



GENDER REPRESENTATION FROM THE  
CHARACTERS' POINT OF VIEW IN *WONDER*  
*WOMAN*

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Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University

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## PRONOUNCEMENT

I honestly confirm that I compile this thesis myself without taking any work of other researchers in S-1, S-2, S-3, and diploma degree of any university. I ascertain that I do not quote any material from other publication otherwise mentioned.

Semarang, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018

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## ABSTRACT

Kesetaraan gender merupakan salah satu isu yang sedang ramai dibahas dalam masyarakat. Salah satu ikon feminisme yang sudah mendunia adalah Wonder Woman. Penelitian ini menguak pandangan-pandangan para tokoh dalam komik *Wonder Woman* dan sikap bias yang mungkin mereka miliki. Penelitian ini menerapkan teori *systemic functional grammar* sebagai model analisis.

Dari data yang berupa ujaran-ujaran para tokoh yang berkaitan gender dapat disimpulkan beberapa hal. Protagonis wanita merepresentasikan wanita sebagai golongan yang damai dan memiliki kemampuan yang baik untuk menjadi pemimpin. Pria direpresentasikan sebagai kaum yang mudah terjerumus dalam tindakan yang merugikan dan tidak cocok sebagai pemimpin. Sementara itu, antagonis pria merepresentasikan wanita sebagai golongan yang mereka hormati dan pria adalah golongan yang mampu menjadi pemimpin. Secara keseluruhan, protagonis wanita lebih menunjukkan sikap bias terhadap pria.

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Women emancipation has been an issue in human culture for a very long time. In most culture, men dominate society rulings and women are only allowed to stand at the side to give support and small contributions. However, there are always some women who defy this order in every era in many places and cultures, such as the Queens of England, Queen Elizabeth I and II, the brilliant scientist Marie Curie, the revolutionary fashion designer Coco Chanel, the feminist Simone de Beauvoir and R.A. Kartini, the young activist Malala Yousafzai, and many others.

The notion of women being capable of achieving what only men traditionally can is very inspirational. Our media and literature have promoted this phenomenon many times that feminism now has a hand in our pop-culture.

One of the most popular pop-culture icons in this era that promotes feminism is Wonder Woman. Wonder Woman is a comic book character first appeared in 1941 created by William Moulton Marston under the pen name Charles Moulton.<sup>1</sup> The story tells the adventures of Diana, a woman with god-like power that was raised in an independent all-woman island. As the first comic book featuring a heroine, *Wonder Woman* brings its readers, girls and boys, to be

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<sup>1</sup> Marston's short biography and a summary of the comic that is discussed in this research are available in the appendices.

aware of gender equality. This comic series opens the readers' mind that women can be as heroic as men.

We cannot agree more that Wonder Woman is a successful model of women emancipation. When it was first published, Wonder Woman's unorthodox characterization is quickly gaining popularity. Female comic characters of that era were commonly damsels in distress. When a reader first read the lines in *Wonder Woman*, he or she will note the heroine's independence and valor. She is brave, strong, unyielding, yet also nice and kind at the same time. However, how does Wonder Woman issue gender equality herself? How does she, in her adventures, treats men and women? What is her judgment on men and women? Is she fair for both?

This research explores how characters in *Wonder Woman* comics attribute gender value and a possibility of gender bias. It focuses only on the exchanges between the characters and does not include the narrator. I use systemic functional grammar to analyze this text.

## 1.2 Research Problems

- How did female protagonists view men and women?
- How did male antagonist view men and women?
- Is there a gendered bias of their view?

### 1.3 Purpose of the Study

This study aims to elaborate the values that the female protagonists and male antagonist assign to men and women to their representation. This study also compares and explains any differences or bias in their way they represent and treat men and women.

### 1.4 Previous Studies

A study about the interpretation of *Wonder Woman* has been conducted by Delaney in 2014. In *Wonder Woman: Feminist Icon of the 1940s*, she wrote her analysis of *Wonder Woman*. One of her purposes in her analysis is to identify the message that is conveyed in the comics. She uses feminist and iconography approach in her analysis. She claims that *Wonder Woman* is a representation of what a woman should be capable of.

However, *Wonder Woman* is more than a feminine mascot. She is also a comic book character where she participates in adventures and interacts with other characters. Her iconography approach only brought us to the visual interpretation of the comic. The way she converses with other characters also represents what she is. We must also consider the verbal aspect of her representation from a linguistic perspective.

Research inducting a character analysis using linguistic perspective has been done by Kavalir (2016), Mahardika (2017), and Candra (2017). Kavalir in 2016 investigates the ideational and interpersonal metafunction in a short story

using systemic functional grammar theory. In the story *Eveline*, which is written by James Joyce, she discovered that the main protagonists and also the narrator, *Eveline* uses a lot of mental clauses and is a major senser. She narrates the story by observing her environment. *Eveline* also has the tendency to react to the events in the story instead of doing something by her own intention.

In 2017, Mahardika determines the characterization of a fictional character, Mr. Lorry, from the simplified version of *Tales of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens, which is written by Patricia Atkinson. She uses transitivity system of systemic functional grammar as her method of analysis. She concludes that Mr. Lorry is a caring, gentle, loyal, and responsible person.

Candra conducts research on moral values suggested in *Peradilan Rakyat*, a short story by Putu Wijaya, in 2017. This story narrates a discussion about law deviation between a father and his son who worked as lawyers. His analysis applies the transitivity system to understand the ideational metafunction in the text. He found six moral values in this story: being professional and critical, and having confidence, honesty, wisdom, and love.

Systemic functional grammar has also been applied for studies that specify in gender representation and comparing the difference between male and female characterizations in literatures. Three studies have been conducted by Rezaei and Samani (2014), Akogbeto and Koukpossi (2015), and Gallardo (2016). Rezaei and Samani (2014) investigate the interpretation of a poem by W.B. Yeats, *Leda and the Swan* from a linguistic perspective. This poem tells us the legend of *Leda and the Swan*



Zeus. He applied the theory of systemic functional grammar to compare how the two characters in the poem are portrayed. While Zeus or the swan is an active participant, Leda is a passive participant. It shows that Zeus has the power over Leda.

Akogbeto and Koukposi in 2015 analyze gender perspectives from a drama script: *The Lion and the Jewel*. In this research, they focus on the ideational metafunction of the characters from the dialogue. According to their conclusion, women are more reliant on mental process, making them emotional beings. On the other hand, men in the drama are represented as dominators and women are beneficiaries or goal participants.

Gallardo in 2016 published her analysis of *Pygmalion*. Her research digs the difference between man and women through transitivity analysis in systemic functional grammar. Men in this drama are portrayed as rational beings. On the other hand, women are portrayed as emotional.

