

# PATRIARCHAL OPPRESSION TOWARDS THE BEAUTY PAGEANT CONTESTANTS OF MISS WORLD 1970 IN PHILIPPA LOWTHORPE'S THE MISBEHAVIOUR (2020) MOVIE

# **A THESIS**

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

for S-1 Degree Majoring Literature in the English Department, Faculty of

Humanities Diponegoro University

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#### **PRONOUNCEMENT**

The writer confirms that the thesis entitled "Patriarchal Oppressions Towards the Beauty Pageant Contestants of Miss World 1970 In the *Misbehaviour* (2020) Movie by Philippa Lowthorpe" was written by herself without taking any result from other researches in S-1, S-2, S-3, and Diploma degrees in any university. The writer also certifies that the writer does not quote from someone's publication except what the writer has listed as references.

Semarang, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022

Shafira Willyane Maynar Hariyanto

# MOTTO AND DEDICATION

"Follow your passion, be prepared to work hard and sacrifice, and, above all, don't let anyone limit your dreams"

- Donovan Bailey

I dedicate this thesis to all the kindest and loving people around me who give support which brings me into this wonderful world. Thank you.

#### **APPROVAL**

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In completing this thesis, the writer received a lot of support from many people. On this occasion, the writer would like to say her greatest gratitude to:

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# 11. My coach in life, Veronica.

The writer realizes that this thesis is far from being perfect due to my limited knowledge and experience. The writer hopes that this thesis will be a benefit to readers, especially researchers who are studying literature.

Semarang, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022

Shafira Willyane Maynar Hariyanto

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this research is to analyze patriarchal oppressions towards the beauty pageant contestants of Miss World 1970 in *Misbehaviour* movie which is directed by Philippa Lowthorpe. The writer analyzes the patriarchal oppression of Miss World 1970 included in each action of the beauty pageant contestants. To support the analysis, the patriarchy theory by Walby and the concept of oppression by Iris Marion Theory are applied. The patriarchal oppressions consist of non-physical violence, powerlessness, marginalization, and exploitation. To collect data, the writer used library research method while qualitative research method was used for the general analysis. To analyze the literary data, the writer used contextual research methods. The writer also analyzes the narrative elements in the movie. The result of this study shows that the beauty pageant contestants experience the patriarchal oppression. The cause of the patriarchal oppressions toward the beauty pageant contestants is noticeably from the patriarchy itself so that start to plunge them into the abyss of worshiping beauty and they always seek recognition of their femininity from men.

Keywords: Misbehaviour, Movie, Patriarchy, Oppression.

#### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Background of the Study

The women are usually portrayed for their psychotic appearance. The way women are treated often influences the desire of men. Their body shape, skin color and even their thoughts will be determined. Women are easily created by men because they expect women to be weak people.

Inequality between men and women in society was more visible in the seventies. Patriarchal culture is an order of life in which men play an important role in society. Patriarchy and subjugation of women Sultana said that "feelings of helplessness, discrimination, and experiences of limited self-esteem and self-confidence contribute to the oppression of women. Thus, the oppression of women is a situation where there are power relations and men dominate women" (2010: 7). The patriarchal society has created such a prejudice against women. This makes women look more helpless and powerless. Powerlessness often results in the oppression towards women. According to Young, powerlessness in the sense that it lacks this orientation toward the continuing development of one's capacities (Young, 1998: 284). Women are often being victims of bullying, discrimination, and violation which are forms of oppression themselves. Violation may take the form of name-calling or minor harassment aimed at insulting or humiliating, and is always associated with the threat of physical attack (Young, 1990: 287).

Consequently, the oppression created by a male-dominated society affects the identity and activity of women in society.

The depiction of oppression in the patriarchal culture is also depicted in literary work in 1970. Literary work as a reflection of human life has described the patriarchal oppression in novels, poems, and plays. Film as a new kind of play is never left behind to show it. The patriarchal oppression toward women is usually taken as the theme in several films. The film of all the nations have been under the patriarchal influence and following patriarchal culture (Jogezai, 99: 2020). The film never has equal perspective when it presents the genders. One of the films that shows the patriarchal oppression toward women is *Misbehaviour*. *Misbehaviour* is a 2020 British comedy-drama film directed by Philippa Lowthorpe. This film is from a true story by Frayn which tells about the 1970 Miss World competition in which took place in London (IMBD, 2022). This movie is arguing that beauty competitions objectify women. During the competition, the beauty pageant contestants parade around in swimsuits on stage for the male gaze. The concept of women parading around on a stage and waving at cameras, while leering judges consider their measurements and score them on their appearance, feels backward and wrong. The movie is incredibly critical of this old-fashioned culture; sexist comments and the objectification of women. The controversy followed after the result is announced. Jennifer Hosten, Miss Grenada wins the competition. She is becoming the first Black woman to win Miss World. Pearl Jansen is the Black contestant from South Africa placed second. The women's liberation movement achieve overnight fame by invading the stage and disrupting the live broadcast of

the competition. There are various issues that develop in this film which according to the writer are interesting to study more deeply. In 1970 the patriarchal culture was very strong and dominating the story which oppress the beauty pageant contestants.

The writer chooses this movie to be analyzed because there are several acts and scenes likely indicating the patriarchal oppression toward women especially for the beauty pageant. The patriarchal oppressions are presented trough the script, action, and scene in the movie which takes the setting of the 1970s.

