WOMEN PRIVATE SPHERES AS DESCRIBED IN DALDRY'S
THE HOURS MOVIE

Esi Dwi Sasmita[1], Dinda Ayu Paraswati[2]
English Literature[1]
Sistem Informasi Akuntansi Education[2]

Esidwi@gmail.com

Abstract

This research discusses women private spheres issue. The idea of public and private sphere for human is to differentiate what is open and closed from one certain person to all society. Private sphere is the complement or opposite of public sphere. This research focuses on what private spheres are for women as described in Daldry's *The Hours* movie and how Daldry's *The hours* describes women's needs of private spheres depicted through the main characters. Theoretical framework provides some theories which are related to women private spheres issue to answer the research problem. Beauvoir's feminism approach is employed in order to give the deeper understanding. Besides, the concept of women's needs and private spheres are understood to support the analysis. This research utilizes descriptive-qualitative, it emphasizes data collecting technique and data analyzing technique based on library research. Data are film sequences that contain cinematography aspects while *The Hours* movie as its data source. In the analysis, this research presents the analyzed data in the form of table of film analysis. The analysis is also supported by extended significant explanation beside the table of analysis itself. It can be concluded that women private spheres are described from the characters through the presentation of sequence that signify indication of characters' action and dialogues. First, this movie describes the idea of women private spheres which contains four kinds of women private spheres, as follow; private life, family life, home, and correspondence. Seconds, the depiction of women's needs is proven through the action and condition of the characters inside the movie. It helps the writer to elaborates the way Daldry's *The Hours* describes women's needs as follow; by showing women characters struggle, women daily activities, women environment, and male treatment toward women.

Key words: women's needs, private spheres, beauvoir's feminism.

INTRODUCTION

Human are created by God in upper position compare to other creation like plants and animals. Human are gifted by God with thought and conscience to make it different with others. In pursuing the purposes of life, human will employ all skills to ease their process in reaching their final goal (Muliyah & Aminatun, 2020). They will work with other people to create a same path for self establishment to be recognized in society. In the relation with their social development, human as a living organism is being influenced by their society in establishing their personality(Febrian & Fadly, 2021b). It can be concluded that every individual is coming from one certain group, whether it is genetically or traditionally based on geographical, physical and social context. The sense of discrimination of human being to differentiate their room and purpose of life create a different need of space for self pleasure (Aguss, 2021), (Febrian & Fadly, 2021b). Some people are enjoy having themselves in public sphere but some other need more private sphere for their personal purposes.

Woman which is often considered as a subordinated of man are often being neglected by other in terms of freedom (van Eijck, Michiel; Hsu, Pei-Ling; Roth, 2009). Society thinks that information about woman are legally accessible for other people especially man. Social stereotype of patriarchal system still consider that woman is created as a complement for man so that they do not deserve one certain place which is inaccessible from others, man(Sucipto & Bandung, 2016). The researcher sees that in every part of social constructions, woman can no longer accept that they are an object for public consumption. Society also has to recognize personal border for woman which is their private authority(Adam et al., 2020). Woman who is also busy as social organization, for example as a career woman, or even mother and a wife in a family, they must have their own room for their personal importance. They sometimes also want to be separated from daily life and separated from society. This need basically must be well understood by other member of society(Pratama & Hermawan, 2016).

The idea of this private sphere needs for women are brought to many literary works like movie, novel, poetry, etc. *The Hours* is a 2002 drama film directed by Stephen Daldry, and starring Nicole Kidman, Meryl Streep, Julianne Moore and Ed Harris as the main character in this movie. (Febrian & Fadly, 2021a)The screenplay by David Hare is based on the 1999 Pulitzer Prize winning novel of the same title by Michael Cunningham. This *The Hours* follows three women through one day in their lives. One of the narrative strands explores the day in 1923 when Virginia Woolf begins to write *Mrs. Dalloway*. Another centers around a day in the life of Laura Brown, an American housewife, in 1949, in which she spends part of her time reading *Mrs. Dalloway*. The third narrative takes place on a day in the late twentieth century, in which Clarissa Vaughan hosts a party for her poet-friend Richard. The chapters alternate with rough regularity between these three main characters(Fitri & Qodriani, 2016),(Sasalia & Sari, 2020),(Kardiansyah & Salam, 2020).

