

**SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF POWERFUL WOMEN TO FIGHT
AGAINST CRIMINAL ACTS IN JOSEPH McGINTY NICHOL'S
CHARLIE'S ANGELS MOVIE (2000) : A FEMINIST APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Women are usually depicted weak by the society. They are also considered as a human who is powerless and man is powerful than women. It is recognized that women are inferior to men, and the women become the lowest level, even treated as the second class. Women could have a big power if they want, because women and man have been created by God with the same status and equality of gender. It is quite rare to find images of strong powerful women in society, movie, novel or other work of literature.

Charlie's Angels is an American action – comedy movie, co-produced and distributed by Columbia Pictures and directed by Joseph McGinty Nichol. Based on the same titled television series from the late 1970s, it was adapted by screenwriters Ryan Rowe, Ed Solomon and John August. The stars in this movie are Drew Barrymore as Dylan Sanders, Cameron Diaz as Natalie Cook, Lucy Liu as Alex Munday, Bill Murray as Bosley, Sam Rockwel as Eric Knox, Crispin Glover as Thin Man, Tim Curry as Roger Corwin, Kelly Lynch as Vivian Wood, Matt LeBlanc as Jason Gibbons, LL Cool J as Mr.Jones, Luke Wilson as Pete Komisky, John Forsythe as Charlie (voice), Mike Smith as Knox Thug, Sean Walen as Pasqual, and Tom Green as The Chad. This film was distributed by Columbia Pictures and the first release date in United State was on October 22, 2000. This film has running time or duration 98 minutes.

And it spent budget \$75.000.000. On Rotten Tomatoes, the film has a “Certified Fresh” rating of 68%. The movie grossed more than \$125 million at the U.S. box office and grossed over \$260 million worldwide (*Charlie’s Angels Overview*, 2009).

Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, and Lucy Liu all went through a strenuous training regimen to prepare for their roles, working with Yuen Woo-ping, renowned Hongkong choreographer. Barrymore pursued Bill Murray for months to play Bosley(originally played by David Doley on TV series) and he consistently declined. Multiple candidates were considered for the role of Alex, including Foxy Brown, Lauryn Hill, Catherine Zeta-jones, Aaliyah, and Victoria Becham. Thendie Newton was also cast, but she subsequently pulled out, and the role went to Lucy Liu. Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, and Lucy Liu waste their vast talents on this no-brainer collection of eyes candy for teens. Individually these three stars are outstanding enough, but what a spectacular work art their combined talents could have made (*Charlie’s Angels Film*, 2009).

Joseph McGinty Nichol was born on August 9, 1968 in birth name Joseph McGinty Nichol. He graduated from University of California at Irvine, California BS psychology. McG first his mark in the music industry, directing almost 50 videos for a number of artist including Barenaked Ladies, Korn, Everclear, The Offspring, Wyclef Jean, Cypress Hill, Smashmouth, and Sugar Ray. Soon, the Industry was buzzing about his enormous talent and it was not long before Hollywood calling-specialy Drew Barrymore.

McG entered the music business as a still photographer, shooting local bands, and musicians he was friendly with. He brought a fun-loving and fee sensibility to his project, which were all marked by right beachy color and a serene but energetic mood. (*Joseph McGinty Nichol, 2009*). McG was the perfect fit to helm the big screen version of the hit '70s TV show, *Charlie's Angels*, starring Barrymore, Cameron Diaz, and Lucy Liu. The movie was the huge success and he returned to direct the sequel, *Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle (2003)*. From there, McG tackled drama in *We Are Marshall (2006)*, starring Matthew McConaughey and Matthew Fox, and spread his talented producing and directing sensibilities onto the small screen with the successful pop culture phenoms: *The O.C.*, *Supernatural* and *Chuck*. Always one to expand his creative resume, McG has now taken off into the futuristic world with the highly anticipated movie *Terminator Salvation (2009)*, starring Christian Bale. (*McG Biography, 2009*).

McG presents this movie with great imagery technology the style of *The Matrix*. He followed the development of era and technology. He is included the modern director because he often became a director of movies that has imagery technology such as *Charlie's Angels* and *Terminator Salvation*. McG in *Charlie's Angels* movie direct Angels using art fights when fighting. In one scene in *Charlie's Angels* a bad guy tries to kill Dylan with gunfire and Dylan dodges the slug. There is no toying with firearms, folks. Firearms are unforgiving and eager to do damage. They are vital tools to this free nation and

our safe homes, but they are not toys. McG presented different fight style to rise the side comedy of this movie (*Charlie's Angels*, 2009).