#### 1.2 Research Problems

- 1. What is the cause of patriarchal oppressions against the beauty pageant contestants in *Misbehaviour* 2020?
- 2. What are forms of patriarchal oppressions suffered by the beauty pageant contestants in the *Misbehaviour* 2020?
- 3. How do patriarchal oppressions affect the beauty pageant contestants' life in *Misbehaviour* 2020?

#### 1.3 Objectives of the Study

- To identify the cause of patriarchal oppressions in *Misbehaviour* toward the beauty pageant
- 2. To identify the forms of patriarchal oppressions in *Misbehaviour* toward the beauty pageant.
- To describe the patriarchal oppression effects the beauty pageant's life
   *Misbehaviour* 2020.

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1.4 Previous Study

In order to support this study, writer has done several previous studies.

After doing that, it turns out that no one has analyzed the Misbehavior movie.

However, there are only articles, reviews, and blogs.

1.5 Scope of the Study

Regarding the topic of literature, the writer focuses on analyzing the

patriarchal oppressions toward the beauty pageant Miss World 1970 in Philippa

Lowthorpe's movie *Misbehaviour* 2020 based on Walby's theory of patriarchy and

the concept of oppression by Iris Marion.

1.6 Writing Organization

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of six subchapters; Background of the Study, Research

Problems, Objectives of the Study, Previous Studies, Scope of the Study, and

Writing Organization.

CHAPTER II: THEORY AND METHOD

This chapter consists of the theories and method used for analyzing the

novel. There are two subchapters providing Theoretical Framework and Research

Method.

CHAPTER III: ANALYSIS

This chapter explains the analysis of the movie using the theories. It reveals

how intrinsic and extrinsic elements of literary works can be applied for the study.

**CHAPTER IV: CONCLUSION** 

This chapter provides a brief conclusion of the analysis and closing the

thesis.

REFERENCES

#### **CHAPTER II**

#### THEORY AND METHOD

2.1 Theoretical Framework

**2.1.1 Intrinsic Aspects** 

**2.1.1.1 Narrative Elements** 

# 2.1.1.1.1 Characterizations

According to Abrams, a character is a person depicted in a narrative work (1999:32). A character creates a personality that presents viewers with their appearance, dialogue, actions, etc. Characters are divided into several categories based on their importance, role, and development. The process of creating and developing a character in a work of art is called characterization. Characteristics

describe the physical and mental behavior of characters (Patmarinata, 2000:28). Characterization is a literary device used step by step in literature to emphasize the details of characters in a story. Characterization is the representation of a character or characters on stage or in writing, especially by imitating or describing actions, gestures, or speech.

#### **2.1.1.1.2 Setting**

The setting is a description of the actual location, the character's habits, the time period, and the general environment, including the social and cultural background in story or literary work. According to Abrams & Harpham, setting divided into three types: place, time, and social environment (2009: 153).

# 2.1.1.1.2.2 Setting of time

The setting of a story is not only a physical place, but also a time of day, a year, or an age (Burnett, 2008: 152). Time parameters are a specific period or era in which the story takes place (Abrams & Harpham, 2009: 233). This can be as general as a century, decade, or year, or more time-specific, such as the weather or a specific date and time.

#### 2.1.1.1. 2.3 Setting of Environment

The setting of the environment can be the social, political, cultural, economic, or "emotional surroundings" of where the story takes place (Abrams & Harpham, 2009). The setting of environment can be taken from existing characters, such as the religious, moral, and emotional conditions of the people (Holman, 1985: 413).

#### 2.1.1.1.3 Conflict

According to Perrine, conflict occurs when there are "contrasting actions, thought, or wishes" (1984:42). Conflict does not always fight physically but also emotionally through words or body movement. Michael Meyer divides conflict into internal and external.

#### 2.1.1.1.3.1 Internal conflict

Internal conflict refers to the psychological and moral issues of the main character (Meyer, 1990: 46). Internal conflict comes from the opposing desires, emotions, ideas, or other factors within a person's mind. This conflict affects emotionally and mentally. Internal conflict happens when the characters face the difficulties or confusion about something.

#### 2.1.1.1.3.2 External conflict

According to Meyer, external conflict states on the opposite condition between the main character and everything that surround the character, whether a person, society and its rules, or environmental issues (1990:46). This conflict may cause a change of the characters' personality. It is because the characters learn something from the struggle which they have been through in the end of the story.

#### 2.1.2 Extrinsic Elements

#### 2.1.2.1 The Concept of Patriarchy

Patriarchy is a social system associated with gender. Male dominance is defined as a system of male dominance and female subordination in the economy, society and culture that has characterized much of human history today (Lim, 1997: 220). Patriarchy consists of six constructs: "modes of production, patriarchy of paid

work, patriarchy of the state, male violence, patriarchy of sexuality, and patriarchy of cultural institutions such as religion., media and education. (Walby, 1989: 214). The concept of patriarchy is based on a social view in which women have been conditioned for so long in the environment of masculine dominance and the female submissiveness (Montagu, 1953: 44).

Women have experienced violence from men, such as domestic violence and sexual violence. Men seem to have the influence to shape cultural and moral standards. Men are always given masculine labels based on biological power, while women based on their roles are called feminine ones. This ideology is so strong that men can usually get the tacit consent of the women they oppress. People typically impose patriarchal ideologies through institutions such as the academy, church, and family, all of which legitimize and reinforce the subordination of women to men (Milt, 1977: 35). This pattern of gender injustice is repeated over and over in the social structure.

