## **UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

# ACCEPTING GENDER DIFFERENCES: A CRITICAL VIEW ON HUSBAND-WIFE RELATION IN "HOW TO TRAIN YOUR HUSBAND" (2018)



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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

# FACULTY OF HUMANITY

## **UNIVERSITAS AIRLANGGA**

SURABAYA

2019



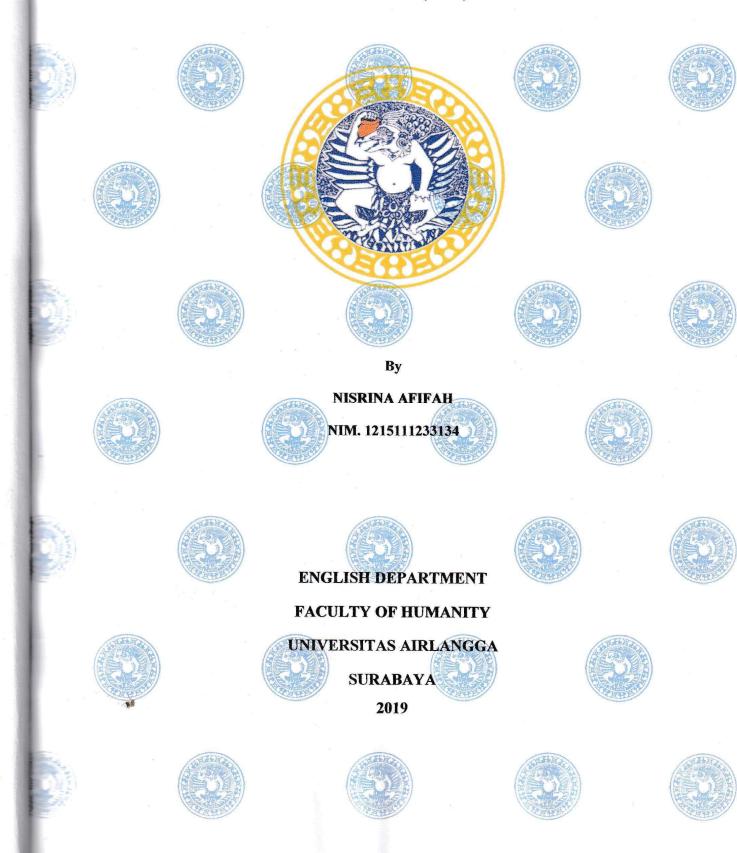






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## **UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment on the Requirement for the Sarjana Degree of English Language and Literature Department Faculty of Humanities Universitas Airlangga

> By NISRINA AFIFAH NIM 121511233134

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY OF HUMANITIES UNIVERSITAS AIRLANGGA SURABAYA 2019

#### **DECLARATION PAGE**

I declare that this undergraduate thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the degree of Sarjana Humaniora (S. Hum) of the English Language and Literature Department Faculty of Humanities Universitas Airlangga is entirely my own work and has been solely the result of my own original research. Hereby, I confirm that:

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Surabaya, 29 Mei 2019 0578002

Nisrina Afifah NIM. 121511233134 To every woman who thought that to have equality in gender is to be independent of men:

"Not everything has to be done alone, attained equality does not mean you have to reject the differences between you and him."

v

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Surabaya, 29 May 2019

Nisrina Afifah

viii

"What counts in making a happy marriage is not so much

how compatible you are, but how you deal with

incompatibility"

-Leo Tolstoy-

ix

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER TITLE	i		
INSIDE TITLE			
DEGREE REQUIREMENT			
DECLARATION	PAGEiv		
DEDICATION PAGEv			
APPROVAL SHI	EET vi		
ACKNOWLEDG	EMENT vii		
EPIGRAPH	ix		
TABLE OF CON	TENTS x		
LIST OF FIGURI	ESxii		
ABSTRAK	xiii		
ABSTRACT			
CHAPTER I	NTRODUCTION1		
1.1 Backgrour	nd of the Study1		
1.2 Statement	of the Problems		
1.3 The object	tive of the Study		
1.4 Significan	ce of the Study		
1.5 Definition	of Key Terms7		
CHAPTER II L	ITERATURE REVIEW		
2.1 Theoretica	I Framework		
2.1.1 Traditiona	l Gender Roles		
2.1.2 Gender Ad	cceptance 10		
2.1.3 Female Ind	dividualization Representation10		
2.2 Review of	Related Studies		
CHAPTER III	RESEARCH METHOD 16		
3.1 Research	Approach 16		
3.2 Data Source	ces		
3.3 Scope and	Limitation		

х

3.4	The Techr	ique of Data Collection	17
3.5	The Techr	ique of Data Analysis	18
CHAP	TER IV	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	20
4.1	Husband-	Wife Relation in the Film	22
4.2	Acceptanc	e of Gender Differences	34
4.3	Interpretat	ion	51
CHAP	TER V	CONCLUSION	54
REFERENCES			57
APPENDIX			

# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 4.1 Jillian on TV Show Interview (0:01:42)	. 23
Figure 4.2 Jillian walking to the Restaurant (0:04:03)	26
Figure 4.3 Justin go out from the elevator (0:04:07)	. 27
Figure 4.4 Jillian about Justin's clothes (0:04:55)	. 29
Figure 4.5 Jillian and Justin argue (0:08:57)	. 32
Figure 4.6 Jillian tried to text Justin first (0:36:52)	35
Figure 4.7 Jillian doubting Justin feeling (0:44:16)	. 38
Figure 4.8 Jillian and Justin go home together (0:48:48)	42
Figure 4.9 Jillian found out Justin breaks out her office (1:01:28)	46
Figure 4.10 Jillian and Justin come home together (1:21:13)	. 48
Figure 4.11 Jillian introduce her new book (1:21:54)	50

xii

#### ABSTRAK

Konsep peran gender tradisional, yang membagi peran berdasarkan gender dan akibatnya turut berkontribusi dalam kategorisasi sifat feminin dan maskulin, masih dianut banyak orang. Namun, pemikiran peran gender tradisional di era modern telah berubah dengan adanya feminisme dan kesetaraan gender yang mengangkat isu feminis yang menolak paham bahwa perempuan harus menjadi penurut dan mencoba menggantikan pemikiran ini dengan pemikiran bahwa laki-laki harus patuh terhadap perempuan. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui representasi individualisasi perempuan dan sejauh mana pengaruhnya pada proses Jillian James menerima perbedaan gender. Penelitian ini memakai pendekatan kualitatif yang menggunakan aspek-aspek naratif dan non-naratif film. Berdasarkan penemuan penelitian, ada proses penerimaan perbedaan gender yang terjadi dalam film walaupun individualisasi perempuan tidak direpresentasikan dengan berhasil. Dari penemuan-penemuan ini, dapat disimpulkan bahwa alih-alih individualisasi perempuan, film ini menyampaikan gagasan feminisme gelombang ketiga yang pada akhirnya kembali memunculkan sistem partriarki, sementara sebagian identitas Jillian menyuarakan pemikiran feminis. Maka dari itu, konsep feminisme "ke-perempuanan" terjadi seiring adanya patriarki yang muncul kembali akibat proses penerimaan perbedaan gender.

Kata kunci: Gender, individualisasi perempuan, penerimaan gender, peran gender, representasi.

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#### ABSTRACT

The concept of traditional gender roles, which divides roles based on gender and thereby contributes to the categorization of feminine and masculine traits, is still adhered. However, this idea of traditional gender roles in modern days has changed due to feminism and gender equality, which promote feminist ideas that reject the thought that women are submissive and attempt to replace it with a thought that men are obedient to women. The purpose of this study is to discover the representation of female individualization and to what extent it influences a woman's acceptance of gender differences. The method used to conduct this study was a qualitative approach that employed narrative and non-narrative aspects of "How to Train Your Husband". Based on the findings, there is a process of accepting gender differences that occurs in the movie although female individualization is not represented successfully/positively. From these findings, it can be concluded that instead of female individualization, the movie conveys thirdwave feminism that eventually re-emerges the idea of a patriarchal system, while a part of Jillian's identity resonates feminist stance. Therefore, the concept of 'girly' feminism occurs in accordance with the re-emergence of patriarchy as a result of the process of accepting gender differences.

# **Keywords**: Female individualization, gender, gender acceptance, gender roles, representation.

#### CHAPTER I

#### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Gender roles in the family have currently been shifting over time from the traditional view of the male members as the breadwinner and the female as the homemaker (Lease 2003). The concept of gender roles is generally conceived as opinions and beliefs about the ways that family and work roles do and should differ based on sex (Harris and Firestone 1998). Today's America, where the main setting of *How to Train Your Husband* movie that is the main object of the study takes place, has a liberating idea of feminism with strong-willed and feminist women. Currently, in the United States, most men and women are preferred to combine work and family roles (Perrone, Wright and Jackson 2009).

Such idea of a woman and a man living an ordinary life with ideal gender roles and the patriarchal idea re-emergence does not commonly occur in movies or any objects of previous studies used for this study. Most of these previous studies focus on the oppression of women by men or the resistance of women against the notion of ideal women in the nineteenth century. According to traditional gender roles, a man is presented as a strong, dominant, rational, and decisive, whereas a woman is cast as a weak, emotional, and submissive individual (Tyson 2015).

