

THE WOMEN FREEDOM IN MAD MAX: FURY ROAD MOVIE AS FEMINISM STUDY

Dicky Berlian ¹ Endang Yuliani Rahayu ²

English Literature, Faculty of Law and Language

Stikubank University, Semarang.

E-mail: dickyberlian08@gmail.com

Abstract

This research is focused on feminism study. The researcher is interested in analyzing the feminist study in the Mad Max: Fury Road movie because the writer believes Furiosa is the remedy to the capitalist patriarchy problem that Immortan Joe represents. Showcase female characters that want to be free from patriarchal institutions. Simone de Beauvoir's idea is the foundation of this investigation. According to this viewpoint, women fight against being treated differently because they are considered to be of a different gender. The information for this study was gleaned from the film Mad Max: Fury Road, particularly from the movie's scenes, narrative, and female characters' personalities. In this review of the film Mad Max: Fury Road, the efforts of the female characters to obtain women freedom are examined. According to the research's findings, Mad Max: Fury Road (2015), which depicts this revolt, is about Immortan Joe's subjects seeking justice, a better life, and a better place to live. According to the reasearcher, Immortan Joe's treatment of the women in his immediate vicinity is a representation of the patriarchal society.

Keywords: women freedom, feminism study, Mad Max: Fury Road (2015)

INTRODUCTION

In a patriarchal society, women will be completely enslaved by males. Patriarchy refers to the male-dominated hierarchical structure of society. Along with the gendered division of labor and society, marriage and families serve to maintain the patriarchal system. Exclusively at home will males be required to use women as slave labor, and only for sex. This system limits women to being the second sex, where males are only permitted to be the first sex, thus forcing women to be dependent on and exist for the benefit of men. Men continue to mistreat women in the home and in society because of this hierarchical sexual order (Beauvoir, 1949).

On the other hand, women now have greater opportunities than they had in earlier capitalist eras. As a result of advancements in capitalism, women may now find employment. Despite the fact that it increases the labour market and gives women more opportunities, capitalism is an oppressive system. Due to their diminished influence, employers will exploit employees.

As capitalism evolves in the modern era, many feminist believe that the only way to stop injustice is to eradicate it from its foundation. Feminists think that capitalism is at the heart of the problem of women's oppression, and that it is linked to patriarchy, or male supremacy. However, while both capitalism and patriarchy place a premium on analysis, they both have the same problem to address: oppression and exploitation (Beauvoir, 1967).

The women freedom are fundamental human right that the United Nations acknowledged for all people worldwide almost 70 years ago. These liberties include the right to an education, the freedom from slavery and discrimination, the right to own property, the ability to vote, and the right to a just and equitable wage. According to the now-famous proverb, "Women's rights are human rights." Women have the same rights as men, to put it simply. Practically everywhere in the globe, women and girls continue to face discrimination based only on their gender (CEDAW, 1979).

There is something intriguing about this film. The researcher is interested in analyzing the feminist study in the Mad Max: Fury Road movie because the writer believes Furiosa is the remedy to the capitalist patriarchy problem that Immortan Joe represents. Not only for the five wives and the Milking Mothers, but also for the people of Citadel, Furiosa is bringing redemption. Based on the description above, the goals are set as follows: (1) To describe the female characters' personalities in Mad Max: Fury Road. (2) To clarify how the women in Mad Max: Fury Road are able to achieve freedom.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The major subjects of this study are the feminist viewpoint and Simone de Beauvoir's philosophy, which both characterize the feminism movement for women.

Feminism

Feminism is a global movement that is represented by a wide range of organizations working to advance the rights and interests of women. For the most of Western history, women were restricted to the home while males were permitted to take part in public life. In medieval Europe, women were denied the freedom to own property, pursue education, and engage in public life. At the end of the nineteenth century, they were still required to cover their heads in public in France, and in some parts of Germany, a husband could still sell his wife. Women were not allowed to conduct business without the presence of a male representative, whether it was their father, brother, spouse, legal agent, or even their kid. Without their husbands' approval, married women could not exercise control over their own children. Women also had limited or no access to education and were excluded from the majority of occupations. Women are still subjected to such limitations in several parts of the world (britannica.com).

