

ABSTRACT

Society is constructed through traditional gender roles. This norm has been deeply rooted almost in the core of every part in the society and also constructed by the mainstream media. The construction of traditional gender roles has affected the understanding of being feminine and masculine. This understanding seems to influence gender performance in a film *Mrs. Doubtfire*. This one hour and fifty seven minutes film was directed by Chris Columbus. The film tells about a divorced man named Daniel Hillard who desperately wants to reunite with his children by disguising as a woman housekeeper.

This study is conducted to examine how gender performativity is illustrated in the film and what ideology lies within the film. Queer theory, especially gender performativity by Judith Butler will be used as the framework of the study. The study is done by observing and analysing chosen scenes from the film focusing on the performance of Daniel Hillard as Euphegenia Doubtfire. Narrative aspect of the film is not only the main concern; the non-narrative is also part of the analysis especially on costume, makeup, performance and color.

The main finding of this study is this film in one hand celebrates traditional gender roles but on the other hand promotes gender as performance. Femininity is pictured as fluid therefore it is also a performativity. The contestation between those two opposing ideas is smoothly wrapped through amusing film such as *Mrs Doubtfire*.

Keywords: *gender, performativity, traditional gender roles, femininity*