Charlie's Angels movie tells about the powerful three woman as a secret agency. They are Natalie Cook, Dylan Sanders and Alex Munday. They are brilliant and smart woman. Physically, they have different physic. Natalie Cook is beautiful and tall woman, she has blue eyes, she has short hair and her hair is blonde and of course she is so sexy than the other. Natalie is energetic and resourceful, she never gives up to fight everything. She is from rich family. Different with Dylan Sanders, Dylan Sanders not really tall woman, she has green eyes and she also has short hair but her hair is dark brown. Dylan is wild, because she goes from her parents when she was a child so she lives in bohemian area. Alex Munday, she is different from the other. She has long hair and her hair is dark brown. She has narrow eyes, because she is Chinese blood. Alex Munday is smarter than the other.

Natalie, Dylan and Alex work for Charlie as a secret agency to fight criminals. Charlie is unseen, he just shows his voices by telephone, he never shows his self to another. The Angel Agency also does not know what Charlie looks like. Charlie has an assistant that he believes so much. His name is Bosley. Charlie gives work to Bosley to manage and to keep the Angels Agency Natalie, Dylan and Alex.

One day, there is a big boss from technology enterprise her name is Vivian Wood. She comes to Bosley, she said that her employee is kidnapped. The name of her employee is Knox. Vivian Wood asks Bosley, Natalie, Dylan

and Alex to find Knox. In fact, Vivian Wood is wicked. She makes sure that there is another boss from the other enterprise. His name is Roger Corwin. Then, the Angels Agency is suspicious with him and after that they try to find the truth. After they get the truth, they feel so shocked. They know that the brains behind the problem is Vivian Wood and Knox. It is reveal after Roger Corwin dies.

After that, Vivian and Knox make a new other criminality, they will shatter to Charlie, Bosley, Natalie, Dylan and Alex. Vivian and Knox trap Bosley, Natalie, Dylan and Alex. At last, they enter in Vivian and Knox's trap. Even Natalie has a date with her lovely boy Pete, she is attacked in a bath room by a man that asked by Vivian. Different with Dylan, Dylan is trapped by Knox directly. Knox pretends that he loves Dylan so much. After Dylan enters in Knox's trap, Knox shoots at Dylan and then Dylan falls down but Dylan has welfere. Alex is attacked in her house when she makes food for her boyfriend Jasson, suddenly some people from the outside shoot at her, she saves herself. Bosley, he is attacked by Vivian Wood. Vivian comes to Bosley's house and then she persuades him and gives some concoction to Bosley's drink. At last, Bosley hides in a small land.

After Natalie, Dylan and Alex succeed to save their self, they try to find Bosley that has been hidden by Vivian Wood in a small land. They go to that small land by a boat. That boad is Chad's boat. Chad is a man that really loves with Dylan. He will do everything to make Dylan happy. After the Angels Agency arrives in the land, they try to find Bosley by trapping Vivian and

Knox. At last, the Angels Agency could fight and exterminate the criminality that has been done by Vivian and Knox and they die.

In every movie making usually most of the people make critiques about the movie. In *Charlie's Angels* movie there are two persons that pro and contra of the movie.

Grace Yeah from Virginia, USA is pro about *Charlie's Angels* movie. She said, "*Charlie's Angels* movie is One of the highest powered crime flicks that I had ever seen. Despite the fact that he had ever seen the TV show, this is one of the highest-powered crime flicks he had ever seen. Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, and Lucy Liu really dazzled as three detectives who are really good masters of disguise. They were also very pretty. They can really give a high-powered crime flick a nice touch. I was really surprised at the way Dylan (Drew Barrymore) used her karate skills. *CHARLIE'S ANGELS* really kept him on the edge of his seat. It was really enjoyable. It was really suspenseful, too."

Gonzalus from Uruguay noted his comment of contra about *Charlie's Angels* movie. He said, "*Charlie's Angels* movie is very boring movie. This movie, even if it is not to take it seriously, it fails even to be stupid, it is not funny, it has no plot, the action scenes leave you with the feeling that you've already seen them somewhere else and the acting is below average."

Charlie's Angels movie becomes a nomination and to be the winner in some awards. In 2001 *Charlie's Angels* movie became the nomination in Grammy Award category best song writer, but it just as a nomination. And then still in 2001 in World Stunt Award this movie became the winner as the

best of areal work and also became the nomination as best driving and best fight. In Sattelite Award it is also being a nomination as best performance actrees and best visual effect. In MTV Movie Award 2001, *Charlie's Angels* movie became the winner as best dance sequance. In Kid's Choice Awards, USA on 2001 *Charlie's Angels* movie is choosen to be the winner as favourite movie actrees and also that film got nomination as favourite movie. In Golden Trailer Award 2001 it got some nominations as best action, best music, best of show and the most original.