#### 2.1.2.2 The Concept of Oppression

Patriarchal culture often triggers oppression through various patriarchal system. Masculinity plays a role as the central norm in society which gives privilege to men to access their power more than females (Sulaeman & Homzah, 2010: 14). In psychology, according to Prilleltensky, oppression has been described as "the strength and process of psychological and political components of victimization, institutions, and resistance in which power can produce dominance, subordination, and resistance" (Prilleltensky, 2003: 195).

The term "oppression of women" refers to women's inferior status or lack of access to resources and decision-making, as well as the patriarchal power that women face in most societies (Sultana, 2010: 7). This means that oppression places women in a lower position than men. These rules and practices govern women in social relationships, families, religion, laws, schools, textbooks, media, factories and offices. In her book Patriarchy and the Subordination of Women, Sultana states: "Experiences of powerlessness, discrimination, and limited self-esteem and selfconfidence contribute to the oppression of women. Thus, the oppression of women is a condition in which there are power relations and men dominate women" (2010: 7). ). In The Five Faces of Oppression, Iris Marion Young explained the theory behind the various types of oppression most prevalent in society. Young's concept of oppression refers to injustice against individuals or groups for various reasons such as class, race, and gender. The five faces of oppression are "violence, powerlessness, marginalization and exploitation, and cultural imperialism." All forms of oppression against individuals or groups often result in long-term suffering (Young, 1990: 39). In this study, the author uses violence, powerlessness, marginalization and exploitation to analyze the film.

# 2.1.2.2.1 Types of Oppression

#### **2.1.2.2.1.1** Violence

Violation may take the form of name-calling or light harassment, which is offensive or insulting in nature and always signals a hidden threat of physical attack (Young, 1990: 287). Violence against women is "any verbal or physical force, coercion or death resulting in physical or psychological harm, humiliation or

arbitrary imprisonment, or perpetuating the subordination of a woman" (Donohoe, 2004: 20). The threat of physical force may result in physical or non-physical consequences. Physical harm caused by male violence may include slaps, swatting, kicking, attacking, etc. which causes physical harm (Yusuf, 2016: 38).

#### **2.1.2.2.1.2 Powerlessness**

Powerlessness is a feeling of a lack of everything. According to Young, powerlessness in the sense that it lacks this orientation toward the continuing development of one's capacities (Young, 1998: 284). Powerlessness can lead to "psycho logical distress" and dissatisfaction such as lost productivity, and even sabotage (Horwitz, 1982: 607).

# 2.1.2.2.1.3 Marginalization

Marginalization is in some ways worse than exploitation because society has decided that someone cannot join in the labor (Young, 1998: 280). Most commonly, people are marginalized based on race.

#### **2.1.2. 2.1.4 Exploitation**

Exploitation shows the relations between power and inequality which is produced through a systematic process which maintain the power, status and wealth of the person (Young, 1998: 279). Exploitation is a psychological, rather than a social or an economic, concept. Exploitation must serve to create or take advantage of the people who are exploited (Hill, 1994: 631).

#### 2.2 Research Method

#### 2.2.1 Data and Data Source

The object of this research is a movie entitled *Misbehaviour* directed by Philippa Lowthorpe. The author used two sources - primary and secondary data. The primary data source is the source of data related to the topic of this study, which is directly collected by the researcher. Meanwhile, a secondary data source is a data source that the researcher takes indirectly from the subject. These can be related books, magazines, etc.

First published in 2020, Philippa Lothrop's *Misbehaviour* is the primary source for the film. In addition, other journals and articles related to supporting the theory are secondary sources for this study.

#### 2.2.2 Method of Collecting Data

The writer uses library research to collect the data to support the analysis of this research. According to George, "library method involves identifying and locating sources that provide factual information or personal and expert opinion on a research question" (2008: 6). Besides using the movie *Misbehaviour* directed by Philippa Lowthorpe as the main source to analyze this research, the writer also uses some books, journal articles, and other sources to espouse the analysis.

#### 2.2.3 Method of Analyzing Data

The writer uses contextual method. In term contextual comes from the word "context" which according to Beard means the conditions which contribute to a text's making by the writer and to its reception by the reader. Rather than focusing on the content of the text, context is more concerned with the factors that form the

text (Beard, 2001: 6). The contextual method, on the other hand, will be supported by Marion Young theories of patriarchal oppression. The analysis covers patriarchal oppressions towards beauty pageants in the *Misbehaviour* movie. The steps to analyze the data are starting from specifying, analyzing and discussing the patriarchal oppression types which are found in the movie. Then, in the final section, the writer will summarize the result of the research and make the conclusion about patriarchal oppressions in the *Misbehaviour* movie.

#### **CHAPTER III**

#### ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

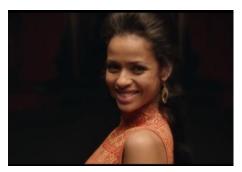
- 3.1 Intrinsic Aspects
- **3.1.1 Narrative Elements**
- 3.1.1.1 Characterization

# **3.1.1.1 Miss Grenada**

Miss Grenada, also known as Jennifer Hosten, is one of the contestants in the beauty contest. She comes from the background that dedicates themselves through education and aspiration. Miss Grenada is depicted to be someone who is hard-working and ambitious as she is always seen to be practicing her "walk and smile" in the stage alone for her to be judged later by the judges. These pictures below show how determined she is to win the competition.



Picture 3.1
Miss Grenada practicing her walk
(Misbehaviour: 01:00:12)



Picture 3.2
Miss Grenada practicing her smile
(Misbehaviour: 01:00:20)

As someone who is one of the two dark-skinned pageants in the beauty contest, Miss Grenada shows a tiny bit of jealousy to Miss Sweden. Miss Grenada feels that being everyone's favorite means that Miss Sweden could take the crown to herself. Her subtle jealousy of Miss Sweden could be seen during their conversation as cited below.

