



**WOMEN'S OPPRESSIONS AS REFLECTED IN JORDAN BELFORT'S  
*THE WOLF OF WALL STREET***

**A THESIS**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for S-1 Degree  
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Diponegoro University**

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## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

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Semarang, September 2015

BayuSatryaYudha

## **MOTTO AND DEDICATION**

*Do not impose on others what you yourself do not desire. (Confucius)*

*This paper is dedicated to  
those who need it and for my beloved  
SafiraAnindyaputeri*

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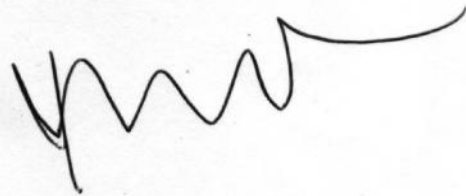
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Semarang, 1 August 2016

BayuSatryaYudha

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## **ABSTRACT**

This thesis discusses women's oppression in Jordan Belfort's memoir entitled *The Wolf of Wall Street*. The purposes of this thesis are to explain the forms of women's oppression and the causes of women's oppression in the memoir. In order to achieve the desired result, the writer uses library research to collect data and sociological approach by emphasizing feminism theory and oppression theory to analyze the data. The analysis shows the oppressed women, the forms of oppression, and the causes of oppression. Through the analysis, the writer concludes that there are three forms of oppression suffered by women and the cause of the oppression is financial dependency.

Keywords: Oppression, women, feminism

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

As part of society, women often become the target of oppression. It happens because women are seen as inferior beings compared to men. The reason why men think that women are inferior is because most women are physically weaker than men. That prejudice becomes the source of women's oppression, especially in patriarchal society.

Social injustices done to women are changing from time to time. Women are prohibited to join men to work as they are seen incapable to do so. Rather than working as equal partner with men, women are directed to take care of the house, the children, and their husbands. As time passes, women gradually start working outside their house. They take part in earning money both for themselves and their family. Since women begin to work in career world, the oppression done to women is changing. When they work, they get paid less than men. Job vacancies for women are also still limited. Furthermore, they also become a target of harassment in the offices as women are powerless against men's domination.

Based on that explanation it can be assumed that in patriarchal society where men are dominant, women are hindered to discover their potential. They are directed to serve men and submit to men's domination.

Women's oppression can also be seen in literary works as literature has a function to mirror reality or social problems of certain time period. It is explained that literature can also be interpreted as a mirror of a society because the author is

a part of the society and thus it is possible that society influences the work of literature or otherwise, literature influence society (Wellek and Warren, 1977).

Based on those backgrounds, the writer will analyze a memoir, a kind of literary work in the form of recollection of actual events, entitled *The Wolf of Wall Street*, written by Jordan Belfort. The writer of this paper chooses the book because from his memoir it can be seen how women are oppressed by men in the career world, how they are oppressed, and why they are treated that way.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

1.1.1 What are the forms of women's oppressions in *The Wolf of Wall Street*?

1.1.2 What are the causes of women's oppressions?

## **1.3 Purposes of the Study**

1.3.1 To explain how women are oppressed in *The Wolf of Wall Street*

1.3.2 To explain the causes of women's oppressions

## **1.4 Methods of the Study**

In analyzing *The Wolf of Wall Street*, the writer uses library research to support the analysis of the book. Mary W. George states that library research "involves identifying and locating sources that provide factual information or personal/ expert opinion on a research question; necessary component of every other research method at some point" (2008). Books and articles from internet sources are used by the writer in gathering the necessary data materials.

This paper analyzes how characters, settings and conflicts are presented for the intrinsic elements. In the extrinsic elements, the writer focuses on the

oppressions of women. The writer uses Feminism approach as it is explained by

Booker below:

“Feminism literary criticism focuses on the relationship between literature and patriarchal biases in society and on the potential role that literature can play in overcoming such biases. Many feminist critics have persuasively argued that literature plays a central role in the development of social attitudes toward women and of women’s attitudes toward themselves” (1998: 89).

The writer is also emphasizing the theory of Marxist feminism as a branch of sociological approach. Marxist feminism is used since it concerns on women’s issues in wealth centered society.

### **1.5 Organization of the Study**

In writing the thesis, it will be arranged in chapters and sub-chapters as follows:

Chapter 1 Introduction

It contains Background of The Study, Research Questions, Purposes of The Study, Method of The Study, and The Organization of The Study.

Chapter 2 Biography and Summary of *The Wolf of Wall Street*

The chapter contains brief explanation about Jordan Belfort and summary of his memoir *The Wolf of Wall Street*.

Chapter 3 Theoretical Framework

This chapter contains the theories used by the writer to analyze intrinsic and extrinsic aspects of the memoir. The intrinsic aspects contain theories of character, setting and

conflict. The extrinsic aspects contain theories of feminism, and oppressions.

Chapter 4      Women's Oppression Reflected in Jordan Belfort's *The Wolf of Wall Street*

This chapter contains the analysis of the memoir using previous theories as the base. Intrinsic aspects will discuss character, setting and conflict. Extrinsic aspects will discuss the forms of women's oppression, women's reaction and cause of oppressions.

Chapter 5      Conclusion

It contains the result and conclusion of the analysis.

Bibliography

## CHAPTER II

### BIOGRAPHY AND WORKS

#### 2.1 Biography of Jordan Belfort

The biography of Jordan Belfort is arranged based on 2 sources. They are from <http://www.thefamouspeople.com/profiles/jordan-belfort-6511.php> and <http://www.biography.com/people/jordan-belfort-21329985> accessed on June 16, 2016.

Jordan Ross Belfort is a motivational speaker who was once known as Wolf of Wall Street. He was born on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1962 to Max and Leah Belfort. He is gifted with exceptional persuasion skill that is useful in sales business, which he used in operating his meat and seafood business but failed. He then used his skill in stock brokerage firm where he learned the trick in stock broking.

Not long after he learned stock broking business in 1987, he made his own investment company, Stratton Oakmont, where he used 'pump and dump' scheme together with his friend DanyPorush to earn fortune. This illegal business was put to an end by Securities and Exchange Commission and Jordan was put in court.

In the prison, he met Tommy Chong who encouraged him to write a memoir of his life. After being released from the prison, Jordan now becomes a motivational speaker, and one of the best of it. He also provides sales training and techniques to pay his fine which amount to 110 million U.S. dollars.

*The Wolf of Wall Street* is the first memoir he publishes, focusing on the story of his rise and fall while *Catching the Wolf of Wall Street* focuses on his life after being released from the prison.

## **2.2 Summary of *The Wolf of Wall Street***

The story began with a prologue on his first day working in Wall Street. There he learned how stressful the work was and his senior worker told him to endure it by using drugs and prostitutes. After the prologue then the story moved into several years later after the event of Black Monday which forced Jordan to lose his job.

Jordan became a wealthy stock broker with his own company, Stratton Oakmont, one of the biggest stock business companies at that time. Jordan lived in luxury, but his bad habit that he gotten from the past was still going on. He abused drug and used prostitutes to satisfy his desire a lot. He also had been married to a young model named Nadine, who was sometimes called Duchess by Jordan. She knew about Jordan's habit and was always angry about that. She was violent when she was angry but Jordan rarely took it seriously.

After that, Jordan went to his office and introduced us to his coworker Danny and how things went in his office. He explained that Stratton Oakmont was a place full of young workers living a hedonism life. Prostitutes and drugs were allowed, even Jordan regularly thrown wild party in the office. The wilderness in his office was considered as fun activity, such as having sex with coworker, calling prostitute in office, and even one of his female workers had her hair



shaved to bald in front of everyone in exchange for money. Jordan also classified prostitutes based on their appearance and how much their service's cost. Everyone in the office knew that Stratton Oakmont was running business using illegal method to sell stocks, but no one cared.

