

ABSTRACT

Young adult literature has a significant role in conveying message as well as promoting certain notions and ideologies where the readers will feel the connection and can relate to the works they read. Therefore, it is vital to examine how these problems and ideologies operate in the stories. This study deals with the representation of women in a young adult novel by E. Lockhart, titled *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks* (2008). It focuses on the main character which is represented by Frankie, a fifteen-year-old schoolgirl. The writer aims to explore the patriarchal oppression the heroine endures and how the heroine reacts toward the oppression. This study uses qualitative descriptive approach and applies the notion from Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* to examine how patriarchal values work in the story and how they affect the protagonist's coming-of-age process. Some journal articles are also employed to supplement the primary theory, especially regarding the exploration of the protagonist in young adult literature. This study reveals that the oppressions come from her family, peers, and school that limit and restrain Frankie's movement. Frankie confronts those oppressions, yet at some point she also conforms to the patriarchal value. As she develops her way of thinking through exploration and experiment, she finally understands that she no longer fits the depiction of ideal woman according to the patriarchal ideas. Thus, she establishes and constructs her own identity as a young adult woman that opposes the traditional notions, which is marked by her independency, strength, and wittiness.

Keywords: *Coming of age, Gender, Patriarchy, Young Adult, Young Adult Literature*