You are a very lucky person if you think this is being treated badly. After all, you're the favorite to win. (00:44:36)

At the end of the contest, Miss Grenada turns out to be the winner of Miss World 1970. Her hard work at practicing and her worries are paid off. She is shocked and cannot believe that she wins the competition. In the encounter between Sally, one of the protesters, and Miss Grenada, it is shown that Miss Grenada still exhibits some of sincerity and dignity even if the protesters tried to sabotage the show. She explains that a lot of dark-skinned girls who watch the show will have a sliver chance of hope when they see that a dark-skinned girl won a beauty competition and a Miss World competition.

#### 3.1.1.1.2 Miss Africa South

Also known as Pearl Jansen, Miss Africa South is selected as the representation of South Africa. Since the country was still filled with segregation due to apartheid, there are two contestants sent out to represent South Africa. The other contestant that represents South Africa is a white skinned woman and Pearl was chosen to avoid journalists' demands on the Miss World host's opinions on apartheid happening in South Africa.

Miss Africa South is depicted to be someone who enjoys fun that is given to her whilst she is away from home and a carefree person. When the other girls are having fun, she follows what the others' do, even accepting the offer to dance salsa. She said to Miss Grenada, the only other contestant with a dark skin tone, that she is unable to talk about certain topics regarding politics back in her home.

I can't talk about that. The authorities warned me. They said if I talk about home, they won't let me back. I won't get to see my parents again. (00:54:58)

She is also shown to be meek and nervous during her first time arriving in London. She uttered that it is her first time away from home and first time doing anything else in another country. She was approached by Miss Grenada during the first introduction of the contestants and they ended up chatting, as shown in dialogue below.

First time away from home. First time on a plane. First time being so cold. I'm the first black South African to take part in Miss World. (00:29:41)

Miss Africa South has a sense of pessimism that dark-skinned girls like her and Miss Grenada could not win. She said to Miss Grenada that girls like them will not be Miss World; she is depicted to be realistic and pessimistic, in contrast to Miss Grenada who is hopeful and cheery. However, in the end, she gets the second place of the competition and is puzzled to be one of the winners in Miss World.

#### **3.1.1.1.3 Miss Totnes**

Miss Totnes is one of the many contestants in the beauty competition in the England. She comes from Totnes, a town in Devon, and she is depicted to be having great body features as described by one of the male judges. Although her name is not disclosed, she is one of the finalists in Miss United Kingdom 1970.



Picture 3.3
Miss Totnes being judged
(Misbehaviour: 00:12:23)

Despite how she is praised by the other male judges, Miss Totnes is not arrogant and still humble. She earns the second place in Miss United Kingdom, being beaten by Miss Nantwich in the first place. Miss Totnes doesn't let this bother her as she keeps smiling and maintains her charm. This shows that Miss Totnes is someone who is strong-hearted.



Picture 3.4
Miss Totnes placed second
(Misbehaviour: 00:13:02)

#### 3.1.1.1.4 Miss United States

Miss United States, also known as Sandra Wolsfeld, is depicted in the film to be overly innocent and friendly. She is described in the show to be a bimbo, a blonde girl with an air of thickness. When she first comes, she passes by Miss Grenada and asks her where she comes from with a sense of ignorance, then Miss United States proceeds to continue with utterances that show how innocent she is about the outside world. Her response to Miss Grenada could be seen to be one that depict racism as her facial features turn into displeasure and her tone changes into something out of pity or even, disgust. Her displeasure is depicted as follows: Oh my! What a reception! Which country are you from? Oh, my. (00:29:17)

Miss United States shows a personality of someone who is guileless and naïve. She is never seen to be practicing her walk or smile and is convinced that she would win as she comes from United States. Sandra is prideful of her own country and seemingly is to be proud with her own country that her costume for her walk is decorated with stars as it represented the American flag.



Picture 3.5
Miss United States
(Misbehaviour: 01:13:19)

#### **3.1.1.1.5** Miss Sweden

Miss Sweden, who is also known as Marjorie Johansson, is one of the most prominent characters in the movie. Marjorie is hot-headed and will not pull up with the tomfoolery that is the beauty competition she is in. She believes that the beauty competition she competes in is a waste of time and energy. When the others were being shown how to walk and smile properly in front of the camera and audience on the stage, she went smoking on the waiting room due to the fact that she couldn't stand being "ordered around" by men.

You're so serene. I mean, how do you keep up with this bullshit? I don't want to be the favorite if this is what gets me. What do you do when you're not being ordered around by an Englishman with a strange hair? (00:44:21)

Ever since she comes in England for the beauty competition, she has shown traits that exhibit independence and self-reliance. When the other beauty pageants come in for the reception, each one of them is assigned with a chaperone to help them out during their times in a foreign country and accompany them wherever they go. However, Marjorie seems to be against this rule. When the chaperone tries to take her hand to the queue for measurements, Miss Sweden bats the chaperone's hand away and walks on her own with a frown on her face. Marjorie

said: a chaperone? Why do I need to have a chaperone? I can walk, thank you. (00:30:23)

During the measuring of the beauty pageants, the woman who does the measuring pats Marjorie's breasts in attempt to statutorily check for paddings. Marjorie is often seen to be offended by Miss World's staffs' behaviors, especially to the man who tells her around to do this and that and the woman who disrespects her by touching her breasts without her consent.