Jordan used his wealth as power to make people work for him. He hired former NYPD officer named Bo Dietl to keep his business save. From Bo, Jordan knew that there was an FBI agent named Gregory Coleman who was eager to catch him and to close his dirty business. All this time Jordan always found a way to deceive the inspection officers from Security and Exchange Commission, but now he felt threatened. The conflict aroused when Jordan committed money laundering.

Jordan, knowing that Patricia was nice, reasonable and anti-government, went to London. There he met Patricia to persuade her to help him. It ended up with her agreement after an event where Jordan confessed all his bad habits to her. Jordan told Patricia how he lived with his first wife Denise who stand by his side in good and bad times, supported him in his crisis after losing his job. As Jordan became successful, he had affair with Patricia's nephew, Nadine, and decided to divorce Denise. After that, he came back to his office and considered that he had to retire from Stratton Oakmont to avoid FBI and SEC, but in the end he claimed that he would not give up. He continued his wild lifestyle, consuming his favorite drug, Quaalude.

The conflict elevated when Nadine called Jordan and told him that Patricia had died. Patricia's death made Jordan anxious; his money on Patricia's account was in danger. He then fled to Swiss and forged Patricia's sign. Successfully secured his money, Jordan fled back and succumbed himself on drugs. Nadine found out about it and was angry at him. She thought that Jordan's addiction had crossed the line, it brought harm to him and people around. With FBI chasing him and his wife decided to leave the house with his daughter, Jordan became enraged. He got into a fight with Nadine violently. He tried to take his daughter, Chandler, forcefully. He kicked Nadine for getting his way, Jordan then put Chandler in a car and tried to drive it away, but because he is in anger, he cannot control the car and crashes. Nothing bad happened to Chandler but Jordan passed out.

The next day after that incident, Jordan realized that he was at fault. He decided to go to rehabilitation center to stop his addiction. After staying in rehabilitation center for some times, he went back home and tried to live a better life. However, the better life that Jordan hoped for had to be halted when he was stopped by FBI officer when he was on the road. FBI had all the evidences of his dirty business and money laundering. Jordan was given an opportunity to reduce his sentence by cooperating with FBI to testify against his friends.

In the epilogue, he told us that he had to cooperate since his wife could be indicted too if he was not cooperating. After the court for his crime ended, his wife Nadine added his suffering by declaring that she loved him no more and called a divorce lawyer.

## CHAPTER III

### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

#### 3.1 Intrinsic Elements

##### 3.1.1 Character

Character is one of the important elements in fiction; it is the element which gives life and movement to the story. According to Holman, character is defined as the representation of moral quality and human personality. “The idea of the presence of the moral constitution of the human personality, the presence of the moral uprightness and the simpler notion of the presence of creatures in art that seems to be human beings of one sort on another” (1986:81). In addition, Robert and Jacob explain character as “A verbal representation of a person. Through action, speech, description and commentary, authors portray characters that are worth caring about, cheering for, and even loving although there are also characters you may laugh at, dislike or even hate” (1998:153). So, in a story there will be many characters involved with every character having different attribute.

Furthermore, character is also divided into two kinds, flat character and round character. In *Aspects of the Novel*, flat character is described as a character which has single quality or trait (Forster, 1927:48). Flat character is consistent and does not develop any other trait in the story. Usually minor character is flat character.

On the other hand, round character is a character that has more than one quality and trait (Forster, 1927:48). As the story progress round character will

show different quality and trait, they are developing, the opposite of flat character.

Usually round character is major character.

### 3.1.2 Setting

#### 3.1.2.1 Setting of Place

The setting of place is where the actions occur in a literary work. "...includes the physical environment of the story: a house, a street, a city, a landscape and a region" (Kennedy and Gioia, 2010: 80). It tells us the name of certain location based on reality or fantasy, and even an abstract place such as in the mind, the middle of darkness, etc.

#### 3.1.2.2 Setting of Time

The setting of time explains about the time where the actions take place. According to Kennedy and Gioia (2010), It can be the current time or even historical times. Setting of time gives us information when something happens or how long it had happened.

#### 3.1.2.3 Setting of Social Environment

The setting of social environment describes the social condition that happens in the story. It gives us the information of how the society works and the behavior of individual or groups. Robert and Jacob defined setting as "A work's natural, manufactured, political, cultural, and temporal environment, including everything that characters know and own" (1988:253). By showing the period of time, place, and social environment, setting helps the reader understand what

happens to the story, the condition of character, and the status of characters in society.

### 3.1.3 Conflict

According to Holman, conflict is an element which brings interest and thrill in the story as two opposing forces struggle for their cause in a plot (1972: 118). Conflict creates tension since it changes the flow of the story and gives opportunity for characters to develop. Perrine also defines conflict as:

Conflict-a clash of actions, ideas, desires or wills. The main character may be pitted by against some other person or group of person (man againstman); he may be in conflict some external forces- physical nature, society, of race (man against environment); or he may be in conflict with some elements on his own nature (man against himself). The conflict may be physical, mental, emotion or moral (Perrine, 1987: 43).

In addition, Holman states “The conflict implies not only the struggle of two opponent forces a person against someone or something, but also the existence of some motivation for the conflict by him” (Holman, 1986: 105). It means that there has to be some motivation behind character’s action that causes conflict.

## 3.2 Extrinsic Elements

### 3.2.1 Feminism

Intellectual and political movement concerning the condition of women in which they are treated unjustly by the system of male domination is generally described as feminism. Booker says “Modern feminist seeks to challenge the traditions and conventions of ‘patriarchal’ society that is biased on premise of masculine authority” (1998: 89).

Although every feminist goal is to remove women's oppression and gain equality, not every feminist has the same way of thinking, "The labels also help mark the range of different approaches, perspectives, and frameworks a variety of feminists have used to shape both their explanations for women's oppression and their proposed solutions for its elimination" (Tong, 2009: 1).

Following her statement, Tong categorizes feminism into several focuses like liberal feminism, radical feminism, Marxist feminism, psychoanalytical feminism, etc. In this paper the writer uses Marxist feminism since according to Tong, it concerns on the liberation of women in class-based society and wealth centered society (2009: 4).

In Marxist feminism, many feminists believe that the source of gender inequality is either capitalism, patriarchy, or patriarchal capitalism. The oppression of women happens because the one who has most wealth could control the poor one, "In a capitalism system, money is most often power" (Tong, 2009: 107). Private ownership is also held by men in patriarchal society as Engel says in Tong "Because men now possessed things more valuable than the things women possessed and because men, for some unexplained reason, suddenly wanted *their own* biological children to get *their* possessions, men exerted enormous pressure to convert society from a matrilineal one to a patrilineal one" (2009: 105).

Women are oppressed by men because they are economically dependent to their husbands. Even if women begin to work, they will not get equal position or wage as men can get because in male-dominated society, women's effort is seen as something trivial and it can be done by men too. Men see that women are worth

only to sexually please men. This idea leads women to exploit their own body and even sell it for living. Tong states “After all, if one has little else of value to sell besides one’s body, one’s leverage in the marketplace is quite limited” (2009: 99). It means that if women are desperate to fulfill their daily needs, the most valuable possession they have to sell is their body.

A feminist from America, Kate Millet concerns negative treatments done to women. It discusses about how male and female relationship seen in apolitical way. “The term ‘Politics’ shall refer to power-structured relationships, arrangements whereby one group of person is controlled by another” (Millet, 1990: 23).

Millet in her book writes the concept of patriarch which the writer uses to analyze the cause of women’s oppression in *The Wolf of Wall Street*. The impact of patriarchal system affects several aspects in life. Miller states eight aspects; ideological, biological, social, class, economy and education, force, anthropological, and psychological (1990). The writer will only use class and economy aspects as those are the relevant and necessary aspects for analyzing the paper.

