

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

THE PORTRAYAL OF MUSLIM WOMEN IN AMERICAN TV SERIES

9-1-1: LONE STAR (2020 & 2021)



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**Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the
Bachelor Degree of English Department Faculty of Humanities
Universitas Airlangga**

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2022

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**This thesis is dedicated to my parents, sister, Allah,
and myself**

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9-1-1: Lone Star (2020 & 2021)

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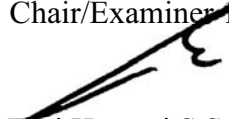
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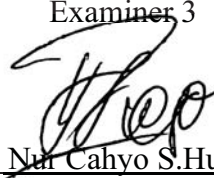
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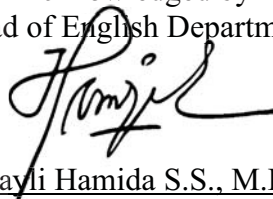
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Surabaya, 11 July 2022

The Writer,

Fitria Damayanti Nur Majid

“And this pain, as much as we hate it, is useful. Pain is what teaches us what to pay attention to when we’re young or careless. It helps show us what’s good for us versus what’s bad for us. It helps us understand and adhere to our own limitations.”

— Mark Manson

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana perempuan muslim digambarkan dalam serial TV Amerika dari FOX yaitu *9-1-1: Lone Star* (2020 & 2021), sebuah serial tentang pekerjaan polisi, paramedis, dan pemadam kebakaran sebagai responden pertama. Analisis akan berfokus pada penggambaran perempuan muslim melalui karakter Marjan Marwani mengenai tantangan yang harus dihadapi di masyarakat Amerika terkait identitas gendernya sebagai seorang perempuan dan identitas agama sebagai seorang Muslim akan dilakukan. Pembahasan mengenai sikap dari Zara yang merupakan karakter perempuan muslim pendukung dalam serial ini juga akan dicantumkan. Diskusi lebih lanjut tentang peran penting media dalam serial yang dapat mempengaruhi karir dan kehidupan spiritual Marjan Marwani juga akan dibahas. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan cara mengidentifikasi adegan-adegan dari episode-episode yang dipilih dan mengurai dialog beserta implikasinya dalam serial tersebut dengan menggunakan pendekatan teori Fiske's Television Culture dan Naomi Wolf's Power Feminism. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Marjan Marwani sebagai tokoh perempuan muslim dalam serial *9-1-1: Lone Star* melakukan beberapa aksi menantang peran gender tradisional yaitu berada di garis depan sebagai petugas pemadam kebakaran, melakukan tindakan kepemimpinan, dan menunjukkan sifat kompetitif. Ketenaran dan efek media sosial juga ditemukan membawa karakter perempuan Muslim ke dalam dilema.

Keywords: Perempuan muslim, media, peran gender tradisional, identitas agama

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze how the Muslim Women's image is being portrayed in the American TV Series FOX's *9-1-1: Lone Star* (2020 & 2021), a procedural series about police, paramedic, and firefighter job as the first responders. The analysis will be focused on how the series shows Muslim women portrayals in Marjan Marwani and Zara character. It will dive into challenges that Marjan Marwani's character should overcome in American society regarding her gender identity as a woman and religious identity as a Muslim. Zara's attitude as a minor Muslim woman character will also be evaluated. Further discussion about the important role of media in the series which could affect Marjan Marwani's career and spiritual life will also be covered. Data will be collected by identifying the chosen episodes' scenes and breaking down the dialogue along with the implication in the series using Fiske's Television Culture and Naomi Wolf's Power Feminism theoretical approach. The result showed that Marjan Marwani as a Muslim woman character in the *9-1-1: Lone Star* series performed several actions of challenging traditional gender roles as she fight on the frontline as a firefighter, performs leadership act, and shows a competitive nature. The fame and social media effects were also found to lead the Muslim women's character into dilemma.

Keywords: Muslim women, media, traditional gender roles, religious identity