

**THE WOMEN'S RESISTANCES AGAINST THE PARTRIARCHAL
SOCIETY IN *HE NAMED ME MALALA***

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Gaining
The Bachelor Degree in English Literature



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A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or finding included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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THE WOMEN'S RESISTANCES AGAINST THE PARTRIARCHAL SOCIETY IN *HE NAMED ME MALALA*

ABSTRACT

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Second sex is the term affiliated with women. As women are regarded as the second sex in the social structure, resistance arises in the community. This resistance is the action taken by women to justify their sense of belonging in the community as herself. This issue is depicted in *He Named Me Malala*. This research intends to analyze the portrayal of female resistance in *He Named Me Malala* and how it can be understood using the feminist approach by Simone de Beauvoir in her book *The Second Sex* to understand how female resistance arises inside male-centered society. *He Named Me Malala* is the suitable movie for this research because the issues that are depicted in the movie fits in accordance with the second sex issues. Beauvoir stated that issues between men and women will continue to occur if one refuses the other as equal in status. To analyze the data, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative method. The method emphasizes on the description and explanation of the data. The researcher also conducts library research in this research study. Based on the analysis, it is found that the action of resistance taken by women follows how women are treated in the community. This form of resistance in an act where women are aware of what happened to them and society. Thus, the resistance that women take is the way where women want to acknowledge their existence in the world.

Keywords: *The Second Sex, Malala, Feminism, Simone De Beauvoir*

RESISTENSI PEREMPUAN MELAWAN MASYARAKAT PATRIARKI DALAM FILM *HE NAMED ME MALALA*

ABSTRAK

Oleh : Sofiah Aini Purba (16150011)

Gender kedua adalah istilah yang berafiliasi dengan wanita. Karena perempuan dianggap sebagai jenis kelamin kedua dalam struktur sosial, muncul resistensi di masyarakat. Perlawanan ini merupakan tindakan yang dilakukan perempuan untuk membenarkan rasa memiliki dalam masyarakat sebagai dirinya sendiri. Masalah ini digambarkan dalam film *He Named Me Malala*. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis penggambaran resistensi perempuan dalam film *He Named Me Malala* dan bagaimana hal itu dapat dipahami dengan menggunakan pendekatan feminis Simone de Beauvoir dalam bukunya *The Second Sex* untuk memahami bagaimana resistensi perempuan muncul dalam masyarakat yang berpusat pada laki-laki. Metode deskriptif kualitatif digunakan untuk menganalisis data. Metode ini menekankan pada deskripsi dan penjelasan data. Peneliti juga melakukan penelitian kepustakaan dalam penelitian ini. Berdasarkan analisis ditemukan bahwa tindakan perlawanan yang dilakukan perempuan mengikuti bagaimana perempuan diperlakukan di masyarakat. Bentuk perlawanan ini dalam suatu tindakan di mana perempuan menyadari apa yang terjadi pada mereka dan masyarakat. Dengan demikian, perlawanan yang dilakukan perempuan merupakan cara perempuan ingin mengakui eksistensinya di dunia.

Kata kunci: *The Second Sex, Malala, Feminisme, Simone De Beauvoir*

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MOTTO

Man Jadda Wa Jada

Whoever Does Something Persistently Will Succeed



DEDICATION

This graduating paper is dedicated to :

My beloved-Mother, Father, brother and Sister

All of my families wherever they are



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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

He Named Me Malala movie tells the story of a young girl named Malala who fights for women's rights. Malala, born and raised in Swat Valley in Pakistan, has to face the terms that happen when her hometown is ambushed by the Taliban, an extremist group with men domination culture. As a woman in her society, Malala has to let go of aspects deemed inappropriate for women by the Taliban's dominating forces. As the rules and norms begin to disadvantage women, Malala decides that she must take actions that fights back the norms and rules in her society to gain freedom.

Malala, who is a woman fighter for herself and other women's rights does not regain her freedom easily. Problems continue to arise simply because she is a girl—the problem circles around her for being a woman. The problem is mostly because women are being treated as lesser human beings than men in the community. The community where men dominate all aspects, find it hard to understand that a young girl is leading a big movement and challenging a dominant figure in society.

