

ABSTRACT

Prior to the 19th century, there was a maintained assumption that women were weaker and oppressed to men. Because of the freedom struggles and feminism rallies in the early 19th century, such condition started to change. Joan Holden's *The Independent Female* is a **high-energy comedy providing a hilarious commentary on the attitudes that provoked the second-wave feminism**. It presents Gloria Pennybank and her fiancé, John Heartright. Gloria wants to continue her career as **Personnel Department staff**, while John wants her to become a full-time housewife. Gloria then finds herself drawn to Sarah Bullitt, her co-worker with a plan for women's liberation movement. Sarah convinces her to help rally the women in the company to go on strike for equal work and equal pay. The writer intends to study the gender issues in *The Independent Female*, the conflicts in the drama and their impacts to Gloria. The intrinsic and the extrinsic approach are used in the analysis. The writer finds that the main gender issues raised in the drama are about "**independence**" and "**equality**". The conflicts also root from **Gloria's struggle in achieving them**. The drama also conveys several messages implied by Joan Holden concerning the gender issues prevailing in the United States at the very era.

Keywords: Equality, Gender Bias, Independent, Feminism, Patriarchy

*Life is full of Choices,
And your choices,
Is In. . . .*

You're Hand!!

(Dinda Nata Melia~Pride)