THE MASCULINITY AND FEMININITY TRAITS OF FEMALE CHARACTER IN ROTH'S *INSURGENT* NOVEL

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ABSTRACT

Woman and man are often seen as two individuals with different characteristics. Women are labeled with feminine characteristics and men are labeled with masculine characteristics. Women often considered have lower status than men by not having the characteristics of men. However, the existence of masculinity traits in a female character is still possible to happen considering masculinity and femininity are concept created by society. By this research, the researcher aimed to analyze the masculinity and femininity traits of female character in Roth's *Insurgent* Novel. This research has two purposes. The first is to analyze the masculine traits of Beatrice Prior, and the second is to analyze the feminine traits of Beatrice Prior. The researcher applied Sandra L Bem theory to answer the research questions. This research is under qualitative paradigm. Content analysis was applied in this research. The findings of this research showed that Beatrice Prior has eighteen masculine traits and five feminine traits. By the result of this research, it can be concluded that female individual can have more masculine traits or vise versa which then gives more understanding to the researcher. In addition, this research strengthens the idea that novel can be used as a tool to raise the awareness of the readers about th phenomena that happen in the society.

Keywords: sex role inventory, gender stereotype, masculinity traits, femininity traits

ABSTRAK

Wanita dan pria seringkali dipandang sebagai dua individu dengan karakteristik berbeda. Wanita dilabeli dengan karakteristik feminin dan pria dilabeli dengan karakteristik maskulin. Wanita sering dianggap memiliki status lebih rendah daripada pria dengan tidak memiliki karakteristik pria. Namun, keberadaan ciri-ciri maskulinitas dalam karakter perempuan masih mungkin terjadi mengingat maskulinitas dan feminitas adalah konsep yang diciptakan oleh masyarakat. Dengan penelitian ini, peneliti bertujuan untuk menganalisis sifat-sifat maskulinitas dan femininitas karakter perempuan dalam Roth's Insurgent Novel. Penelitian ini memiliki dua tujuan. Yang pertama adalah untuk menganalisis sifat-sifat maskulin dari Beatrice Prior, dan yang kedua adalah untuk menganalisis sifat-sifat feminin dari Beatrice Prior. Peneliti menerapkan teori Sandra L Bem untuk menjawab pertanyaan penelitian. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif. Penelitian ini berkaitan dengan teknik analisis konten. Temuan penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa Beatrice Prior memiliki

delapan belas ciri maskulin dan lima ciri feminin. Dari hasil penelitian ini, dapat disimpulkan bahwa individu perempuan dapat memiliki lebih banyak sifat maskulin atau sebaliknya yang kemudian memberikan lebih banyak pemahaman kepada peneliti. Selain itu, penelitian ini memperkuat gagasan bahwa novel dapat digunakan sebagai alat untuk meningkatkan kesadaran pembaca tentang fenomena yang terjadi di masyarakat.

A.   INTRODUCTION

The issue of gender has been very popular nowadays. It can be seen from the common perspective of people about gender stereotype. Masculinity is commonly related to man, as well as femininity is closely associated with woman. Moore provides some examples of typical gender stereotypes, those "for femininity includes expectations to be domestic, warm, pretty, emotional, dependent, physically weak, and passive" (579). Furthermore, females "have come to be seen as naturally nurturing, sensitive ... and deferring" (Cranny-Francis et al. 143). On the contrary, "men are thought of as being more competitive and less emotional than women. Masculinity stereotypes can be described by words such as unemotional, physically strong, independent, active, and aggressive" (Moore 579). At the same time, Brannon stated "boys and men are stoic, aggressive, dependable, and not feminine" (164). Women are considered as weak, in charge for cooking in the kitchen, taking care of children, and not allowed to work outside home. As mentioned by Welter (1978) the true woman's place was unquestionably by her own fireside—as daughter, sister, but most of all as wife and mother" (320), while men is regarded as a figure with more important role and more powerful, bold, assertive than women.