Among the issues stated above, the researcher wants to bring up the issue of how female resistance is portrayed in the movie. The movie itself is a documentary type of movie, which means that the events in the movie are strictly based on the events that unfold in Malala's life. The action taken by Malala highlights the act of resistance women take in the movie. According to the director of the film, David

Guggenheim says that the movie is made to empower Malala to continue her fight against the oppression that happens in her society (Berman, 2015). Women and oppression are something that cannot be separated, as women, according to Beauvoir in her book *The Second Sex*, clearly states that women occupy the second position in the social hierarchy.

As the second position, women are expected to follow the things as laid up to them (Beauvoir 2010:398). Women have no other option, but follow the rules stated by the one who put it up. When women choose to resist the rules placed upon them, they begin to clearly see the clear image of what the world is to them (Beauvoir, 2010). Therefore, the researcher wants to analyze the portrayal of female resistance in *He Named Me Malala* movie using the feminist approach by Simone de Beauvoir. Beauvoir states how women hesitate and do not challenge human condition because they have barely begun to be able to assume it entirely in the first place (2010:843). Still, when they started to challenge the things given without their consent, they identified it with designated aims and were as strong and brave as men (2010:729).

In *He Named Me Malala*, the portrayal of female resistance can be seen in the main character's actions. The actions Malala take as the main character portrays the resistance she takes as a woman. As a woman, Malala realizes that she has an option to live her life as pleased as she wants. Feminist theory is applied to understand the reason why she takes such action in resisting against the dominant force in her society. Thus, based on the problem statement above, the researcher will use the feminist theory by Simone de Beauvoir to analyze this research. The

researcher wants to study the portrayal of female resistance as depicted in *He Named Me Malala* movie using a feminist approach.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of study explained above, the researcher arranges the following question as follow:

How is the portrayal of female resistance in *He Named Me Malala* movie?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statement, this research aims to explain the portrayal of female resistance in *He Named Me Malala* movie.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This research has two practical significances. First, this research intends to help the reader comprehend the application of Simone de Beauvoir's thought about female resistance. The second is to criticize and investigate the portrayal of female resistance in the film. The last one is to enhance information, reference and thought about the portrayal of female resistance in *He Named Me Malala* movie.

1.5 Literature Review

The researcher finds three other research studies that use the same object as this research: *He Named Me Malala* movie. The similarity of this research and previous research uses *Malala* film as the object of research. In comparison, the difference between this research and previous research is on the theory and the focus of the research.

The first research is written by Eva Miftahul Ulum (2016), a student from Maulana Malik Ibrahim of State Islamic University of Malang. The title of her research is “Malala’s Struggles Against Unfairness in Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb’s I am Malala”. In her research, Eva Miftahul Ulum presents the analysis as well as the objectives of the study formulated. To analyze the struggles of Malala in fighting against unfairness. Her research uses Islamic Feminism approach. The researcher uses the perspective of Islamic feminism by Islamic Feminist’s thought Amina Wadud (*Quran and Women: Rereading The Sacred text from a women’s perspective:1999*), which asserts the women’s perspective in reading the Quran to absolve the unfairness of men.

The second research is written by Annisa Amalia Hapsari (2017), student of University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. The title of her research is “Taliban’s Patriarchy Culture Representation in Documenter Movie “He Named Me Malala” (Semiotic Analysis in He Named Me Malala Movie)”. Annisa Amalia Hapsari uses Roland Barthes semiotic analysis. This analysis applies two orders of signification, denotation and connotation. The research discusses how the movie tends to show the Taliban’s group as cruel and oppressors to women. Through this movie, the Western put negative stigma about the Middle Eastern and Islamic world by showing the Taliban’s violence, portraying the Taliban’s identity as a dangerous group, and exploiting the inferiority of Eastern women, which is the effects of the Taliban’s culture construction.

The third research is written by Manda Ajie Safitri (2017) entitled, student of University of Kristen Satya Wacana “The Girl in The girl from the Coast as The

second Sex in Patriarchal Society Seen from Feminist Perspective”. In her research, she discusses about gender oppression and that it does not act in isolation. Manda Ajie Safitri uses the idea of the second sex by Simone De Beauvoir.

The differences between the research stated above and this research is about the problem which the researcher wants to examine. The researcher wants to examine the resistance of female, mainly Malala using Simone de Beauvoir feminism approach through the actions and dialogues that is seen in the movie. Other difference of this research is to show how the main character struggle in order to get justice in gender context.