Simone de Beauvoir's Feminism Theory

Feminism is focused with women's struggle against gender prejudice, wherein they are viewed as the second gender. One "becomes" a woman, not is born as one. The popular book "The Second Sex," which contains this thought-provoking quote by Simone de Beauvoir, contributed to the downfall of the notion that women are naturally feminine. Despite the fact that she spent the majority of her life insisting she was not a feminist because she felt the term was in opposition to her socialist principles, Beauvoir's theories had a significant effect on feminist thought (Beauvoir, 1949).

"The Second Sex," her magnum opus, explains the fundamental ideas of feminist existentialism. Beauvoir's fundamental premise is that women only exist in society as men's "Other."

Beauvoir contends that males will never be able to completely subjugate women since every person — regardless of sex — contains a tremendous freedom. Instead, she thinks that despite being objectified and devalued in society, everyone, especially women, has the right to make their own decisions.

Beauvoir is nevertheless acknowledged as a key figure in the feminist movement despite these accusations. She identified herself a feminist in 1972 and spent the most of the 1970s working with the French Women's Liberation Movement. Women were inspired by Beauvoir's action and thoughts both then and now.

METHODOLOGY

The researcher of this paper evaluates the movie using a feminist approach. Women's rights and gender equality are the main objectives of this approach. A woman must accept her identity as a woman with gender equality, equal rights, and the capacity to realize her potential, according to Simone de Beauvoir.

The researcher makes use of Simone de Beauvoir's feminist theory to evaluate this research. Before examining the data, the following procedures will be taken: First, the writer watches Mad Max: Fury Road Movie, reads the movie script, and has a thorough understanding of the issue. Second, the author finds the problem formulation, gathers the pertinent theory, and searches for journals and references. Following that, the researcher used feminist theory advocated by Simone de Beauvoir to assess the data. The researcher interprets the findings of the data analysis in the last phase.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Personality of Female Characters

a. Emperor Furiosa

A woman emperor who subsequently rises to the position of warlord for Immortan Joe. Furiosa is her given name. The entire movie's narrative makes it clear that Immortan Joe also oppresses or possibly exploits Emperor Furiosa. Furiosa is more manly in temperament and has more guts and strength than Joe's five wives. She is the only female to rise to the position of warlord for Immortan Joe since she is a skilled combatant. Listed below is a citation that supports this:

MAX : No ... You.

He selects a girl wearing goggles ... she's been cleaning the air filters ... seems CAPABLE. The Praetorian hands her the bolt-cutters. She approaches MAX.

CAPABLE : It's got a gun.

MAX : Cut it.

He chances a look back ... Mistake!

CAPABLE thwacks him in the side of the head with the Bolt-Cutters.

BOOF! ... FURIOSA comes from out of nowhere.

And crash tackles him to the ground!

Fool! Underestimated them!

Before he knows it she has the GUN on his chest...

(Page 59-61)

Furiosa, the solitary female warlord for Immortan Joe, is mentioned frequently in the film. Furiosa has short hair and is physically

imperfect in the illustration and phrase above since her left hand has been amputated. Furiosa's disability does not, however, limit what she may achieve, including acting as a warlord. She nevertheless possesses the fighting prowess usually only possessed by males.

b. The Milking Mothers

In Mad Max: Fury Road, all of Immortan Joe's wives and Furiosa's five spouses experience persecution and exploitation. Another illustration of this is Immortan Joe, who symbolizes how the capitalist patriarchy oppresses and exploits The Milking Mothers. The Milking Mothers are the women Immortan Joe keeps around to create milk. They are shown as overweight women with jutting breasts and belly. A pipe pumps up their breasts to produce milk. The following statement describes this situation:

*The WAR RIG is heading AWAY from Gas Town ...
Why?!
Suddenly HE is on his feet, running ...
He passes through the MILK SHED where Fattened
Women are turning cockroach
gruel into milk. A-Grade Human Filtered.
Their Breast Pumps are powered by skinny men chained to
exercise bikes.
(Page 16)*

It is clear that the milking moms in the aforementioned quotation are producing milk. They are just kept around by Immortan Joe so they can produce milk. Citadel at that time needed milk badly, and as water is a limited supply, the Milking Mothers are producing milk to satisfy that demand. Its rarity increases its worth as a possession.

