



**REPRESENTATION OF MEN AND WOMEN
IN FEMINISTS' SPEECH THEN AND NOW
(A Comparative Transitivity Study)**

A FINAL PROJECT

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement
for S-1 Degree in Linguistics
In English Department, Faculty of Humanities
Diponegoro University

Submitted by :
Aisyah Dewi Safira
13020114130068

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG
2018**

ABSTRAK

Pidato, selain merupakan sebuah susunan teks yang berisi pendapat dan gambaran akan sesuatu hal, dapat juga menjadi jembatan bagi orator untuk menyampaikan emosi, perasaan, serta pesan tersirat. Dalam hal ini, sistem transitivitas sebagai salah satu bidang kajian Linguistik Fungsional Sistemik (LFS) dapat menjadi alat untuk mengungkapkan makna yang tersirat dari sebuah klausa. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menggunakan sistem transitivitas tersebut sebagai alat untuk mengungkapkan dan membandingkan representasi perempuan dan laki-laki yang terkandung dalam beberapa klausa pada dua teks pidato dua orang pejuang hak perempuan. Pejuang tersebut bernama Elizabeth Stanton dan Emma Watson, dimana mereka berasal dari era yang berbeda yaitu abad 19 dan abad 20. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif dengan menggunakan metode padan referensial dan metode agih. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat tiga jenis nilai representasi dari masing-masing teks pidato, yaitu *Man Destruct*, *Women Revive*, *Men Are Being the Atrocious Government*, *Women Are Being Masculine* dan *Women Value Life More* dalam teks pidato Elizabeth Stanton dan *Being Women Is a Privilege*, *Men Are Imprisoned by Stereotype*, *Women and Men Should Feel Free to Be Strong and Sensitive* dan *Woman Act, Men Support* dalam teks pidato Emma Watson.

Kata Kunci : *sistem transitivitas, representasi, pidato*

1. Introduction

Language carries more than a system of communication for the human being. Based on Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics theory, a language contains values as social semiotic resources used by people to complete the goal by revealing the meaning in context (Eggins, 2004). Therefore, it can be concluded that language can be a tool to analyze the reflection of how the culture and society work at the time it is being used. By using this theory, I intend to uncover how an idea is being carried at certain times and how it differs from time to time. The idea that is being analyzed was the representation of men and women and how it relates to feminism.

In writing this research I focused on two research problems. The first is how the two speech producers represented men and women in their speech based on the Transitivity Process are. The second is whether there are differences between the two text producers in representing men and women in their speech.

Hence, the objectives of writing this research are to uncover the representation of men and women based on the Transitivity Process found in the speech and to find whether there are differences at how the texts producers represented men and women.

This study focused on the analysis of two speech texts from two different eras. They are Elizabeth Stanton's speech at the Women's Suffrage Convention in Washington, D.C in 1868 and Emma Watson's speech at a special event for the HeForShe campaign in United Nations Headquarters, New York in September 2014.

2. Theoretical Framework

This research uses the theoretical framework of transitivity established and developed by Halliday to analyze the Transitivity Process of the two speech texts.

2.1. Process and Participant

Halliday in Gerot and Wignell (1994:54) identified that there are 7 different process types, they are :

- a) Material Process.
- b) Mental Process.
- c) Behavioral Process.
- d) Verbal Process.
- e) Relational Process.
- f) Existential Process.
- g) Meteorological Process.

2.1. Circumstantial Element

According to Halliday in Gerot and Wignell (1994:52), circumstances answer questions like when, where, why, how, how many, and as what. They realize meaning about time, place, manner, cause, accompaniment, matter, and role.

In this research, I took the data retrieved from the web <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2014/9/emma-watson-gender-equality-is-your-issue-too> and <http://www.historyplace.com/speeches/stanton.htm>. I used purposive sampling in which I only analyzed clauses that have either women, men or both of them as participants.

This research's type is descriptive qualitative because it describes ideas based on the result of the analysis. As for the analysis of the data, I used *Agih* method because the object of the observation is the language itself (Sudaryanto, 1993:15). Referential Identity or *Padan Referensialis* also used since I need elements beyond language in order to formulate the meaning of the clause (Sudaryanto, 1993).

Firstly, I retrieved the data from the internet, then I collected sample clauses found in the speech to be analyzed. Then, the components of participants, process and circumstances were identified. After that, the observed component were sorted according to its frequency in the speech and listed in tables. Finally, after all the linguistics analysis has been done, the most Transitivity Processes were discussed within the framework of gender roles and in the end, it were connected to the idea of feminism.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1 Representation of Men and Women in Elizabeth Stanton Speech (19th Century)

3.1.1 Men destruct, Women Revive

Elizabeth used Material Process the most to express her idea about each gender. She described the participants through what they were doing in order to tell her audience the reality.

Elizabeth also stated that man *has undertaken the absolute control of all sublunary matters*, in which the circumstances *all sublunary matters* implying that

men took control of all the worldly materials while women only able to take control of material beyond them like feeling and affection. For women, Elizabeth used verbs implying weakness such as *repressed and ignored* and *mourn*.

Towards the end of her speech, Elizabeth used Material Processes with verbs which have contrary senses to the beginning of her speech. For men, she used more verbs implying regret such as *stands appalled* and *mourn*. Elizabeth meant to tell people that men with their domination are mourning at their own destruction that they made in governing the country.

