

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusion

Mulan film presents two women characters, Mulan as the heroine and Xianniang as the female villain. In the film, Mulan and Xianniang are women who experience discrimination in terms of freedom. Mulan and Xianniang are represented as women who have similarities in determination and strength. Most importantly, they are both females who struggle to prove themselves. This research finds that Xianniang and Mulan's characters follow the theory of feminist traits by Zambat (2017) in how they behave and think. There are five basic principles of equality but this film only shows four of them.

The first one, working to increase equality. This trait is meant to reach equality for women by working and hopes that women can gain the same opportunities as men. Both Mulan and Xianniang choose the duty to fight in the war. By becoming women warriors, they fight to bring equality for women. Mulan's character is represented as a hard-working woman who trains her skill so that she is able to become a true soldier and fights for her country. She succeeds to prove herself and gain the chance as a leader. Xianniang is also represented as a woman who dares to do anything and works hard to reach her goal. By assisting Khan, she fights for her chances to become a woman warrior and bring equality to women.

The second, expanding human choice by wanting to have freedom over their lives so they are able to explore their skills and develop their life. In the film, Mulan and Xianniang inspire other women by freely expressing their freedom of voice and abilities. It is represented by Mulan who acts differently from how an ideal woman is described. Mulan reveals her identity to fight for women's rights so that they can choose the path that they want regardless of their gender. Another example is represented by Xianniang's side who dares to show her power in society and sacrifice herself to protect Mulan. Xianniang's act to save Mulan is worth being appreciated because she is not only protecting Mulan but also women in general. Here, she protects the development of female freedom.

The third, eliminating gender stratification with the hope that women's roles are not only limited to becoming obedient wives, mothers, and daughters. Women want to free themselves from the traditional values which limit women's rights and create their personal identities. Mulan and Xianniang are great representations of eliminating gender stratification traits because both of these women are trying to fight the traditional values and bring equality to women. It is proven by Mulan's gaining recognition as a soldier and getting an offer to become the emperor's guard. On the other hand, Xianniang who chooses to show her power means that she fights the traditional values. In addition, Xianniang's decision to free herself from Bori Khan means that she is no longer obeying and relying on men.

The last, ending sexual violence and promoting sexual freedom. The goals of this trait are to end sexual violence and male domination and promote sexual freedom where women have freedom over their bodies and sexuality. This trait is only represented by Mulan's character. She promotes the idea of sexual freedom by expressing different thoughts about ideal women based on their personalities rather than physical characteristics. Mulan thinks that women's values should not follow traditional values. Mulan opposes the concept that women are only used as an object but more on how women as free subjects express themselves.

5.2 Suggestions

Through this study, the writer hopes that the next researchers do not only examine and discuss the major character of the film but also give more attention to the supporting characters in the film. Furthermore, the upcoming researcher can also continue with the research of Mulan by comparing those two films, *Mulan the animation*, and *Mulan*.