c. The Five Wives

Immortan Joe, the antagonist character, is portrayed as a brutal commander in Mad Max: Fury Road. He is in charge of Citadel and has complete control over the water and oil supplies that are crucial to the plot at that point. Despite the fact that Immortan Joe is a ruler and has a wife of his own, there is still a patriarchal system in place. Currently, he is married to five women. Cheedo the Fragile, The Dag, Capable, Toast the Knowing, The Splendid Angharad are the five wives of Immortan Joe. Of the five wives, Cheedo the Fragile is the first. The word "fragile" is highly allusive. According to her moniker, she is an extremely frail woman. She wants to go back to Immortan Joe since she feels helpless after the killing of the Angharad, but Capable and The Dag stop her. The following conversation exemplifies her performance:

*Capable : Stop!
Cheedo : He'll pardon us. I am confident that he will.
Capable : There is no turning back!
Cheedo : We were his priceless possessions!
Capable : Cheedo!*

*Cheedo : We were guarded! He showed us the good life!
What's wrong with that, exactly?
The Dag : We are not objects.
Cheedo : Not at all!
(01:00:31 – 01:00:49)*

The Dag is the second of the five wives. The representation of The Dag in the movie, according to the researcher, is clearly identical. She has an unusual personality and an untidy appearance. Immortan Joe also wants to exploit him and other women while suppressing her views. This can be found in the following conversation :

*The Dag : Cheedo, stop being so dim.
Capable : Stop!
Cheedo : He'll pardon us. I am confident that he will.
Capable : There is no turning back!
Cheedo : We were his priceless possessions!
Capable : Cheedo!
Cheedo : We were guarded! He showed us the good life!
What's wrong with that, exactly?
The Dag : We are not objects.
(01:00:38 – 01:00:55)*

The third of the five wives is Capable. She also takes up Angharad's position as the brave one once Angharad is dead. She has the courage to take a seat in the back when it is required to keep the War Rig in balance after Angharad's death, after it has been somewhat damaged by hitting a rock. The conversation that follows is a description of her:

*Furiosa : We require stock. Each gun's ammunition should
be matched. I'm going to do some fixes now.
Max : someone is required down the rear.
Capable : I'll go.
Furiosa : No. Please continue to be together.
Capable : I can manage it.
(01:01:36 – 01:01:51)*

The fourth of the five wives is Toast the Knowing. The writer claims that the name "toast" refers to a dish connected with ladies. The researcher also thinks that the name "Knowing" relates to knowledge, intellect, or anything smart. It shows Toast as she is portrayed. This is seen in the conversation below:

*Max : No. We should go back the way we came, in my
opinion. across the canyon.
Toast : We all know it's open, right? He entered with all of
his battle parties.
Max : In order to go through them, we take the War Rig
and charge it. The tanker may be disconnected from us at*

the pass so we can turn it off behind us.

Seeds : Kaboom!

Furiosa : And if we're still alive at that point, how precisely do we capture the Citadel?

Toast : It will be simple if we can stop the pass. His War Pups and War Boys who are too ill to battle are the only ones remaining.

(01:27:31 - 01:28:01)

The fifth of the five wives, The Splendid Angharad, is a stunning lady. She is one of Immortan Joe's five wives and was carrying a kid at the time of the escape. The researcher argues that she is a lovely lady, inferring from her name that she may help others. She is intelligent and has a pretty face. According to the quotation that follows, his fifth wife:

FURIOSA lines up another shot on the Warlord.

SPLENDID offers herself as a shield once more.

THE IMMORTAN

Hold fire!

But his brother RICTUS has already lined up his

HARPOON on MAX

It misses ...

And THUDS into the dash.

(Page 118)

The Women Are Able To Achieve Freedom

a. Furiosa and The Five Wives flee by utilizing the War Rig

The five wives of Immortan Joe, including Furiosa, are attempting to escape by using the War Rig to get to Green Place. Furiosa made multiple efforts to escape Immortan Joe, but now that she is in charge of the War Rig, she stands the best chance of succeeding. It is also the point at which Immortan Joe's five wives may finally use their ability to escape. It may consequently be inferred that the five wives' power came from the one chance Furiosa had to drive War Rig and escape. The following quotation reveals this:

Here ... in this carcinogenic world of mutilations, lumps, and half-lives ... stand five flawless, luminescent YOUNG WOMEN.

These are, in every way, the FAIREST CREATURES in the Wasteland.

They are frantically washing the burning dust from their bodies.