1

In this study, the focus is the differences in gender roles. Gender roles are different from sex roles. Both gender roles and sex roles serve in order differences between the roles of men and women. Gender roles are produced by a cultural and social construction that differs the roles, meanwhile, sex roles are a biological concept of role differentiation (Neculaesei 2015). In the transmission of gender roles differences, Stuart Hall said that culture is communication and communication is culture (Hall 2003). Therefore, gender role differences are products of communication. Because of this, feminism tries to take on the inequality of gender role differences that changed meanings from the roles that were socially constructed to the sexual role differences that come from mainly sexual or biological construction.

Gender differences have been a problematic issue which has been frequently tested (Zhao, Settles and Sheng 2011). Most of the evidence of the test shows that men and women have different levels of Work-Family Conflicts caused by unequal distribution of family responsibility even though the line between work and family have become permeable in recent decades (Dilworth 2004). In the United States, female individualization is not represented successfully/positively. Some researches indicate that the status of men's employment is not related to their fatherhood, whereas women who do not have a child are more likely to hold a paid job than mothers (Kaufman and Uhlenberg 2000).

In addition to gender differences, the processes of individualization create an environment where structural inequalities are regarded as individuals' problems (Scharff 2011, 121). Rich (2005) said that individual achievement is believed to be adequate to overcome the social limitation. Bauman (2000, 34) also argued that "individualization is fate, not choice". Bauman (2001, 9) argued that the individualization of narratives "suppresses (prevents from articulation) the possibility of discovering the links connected individual fate to the ways and means by which society as a whole operates". The significances of un-gendered individualization in the undoing of feminism becomes even more apparent when bringing to mind young women's positioning as 'prerogative subject of social change' (McRobbie 2009, 15) and the connection between the category of 'young women' as well as the notions of 'freedom' and 'choice'.

On the issue of oppressed women with the idea of traditional gender roles, Luvitha (2017), in her study, found that women are oppressed because of their roles in the office, which is caused by both a capitalist system and a patriarchal culture that also affect women's roles at home. On the issue of the importance of traditional gender roles, Maria Branden (2014) said that gender ideology and household responsibility division does not explain the gender differences in migratory behavior. Instead, they are more important for individuals' willingness to move for their partner. On their journal article, Perrone, Wright, and Jackson (2009) discussed the changes of gender roles in career, marriage, and parenting and provide the strategies to help clients in order to cope with work, family strain, and a balance between life roles. Sven Horak (2016), in his journal, found significant gender differences in response to culture-specific contextual factors between Korean men and women in comparison with German men and women. Ravi Kumar (2017), in his study, found that there are no differences between male and female in responding domain related to gender equality and youth are equally aware as well as accepting gender equality in the present scenario. Vespa's study (2009) informs that gender ideology is dynamic and life experience is the most important source of the changes. Moreover, the changes depend on individuals' race-gender categories and the configuration of life events to which they are exposed.

Then, the differentiation of the gender roles leads to the inequality that eventually provides gender stereotypes which devalue women as an inferior individual to man. These gender stereotypes then lead to the formation of traditional gender roles that represent women as weak and submissive, while men are represented as strong and dominant individuals. The title of "*How to Train Your Husband*" appears as if the movie tried to tell the audience that its story was about how a husband was trained to be an ideal man as how they trained a pup, but instead it shows that a strong and feminist woman in the post-feminist era still has a need for a figure of a man, which in this case is a husband to provide a better structure of a family.

Gender roles are constructed in a family consisting of a wife and a husband. In *How to Train Your Husband*, the character of Jillian James is portrayed as strong, stoic, and perfectionist, in contrast with the characterization of Justin James who is flexible. This movie particularly shows Jillian's dissatisfaction of her husband's characteristics that are not that compatible with hers. The movie also shows how they are a dual-work family, which refers to a family with both the husband and the wife having their own career and earning. Here, what makes this movie interesting is how Jillian, who is a marriage therapist, thinks of experimenting on making her husband, Justin, obedient by training a puppy to obey her. In a real society, making a man or a husband submissive and domesticated is something that may be beyond thinking and imagination. In the social structure, the ideal family should consist of a dominant and leading man or husband and a submissive and weak woman or wife. Even if the family is a dual working family, the structure of the family according to the society should be led by a man and the woman should follow the man's lead.

The problem that appears in this object of the study is the relationship between husband and wife in order to accept their gender differences. The aims of this study are to identify how the woman and man involved in a husband and wife relationship represent female individualization and portray acceptance of gender differences in *How to Train Your Husband* movie. In doing so, the gender role perspective is examined further with narrative and non-narrative analysis method to find the answer to the research question.

#### **1.2** Statement of the Problems

The problem that appears in this object of the study that is presented in the background of the study is the relationship between husband and wife in order to accept their gender differences. In order to find the answer to this problem, the writer made the statements of the problem as follows:

1. How does "*How to Train Your Husband*" portray Jillian James' female individualization?

2. How does Jillian James' female individualization influence her acceptance of gender differences?

#### **1.3** The objective of the Study

Related to the questions above, the writer's objective in conducting the study is as follows:

The purpose of this study is to see if there is a representation of female individualization through Jillian's character and discover how it influences Jillian James in accepting gender differences as well as the re-emergence of the patriarchal system.

#### 1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of this study that is expected to reach the readers is the understanding of the representation issue of the husband-wife relation and how this issue is portrayed in the movie. Therefore, the writer hopes the readers of this study understand how this issue can happen in real society. This study is also intended to give significance to the writer as the researcher as well as to understand more about the issue that is being discussed in this study and how it is connected to the real society. For cultural studies scholars, this study hopefully can give the insight to have more academic discussions regarding the relation of husband and wife in order to accept the gender differences issue in the cultural aspect and how the movie portrays the issue perfectly and naturally in one work of storyline.

# 1.5 Definition of Key Terms

Representation	: the use of signs that stand in for and take the place of
	something else (Mitchell 1995).
Gender Role	: a social role based on sex that is acceptable in society
	(R. 2011).
Gender	: an identity that is socially constructed and influenced
	by society and culture (Neculaesei 2015).
Gender Acceptance	: a process of accepting gender differences by respecting,
	appreciating, and responding to the natural differences
	(Gray 1992).
Female Individualization	: the state when the woman in a post-modern feminist era
	reflects to become an independent woman while not
	forgetting one's roles (McRobbie 2004).

#### CHAPTER II

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Theoretical Framework

The study is focused on the representation of female individualization according to Angela McRobbie. The concept of female individualization was formed based on the concept of feminism and the theory of individualization that was developed by McRobbie in response to the phenomena of post-feminism. This theory describes a woman as an independent being who thinks of herself as an individual. This study also used the concept of traditional gender roles and gender acceptance as the base of the argument and interpretation.

#### 2.1.1 Traditional Gender Roles

Traditional gender roles are defined as a social construction that differs from women and men culturally (Brannon 2004). It is called a social construction as both women and men do not consider themselves as either masculine or feminine as soon as they are born. Instead, they become feminine or masculine after being defined culturally by their surrounding society. The term of traditional gender roles is mostly used to give an injustice justification about men and women. It also refers to the attitudes and behaviors that a society's members are expected to have (Lindsey 1990). Not only that, but it also includes the rights and obligations which are normative for both men and women in society. Due to this term, the society has grouped roles based on gender, thereby resulting in a belief which deems the female members as inferior to its male members. Therefore, people believe that the differences are based on the person's status, such as father and mother as well as daughter and son.

Traditional gender roles are defined not only as of the stereotype of male and female behaviors but as the stereotype of things that male and female should do as well. It is believed that women's place should be inside the house while the men's place is outside of the house. Traditional gender roles were defined by Tong (2009) as to how the activities between men and women are differentiated culturally and they have been constructed in society since long time ago. Tong argued that according to the traditional gender roles, the traditional society expects women to do work that reflects the traditional feminine personality whether it is in the private or public sphere (Tong 2009). In the public sphere, women who work outside are expected to do feminine jobs such as nursing, teaching, and child-caring. Meanwhile, in the private sphere, they are expected to do the work of cleaning, cooking, and babysitting. Traditional gender roles, according to Tyson (2015), cast men as rational, strong, protective, and decisive, whereas women are cast as emotional, weak, nurturing, and submissive. Women are also represented as irrational individuals by Western philosophy (Tyson 2015).

There are two aspects of gender role-based attitudes to be investigated: gender role ideology, which concerns the attitudes about the roles of male and female in family and society, and the perceptions of occupational sex-typing in an

9

assumption of the combination between the two aspects giving a comprehensive image of gender roles perception (Kulik 2000).

#### 2.1.2 Gender Acceptance

According to Dr. Gray (1992), the key to a successful relationship between men and women is in accepting the differences within them through appreciation, respect, and response to their natural differences. First, there is a difference between gender and sex. Sex refers to biological differences, which are divided into two; male and female. Thus, gender refers to the infinity loop of complex psychosocial self-perception, attitude, and expectation that the social construct (Tyson 2015).