In class aspect, patriarchy gives an impact where women will always have social status below men. Men’s status in society has the importance to determining the status of women, in example, if a low class women married a high class man, her status in society will be elevated. Women who live in the male-dominated society will face class rivalry among women as the effect of class division made by men. “One of the chief effects of class within patriarchy is to set

one woman against another, in the past creating a lively antagonism between whore and matron, and in the present between career woman and housewife” (Millet, 1990: 38). Based on that statement, we can relate the reason why a woman would try to seduce a married man, and why women have to wear dress and make up. It is done to get men’s attention and secure a woman’s position as a man’s favorite.

In economy aspect, patriarchal society makes women get unjustly treatment. Career women are paid less than men for same job, in addition, women’s opportunity in getting a decent job is less compared to men just like Millet states “Further, the kinds of employment open to women in modern patriarchies are, with few exceptions, menial, ill paid and without status” (1990: 40). Patriarchal society also gives men the whole economical right as the head of the family, making all the money that a wife earns to the husband. This situation creates a circle of endless oppression as women will always be dependent to men because they do not completely own their economical right.

### 3.2.2 Oppression

Oppression is the source of social problems faced by women, which then creates the feminist movement. Generally, oppression is not only suffered by women but also by men. Oppression, as defined by Young in her article entitled *Five Faces of Oppression*, is a situation where people are inhibited to develop their abilities and express their feeling or thoughts (2004: 40). Furthermore, oppressed people are treated unjustly and it happens to anyone regardless of their sex, age, or race, just like Charlton says, “Oppression occurs when individuals are



systematically subjected to political, economic, cultural, or social degradation because they belong to a social group” (1998: 8).

In accordance with Charlton, Young states that oppression also occurs in daily life process.

In this extended structural sense oppression refers to the vast and deep injustice some group suffer as consequences of often unconscious assumptions and reactions of well-meaning people in ordinary interactions, media and cultural stereotypes, and structural features of bureaucratic hierarchies and market mechanism—in short, the normal processes of everyday life (Young, 2004: 1).

Even though anyone could get oppressed, they do not suffer the same oppressive treatment as oppression has different kinds and classifications. Young divides oppression into five kinds and explains the difference to understand the injustice suffered by oppressed people; the five forms of oppression defined by Young are exploitation marginalization, powerlessness, cultural imperialism, and violence. In this thesis, the writer will explain several forms of oppressions relevant to the study which are exploitation, powerlessness, and violence

#### 3.2.2.1 Exploitation

It is a kind of oppression that is likely to happen in the relation between capitalist and labor workers. Young explains that the form of this oppression happens when people work under the control of another. In order to gain, there is an unequal share of profit, and this form of oppression occurs as the result of transfer of power from one to another while the transferred power is augmenting the receiver or the capitalist (2004: 49).

Young also mentions about women exploitation where women are exploited as their energies and effort to physically and emotionally comfort men, usually by doing house chores, taking care of children, and providing sexual needs are often undercompensated (2004: 51). Men see those efforts as responsibilities that have to be done by women. Even career women are exploited in the form of being paid less than men for same job.

In addition to women's exploitation, there is a kind of oppression that mostly happens to women, that is sexual abuse. Sexual abuse is another form of oppression that occurs as the result of unequal transfer of power which favoring men. In patriarchal society, men maintain their power and domination over women through sexual coercion, and sexual coercion itself is done not based on lust on desire to exert control (Malamuth, 1996; Brownmiller, 1975). It means that men show their power and domination by sexually abusing women as they think women are weaker than men.

In addition, Finkelhor explains that men tend to sexually abuse women and sometime children because men are socialized to express their dependency or intimacy needs through sex, they also socialized to desire someone smaller and younger than themselves (Finkelhor, 1984). In other words, the continuous socialization of masculine sexuality has taught men to gain control through sex and exercise it to someone smaller and weaker so that men can always be in control.

#### 3.2.2.2 Powerlessness

This is a form of oppression where people is treated disrespectfully or unjustly because they lack of authority in decision making situation, express themselves awkwardly, and have no right or power to give order (Young, 2004: 56). Even though in her article Young defines powerlessness for labors, it is also applicable to general society like how people in lower class accept the idea that they are inferior due to the constant disrespect treatment done by society. They also have no chance to develop their potentials and capabilities because oppressed people think that they are powerless and protest is futile. They become unaware of the fact that they are oppressed since they think the negative treatment they get is normal.

#### 3.2.2.3 Violence

Violence happens to almost all of people. It is an act of attacking physically to anyone, not limited to the oppressed since it can happen to the oppressor. Violence that is done by an individual with wrong moral value cannot be said as social injustice. According to Young, violence is categorized as social injustice because it is systemic, that it targets member of a group. “Violence is systemic because it is directed towards member of a group simply because they are member of that group” (Young, 2004: 62). Victims of this oppression have to live under constant fear of being assaulted, knowing that they are the target of attack because of their identity. They lose their freedom and peace due to this systemic violence.

## CHAPTER IV

### ANALYSIS

#### 4.1 Intrinsic Aspects

##### 4.1.1 Character

##### 4.1.1.1 Round Characters

##### 4.1.1.1.1 Jordan Belfort

Jordan Belfort is the main character of the story. He is nicknamed Wolf of Wall Street because he is a smart and slick man who builds Stratton Oakmont, one of the biggest Stock Broker Companies in Wall Street. Stock broker is a job that requires good speaking ability and good persuasion skill because their work is selling stock to investor. As the founder of Stratton Oakmont, Jordan has the best speaking ability. “Let me hear another lie from the man who lies for a living” (Belfort, 2007: 27). That quotation is spoken by Jordan’s wife, Nadine. From there we can see that Jordan’s speaking ability is outstanding. He can persuade people to buy his stock regardless what he said is a lie, even his wife acknowledges that and lets it happen instead of stopping him. He earns his wealth and builds his career by lying to his customer about the stock he is about to sell.

Aside from his speaking ability, Jordan is also known as a drug and sex addict. Throughout the story we will be shown how his life falls apart because of his severe addiction to both drug and sex.

Meanwhile, I was trying to gather my thoughts, but she was moving too fast. I had no time to think. It had to be those fucking Quaaludes! They had made me talk in my sleep again. Oh, shit! What had I said? I ran the possibilities through my mind: the limousine...the hotel...the

drugs...Venice the Hooker...Venice with the candle—Oh, God, the fucking candle! I pushed the thought out of my mind (Belfort, 2007: 24).

The quotation above shows how drug and sex puts Jordan into trouble. We can see that Jordan is quarrelling with his wife because he sleeps talking about another woman. This situation happens because Jordan is still under the drug's effect when he is asleep. Quaalude is his favorite drug that is affecting his sleep. Not only the quotation shows that he is using drug but also shows that he has cheated his wife by sleeping with a prostitute that night.

As a drug addict, Jordan's choice of drug is Quaalude. Quaalude, or Lude, is similar to other nerve-pressing drug that can make one's mind go high and is unable to think clearly. The following quotation shows why Jordan chooses it.

I mean, how many drugs made you feel as wonderful as they did, yet didn't leave you with a hangover the next day? And a man in my position—a man burdened with so many grave responsibilities— couldn't afford to be hungover, now could he! (Belfort, 2007: 19).

From there we can see that Jordan chooses Quaalude due to the fact that it has no after effect. It makes the consumer sober after sleeping. Because Jordan has to work and leads his company in the day, it helps Jordan to avoid headache in the morning and get to work consciously.

Jordan is also known as a sex addict. After he becomes rich, he begins to do as he pleases. He uses his money as the power to gain everything. He divorces his first wife Denise to marry a younger woman named Nadine who piques his desire. Even after he marries Nadine, his desire to have sex with another woman still exists. He often pays prostitutes to satisfy his desire despite his already having a beautiful wife. He admits it to Patricia, his wife's aunt.

This woman was too much! But I had to love her! My confessor! “All right, Patricia, all right! The answer to your question is: no! I’m a fucking liar and a cheater and I sleep with prostitutes the way most people put on socks—especially when I’m fucked up on drugs, which is about half the time. But even when I’m not high on drugs, I’m still a cheat. So there! Now you know. Are you happy?” (Belfort, 2007: 173).