#### 3.1.1.1.6 Bob Hope

Bob Hope is well-known as an artist and presenter who is very popular and loved by many people. He is a very humble and successful artist. It is proven by being chosen to host the annual big event by the Miss World boss, Eric Morley.

Bob Hope has a wife. His treatment to his wife is very disrespectful. Mrs. Hope is not given the opportunity to express her opinion as a wife. Once she has an argument, Bob Hope never listens to her. Mrs. Hope is always forced to obey her husband's wishes. Even more she is not given the opportunity to have a career outside. Bob Hope wants his wife just to be a good housewife by giving her the luxury of the clothes and makeup to her. Mrs. Hope often feels lonely and depressed. It shows on the pictures below.



Picture 3.6
Bob Hope tells his wife he gets a new beautiful secretary
(Misbehaviour: 00:13:26)



Picture 3.7
Mrs. Hope is revealing her husband's misbehavior to Bob Hope's assistant

(*Misbehaviour*: 00:47:53)

In choosing a personal secretary, Bob Hope always employs beautiful and sexy young woman, and in the end, he dates his secretary. Bob Hope has an affair many times until his wife is fed up with his behavior.

As an antagonist, his thoughts are against Sally Alexander. It can be seen in his words hosting the Miss World 1970 below:

I don't care about women who say a bullshit thing out there, they say that this event is nothing more than a cattle market. They talk about milk, oh moo, but I never listen to them. I like the pretty girls here, and at my current age, I need them. I know these words are harsh and offend women. (01:10:50)

Those words extremely provoke the anger of the women who have infiltrated the audience. Sally Alexander gives her reaction to Bop Hope: "Shame on you, Bob Hope" (01:18:58). It is followed by the other protesters.

The situation is getting worse. Finally, the bombs of flour are thrown to Bob Hope. In the end, there is also a conflict between Bob Hope and Sally. Sally is running from the audience seat pointing a gun at Bop Hope. Sally points a fake weapon at Bob Hope.

#### **3.1.1.2 Setting**

# **3.1.1.2.1 Setting of time**

The setting of time occurs in 1970. In this year, the second wave of feminism reached its peak, with many women's protesters in Britain. They demand equal pay, equal education and employment opportunities, 24-hour child care, free contraceptives, and abortions as needed. These demands show that second-wave

feminism focuses on the issue of women as an oppressed group and women's bodies as the main site of such oppression. It can be seen in the following pictures.



Picture 3.8
Protesters want equality for women
(Misbehaviour: 01:07:45)

# **3.1.1.2.3** Setting of environment

*Misbehavior* is surrounded by an environment fixated on gender roles, where only men can be more heard in playing a role in the public sphere. First, it can be seen when Sally is having an interview to continue her dissertation with the most judges are men. The role of men is very significant. The judges have the perspective which explain writing a dissertation requires a high commitment, this shows that they doubt Sally's abilities. They doubt Sally because she is a woman and has children. The judges ask questions that attack Sally's background as a woman who leaves her child with her ex-husband while she is studying at the college as quoted below.

What was your husband thinking when you decided to continue your studies? You have a child, Mrs. Alexander. Study in here is a big commitment (00:05:07).

Beside patriarchal role, racial discrimination is also a big issue regarding the colored of the beauty contestants. She is Pearl Jansen Miss South Africa. She is the first black woman from her country who participates in the Miss World 1970.

In this case, Pearl Jansen is met by one of the anti-apartheid members represented as a journalist on the introduction night of the beauty pageants for the first time. Pearl Jansen receives an unpleasant statement from the journalist. This statement proves that there is discrimination because of Pearl Jansen is a black woman. Her presence is not well received by the anti-apartheid as quoted below.

Anti-apartheid said that South Africa is should be banned in this competition. You will never have on the same bus again and back to home (00:35:40).

#### **3.1.1.3 Conflict**

#### 3.1.1.3.1 Internal Conflict

#### 3.1.1.3.1.1. Miss Grenada

Internal conflict happens when the characters face difficulties or confusion about something within their mind. In this movie, Miss Grenada faces difficulties against herself when she won Miss World 1970. It is seen in the movie after the whole fiasco that she hides in the restroom to gather herself. She could not believe that she is the first dark-skinned woman to win Miss World and needs time to wrap her mind around it: "I thought if I could get a moment alone, it might just sink in" (01:27:50).

Then, Sally Alexander, who is one of the protesters, enters the room and both of the women are perplexed to be in a face-off at one each other. Sally congratulates Miss Grenada for her win and Miss Grenada's face hardens while she said: "I don't think you mean that" (01:28:06). Miss Grenada and Sally have a brief conversation regarding why the protesters were creating revolting and it is depicted in Miss Grenada's facial features that she is reconsidering with what Sally says

about how making women compete with each other's look would make the world narrower for them all.

#### **3.1.1.3.1.2.** Miss Africa South

Miss Africa South, Pearl Jansen experiences personal conflict within herself. She is the first black woman from South Africa to take part in this beauty event. The first words she delivers when arrives at Miss World HQ for the first time is that Pearl Jansen feels different because she is surrounded by white-skinned and blonde-haired women. This shows the existence of low self-esteem and self-confidence in her: "I feel different, Miss Grenada" (00:30:08). This happens when she talks to Miss Grenada.

In addition, Pearl Jansen also does not have the enthusiasm to win this beauty event because a big sense of insecurity in her has taken over Pearl Jansen's courage. She is not obsessed because she believes that black woman is unlikely to be able to compete with beautiful white women which come from developed countries. It is conveyed in the quotation below. I am not going to be Miss World, never (00:38:08).

