

## AN ANALYSIS OF A MOVIE “ANNA KARENINA” ACCORDING TO THE THEORY OF LITERATURE

Ellen Andriyani<sup>1</sup>, Eryon<sup>2</sup>  
Universitas Muhammadiyah Lampung<sup>1,2</sup>  
helenaellen821@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, eryon.munir3@gmail.com<sup>2</sup>

### **Abstract**

*This research attempts to analyze one of many kinds of literature work namely movie. The purpose of the analysis of this research is to know the intrinsic elements and the relation to one of the literary theories (feminism). There are so many great movies, but in this paper the writer focuses to analyze a movie entitle Anna Karenina. The writer analyzes in the point of view of feminism. The writer interested in feminism because the main characterization of this movie is a woman (Anna Karenina). Anna Karenina lives in Russian at that time. Then this movie tells the brief of Anna Karenina to get her love. The result of this research found that Feminism theory appears in Anna Karenina movie.*

**Key words:** *Feminism; Literature; Marxis; Movie*

submit date: 26-09-2021 accept date: 12-09-2021 publish date: 15-09-2021

Correspondence author: Ellen Andriyani, Lampung, Indonesia. E-Mail: helenaellen821@gmail.com

Doi: <https://doi.org/10.36929/sigeh%20elt.v1i2.559>



Journal SIGEH licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).

### **INTRODUCTION**

So far women are considered as the weak human. Their position is always under the men. Therefore the theory of feminism arises. Feminism is theory that men and women should be equal politically, economically and socially. Feminist is one who believes in that men and women should be equal politically, economically and socially. Feminists fight for the equality of women and argue that women should share equally in society's opportunities and scarce resources.

Feminist believe that women should enjoy the same rights in society as men and that should share equity in society's opportunities. It means that feminism is a theory which states the equality between men and woman. Through feminism woman is not full under the man. Woman can have good education, good occupation, good life like sharing the opinion, the right to choose their way of life like men. It means men and woman has the same right.

Movie is one of literature forms. Almost people in the world have ever watched the movie. Generally movie is a story which played by people where

each person plays their own figure with different characteristics. The story of a movie generally is taken by short story or novel.

The story of Anna Karenina movie is taken from a novel. It is written by Leo Tolstoy. The duration of this movie is almost two hours. This movie tells about the Anna Karenina exactly the brief and the infidelity of Anna Karenina. She is a woman who very flows what her heart says. Anna Karenina is a woman who has a husband, but her unfaithful with her husband. She chooses someone she loved namely Vronsky even though the relationship between Anna and Vronsky is illegal or outside of marriage. So, the writer interested in analyzing Anna Karenina movie in the perspective of feminism.

## **METHOD**

While analyzing the movie, I used qualitative method. According to Anderson and Taylor (2009), qualitative research typically involves fieldwork in which I observe and records behavior and events in their natural setting. In line with Creswell (2003) qualitative defines that I made interpretation of the data. There are two kinds of data sources, namely *primary* and *secondary* sources. The data sources are documentations and observations. The purpose is to analyze Anna Karenina movie. The primary data source of the study is the movie of Anna Karenina written by Leo Tolstoy. The secondary data source is from many sources as references, the author’s biography, the website from the internet about this novel and other resources that support the analysis.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. The Intrinsic Analysis of A Movie (Anna Karenina)**

#### **- Theme:**

The movie of Anna Karenina introduces about the life of Russian nobility’s family and tells about marriage, love, family life and the infidelity.

#### **- Background**

##### **o Time:**

At the time the story occurs in Imperial Russia 1874.

##### **o Place:**

1. Moskow
2. l’ Angleterre
3. Unicorn/ Khitrovka
4. Traveskii
5. Railway station of Petersburg
6. In the place of horse race
7. Jerman

- Character:

1. Anna Karenina

She is the main character of this movie. She is Alexis Alexandrovich Karenin’s wife. She is beautiful. She is unfaithful with her husband. She makes love with Vronsky. Anna and Vronsky love each other whereas Vronsky is not her husband. They do sexual acts outside of marriage.

