

**The Interpellation of Misogyny by Female Characters
in novel *EILEEN* By *Otessa Moshfegh* (2015)**

THESIS

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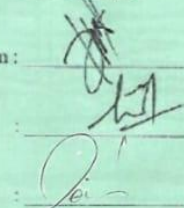
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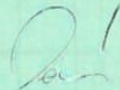
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Abstract

Alya, Larassati. 2020. The Interpellation of Misogyny by Female character in EILEEN (2015) by Otessa Moshfegh

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This thesis is an analysis of Otessa Moshfegh's novel entitled EILEEN (2015). This analysis is related to the concept of Interpellation by Luis Althusser and Misogyny by SheilaJeffrey and it is under the Feminist literary theory which can reveal issues in the novel. This can be seen in two methods: form of misogynistic women and the way misogyny can get interpellated. The issues raised are women who interpellated the ideology of misogyny and they also did it. Self-judgement, self-objectification, and negative attitude toward other women are the dominant forms of mysoginistic behaviour expressed by female characters in this novel. Family and workplace are the place or the background how this ideology can be interpellated. The analysis shows that misogyny is not only done by men but women also do it. It can be concluded that the ideology formed by these patriarchs is indirectly also supported by women.

Keywords : *misogyny, women, petriachy, iterpellation*

Abstrak

Alya, Larassati. 2020. The interpellation of Misogyny by Female character in EILEEN (2015) by Otessa Moshfegh

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Skripsi ini merupakan analisis novel Otessa Moshfegh yang berjudul *EILEEN* (2015). Isu yang diangkat adalah perempuan yang terinterpelasi ideologi dari patriaki dan melakukannya. Ini dapat dilihat melalui dua cara: bentuk dari perempuan misoginis dan cara misogini bisa terinterpelasi. Analisis ini dikaitkan dengan konsep interpelasi oleh Luis Althusser dan Misogini oleh Sheila Jeffrey dan berada dibawah terori Feminis yang dapat mengungkapkan isu pada novel. Penilaian diri, obyektifikasi diri, dan perilaku buruk terhadap perempuan lain adalah bentuk perilaku misoginis paling dominan yang diungkap karakter wanita pada novel ini. keluarga and tempat kerja adalah tempat bagaimana ideologi ini dapat tertanam. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa misogini tidak hanya dilakukan oleh kaum laki-laki tetapi perempuan juga melakukannya. Ini dapat disimpulkan bahwa ideologi yang dibentuk oleh patriaki ini secara tidak langsung juga didukung oleh kaum perempuan.

Kata kunci: *misogyny, women, patriarchy, interpellation.*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of study

Ideology is a way of thinking of human being that is used to guide them in acting in their daily life. According to Engels in Herman (2013), he said ideology as a false form of consciousness that legitimizes and dissimulates the fundamental divisions of society. The ideology is a way of thinking that will be the reason of taking a certain attitude like attitude towards certain sex and towards our body. In this case, the way of thinking which govern how women and their body are viewed is called misogyny.

Misogyny is a behavior or attitude that hates women or demeans a woman. According to Manne in Konstantinovsky (2018), misogyny is a systems or environments in our social life where women are susceptible to hatred and hostility because they are living in a man-centric world. Flood (2016), he added that although misogyny is often found from men, it is also exists and practiced by women against other women or even themselves. Srivastava (2017), she clarify that misogyny at its front had male supporters, but over years, few females also supported the ideology. Misogyny also infects women, including their attitudes toward themselves as well as toward others. This important to note that is not necessarily practiced by man.

According to Jeffrey (2005), he mentions misogyny is manifested through religious and cultural beliefs which represent women as dangerous, defiled, or polluting; hostile folklore and jokes; the sexualisation and objectification of women through art, film, literature, the mass media and pornography; hostility towards women in positions of power; sexual violence and domestic despotism; female genital surgery and foot-binding; and the visceral horror held towards women's secretions, including menstrual taboos and phobias. Sexual harassment in a public setting is another manifestation of misogyny. Jeffrey (2005), he said misogyny is internalised by women and girls through a process of self-objectification; self-judgement in relation to unrealistic societal norms of sexual attractiveness. The way ideology has been internalised by someone that means interpellation has occurred.

Althusser (1918-1990), he explains the way in which ideas get into our heads and have an effect on our lives, so much so that cultural ideas have such a hold on us that we believe they are our own. Interpellation is a process, a process in which we encounter our culture's values and internalize them. This is how misogyny spread and thrive even in woman's mind. In other words ideology and interpellation mutually reinforce each other. Althusser (1972), he explains that ideology has always-already interpellated individuals as subjects, which amount to make it clear that individuals are always-already interpellated by ideology as subjects, which can be interpreted as "individuals is more or less subject" (p.176).

Eileen 2015

This issue about misogyny is exposed in literary work entitle *Eileen (2015)* by Othesa Moshfegh. Through this novel, the protagonist shows the interpellation of misogyny that is reflected by her behaviour. She believes she is inferior, ugly, and depend on her father. The novel exposes the way women still influenced by patriachy that use negative body image and inferiority. *Eileen (2015)* is a novel by Ottesa Moshfegh. The novel exposes the way women is still influenced by patriachy that use negative body image and inferiority.