Many theories about the description of differences in gender stereotype create a separate image for women, as if women are unable to have the strong label given to men and not that reliable to hold the same position as men. Women considered as having lower status than men by not having the characteristics of men. However, the existence of masculinity traits in a female character is still possible to happen considering masculinity and femininity are concept created by society. By this research, the researcher aimed to analyze the masculinity and femininity traits of female character in Roth's _Insurgent_ Novel. This research has two purposes. The first is to analyze the masculine traits of Beatrice Prior, and the second is to analyze the feminine traits of Beatrice Prior. The researcher hopes this research could give more information to the reader about masculinity and femininity and it could become the additional guidance for the future researcher in conducting the similar research related to masculinity and femininity.

B.   THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Based on the background and research questions mentioned above, the researcher used some theories, they are : Literature, character, characterization, gender masculinity, femininity, and Sandra L Bem Sex Role Inventory (BSRI).

1.   Literature

Taylor (1981) points out that "Literature is, like the other arts, is essentially an imaginative act, that is, an act of the writer's imagination in selecting, ordering and interpreting life-experience" (1). Taylor classified literature into three major genres: narrative fiction, drama and poetry (39). Narrative fiction is classified into many subdivisions; contemporarily it is grouped into short story and novel. Taylor described novel as normally a prose work of quite some length and complexity which attempts to reflect and express something of the quality or value of human experience or conduct. Its subject matter may be taken from patterns of life as we know

it, or set in an exotic and imaginative time or place (46). The novel that is used in this research is *Insurgent* Novel.

2.　Character

Hall (1981) states "a character is an imagined person in story, whom we know from the words we read on the page" (47). In another word, characters are the "people" in the text who are involved as the result from the author's imagination. Character also a vehicle for the author to convey her/his view of the world to the reader. The importance of that element has placed on the function of character which play a role, thus the story could be understood by the readers.

3.　Characterization

Docherty described characterization as the process of reading and writing of a character in literary work (qtd. in Bennett and Royle 67). Reaske (1996) explained some devices of characterization, those are: The appearance of the character, aside and soliloquies, dialogue between character, hidden narration, language, and character in action. Characterization play a major role in the novel as it provided thorough information of the personality and the behavior of the characters which then can be used to analyze *Insurgent* novel.

4.　Gender

Gender is something that what people do rather than part of what people are from Connel (1987, 1992, 1995) as quoted in (Brannon 2004). Gender consists of whatever behaviors and attitudes a group considers proper for its males and females. Brannon further explained that "gender stereotype consists of beliefs about the psychological traits and characteristics of, as well as the activities appropriate to men or women" (160). As Moore provides with some examples of typical gender stereotypes, those "for femininity include expectations to be domestic, warm, pretty, emotional, dependent, physically weak, and passive" (579). Furthermore, females "have come to be seen as naturally nurturing, sensitive . . . and deferring" (Cranny-Francis et al. 143). On the contrary, "men are thought of as being more competitive and less emotional than women. Masculinity stereotypes can be described by words such as unemotional, physically strong, independent, active, and aggressive" (Moore 579). At the same time, "men are seen as removed, rational and authoritative" (Cranny-Francis et al. 145). In conclusion, gender is the division of the roles, behavior, attitude and the tasks between men and women as the result (construction) culture of the society.

5.　Masculinity

Connel (2001) discovers that masculinity refers to male bodies (sometimes symbolically and indirectly), but is not determined by male biology. Tillman also added that masculinity is "those qualities, attributes, characteristics, values, and behaviors as perceived and described by a participant as being masculine" (5). The word "participant" here indicates that the label of masculinity is not only possible for a man. Christine Skelton and Becky Francis (2002) also claimed that we should not be afraid to name certain behaviors as masculine even when they are performed by girls. Therefore, it is very possible for female in biological sex but classified as masculine in gender, and male in biological sex but classified feminine in gender, as what is explained by Reynold (2002), masculinity is "largely a set of ideological and cultural practices rather than a biological given" (97-98). To conclude, masculinity is the attributes or qualities which is traditionally associated with men, that is what men should do or have. Masculinity in

men is cultural construction, where it does not naturally exist when they were born. Since being a masculine is not determined by one's biological, hence anyone can become masculine including women.