Gender difference occurs since there was a gender language that differed from language according to gender. The debate over gender-neutral language happened back in the middle of the 1980s when ungendered jobs became popular, such as firefighter instead of firemen and the pronoun of he/she or they appeared rather than the default "he" when the person being referred is unknown in a text. Now in recent years, the use of the pronoun "they" to specifically refer the nonbinary people has increasingly been accepted by media (Vivienne 2018).

#### 2.1.3 Female Individualization Representation

The writer used the issue of husband-wife relationship in which a husband is a man and the wife is a woman. Therefore, the writer thinks that the theory that is appropriate to be used for the analysis of the issue is Angela McRobbie's *Female Individualization Representation*. McRobbie broke down and analyzed the role of representation in images and discussed how the role of female individualization was represented. McRobbie's representation claimed that all women in this post-modern feminist era reflect in one's life by improving themselves by becoming independent without forgetting one's roles in society (McRobbie 2004).

McRobbie foregrounded the complex relationship between feminism and postfeminism by arguing that feminism is synchronously taken into account and rejected. Adopting the critical lens of postfeminism, young women's rejection of feminism can be regarded as reflecting the 'double entanglement' (McRobbie 2003, 130), where feminism has achieved Gramscian common sense and, as a consequence, is fiercely rejected. In the Aftermath of Feminism, McRobbie (2009, 16) drew on Bauman's arguments in developing the concept of 'female individualization'. Examining young women's rejection of feminism as she claimed that feminism has been replaced with 'aggressive individualism' (McRobbie 2009, 6). The theoretical concept of McRobbie's representation is associated with Stuart Hall's decoding-encoding concept in dismantling the media representation (Hall 2003). McRobbie's concept of female individualization indicates how feminism of the second-wave recoils at traditional gender roles. Female individualization involves a "disconnect" from creative work sociality and instead an ethos which Bauman (2000) described as "must try harder and harder" prevails, with an additional effect that in the event of failure there is only the self to blame, and "biographical features replace systemic contradiction" (Beck and Gerscheim Beck 2002).

Because of this recoiled ideology of feminism, the appearance of 'girly' feminism degrades the older generation of feminism by believing that post-modern feminism or the post-feminism generation can be a 'girly' feminist to be an independent and strong feminine woman. McRobbie has also introduced the *Post-Feminism Masquerade* as the new form of gender power, which re-establishes the heterosexual matrix in order to secure masculine hegemony (McRobbie 2009), in addition to female individualization concept to deliberately accept the concept of post-feminism that still has a similarity to the older concept of independent and working-woman with freer socialization with man. This additional concept of post-feminism, McRobbie said, is a pretense of gender equality; there is a reappearance of a patriarchal triumphant. The theory of post-feminist masquerade also worked as a mechanism of exclusion and helped re-establishing colonization by restoring whiteness as the cultural dominant discourse.

#### 2.2 Review of Related Studies

In order to conduct this study, there are some related studies that were used as references. Some of these researches have a similar or related issue as this current study. This review of related studies is divided into some issues, which is the oppression of women and women's roles by a man with the idea of the traditional gender roles, the importance of the traditional gender roles, gender differences between a man and a woman, and the change of gender ideology and gender representation. The study that discusses the issue of the oppression of women and women's roles by a man with the idea of the traditional gender roles was the undergraduate thesis written by Indati Cahya Luvitha, published by Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya and completed in 2017. *The Portrayal of Gender Roles in "The Intern" Film: Analysis on the Character Julie Ostin's Role As A Working Mother* is a study that aims to see the representation of gender roles through the character of Julie Ostin and other supporting characters. According to Luvitha's research, using the concept of traditional gender roles and socialist feminism shows that women get oppressed because of their roles in the office, which are caused by both a capitalist system and a patriarchal culture that also affect women's role at home.

The topic of the importance of traditional gender roles that was reviewed is based on *Gender, Gender Ideology, and Couples' Migration Decisions*. This journal article was completed in 2014, published in the *Journal of Family Issues,* written by Maria Branden. This study examines the importance of traditional gender ideology and behavior in married or cohabiting individuals using Swedish panel data that include 1,039 individuals. According to Branden's finding, women are more willing to move for their partner's career. Women who do not have a child are more likely to move with their partner for their work or education than men do, in the opposite of women with a child. Gender ideology and household responsibility division do not explain the gender differences in migratory behavior. Instead, they are more important in the individuals' willingness to move with their partners with a pronounced gender difference among nonegalitarian respondents.

13

The next related study is about gender differences. The journal article was written and completed in 2016 by Sven Horak, titled *Decision-making Behavior*, *Gender Differences, and Cultural Context Variables.* This study explored the differences in the decision-making behavior of men and women in Korea and Germany exposed to cultural context variables (CCVs) specific to the Korean cultural context. The findings revealed that Korean men responded more strongly to the context variables, showing either egoistic offer behavior or rejection of advantageous offers. Korean women, like German men and women, altered their behavior very little when exposed to the contextual variables. The result of these findings revealed significant gender differences in response to culture-specific contextual factors that have not previously been reported.

Another issue that was reviewed is about gender acceptance. It was taken from a journal article that was written by Ravi Kumar for International Journal of Science and Research (IJSR) and was completed in 2017. *Youth Awareness & Acceptance for Gender Equality in Present Scenario* is a study which was designed to identify the "youth awareness & acceptance for gender equality in the present scenario". This study is focused on the students in the range age group of 17-21 years old. This study revealed that male and female response to gender equality varies in each question. However, the overall responses of each domain question resulted in wise male or female responses that differ from those of individual questions. Thus, there is no difference between male and female responses in relation to gender equality. Youth are equally aware and accept gender equality in the present scenario. The last related study is about gender ideology. The journal article titled *Gender Ideology Construction: A Life Course and Intersectional Approach* were written and completed in 2009 by Jonathan Vespa. This study examined how changes in life, such as marriage and work were associated with changes in individuals' gender ideology. The study found that exposure to life experiences influence gender ideology although with a greater variation than the previous work. The findings also suggest that gender ideology is dynamic and life experiences are important sources of changes. This change depends on the individuals' race-gender categories and the configuration of life events to which they are exposed to. Vespa's study illustrates how the conceptual and methodological approaches help people in understanding gender ideology construction by revealing substantial variations which were undetected in the past work.

From the five journal articles and theses that have been reviewed for this study, only one study is about the acceptance of gender differences, but it is more about the awareness of each sex which is female and male using young people as the survey participants. The study about accepting gender differences between a man and woman as a husband and wife has not been conducted before as there might be not many sources about the matter nor there is an object that is suspected to have a problem on the issue of accepting gender differences. There are many studies that focus on the oppression that is done to a woman by man but there were not a lot of studies ever conducted about the other way.

15

#### CHAPTER III

#### **RESEARCH METHOD**

### 3.1 Research Approach

In conducting this study, a qualitative approach was used as the research approach in order to find out the presentation of gender difference acceptance by the women in the movie titled "*How to Train Your Husband*". The researcher used a qualitative approach because this study's objective is to analyze the humanities' phenomenon that happens in the text. It is said by Khotari (1970) that the best technique to analyze and investigate a text that contains the human phenomenon is by using the qualitative approach.

#### 3.2 Data Sources

The main data sources of this study are the narrative and non-narrative aspect of *How to Train Your Husband* (2018). This movie was first released on June 19, 2018. "*How to Train Your Husband*" is a romantic-comedy movie produced, directed, and written by Sandra L. Martin and starred by Julie Gonzalo, Jonathan Chase, and Luciana Faulhaber. This movie is particularly interesting from the title itself that drawn a question of how a husband being compared with a puppy in order to be trained. This movie was released on 19 June 2018 in the USA by Second Husband Movie LLC Studio. The movie was watched and taken from *Amazon.com* prime video in 2018.

The primary data of this study were taken mainly from the narrative aspects of the movie, such as plot, story, synopsis, the characters, etc. Meanwhile, some of the non-narrative aspects, such as sounds, lighting, etc. were used in order to answer the arguments given in the discussion. Secondary data sources were all taken from library searching, all the previous studies, related studies, books, and all trustworthy materials that support the study.

#### 3.3 Scope and Limitation

This study was conducted to understand and determine how gender role and the gender difference acceptance is represented by Jillian James as a wife and Justin James as a husband in the husband-wife relation to gender difference acceptance. The aspect that was examined in the study is the representation of woman and husband-wife relation that is portrayed in the movie. In this study, the focus of the analysis is Jillian James' character. Other characters such as Justin James, Nicole, and Aaron's became the side focus in determined the analysis of Jillian James' character.

#### 3.4 The Technique of Data Collection

The data used for this study were collected by sorting and transcribing some screenshots that contain narrative aspects, such as dialogues, and the non-narrative aspects, such as the camera works, characters, costumes, setting, etc., which indicate the presentation that portrays gender difference acceptance which occurs in *How to Train Your Husband* movie.

The criteria in order to organize and select eleven scenes used to analyze the problems of the study are as follows:

- 1. The scene shows the feminine traits and masculine traits of Jillian James according to the traditional gender roles.
- The scene that shows the process of gender difference acceptance of Jillian James.

