

**ABSTRACT**

This thesis is focused on the issue of heteronormativity towards butch as portrayed in Leslie Fienberg's *Stone Butch Blues*. By using queer theory, the thesis has two basic questions. Firstly, what factors that influence Jess Goldberg to become a butch are presented in Leslie Fienberg's *Stone Butch Blues*. Secondly, how Jess Goldberg's struggle to negotiate heteronormativity is presented in Leslie Fienberg's *Stone Butch Blues*. The study finds that there are three factors that influence Jess Goldberg to become a butch as presented in the novel. First is that she has a different standard of beauty. The second is that her sexual preference is toward women. The last is the rape she experienced. The study also discovers that butch faces a lot of discriminations because of heteronormativity. It can be in the form of verbal abuse, physical violence, frequent lost employment and police harassment. In order to survive, Jess Goldberg has to negotiate it in many ways, such as joining butch community, becoming a transgender, having a relationship with a heterosexual woman, and most importantly by coming out and becoming an activist.

**Key words:** *Butch, femme, heteronormativity, homophobia, queer, transgender.*

You can try the best you can.  
If you try the best you can,  
the best you can is good enough  
**(Radiohead, *Optimistic*)**