From his conversation with Patricia we can see how bad his addiction to both sex and drugs. Having sex with another woman than his wife is like another common daily activity to him. Furthermore, he also has sex while on drug. Both of that are not free, Jordan spends a lot of money for that. He confessed to Patricia, that his lifestyle is far from goodness and it costs him not only money but also the peacefulness of his mind. He is afraid of the consequences but is unable to resist the addiction.

His wealth makes it worse, instead of using it for drug rehabilitation or another positive activity he spends it on drug and prostitutes. Unlike normal person who gets money enough only to sustain daily expenses, Jordan’s abundant wealth enables him to gain access and buy more drugs and prostitutes. His wealth makes it harder for him to resist the temptation.

#### 4.1.1.1.2 Nadine Caridi

She is the second wife of Jordan Belfort. She is a young and beautiful model. Before Nadine marries Jordan, she was his mistress. Their affair begins when they meet at one of pool parties that Jordan holds. Her beauty and sexy appearance make Jordan fall for her. She is the reason behind Jordan’s divorce. “I had never meant to hurt Denise. In fact, it was the furthest thing from my mind. But Nadine swept me off my feet, and I swept her off hers” (Belfort, 2007: 34).

Their marriage is not as happy as when they first met. After marrying Jordan, Nadine often gets mad at him because Jordan's desire to have sex is insatiable. Whenever Jordan cheats on her and she catches him, they always end up fighting. She is fierce and harsh when she is mad. The following quotation will show how Nadine is when she is mad at Jordan.

“Oh, I'm really fucking scared,” interrupted the blond firecracker. She shook her head in disgust, and her little pink nipples popped out of her next-to-nothing outfit. I tried not to stare, but it was difficult. “Maybe I should go run and hide,” she quipped. “Or maybe I'll just stay here and *kick your fucking ass!*” The last few words she screamed (Belfort, 2007: 23).

From that quotation, we can see that Nadine uses dirty words and sarcasm when she shouts at Jordan. She scolds Jordan and splashes him on his sleep because he sleeps-talking about another woman. She knows that Jordan is a liar and he is bluffing when he tries to reason with her.

In addition, she grows up on Bay Ridge, a place known for its harsh environment. “Bay Ridge; it's that tiny corner of the earth where words like *fuck* and *shit* and *bastard* and *prick* roll off the tongues of young natives with the poetic panache of T. S. Eliot and Walt Whitman” (Belfort, 2007: 23). Her background as a person who grows up on a place where dirty words are common, the harsh environment, and job as a model have made her an independent person. She can make a decent living by herself with her job before marrying Jordan, so she positions herself equally with Jordan instead of being a submissive.

Despite her harsh words and fierce personality when she is mad, she is also a loving wife who can withstand Jordan's cheating behavior. She shows her

love by giving Jordan affection and never cheats on him even though Jordan is a cheater. Despite all the quarrelling they have, he can never blame Nadine. Jordan explains that every day she will say that she loves him and Jordan states that he cannot really blame her because her anger happens because of Jordan's faults (Belfort, 2007: 34).

Throughout the story we will be shown that Jordan cheats on her whenever he gets the chance to, but Nadine always lets it go. She also accepts Jordan's excuse to take Quaaludes as medication drugs. However, their quarrel gets escalated when Jordan's addiction goes out of control and starts to bring harm around.

In the event of Nadine and Jordan's conflict climaxing, Nadine gets fed up with Jordan destructive behavior of abusing drug. She decides to leave and ends up quarreling with Jordan. She loses her temper and pours all her emotions after Jordan calls her gold digger.

That one got her! She spun around and faced me. "Fuck you!" she screamed. "I've been the best wife to you. How *dare* you call me that after all these years! I've given you two gorgeous children. Waited on you hand and fucking foot for six fucking years! I've been a loyal wife to you—always! Never cheated on you once! And look what I got in return! How many women have you fucked since we're married? You...philandering piece of shit! Fuck you!" (Belfort, 2007: 432).

From quotation above, we can see Nadine's devotion and loyalty to her husband for all of those years of marriage are not appreciated by Jordan. It can be seen that she also has two children with Jordan and takes care of them while knowing that Jordan still cheats on her. Her patience hits the limit when she gets insulted instead of apology from Jordan when she tries to leave.



#### 4.1.1.2 Flat Characters

##### 4.1.1.2.1 Denise

She is Jordan's first wife. She is only briefly mentioned by Jordan in the story as a kind and loyal wife when Jordan struggles financially. "When I was married to Denise I never worried about these things. She had married me when I had nothing, so her loyalty was unquestioned" (Belfort, 2007: 34). She eventually get divorced when Jordan becomes wealthy and fall in love with Nadine.

##### 4.1.1.2.2 Patricia

Nadine's aunt from England. She is described as a gentle woman in 60's. She earns Jordan's trust and able to make him confesses his bad habit. She died peacefully after Jordan put his money to be laundered in her account.

##### 4.1.1.2.3 Franca

She is a stewardess in Jordan's flight to Swiss. She is sexually harassed by Jordan in the plane which makes Jordan has to face against Swiss custom officer and sexual harassment lawsuit.

##### 4.1.1.2.4 Female Sales Assistants

Jordan frequently mentions about his female sales assistants when he talks about his sexual experience. There are a lot of female workers in his office and he never give names for them, he only says sales assistant.

## 4.1.2 Setting

### 4.1.2.1 Setting of Time

The events in *The Wolf of Wall Street* occur between years 1993 through 1997. Since it is a memoir, a recollection of real events, Jordan provides the story with some events having specific time and date.

With specific information about the time and event we can see what happens in that time. “It was May 4, 1987, my first day on Wall Street” (Belfort, 2007: 6). There we can see that Jordan gives us specific time when he starts his career on Wall Street.

In 1987, Wall Street is known as a famous place where many investors circulate their money to buy stocks. Many companies focus on selling stock and rely on that business only. As a place where money is circulated, many people see Wall Street as a promising place to build their career. They come in hope to seek job with high payment, including Jordan.

Another example of important event that Jordan explains is the fall of Wall Street. It is an event which brings huge change to economic and career aspect in New York City.

But that would be only the beginning. You see, at that very moment there were things happening away from me—things that had nothing to do with me—starting with a little something called portfolio insurance, which was a computer-driven stock-hedging strategy that would ultimately put an end to this raging bull market and send the Dow Jones crashing down 508 points in a single day. And, from there, the chain of events that would ensue would be almost unimaginable. Wall Street would close down business for a time, and the investment-banking firm of LF Rothschild would be forced to shut its doors. And then the insanity would take hold (Belfort, 2007: 10).

As quotation above shows us, in the same year Jordan gets employed, Wall Street suffers a great economic fall due to a stock drop so low in a day. This is an event that is known as Black Monday. The impacts of that event are severe. Many stock investment companies, including LF Rothschild where Jordan works, get bankrupt which means many workers lose their job. With many businesses being closed down, the number of unemployment in Wall Street rises up.

This also marks the beginning of Jordan's wild adventure in stock investment business. He builds his own company, Stratton Oakmont, lives his life in luxury, and immerses his life in the dysfunctional lifestyle of the rich.

#### 4.1.2.2 Setting of Place

The story of *The Wolf of Wall Street* generally takes place in Wall Street, a central place of the global stock trading market in New York. There gather many people to earn a living in stock trading business companies. We can see from the previous quotation (Belfort, 2007: 6) that Jordan, the main character of the story, works in Wall Street.

Another significant place in the story is Jordan's house. It is located in Long Island's Gold Coast, in a rich White Anglo Saxon Protestant society.

The Gold Coast is a terrific place to live, especially if you like blue-blooded WASPs and overpriced horses. Personally, I despise both, but somehow I ended up owning a bunch of overpriced horses and socializing with a bunch of blue-blooded WASPs, the latter of whom, I figured, viewed me as a young Jewish circus attraction (Belfort, 2007: 17).

