

## ANALYSIS OF GENDER EQUALITY AND FEMINISM OF MAIN CHARACTER IN *COLETTE* MOVIE

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### Abstract

The aim of the analysis is to analyse the gender equality and feminism that happened to the main character in *Colette* movie directed by Wash Westmoreland. The researcher focuses on every scenes and dialogues to make an easy way to analyse. The method of this analysis is descriptive qualitative method. The researcher also uses library research to support the data analysis. The theory that the researcher used to analysis gender equality is from McClain & Grossman (2009) and theory of Paludi (2017) for analysing feminism. The results of the study are: (1) Action of gender equality, the struggles, rebellion and speak up. (2) There are feminism movement that comes from the main character and also people around her, who is given her supports to get the gender equality. (3) The movie itself gives a lot of moral values in each part about gender equality and feminism that could be implemented in real life.

**Keywords** – *Gender Equality, Feminism, Movie Analysis*

### Introduction

Literature is a creative work, an art that publish in print. The name has traditionally been applied to those imaginative works of poetry and prose distinguished by the intentions of their authors and the perceived aesthetic excellence of their execution (Nuraeni, 2017). In (Andrew & Royle, 2015) says that Literature is a peculiarly elusive word. It has, in a sense, no essence. With a bit of effort an imagination, we would suggest any text can be read as poetic, the list of ingredients on a box of breakfast cereal, for example, or even the most insane language of bureaucracy. It can be expressed in such movie, novel, poetry, song lyrics, and other visual art. One of the example of visual art is movie. Movies, also known as films, are a type of visual communication which uses moving pictures and uses sound to deliver stories or values of life. According to (Hamenst, 2018) Movie is not about a 'curious case' or about historical period. It is about the time we are living in today and the social changes in our lives we have to experience. People in every part of the world watch movies as a type of entertainment, a way to have fun. For some people, movies can make them laugh, while for others can make them cry, or feel afraid. (Nuraeni & Silaban, 2018) says that film and literature inspire and enrich each other's. They also ennoble human mind through action, images, words and replicating life of human beings.

Nowadays, there are so many different types of people. Different races, different backgrounds, and also different stories. Based on (Heathcote & Otto, 2014) The goal of gender equality necessitates exposing and destabilising these underlying semiotic structures, which reinforce other hierarchies of power associated with race, nation, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, disability, and so on. There has always been a separation of males and females and the way they are raised and taught even to what occupations they take on. Over time these became a set of gender boundaries. In (McClain & Grossman, 2009) he said that One common understanding of gender equality is a gender neutrality or equal treatment (for example, treating like cases alike). Men and women should have equal power and equal opportunities for financial independence, education, and personal development. Yet gender issues are not focused on women alone, but on the relationship between men and women in society.



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Some people know that gender equality has the same vision as feminism. From (Paludi, 2009) stated that Feminism is the belief in certain fundamental principles of social, economic, political, and judicial equality. Feminists believe that men and women are equal, and women deserve the same rights as men in society. Based on (Gillis & Waters, 2011) stated that Feminism is portrayed as a territory over which various women have to fight to gain their ground.

In connection with the gender equality and feminism, the researcher found the cases through Colette movie. The researcher found that these topics are related to the movie, important to share and interesting to discuss, and also the case of inequality gender still happening in social environment.

### Methodology

Since the data and the analysis are in the form of sentence and description so the method of this research uses descriptive qualitative. Descriptive research is a type of research which does not use calculation or numerating. This method is implemented to reach the objectives of the study (Nuraeni & Peron, 2017). Technique of data collection is way that the researcher gains the data. The technique in this research is content analysis. The sources of data come from main character, Gabrielle Colette's in Colette movie. The main source of data in this research is every scenes and dialogues of main character in Colette movie by Wash Westmoreland. It is a romance movie, which published in 2018. The duration of this movie is 112 minutes.

### Findings and Discussion

#### Action of Gender Equality

##### *The Struggles*

In this scene, main character, as a wife, she also accepted the bad treatment from her husband.



Figure 1. Colette confronted Willy  
Performed at : 00:11:40 – 00:13:20

*Colette: "Did that woman have a capital "P"?"*

*Willy : "Which one?"*

*Colette: "The one you were talking to in the red dress."*

*Willy : "Nicole D' Allier? Come on, that was just flirtation, it meant nothing."*

*Colette: "Then why do it?"*

*Willy : "Because that's what man does to past the time, stave of boreden."*



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From this scene and dialogue, Colette shows how she was jealous of Willy's action. She found that Willy was talking to a woman and he flirt with that woman. But when Colette tried to ask him, he denied it and tell Colette that means nothing. Also Willy said that it is fine to a man who's already got married to flirt with other woman. Because that what men are usually do. It shows how inequality and unfair a man treat a woman, it's describe that men can do whatever they want but women are not. Willy's behavior represent the discrimination towards woman.

### *Rebellion and Speak Up*

In this part, the main character started to speak up for her and fight for an inequality in her life. She shows that woman can also involve in every situation, and how important is it for her life.



