

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Study

*Enough* is a drama-thriller American movie released in 24 May 2002. It is a story about violence against women directed by Michael Apted. Screen writer by Nicholas Kazan, produced by Rob Cowan and Irwin Winkler and starring some popular movie stars such as Jennifer Lopez, Bill Campbell and Tessa Allen. *Enough* was produced and distributed by Columbia Pictures. The setting of place of this movie are in some of places such as in Los Angeles, Seattle, San Francisco and Northern Michigan. The movie runtime is 116 minutes. *Enough* was released on DVD and came out on October 8, 2002. A VHS (Video Home System) edition was released on March 4, 2003 and the special edition was released on September 16, 2003.

Michael Apted as the director was born in February 10, 1941 in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, England. In 1963 he joined a six-month apprenticeship scheme at *Granada TV* in Manchester, and stayed with the company for the next seven years. During this rich and fertile period, Apted went from researcher to director. In 2002 he became member of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (Documentary Branch). In 2003 he replaced Martha Coolidge as President of the DGA (Directors Guild of America). He was awarded the C.M.G. (Companion of the Most

Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George) for his services to British film and television industries in the 2008 Queen's Birthday Honors List.

Michael Apted has directing 68 titles of movies, local programs, TV series and documentary. His several popular movies such as *The Triple Echo* (1972), *Stardust* (1974), *The Squzee* (1977), *Nell* (1994), *The World is not Enough* (1999), *Enigma* (2001), *Amazing Grace* (2006), *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The DownTreader* (2010), TV series such as *World in Actions* (1966), *The Lovers* (1970), *New York News* (1995) and *Marriage in America* (2006), documentary such as *Incident at Oglala* (US, 1991), which explores the factual basis of his hard-hitting feature film, *Thunderheart* (US, 1992), displays an active, questioning intelligence rarely found among mainstream Hollywood directors. He also as the producer for 18 titles, writer for two titles and actor for one title.

His movies won some awards such as BAFTA TV Award as Best Single Play (for *Play for Today*) (1974), RTS Television Award as Most Original Programme (for *28 Up*) (1985), Grammy Award as Best Music Video, Long Form (for *Bring on The Night*) (1987), DGA Award as Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Dramatic Series' – Night (*Rome*) (2006), and Christopher Award as Feature Movies (*Amazing Grace*) (2008).

*Enough* tries to show violence against women. Slim Hiller (Jennifer Lopez) is a young waitress who one day met a wealthy contractor, Mitch (Billy Campbell) in the place where she works. They made a relationship and decided to get married. Slim is looked very happy to have Mitch in her live who gives anything she wants. They settled into a flawless suburban life and eventually a

few years later were given birth to an adorable daughter, Gracie (Tessa Allen). Everything seems to be perfect for Slim.

One day when Mitch was taking a bath, Slim knew that a woman sent a message to Mitch and ask him to call her. Slim decided to investigate her husband's cell phone and then found out that he had mistress. Slim tried to forgive him but after several times she confronts him about this and in return, Mitch furiously slaps her across the face. Mitch was abusing her both mentally and physically. Mitch has possessive attitude and he does not want to release Slim and their daughter. Slim becomes oppressed and wants to escape from her house.

Slim told this to a friend, Ginny (Juliette Lewis), about her husband abuse. Ginny gives some suggestions and help her to escape from her house. In the night, when Mitch had slept, Slim prepared her escape from her house. She and her sleeping daughter try to go out carefully. When she's about to open the door Mitch pull and punch her. Ginny and some of her friends who have been waiting for her outside the house come to save her. After Slim and Gracie escape from their house they look for place to stay in. For a while Slim and Gracie stay in a motel because her credit card had been frozen by Mitch.

Mitch always look for her and her daughter. Slim goes to Seattle to meet Joe and stay in his house. Slim guess that she will be safe there. But Mitch hires some dangerous people who imitated as FBI agent and try to get some information about kidnapping to find Slim and Gracie. They threat to kill Joe if he hide Slim and Gracie. To save Joe's live Slim go to San Francisco to meet his father who is success and have a lot of children to ask him some money. Her

father can not believe that she is one of her daughter since many people had come just to ask him some money. Slim goes out from his room and leave her necklace from her mother to prove that she is his true daughter.

Slim was hopeless. She goes to Northern Michigan and stay in Phil's friend apartment. She has an idea to make a new birth certificate to lost their track. She changes her name to be Erin and Gracie to be Queen Elizabeth. One day Phil send her a letter from his father and he gives her some money to save her. She buys a new house and stay there.