To put it in a larger context, the film underlines the sense of universality instead of specificity in the multicultural environments of L.A., New York, Richmond, and London. Therefore, it expands the social and cultural surroundings among cities for three women who represent the women's needs of private spheres in dissimilar time zones. Generally speaking, not only does the film tell a story for a writer Virginia, who creates a great novel *Mrs. Dalloway*, but also it describes a narrative for a reader Laura who admires Virginia's book and it bridges possible parallels between Virginia and her fictional character Clarissa.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher can conclude that the idea of women private spheres is as an important need to be covered in living time. As a member of society as like the same with a man, woman also need self recognition from themselves or/and from other people to own a private area without any disturbance from outside for any reason(Febrian & Fadly, 2021b),(Muzakkir & Botutihe, 2020),(F. M. Sari, 2018).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Previous Study
The previous studies related to the topic discussed are presented in this part as the writer's references and guidelines in carrying out this research. There are three previous studies used in this research, they are *Women and The Private Domain: A Symbolic Interactionist Perspective* by Efrat Tseelon, *Phantasies, Motherhood, and Genealogy in The Hours* by

Yuh-Yi Tan, and *A Space of Intersections: Campus Based Women's Centers and The Third Space between Public and Private Spheres* by Emelyn A. Dela Pena.

Beauvoir's Feminism Approach

Simone de Beauvoir was an existential phenomenologist who was centrally concerned with problems of oppression and embodiment. Her philosophy, novels, and autobiography remain popular, especially *The Second Sex*, which continues to influence feminist thought.

> *"Women's failure to take responsibility for their freedom is seen both as women's bad faith and as the trap of patriarchal society. In patriarchal society women are led to believe that they are happier rejecting their freedom than they would be taking responsibility for it." (Card 2003:9)*

As Beauvoir ever stated, by choosing to be other, or to be inessential. Taking up this struggle against self deception is necessary in taking responsibility for one's own freedom. For Beauvoir, human freedom has meaning because of what we do with it. The value that we find in the world is we find through our actions, our choices, and our investments in other people (Booch et al., 1998),(Sujatna et al., 2020). Beauvoir adds to this as the phenomenological idea of women's "situation". It is because in case of women, they are often being an object position that made them into dependent and subordinate subjects. (Suwarni & Handayani, 2021),(Gulö, 2018)This condition is the results of differences between the sexes that imprison women in the name of sexual difference.

Cinematography

The object being analyzed by the writer is a movie. Basically movie also has meanings as like another art work. It is shown through collaboration of motions picture, dialogue, lighting, camera effects and angles to give certain meaning in every single scenes inside. Thus theory of cinematography is applied during the analysis in order to figure out the meaning which is conveyed by the movie (S. N. Sari & Aminatun, 2021),(Simamora & Oktaviani, 2020),(Styawati & Mustofa, 2019). So, Cinematography is used to convey the sense of the movie through its good images . For that, Brown stated that:

> *"Cinematography is more than the mere act of photography. It is the process of taking ideas, action, emotional subtext, tone and all other forms of nonverbal communication and rendering them in visual term." (Brown, 2002:9)*

Cinematography is not merely a picture of photographs. It covers all forms of nonverbal communication which is served in visual term. It is like how people show the idea or thought, emotional and action in simpler mode to be seen by people. Thus, cinematography aspects only consists of three parts; camera positioning/camera angel, camera distance/shot, and lighting/exposure, yet there is also sound aspect that follow as well. It supports cinematography aspects as one unity(Mulyanto et al., 2020).

Private Sphere

The private sphere is the complement or opposite of the public sphere. Private sphere has a narrower limitation compare to public sphere which is mostly only dealing with individual as a social part in society (Schrape, 2018). This small part of society somehow also need narrower place for them which is separated from class structure in their social life.

> *"In public-sphere theory, on the bourgeois model, the private sphere is that domain of one's life in which one works for oneself. In that domain, people work, exchange goods, and maintain their families; it is therefore, in that sense, separate from the rest of society." (Gerard, 1989:30)*

Based on the explanation above private sphere is a certain sector of societal life in which an individual enjoys a degree of authority, unhampered by interventions from governmental or other institutions. The private sphere comprised civil society in the narrower sense, that is to say, the realm of commodity exchange and of social labor. Examples of the private sphere are family and home (Mertania & Amelia, 2020).

Film Analysis

Film analysis is entirely different method from other literary works analysis such as poem or play. In analyzing film, there are many things that should be correlated, processed and interpreted by employing the knowledge in motions pictures to convey the meaning of the film. It is relevant to the idea of (Herison et al., 2019) that proposed "film analysis is to identify the major elements of film art and recognize the way those elements work together to produce meaning." For that, the analysis of this research will be conducted in a form of table analysis that contains all of the previously discussed aspects to extract the intention off all those aspects in contributing the construction the real meaning of a film.

Film analysis will employ a form of table from the book *Film: An Introduction by William H. Phillips* modified in which made to dismantle a scene into each supporting aspects that correlated with cinematography and sounds, such as lighting, sound effect and others. Each of it will be placed in different columns and will be interpreted separately without being bonded with another aspect.(Amelia, 2021) The process of dismantling of a scene signifies the enlightenment to the process of interpretation, so deeper result from each aspect can be extracted. Thus, all of the interpretations are combined to support the theme of the scene that has been set previously(Febrian & Fadly, 2021b). Therefore, the scene that is analyzed will be able to produce single-deeper meaning than what it can produce without an analysis-table.