This research implements the linguistic aspect in character analysis in *Wonder Woman* using systemic functional grammar theory. It gives us a deeper understanding of how characters in *Wonder Woman* think about men and women from their speech.

## 1.5 Writing Organization

In this research, there are five chapters that each explains about:

### CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

This chapter gives the reader a brief impression of this study. In this section, I explained the purpose of this study and several studies that prompted this study.

### CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, I write about theories and concepts that are fundamental in this research.

### CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter explains what type of research this is, and the procedures to obtain and analyze the data in order to attain the purpose.

### CHAPTER 4: FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter delivers my data and my analysis in this research.

### CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION

The last chapter contains the final conclusion of my analysis.

## CHAPTER 2

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This chapter elaborates on underlying theories of this research. The chapter comprises of two main subchapters, namely Systemic Functional Grammar (2.1.1) and Comics and Narratology (2.1.2). In Systemic Functional Grammar (2.1.1), I write Transitivity System in Ideational Meaning (2.1.1.1) and Appraisal System in Interpersonal Meaning (2.1.1.2). In the second subchapter, I provide supplementary theories about comics and narratology, especially about text in comics and speech representation in literatures.

#### 2.1 Theoretical Framework

In our conversation or speech, we use language to barter what we have in mind. In order to have language works successfully in conveying our thoughts, we need a context set. What we produced in this occurrence is referred to as text. Characters from narratives also do the same when they converse. Though their dialogue is scripted, it still holds meaning that works in the context of the story setting.

Systemic functional grammar elaborates on the meaning-making resources and their system. It offers us an approach to text interpretation. This research applies the theory of systemic functional grammar to interpret how the characters in *Wonder Woman* comic book view genders.

### 2.1.1 Systemic Functional Grammar

Systemic functional grammar is a theory proposed by M.A.K. Halliday. Systemic functional grammar focuses on how structures construct meaning (Gerot and Wignell, 1995: 6). Applied studies in systemic functional grammar mostly aim to interpret text, so context plays a great part for it. It is made easy since the theory already provides a great explanation on how meaning is constructed with systemic structure.

To understand how to interpret a text, we need to understand what language is for. Language, as an instrument to convey meaning, can function beyond the purpose of communicating human thoughts. Halliday identifies three functions of language (2014: 30). The first is to express human experience. This is called 'the ideational metafunction'. The second is to represent our personal and social relationship with other people or things. The second function is called 'the interpersonal metafunction'. The third is to ensure the coherence and cohesion of a text and called 'the textual metafunction'. He specifically uses the term 'metafunction' instead of 'function' to distinguish the three metafunctions from the notion of common language usage in the word 'function'.

#### 2.1.1.1 Transitivity System in Ideational Meaning

Ideational metafunction serves to express what we experience. Halliday deemed that our most powerful impression of experience is that it consists of a flow of events, 'or going-on' (2014: 213). These flows of events fundamentally consist of processes that involve participants and sometimes under some specific circumstances. These processes are realized in clauses. Transitivity is a grammar

about the reflection of our experiences in clauses. Using the transitivity model of analysis enlightens us about how people construe what they experience and events or phenomena around them.

There are three basic components in transitivity model: participant, process, and circumstance. ‘Participant’ is the element that is directly involved in the process (Matthiessen et al., 2010: 155). Gerot and Wignell explained that ‘circumstance’ is the grammatical aspect that answers such questions as when, where, why, how, how many, and as what (1995: 52-3). Circumstance explains the time, place, manner, cause, accompaniment, matter, and role.

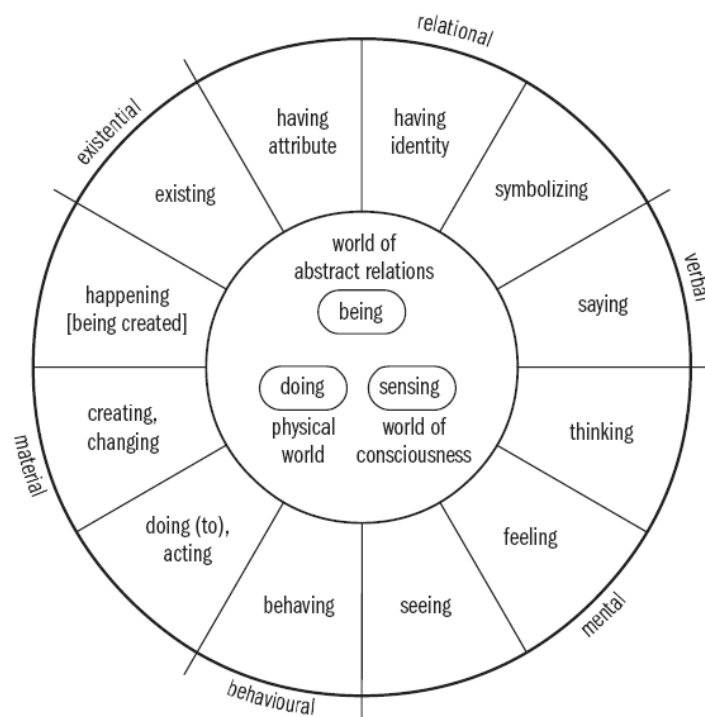


Figure 1. Types of Process in English (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2014: 216)

There are six types of processes elaborated in *Halliday's Introduction to Functional Grammar* (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014: 216): material, behavioral,

mental, verbal, relational, and existential process. A ‘material process’ is a process of making something happens. It is a process that happens in the external world, not in one's mind or internal world. The opposite of this process that happens in one's mind is called a ‘mental process’. There is a process that is in-between material and mental process that is called a ‘behavioral process’. It is a process that represents physiological and psychological behavior. A ‘relational process’ is an identifying and classifying process. An existential process is simply the process of existing. A ‘verbal process’ is a process that involves saying something and communicating.

#### 2.1.1.1.1 Material Process

‘Material clauses’ are clauses that illustrate physical actions happening or something being made as an external experience. The participant elements that execute such actions are called ‘actors’. Meanwhile, the participant elements that undergo the effect of those actions are called ‘goals’.

#### 2.1.1.1.2 Mental Process

‘Mental clauses’ are the polar opposite of material clauses. Instead of expressing external experience, they express an internal experience or psychological actions. Generally, they portray one's cognitive thinking, sense perception, and heartfelt emotion. The participant that feels these experiences is called ‘senser’, while the object that triggers these episodes is called ‘phenomenon’.