2. Alexis Alexandrovich Karenin

Karenin is Anna’s husband. He is a politician. He is a Christian. He is kind and wise.

3. Count Alexis Vronsky/ Alexander Vronsky

He is rich, handsome and an officer from Kavalery. Before meeting Anna in dance party, he is Kitty’s boyfriend. After he meets Anna, he falls in love with her. Vronsky choose Anna rather than Kitty. Vronsky choose a woman who has a husband. Vronsky and Anna make a relationship outside of marriage.

4. Prince Stephen Arkadyich Oblonskii (Stiva)

He is Anna’s older brother and Dolly’s husband. He likes making love with other women but he is very loves his wife.

5. Princess Darya Alexandrovna Oblonskaya (Dolly)

Dolly is Stiva’s wife. She is patient and loves her family very much.

6. Princess Ekaterina (Kitty)

She is Dolly’s younger sister. She falls in love with Vronsky and has opportunity become Vronsky’s girlfriend. She is shy and get ill when she know that Vronsky falls in love with Anna. Finally she gets marriage with Levin who very loves her since long time ago.

7. Konstantin Dmitrievich Levin

He is kind man. He is sincere loves Kitty. The simplicity is his awesome strength.

- Plot:

This movie has progress plot.

- Moral Value:

Everyone of course has the advantage and weakness of their physical ability, intelligence and their characteristics even to choose and face the way of life. Whatever is it, people are better to face the advantage and the weakness wisely. Love everyone who hate you and forgive them. Surely it will be sublime thing in our life.

**B. The Analysis of a Movie (Anna Karenina) in the Point of View of Feminism**

Below are the analyses of a movie entitle Anna Karenina in the point of view of feminism:

It is known that feminism has several perspective, namely: Liberal feminism; Socialist feminism; Marxist feminism; Radical feminism; Postmodern feminism; Cultural feminism; Ecofeminism; Other feminism.

In this movie tells that Anna prefer her relationship outside marriage with Vronsky rather than choose her legal husband Alexei. She chooses love and something which can make her happy. In the world which dominated by men, a woman (Anna Karenina) is brave to choose and follows what her heart say. It means that woman has the same right with man to choose their way of live. It is supported by John Stuart Mill and Harriet Taylor in Tong (1998: 23) who states that to maximize the total usefulness (happiness/pleasure) is to allow every individual to pursue what they want, as long as they are not mutually restrict or hinder the process to achieve it. Mill and Taylor also states that if society wants to achieve sexual equality or gender justice, then public should give women political rights and opportunities, also education which similar as well as enjoyed by men. This piece of story shows about liberal feminism. Liberal feminism leans towards an equality or sameness argument with men.

This movie tells that Dolly find a letter from her children’s France teacher as an evidence of the infidelity of her husband. From that story the writer finds that woman also has the same right to have good occupation. In this movie a France teacher of Dolly’s children is a woman. It means that the woman economic rights equal to those granted men. It is supported by this theory which states that “But what was feminism? The dictionary definition (in composite) read approximately as follows: a theory and/or movement concerned with advancing the position of women through such means as achievement of political, legal, or

economic rights equal to those granted men (my emphasis) (<http://drbeardmoose.com/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/whatisfeminism.pdf>).

The position as France teacher states that Feminists fight for the equality of women and argue that women should have the equality both in society and economic opportunities. That piece of story shown about Marxist feminism namely with its emphasis on economic factors, Marxist Feminists see women as a distinct economic class, rather than as individuals, analyzing the connections between women’s work status and their self-image.

Anna be dying when borne her and Vronsky’s daughter therefore she ask Alexei (her husband) come to meet Anna and Vronsky. Anna apologizes to Alexie and asks Vronsky to hold Alexei’s hand and states that her husband is holly man. Alexei forgives both of them and let Vronsky to go. After Anna well, she briefly states to Alexei that she wants to meet Vronsky. She meets Vronsky not to say good bay but to live with him ever after. It means that woman also has a right to state what she wants. It is like liberal feminism namely liberal feminism leans towards an equality or sameness argument with men. ([http://vashonsd.org/teacherweb/powell/docs/Womens\\_history\\_Feminism\\_Slides\\_March\\_19.pdf](http://vashonsd.org/teacherweb/powell/docs/Womens_history_Feminism_Slides_March_19.pdf).)