(Page 58)

The characterisation analysis shows that the five wives display feminist characteristics once they have obtained power. Furiosa and the five wives are well aware of the savagery of Immortan Joe. He's cruel to

all the people that live in the Citadel, not just them.

b. Furiosa killing Immortan Joe

Imperator Furiosa also murders Immortan Joe as a further representation of the fall of the patriarchy. The following and quote contain these:

*Furiosa climbed into IMMORTAN's car then FURIOSA opened the door by throwing a grappling hook chain at IMMORTAN's oxygen mask.
FURIOSA said, "Do you remember me?"
then IMMORTAN roared. After that the grappling hook chain was sprained by the wheel of Immortan Joe's car and in the end IMMORTAN's oxygen mask came off,
IMMORTAN was confirmed dead.
(01:44:27 – 01:44:33)*

Furiosa is shown slaying Immortan Joe in the quotations above as her penance. After being destroyed in that incident, Immortan Joe—once a symbol of patriarchy—now stands for feminism. Immortan Joe's death will stop him from abusing and exploiting Citadel citizens, especially the women that surround him.

c. The Women Freedom are achieved

Max administers his blood to Furiosa in order to preserve her life now that he is no longer being pursued. The poor people cheer when they go to the Citadel and learn of Joe's demise. The handful remaining War Boys greet them all as they enthusiastically applaud Furiosa. Max smiles at Furiosa and then disappears into the mob to go on his journey alone.

*MAX, FURIOSA, AND THE FIVE WIVES took
Immortan's car and his corpse to Immortan's headquarters.
MAX shows Immortan's corpse to the Immortan troops and
Citadel's people.
Everyone was happy and shouted, "Immortan Joe is dead!"
They all shouted happily too, "Furiosa!"
The Immortan troops welcomes MAX, FURIOSA, AND
THE FIVE WIVES by raising their car through the
elevator.
The Milking Mothers share Aqua Cola water and are
liberated from Immortan tyranny.
(01:49:50-01:52:25)*

According to the quotation above, The Milking Mothers are also free from Immortan Joe's oppression, in addition to Furiosa and The Five Wives. The Milking Mothers are liberated from Immortan Joe and now share Aqua Cola's water because he no longer has sole ownership of the beverage firm. It is concluded that the communist society is effective in achieving equality among its members, between the women who surround Immortan Joe and the other citizens of Citadel.

CONCLUSION

The researcher assesses the qualities of the female characters that Immortan Joe, the male tyrant in the movie, is surrounded by. They are Imperator Furiosa, The Milking Mothers, and The Five Wives. Imperator Furiosa is first. Given that Furiosa has endurance that is virtually equal to a man's, it is obvious that she is a macho woman. Despite being a woman, she is courageous, independent, and manly, according to Furiosa's perspective of view. The Milking Mothers is second. Immortan Joe exploits the lactating moms in order to profit from their ability to produce milk. Since Immortan Joe uses them as milk production slaves, they are likewise given harsh treatment. The Five Wives is third. Each of Immortan Joe's brides has an adjective that accurately describes them. The first wife is Cheedo the Fragile. The word "fragile" perfectly describes Cheedo's powerlessness and her heartbreak over losing Angharad. The second wife is The Dag. Although she behaves in an odd manner throughout the film and has an odd name to match, Immortan Joe is the one person she genuinely wants to leave behind. The third wife is Capable. She is a brave woman who can take action when required. The fourth wife is Toast the Knowing. She must have good thoughts because she offers a plan of attack against Immortan Joe's group. The fifth wife is the Splendid Angharad. She employs a deft maneuver to stay clear of Immortan Joe throughout the entire movie.

According to the researcher, Immortan Joe's subjugation of the women around him serves as a metaphor for the patriarchal group in this movie, which has a message about women seeking their liberation from a patriarchal organization. But it is abundantly obvious from the examination of Joe Immortan's Five Wives that they were all attempting to flee from him. They want a revolt against him and the discovery of an alternative way of life. Imperator Furiosa, who eventually rose to become the warlord Immortan Joe, supported one of the five wives' uprisings. *Mad Max: Fury Road* features abuse and exploitation of characters other than Furiosa and Joe Immortan's Five Wives. Immortan Joe, who stands in for the patriarchal group's exploitation and abuse of The Milking Mothers The Milking Mothers were the ladies Immortan Joe nurtured to produce milk. Immortan Joe's death at the hands of Furiosa, however, meant that the patriarchy ultimately failed. The film's conclusion successfully illustrates feminist concepts. The uprising of Furiosa and the Five Wives also paved the way for gender equality. No more mistreatment or exploitation of The Milking Mothers, as well. Finally, feminist ideals are coming to pass.

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