#### 2.1.1.1.3 Behavioral Process

The ‘behavioral process’ is simply about human behavior, either physiological such as breathing, sleeping, and blinking or psychological such as seeing, smiling, and dreaming. Behavior process is the middle ground between material and mental process. Sometimes, behavioral processes are also a psychological activity that manifests in the physiological realm such as crying, smiling, and laughing. Participants who are behaving are called ‘behavers’. In some cases, activities in a behavioral process are situated as participants. We call them ‘behaviors’.

#### 2.1.1.1.4 Relational Process

The purpose of the ‘relational process’ is to characterize and to identify. Under the relational process, things are construed as being or having. It sets up the relation of two beings. It must involve two participants. In English, there are three types of those relations: ‘intensive’, ‘possessive’, and ‘circumstantial’. In addition to that, there are two types of relational process, namely ‘attributive’ (A is an attribute of X) and ‘identifying’ (A is the identity of X). The key to differentiating the two is that ‘identifying’ is reversible. *Sarah is the leader/the leader is Sarah* is an identifying clause, while *Sarah is wise* is an attributive clause because *wise is Sarah* does not make sense (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014: 265). In identifying clauses, beings that are being ascribed are called ‘identified’, while the trait that is being identified is called ‘identifier’. On the other hand, in attributive clauses, a being that is being ascribed are called ‘carrier’, while the feature that is being attributed is called ‘attribute’.

#### 2.1.1.1.5 Existential Process

The 'existential process' represents the idea that something exists or is being there. In these clauses, there is only one participant, the object that is being there. This grammatical aspect is called 'existent'.

#### 2.1.1.1.6 Verbal Process

'Verbal clauses' represent the process of saying either directly or indirectly. The participant who produces utterances is 'sayer', while the participant to whom the utterance is addressed is a 'receiver'. The utterance itself is verbiage. There is one more participant, 'target', which is the participant that is being targeted in the verbal process.

#### 2.1.1.2 Appraisal System in Interpersonal Meaning

Appraisal system is a method to assess the text producer's attitude toward someone or something. Naturally, we appraise a text to determine its interpersonal metafunction (Martin and Rose, 2007: 26). There are three main attitudes in a text, namely: 'affect', 'judgment', and 'appreciation'. Attitudes may be expressed directly, with explicit adjectives, or indirectly using metaphor or implied in the text.

'Affect' is an attitude of showing one's feeling. It can be positive or negative. Positive feelings are generally favored in society, while negative feelings are avoided. An attitude may be a surge of behavior or emotion, an impulse which only lasts for a short period of time, or it may be a disposition,



natural condition of one's mind. Martin and Rose also explained that a text can show its attitude to 'realis' and 'irrealis' things (2007: 65-7). Fear and desire are 'irrealis' affects. They are invented within and directed externally. 'Realis' affects are un/happiness, in/security, and dis/satisfaction.

'Judgment' is an attitude of judging character. We either 'admire' (positive) or 'criticize' (negative) when we judge 'personal values', and we either 'praise' (positive) or 'condemn' (negative) when we judge 'moral values'. Iedema et al. (1994) conclude that judgment attitude is categorized into social 'esteem' and social 'sanction'. Martin and Rose (2007: 68) recount their finding as follow: esteem judging is involved with normality (how special someone is), capacity (how capable someone is), and tenacity (how driven someone is). Since it deals with personal values, it usually has no legal implication. Sanction judging is involved with veracity (how honest someone is) and how propriety (how morally accepted someone is). Social sanction deals with moral values, so it usually implies legality.

'Appreciation' is an attitude of showing how valuable something is. Similar to the previous attitudes, this attitude could express positive or negative values. There are three types of appreciation attitudes: reaction, composition, and valuation (Martin and Rose, 2007: 69-70). 'Reactions' measure how something catches the text producer's attention (impact) and how the text producer likes something (quality). 'Compositions' express how the text producers agree that something is properly balanced (balance) and the quality of the details of an object (complexity). 'Valuations' express if something is worth for the society.

Attitude is not merely a binary expression, love/hate, respect/disrespect. Since a text can present a positive or negative attitude, we can treat this antonymy as a gradation, or according to David and Rose: ‘amplification’ (2007: 42). A text may have a very strong or mediocre attitude about something, but nevertheless an attitude. In several genres, attitude is amplified to show the degree of the attitude.

The quality of the attitude (force) can be pronounced more or less using intensifiers (such as comparison, adjectives, and modality), attitudinal lexis (lexis that implies gradation), metaphors, and swearing. On the other hand, the importance of the attitude (focus) can be sharpened and softened. Focusing makes non-gradable things gradable.

We must also be aware that text often displays an attitude from other than what the text producer obviously mentions. We call this ‘engagement’. There are three means to do this, projecting, polarity and modality, and concession (Martin and Rose, 2007: 49-58). In projecting, text producers mention an attitude that is not originally theirs. They may quote, report, and think or feel (without saying). Punctuation can also indicate a projection. It is called ‘scare quotes’. Polarity and modality imply that alternate thoughts exist, though the source is usually elliptic. Concessions or ‘counterexpectancy’ implicitly acknowledges other people expectation or attitude.

### 2.1.2 Comics and Narratology

Before we begin our discussion, we may need to answer the question: “What are comics?” Scott McCloud defines comics as juxtaposed pictorial and other images

in deliberate sequence, intended to convey information and/or to produce an aesthetic response in the viewer (1994: 9).

As a story-telling tool, comics do not necessarily need word unlike prose or other narrative genres. However, not all actions can be represented easily with only illustrations in comics. Verbal actions, for example, will be much more understandable as words inside speech balloons, than symbolic picture representing the meaning. It will take much time for the reader just to interpret what each writer want to say. Language and its universality greatly help comics narrate a story. McCloud categorized seven ways of combining texts and pictures in comics, (1993: 153-5):

- Word specific combination where texts contributes greatly in delivering the message but picture almost have no significance
- Picture specific where pictures holds the central message in the sequence and text addition are trivial
- Duo specific where both texts and pictures deliver same messages
- Additive where texts enhance or elaborate the meaning in the picture and vice versa
- Parallel where texts and pictures tell different things at once
- Montage where texts are also part of pictures
- Interdependent where texts and pictures create a message together, and they cannot be separated without losing the meaning

Rimmon-Kenan explained that in narratology, a writer can represent speech in two modes: 'diegesis' and 'mimesis' (2002: 109). In 'diegesis' mode, the narrator is the one who produces the speech. On the other hand, in 'mimesis' mode, the writer wants to give a sense of reality by making the impression that the narrator is not the one who produces the text. There are seven types of speech representation that ranges from purely diegetic to purely mimetic (Rimmon-Kenan, 2002: 112-3):

- Diegetic summary (most diegetic) informs that a speech has been produced without disclosing the topic nor the content;
- Summary summarizes the topic;
- Indirect content paraphrase paraphrases a speech without retaining the styles of the original speech;
- Indirect discourse (neutral) is indirect speech;
- Free indirect discourse expresses speech similar to indirect discourse but the syntactical frames are omitted (Fludernik, 2009: 67);
- Direct discourse represents speech directly with quotation marks;
- Free direct discourse (most mimetic) represents speech directly without any conventional orthographic cues.