In other side Mitch asks his friend's help to look for where Slim and Gracie are. His friend found Slim and Gracie are in Northern Michigan and tell this to Mitch. Mitch comes to Slim's house in one morning and then there was an argue fight between Mitch and Slim. Slim escapes from Mitch and goes from her house with Gracie. She seems to know that one day Mitch will come after them, so she has prepared her clothes in a bag. She guess that she is free, but Mitch's friend follow them and try to kill them. She escapes and decides to take Gracie to Ginny. This incident makes Slim and Gracie trauma.

Slim decides to end her struggle against Mitch and back for a revenge. Before she come after Mitch she came to the martial arts training place. She was trained well there. She came to Mitch's house in the night and broke Mitch's house protection system when he went out. When Mitch came back to his house he was surprised. Slim faces Mitch down in one-on-one combat and armed with brass knuckles. The brawl between them makes him die. Finally Slim and Gracie live happily ever after.

Various responses of this movie were captured after this movie was released. On the review of Metacritic, the film had an average score of 25 out of 100, based on 32 reviews. On Rotten Tomatoes 21% of critics gave the film positive reviews, based on 121 reviews. Some of positive critics state that Jennifer Lopez as Slim and Bill Chambers as Mitch bring their character very well. Lopez takes her role seriously as if she is in the real condition and Chambers brings Mitch character as the perfect villain. Another positive responses state that this movie shows the power of a woman to fight for her freedom and how hard a mother keeps her daughter safe from her psycho husband.

The negative critics argue that some of the scenes in this movie takes Tessa Allen as Gracie in dangerous actions. She is not quite old enough to make an actual impact in the story. The particular scenes are when Gracie and her mother are followed and almost killed by Mitch's friend. Another critic does not agree to the scenes which show the violence in front of children. It might influence children's mental. The particular scenes are when Gracie saw her mother was pulled by her father and in this scene Gracie wanted to save her mother but Mitch pulled her down.

In opening weekend this movie ranked in the box office and grossing \$14,000,000 in 2,623 theaters. *Enough* budgeted \$38,000,000 and grossed \$40,000,000 domestically. This movie grossed a total \$51,801,187. *Enough* was nominated for Teen Choice Award as Movie - Choice Actress, Drama/Action Adventure (2002), Razzie Award in Worst Actress (2003) and Worst Actress of the Decade (2010).

*Enough* is an interesting film. *First*, the major character shows the struggle of a woman to run from her abusive husband and get her freedom. Her husband's wrong perception of the patriarchy system makes him take full control of her. Her life is under pressure by her husband and she wants to stop it by fighting against her husband.

*Second*, from the setting of place this movie is not set in only one place. It was shown when Slim moves from one place to another such as in Los Angeles, Seattle, San Francisco and Northern Michigan. She moves from one place to another place to escape from Mitch's terror and save Gracie and her life.

*Third*, the plot of this film is easy to be understood. Every single moment in this film is arranged well. For people who watch this film start from beginning or middle story will understand what happened in previous. This movie also takes the audience to follow the exciting plot. Audience seems like following Slim's steps to escape from her husband. The plot invites the audience to tense when Mitch becomes a psycho husband and begins his brutal abuse to his wife and daughter.

*Fourth*, Jennifer Lopez as the major character had mesmerized the audience. She was chosen to bring Slim's character because she has a good skill in acting and a good posture as a woman who fights her husband in a battle. Lopez was trained in martial arts for three months with Simon Crane to support the last battle scene. She was looked trained well in her battle scene. The battle is looked so real as if Lopez and Chambell in the real battle.

*The last*, good makeup and lighting was support this movie. Makeup from this movie makes the bruised in Slim's body was looked so real. It shows

that this movie has good makeup. From the lighting effect, this movie has a good setting. The effect of lighting was creating the emotional mood of each scene. It supports and gives influence to audience emotions.

Based on the consideration above, the writer is interested in conducting a study on Michael Apted's *Enough* movie by using feminist perspective because in this movie there are defenses and struggle of the major character to fight against the domestic violence that reflect of feminist movement. The writer focuses her study on **OPPRESSION AGAINST WOMEN IN MICHAEL APTEDE'S ENOUGH MOVIE (2002): A FEMINIST CRITICISM**

## **B. Literature Review**

The writer can not find the others research paper that use Michael Apted's *Enough* movie as the object of research in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta library. The writer use two reviews of this movie as literature review.