Nicolai Levin talks to her wife (Maria Nikolaefna), “leave me if you know the best for you”. Of course it would be better if he were to say no with a high tone. It is like anarchism as if he has full power. Brown states that However, the relation between anarchism and feminism remains unresolved, sometimes paradoxical. Thus for L. Susan Brown, “anarchism transcends and contains feminism in its critique of power” (Brown, p.209).

Women are the soft and can give forgiveness easily. It is proven by Dolly. Dolly always forgives Stiva which sometimes unfaithful to her. She states her anger only by cry. Dolly prefers to choose love. It can remain that men tend to be rational, strong, protective, decisive, etc. whereas women tend to emotional (irrational), weak, nurturing, submissive, etc.

It is known that feminism has several perspectives, namely: Liberal feminism; Socialist feminism; Marxist feminism; Radical feminism; Postmodern feminism; Cultural feminism; Ecofeminism; Other feminism.

Marxist feminist is one feminist perspective. Marxist itself in literary theory is Focuses on the representation of class distinctions and class conflict in literature. In this movie is illustrated that proletariat should serve and respect Bourgeoisie class. For example: A woman (proletariat) should serves Anna even though little thing like wearing dress and ring; All Stiva’s employees should stand up when he comes even though they are working. Then there is an employee who has a duty to change the coat for him, even to throw his cigarette dust; Proletariat lives in dirty place. It opposites with Bourgeoisie who live in comfortable and luxurious place.

## CONCLUSSION

Literature is a part of human being. Each country has its own characteristics, for example in politics, economics, ideology or way of live, and etc. Literature can be expressed through art namely song, poem or poetry, novel, movie, etc. The content of them consist of knowledge and of course moral value.

Four of many of literature’s forms like song, poem or poetry, novel and movie is the example of familiar literature in the world. The fact there are many of songs, poems, novels and movies from other country which spread and well known in many country. For example there are many novels which are translated in various language. When people make these novels be a film, each person who interested in watching that film can enjoy it in their country. It means that literature is familiar in human’s life.

Literature itself has many theories; two of them are Marxist theory and Feminism theory. Marxist theory has close relation with the thoughts of Karl Marx namely about communist. Whereas Feminism is theory that men and women should be equal politically, economically and socially.

Therefore, this paper attempts to analyze one of many kinds of literature namely movie. There are so many great movies but in this paper the writer focuses to analyze a movie entitle Anna Karenina. The writer analyze in the point of view of feminism. The writer interested in feminist because the main characterization of this movie is a woman namely about the face of Russia at that time and the brief of Anna Karenina. The result of the research found that Feminism theory appears in Anna Karenina movie.

#### REFERENCES

- Anderson, M. L. and Taylor, H. F. (2009). *Sociology: The Essentials*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth.
- Creswell, John W. (2003). *Research design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and mixed methods approaches (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)*, New Delhi: Sage Publication.
- Selden, Raman, et al. (2005). *A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory: Fifth Edition*. United Kingdom: Pearson Education Limited.
- Tong, R. P. *Feminist Thought: Pengantar paling Komprehensif kepada Aliran Utama Pemikiran Feminis*, terj. Aquarini Priyatna Prabasmoro. Yogyakarta: Jalasutra, 1998.
- <http://drbeardmoose.com/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/whatisfeminism.pdf>.
- [http://vashonsd.org/teacherweb/powell/docs/Womens\\_history\\_Feminism\\_Slides\\_March\\_19.pdf](http://vashonsd.org/teacherweb/powell/docs/Womens_history_Feminism_Slides_March_19.pdf).
- <http://theanarchistlibrary.org/library/colin-wright-anarchism-feminism-and-the-individual.a4.pdf>. =