1.6 Theoretical Approach

6.1 Simone de Beauvoir Feminism Approach

In this research, the researcher applies the feminism approach by Simone de Beauvoir to analyze the female resistance as portrayed in the movie. The researcher uses this approach because the researcher believes that this approach is compatible with analyzing this research problem.

Simone de Beauvoir is the author of the book *Le Deuxieme sexe* or *The Second Sex*. In her book, Beauvoir understands and criticizes women's position as occupying second place in the game of gender. From myth to social structure, Beauvoir explains it all in her work. In the past, women envy men and wanted to put them in the prison who men created. Society deemed women as inferior. Thus, women try to confine men in the prison she creates from his expectation. Women expect men to feel the same way as her by limiting their freedom, but, alas, the

action she takes is merely a way of defending herself. There is no clear answer whether she is herself or continues to suffer from inferiority (2010:849).

In today's era, combat takes another form. Women are no longer want to put men in the same prison men put them. Women are trying to escape from prison. Tired of putting men in the same sphere that confines her, women declare themselves as equals. This action evokes a reaction from men. Men justify their action as the act of *dumping her* (2010:849). Men are keen on being seen as the superior ones. He does not want to see his companion as someone with equal status as he is. He is an essential being. Thus, women respond to his defiance with an aggressive attitude (2010:849).

The aggressive attitude done by women do not go as smoothly as they please. The world, according to Beauvoir, is a men's world. All important events happen because of men (2010:315). In the world, the sphere where women reside is closed everywhere. The male universe dominates the world. There is always a ceiling and wall over a woman as far or as high she climbs. This obstacle is the reality that women face when they are brave enough to seek what truly happens with women and the world (2010:359). By this, some women may choose to stay in the realm of the sphere where the limitation of her action is everywhere (2010:408).

One cannot forget that women are raised to be obedient. They are being raised without the necessity of their existence. Women are raised to be readily accepting things that are given to them. Women are raised in the hope that she does

not realize what is it to be their person (Beauvoir, 2010:853). It is a dreadful situation when she realizes that she is an existence. As said before, it is a men's world.

There are quite many situations presented in Beauvoir's work of how men made women act in their world. Men made women as a fruit to be picked, a flower offered. Men made women alluring, he demands to be allured, but when he gets tired, he accuses (2010:427). The researcher wants to analyze the portrayal of female resistance in the movie. The researcher believes that the female action characters take in *He Named Me Malala* movie represents the struggle of female resistance to be seen as an existence in a male-centered society. Malala, as a female character, wants to accomplish the existence she is dying to reach and how her surroundings forbid her from doing so.

6.2 Film Theory

Film is one manner of media where humans demonstrate their ideas, feeling, and other kind of portrayal that is similar with their real life counterpart, but often distorted. Villarejo (2007:23) said that film is a media where it is dynamic and uses others than those of the commercial narrative form. This research applies film theory to understand the main data which is film. This theory is used to support the analysis alongside the main theory explained before. Film is full of concepts. Stam (2006:6) stated that film engulf all concepts of dimensions (aesthetic, social, psychology) for scholars, critics, and interested spectators to toyed with.

Film theory tells the relation of a film as a medium, whether it is as language, to cinematic apparatus or the nature of the cinematic text, or cinematic reception. In other word, each data in this research (screenshot of the movie) that is displayed has its meanings. The meaning then can be derived using film theory. This research focuses on cinematography and mise-en-scene in the film theory to analyze the screenshot and get its meaning in *He Named Me Malala* movie. According to Villarejo, there are several points to film analysis that, using the human body as the reference point for each designation Cinematography in this research stressed framing techniques and camera angles. Villarejo divided framing techniques into seven types (Villarejo, 2007: 38):

- a. The extreme long shot (ELS), in which one can barely distinguish the human figure;
- b. The long shot (LS), in which humans are distinguishable but remain dwarfed by the background;
- c. The medium long shot (MLS), or plan american, in which the human is framed from the knees up;
- d. The medium shot (MS), in which we move in slightly to frame the human from the waist up;
- e. The medium close-up (MCU), in which we are slightly closer and see the human from the chest up;
- f. The close-up (CU), which isolates a portion of a human (the face, most prominently);

- g. The extreme close-up (ECU), in which we see a mere portion of the face (an eye, the lips).

7. Methods of Research

This part explains about the types of research, data source, data collection technique, and data analysis technique.