## CHAPTER 3

### RESEARCH METHOD

In this chapter, I explain about my research methods, especially on what type of research this is, data, population, and sampling technique, the method of collecting data, and method of analyzing data.

#### 3.1 Type of Research

In this research, I discover the protagonists' and the antagonist's perspective on gender, judgment, and their alignment. Being a descriptive research, this research infers what the characters said about gender issue and elaborates the meaning of their arguments.

This research is a qualitative research. In *Research Methods in Applied Linguistics*, it is said that quality research is concerned with subjective opinions, experiences and feelings of individuals and thus the explicit goals of research is to explore the participants' views of the situation being studied (Dörnyei, 2007: 38). Due to my objectives, I am following the same course for this research approach.

#### 3.2 Data, Population, Sample, and Sampling Technique

Data for this research is all utterances produced by the protagonists and antagonist that portray their opinion about men and women. It is taken from the second story of *Wonder Woman #7* (1943) page 1B-13B. I particularly choose that story because it presents us with a unique plot, where a man and a woman competed to

be the president of the United States. Data population is all clauses with men or women who are being the general representation of said gender as the participant, either active or passive participant. The following utterance is an example of the data: "*Silly girl—Steve and all men are much happier when their strong aggressive natures are controlled by a wise and loving woman!*" said the Queen to Diana at the end of the story. To signify the population, I give a number in superscript before the clause and underline it. This research applies total sampling technique because I analyze all data.

### 3.3 Method of Collecting Data

This research is a non-participative observatory research. The first thing I do to collect the data is reading the whole comic issue to understand what events preceding Wonder Woman's adventure in the second story section that I am going to discuss. I also familiarize myself with other characters and the situations in the *Wonder Woman* universe. Doing these helps me grasp the context of this story.

Next, I carefully take notes to every speech that comments on men or women in general. These utterances must specifically utilize men or women as the participants.

Last, I categorize these utterances based on the speaker, whether the speaker is the female protagonists or the male antagonist. When I have two groups of utterances, I split each of them into two more group based on the subject. One group conveys the character's opinion about women and the other about men. In the end, I have four data groups, namely: women representation from the

protagonists' point of view, men representation from the protagonists' point of view, women representation from the antagonist's point of view, and men representation from the antagonist's point of view. Grouping the data helps me find the conclusion.

### 3.4 Method of Analyzing Data

This research uses the referential method to analyze the data. To elaborate on what values the characters in *Wonder Woman* comics attributed to men and women, I must find the ideational meaning in their utterances from my data. First, I determine what are the participants, the processes, and the circumstances in these utterances. After I identify every transitivity aspects of the data, I analyze how participants interact with each other, what the process implied, and noteworthy circumstance. This way, I am able to interpret the representation of men and women according to men and women.

To discover the attitude of the character in gender groups, I analyze the data using the appraisal system. Once I grasp the tone of the speech in the context, I highlights where the characters express their attitudes in their utterances. From that point, I draw the conclusion of how they treated men and women and their alignment

## CHAPTER 4

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

#### 4.1 Women and Men Representation from the Female Protagonists' Point of View

This story features several female characters. There are Diana or Wonder Woman, the Queen, Etta, Arda, and other supporting characters. All these characters, but Arda, who remained neutral, and several unnamed supporters of the Man's Party, supported Diana in her venture to put a stop in Manly's criminal scheme. However, among these characters, Diana and the Queen are the only characters vocal enough to offer their opinion about gender.

Diana, obviously because she is the main character, is directly exposed to the issue brought in this short adventure. Before the action began, Diana had some debate against the antagonist about Manly and the Man's Party. She displayed her attitude and her views about the Man's Party in this heated conversation. Diana also exhibited her views about men and women in her quest to bring justice on Manly.

The Queen was Diana's mother. She provided a prominent influence on Diana's view about gender and they thought alike. Both at the beginning and the end of the story, the Queen presented her ideas about men and women. Her role as the 'wise sage' put her statements as a wrap of the story and set the standard principles in this fictional universe. It proves how important her utterances are in this story.



These two characters represent the opinion of other protagonists about gender. Their opinions are synchronized with the storyline and they highlight the message contained in this short adventure. Their strong opinion would help us see how the protagonists viewed gender roles and their own personal judgment about particular gender groups in this story.

#### 4.1.1 Women Representation

The first few panels in the comic gave us some insight about the adventure that is about to come. In the second panel, Diana and the Queen gave their comment on the previous story. They began their conversation with a discussion about women's role in future America. Their discussion progressed with the Queen comparing gender role in two different environments, the United States and Amazon. Amazon is where the Queen and Diana are from. Later, Diana also gave a little insight into the cultural setting that took place in this story. In these situations, the ideational and interpersonal meanings in their utterances, from which we would be able to understand the values that the female protagonists assigned to women and their attitude towards women, are very apparent.

Queen : You looked pleased, daughter, and triumphant!
Diana : I am! <sup>1</sup> <u>A woman will be president of the United States in 3000 A.D.!</u>  (page 1B)
Queen : But <sup>2</sup> <u>American women will not rule supreme</u> as <sup>3</sup> <u>we Amazons do.</u>  (page 1B)
Diana : What a horrible deed! <sup>4</sup> <u>There hasn't been a murder like this</u> since <sup>5</sup> <u>women came into power!</u>  (page 3B)

Table 1. List of utterances produced by the female protagonists about women

#### 4.1.1.1 Ideational meaning

Women are always put under a positive light in the protagonists' utterances. Women are pictured as natural leaders and strong individuals with great potentials, but the protagonists have a specific preference. From the way she compared women in Amazon and the United States, I conclude that she favors Amazon women and put them as the ideal role model for women and social structure.

The protagonists always portrayed women as active participants. As an active participant, women actors have a sense of independence on at least themselves. With victory and domination as most of their goal, these women are represented to be able to overcome their conflicts with their own power.

Processes that are used in their utterances are material and relational processes. Those processes put women in an elevated position. The material

processes, which deals with human external experiences, bring women to experience victory and supremacy. Women are also defined as the possible future ruler with the relational process, which functions to identify .