Young-Eileen lives in X-Ville with her abusive father and works at a male juvenile penitentiary named Moorehead. Her dream is to escape the life she lives and move to New York. Eileen spends a lot of her time fantasizing about one of her male colleagues, Randy, who is silent and mysterious. Spending most of her time mired in self-loathing or staking out by Randy's apartment, Eileen's world is shook when Rebecca Saint John is hired as the new director of education at Moorehead. She is different from the middle-aged curmudgeons that Eileen has been working for during her time at the facility. Rebecca is the definition of a beautiful woman, tall and lithe with red hair, and Eileen becomes enamored with her, doing everything in her power to be appealing to the newcomer. Their first exchange is a positive one and Eileen is ecstatic, fantasizing that Rebecca will be a turning point in her life, someone who will understand her and be her friend. Rebecca shows an interest in Eileen as well and they both have drinks a the town bar, O'Hara's, where Eileen is emboldened by the attention she receives as she accompanies Rebecca. Eileen gets black-out drunk and almost crashes her father's car outside their house,

waking up in a puddle of vomit and being abused further by her father. Rebecca tells Eileen that Leonard's mother was aware of the sexual abuse Leonard was enduring, but decided not to report it, as her and her husband's relationship was getting better. Rebecca tried getting a reaction from Mrs. Polk though the earlier visit, but it ends with Rebecca confronting and attacking her and tying her in the basement. Eileen agrees to help Rebecca coerce a confession from Mrs. Polk, using her father's gun. Mrs. Polk confesses, but Rebecca accidentally shoots Mrs. Polk in the arm. She and Rebecca agree on letting Eileen take control of the situation: she will kill Mrs. Polk and put the gun in her father's hands. Eileen leaves and drives Mrs. Polk out of the city, hitchhiking to New York, instead of following through with the plan she and Rebecca made.

Previous study

There have been several studies about this novel. Battersby (2016) she evaluates that the novel explores about Eileen psychology. Eileen was busy cataloging her ugliness. Eileen is an anti-heroine figure who has a passion for ugliness and self-deprivation. Eileen describe how her treated herself. She tells how eileen relationship with her father and her father always gives verbal violence to her. Eileen remarks on the many weak men she has been involved with throughout her life. She also tells Eileen's chaotic life shared an abandoned home with her grieving father. Eileen also led an unusual life and had an impact on her health. Eileen caught up in her fascination with her self-loathing.

Another review is from Kiesling (2015) she opine Moshfegh's novel *Eileen* too in love with her own awfulness. Lonely young women who lives in a squalid menage with her alcoholic father. Eileen has a hardness, a sort of mild sociopathy that allows her to hurt someone and use their prone body to pull herself into freedom and safety. In her review also talk about women at the mercy of a single parent who pushes them to live a life they do not necessarily want to live. Eileen never finishes college, and is kept by her father in a position of servility. Women are inward-looking and mercilessly observant, and sometimes a little clumsy in their expression.

Unlike the previous study, this analysis focus on the issue of the interpellation of misogyny by female character. The first narrator hate herself. This study used the character evoke the hidden meaning. Although there have been discussions with the same novel and different titles, this study looks at the misogyny ideology issue that has been interpellated by female characters.

1.2 Problem of the Study

The problem of interpellation of misogyny is found in novel *EILEEN* (2015) by Otessa Moshfegh. In order to reveal this issue, research question are needed. The research question are:

1. What are the forms of mysoginistic attitude expressed by female characters in novel *EILEEN* (2015) ?
2. How does misogyny get interpellated by the female characters in novel *EILEEN* (2015) ?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The aim of this study is to find out the forms of misogyny in the novel Eileen (2015) by Ottessa Moshfegh. Futhermore, it is conducted the role of character in the novel revealing the issue of interpellation of misogyny and ideology patriachy still exist in society. Second, to find out caused this ideology affect to female charachter in this novel.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

The issue of the interpellation of misogyny is revealed in novel Eileen (2015) written by Otessa Moshfegh. This analysis is analyzed by using the feminist literary theory because this study discusses about how society sees women and women see themselves. This analysis also deals with the concept of misogyny by Jeffrey and interpellation by Althusser. Interpellation of misogyny in this study refers to how women hate themselves and still influenced by ideology patriarchy and females also supported the ideology.

The most influential forms of misogyny that make a woman into a misogynist are self-judgment, self-objectification, and has a negative attitude towards other women. It happens because they do not have a role model as a woman who shows their value of being a woman. They only saw and heard people around them treat them so badly that it was implanted in their mind and made it a daily habit. Women who became misogynists because they said bad things about herself, considered herself worthless, and did the same thing to other women, so that she became a misogynist offender. Misogyny usually is done by men, but women also do the same.

It follows that, family and workplace are the place or the background how this ideology can be interpellated and women can be misogynistic. Family, the fundamental unit of a patriarchal society, perpetuates violence against women and becomes the most effective tool to perpetuate the subordination of women and that

is also carried by people at work. The practice of the ideology is based on feelings, or rather, if we feel something we generally act out those feelings whatever we may think.

Interpellation of misogyny is planting ideology can be done through the house and the people around. An ideology that is indirectly instilled is hatred of women. This ideology affects women who make them have a misogynistic attitude. This is certainly dangerous because it can defend the patriarchs and also develop the ideology and women will increasingly become number two and always have a lower position than men.

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