#### 3.5 The Technique of Data Analysis

To analyze a film, there are two major aspects which are important to be observed; narrative and non-narrative aspects. Those aspects are the most important aspects of the film that played an important role in this study. Analyzing a film cannot be done without analyzing the story. Both narrative and non-narrative aspects are symbiosis for each other to convey the meaning of a film. Therefore, those aspects were also used in order to support the writer's argument about the representation of gender roles in the film since those elements are parts of the language of a film.

The narrative is a series of events that show a cause-effect relationship (Villarejo 2007). The narrative element is the part of a film's language which includes the story and plot of a film. It was said by Ida (2011) that narrative analysis is used to understand the story and plot. Therefore, it can be inferred that the narrative is the relationship between the story and the plot inside a film.

Aside from the narrative aspect of the movie, the non-narrative aspect is also important to investigate a movie. Non-narrative is the language of film which shows the explicit element of a movie throughout the movie (Ida 2011). The non-narrative element consists of camera movement/camera work, costume, setting, etc. All of these elements are important for analysis as they can also support the meaning that is conveyed in a film because it also implies the issue that is contained in the movie.

Before applying the theory of female individualization by Angela McRobbie, first of all, the writer gathered the details of narrative and non-narrative aspects of the movie that are shown in the frame of the scenes and selected them to be analyzed. From the frame of the scenes selected, the writer determined the position of the camera and viewpoint of the camera to see the details of the scene that can be analyzed and how many details there are to be analyzed. Then, the writer searched the meaning of each costume used by the characters and the color that can be seen in the setting of the scene and costume used by the characters. Depending on how the shot was taken on the scene, such as close-up shot, the expressions and the emotions made by the characters in the movie were analyzed too. After all of the meanings of each detail in the selected scenes were found, the writer concluded the meaning of what each scene tries to portray and how it portrays the characters, as well as the analysis based on the theory of female individualization. After that, the writer concluded all the analyses that have been done in the findings and interpreted them by applying the theory. At last, the writer concluded all of the findings, results, and interpretation in the conclusion section.

## CHAPTER IV

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

*How to Train Your Husband* is a movie that shows the portrayal of traditional gender roles and female individualization. The activities that are done by Jillian James, Justin James, and their surroundings, whether they are supporting or opposing the traditional gender roles idea, are inspected in order to analyze how a husband and wife relationship is depicted in *How to Train Your Husband* movie. The concept of traditional gender roles has been constructed for a long time that it becomes the base of this work's analysis.

Jillian James is a character that plays the role of a career woman in this film. A career woman is a woman who takes pride in her work and sometimes chooses to work more than staying at home looking for children and house. With the fact that she is someone who has the status of a career woman or a working woman, she is demanded to have two positions, namely a worker and a wife. However, as a married woman who does not have a child, Jillian does not get a double burden as a mother. Instead, she is an independent working woman who is confident and thinks of how she does not depend on a man or a husband. Because of this, she begins to think that the one who should become responsible for everything in their marriage is her and not her husband.

Jillian James is a young childless married woman who also works as a marriage therapist. Jillian is depicted as a confident and perfect career woman who

ACCEPTING GENDER DIFFERENCES...

loves her work and has a systematic as well as structured life as a wife. Not only a successful marriage therapist, but Jillian is also a best-seller book writer who writes about marriage as her book's topic. She thinks that as a woman, she should think to choose a marriage partner or a husband in the same way as to how people choose a new car. In that regard, she means that they should have a certain criterion to have before choosing a husband.

Besides Jillian James, another character was also analyzed in order to support the gender roles portrayed through Jillian James's character. The first character is Justin James who is the husband of Jillian James's character. In the film, the character of Justin James is depicted as a calm and flexible young man who works as an adventure and expedition specialist. His presence is what makes a change in Jillian life as she tries to make him into a submissive and obedient husband just like how she tries to train a puppy. His position as a husband makes a change in Jillian's life.

Other characters, Nicole and Aaron, were also included in the analysis. Nicole is Jillian's best friend who is a dog whisperer and a volunteer in a dog fostering house. Nicole is depicted as smart, calm, and patient in listening to every problem of Jillian's life and marriage. As for Aaron, he is Nicole's husband who is also friends with Jillian's husband, Justin James. In this movie, he is depicted as a husband who is obedient to his wife, Nicole. Nicole and Aaron are a perfect married couple, according to Jillian, whose secret of their happy marriage she wants to unveil.

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The portrayal of female individualization by the character of Jillian James is conveyed in the film by how a woman attempts to be an independent, strong, and confident woman in order to have the upper hand in her marriage life with his husband while trying to unveil the secret to a happy marriage. In the film "*How to Train Your Husband*", there are many occasions in which she tries to show her 'power' over her husband by implying that her husband cannot make her happy. The reason why this happens is because of the influence of her family; her mom is a divorced woman who thinks that being an independent woman is more important than being a 'good' wife. On the other hand, she is also influenced by her grandparents who show her their happy old marriage life and her best friend who has a marriage life that she thinks as a good and perfect shape of marriage. The portrayal of traditional gender roles in their marriage life is evident in their life outside and inside the house.

#### 4.1 Husband-Wife Relation in the Film

There are not many scenes in which the audience can see Jillian and Justin James shot together in one frame. There are many scenes that show Jillian or Justin alone in a frame when the two of them are talking to each other or arguing about something. Thus, it can be inferred that there is a bad relationship between the two despite being a husband and wife. The movie begins with the scene of Jillian James getting ready for a TV Show Interview and is asked to sign her book for a make-up artist. The interview of Jillian James on a talk show with the host is about her newly released book titled "*How to Pick Your Second Husband*". In this part, Jillian and the talk show host are talking about the book and how to pick a second husband.



Figure 4.1 Jillian on a TV Show Interview (0:01:42)

The beginning of this movie shows how Jillian James perceives family or husband, such as what kind of man a woman should pick as a second husband. This talk comes with her new best-selling book that talks about how to pick a second husband. Jillian says that the reason for writing the book is because of the divorce cases that occur in America, which she claims to always happen every thirty-six second. In fact, according to Lewis (2018), the divorce case rate in America was 40% to 50% in 2018, while the number of marriage in 2018 is 61.24 million in a year. It means that in America, there is at least 34 cases of divorce happened every 36 seconds. In this scene, Jillian talks about how people see reports of a car before buying it to make sure it works well and how one picks a restaurant based on its review on the internet. She also connects it to how a woman should pick a man or a husband just like how she picks a car or a restaurant, and not only based on feeling. From this talk, it can be seen how the character of Jillian James is depicted as a rational person based on how she compares the way of choosing a husband to that of choosing a restaurant or a car in regard to what she desires.

- Jillian: "When you go out to buy a car, you know what option you want. You ask to see a report if it hasn't been damaged. When we go out for dinner, you only go to a place with a good review. And in the most important decision in our life, we rely on feeling."
- (How To Train Your Husband 2018, 0:01:16 0:01:35)

The dress' color which is used by Jillian can also determine how Jillian James is portrayed as a woman. In this scene, Jillian wears a black dress. Black contains the meaning of death, unbearable, evil, criminality, hidden aspects, sinister, depression, grief, pain, repression, and hopelessness, as well as sophistication, authority, and style (Jofré and González 2002; Taylor 1962). Moreover, black is used as the color of mourning in almost every country, and it is also used for repentance for monks or nuns (Birren 1978). This color gives her an image of a woman with an authority.

The camera for the framed scene in figure 4.1 employed a full length shot camera range in an eye-level angle. A scene shot in eye-level or straight-on shot helps the viewers to see the subjects of the scene from the level of a person's eyes, while the full shot range is used to emphasize the actions and movement of the subject. In this scene, it can be seen that the subjects of this particular scene is Jillian and the TV show host and there is one object placed in the center of this scene, which is the book written by Jillian that was introduced by the TV show host as a best-selling book titled *'How to Pick Your Second Husband'*. As mentioned in the

previous paragraph, from the color of the dress worn by Jillian, it can be depicted that Jillian is a woman with authority. The action that Jillian does in this scene emphasizes more on the confident and dominant self of her.

The confidence that is seen on Jillian's character is emphasized on how she tells the host of the show about her inspiration to write a book about how a woman picks a second husband. This action of her is related to the placement of the book that Jillian wrote as the object in the scene. The book is placed in the center of the camera frame, which could be because this book is made to be the central issue of this movie, especially considering the host and some people who are shown before this scene emphasize how popular or best-selling this book is. The book is probably the representation of Jillian's center of opinions or ideas of how men should change according to what women or wives want them to be. It also may be the representation of Jillian as a dominant woman. This book, as the plot follows, also becomes the representation of the process in accepting gender differences inside Jillian's self as this exact scene reappears in the last scene shown in figure 4.11. It can be concluded from this scene that some of the characteristics of Jillian had are confident and dominant.