Later after that, for women, she used Material Processes to describe what would happen if women were included in governing the country. She used women as actors in the processes, with verbs implying strength such as *protest, secure, sacrifice, and reign* with goals that related to the governmental problem that they were facing such as, *intrigue, bribery, health, and prosperity*.

3.1.2 Men Are The Atrocious Government, Women Try to Be Masculine

With Relational Process, Elizabeth tended to assign some negative and violent words to attribute or identify men as the carriers. In this case, men as the carriers were always stated to represent the government. In her speech, she assigned that *man government is civil, religious and social disorganization, loving war, disease, and death*.

Furthermore, Elizabeth tried to tell her audience that women need to be masculine in order to take dominance in society by using the circumstances *to keep a foothold in society* as a purpose, with relational process *woman must be as near like man as possible*.

3.1.3 Women Value Life More

Elizabeth used women as senser and said that women *must respect his (man) statutes, though they strip her of every inalienable right, women must look at everything from its dollar-and cent point of view or she is a mere romancer,* and women *must accept things as they are and make the best of them.* Those statements of efforts to reach such an impossible position intended to gain sympathy from her audience. However, those experience make women value the cost of life more than men.

3.2 Representation of Men and Women in Emma Watson Speech (21st Century)

3.2.1 Being Women Is a Privilege, Men Are Imprisoned by Stereotype

At the beginning of her speech, Emma validated that feminism movement has reached its goal by assigning the *right* adjective in a clause *I think it is right* with some circumstances about how society treat women nowadays such as *paid the same as my male counterpart, make decisions about my own body.*

This statement was later supported by using another Relational Process that assigned attribute *inadvertent feminist* to carrier like *mentors* and *they*. The carriers were not specifically referring to men or women in which it means that woman can easily find people whether they are men or women who also stand for their right. This is a form of privilege that women in the present era have.

3.2.2 Women and Men Should Feel Free to Be Strong and Sensitive.

At the beginning of Emma's speech, for women as sensors, she used Mental Processes implying a perplexity of gender-based assumption in clauses

like *confused at being called "bossy"* and *didn't want to appear muscly*. She intended to tell her audience that there are still hesitations for women to act in certain ways that give her masculine characteristics because it will not be accepted in society or she will be valued less as a woman.

As for men as sensors, Emma tended to use the words that imply vulnerability such as *suffering, imprisoned, fragile* and *insecure*. By using those verbs, she introduced a new point of view on the objective of feminism movement. The point of view was to also take a look at what men feel. She said *I've seen young men suffering from mental illness unable to ask for help for fear it would make them look less "macho"* and *I've seen men made fragile and insecure by a distorted sense of what constitutes male succes*.

3.2.3 Women Act, Men Support

Most of the Material Processes in this speech used verbs that imply efforts to bring up result such as, *take up, change, make, inviting, changing, and struggling*. Women and men were used as actors for these processes in which the used of men as actors implying that men should also be included in this movement because if they don't it would be impossible to reach the goal.

The proofs can be seen from clauses *I want men to take up this mantle* which intended to invite men to care and *things will change as natural consequences* which imply that their intervention will bring a success. Thus, the used of this process intend to empower men and women to act their way up to achieve the goal of feminism and gender equality.

3.3 Feminism in 19th Century and Feminism in 21st Century

Women participants took most part of the content. In material processes found in both speech texts, women participants used as actors were more frequently found rather than women used as goals. This imply that Emma and Elizabeth more focus on what women do rather than what other participants do to them. They wanted to imply that the start of change in gender inequality issues should come from women doing something about the issues.

According to the analysis, Elizabeth Stanton used Material Processes the most in her speech while Emma used Relational Process. The reason for this is because, in Elizabeth Era, oppression toward women is numberless. They are limited in so many ranges of life, such as education, marriage, job, right to vote, etc. Men supremacy is a big problem back in the past. That is why they do not only need an understanding of the ideology but also some actions to be done.

4. Conclusion

This research reveals the idea that currently, feminism movement tried to include male as the beneficiary of the movement which we did not find in the movement goals in the past year. Thus, it is predicted that feminism in the future will continue changing and try to cover other value to give support to women without disadvantaging another part of the society.

REFERENCES

- English Oxford Living Dictionaries. (2016, September 27). *Definition of feminism in English*. Retrieved from <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/feminism>
- Gerot, L and Wignell, P. (1994). *Making Sense of Functional Grammar*. Sydney: Gerd Stabler.
- Halliday, M.A.K. (1985). *Introduction to Functional Grammar. 4th Edition*. London: Edward Arnold.
- History. (2013, October 22). *Women's History*. Retrieved from <https://www.history.com/topics/womens-history>
- Sudaryanto. (1993). *Metode dan Aneka Teknik Analisis Bahasa*. Yogyakarta: DutaWacana University Press.
- The History Place. (1999, October 9). *Elizabeth Cady Stanton, The Destructive Male*. Retrieved from <http://www.historyplace.com/speeches/stanton.htm>
- UN Women. (2014, September 22). *Gender Equality Is Your Issue Too*. Retrieved from <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2014/9/emma-watson-gender-equality-is-your-issue-too>

Comment [G1]: Inserted: i

Comment [G2]: Inserted: to