Figure 2. Colette asked Willy to put her name on the book  
Performed at : 01:18:05 – 01:20:10

*Colette* : "You know the new Claudine book?"

*Willy* : "Yes."

*Colette*: "Why don't we publish it under both our names?"

*Willy* : "That's out of the question, Ollendorf would never agree to it."

*Colette*: "Ollendorf or you?"

*Willy* : "Tetette, do you really want to all the goose that's laying the golden Claudine?"

*Colette*: "There's very little risk, surely, Claudine's established, and most people know or they suspect."

*Willy* : "Nobody knows, unless you've been crowling about it to your lady man friend."

Through this dialogue, Colette started to speak up about what she really wants about the book. She asked Willy to put her name on the book, so people could recognize her as a great writer. But Willy rejected it, and it made Colette mad, she felt it's unfair, because everything in the novel was her stories and her ideas. She finally brave enough to deliver her thoughts after what willy asked her to do, she didn't want this unfairness keep happening to her, she need a recognition that she also contributed on the novel.

### *Feminism Movement*

In (Diastuti, 2014) explain that men and women are situated in the society not only differently but also unequally. Specifically, women get less of material resources, social status, power and opportunities for self-actualization than men share their social location based on their class, race, occupation, ethnicity, religion, education, nationality, or other any socially significant factors.



In this movie also shows how main character started the feminist movement in that era, and how succeed she was after her big decision.



Figure 3. Colette interview by the journalist  
Performed at : 01:26:15 – 01:26:45

- Journalist* : “Madame Colette, what are your impressions after tonight?”  
*Colette* : “My “impressions”? I’m disgusted, the people who threw things tonight are cowards, and the only reason I didn’t get a footstool in the face is because I dodge it!”  
*Missy* : “Let it go Colette, there were some gentleman who came for fight, we ignore them and go on.”  
*Journalist* : “So you intend to continue?”  
*Missy* : “No!”  
*Colette* : “Yes! Those people don’t frighten me at all. Look am I trembling? I will continue to pursue this because I want to! And if Paris won’t have me, then so be it. I’ll go elsewhere to make money.”

After the show which held by Colette and Missy is finished, the audience seemed did not like it, and they started to throw stuff at them. Then Colette went off the stage and a journalist came up to her asked her about her impressions of what happened in the stage. Colette was very angry, and she could not believe that people did that to a woman. Then the journalist asked her did she want to continue her show or not, and she told the journalist that she would not stop doing it, because that was what she wanted and what she liked. No one could stop her, if where she lived did not support it, she would go to other places to pursue her dream.



Figure 4. Colette decided to live on her own  
Performed at : 01:42:45 – 01:44:15

- Colette* : “After two years of music hall and theater, I’m still the same, face to face with that painted glass. With deep set gazes at me from the other side of looking. I know she’s going to speak to me. She’s going to say “Is that you there all alone under the ceiling booming a vibrating under the feet the dances. Why are you there all alone? And why not somewhere else?” Yes, this is the dangerous lucid hours. Now whenever I despair, I no longer expect my end but some bit of luck,



*some common place little miracle which like a glittering ink will mend again the necklace of my days."*

This section is a part where finally Colette left her past, and continued her life by doing what she likes to do, she continued to do the performances in the stage with Wague. She felt relieved after everything that happened to her. Her shows were successful even though there were still people who didn't like it and mocked it. But besides of that, she could pursue her dream, and do whatever she wants. She could find a freedom for herself so she can enjoy her life. During her doing her show, she started to write a novel and published it under her own name. Luckily, it became success and there are many people who loved her books. Colette known as an actress and also as a writer. She keeps pursued her dream and decided to live with Missy.

### **Moral Values**

The main character gave inspirations to other woman to speak up of their thought. She taught not to let people put you down, and be brave. After what she did, she finally could prove that, a woman can also get money from doing what she likes. People can respect woman's work and think that woman and man are equal, they both deserves the same right. This movie can convince the audience that woman can also involve in the society, they have the same rights to vote, and to work in their environment. Both woman and man need freedom. No one can tell them what to do, no matter who you are, skin colour, and religion, people has the same rights to do what they want as long as not break the rules. She finally encouraged herself to speak up about what she thinks and what she wants, that's very important for people to prove that everyone deserves the same treatment.

### **Conclusion**

*Colette* is a real life story that happened to a woman named Gabrielle Sidonie Colette. She is the main character who becomes the inspiration figure to other woman. She gave an inspiration to other woman to not gave up, and keep fighting for equality in the social environment. Her actions were showed how feminism affected her life. She started to speak up for herself, She believed that a woman could get equal treatment in environment without being forbid by anyone. The message of this movie is do not let you down when you get many problems. Many people who face inequality and discrimination but then they able to realize that they have the same rights, and many of them transform into people who inspire others.

In the end, regarding to the topics which are gender equality and feminism, it shows that the both topics have a correlation to each other. It is point out that how inequality between gender happened, how she was finally speak up and it is indicated the feminist movements

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