One notable circumstance makes women's sovereignty sounded stronger using the word 'supreme'. Another circumstance gives more insight about women leadership according to the protagonist.

Queen : You looked pleased, daughter, and triumphant!

Diana : I am! <sup>1</sup>A **woman** will be president of the United States in 3000 A.D.!

Diana had just seen future America where a woman is a president. Diana was happy with this occurrence. Being a president is a very prestigious career. Statistically speaking, until the time when the story was published there had not been any woman president in the United States, and Diana and her mother both knew this. Her mother also understood her excitement. She said that Diana looked pleased and triumphant. Diana confirmed her mother's statement. She was indeed feeling pleased and triumphant.

The reason behind Diana's excitement is explained in her response in Datum 1. Diana attributed a future woman (carrier) as a country leader (attribute), which is a great achievement. It put women in a very high position. Her statement suggests that she was happy because women could finally be what she believed they deserved to be in the future.

Queen : But <sup>2</sup>American women will not rule supreme as <sup>3</sup>we Amazons do.

The Queen of Amazon said this to comment on Diana's positive response after seeing that a woman would be the United States president in the future. In this utterance, the Queen produced two clauses for comparison. In Datum 2, she described American women (participants) as not being able to perform the process (rule) in that circumstance (supreme). In datum 3, connected with the conjunction 'as', she described Amazon women. The verb 'do' refer to the same process in the previous clause, putting Amazon women as the participants in the same process (rule) and the same circumstance (supreme).

However, her description of American women is imbued with modality (will). This indicates that her description is merely a prediction. Her description of Amazon women is much firmer. It shows that the focus of her utterance is about how Amazon women were by comparing them to American women.

If we compare the American government and Amazon government, we would notice a great distinction. Although American government in 3000 A.D. was led by a woman and the majority of the officers were women, in Amazon, everything was done by women with no man involved (since there was no man living there). This distinction indicates the reason behind the Queen claiming that Amazons ruled supreme.

Diana : What a horrible deed! <sup>4</sup>There hasn't been a murder like this since <sup>5</sup>women came into power!

Diana's statement describes women's authority under the presupposition that the addressee had the same knowledge. What she said is a general fact or shared knowledge that everybody in the story knew. When she said it, she explained the setting of the story, where violence was nonexistent since women rule.

Being in shock of seeing her operative being shot, Diana noted the existence of murder (existential process) in Datum 4. Diana also stated the circumstance that was *since women came into power*, which also utilizes the material process in Datum 5. She implied another quality of women. According to her, women discouraged murder and there was no murder when women ruled, representing them as a pacific, peace-loving community, and that they used their power and authority to reach their goal of having a peaceful community.

This statement also implied antagonistic opinion. If there were no murder when women came into power, then there were murders when men were in power. It portrayed men's being unable to keep peace going in their society.

#### 4.1.1.2 Interpersonal Meaning

The protagonists have a strong positive attitude toward women in general. We can see that clearly in the way the protagonists accentuate woman leadership. They gave positive comments and showed support especially to female leaders. Diana

was seen feeling happy knowing that women would be president. The Queen also described woman leadership positively, so did Diana.

Queen : You looked pleased, daughter, and triumphant!

Diana : I am! <sup>1</sup>A woman will be president of the United States in 3000 A.D.!

In Datum 1, Diana informed her addressee about her attitude toward women, particularly women who rule. Her mother gave a remark about Diana's happiness. She confirmed this and explained the reason. She was very happy to see that women would be president in the future. This shows her positive attitude to women's having the executive position in the United States.

Queen : But <sup>2</sup>American women will not rule supreme as <sup>3</sup>we Amazons do.

Structurally, the Queen made a comparison between American women and Amazon women using 'as' as the connector. Her usage of modality in Datum 2 makes her statement about American women a mere prediction. Datum 3, which describes a fact about Amazon women, becomes the main focus of the utterance. Essentially, the Queen described Amazon women by comparing them to American women.

She produced this utterance when she was about to warn Diana about a situation in America where a man might become president. She was pointing a flaw in American feminine government. The Queen put Amazon women in higher regards than American women. By denying a positive trait (to rule supreme) to American women and claiming that Amazon women had this trait, the Queen

conveyed her belief that Amazon women were better than American women. It shows her favoring attitude toward Amazon women and their man-free authority system.

Diana : What a horrible deed! <sup>4</sup>There hasn't been a murder like this since <sup>5</sup>women came into power!

After seeing her operative be shot, Diana produced an exclamation that shows her attitude about murder. Describing it as a horrible deed, she was obviously sickened witnessing it and projected negative attitude about it.

In addition to that, she indirectly projected her attitude toward something else. In the same utterance, Diana related how murder never happened under women reign (Datum 4 and Datum 5). In other words, she said that one of the sources of her animosity did not exist when women ruled, so she preferred women leadership. Her preference reflects her positive attitude toward women.

#### 4.1.2 Men Representation

In this section, we discuss about the protagonists' opinions about men. They are often projected when the protagonists were discussing men in gender roles. At the beginning and the end of the story, the Queen stated her piece of mind about men. We would see most of her opinion about men here. In the beginning, she gave Diana a warning about what men might do in the future. Her attitude was quite evident in this panel. The Queen's last statement about men is in the story closing. She explained her ideas about men's characteristics. Diana, as the main

protagonists, also expressed her attitude, especially about Manly and the Man's Party when she argued about Manly with Steve.

Queen : <u><sup>6</sup>A man might run for president–<sup>7</sup>He might beat even you at the polls!</u>  (page 1B)
Diana : “Strength” –phui! <u><sup>8</sup>You mean <b>graft!</b> <sup>9</sup>Manly’s a slick hypocritical crook!</u>  (page 2B)
Queen : Silly girl – <sup>10</sup> Steve and all men are much happier when <sup>11</sup> their strong <u>aggressive natures are controlled by a wise and loving woman!</u>  (page 13B)

Table 2. List of utterances produced by the female protagonists about men

#### 4.1.2.1 Ideational Meaning

The protagonists of this story, though not completely offensive, had their moments when they showed their intolerance to men, especially when the talk was about putting a man as a leader. Diana and the Queen did not trust men to be leaders and wanted them being ruled by women. They also associated men with negative qualities.

When describing men, protagonists did not portray them as active as women. Instead, men are often being the object of description in the relational process. The material processes are used when the protagonists talked about men trying to accomplish their goal as a leader. Other processes used are verbal process, which is used to deny opposing opinion, and relational process, as I have mentioned, which is used to describe characteristics.



Queen : <sup>6</sup>A man might run for president–<sup>7</sup>He might beat even you at the polls!