Figure 4.2 shows Jillian walking to a restaurant for dinner. This scene depicts her second personality as a powerful woman. The frame of this scene was shot in a medium shot with a low angle camera which defined her powerful status. The camera moves tilting upward giving an aura of a superior woman. This scene focuses more on the Jillian James' figure as she is walking to a party. No narration

is heard in this scene. Instead, there is a background sound which can be heard at the beginning of this movie. For the costume, Jillian wears a bold red formal dress to give an impression of a classy and formal event of the scene. The bold red color in both her dress and make up gives a rather sexy and confident feeling to the scene that depicts her as a confident and bold individual. The red color that Jillian uses is dark red. Dark red is often associated with love, passion, excitement, appetite, health, courage, majesty, hot, danger, blood, weapons, aggressiveness, power, fire, and hell (Arnheim 1962; Jofré and González 2002; Taylor 1962). Hence, from the dress Jillian wears, it can be inferred that Jillian is intended to be represented as someone aggressive with passion and power.



Figure 4.2 Jillian walking to a restaurant (0:04:03)

The setting of this scene also gives an impression of a high-class status for her. It can be seen from the background of this scene that Jillian is walking to where her dinner takes place. The passage she uses and the passage her husband, Justin uses look different. This scene shows that Jillian walks straight to the dinner place without taking the elevator, which probably means that she is in an equal class to the class of the dinner place. From the background in the scene in both figure 4.2 and figure 4.3, the dinner place is mostly decorated with accessories painted in gold color. Gold color means the color of glory and the color of luxury (Triadi and Sugiarto 2014). Not only that, in figure 4.3, there were four clocks above the golden elevator shown with different time, which depict a world clock even though no countries are exactly shown to indicate the time zone shown by the clocks. It can be inferred that the place is for business people, which means that the place is for the white-collar people. Therefore, we can conclude that the dinner place where Jillian and Justin James go is a high-class dinner place for high-class people.



*Figure 4.3 Justin walks out from the elevator (0:04:07)* 

In figure 4.3, the scene shows Justin walking out from an elevator wearing a blue-colored shirt and a brown jacket. The blue color means that the person has a stable mental condition and is a confident person (Triadi and Sugiarto 2014). The blue color in this scene may also depict his class. In the social class, there are terms that associate color with class, such as white-collar and blue-collar. White-collar work may be performed in an office desk job or other administrative jobs, while the blue collar is a worker whose job requires labor (Van Horn and Schaffner 2003). Wearing blue in this scene may indicate Justin as a working-class man. As mentioned before, the place where the dinner takes place may be a high-class place for a high-class society. It means that Justin may have a different class with Jillian. Nonetheless in this scene, the color of Justin's shirt is light blue, not just blue, and it is usually associated with cold, peace, depression, sadness, relax, calm, piety, wisdom, introspection, solitude, loneliness, contemplation, distance, infinitude, and emotion control (Birren 1978). Blue is also known as the color of masculinity. The brown color is usually related to the color of land and earth, which depicts a person who lives their life in the outside of the house (Birren 1978). In this scene, it may depict Justin's life whose work is mostly outside as an adventurer and expedition specialist. Thus, it can be concluded from the clothes that Justin wear that in the eyes of Jillian, Justin is depicted as someone with a different class from hers as well as a wild person that needs to be tamed, but for Justin himself, he is a masculine and understanding man.

This scene especially shows that Justin goes to the dinner place using a ride of the elevator. Riding an elevator to the place may mean that Justin needs to go up to be in the same class as Jillian. Justin James is depicted as a flexible and wild man. Before this scene, there is a scene which shows Justin's occupation as an adventuring expedition specialist. This scene is focused on Justin when he arrives at Jillian's party. From the frame of the scene, it can be seen that medium long shot and eye-level point of view that shows the surrounding of Justin character were used. From this frame, the small presence of Justin compared to his surroundings can be felt. Justin's costume is a blue shirt with a brown casual jacket and a boot. This costume shows how Justin's character comes out as flexible. Not only that, how Jillian is portrayed in this scene makes her bigger than any other things that surround her. Moreover, this scene in which Jillian is framed in a medium solo shot, in order to introduce her in this movie; she has a bigger presentation than her husband Justin who is shot in a solo full shot that makes him have a smaller figure than Jillian. This difference may also give an interpretation that Jillian's figure is more dominant and bigger than Justin.



Figure 4.4 Jillian about Justin's clothes (0:04:55)

Jillian's other personality is also shown as being a perfectionist woman. Jillian, on the first look, upset what how her husband, Justin James, wear for the dinner party. Instead of wearing a perfect navy suit that had been prepared by Jillian before, Justin wore a casual blue shirt, brown jacket, and a boot. From this, it can be implied Jillian's way of thinking upon perfection by the act of taking care of everything her husband wears. By her saying, "*You would look so perfect*" (How To Train Your Husband 2018, 0:04:54 - 0:04:56), it can be seen that Jillian has more control on this husband-wife relationship, in which it refers to a notion that she is dominant to her husband, Justin.

In figure 4.4, there were a navy blue suit, a white shirt, and two dark-colored ties, one with white colored strip and another with a yellow-colored strip on the bed. They were prepared beforehand by Jillian for Justin to wear. This might be an expectation in which Jillian had for Justin. White colored shirt represented Jillian's expectation of Justin to become a white-collar class worker, instead, he became a blue-collar worker who worked outside (Van Horn and Schaffner 2003). The blue color is said to be a power of color that represent authority (Birren 1978), and suits also represent power and high-class status, as well as representing formality demanded by formal occasions such as weddings and funerals (Edward 2011) (Zelinsky 2004). This means that Jillian wanted Justin to be seen as someone with power and authority. Dark blue necktie gives the impression of confidence, and the use of the strip is meant to identify where a man received their education. It is also perceived as classic and conservative (Chenoune 1993). This may refer to a notion that Jillian wanted Justin to be seen as a confident and educated man. Thus, from the overall image that Jillian wanted Justin to have based on the clothes that had been prepared by herself, we can conclude that Jillian expected Justin to be a man from a white-collar working class who did not only have an authority on himself,

Furthermore, not only the representation from the attire but how the camera work is also important to see. In this scene, a medium shot camera range shows Jillian's dissatisfaction about her husband for not wearing the suit that she had prepared previously, even though Jillian's assistant already reminded her husband to wear the suit that had been prepared by Jillian. According to the explanation and

but also gave an impression of a confident, conservative, and educated man.

symbolism of clothes and suits that had been prepared, Jillian's dissatisfaction did not only come from the fact that he came to the dinner without listening to the request she asked Justin do, but also by the fact that he couldn't become someone whom Jillian expected him to be.

Went with the traits of being dominant, Jillian also thought about how to have a happy marriage with her husband despite the differences they had. After having an argument with her husband, Jillian was left alone by her husband, Justin, who went on vacation. The vacation plan was previously rejected by Jillian due to her new book deadline. Thus, he went on alone and Jillian was left to finish her work. By seeing the whole plot of the movie, it can also be seen where she got the personalities she had as a confident, independent and dominant woman. Jillian might be influenced by her mother, Monna, who was a single parent. Monna also thought that Jillian was an accomplished and independent woman who did not need a man.

Monna: "You are an accomplished, independent woman. You don't need a man."

Jillian: "Don't you miss the companionship?"

- Monna: "I have a cat. Don't look at me like that. I just have one cat."
- Jillian: "And that's your dream... and life, just a cat to live happily ever after."
- Monna: "I'm not wasting my time chasing something that doesn't exist."
- Jillian: "Yes. But it does exist. I've seen it. It's rare, but I've seen it. And look at those two, grandma and grandpa have it, they're happy."
- Monna: "Okay, they exist. But, it's extremely rare. And my mother made her whole life of my father. Is that what you want to do?"

(How To Train Your Husband 2018, 0:18:48 - 0:19:28)



Figure 4.5 Jillian and Justin argue (0:08:57)

Justin was also portrayed as powerless as Jillian stated on the scene in Figure 4.5, "*You can't make me happy or unhappy. You don't have that power*" (Gonzalo and Chase 2018, 0:08:56 - 0:08:59). It can be referred from these two sentences that Jillian underestimated Justin. She thought that Justin was powerless, or on this occasion, it means that he did not have the power to make Jillian happy. Most of the characteristics of Justin James was depicted from Jillian's point of view. For example, how Justin was portrayed as flexible by comparing what he wore and what Jillian wanted him to wear. The comparison of this gives the idea of a wild and uncultured man for Justin.

By seeing the background of this scene, the color of the interior walls of the house was white, and in the whole film, it can be seen that the whole house was, in fact, painted in all-white. White color means purity, innocence, wholeness, and completion. White also features a representation of equality, fairness, and impartiality, as well as neutrality and independence (Birren 1978). This could mean that once the owners of the house, Jillian and Justin went inside the house, they had an equal level or class. In the scene in figure 4.5, there was a saying written on the

mug which was being held by Justin that said: "*EAT SLEEP CLIMB*". This kind of saying is a mantra that is usually used by people who have activities in the wild or somewhere that includes adventure. This mantra also said to be a life quote for those who work or used with being outside in the wild, referring to their free life. Having that mug while arguing with Jillian about what she wanted him to do means that Justin at that time did not have any means to change his lifestyle as Jillian wanted. This mug was also a representation of Justin as himself in front of Jillian.

