasions, Margaret speaks in front of colleagues and opposition parties in parliament. Speaking in public does require a strong voice. For women, speak out in public is something that is somewhat burdensome because they are likely to voice soft. Changing the voice that is heard less persuasive become heavier and convincing impact on the political career of Margaret. In fact, the state took her to attempt to become a prime minister. The effort included in the category of the relevant physical change.

The last struggles and obstacles’ aspects are divided into two: outside and inside obstacles. Outside obstacle is resulted by the environment around her and the

inside obstacle is resulted by Margaret herself. The first obstacle is considering the beloved ones' safety. When Margaret decides to run for prime minister, Denis rejects it. The reason is not because Margaret is a woman, but it is because Denis considers the safety and security of Margaret herself and her family. Also because of the unstable family businesses are not allowed to endorse her candidacy.

The second obstacle is sacrifice. Her nomination as prime minister is paid by Airey Neave death. Airey's assassination is intended to weaken her. However, Margaret does not surrender to these circumstances. Margaret even becomes more stable to nominate herself. This is all based on the idea of Airey Neave and Margaret. If Margaret retreat, is futile the sacrifice of Airey.

The inside obstacle is divided into three parts: being less confidence, being arrogant and being stubborn. The first inside obstacle/ less confidence is Margaret maybe does not mean to decrease her quality in leading, but she is rather difficult to choose whether being a safe political woman or to lead at the top position. She is rational for deciding what things are going behind that there are no female prime minister before in Britain. And she does not like to break that 'rules', determining that there is no female prime minister before.

The second inside obstacle is arrogant. This explains the situation when Geoffrey then proposes his resignation because of Margaret's behaviour towards him. The other ministers talk about their conflicts behind. Some of them even say "*I would not have spoken to my gamekeeper like that*" in order to make allusion to Margaret.

The third inside obstacle is stubborn. Being stubborn is actually a trap for her because she will not hear the others' good opinions to her. Even in the worst situation, Margaret still believes that there is no problem with her top position. Denis, her husband, begs her to stop because he sees that Margaret will be humiliated by her colleagues in parliament.



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