The Queen and Diana were seen discussing women status as ruler in the future. They were both pretty happy with the outcome. In spite of this, the Queen had some doubts about the government under woman force. She predicted that men might be a ruler too and that might interfere with women authority. Her prediction in Datum 6 gives us an idea about her uncertainty in women leadership. Datum 7 shows us how cautious she actually was.

In Datum 6, she put a man as the actor and used a material process that showed them able to beat Diana. Choosing Diana as the goal in Datum 7 poses her conviction on how competent a man would fare against a very powerful woman. Diana in this story represented every good quality that someone should possess. When she uttered the sentence above, she meant that a man was a serious menace to women rule.

Diana : “Strength” –phui! <sup>8</sup>You mean **graft!** <sup>9</sup>Manly’s a slick hypocritical crook!

Steve and Diana were having an argument about Manly. When they talked about Manly in this context, they also included the Man's Party, where the majority of the members were men who wanted changes in the women-dominated the government. This party was headed by Manly himself, and his goals were executed through his party. Diana spat on Steve's idea that Manly would put more strength into the government. She rebutted and at the same time described how Manly was in her eyes.

First, in Datum 8, when she said "you mean," she used a verbal process (a process of saying) to reinstate what Steve said about Manly before. Though Steve praised Manly, Diana denounced his opinion. She believed that Manly would bring corruption instead of power as Steve had said. In addition to that, Diana expressed how she evaluated Manly's character using a relational process in Datum 9. Diana attributed him as a slick hypocritical crook or in other words, a criminal. She underrated him.

Queen : Silly girl –<sup>10</sup>Steve and all men are much happier when <sup>11</sup>their strong aggressive natures are controlled by a wise and loving woman!

At the end of the story, the Queen ended their second future-seeing session with this utterance. In her utterance, she first attributed men and being happier (relational process) as in Datum 10 with the circumstance if their natures were controlled by women (material process) as in Datum 11. Under this process, she expressed her belief that men would be in better condition if they were subordinate to women.

When she spoke about men, she attributed them having terrible nature. She believed that it was their innate affinity to be very aggressive. It portrays them as savage beings and the source of chaos. There would be no peace if men continued their reign, and therefore she wanted them subdued. The only way to neutralize them was by women's compassion and wisdom. She thought that the two qualities that defined women, wise and loving, were capable to overcome men and the

trouble they cause. The world would be so much better, in her opinion, if women ruled over men.

#### 4.1.2.2 Interpersonal Meaning

The interpersonal meaning in this context deals with the protagonists' attitude towards men. When the protagonists talked about men, they usually had a wary tone. The Queen was against men's being a leader, and whenever that topic was mentioned, she would show disapproval. She never admitted that men could be a good leader. Furthermore, when she described men, she labeled them having bad behavior. Diana was very much the same. When Steve reasoned why men should be president, she disputed him. The protagonists in this story had a negative attitude toward men.

Queen : <sup>6</sup>A man might run for president-<sup>7</sup>He might beat even you at the polls!

The Queen warned Diana that a man might run for president and might beat her though women had ruled future America. Datum 6 and Datum 7 show that she wanted Diana or women to continue to rule and men to be subordinate to women's rule. Having a man as a president was against what the Queen and Diana wished. She disapproved of men's being leaders. She had a negative attitude to men trying to supersede women leadership. Her wariness to men leadership also proved her distrust to men. From her utterance, I conclude that the Queen had a negative attitude to men.

Diana : “Strength” –phui! <sup>8</sup>You mean **graft!** <sup>9</sup>Manly’s a slick hypocritical crook!

The dialogue that leads Diana to utter the sentence above is between Steve, Diana, and Darnell, Diana’s superior. Diana commented on Steve’s habit, smoking, and this led to their talk about new men’s movement and finally about Manly. When Steve mentioned his opinion for Manly, Diana denied him. Using a very straightforward choice of words, such as graft and hypocritical crook, as in Datum 8 and Datum 9, she expressed her judgment about Manly. She also emphasized her emotion using exclamation such as “phui!” Her insult to him indicated that her attitude toward him was very negative. It was very apparent here that Diana despised Manly, the leader of the Man’s Party.

Queen : Silly girl –<sup>10</sup>Steve and all men are much happier when <sup>11</sup>their strong aggressive natures are controlled by a wise and loving woman!

We also see the Queen’s attitude toward men and women here, especially in Datum 11. She drew a very clear line on her view about each gender group quality. When describing men, the Queen used adjectives, such as ‘strong’ and ‘aggressive’, that implied barbarian and violence. On the other hand, she chose to attribute wise and loving to women and that left an intelligent and peaceful impression.

She depicted men and women like a polar opposite. This utterance makes us aware of her judgment of gender differences. She complimented women and put them above men. When assessing men’s value, she portrayed them negatively

and wanted them subdued. From her utterance, I infer that the Queen favored women and disdained men.

#### 4.1.3 Protagonist' Alignment

The protagonists, Diana and the Queen, were very expressive about their opinion. They believed that women were more qualified to rule. Women were peaceful people and men could only tamper with the peacefulness. For that reason, women should be fully independent of men. This quality allowed them to rule among men, making men subordinate to women. According to them, men had an aggressive nature. Diana, especially, also correlated men with a tendency to corruption. However, most of her accusations were very weak since she had no proof.

Her attitudes toward men and women also contrast. She showed more support to women and encourages the idea that women were or should be superior to men. Diana and the Queen were both favoring women. They were also wary of men's movement. It made their judgment about men biased.

#### 4.2 Women and Men Representation from the Male Antagonist's Point of View

Antagonist interaction in this story is quite different from other stories in the *Wonder Woman* series. If we are familiar with this series, we would be able to distinguish straight away that Manly is the main antagonist in this story. He was a brilliant scientist who was steering to the political career. In the midst of women reign in America, he led his Man's Party to place authority back in men's hand by making one a president. Though feminine culture had already set a new trend in

all subjects, his party that promoted masculinity was also gaining support and popularity.

Manly, through his charisma, managed to convince Steve to join the Man's Party. He also chose Steve to be the presidential candidate for his party. The problem arose when Steve found out Diana's sentiment toward Manly. She had some suspicions about him. There had been an illegal arms production that she assumed was linked to Manly. Hearing this, Steve naturally defended Manly and the Man's Party, and it effectively turned him into the antagonist in this story.

Compared to Steve, Manly had minimal interaction with Diana. They did meet a few times, but their exchanges were merely threatening banter to each other instead of arguments in which we could decipher their beliefs about gender. On the other hand, Steve interacted and clashed with the main protagonist more frequently than Manly did. As the result, Steve showed his opinion more, compared to Manly, the main villain. In the campaign too, Steve was doing much of the talking while Manly remained tight-lipped.