His house is a significant place in the story because in his house he often quarrels with his wife Nadine. It also shows the social environment in Jordan's neighborhood.

#### 4.1.2.3 Social Setting

The idea that working in Wall Street is prestigious and can help you earn money fast is implemented in many people's mind in the world, thus, many people try their best to work there. This condition creates a tension among new applicants or new workers because if they make a mistake, they can be replaced by another applicant. It also makes senior workers do as they please to new workers as we can see from the quotation below:

“Good,” said the scumbag goldfish. “Now, here are the ground rules: There are no breaks, no personal calls, no sick days, no coming in late, and no loafing off. You get thirty minutes for lunch”—he paused for effect—“and you better be back on time, because there are fifty people waiting to take your desk if you fuck up.” (Belfort, 2007: 2).

We can see that the person Jordan mentions as goldfish, who is his superior, is briefing him with strict rules and even threatens him that if he makes a mistake there are plenty people waiting to replace him.

That kind of threat puts heavy pressure to workers because getting job in Wall Street is difficult especially with so many competitors. With that kind of working condition, stress in office builds up rather quickly. Many workers in Wall Street lose their composure while working. Jordan explains that in Wall Street, inappropriate words are used so often and since no one really cares about that, it becomes a habit. Using inappropriate words to express their urgency to sell stock is a common activity in Wall Street.

Fuck this and fuck that! Shit here and shit there! It was the language of Wall Street. It was the essence of the mighty roar, and it cut through everything. It intoxicated you. It seduced you! It fucking liberated you! It helped you achieve goals you never dreamed yourself capable of! And it swept everyone away, especially me (Belfort, 2007: 52).

Such words are uttered so often because according to Jordan, those words are able to give a sense of superiority for the speaker. Jordan himself believes the use of the worse words helps him to convince people.

Eventually, when the stress from work piles up, most workers, especially those who earn much more money tend to end up using drugs or prostitutes to relieve their stress. “Here you go,” said Mark, passing me the coke vial. “The true ticket on Wall Street; this and hookers” (Belfort, 2007: 9). This quotation shows us that Mark, Jordan’s superior, says to Jordan that he can only stay in the business because drugs and prostitutes help him relax.

As a successful worker, Mark’s words give a big influence in Jordan’s life. Jordan as his subordinate who wishes to be rich follows that advice. Jordan indeed becomes successful in his career, but it costs him his personal life because of drug and sex addiction.

#### 4.1.3 Conflicts

##### 4.1.3.1 Internal

Jordan as the focus of the story with his lifestyles of constantly consuming drugs shows us that most of his inner conflicts are related to his drugs addiction. In one of his conversations with Patricia, he confesses that he knows the negativity caused by his drugs addiction, such as how he becomes wilder when on drugs, but at the same time he is ready to spend his fortune just to get his favorite drug.

But my point is that I flushed all my Quaaludes down the toilet and now I’m dying for one. I’ve actually been thinking about having my assistant

send my driver over here on the Concorde, just so I can have some Ludes. That'll cost me about twenty thousand dollars, for twenty Ludes. Twenty thousand dollars! But I'm still thinking about doing it (Belfort, 2007: 173).

From the quotation above we can see that at one point, Jordan has tried to stop consuming drug. However, when the urge to consume drug rises, there is conflict in his mind. If he suppresses the urge his mind will not calm down, but if he wants to get Quaaludes it will bother a lot of people and Jordan has to pass through many difficulties to get Quaaludes, plus it is costly. We can see that to gain that Quaaludes, Jordan has to spend a lot of money. In addition, he also needs to pay for the whole process to bring those drugs to him.

Aside from his struggle against his drug addiction, Jordan also often gets troubled with his marriage. Even though he has divorced his first wife Denise to marry Nadine, he is still unable to trust Nadine's love for him like he trusts Denise's love for him. "It was all very confusing. When I was married to Denise I never worried about these things. She had married me when I had nothing, so her loyalty was unquestioned" (Belfort, 2007: 34). When Jordan was a low class worker, Denise always supports him and accepts him for what he is. After Jordan becomes wealthy, Denise is worried that Jordan will change and leave her. Her worries come true, Nadine steals him away, and Jordan divorces her. This event makes Jordan feel guilty because he divorces his loyal wife. It has been done and Jordan always keeps his guilty feeling inside

#### 4.1.3.2 External

Jordan is not only struggling against his own desires: he is also struggling in many conflicts against other people. At home, he is often conflicting against his wife. It always happen when Nadine catches him cheating or abusing drugs.

“*SPLASH!*” “I woke up to the angry yet gorgeous face of my second wife, Nadine”(Belfort, 2007: 23). We can see that Jordan and Nadine have already quarreled first time in the morning. The reason is none other than Nadine catches Jordan cheating as he mentions other woman’s name in his sleep.

This kind of quarrel where Nadine splashes, yells, and belittles Jordan always happens. Jordan is aware what will happen when his cheating is found out but instead of stop cheating, he keeps cheating his wife and uses prostitute’s service when he and his wife are not together.

The conflict between Jordan and Nadine keeps piling up and it is climaxing when Nadine decides to leave the house because she cannot stand Jordan’s behavior anymore. “Apparently I wasn’t hurting her enough, so I said, “I don’t know where the fuck you think you’re going with all these clothes. If you leave here, you leave with the shirt on your back, you fucking gold digger”” (Belfort, 2007: 432).

The quotation above shows that Jordan insults Nadine when she tries to leave and takes her belongings. Because Jordan spoils his wife with his wealth, he thinks that everything he has given is his. Furthermore, Jordan also has trust issue

with Nadine because they are married when Jordan is already rich, which makes him think that Nadine marries him because of money, not love.

All this time when Jordan and Nadine are quarreling, Jordan never resorts to violence even when Nadine tried to leave the house. However, when Nadine decides to take their daughter with her, Jordan becomes so angry and wild.

“Stop!” she screamed. “Please, stop! It’s your daughter! Put her down!” And she kept wriggling her way up my leg, trying to get a grip on my torso. I looked at the Duchess, and at that very instant I wanted her dead. In all the years we’d been married I had never raised a hand to her—until now. I placed the sole of my sneaker firmly on her stomach, and with one mighty thrust I kicked out—and just like that I watched my wife go flying down the stairs and land on her right side with tremendous force (Belfort, 2007: 437).

The quotation above shows how bad the quarrel was. As a man and a father, Jordan thinks that their children belong to him. Feeling enraged, Jordan becomes violent, and he ignores his child’s safety and hurts his wife. He sees them as his possession and tries to prevent their mother to separate him from them.

## **4.2 Extrinsic Aspect**

### **4.2.1 Forms of Oppressions**

#### **4.2.1.1 Exploitation**

In career world, women often become subject of injustice. In the past, women were directed to be house wife, to work inside the house, and working outside was considered unusual because it was men’s duty. As time passes many women begin to start working outside the house, trying to be independent, but in patriarchal society, men, who dominate career world for long, still see women not as capable as men.



The idea of women not as capable as men brings social injustice in women's career. With the population of men outnumbering women, job vacancy becomes scarce for women. Employers who think that men are superior prioritize men to be hired. Even if women get a job, they are paid less than men. In this situation, women are forced to find a better way to get a job. In search for a better way to get hired, women find out that in male-dominated society, beautiful-looking woman get a job easier than ordinary-looking woman.

Women's exploitation occurs since patriarchal society judges women based on their appearance. Men are interested in women's beauty and sexiness and they feel more comfortable working with beautiful woman rather than with ordinary woman. Thus, many women beautify themselves because employers hire women for their beauty rather than their capability.

You may have seen Nadine on TV; she was that sexy blond who tried to sell you Miller Lite beer during Monday Night Football, the one walking through the park with the Frisbee and the dog. She didn't say much in the commercial, but no one seemed to care. It was her legs that got her the job; that and her ass, which was rounder than a Puerto Rican's and firm enough to bounce a quarter on. Whatever the case, I would be feeling her righteous wrath soon enough (Belfort, 2007: 16).

