

AN ANALYSIS OF THE IMAGE ON WOMAN AS SEEN IN THE NOVEL

KIM JIYOUNG, BORN 1982

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INTRODUCING

In this study, the background of the story takes place in South Korea, where the patriarchal system is still strong even though South Korea is a developed country with rapid economic development. The story of novel describes the lives of Korean women and the problem they face through the character Kim Ji Young and other women in this novel, their life as seen from the perspective given by father, men, and Korean society. This study aims to analyze how the image on women as seen in the novel and the women's resistance against the image in the novel. This novel has been conducted by some researchers in several theses, journals and research papers. One of the researches is by Siti Rahmah, SP, Eti Setiawati, Sony Sukmawan, and Susi Darihastining with the titled Patriarchal Oppression in Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982. By Cho Nam Joo: A Feminist Literary Study. Bressler in his book [1], feminist criticism is an umbrella term for a variety of approaches to culture and literature that are of particular interest to women. Feminist criticism has been studied in multiple branches such as equality, oppression, subordinate, patriarch, the image on woman, resistance. According to Bressler's book, Millet said: Consciously or unconsciously women and men conform to the cultural ideas established for them by society. For example, little boys must be aggressive, self-assertive, and domineering whereas little girls must be passive, meek, and humble. In Bressler's book, Wollstonecraft said: Women, she maintains must define for themselves what it means to be a woman. Women themselves must take the lead and articulate who they are and what role they will play in society by rejecting the patriarchal assumption that women are inferior to men.

METHOD

The data taken from the novel *Kim Ji Young, Born 1982*. Applying a close reading method by Jacobus [8]. By doing so, specific use of language to find the topic and interpretation technique to find the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The act of this research about the image on women is divided into four images and the women's resistance against the image on women. In the image on women, there will be four aspects. First, women are objects of sexual adventure of men,

"The more disturbing part of this scandal was how people found out. It turned out that the security agent frequently uploaded the spy camera pictures on a pornography site, of which a male section manager at Jiyoung's company had been a member. It didn't take long before the section manager recognized the ladies' room structure and the women's clothing, and realized the subjects in the pictures were actually his colleagues. But rather than reporting this to the police or victims, he shared these pictures with his male colleagues in the office. No one yet fully knows how many men passed the pictures around, what kind of conversations they had about them, how many photos, or for how long" (86).

Pornographic sites are the easy places to visit for everyone, most visited by men. Some of them are willing to become members for the paid porn site. Instead of reporting, the man chooses to share this with his co-workers at the company. By taking it for themselves and uploading the results of hidden cameras that are placed in women's toilets to porn sites, this shows that women are the objects of their sexual adventure.

The second is, women are unreliable. This image, seen from the perspective of men and Korean society towards women,

"... a survey by a job search website found that only 29.6 percent of new employees at 100 companies were women, and it was even mentioned as a big improvement. Another survey conducted in the same year showed that, among recruiting managers of fifty large corporations, 44 percent of respondents chose that they "would rather hire male to female candidates with equivalent qualifications," and none chose "would hire women over men." (52).

The company prefers to work with men than women. Companies secretly ask for recommendations from faculty or lecturers at college for hiring male students.

The company do not want to hire women, because women are passive creatures while the world of work is hard to them. They are will not workmanlike in alert situation. So the company are unreliable to chose women as their employee.

The third are, women are being underestimated. Because in men's minds, there is no need to raise women's names and be aware of their abilities. This case happend in Kim Ji Young,

“You just stay out of trouble and get married.”
(57)

Ji Young and the family have diner, this was stated by fater. Father wants to Ji Young stay at home, and stay away from problems, father wants she don't have to take higher education ,she will end up being a wife to take care of husband, look after children and husband's family.

The forth is, Son preference. South Korea is still very strong with patriarchal culture. Where the patriarchal social structure has the highest position is men, especially with son. Their belief, if they have sons it is a pride and a gift for the family,

“You should have a son. You must have a son. You must have at least two sons ...” (13)

This is statement by grandmother who have four sons. Grandmother feel the joy of her life. Ji Young's mother is pregnant, grandmother says she have to give birth a son. For Korean families, son is everything. They will be blessed by circumstances and a family name would be good. As well as belief, men will lead both in the family and in society. Boys are loved more than girls in the family. This happened to Ji Young, in her family, his younger brother received a lot of attention especially from father, grandmother, and mother.

The resistance, every woman can fight and say what they are thinking. They do not have to comply with the rules that setting by man or even the others. Here will be occur the action on woman resistance against the image on women,

“I notified every woman in the office. We searched for the cameras together and reported the case to the police,” said Hyesu. “They are all getting investigated: the psycho security agent and the office perverts who passed the pictures around.” (86)

Women as the object for the sexual adventure of men, when they found out there was a hidden camera placed in their bathroom they immediately voiced their justice. They resistance against what men do to the women in the office. They reported the culprit to the police submitted the case for police action. they

want the perpetrators to be punished as severely as possible.

There is an image for women that they are unreliable. Sure, they can show men that they too can reliable for themselves without their help,

”With three children to look after, Mother chose sideline work she could do from home. Taking out stitches, assembling cardboard boxes, folding envelopes, peeling garlic, and rolling weather strips were just a few of the endless list of jobs available. The trickiest job was rolling weather strips. Pulling and rolling the weather strips, she often cut her finger on the paper film on the adhesive side. The material took up a lot of space, the work produced a great deal of debris, and the fumes from the sponge and adhesive gave her a headache, but the pay was the best among all the odd jobs. Mother kept taking on more, and worked longer hours. ”
(15)

Ji Young's mother, breaking the stigma that married women can't work anymore. That they should focus on taking care of their family and husband. The fact is she worked when Ji Young and her siblings were young. Even mothers are known to be skilled at work and fast. She also gets praise from her boss. The mother even dared to take a dangerous job because the salary given from that job was more than her previous job. Mother is someone who is born with natural talent and can handle whatever kind of job is given to her. And from the results of this work, the mother can bring her family to move to a new apartment that is wider than before without knowing by the father.

Showing about woman resistance against the image occur in the novel,

“How can you say something so backward in this day and age? Jiyoung, don't stay out of trouble. Run wild! Run wild, you hear me? ” (57)

Happend in Ji Young when they had discussion in dinning room. The sentence give by father say that Ji Young just stay out of trouble and get married. It was resisted by mother. Mother was very angry with the word given by father. Mother wants Ji Young to pursue her dream, don't want her child left behind. She wants, her daughter did what she wanted and she can do. Because the mother does not like to hold her child

CONCLUSION AND SUGESTION

In the analysis on the image on woman, the writer found some view point such as woamn as an oject for sexual adventure of man, woman is unreliable, woman

also being underestimated by man and son preference in Korean patriarchal family. And besides the image that exists, resistance against the image done by women. Such as resistance against women as an object for sexual adventure of men, women are reliable, protest against the image. In the novel *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982*, there are many gender inequalities experienced by women. Dominated by men who are depicted in the image. Besides only accepting women, they also have to fight against what has been done by men.

In conclusion, we live in Asia, where the patriarchal system still exists. Kim Ji Young as the character brings every woman's lives and problems. Lives in a very conservative family and grew up in a society that upholds the notion that men have control over everything and sees women as the weak part. They can control women, because women can't do anything. As a woman, we must be brave and express our thoughts about our rights as humans living on earth. The rights, to equality over men and believe in the capacity of ourselves. The rights, to doing resistance against that image given by men. As women, we have to be sure and believe, that the image is not in us.

REFERENCE

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Book

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Conference

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