Steve and his opinions provide us a way to understand how he and the Man's Party saw the gender issue. From his arguments and campaign speech, we would understand how he valued men and women, and also his attitude toward both gender groups.

#### 4.2.1 Women Representation

There is not much that was said about women from the antagonist's opinion. His ideas about women were seen in his speech when he promoted himself as a



Steve: <sup>12</sup>I pledge myself <sup>13</sup>to work especially for women's interests—

In his campaign, Steve gave his speech where he addressed women issue. His speech involved the usage of two processes, verbal process in Datum 12 and material process in Datum 13. In the verbal process in Datum 12, Steve used the word 'pledge' that showed his commitment to what was being said. He was very serious in his promise and he intended to make it true. The following clause In Datum 13 uses a material process meaning that Steve, the actor, wanted to provide a good environment for American women. The circumstance '*especially*' indicates Steve's priority. His oath in his speech confirmed that he cared deeply for women and actually wished upon them good things.

#### 4.2.1.2 Interpersonal meaning

Steve, as the antagonist character in this story, was shown having a positive attitude toward women. Never once he showed animosity to women in general. He also did not think negatively about them nor had any prejudice against them.

Steve: <sup>12</sup>I pledge myself <sup>13</sup>to work especially for women's interests—

Steve's speech reflected his intention (Datum 13) for women were he the president. He showed his deep concern to women and aimed to solve their problem. He encouraged development for womanhood. In this utterance, his positive attitude to women was very apparent.



#### 4.2.2 Men Representation

When Steve explained what he thought about men, it happened in a challenging situation. Steve and Diana were in the middle of a debate about the Man's Party and its movement. Steve was the only one who sided for the Man's Party, while Diana and Darnell, Diana's superior, were against the Man's Party. Therefore, men representations were mostly uttered by Steve in a defensive manner.

Steve : Haha! Trust Di to notice! <sup>14</sup> <u>Men are back nowadays to the styles of 1950!</u>  (page 2B)
Steve : Well – <sup>15</sup> <u>Thousands of men are joining professor Manly's new political party.</u> <sup>16</sup> <u>They're going to elect a man president</u> – <sup>17</sup> <u>He'll put more strength into the government!</u>  (page 2B)
Steve : Diana you're simply sore because <sup>18</sup> <u>Manly can beat your Woman's Party!</u> What's your advice general?  (page 2B)

Table 4. List of utterances produced by the male antagonist about men

##### 4.2.2.1 Ideational meaning

The antagonist was an important figure who led the men's movement. He viewed that his movement would bring men back to their glorious macho era. The way to do that was by winning the election so that they could put a man behind the president desk. He believed that many men would want this and he also believed he could do this.

He portrayed men as active participants. It hinted at how they wanted to transform the current government. They want to transform it according to their goal: to have a man rule the United States again.

There are two processes used to convey Steve's ideas. The material processes express how the antagonist wanted men to rule and change the government. The relational process in Steve's utterance explains the state of men in that story. They want to revive their masculine lifestyle.

Steve : Haha! Trust Di to notice! <sup>14</sup>Men are back nowadays to the styles of 1950!

Steve entered the scene seen smoking with an old-fashioned pipe. Diana recalled that Steve did not smoke with that pipe anymore. As in Datum 14, Steve confirmed that men were now returning to the 1950s style (material process). Darnell's statement makes it clearer that the Man's Party is the one being talked about in this context. Steve's confirmation gives us an idea about how people in the Man's Party were in the story. They practiced the 1950s style that implied machismo. This utterance shows us how Steve saw the Man's Party and himself, they were reviving the man fashion in 1950s.

Steve : Well –<sup>15</sup>Thousands of men are joining professor Manly's new political party. <sup>16</sup>They're going to elect a man president –<sup>17</sup>He'll put more strength into the government!

When Darnell mentioned his negative attitude toward the Man's Party, Steve immediately expressed his own opinion. First, in Datum 15, he stated that the Man's Party was supported by a number of men (material process). It

explained that political ideas that this party offered was widely accepted among men. It also implied that these ideas are exclusive to men only and very gender-oriented. Since no women joined this party, it meant this party agenda (making a man be a president, as in Datum 16) was not accepted by women. It explained that most women in this story disliked men being in power, though some were shown to be supporting them in the presidential election for personal reasons.

Second, in Datum 17, Steve stated how a man would put more strength into the government (material process). This meant he knew that a man was capable of doing it. According to Steve, the presidential candidate from the Man's Party had the quality to be the President of the United States. Implicitly, Steve was saying that the current government (woman's rule) was flawed and needed to be strengthened.

Steve : Diana you're simply sore because <sup>18</sup>Manly can beat your Woman's Party!  
What's your advice general?

Responding to Diana's statement that she did not trust Manly, Steve replied to her and blamed her because he thought she had some uneasiness grasping the idea that Manly was trustworthy. What I want to highlight here is how Steve also showed his certainty in Manly in Datum 18. In this clause, though Steve depicted Manly as the actor, he also implicitly incorporated the whole Man's Party. The material process clearly showed Steve's standings in this. He believed that Manly, and also him, and the Man's Party had the expertise to win the election.

#### 4.2.2.2 Interpersonal meaning

Though at first, Steve took the conversation openly, he grew more defensive as the discussion became more heated. His inclination to the Man's Party suggested his strong association with it. He also showed a positive attitude to men's movement.

Steve : Haha! Trust Di to notice! <sup>14</sup>Men are back nowadays to the styles of 1950!

Steve initially enjoyed this talk leisurely. His small chuckle that started his statement proved that. He did not seem offended at all by Diana's outright remark about his new lifestyle. Instead, he declared his confirmation proudly. It shows his positive attitude to the changes in man lifestyle that underwent the society.

Steve : Well <sup>15</sup>Thousands of men are joining professor Manly's new political party. <sup>16</sup>They're going to elect a man president <sup>17</sup>He'll put more strength into the government!

From the way Steve promoted the Man's Party ideals in Datum 15, 16, and 17, we could see his attitude in this movement. He agreed to the party agendas, and from his intensity, he wanted those agendas to happen so much. His approval and support to the Man's Party conveyed his positive attitude to the Man's Party.

Steve : Diana you're simply sore because <sup>18</sup>Manly can beat your Woman's Party!  
What's your advice general?

After Steve had had enough with Diana's attitude and criticism, Steve asked for Darnell's opinion. Still, he tried to refute Diana's effort to make sure he

canceled his joining to the Man's Party. In addition to that, Steve already had big hopes in this party. He was very sure that the Man's Party would win the election and made him president. His confidence in Manly in Datum 18 shows his positive attitude to the Man's Party winning the election.