#### 3.1.1.3.1.3. Miss Totnes

When she was being judged for her body features, Miss Totnes was all smiles and sunshine. However, after the competition is finished, it is revealed how she feels sick for how the men treats her. She doesn't like showing off her body and wears swimsuit for entertainment purposes as all eyes are on her.

The internal conflict in here happens when she forces herself to smile and keeps her charm as she would win the title Miss United Kingdom. She is conflicted with herself as she feels disgusted to be objectified and judged for her outer appearances yet still wants to win the competition.

#### **3.1.1.3.1.4. Miss United States**

Near the end of the movie, the seven finalists are called to go to the stage and none of the name includes Miss United States. She is seen in the movie to be waiting in the lounge with a robe on and a crushed expression on her face. She proceeds to say: "Oh, shit" (01:24:58) in a devastated tone whilst she sits down in front of the mirror when her name is not announced to get in the final.

Miss United States, or Sandra, was confident and convinced that she will win the Miss World due to the fact that she comes from a well-known and developed country. She also exudes an assertive aura during her walk. However, after the final has been announced, she is conflicted with herself as she does not know what to do when her plan of winning doesn't go smoothly. She has been thinking that she will win, even going by belittling and underestimating other contestants, such as Miss Grenada. Yet, she is left confused in the end on how will the future ends for her. After all, she stated that she started from rock bottom.

#### 3.1.1.3.1.5. Miss Sweden

Miss Sweden's internal conflict is centered around whether she wants to continue participating in the beauty competition or not. She wants to pursue her dream: further education by winning the money. Miss Sweden has a dream that by winning the money that were given to the winner, she could continue her education: "I work as a model, but I'd like to study. I thought with the prize money, I could maybe come to England and..." (00:45:26). Nonetheless, she still has to participate in the competition to win the money.

Miss United States says to her that the girl who won the competition will get \$6,000 or maybe more. Miss United States even says that girls are divided into categories: those who are good looking who get all the attention like them and the smart girls who has "to work out how to wiggle around them." (00:31:49). To that, Miss Sweden responds: "If being smart is all it takes, then how come no black girl has ever won this competition? maybe sometimes wiggling isn't enough." (00:31:59). What she means in this conversation is that maybe being smart isn't enough, that one must suffer through to get what she wants. Marjorie's conflict is apparent by her attitude towards the beauty competition in general. She refuses to conform into the rules and yet, she continues following what is necessary for her to win the competition.

#### 3.1.1.3.2 External Conflict

#### 3.1.1.3.2.1 Miss Grenada and Miss Sweden

As the girls mingle and get to know each other during the competition, there seems to be a thin animosity between Miss Grenada and Miss Sweden. When they first met, it was during the time where the girls are getting pampered and getting their hair done. Miss Sweden is talking to Miss United States about how smart girls need to wiggle around to get by, and how come no black girls never won the competition. Miss Grenada overheard the conversation and her face turns sour

instantly as Miss Sweden elaborates to Miss Grenada: "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to imply that you couldn't win." (00:32:11). Miss Grenada then proceeded to ignore Miss Sweden's comment instead of being snippy. However, it can be seen from her expression that an animosity between them starts to bubbling.

When the girls were lining up for Mr. Morley to teach them how to walk and smile in front of the camera on the stage, Miss Sweden chooses to run away due to the fact that she could not stand being ordered around. She goes to the lounge to smoke and Miss Grenada comes in the lounge as well. They have a conversation where Miss Sweden is venting: "I mean, how do you put up with this bullshit?" (00:44:19). She thinks the attention she gets is overwhelming and she is angry of it: "Like I said, it's all bullshit. I mean, doesn't it make you angry?" (00:45:46). To which Miss Grenada replies with a snide tone: "You are a very lucky person if you think this is being treated badly. After all, you're the favorite to win." (00:44:22). The rivalry between them is very subtle and elusive; yet, it is apparently clear that there is some competitiveness between them. Miss Sweden aims for the prize money so she can continue her education while Miss Grenada, who seems to be jealous with Miss Sweden's popularity amongst the audience, aims for the win so she could be the first dark-skinned woman to win a beauty competition.

#### 3.2 Extrinsic Aspects

#### 3.2.1 The Cause of Patriarchal Oppression

#### **3.2.1.1. Patriarchy**

Long term exposure to patriarchy could affect one's point of view or even actions. The notion of the superiority of men has long since been ingrained in

societal system that people are considering patriarchy as a standardized norm. The cause of patriarchal oppression comes from patriarchy and the idea of degrading women in terms of various aspects in life. Women are dictated to do certain things by society that it leaves them feel vulnerable and unable to do anything that men are deemed capable to do.

# 3.2.1.1.2 Powerlessness of Miss Sweden Against Patriarchy

During the competition, Miss Sweden seems to be everyone's favorite and everyone is rooting for her to win due to her beauty. When she comes on the stage for the first time, everyone is clapping loudly for her. However, it is disclosed in the movie subtly that she feels powerless when faced against patriarchy, especially the ability of men to continue their education. Miss Sweden is an individual who wants to pursue further education despite being a model. She is powerless because the circumstances don't let her study for more.