From figure 4.1 to 4.5, it can be seen how the representation of individualization feminism that happened due to the backlashed of second-wave feminism and traditional gender roles. It was clear how Jillian contemplated her ideal marriage to how marriage should be. Jillian's masculine traits started to be backlashed with her 'feminine' side of her, making her confused about what she wanted to do and what she should do. The individualization feminism 'disconnected' the creative work society, and made it into an ethos that made ones to think hard to keep working and working. This view of feminism, then, gives an appearance of 'girly' feminism where women with the idea of feminism started to thinking of having a man beside her to depend on her. This means that feminists started to not only having equality as even as a man's but also having a feminine trait to depend on men to have what they wanted on them. This part of the movie still represented Jillian in the process of accepting gender differences by contemplating on what side she wanted or must be. This was done while trying to keep an ideal self as a dominant part of the family in the process of searching for a secret to a happy marriage.

Despite having a lot of masculine traits such as strong and dominant, Jillian also gave hints that she also had some feminine traits in her, even though she rarely showed it before. One of the feminine traits she had was nurturing. As a childless married woman, having nurturing traits did not necessarily mean that Jillian was pregnant with a baby or having an adopted a child, but instead, she shows it by adopting and training an abandoned beagle that she got from her best friend, Nicole, who was also a dog whisperer and trainer.

### 4.2 Acceptance of Gender Differences

The process of accepting the gender differences between the two characters, Jillian and Justin, happened from the start of the second-half part of the movie. The gender differences acceptance was done by Jillian. Jillian accepted gender differences between her and her husband, Justin James. The process of acceptance happened after Jillian and Justin argued about her for not being able to go on a trip together that resulted in Justin to go out by himself on the vacation.

Then, while searching the secret on a happy marriage, Jillian tried to visit her grandma whom she thought had the happiest marriage she had ever seen. She went to her to seek for help on finding the secret to a happy marriage. Jillian's grandma gave a piece of advice to just focus on how to understand Justin and live your life to the fullest with him. She also said that finding a secret to a happy marriage is an easy thing as well as a hard thing to do. It was too complicated to be listed as Jillian requested her grandma to list the secret to her happy marriage. Not only her grandma, but she also visited her best friend Nicole, and her husband Aaron, who also became one of the happiest married couples she closed to. Jillian seemed to fascinate with the relationship between Nicole and Aaron as a married couple. Nicole also gave her a secret to her marriage which was to understand her husband and treat him as to how she wanted to be treated by him.

But Jillian got a strange idea about how Aaron looks so obedient to Nicole as if he was a dog from her own perspective. That viewpoint refers to how she unlocked the secret of a happy marriage was by training her husband as if she was training a puppy. According to Jillian's findings on her research in training a puppy and its relation to men's habits, she concluded that men and puppies have similar traits as they both can be trained to be obedient. Thus, she started to train a fostered puppy named Henry from the puppy foster organization that Nicole was in. From this point, the process of accepting gender differences started to emerge.



Figure 4.6 Jillian tried to text Justin first (0:36:52)

The process of accepting gender differences which done by Jillian James was paralleled with the process of domesticating the puppy, Henry, in the movie. In the beginning, Jillian was confidently saying that she was not the one who should change and reject the idea that to reach a happy marriage. The couple should treat each as to how they wanted to be treated. At first, the puppy also did not want to do what Jillian wanted. But, both Jillian and Henry the puppy started to change as the training went on. On figure 6, Jillian was asked by Nicole about Justin's wellbeing and how he was doing on his trip to Europe, but Jillian answered the question by saying that she did not know his condition because Justin did not text or call her at all.

Nicole: "Have you heard from Justin?"
Jillian: "No, not at work. I thought he would text or something, to let me know he's alive"
Nicole: "Did you reach out?"
Jillian: "My assistant follows him on his Instagram"
Nicole: "You could call"
Jillian: "You think?"
Nicole: "Well, seeing that we're not in Highschool and married. Yeah"
Jillian: "Yes. But don't you think he would call if he wants to talk?"
Nicole:" Did you want to fix this? Take the first step."
(How To Train Your Husband 2018, 0:36:04 - 0:36:27)

From this conversation, it can be seen that this is the first step of the process of accepting gender differences. On figure 4.6, she was asked to try initiating a conversation with her husband to ask his well-being on his trip. This step was to understand each other as a married couple. On this scene, Jillian wore white pajamas with a hint of blue. White in the color of psychology is said to be the color of beginning while blue is the color of trust. This could mean that this scene is the beginning of a trusting relationship between Jillian and Justin. This was even the same as the process of training puppies by letting them understand the command of the owner. This training was also the same with how Jillian trained by her best friend to understand how to maintain a happy married life which was by understanding each other and treat her husband the way she wanted to be treated. The similarity was also can be seen on the scene after they did dog training or Jillian's homework given by Nicole. Both Henry the puppy and Jillian were given praise of their good job in doing their homework.

A certain indication was also shown by the camera work in figure 4.6. The frame was set in a medium shot. In a medium shot, the focus of this scene is the expression of the captured character in the frame, and what they were doing in the scene, as well as the dialogue they stated in the scene. This means that the focus laid on the expression that Jillian was making, and what kind of dialogue implied in the scene. As seen in the frame, Jillian made an attempt to text Justin to communicate and ask his condition on a trip to Europe by himself. There is the development of expression Jillian had while she tried to initiate a conversation with Justin using texts. The first expression seen in Jillian's face was the expression of fear. The expression that can be seen and felt from the scene was anxiety. It implies that Jillian was currently experiencing anxious feeling about uncertain anticipation from what answer would she get from Justin. Furthermore, it was the first time Jillian had to text Justin first by herself that was indicated by the fear expression that can be seen from her face. According to Plutchik's eight primary emotions, the anxiety expression is said to be the mixed expression that comes from anticipation and fear (Plutchik 2002).

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The second expression that came from Jillian at the scene in figure 4.6 was happiness. This expression came out right after receiving Justin's answer to her text and having a conversation with him through the texts. There was a relieving feeling she emitted from her smile. According to Parrott's Tree-Structured theory, relieve or contentment is a part of the joy emotions tree (Parrott 2001). Thus, the anticipation that had been shown by Jillian previously mixed with the joyful feeling that she showed after seeing Justin's answer had created an optimistic feeling for Jillian. This optimism becomes the first result of her beginning the process of accepting gender differences.



Figure 4.7 Jillian doubting Justin feeling (0:44:16)

After trying to initiate a conversation with Justin by texting him first, Jillian started to practice baking some cookies for her husband as a self-experiment before he came back from his trip. This time, Monna, Jillian's mom, came to visit Jillian to her home and saw her daughter bake cookies for the first time. Monna thought that this behavior of her daughter seemed strange to her as she knew that Jillian would not eat cookies for herself. This behavior that she never did before made Monna suspicious that there was a problem in Jillian and Justin's relationship. Even though Jillian had rejected Monna's worries, Jillian started to think that there was actually a problem in her relationship with Justin. Before the scene in figure 4.7 came out, there was a scene where she came to the kitchen to get a mug to drink and saw a mug which Justin had in figure 4.5. The mug itself seemed to embody the figure of Justin as the mug said: "*EAT SLEEP CLIMB*". The quote is commonly known as a mantra for people who work outside like Justin whose occupation was an adventurer expeditions specialist. He had the mantra to lift his spirit. On that scene, it seemed that she started to feel the longing for Justin who went on a trip for a quite long time. In this phase, Jillian seemed to have started to accept Justin's existence as someone she could not break off.

Then, in figure 4.7, the scene showed Jillian face when she finally accepted the fact that she and Justin might have a problem and it caused Justin to leave for the trip. On this scene, Jillian told everything to Monna about the truth of Justin's absence. Monna started to confront Jillian that Justin did not come back soon because he was waiting the right time to come back.

- Jillian: "I think he wasn't going home. He has known what I am thinking."
- Monna: "Of course he does. He's testing the water. He was to see if it was safe to come home."

Jillian: "Safe?"

- Monna: Well, you have him set it straight. He can't just take off whenever he is like when you know who stays home and bake cookies."
- Jillian: "No. It's not like that. He just, he just needed some times away."
- Monna: "Grown up. Why do you think he was left?"

Jillian: "Okay, Justin isn't just working."

Monna: "Of course he is not."

Jillian: "You think I should meet him?"
Monna: "No. Relax. You have the upper hand."
Jillian: "No, mom. We are fifty-fifty."
Monna: "Do you want to think that you have been sitting around and waiting for him to come home? Or do you want him to wonder what he misses out?"
Jillian: "Justin is not dad."
Monna: "But he is a man..."

(How To Train Your Husband 2018, 0:43:41 - 0:44:32)

According to this dialogue between Jillian and her mom, she was worried about what Justin thought of her and the possibility of him to leave her forever. In this dialogue, it can be seen that Monna was suspicious from the way Jillian suddenly baked cookies by her own. She thought that her daughter started to submit herself to her real feeling about Justin. However, in this scene, it seemed that Jillian had not been aware that she already started to submit herself to Justin and changed. It can also be seen that Monna specifically assumed that the problem Jillian had was the same with her when she was with Jillian's father who is also her ex-husband. From the way she said "*he is a man*" means that Monna assumed that because Justin is also a man then, he would be just the same with her ex-husband. Thus, she said to her daughter that Jillian was still had the upper hand to Justin as she was mentioned before that Jillian was an independent woman who was also dominant. However, Jillian responded to her mother with "*we are fifty-fifty*" means that she already accepted that she had not had the upper hand anymore upon Justin, and she had an equal position with Justin.

