

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Movie is a media that can educate and enable people to increase their understanding of a particular subject through visual media. And movie also a media that has significant influence in providing information and as a tool to convey messages to a person or audience. And also by using film, people can educate from moral values, education, society, culture, and others. If we want to try to understand a movie and open our minds, film can provide us with education, information, and inspiration. Most people can apply it to their lives through the message contained in the film, some people find it difficult to implement it. One of the messages that we catch in films is about moral values.

Mulan is one of the movies that have a lot of moral values. Disney has released Mulan films in 1998. Mulan has become a feminist movie that encourages the empowerment of female individuals with a positive feminist image. It aims to understand if there are gender boundaries and inequalities. Mulan changed her role as a woman and became a man to help her father, family and society. Mulan has also shown that she is not interested in doing her female roles in general, instead Mulan has shown that she is also capable of male roles.

This chapter also talks the different roles of men and women and the reversal of roles. In this movie Mulan played the role of a woman who has a strong soul like a man,

after being successful and able to prove Mulan has saved society from Shan Yu and other Huns, with her efforts Mulan is seen as a hero by society.

On the other side, Mulan also describes femininity as the binary opposite of masculinity. Because in general, men are seen as smart, strong, and powerful, while women are described as weak, insignificant, and vulnerable.

Mulan has also reinforced the idea that "being a woman" is always seen as unimportant and useless. Because even though Mulan managed to prove that she was capable of male roles, because in the end she was seen as a hero, Mulan was only successful because she had disguised herself as a man, it also emphasizes that success is a male-dominated trait. In this way, Mulan portrayed the message that still, if a woman's main goal is to find a husband, be a good wife, get married, and take care of the kids. This movie really discourages young women from trying to pursue instead makes them want to find love and a careers, and become wives instead of having to work and pursue high education and careers.

In this thesis, Mulan's role shows that the function of feminism is only in the construction of strong masculinity in society. At first glance, it can be seen that men and women already have an equal role and position. However, the victory of feminism still happens only because of the construction of masculinity. And in other words, masculinity also has an important role in Mulan's eventual success. Therefore, feminism is indeed not an easy thing to obtain and a strong patriarchal construction will not be easily broken.

However, on the one side, the movie empowers women. With great effort and she want, it can show that women can also have an important role in society. In fact, this film still limits the role of women and can only be adapted to existing patriarchal provisions.

This movie is one of a kind of feminism that exists today. The truth is that Mulan doesn't really show perfect feminism, Mulan has also made women think that they are can do things for society just like things men can do.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the explanation from the background, then the problem statements in this study are:

1. How did Mulan's struggle prove that a woman is also able to become a hero in *Disney's Mulan* movie?
2. What the factors that make Mulan unable to be a proud as a daughter in her family ?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the statements of the problem, the discussion in this thesis is more focused and clear on the subject matter, the objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To find out how did Mulan's struggle proves that a woman could also be a hero in the *Mulan* movie by *Disney*.
2. To find out what the factors that make Mulan unable to be a proud as a daughter in her family.

#### **1.4 Scope of the Study**

In this study, want to present the role of a woman who struggles to prove that women are also able to become a hero, and that women also have the right to carry out various roles performed by a man.

#### **1.5 Significances of the Study**

With this research, it is hopes that it can be useful for students of Faculty of Language and Culture to better understand feminist theories. Apart from that, the writer also wants to show that women also have the same rights as men, namely to have the same social status in society, and also be treated the same, and do the same thing as men do.

#### **1.6 Approach to the Study**

To analyze this movie will use theoretical of the feminism theory. Feminism approach of the study is an approach that emphasizes to feminism aspects in a literary work. Feminist theory of looking at social world, in a way that highlights power by creating and also promoting inequality, injustice, and oppression especially of women.

This movie has become used as a Feminist theory. This movie related about radical feminism element. Related with theory of Kate Millett, namely "Sexual Politics". Basically a belief that suggests especially for women to always have nature are masculine also feminine behavior, because when women need to do roles properly that are doing by men or do work that is doing by men, actually women can too. However, on the other side when women need to make up and dress up so they are look beautiful they also have to be able to do it. Mulan's character is related with Millett's thoughts because in this film Mulan also fights for family and society with her thoughts that according to her there are

no boundaries, according to her, women are also capable of doing the role of men. Besides from that, Mulan also want to change the mindset of society and especially men's, if women also able to doing men's jobs. This study uses the theory of feminism, because the main character of *Mulan* is related and also shows that the function of feminism is only in the construction of masculinity at that time, it is still very strong in society .

### **1.7 Organization of the Paper**

The writer organized this paper into five chapters to make it easy to understand. Chapter I is an introduction of background to the study, statements of the problems, objective of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study and approaches to the study. Chapter II consists of synopsis about "*Mulan*". Chapter III describes a several reviews of theoretical framework related the the studies and literature follows character, conflict and effect. Chapter IV is about analysis toward findings and dicussions. Chapter V consists the conclusion and recomendation.