#### 4.2.3 Antagonist's Alignment

Steve, who was the antagonist in half of the storyline, never exclaimed any degrading comment concerning gender. He was very neutral. About women, he never underestimated women. He wanted them to have the same chance as men.

He wanted changes in the government, like other members of the Man's Party. He also thought very highly about Manly and the party. However, Steve and even Manly showed no negative attitude toward women. They treated women and men equally.

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSIONS

The protagonists believed that women were pacific and had the quality to be a good leader. In representing man, it was a total opposite. They portrayed men as having the tendency to corrupt, and it thus did not make them an ideal leader. The protagonists thought that women must have control over men. It is very apparent that they held prejudice toward men but are very supportive of women.

On the contrary, the antagonist never underestimated women or attributed them negatively. Instead, he supported them. When speaking of men, the antagonist truly wanted them to rule again. He did not show any prejudice toward men or women, though he clearly had higher hope for men.

After comparing the protagonists' and antagonist's attitudes and beliefs, I conclude that the protagonists were biased toward men. They put them under a bad light, to begin with. They had a negative attitude to men who wanted to be a leader too. In this case, Steve, as an antagonist, acted more justified, even though he had slightly more adoration to men.

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## APPENDIX A

### Biography of William Moulton Marston

William Moulton Marston was born in Massachusetts on May 9, 1893. He passed away on May 2, 1947. Other than being the creator of Wonder Woman, he was famous for inventing the lie detector test. The biography below is a summary of Lepore's *the Secret History of Wonder Woman* (2014).

He studied psychology at Harvard in 1911. In 1915, he enrolled in Harvard Law School. He received his Ph.D. in philosophy in 1921.

Marston was once a lecturer, a movie scriptwriter, a businessman, and a lawyer before he wrote the adventures of Wonder Woman. His entrance to the comic industry was paved by an article written by Olive Byrne about his view on comics. This article caught Charlie Gaines' attention. He is the publisher for *Superman* comics. He hired Marston to be a consulting psychologist.

Marston convinced Gaines to publish a female superheroine. In 1941, Marston submitted the first draft of Wonder Woman. Finally, Wonder Woman made her debut in *All-Star Comics* #8 in 1941 and became a famous comic heroine.

Marston has a unique family life. In 1915, he married Sadie Elizabeth Holloway or Betty Marston. Later, he had a partner named Olive Byrne and lived

a polyamorous life. Holloway was the breadwinner, while Byrne raised the children. Marston also had a relationship with a woman called Marjorie Wilkes Huntley.

His view about women was influenced by many things. One of them was the suffragist movements in his college days. Other things were Holloway and Byrne. They were not the usual women in that era. They seek education. Holloway had a professional career. Byrne was raised in a feminist background.

Marston respected women. At that age, male scientists often published their wives' or girlfriend's works under their name. Marston was one of the few people who acknowledged Holloway's and Byrne's contributions.

His idea of making Wonder Woman was influenced by the people and events around him. However, the most important factor was himself. His purpose of writing feminist comic books was to educate people his belief that femininity was the ideal nature for a peaceful world.

## APPENDIX B

### SUMMARY OF THE SECOND STORY IN

#### *WONDER WOMAN #7, 1943*

Previously, Wonder Woman or Diana was watching America 3000 A.D. with her mother, Queen Hyppolyte, through a magic sphere. In the future, women handled the government. America is now ruled by a woman, President Arda. There were two major political parties: the Man's Party and the Woman's Party. In this part/episode, it was now time for the United States presidential election.

The main characters in this story are Diana, Professor Manly, and Steve. The supporting characters are Queen Hyppolyte (the Queen), General Darnell, President Arda, and Etta Candy. Manly is the leader of the Man's Party. General Darnell is Diana's superior. She worked as his secretary. Etta was Diana's friend. Steve was also Diana's friend.

The adventure began with Colonel Steve's seeing General Darnell for some advice. He asked Darnell's opinion about Professor Manly, the leader of the Man's Party. Manly wanted Steve to run for president as the candidate of the Man's Party. Diana, who was in the room, was against Manly and his idea. Darnell showed some distrust in Manly.

Their discussion was interrupted by a call from one of Darnell's operatives. She wanted to report her investigation regarding an illegal arms manufacturing. According to the operative, the illegal arms were sold to men. Darnell sent his operative to Diana, his secretary.

The operative was suddenly shot when she was about to inform Diana about the man behind the illegal activity. Diana was shocked and soon chased the killer. The killer ran to the President's office. When she entered the room, President Arda was chatting with Steve and Manly. Diana wanted to arrest Manly but the President vouched for him. Then, the President announced to Diana that Steve would be the presidential candidate for the Man's Party and Manly would be the vice presidential candidate. The President confessed that she would not run for president again. Hearing that, Diana proposed herself to be the presidential candidate of the Woman's Party. Etta, Diana's friend, would run for vice president.

After the campaign and the voting, it was the time to count the vote. It was a very busy night for the election officials. They were taken by surprise when several men from the Man's Party captured them and changed the votes to make the Man's Party win the election.

The Man's Party won, and Steve and Manly became the president and the vice president. Later, Manly ordered Steve to destroy the ballots in order to rid the evidence of Manly's fraud. Steve refused and Manly kidnapped him. The new president is declared missing in media.

Meanwhile, Diana smelled something fishy about Manly. She wanted to investigate him without embarrassing Darnell and his department, so she resigned her position. When she found out about Steve's missing, Diana headed back to Darnell's office. Manly was sitting on Darnell's chair when Diana entered. Manly was reading Diana's resignation letter and taunted her about it. Diana was enraged and threatened Manly. As the vice president, he ordered Diana to be arrested. After she was left alone in the cell, she escaped as Wonder Woman.

When Steve was awake, he realized that he was imprisoned in Manly's lab. The election officials were there too. Again, Manly asked Steve to destroy the ballots but Steve refused. Manly tortured Steve by putting him inside a cylinder inside a tank of liquid air that would slowly freeze him to death.

Diana came to Manly's lab to save Steve. In the front door, she was ambushed and chained. She telepathically called Etta for help. Manly's subordinates led Diana to Steve and Manly. To save Steve, Diana broke the liquid air tank to freeze everyone in the room including her. Steve's cylinder saved him from being frozen instantly. When he regained consciousness, he panicked because Wonder Woman was frozen. Not long after, Etta came to the rescue. She warmed Diana slowly and defrosted Diana.

Etta defrosted everyone. Manly and his subordinates were brought to justice. Diana and Etta became the rightful president and vice president of the United States.