METHOD

In chapter four, the writer will use library research and descriptive qualitative methods to apply since the data based on the theories and common sense comprehensions without using any measurement, and statistical analysis. Library research as the method of making the research by collecting, reading and analyzing the data that relates to this research. The writer uses this method to find the data and information from some books, journals, articlesand many other that are related to the research. In qualitative descriptive research is used as the combination of data collecting techniques and it is used to explore and analyze the data to finish the research by finding the answer of what, how, when and why.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Private Spheres for Women as Described in Daldry's *The Hours*
The basic idea about private sphere is that it is always about freedom. As Kilkelly ever stated in previous chapter, there are some kinds of private spheres as follow; private life,

family life, home, and correspondence. This sub-discussion will prove that *The Hours* movie contains women private spheres issue. In this section, the discussion and analysis will be firstly started by pointing out some general indications of the private spheres for women that shows by the characters inside the movie.

Private Life

As Court explains, private life is a broad concept which is incapable of exhaustive definition. They have interpreted the concept of private life in a very broad way. It covers things like your right to choose your sexual identity, your lifestyle, and the way you look and dress. The right to a private life means that you have the right to carry on your life privately, without government interference, as long as you also respect the rights of other people. It also includes your right to control who sees and touches your body.

Family Life

As Kilkelly explains, according to the wording of the provision, family life is located squarely within the private sphere, where it is entitled to function free from arbitrary state interference. It means that, you have the right to enjoy your family relationship without interference from others even the government as well. This includes the relationship between an unmarried couple, an adopted child and the adoptive parent, and a foster parent and foster child. This point is found in the action of the characters inside the movie. The other table of sequences beneath showed this issue.

Home

The right to respect for your home is not the right to housing. Instead, it is a right to enjoy your existing home peacefully. This means that public authorities should not stop you from entering or living in your home without very good reason, and they should not enter without your permission. This applies whether or not you own your home. Sometimes a public authority may need to take action to allow you to properly enjoy your home, for example when Nelly makes excessive noise in a way that disrupts Virginia's activity. In this sequence the point of home is well-portrayed through Virginia's action in which, she was directly rejecting to give an instruction to Nelly in her room because she was concentrating with her writing.

Correspondence

As Kilkelly explains that the right to respect for one's correspondence is a right to uninterrupted and uncensored communications with others. As the literal meaning of home has been expanded in this way, it is anticipated that the concept will continue to be interpreted so as to keep pace with developments in technology which may bring other methods of communication, such as e-mail, within its sphere of protection. It means that the correspondence should generally be kept confidential and should not be interfered with. The concept of correspondence covers community by letter, telephone, fax of email. Thus, this point is found in the action of the character inside this movie.

The Way Daldry's *The Hours* Describes Women Needs of Private Spheres

Woman is consistently defined as the other by man who takes on the role of the self in the development of society, and then, since private spheres are considered as women needs, it also has a strong effect towards women's life and physical condition. It also reflects people's self image or self concept, the way they see themselves and believe they are seen by the others. This sub-discussion will discuss about how it manifested the women's live

and their action to fulfill their private spheres, so it makes this movie draws women's needs of private spheres issue.

Showing Women Characters Struggle

Women needs of private spheres in this case identified by showing women characters struggle. Women in this case are represented by the characters inside this movie. The characters struggle in order to found women private spheres are happen in some part of this movie. They tries to shows their struggle in expresses their expression and their feeling in private spheres. This point happen because of there is no rights for women in express her expression in public life.

Showing Women Daily Activities

Women's needs private spheres as describe in this movie can be identify by showing women daily activities. It is correlate with women's right in adequate the standard of living. Where, all of people both of women and men need equality especially about standard living. In this case standard living is really important to improve quality life of someone due to that it is also improving happiness of individual. Therefore, Jobs are the most important determinant of living standards for people. Their work is the main source of income and jobs related events are the most frequent reasons for people to escape or fall into poverty. Furthermore, as earnings increase, individual choices expand household members to dedicate more time to education, retirement, or family. However, it should be based on people interest because the one that know what individual needs is their self.

CONCLUSION

There are several findings that are important in concluding the research(Cholifah et al., 2018). First, the characters inside the movie are clearly showing the category of private spheres by the dialogues that they have and also the expression that they show to prove that this movie contains women private spheres issue, which are private life, family life, home, and correspondence (Erri Wahyu Puspitarini, 2016)(Napianto et al., 2017),(Amarudin & Riskiono, 2019).Seconds, the portrayal of women's needs is proven through the action and condition of the characters inside the movie. It helps the writer to elaborate the ways Daldry's *The Hours* describe women's needs as follow; by showing women characters struggle, women daily activities, women environment, and male treatment toward women(Yulianti & Sulistiyawati, 2020).

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