7.1 Type of Research

This research uses qualitative method-library research. According to Moleong (2011:6), qualitative research is research that intends to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by research subjects such as behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions, etc. Historically, and with ways of description in the form of words and language, in a special natural context and by utilizing various scientific methods. However, the researcher of this research does not do interviews but only collects data from the film's textual and other sources related to the movie.

7.2 Data Sources

In this research, the researcher uses two types of data, primary and secondary data. The primary data are taken from the film *He Named Me Malala*. Primary data contains elements in every scene in the film. The main analysis focuses on the portrayal of female resistance in the movie. The secondary data is gotten from journals, books, articles, pdf files, and the other sources that support the formal object and the theory.

7.3 Data Collection Technique

The data for this research is collected using library research method. As the first step, the researcher understands *He Named Me Malala* movie as literary work and choose the proper theory to analyze the film with. Second, the research read the film in order to deeply understanding the intrinsic of the film. The research then selects and classifies the data related to the research question. The research also collects supporting data from internet and other sources. After collecting data, the researcher analyzes the data based on feminism approach by Simone de Beauvoir.

7.4 Data Analysis Technique

The researcher uses an objective approach to analyze the data in this research. It is based on the film *He Named Me Malala*. First, the researcher collects and categorizes pertinent data from this research, including the events, objects, and other relative elements that correspond with the research's problem which is female resistance portrayed in the movie. The researcher then categorizes the data into two main categories. After categorizing the data, the researcher then analyzes the data in their respective category using the feminism approach by Simone de Beauvoir. Lastly, the researcher draws a conclusion based on the data analysis.

8. Paper Organization

The paper consists of four chapters. The first chapter discusses about background of study, research question objective of study, significance of study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research and paper organization. The second chapter is about the intrinsic element of *He Named Me Malala* movie. The

third chapter is the analysis of data and using feminism approach by Simone de Beauvoir. the last chapter contains the conclusion and suggestions for this research.



CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

4.1 CONCLUSIONS

Based on the analysis of the portrayal of female resistance as seen in He Named Me Malala movie using the feminist approach by Simone de Beauvoir, it can be concluded that the resistance women take in the movie is in accordance with how women are treated in the community. Related to Beauvoir's explanation, the resistance women show in the movie is not a mere problem that is needed for the movie's sake, but a condition that happens when women are brave enough to take action against the oppression that happens to them.

Based on the movie, theoretical approach, and research problem, some variables portray the portrayal of female resistance. The variables are male as dominant gender in society and resistance against male supremacy, divided into three smaller variables: resistance against inequality of education for women, resistance against male supremacy in traditional beliefs, and empowering women's voice. These variables are believed to sum up how female resistance happens in a society that does not acknowledge their existence.

In males as the dominant gender in society, it is stated how women are ruled. The limitation of women's actions and how men act as the imposing figure is explained in this variable. Resistance against male supremacy, which is divided into three variables, shows the women's action as a form of resistance in a male-dominated society. The first variable, which is resistance against inequality of

education for women, shows how men try to control women to remain oblivious of what happened to them. Resistance against male supremacy in traditional belief shows that custom and social tradition are a men-made rule imposed for women. The last variable is empowering women's voice which shows the struggle women face to regain their existence in the world.

To sum up, the portrayal of female resistance shows how resistance is according to how women are treated in society. The resistance does not merely happen because some women decide that it is the best time to rebel against society or a phase that can be ignored. The resistance happens because women decide that staying in the sphere that is built for them will eventually destroy them and render them useless, even more useless before they acknowledge the situation that happens to them. This research also notices how men as the dominant force will never let women who intend to change their fate go in an easy way as Beauvoir states that the world as the sphere where women reside is closed everywhere. The male universe dominates the world. There is always a ceiling and wall over her as far or as high she climbs. This obstacle is the reality that women face when they are brave enough to seek what truly happens with women and the world (2010:359).

4.2 SUGGESTIONS

He Named Me Malala movie tells about the struggle of a female to regain an existence in the world. This is the reason why the researcher applies the feminist approach by Simone de Beauvoir to show how female resistance is portrayed and the reason behind the resistance. There are quite a lot of issues in the movie that the researcher suggests to be analyzed by other researchers such as the influence of

religion power over the discourse on the movie. The researcher suggests the topic because the power of religion is clearly shown where it impacts the character and acts as a background issue. The next researcher can apply the topic by understanding the religion force that arise the problems as seen in the movie and applied the suitable theory to execute it with.



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