There are four reasons that make this movie interesting, important and challenge to be study. First, *Charlie's Angels* movie presents the social construction of powerful women on fight criminal act as other side of woman. In this case, the women work in investigation agency to fight criminal act. It is seldom done by women. It gives different side and view, because usually woman is weaker than man.

Second, *Charlie's Angels* movie tells about secret agency and its reality in social life. Society often see so many secret agency in surroundings. And the thing that makes this film interesting is the secret agency consists of three strong, smart and beautiful woman. It can give motivations for society, a woman can do everything that a man does.

Third, *Charlie's Angels* movie presents some jokes and it does not make the viewers bored when they watch this film. It gives different consolation for the viewer.

Forth, this movie deals with the powerful of three women that really respect and responsible with the criminality in their society. In this film Joseph McGinty Nichol chooses issue for his movie. Women agency is great phenomenon as the reflection of power of woman. *Charlie's Angels* clearly draws the women in against the criminal situation. To fight criminal activity, women also have equal opportunities.

In this study, writer uses a feminist approach to analyze the movie because the story of this movie tells about the social construct of powerful women to fight criminal act. This study will show the other side of women. The title is **SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF POWERFUL WOMEN TO FIGHT AGAINST CRIMINAL ACTS IN JOSEPH McGINTY NICHOL'S CHARLIE'S ANGELS MOVIE (2000) : A FEMINIST APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

There are two researchers who have conducted of study about *Charlie's Angels* movie in journal. First, he is Josh Young (2000). It is entitled "Charlie in Charge in *Charlie's Angels* film". The focus of this research is on the command from Charlie for the Angels Agency. Charlie is unseen people in this film but he can give a lot of command for his agency. This journal concludes that although Charlie is unseen person but he could be the minor character of this movie.

The second, Cassandra A. Goduti (2004). She also conducted a study on *Charlie's Angels* movie in an article, entitled "Charlie's Angels and the Discovering of Truth". In her article she discusses about the adventures that happen for the three women in this film can be reality. The result of this study is women can solve the crime in the reality condition and it shows how someone can see the truth. Usually the character who takes this kind of step can be considered the nemesis. But society can be sure, they have their goal too.

Different from two previous researchs, this study focuses on the social construction of powerful women reflected by the major character of *Charlie's Angels* movie uses feminist approach while the first previous study focuses on the command of unseen person to fight the crime and the second previous study focuses on an adventure that happens for the three women in this movie can be reality.

C. Problem Statement

The problem study of this research is "How the social construction of powerful women is reflected in *Charlie's Angels* movie directed by Joseph McGinty Nichol?"

D. Limitation of Study

The writer limits her analysis for understanding the social construction of powerful women reflected in *Charlie's Angels* movie directed by Joseph McGinty Nichol. The writer investigates Natalie Cook, Dylan Sander, and Alex Munday as major character by using a feminist approach.

E. Objective of Study

The objective of the research is to expose the social construction of powerful women of *Charlie's Angels* movie based on the feminist approach.

F. Benefit of Study

The study of social construction of powerful women in *Charlie's Angels* movie has two benefits.

1. Theoretically

This research will improve the study of literature as the modern art especially in *Charlie's Angels* movie and the elements.

2. Practically

The result of the study will improve the writer's knowledge of social construction of powerful women as reflected in the *Charlie's Angels* movie.

G. Research Method

The research is qualitative method. There are four elements involved.

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Charlie's Angels* movie directed by Joseph McGinty Nichol.

2. Type of Data and The Data Source

The type of data is movie and text. The researches take the data from two resources.

- a. The Primary source is every data of *Charlie's Angels* movie directed by Joseph McGinty Nichol which is related to the study.
- b. The secondary source is from all referential data. It can be from book, internet, encyclopedia, journal magazine, etc.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of data collection in this study is documentation. The writer collects and records both primary and supportive data as references.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

The writer views the primary data repeatedly to reach more understanding of source. Next, the writer takes, compares, quotes, and studies others data into some categories and develops them into a good unity.

H. Reasearch Paper Organization

The researcher systematizes this research into five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction, which consists of background, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and research organization. Chapter II comprises of the underlying theory, which presents Notion of Feminism, Structural Elements of the Movie and Theoretical Application. Chapter III is Social Background of American Society in the Late 21th Century and Early 21st Century. Chapter IV is Structural Analysis of the film, which involves the structural elements of character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot, style, theme, and discussion. Chapter V is Feminist Analysis. Chapter VI is Conclusion and Suggestion.