Furthermore, it can be seen that the scene was shot in a medium close shot to focus on Jillian's expression, without forgetting the background and the atmosphere in the scene. First, the background seemed to look darker than it was usually had, creating an atmosphere to be quite gloomier. This could mean that there was a sudden change in the process of accepting the gender differences for Jillian. The lighting setting in the scene in figure 4.6 was also had a dark atmosphere, but there was a difference between that scene and the scene in figure 4.7. In the scene in figure 4.6, the dark lighting seemed to be brighter than in figure 4.7 as well as it looked more calming than the scene above. The two scenes gave the different feeling on them. Thus, it can be said that there was a change of atmosphere in this scene.

Next, the focus goes to the clothes that Jillian wore in this scene. Even though the frame was limited, we can still see the cloth's pattern and color that Jillian wore especially on this scene. The clothes that Jillian wear is a sleeveless turtle neck shirt colored in navy blue with a lot of thin white vertical lines on it. By seeing it closely, it can be seen that the white colored lines seemed to be more visible than the navy-blue color. The blue color is seen as depth and stability as well as trust, faith, loyalty, and confident, but darker blue has represented the seriousness and integrity of the wearer (Birren 1978). The white color on shirt is usually associated with purity, wholeness, and completion, as well as representing the positive and negative aspect of every color (Birren 1978). This could mean that Jillian might have seriously trusted Justin in both positive and negative way, but the dark blue color seemed to get more covered in white lines, it may refer to Jillian's worry to completely trust Justin. On her expression, Jillian seemed to surprise about Monna accusation to her relationship with Justin. Monna stated that their relationship had a problem that caused Justin to leave her alone and would not come back soon. Jillian also gave an expression of surprised when Monna said that Justin might be just like her father who left them to be with another woman. As Jillian heard and tried to reject her mother's idea that Justin was just like other men, she also explicitly got angry with her mother. The expression that came out at first and the second expression that came out later explicitly gave out the current expression that happened in figure 4.7 as an outraged expression (Plutchik 2002). This expression that was given by Jillian could mean that she was surprised about how people perceived their relationship as a bad one. At the same time, she started to believe that Justin was not like other men and she tried to have faith in him while he was on his trip to Europe.



Figure 4.8 Jillian and Justin go home together (0:48:48)

After being confronted and getting doubts about Justin's leave on his own to the trip, Jillian seemed to doubt her feeling and faith to Justin. She came to Nicole to consult about what she was feeling, thinking, and doubting about Justin relating to her unanswered texts for Justin. Nicole answered her doubt by telling her that

43

or the battery ran out while he was fighting with his life on an expedition on his trip. This was Nicole's way to tell her to think positively and trust her feeling about Justin on his trip. Then, the next scene Jillian hang out with Nicole and her friends in Nicole's place, talking and gossiping about another friend's relationship life, while Aaron suddenly came and said that Justin came home and waited for Jillian in front of Nicole and Aaron's place. On that scene, the friends gave the place and time to talk for them alone and to catch up with each other. When she talked to Justin, one of her friends texted her by telling that Justin was reeks of guilty.

On this scene in figure 4.8, Jillian and Justin finally came back to their home. The first thing to be mentioned is the expressions between the two. Both Jillian and Justin had a smile on their face. This expression expressed the happiness in their faces that visually can be perceived. The first emotion that came to both Justin and Jillian was the expression of happiness, expressed through a smile. However, on the second smile, the things that could not be perceived visually are the differences from each other. On Jillian's face, there was an expression of fear as well as the joy that could be felt on her smile. The expression of joy and the expression of fear came out as the feeling of guilt (Plutchik 2002). These feeling came out as a lie when Justin asked the name of the puppy that she was fostered after Justin went on a trip. Because of this, Jillian answered the name of the puppy as George instead of Henry which was the real name of the puppy. This feeling of guilt was started to grow in her from the first time she saw Justin in Nicole's place after a long time he was gone for the trip. In this, the expression of fear might come from the previous scene in figure 4.7 when she was told by her mother that Justin may think of leaving Jillian alone as her father did to her mother. This fear caused her to lie as a defense mechanism.

The next thing to be seen is the costume worn by Justin and Jillian. This scene was shot in a full-close shot. This camera frame is used to see the action and the detail of the clothes used as a costume by the character. The costume worn by Jillian is a grey t-shirt with black jeans. Grey color represented naturality and fusion of happiness and sadness (Taylor 1962). Jeans, back in the day, was worn by the working class such as miners, and become the representation of freedom as well as the symbol of home. This could mean that Jillian at the time was still giving a certain stable formality on her to Justin. She might be on her way to experiment with her research to unlock a secret to a happy marriage with the puppy training method. While the attire that Justin wore was a dark grey shirt and blue jeans. Grey, according to Taylor (1962), is practical, cautious, successful, and solid. It is also said that the shade of grey was usually associated with age, depression, and lack of direction. However, the touch of blue jeans gave a casual touch to the attire that may refer to give stability to the loneliness that he felt, along with the feeling of anticipation after meeting Jillian again. This also emphasized his working class again.

As for the dialogue in this scene, there was a change in Jillian's way of speaking. As mentioned in chapter 2 of the gender acceptance, it is said that the first process of universal acceptance of gender differences in the change the use of gendered vocabulary to the use of ungendered vocabulary. In the scene where Justin just came inside their house, he was shocked when he saw a puppy that he might never think would ever come inside the house, knowing that Jillian hated it. It is due to a reason that the all-white house might get dirty because of the puppy. When Justin asked whose puppy was it, Jillian answered by saying, "*He is mine. Well now, he is ours.*" (How To Train Your Husband 2018, 0:48:44 - 048:46). This change of the gendered vocabulary to the un-gendered vocabulary "*us*" had indicated gender acceptance. This had happened on the scene in figure 4.7 when she used the word "*we*" than directly mentioned each other's name or a gendered noun.

After that scene, Jillian began her experiment in training Justin to change himself to be what she wanted him to be. She started her research project on training her husband by having a date with Justin. In this first activity of her and Justin, he started wearing a navy-blue suit just as how Jillian wanted him to wear on the beginning of the movie. But, instead of being purely happy, Jillian answered that he did not need to wear a suit anymore for her. This sentence also indicated the development of accepting Justin. Then, the scene showed when she walked Henry the puppy to the park together with Justin, continued by Jillian who baked cookies and feeds it to Justin. At this point, Jillian had not aware that she was the one who changed, and thought that her method of changing Justin has begun to take a turn. Jillian began to finally accept her own gender as a woman as she began to think that she wanted to be pregnant and have a baby of her own. This intention has emerged when she was in a bakery with Nicole and saw some children and baby there. At this point, the scene showed Justin who suddenly came to visit Jillian's office, and found a note that was written in Jillian's reminder about picking up Henry. At that time, Justin did not know that the puppy actual name was Henry instead of George. He, then, began to suspect her relation with the 'Henry' that he thought was Jillian's client. He began to think that Jillian may have some affair with this 'Henry'.



*Figure 4.9 Jillian found out Justin breaks out her office (1:01:28)* 

On the trial, Justin attempted to find the truth about Jillian relationship with 'Henry', as well as finding out what happened when he left Jillian alone on his trip. While searching for clues, he was helped by Aaron as a watcher. Then, Jillian's client whose name was accidentally Henry visited Jillian's office to retrieve his forgotten glasses. This sudden meeting with Justin while he was searching for the truth made more misunderstanding with Jillian and the human 'Henry'. On the scene in figure 4.9, the camera work was in a long shot that showed almost all the action, as well as the characters that engage in the action without doing another reframing. There was an action of conflict that happened in this scene, and this could be shown by how the character positioned themselves in this scene. The characters stood in a circle on the center, in both offensive and defensive gestures. There were five characters inside this scene framing. Considering the characters positioning on this scene, it seemed that there were four characters engaging in the confrontation. One character seemed to be a side character that became the reason for the conflict because he was shot with only the side of his face shown.

The characters who engaged in the conflicts directly were Jillian and Justin, while the other two characters are Nicole and Aaron as supporting characters that came to eventually to become both the mediator and the supporter of both conflicting characters. The long shot also showed the surrounding of the frame scene. By seeing it thoroughly, it can be seen that both Justin and Aaron wore the same blue-colored tops with different pants. Justin wore a blue-colored shirt that means he might try to shed a life of truth to the mystery of Jillian relationship with 'Henry', and the pure truth could be inferred by white color on Justin's pants. Meanwhile, Jillian wore a white colored shirt with a hint of grey that could mean as she felt regret and guilty for making him think that she was cheated.