I work as a model, but I'd like to study. I thought with the prize money, I could maybe come to England and... but it's all just people pushing you around and flash bulbs in your face the whole time. (00:45:26)

As stated above, Miss Sweden says that she would like to study more and use the prize money to fund her education; yet, when she comes to England, she is faced with "flash bulbs" and attention all the time. What she said exhibits traits of vulnerability and helplessness in terms of inability to study due to the fact that people only see her only for her appearance, and not for her brain. With all of this powerlessness, she is angry with the unfairness of men who could continue their education while women are being objectified and seen only for their beauty and body: I mean, doesn't this make you angry? (00:45:50)

## 3.2.2. The Forms of Patriarchal Oppression

#### **3.2.2.1** Violence

Violence against women could be defined in any verbal or physical force that can rob women's freedom and wound them. Women also have the same freedom, power, and opportunities as men. Women are not to be classified, categorized into groups, or seen as an object. In this movie, the violence done by men toward women is through their offensive and hurtful remarks to the contestants.

### 3.2.2.1.1 Non-Physical Violence from Men to the Beauty Pageants Contestants

In the *Misbehaviour* film, the male role is very dominant in every scene. It is described how man seems to have the influence to shape how a contestant's body and appearance must be. First, it can be shown when Mr. Eric Morley objectifies women. He considers a beautiful woman is identified by having a good leg, no stretch, and not being married. The statement made by Mr. Morley is very hurtful to women. It is very clear that a woman's beauty basically cannot be seen only from their physical appearance and the way she lives out her life and whether she is married or not. In a haunting nightmare where society perceives the beauty standard as it is described by Mr. Morley, women will no longer have freedom as an individual who has authority or opinion as everything would be dictated by men.

The beautiful woman absolutely is having a good leg, no stretch, curved legs, something like that, they also have to be not married, I mean untouched, and they're mostly 36-24-36 (the boob, buttocks, and body) don't say the curve, they must be at the right place (00:11:20).

Mr. Morley continues his opinion about the beauty pageant contestants as he talks about Miss Totnes while she is walking in front of the juries wearing the swimsuits. Personal areas such as buttocks and breasts are discussed in front of many people who are men and Mr. Morley classifies them into the size chart that he believes in as he has said earlier. The sentence below fulfills the element of harassment towards Miss Totnes.

Well, Miss Totnes has beautiful eyes, and even though her breasts aren't that big, her buttocks are amazing (00:12:00).

In addition, there is a non-violence utterance said by a journalist's who interviews Julia and Pearl Jansen from South Africa. The journalist's disrespectful words "show some legs" (00:33:02) means to reveal some skin, is usually an inducement to get someone to do something, or to make somebody more attractive. Showing some legs also has another meaning, it is to expose legs to view. Thus, it is to tempt sexually or to flirt or to seek attention. In other words, it could mean that Miss South Africa Julia is bound to "tempt a desired reaction from the others" due to the fact that she is a beauty pageant contestant: "Oh shit! Show me your legs, Julia!" (00:33:02).

Harassment also occurs during the judging of the Miss World 1970 final contest. Contestants wear swimsuits to be judged and walk in front of the judges. The use of this swimsuit is an assessment of the body shapes of the contestants to evaluate who have a good body and fulfill the criteria of the jury which consists of men. The most offensive part is that the eyes of the judges keep moving down to look at the back, especially centered on the buttocks of the participants.

The beauty pageant contestants are seen as objects or they are being objectified by those men who perceive women from their physical features. It is important statement mentioned by the women liberation movement, Sally, that this contest is nothing more than a cattle market forum.

# 3.2.2.2 Exploitation

## 3.2.2.2.1 Men's Exploitation to the Beauty Pageant Contestants

The long-awaited Miss World 1970 event finally begins. This event is airing worldwide. All eyes watch on how the contestants walk on the magnificent stage one by one with the costumes and makeup they wear until it comes to Miss USA Sandra is entering the stage. The moderator explores Miss USA's body, he mentions Sandra's boob size, buttocks, and body circumference to all audience who come to the grand event that night. This script continues to be used until all participants who enter the quarter-finals have finished walking in front of the judges and audience. This indicates exploitation to all contestants by exploring their bodies or appearance, as follows: "Sandra has brown eyes and light hair and as a model, her passion is 36-22-36" (01:14:00).

After the beauty pageant contestants do a catwalk, then the contestants are lining up neatly facing the judges and audience. The host takes over the duties. The words "two sides" in the quotation below means the front and back of the contestants. The host equates that those two parts are the ones to be judged. Later, he invites the audience to see both of the "two sides" and asks the contestants to turn around to show off their backs. This indicates exploitation to all contestants by

exploring their bodies, as follows: "Well, as you know that there are two sides to every question and this is your chance to see them both" (01:15:00).

The jury also observes one by one focusing on the contestant's backside, as it can be seen in pictures below.



Picture 3.8
The jury is judging the pageants' back
(Misbehaviour: 01:17:17)

The peak of the event starts at the announcement of the winner of Miss World 1970 by presenting Bob Hope as the guest host. When he enters the stage, Bob Hope spurts out an offensive joke to the audience, he says that the beauty of the women in this contest is what he needed at his age. His words contain exploitation, in which the beauty of the contestants is exploited for his personal pleasure and bargain. It is quoted below: "I like the pretty girls here, and at my current age, I need them. I know these words are harsh and offend women" (01:10:50).

#### 3.2.2.3 Powerlessness

# 3.2.1.2.1 Powerlessness of Black Beauty Pageant Contestant, Miss Africa South

Miss Africa South is reportedly treated by someone which says she cannot return to her country because of participating in this event. This puts pressure on Miss Africa South and causes anxiety as well as fear for her well-being. The threat

she gets making her feel helpless and very guarded with her words when she is in this new environment.