The quotation above supports the idea that employers hire women for their beauty and sexiness. Beer which is a kind of beverage that is mostly drunk by men is not represented by manly male model; instead it is represented by sexy female model. We can see that Nadine, who shows on TV advertisement, does not do much but she gets famous and successful. As Jordan says in the quotation, it is her sexy appearance that gets her the job. Even the watchers of the advertisement, which mostly are men, do not care so much about what she does there because

they are attracted to her body. This proves that society judges women based on their appearance.

Furthermore, in *The Wolf of Wall Street* we can see that Jordan builds his company with mostly men. As the head of the company he uses his influence to exploit his female workers to wear body-exposing outfit that shows their sexiness in spite of their professionalism. He does it even though such outfit violates the written rules.

Out of the thousand souls in the boardroom there was scarcely a woman over thirty; most were in their early twenties. It was a handsome crowd, exploding with vanity, and the sexual tension was so thick you could literally smell it. The dress code for men—boys!—was a custom-made suit, white dress shirt, silk necktie, and solid gold wristwatch. For the women, who were outnumbered ten to one, it was go-to-hell skirts, plunging necklines, push-up bras, and spike heels, the higher the better. It was the very sort of attire strictly forbidden in Stratton's human-resources manual yet heavily encouraged by management (yours truly) (Belfort, 2007: 52).

On the other hand, Jordan makes his male workers to wear normative outfit that shows elegance and manliness. He does this because he regards women as a beautiful view that eases tension in office rather than as equal partners in work. Women are given the order to wear sexy outfit so that it could distract men from the stress in office. Even though beauty and sexiness help women to get employed because they can ease tension, this situation leads women to another problem, sexual harassment.

When women wear sexy outfit in a men-dominated office, they become vulnerable to sexual harassment. It happens because women are surrounded by men and their appearance arouses men's sexual desire. In addition, it will be hard

for women to fight back if they are harassed because they are employed by men. Men employ women to wear sexy outfit, if women wear normative outfit, they are in danger of getting fired.

Women's appearance is important as their function in office is to soothe tension. However, in Jordan's case, he employs beautiful women not only for that purpose but also for fulfilling his sexual desire. The following quotation shows that Jordan employs young and beautiful woman to work as sales assistant. Her appearance entices one of the male workers to have sex with her on the first day of work in the new office.

The process had officially gotten under way in October 1989, when twenty-one-year-old Peter Galletta, one of the initial eight Strattonites, christened the building's glass elevator with a quick blow job and an even quicker rear entry into the luscious loins of a seventeen-year-old sales assistant. She was Stratton's first sales assistant, and, for better or worse, she was blond, beautiful, and wildly promiscuous (Belfort, 2007: 105).

We can see from the quotation that a barely-legal teen girl is employed as sales assistant by Jordan. Rather than employing professional sales assistant for their first team, Jordan employs young and sexy girl instead. Furthermore, when Jordan sees that his workers are having sex publicly in the new office, he only watches instead of scolding them. It proves that Jordan is actually accepting female workers for that purpose, to sexually exploit them.

Another example of exploitation done to women is the classification of women. In Jordan's case, Jordan and his friends know that women who need quick money are vulnerable to have their body exploited. They divide women who

sell their body into three categories like they classify traded stocks; Blue Chips, NASDAQs, and Pink Sheets.

The three of us exchanged glances but said nothing. After all, what was there to say? The truth was that hookers did take credit cards—or at least ours did! In fact, hookers were so much a part of the Stratton subculture that we classified them like publicly traded stocks: Blue Chips were considered the top-of-the-line hooker, zee crème de la crème... Next came the NASDAQs, who were one step down from the Blue Chips... Then came the Pink Sheet hookers, who were the lowest form of all (Belfort, 2007: 81).

They classify them based on their appearance. The more beautiful the women are, the more Jordan and his friends pay for the service. These women come from many different backgrounds. Some of them are women who already have decent job but do not receive enough salary to fulfill their daily expenses. Some of them are also university students who need to pay tuition. Some of them are women who do not have choice but to sell their body to fulfill their needs. All of them have one thing in common, they need money. They are exploited because of that.

Even though women are allowed to work in office, not every woman gets accepted to work, even beautiful women. In *The Wolf of Wall Street*, we can see that unemployed women either become a house wife or become a prostitute. For women who are not married yet, they choose to become prostitutes for living, especially with the high demand of prostitutes in Wall Street.

From the following quotation, we can see that Jordan's office also exploit prostitution service for its workers.

Most of the old pit had been reclaimed back in the early 1980s, and it now sported a first-class office complex with an enormous parking lot and a

three level underground parking garage, where Stratton brokers would take mid-afternoon coffee breaks and get laid by a happy hit squad of prostitutes (Belfort, 2007: 49).

It means that Jordan allows prostitution, and in the office it happens daily like coffee break. Prostitutes even come in group considering they have to serve not just one but many workers. Seeing that this kind of activity can occur during break time, or even working hours, it means that prostitution business is profitable especially for unemployed women.

Another example of women's exploitation also can be seen from the give and take relation between customers and prostitutes. In this relation, men as the customers give their money to prostitutes, and for exchange, prostitutes let men command them as they want for some moments as part of the deal. "Shut the fuck up, you whore! My wife's on the phone, and if she hears a female voice in the room, I'm in deep shit and you're not getting a tip!" (Belfort, 2007: 129). The quotation shows us that Jordan who uses prostitute's services always do it behind his wives. To avoid getting caught, men often threaten prostitutes to keep silent. In this situation, prostitutes become vulnerable to physical abuse. Furthermore, they are also under the threat of not getting paid if customers are not satisfied.

Sometimes, prostitutes who are not married yet offer themselves as marriage material. It means that they are available and willing to be married with the customer whom they give the offer to.

An hour later we were both getting laid by prostitutes, with Elliot introducing me to my first Blue Chip. And in spite of the fact that I had a terrible case of coke dick, the Blue Chip worked her oral magic on me, and I came like gangbusters—paying her \$5,000 for her troubles, at which point she told me that I was very handsome and, despite the fact that she

was a hooker, she was still marriage material, if I was interested (Belfort, 2007: 307).

They do this in order to have more stable income and stop doing this job. They offer this to their customer because they know that their customer is rich enough to sustain their life since they use their service. In the quotation above we can see that an expensive prostitute says that she is marriage material right after Jordan pays her with much money.

The prostitute in the quotation above gives that offer in the hope that after marrying Jordan her life will be secured financially. Even though every prostitute always has such a hope, it does not happen easily. The following quotation will show how Jordan regards prostitutes. “They were all decent-looking, but none of them was marriage material. I needed a true beauty, one I could parade around Long Island to show the Duchess once and for all who was boss” (Belfort, 2007: 443). It shows that Jordan is going to choose a wife from VIP class prostitutes, but he only does it so he can show off his new wife to his wife Nadine. He only regards prostitutes as a trophy woman, intending to use prostitute to express his superiority to his wife Nadine.

#### 4.2.1.2 Powerlessness

This form of oppression occurs to most of women who lives in patriarchal society since men are the power holder. In *The Wolf of Wall Street*, this oppression can be seen in Jordan’s office. There, it can be seen that female workers are wearing sexy outfit because their boss, Jordan wants them to, as subordinate these female workers have to obey that (Belfort, 2007: 52).

Another example of powerlessness is shown indirectly in the following quotation:

Danny shrugged. “You were grabbing her tits and trying to stick your tongue down her throat. Nothing so terrible if we were in a different situation, but up here in the air...well, there’s different rules than back at the office (Belfort, 2007: 123).

Powerlessness often happens because men who have higher position have tendency to do things they like to the lower position workers, especially women. Jordan as man who is accustomed to being the boss unconsciously harassed a stewardess. It can be seen in the quotation that Danny, Jordan’s partner, tells Jordan that what Jordan has done is terrible because it is not in their office. What Danny said means that in their office sexual harassment is not a bad thing, especially because they have authority in the office. They know that with their position in the company, their workers can be easily manipulated. This means that female workers in Jordan’s office are powerless in front of Jordan even when they are sexually harassed.