At this conversation, it can be noticed that there was a change in Jillian. The change did not happen after she got trained, but from the very first time, she decided to research on how to have a happy marriage. She just did not want to accept it as an answer because she was a rational and logical person. However, her personality also changed when she started to consider the emotional aspect of her life because she had been seeing Justin just from the rational aspect.

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After talking to her mother, the marriage therapist began to find new happiness and meaning. They also started to not only think about themselves by not rejecting each other difference. They started to accept their gender differences as well. The last process was the submission of her feeling and the full acceptance of the gender differences that happened after the remorse phase.



*Figure 4.10 Jillian and Justin come home together (1:21:13)* 

After various events that happened that included Justin finding out the truth about Henry and the time he left the house for a while, Jillian met Nicole to have the last puppy training for Henry. At this meeting, Nicole told her that the fostering organization that she had established finally found a new owner who wanted to adopt Henry as their new puppy. Upon hearing the news, Jillian told Nicole that she did not want to give Henry away to another owner. She also refused Nicole's offer to give her another dog as well as the opportunity to help her train it again.

On this dialogue, it can be implied that there was a change in Jillian. When she met Henry for the first time, she wanted to give him away as fast as she could because she thought he was dirty. This idea has the same pattern as to how she changed her idea of Justin. At first, she thought that Justin could not make her happy. The idea she had at the time was to change or pick a new husband as how ones pick out of grocery list. Nevertheless, before the scene in figure 4.10, Nicole told her about Justin who went out with someone named Susan. On this scene, after hearing the news, Jillian ran to Justin as she thought that he might leave her forever. When she saw Justin with another woman, Jillian thought that she was too late and thinking about leaving. However, Henry barked to Justin until he was aware of Jillian's appearance. Justin then started to ask her every reason why he felt like he was trained like a dog, and he was made to be jealous of the dog. She told him everything about the fact that she was the one that was trained, that she was also actually scared that he would cheat on her. This reasoning was why Jillian started to reject their differences.

In the scene on figure 4.10 showed the representation of Jillian accepting gender differences and the change of their husband-wife relationship as an equal individual. As for the attire, Justin wore a similar suit as the first Jillian asked him to wear on the scene in figure 4.4. The action that can be seen on the scene in figure 4.10 was Justin trying to take off some of the suits attire and accessories while they were walking together to come back to their house after being told by Jillian that he did not need to change to be what she wanted anymore. The action of taking off the attire could mean that he was taking off every representation of an ideal husband or man that her wife once wanted him to be. On his side, Jillian had an expression of happiness and joy, as well as the feeling of relief that it actually meant that she

already accepted Justin fully, for his gender differences as well as accepting Justin's identity.



Figure 4.11 Jillian introduce her new book (1:21:54)

On the next scene above, a similar frame was captured at the scene at the beginning of the movie in figure 4.1. On the first similar scene, the movie was started by giving the viewers Jillian's point of view and what she thought about man and husband, as well as her personality. This showed a comparison of the certain scene in figure 4.11 had a similar frame and set to the prior one. The thing that differentiates the scene in figure 4.1 and the scene above was the dress that Jillian wore and the title of the book that was introduced on the show. The dress that Jillian wore was blue, which was indicating that at the time she already had stability in emotion, as well as she was already calm to think about the problem in marriage that she had and the ones she was ready to help. While the book itself was the representation of the change of ideology that happened in the movie. The first book was entitled "*How to Pick the Second Husband*" that focused on the list of what kind of new husband you wanted to have, while the second title to be

50

introduced on the scene above was "*How to Pick the Second Husband First*" that was focused to not exactly pick a 'new' husband, but to think of the current husband. The book gave hints to understand what kind of person the husband was and to accept him as to how he was.

So, to accept gender differences, the process itself is equal to the process of training a puppy. According to the experience that was shown in a journal documentary of Cesar 911, the dog training was designed to train the owner to fix them to compatible with the dog they have. This means that the one that is trained is actually the owner, not the dog. In this study, the position of the puppy was equal with the position of Justin James as he was the one that was going to be trained in the movie as it is titled "*How to Train Your Husband*", while Jillian James here took the position of the owner. Then, the one who must change from the first time was not Justin James, but Jillian James. Jillian trained herself to become a feminine woman without forgetting her identity as an independent woman who started to realize his husband's value as a man and as a husband in the process of accepting gender differences. This caused her to change herself, her idea and viewpoint. Thus, she became a feminist who corresponded to the idea of modern feminist or third-wave feminist.

### 4.3 Interpretation

In this movie, Jillian who was a marriage therapist tried to find the key to unlock a secret to a happy marriage. This idea of searching for happiness in a marriage happened after several times having troubled and problematic married couples who came to her office. They came for her help to regained happiness in their marriage, but only to find out that they were different and could not seem to understand the roles in every husband and wife. Jillian happened to have some of the traits of individual feminist that made her consider herself that she was an independent and successful career woman. This traits of her made her think that the secret of having a happy marriage existed in how to change a man to be submissive and obedient.

Personal differences in the sex and gender traits should account for a significant portion of relevant sex differences, in which are mediated with a mechanism such as sex-roles and beliefs (Brase, Adair and Monk 2014). An ultimate-level mechanism is highlighted as important in the intersex comparisons that have evolved and developed over an individual's lifespan and produced a within-sex variation. This caused by the emphasized reflection of an evolutionary perspective in general because men and women are thought to have different evolutionary selection pressures, inside an arena of intersexual relationships, it is a fairly short step to the study of sex differences in cognition and behavior (Symos 1979). One of the most popular emergence of the sex differences from evolutionary social psychology is the difference between women and men in their reactions to the sexual and emotional infidelity in which contrast to how women could upset by the prospect of the sexual fidelity in a relationship, men are more likely to upset over an emotional fidelity (Buss, et al. 1992).

This causes the representation of female individualization in Jillian's character that could not happen and was not successfully applied. Instead, due to the process of accepting gender differences in Jillian's character, there was an application of third-wave feminist in a change of the female individualization that made Jillian's character and traits change. Jillian had both masculine and feminine traits in her that help her to understand and accept the differences in gender between her and her husband, Justin.

# CHAPTER V

## CONCLUSION

From the discussion of the findings and results, it can be inferred that the theory of female individualization was portrayed by Jillian James' character, even though the movie "*How to Train Your Husband*" did not portray it throughout the movie. Both experience and environment can affect how a woman perceives the gender differences between men and women. The same thing also goes with the differences between gender and sex that women perceive in marriage life. In this case, women attained equality through the ideality of individualization feminism. It will never happen if ones are still attached to the patriarchal way of thinking that men should be the one to be depended in the family. But equality can be reached in between men and women as a husband and wife through the idea of modern feminism that tolerates the idea of traditional gender roles in the thought of building understanding between man and woman as a couple, and accepting their gender differences.

This work suggests finding a way to have a happy marriage by having a rational way in the pursuit by having a to-do list that leads man to follow women as a leader of a family and is trained to obedient toward his wife while keeping their masculinity to themselves. However, it is flipped through the idea of changing women's ideal marriage by unconsciously accepting their gender differences that result in the change of their idea about family. Aside from the suggestion made in this work, the movie also showed that it was not necessary to change their ideas thoroughly, but only parts of the ideal changing. The woman was still allowed to do their work as a marriage therapist as well as the men also worked an adventure expedition specialist, with still accepting their own gender roles in the family as husband and wife. There is a belief that married women need to quit their outside job and live inside the house to become a housewife, while a man is expected to give support to his wife. This movie did not show the exact essence of the concept feminism, but instead, it portrayed the idea of individualization concept. It can be inferred that the film is anti-feminism as it empowers woman to depend more on a man who does everything independently.

By using this study, the author expected society to be more conscious about the balance of gender roles between man and woman. Having a feminist thought and independence by working outside and leading in the family is not entirely bad for women, but it is also important to think about how a family needs to have a balance in the division of the gender roles that happened between man and woman as a husband and wife. Husband as the lead of family is a given role, but there is also part of the work as the leader of the family that a wife has a hand on them. A wife as the nurturer of the family is also needed to have a happy family as well as having an equal position in the family. Everyone is different, and no one could not be defined by the stereotypes of their gender roles. However, that does not mean that one's should forget about each other given gender roles in society. Lastly, as to how this study resulted in the portrayal of female individualization and traditional gender roles by Jillian James character, more issues regarding the object are suggested for further research. The use the issue of accepting gender differences is also suggested to be studied thoroughly using other approaches such as ethnography, or other theories such as capitalism in female individualization problems. Further studies may also be conducted as using the approaches and the theories that were used in this research to create development in the similar issues or objects with this study, such as the differences between man and woman in accepting gender differences.

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# APPENDIX

### **SYNOPSIS**

# "How to Train Your Husband" (2018)

Jillian James (Julie Gonzalo) is a successful marriage therapist and a bestseller author with a popular self-help book. However, her own marriage with Justin James (Jonathan Chase) is in trouble, and suddenly she may not know how to fix it. Thus, while he was away on a trip, Jillian's friend, Nicole (Karla Cheatam Mosley), encourages her to take in a foster puppy while attempting to fix her own marriage by focusing in changing her husband, which gives her a new perspective on life and love.

Director: Sandra L. Martin

Writer: Sandra L. Martin

62