The authorities warned me, they said if I talk about "home" they won't let me go back, I won't see my parents again. They showed me all these photos, of people I shouldn't have had any contact with (00:52:23).

She is a cheerful girl but she is self-conscious about how different she and Miss Grenada are from all the blondes around them. Miss Africa South has some doubts of herself due to the color of skin. The quotation below is representing the powerlessness of Miss Africa South is: "I am not going to be Miss World, never" (00:56:08).

# 3.2.2.4 Marginalization

## 3.2.2.4.1 Discrimination Against Black Beauty Pageant Contestants

Marginalization is a prohibition where someone is unable to join a social activity and results in economic deprivation. The most common way of marginalization is how people are discriminated based on their race. This happens when Mr. Morley is greeted by an anti-apartheid member named Peter Hain when he arrived at his office. Apartheid politics in South Africa is a form of marginalization based on race. Apartheid politics occurs where the black racial group in Africa South experiences marginalization in all aspects of life, whether political, economic, social, or law. Black people do not have the rights to take part in this beauty contest as viewed in Peter Hein's sarcastic comments. As it is seen from the dialogue that he utters, he also threatens to boycott the event if there are black people participating in the show. This is in line with the notion of marginalization there is a convention that the South African race are not allowed to

take part in the Miss World beauty pageants. The minute 00:25:00 shows Peter Hein's sarcastic comments regarding black people from South Africa who have never been included in the Miss World contestant.

They told me 27 million people watched your show in the UK alone. You should boycott South Africa, or I will boycott your show? (00:25:00)

## 3.2.2. The Effects of Patriarchal Oppression

### 3.2.2.1. The Fear and Anxiety of Beauty Contestants

In one of the scenes where Miss Grenada and Miss Africa South are having a conversation between themselves as dark-skinned contestants, Miss Africa South mentioned how she will never be the winner: "I am not going to be Miss World, never." (00:38:08). The anxiety is a result in Miss Africa South doubting that she can win this beauty pageant or she would never be a winner in this contest. This is equivalent to the notion of powerlessness, namely the inability of a person to fight against things that are not in accordance with her wishes. Powerlessness can lead to psychological pressure and dissatisfaction such as losing productivity, and even sabotages.

Fear caused by certain people are also mentioned and described in the movie. Miss South Africa said that she is not allowed to talk about specific topics or she won't be going back home. She was warned before she comes to London that there are people she should not talk to or make acquaintances. In the dialogue and picture below, it is explained how Miss South Africa is being oppressed by the higher-ups of the condition of her country. She looks frightened and afraid to be somewhere where the majority of the people is light-skinned. The fear caused by

the patriarchal oppression comes from the marginalization and discrimination against some beauty contestants, especially those who are dark-skinned. The authorities that Miss Africa South mentioned mostly consist of men, and they are not afraid to use force or violence if necessary.

I can't talk about that. The authorities warned me. They said if I talk about home, they won't let me back. I won't get to see my parents again. (00:54:58)

The women here are chosen based on the beauty of their bodies. Beauty is a feminine trait that has actually been deeply rooted in a wider and culturally programmed social system. Every day women are convinced by beauty myths that increasingly plunge women into the abyss of worshiping beauty. Although beauty has always been associated with women, in fact, men have played a role. The discourse of beauty and femininity cannot be separated from the construction of a patriarchal culture that gives power to men, on the one hand. On the other hand, it gives recognition to women's femininity, and for women always seek recognition of their femininity from men. In the end, the body that is displayed by women is actually based on men's desire. This is the reason why the beauty contestants experience fear and anxiety of patriarchal oppression.

#### **CHAPTER IV**

#### CONCLUSION

*Misbehavior* is a movie by Philippa Lowthorpe about Miss World 1970 event. The beauty pageant contestants in this movie undergo internal and external conflicts against several characters in the story. Gender roles and racial discrimination are fixated in the environment where the beauty pageant contestants and several characters are included in this movie.

Judging from the way the beauty contestants experience patriarchal oppression in the competition, there must be some kind of roots into the oppression. The roots of patriarchal oppression to the beauty contestants stem from the normalized masculinity and patriarchy that has been conformed into society for a long time that it molds people's thoughts, behaviors and acts. The cause for this patriarchal oppression is noticeably the patriarchy itself and that it has been embedded since the dawn of time due to the fact that men are deemed to be superior, both physically and mentally than women by society. This mindset creates sexism and objectification of women as it is seen very apparent in the movie. In addition, the standardized patriarchy that ingrained for such a long time adds more into the bigotry and discrimination to women at that time where women's rights are still being fought for.

The beauty pageant contestants face four forms of patriarchal oppression in this movie. The first patriarchal oppression form is non-physical violence from men to the beauty pageant contestants which are seen as objects or they are being objectified by the men who perceive women by their physical features. The second form is the powerlessness of the black beauty pageant contestant, Miss South Africa, who is unable to fight for her wishes because she is black around the blondes. The third patriarchal oppression is marginalization. It happens to black people; they do not have the right to take part in this beauty contest. This is in line with the notion of marginalization in which there is a convention that the South African people are not allowed to take part in the Miss World beauty pageants. The last form is exploitation from men to the beauty pageant contestants, in which the beauty of the contestants is exploited for men's personal pleasure and bargain.

Experiencing many forms of patriarchal oppression, there are several consequences that occur to the beauty pageants contestants. Some effects of oppression on the beauty pageants contestants are increasingly plunging them into the abyss of worshiping beauty and they always seek recognition of their femininity from men. In the other hand, the beauty pageant contestants also get the psychological impact such as anxiety as well as fear for their well-being.

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