The wealth that men have also strengthens their ego. Because men earn more money than women, they feel that they are superior and any problem can be solved using their money, especially if they are against women with much lower earning.

Oh, shit! I lifted my hands, palms facing him, and said, “Of course, only for the purposes of making a formal apology to the young blonde—I mean, the young lady—and perhaps to make some sort of financial restitution, if you know what I mean.” I fought the urge to wink (Belfort, 2007: 126).

As we can see, Jordan, knowing he has offended the stewardess, asks to meet her and tries to bribe her to close her mouth. He treats her like she is a buyable thing rather than human being.

In *The Wolf of Wall Street*, career women and prostitutes are not the only ones who are powerless, housewives also suffer powerlessness. While the men are working, the housewives are left in home to take care of the house and kids. They are vulnerable to get cheated on by their husband because they only know that their husbands are working. They do not know what really happens out there.

Jordan is the example of a cheating husband. Every time he is not with Nadine, he always cheats on her with prostitute, and because they are not together, Jordan always gives excuse against Nadine's accusation.

And my wife...well, I guess she'd earned her scene with me, but still; did she really have that much reason to be angry? I mean, when she married me she knew what she was getting into, didn't she? She had been my mistress, for Chrissake! That spoke volumes, didn't it? And what had I really done tonight? Nothing so terrible, or at least nothing that she could prove! (Belfort, 2007: 20).

The quotation above shows us that Nadine is angry because Jordan sleep talking about another woman, but Jordan in his defense, knowing that she is at home when Jordan are cheating her, says that it is a misunderstanding. Even if it is true, it will be difficult for Nadine to prove it.

In addition, Jordan also justifies what he has done by saying that it is the same thing he does with Nadine before they married, that is cheating. He says that she was once his mistress. It makes him thinks that Nadine is supposed to understand and accept that he is a cheater. This also means that housewives have



to be wary since their husband may get taken away by another woman even though they are married. They are powerless when their husbands end up cheating.

It was only three years ago, in fact, when I had first laid eyes on the Duchess. It was a sight I found so alluring that I ended up leaving my kind first wife, Denise—paying her millions up front in one lump sum plus fifty thousand a month in non-tax-deductible maintenance, so she would walk away quietly without demanding a full-blown audit of my affairs (Belfort, 2007: 25).

In the quotation above Jordan explains how he meets Nadine and falls for her although he has already married to Denise. He ends up divorcing Denise and he even pays so much money to quickly end their marriage. This situation will create rivalry among women since men tend to cheat on their wives because they find another woman who they think is more beautiful and attractive than their wives.

Along with rivalry between women, housewives are also faced against divorce. In patriarchal society, men have the highest authority and ownership, if a man divorces his wife, the wealth is mostly taken by the man. With this kind of privilege, men tend to take this matter lightly. An example of that situation can be seen in the following quotation. ““I resisted the urge to bring up genealogy and smiled sympathetically. “Maybe the two of you should get a divorce. Everyone else seems to be doing it, so it won’t be a big deal”” (Belfort, 2007: 133).

Jordan suggests to Danny that he should divorce his wife since Danny often complains about his wife. Jordan also states that it is not a big deal since everyone seems doing it. He justifies it as a common matter that happens often. This indirectly oppresses women because they are put in a disadvantageous

position and treated like they are not really matter. The following quotation also shows that such situation happens; “Standing there with his arms crossed, Dave looked bigger than a mountain. “You ready to party?” I said buoyantly. “I need to find my next ex-wife.”” (Belfort, 2007: 442). It shows how Jordan wants to find a wife like it is a thing that can be obtained and dumped easily.

#### 4.2.1.3 Violence

Men tend to resort to this form of oppression to maintain their superiority and dominance over women. Even in wealth centered society such as Wall Street, where everything is dealt with money, violence still happens. Jordan shows us that even though most of the time he uses his wealth, he eventually resorts to violence when Nadine tries to take away his daughter.

“Stop!” she screamed. “Please, stop! It’s your daughter! Put her down!” And she kept wriggling her way up my leg, trying to get a grip on my torso. I looked at the Duchess, and at that very instant I wanted her dead. In all the years we’d been married I had never raised a hand to her—until now. I placed the sole of my sneaker firmly on her stomach, and with one mighty thrust I kicked out—and just like that I watched my wife go flying down the stairs and land on her right side with tremendous force (Belfort, 2007: 437).

It can be seen that the violence he does to Nadine is severe enough that it could endanger her life. Women are physically smaller and weaker compared to men, thus making women vulnerable to physical abuses. This condition also gives men superior feeling toward women, because men think women are weaker than men.

## 4.2.2 Women's Reactions

### 4.2.2.1 Verbal Reaction

When women are oppressed, some of them may be powerless to resist or even protest, but some of them also tried to regain their right by resisting or protesting. The form of the resistance can be physical or verbal. In *The Wolf of Wall Street*, few oppressed female characters show resistance when they are oppressed. Nadine is one the female character shown to give resistance and protest when she catches or suspects Jordan cheating behind her

“Oh, I’m really fucking scared,” interrupted the blond firecracker. She shook her head in disgust, and her little pink nipples popped out of her next-to-nothing outfit. I tried not to stare, but it was difficult. “Maybe I should go run and hide,” she quipped. “Or maybe I’ll just stay here and *kick your fucking ass!*” The last few words she screamed (Belfort, 2007: 23).

It can be seen that Nadine gives Jordan sarcasm and scream as her resistance toward Jordan’s cheating behavior. She is often seen to verbally protest Jordan to show that she knows what Jordan does behind her, and that she has the right to be angry to him.

That one got her! She spun around and faced me. “Fuck you!” she screamed. “I’ve been the best wife to you. How *dare* you call me that after all these years! I’ve given you two gorgeous children. Waited on you hand and fucking foot for six fucking years! I’ve been a loyal wife to you—always! Never cheated on you once! And look what I got in return! How many women have you fucked since we’re married? You...philandering piece of shit! Fuck you!” (Belfort, 2007: 432).

The quotation above shows that Nadine speaks about her protest. She always loyal to Jordan even though she knows that Jordan cheats on her.

Another form of resistance is shown by Patricia, as an old woman with little pension money, she refuses to take money from Jordan. "Each time I saw her I would offer her more than she could possibly spend in a year. And each time she refused. She was too proud" (Belfort, 2007: 148). Based on that quotation, it shows that Patricia does not want to receive money offered by Jordan to show that she can live on her own without other's help. She lives independently from men.

#### 4.2.2.2 Physical Reaction

"*SPLASH!*" "I woke up to the angry yet gorgeous face of my second wife, Nadine" (Belfort, 2007: 23). It can be seen that Nadine, after hearing Jordan mention other woman's name, throws a glass of water to the still sleeping Jordan. She does that to show that she is not afraid of him, that she has the right to punish Jordan.

Another example of physical resistance is shown when Nadine tries to take away her daughter from Jordan because he is thought to be harmful.

Chandler started wailing and crying hysterically, and I screamed at the Duchess, "Go fuck yourself, Nadine!" I hit the stairs running. The Duchess took a flying leap and grabbed me around the thighs, desperately trying to keep me from going up the stairs (Belfort, 2007: 437).

It can be seen that in order to prevent Jordan take away her daughter, Nadine physically trying to stop him.

#### 4.2.2.3 Legal Way Reaction

Aside from physical and verbal reaction, some women in *The Wolf of Wall Street* show their resistance toward oppression using legal way. One of the examples of legal protest can be seen from the following quotation, "What the

fuck do you do, besides getting us tangled up in a sexual-harassment lawsuit with that big-titted sales assistant—whatever the fuck her name was” (Belfort, 2007: 82). The quotation shows that there is resistance against that oppression. Jordan’s female worker files a lawsuit for sexual harassment that she gets when working in Jordan’s company.