The first come from Mick LaSalle in an article entitled *Obsession Hot and Cold* (LaSalle, 2002). LaSalle states that this movie is a thriller movie and he thinks that phenomenon that reflected in this movie is sometimes realistic. In this movie it depicts something that needs to be depicted, a husband who sincerely considers the woman in his life to be his property. He keeps his wife to be a beautiful property who should at home when he come back home. He can't think of himself as a villain. He can't begin to, since his behavior is just the logical consequence of that deadly assumption. This criticism is looks from the point of view from the men and his psychological condition.

The second review is taken from Eugene Novicov's article entitled *Self Defence is Not Murder* (Novicov, 2002). Novicov argues that this movie is the one of movie which told about husband who abus his wife. He is a psycho who get abnormal mental. He loves his wife; he did not want to lose his wife, he loves her and want to have her wives' whole physical, but in the other hand he still look for another woman. The effect of this problem he abus her wive. When his wife runs away from him, he still chases her. But finally his wife is tired of her escape, then she comes to his house and finally kills her husband to protect herself. The reviewer gives statement to his review inside comment to this movie "Self-defense is not murder".

From those reviews the writer can conclude that both of reviewers and the writer has a same object, Michael Apted's *Enough* movie. The differences is that the writer uses feminist approach to see and analysis this movie, but two previous reviewers see and analyze the movie from the psychological one of characters of the movie.

### **C. Problem Statement**

The problem statement in this research is "How is oppression against women reflected in Michael Apted's *Enough* movie viewed from Feminist Criticism?"

### **D. Limitation of the Study**

This study is limited to the violence against women of Slim Hiller as the major character in Michael Apted's *Enough* movie, viewed from the feminist criticism.

## **E. Objective of the Study**

The objective of the research is as follow:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the movie in *Enough* movie.
2. To analyze the oppression against women in *Enough* movie by using Feminist Criticism.

## **F. Benefit of the Study**

The result of the study is highly expected to give benefit as follows:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

- a. To enrich references of feminist perspective in a movie, which can be used by those who are interested in analyzing this literary work.
- b. To give a high contribution to the body of knowledge, particularly to those who are interested in Michael Apted's *Enough* movie.

### **2. Practical Benefit**

- a. For getting deeper understanding about the movie, particularly feminist criticism.
- b. For getting bachelor degree of education in English Department.

## **G. Research Method**

### **1. Type of the Study**

The writer analyzes Michael Apted's *Enough* movie using qualitative method which employs the method of collecting, describing, classifying and analyzing the data which then drawing conclusion.

## **2. Object of the Study**

The object of the study is *Enough* movie by Michael Apted released on May 24, 2002 published and distributed by Columbia Pictures.

## **3. Type of the Data and the Data Source**

The type of the data is in the form of text and images. The text and images are taken from Michael Apted's *Enough* movie.

The writer divides the data source into two categories; Primary data source and Secondary data source.

### **a. Primary Data Source**

The primary data sources of the study are movie and script of *Enough* movie. This movie was directed by Michael Apted, written by Nicholas Kazan, distributed by Columbia Pictures and released on May 24, 2002.

### **b. Secondary Data Source**

The writer takes the secondary data source, including references and materials related to the study whether picking up from books or internet.

## **4. Technique of the Data Collection**

The methods of collecting data are note taking and picture capturing

### **a. Note taking**

Take the important note from the movie.

### **b. Picture capturing**

Take the important pictures related to the research

Step of collecting data:

- a. Watching the movie for several times.
- b. Finding some related books to find the appropriate theory.
- c. Browsing on the internet to get information that related to the research.
- d. Making notes of important parts in both primary and secondary data.
- e. Arranging the data into several parts based on its classification.

### **5. Technique of the Data Analysis**

The data are analyzed by using descriptive analysis, where the data are collected, described, and analyzed. It concerns with the relationship between the movie and the Feminist theory to show how women violence is reflected in the movie.

### **H. Research Paper Organization**

Research paper organization is divided into six chapters. Chapter I is introduction which includes the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory. It deals with the notion of feminism, structural elements and theoretical application. Chapter III deal with the social background of American Society in the early of 21<sup>th</sup> Century and the life of Michael Apted. Chapter IV is the structural analysis of the movie. Chapter V is feminist analysis. Chapter VI contains conclusion and suggestion.