CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Method of Data Collection

This study used qualitative research method. Lincoln states (2000) that “a qualitative approach emphasizes the qualities of entities, processes and meanings that are not experimentally examined or measured in terms of quantity...”

To make a good research, writer did several steps. First, writer watched the movie which was the main source. Second, writer made list of the experiences and the challenges from the movie that she uses. Third, writer analyzed the list using feminist theory, specifically second wave feminism’s theory. Last but not least, writer made the conclusion from data collected by writer.

3.1.1. Data Source

In the thesis, writer used “Mulan”, a movie about legendary woman who fights for her rights in China. The movie of Mulan is based on real story. Li (1994) states:

Most famous as defenders of homeland or home city were Mu Lan Hua and Guan Niang Xun. Hua is the earliest legendary woman warrior in Chinese culture and was recently verified by various scholars as a real woman living during the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.- A.D. 220). She is recorded in a name book compiled at the end of Jin Dynasty around the year A.D. 419 (Huang 1991). Hua’s deed inspired the largest number of literary and artistic works about Chinese heroines. (1994, p. 2)
The movie is directed by Tony Bancroft, Barry Cook, and Niki Caro, written by Chris Williams, Floyd Norman, and Robert D. San Souci, starred by Ming Na Wen, Eddie Murphy, Donny Osmond, Lea Salonga, George Takei, and B. D. Wong, et al.

Director
Tony Bancroft
Barry Cook

Producer
Pam Coats

Screenplay
Rita Hsiao
Chris Sanders
Euginia Bostwick-Singer
Raymond Singer
Philip L.

Script writer
Robert D. San Souci

Source
Hua Mulan

Starring
Eddie Murphy
Ming Na Wen
Donny Osmond
Lea Salonga
B. D. Wong
George Takei
et al.

Music Composer
Jerry Goldsmith
Matthew Wilder

Editor
Michael Kelly

Production company
Walt Disney Pictures
Walt Disney Feature Animation, Florida
Writer used analytical research in this study. Kothari (1990) states that “in analytical research, on the other hand, the writer has to use facts or information already available, and analyze these to make a critical evaluation of the material,” Analytical research is appropriate for this research, because the writer could find out whether Mulan, the object of the research is only a movie character or real life human being living in the past which can save time for the research. For explaining those things, writer used books, journals, articles, etc to find enough sources to explain the feminist theory in Mulan.

3.2. Research Procedures

In this sub-chapter, the writer is going to explain what the writer did to make an analysis of “Mulan”, famous Disney movie in 1998. First, the writer watched the movie. While the movie was going on the writer took some notes of things that can be analyzed and turned into research question later on. The things the writer took note, such as discriminationin Mulan, Mulan efforts to get women rights, the difference between Mulan and other Disney princesses, and the description of Mulan appearance.

Thereafter, the writer wrote a brief outline of the things the writer wanted to discuss in the thesis in the form of numbering. Then, after the writer made a list of
things to discuss, the writer started to type of background consists of topic, title, method of analysis, research question, theory, motive of analysis, etc. While typing the background, the writer looked for need sources at once. The aim was so that all sources are used and the writer only read the important ones, not entire chapter or book. After finished to write a background, the writer went to major lecturer for consultation whether the ideas can be continued as a thesis or not. Then, after lecturer agreed with the ideas, the writer completed the rest of chapter one, such as significance of the study and definition of terms.

Then, the writer took an old book of Gender Studies to underline the history of feminism and other important term, such as gender stereotype, gender trouble, and stereotype. Thereafter, the writer looked up on the internet, because of not finding enough information about history of feminism. After getting enough sources, the writer started to type chapter two by retelling, quoting, and then adding the writer’s opinion about that.

And, then, the writer started to do chapter three. In chapter three, the writer discussed about method of analysis, research procedure, etc. In method of analysis, the writer discussed that the writer used qualitative research method, the definition of qualitative research method, by expert, the way the writer get sources, and the reason the writer chose to use qualitative research method. After that, in research procedure, the writer wrote the process of the thesis making until reader has the idea what the process was like.

Then, the writer took a note of Mulan efforts and discrimination in Mulan. Thereafter, the writer looked for sources that can support writer’s opinion. First, the writer stated the efforts Mulan made. Second, quotations that proved Mulan did them and whether it is legal or illegal. Third, the writer explained the reasons they could be
considered as efforts and how they are similar to Millett’s theory. Then, the writer stated the discrimination in Mulan. Quotations that proved Mulan the discrimination existed. After that, the writer stated writer’s opinion about it.

After that, in chapter four, the writer just wrote the summary of the finding of analysis so that the thesis reader got the idea what the writer found from doing the analysis.

3.3. Method of Data Analysis

In the method of analysis, the writer is going to discuss about the object, the reason the writer wanted to analyze it, source of the data, the focus of analysis, method of analysis, feminist theory used, and what the discussion in chapter five will be or the analysis.

The object of the analysis is the movie “Mulan” from Disney which used to be well-known and released back on 1998. The movie is about a daughter who substituted her father for army and saved China. In the movie, there are elements of discrimination towards women and of course, feminism. The writer were interested to analyze it, because the writer thought that the discrimination in the movie has crossed the line. And, then, there are also Mulan and Kate Millett’s similarity in purpose and the way Mulan fights for rights. The writer wanted to explain the similarity, comparison between China back in Han Dynasty (Mulan’s era) and now, and stated the writer’s opinion about discrimination.

One of the scene that made the writer interested in analyzing it is where Mulan cries on her way home and at the pound because of failing to make her parents proud by failing to get a mate, because she was so clumsy at the matchmaker place and at the end, the worst one, she splashed water to the matchmaker in purpose so that the matchmaker body which useds to be dirty of tint from Mulan’s notes on wrist for cheating smuged or clear if possible. By watching this scene the writer felt bad for Mulan, because the writer
clearly saw Mulan tried to make her parents proud. This can be seen from the previous scene where Mulan sang a part of “Honor to Us All” lyrics “Ancestors, hear my plea! Help me not to make a fool of me. And, to not uproot my family tree. Keep my father standing tall.”

The next scene the one that made the writer interested in analyzing it is when Mulan is going to accept an honor from the emperor, but when Chi Fu, the royal advisor says “She is a woman. She does not deserve anything.” Which means Mulan cannot get her honor because she is a woman. The writer thinks that it is not fair, because Mulan has saved China, she deserve an honor for her family. And, the one who is getting honor should not be seen from gender. Besides that, if we think again by Mulan infiltrating to battle camp and won like that she can prove men that they are wrong. She can prove the concept of patriarchy is not right.

The research method the writer used is qualitative research method. Lincoln states (2000) that “a qualitative approach emphasizes the qualities of entities, processes and meanings that are not experimentally examined or measured in terms of quantity...” The reason the writer picked qualitative research method is it will be more effective to collect more data. The theory used is “Sexual Politics” by radical feminist theorists Kate Millett. The reason the writer used it is, because Millett has the same aim with Mulan, that is to abolish male control. The way the writer collected data was by downloading some PDF, looking for e-book sample in Google that has the sources the writer needed, etc.

The keyword of the thesis will be discrimination, radical feminism, and patriarchy. And, the discussion of chapter four, data presentation and analysis will be Mulan’s efforts to get the same rights as men, such as Mulan tries to speak up her mind, Mulan infiltrating battle camp, Mulan joining the war and discrimination in Mulan, such as
women empowerment discrimination, decision making discrimination, freedom of speech discrimination.