Another legal way protest is shown by Nadine after Jordan is put to Narcotic Anonymous or NA. “He smiled. “I’m not a divorce lawyer, Jordan. I’m a drug interventionist, and I’ve been hired by your wife, who still loves you, so you shouldn’t be so quick to call her a cunt.””(Belfort, 2007: 455). It can be seen that Nadine has hired a professional to attend the matter of Jordan’s drug addiction. She shows resistance by not meeting him when he is not drug free.

#### 4.2.3 Cause of Oppressions

##### 4.2.3.1 Stereotype

Oppression happens because of some reasons. In society, women’s oppression happens because men who have higher authority and ownership than women control the society and abuse their power over women.

*The Wolf of Wall Street*, where the setting is in Wall Street, focuses on career world. In the memoir, women are oppressed because the men in charge judge women based on looks. Based on that idea, women start to beautify themselves. They put make up and wear sexy clothes to please men.

Jordan and friends’ habit of classifying women also gives us a picture of women’s stereotype in society. A stereotype that beautiful woman is related to

wealth while ordinary woman is related to poorness. It is the consequence of women classification based on appearance where beautiful woman needs more money.

“But before you actually depart this room full of winners, I want you to take a good look at the person sitting next to you, because one day in the not-so-distant future, you’ll be sitting at a red light in your beat-up old Pinto, and the person sitting next to you is gonna pull up in his brand-new Porsche, with his gorgeous young wife sitting next to him. And who’ll be sitting next to you? Some ugly beast, no doubt, with three days of razor stubble—wearing a sleeveless muumuu or a housedress—and you’ll probably be on your way home from the Price Club with a hatchback full of discount groceries!” (Belfort, 2007: 97).

In quotation above, Jordan gives speech that encourages his workers to work with him. By working with him they will be rich and the rewards waiting for the rich are beautiful wife, the good prize, while poor worker who quits the job Jordan offers will live their life with ugly wife as the bad prize.

With that speech, Jordan gives motivation and inspiration for his workers to be rich. However, that speech also strengthens the idea of women’s stereotyping. It makes his male workers to work hard and earn much money to get beautiful wife, while for his female workers, it makes them have to beautify themselves to get rich husbands.

The following quotation shows how a woman, in order to beautify herself, has breast surgery. She even gets in debt because the surgery is expensive.

One of the young sales assistants, who was strapped for cash, had agreed to put on a Brazilian bikini and sit down on a wooden stool at the front of the boardroom and let us shave her head down to the skull. She had a great mane of shimmering blond hair and a wonderful set of breasts, which had recently been augmented to a D cup. Her reward would be \$10,000 in cash, which she would use to pay for her breast job, which she’d just financed at twelve percent. So it was a win-win situation for everyone: In six months

she'd have her hair back, and she'd own her D cups debt free (Belfort, 2007: 104).

Jordan, as the boss, knows that she is in debt and takes advantage of that by giving the needed money to her under the condition that she cuts her hair bald in front of everyone as entertainment. Woman's hair is considered to be her pride, but when Jordan's female worker is offered to cut her hair she agrees to this because she needs the money, and so she became entertainment for her co-worker. This act implicitly shows her co-worker that money can buy almost everything, including woman's pride. With that act, more men will think that they can control women using money.

#### 4.2.3.2 Financially Dependent

Because of the idea that money can buy women, men who have money start to abuse their power. In Stratton Oakmont, Jordan who has not only the highest position but also the most fortune runs his office as he pleases; he even tries to have sex with as many sales assistants working under him.

“What did that say about me? Did it make me weak? Or was it only natural to want to bang them all? After all, what was the point of having the power if you didn't use it to get laid?” (Belfort, 2007: 275). Jordan in his farewell speech questions himself on how he should have sex with more of his female workers before he retires. He even states that it is his right as power holder to use it to subdue his female workers to satisfy him. It shows that when men have power, they mostly abuse it to control women. Whenever women refuse to do what men want, men will use the power they have to force their will.

In Stratton Oakmont, women who are employed are given easy task with high salary. At first it seems like it is a profitable easy job for women to earn money, but actually this work makes them dependent. Doing easy job and receives big money will not make them utilize their potential. They stop developing themselves. “And from there the wealth trickled down. Sales assistants, who were really glorified secretaries, were making over \$100,000 a year. Even the girl at the front switchboard made \$80,000 a year, just for answering the phones” (Belfort, 2007: 53). From this quotation, Jordan explains how a female receptionist whose job is to answer phone call even get much money. That job is not a kind of job that can help women to develop their other potential as they only pick up phone calls.

Not only that, Jordan also states that due to the money earned and the simple task of the job, they become scared of doing another job if they are ever fired or quit working in Stratton Oakmont. Jordan’s female workers lose their will to improve themselves as they are accustomed with doing such a simple task like answering phone for a living.

Housewives, who do not have personal income, are dependent to their husband. This also becomes the cause of oppression because they rely on their husband for living. In exchange for that, they serve their husband and obey them.

Oh, fuck her, I thought. “Okay,” I sputtered. “I’ll be in the TV room; please don’t disturb me. I have important business to attend to.” With that, I went into the TV room, flicked on the Rolling Stones, and broke out the drugs. The Duchess had instructed me to be ready by seven-thirty. What the fuck did that mean? That I should be dressed in a fucking tuxedo—or top hat and tails? What was I, a fucking monkey? I was wearing gray sweatpants and a white T-shirt, and that was just fucking fine! Who the



fuck paid for all this shit? Me—that's who! And she had the nerve to be giving me orders! (Belfort, 2007: 421).

When something goes wrong, housewives often become the target of abuse, and money becomes the reason used by men to justify their act. The quotation above shows an example of that. Jordan is angry because Nadine askshim to be ready in time. Jordan who thinks of himself as the head of the house gets offended because he thinks that Nadine has no right for that since he is the one who provides all theirneeds.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the intrinsic and extrinsic analyses on previous chapter concerning on oppression done to women, the writer concludes that in *The Wolf of Wall Street* women, either career women, prostitutes, or housewives, suffer from three forms of oppression because they are financially dependent. The forms of the women's oppression are sexual abuse, powerlessness, and cultural imperialism.

The first form of oppression that is suffered by women is exploitation. In the story we can see this oppression is done by Jordan Belfort. He is a sex addict who always wants to have sex with women around him. In his office, he takes advantage of his position to have sex with his female workers. He even allows other male workers to have sex with female workers in the office. Furthermore, Jordan also uses prostitutes to satisfy his desire. Whenever he is not with his wife Nadine, he has sex with other women.

The second form of oppression suffered by women is powerlessness. It can be seen clearly in the story that many women are powerless against the domination of men. Jordan as the head of Stratton Oakmont Company uses his position to do whatever he wants, including sex with his female workers. His female workers also let him do what he wants because they do not have the power to fight back. They need the job and afraid of losing it if they resist Jordan's will. In Stratton Oakmont female workers are also encouraged to wear sexy outfit instead of professional outfit.

The third form of women's oppression in *The Wolf of Wall Street* is violence. It can be seen that even though most of the time Jordan deal with his problem using his money, when he unable to maintain dominance over Nadine, he resorts to violence. This oppression does not only occurs in household, prostitutes are also vulnerable to violence since they are paid and thus expected to obey all of the customer's desire, when not fulfilled they might resort to physical abuse.

All of those oppressions happen because women are financially dependent. We can see in the story how career women are sexually abused in the office but can do nothing because they need the job to earn money. Prostitutes also have to give sex service and obey what customer wants in exchange of money. Housewives is the most financially dependent because they do not have income other than from their husbands, thus they have to obey their husbands. Stereotype of women is also the reason why women's oppression occurs. Based on women's stereotyping, men sees women as something that is valuable when they are beautiful or sexy, and they can be used when they are paid enough.

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