6. Femininity

Barlow states that femininity refers to behavior and ideas associated with womanliness or normative female sexuality, separable from women's anatomical sex (1). Barker also states that femininity is an identity category which refers to social and cultural characteristic associated with being female (86). As Moore provides with some examples of typical gender stereotypes, those "for femininity include expectations to be domestic, warm, pretty, emotional, dependent, physically weak, and passive" (579). The current gender stereotypes, especially those about women, reflect beliefs that appeared during the 19th century, the Victorian era (Lewin, 1984c) in Brannon (2004). Welter's The Cult of True Womanhood categorized women's stereotype into four main virtue: piety, purity, submissiveness, and domesticity (qtd. in Brannon 161). The first virtue was piety, which originated with society's view of women as more naturally pious than men. The second virtue was purity. Without it she was, in fact no woman at all, but a member of some lower order" (Welter, 1978, 315). The third virtue of the Cult of True Womanhood was submissiveness, a characteristic not true of and not desirable in men (Welter, 1978). The last of the four virtues, domesticity, was connected to both submissiveness and to the Doctrine of the Two Spheres.

True Women were wives whose concern was with domestic affairs—making a home and having children: "The true woman's place was un-questionably by her own fireside—as daughter, sister, but most of all as wife and mother" (Welter, 1978, 320). The four elements to be women –piety, purity, submissiveness, and domesticity- have to be found in a female body to aver her identity as real women with femininity. Women which do not have these characteristics will be believed not feminine and not happy Victorian women. However, Bertens (2014) elaborated women's traditional stereotype as eternally dissatisfied shrew, cute but essentially helpless child, self-sacrificing angel, and so on (84). Moreover, Brannon explained some group of studies documented unexpected result about women's stereotype which experiences a change by women's attitude. "Attitude toward women have become more feminist/egalitarian over the past 25 years, which signals some changes in the traditional stereotypes of women, but attitudes toward men have not shown equivalent changes" (172). It makes sense to say that women have the possibility to break the gender stereotype concept since the historical development of the last 25 years women has experienced a change in the nature of being egalitarian. This shows that there is potential for women to break gender stereotypes because this is dynamic.

7. Sex Role Inventory

BSRI is a new sex-role inventory developed by Dr. Sandra Lipzits Bem. She published her theory in Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology volume 42 entitled *The Measurement of Psychological Androgyny* in 1974. This sex-role inventory is used to measure the different aspects of psychological gender traits. In Bem concept, she argues that a person's personality is not only divided into two categories; feminine and masculine, but also "androgynous" as the traits combination between feminine and masculine (155). In the determination, Bem divides personal traits into 60 traits with the provision, 20 masculine traits, 20 feminine traits and 20 neutral traits. Bem's theory suit the researcher's research in analyzing Prior's masculinity and femininity.

Therefore, the researcher used the masculine and feminine traits of Bem's theory in conducting this research.

Table 1
The Measurement masculinity and femininity based on Bem's Sex Role Inventory (1974).

Masculine items	Feminine items
Acts as a leader	Affectionable
Aggressive	Cheerful
Ambitious	Childlike
Analytical	Compassionate
Assertive	Does not use harsh language
Athletic	Eager to soothe hurt feeling
Competitive	Feminine
Defends own self	Flatterable
Dominant	Gentle
Forceful	Gullible
Has leadership abilities	Loves children
Independent	Loyal
Individualistic	Sensitive to the needs of others
Makes decision easily	Shy
Masculine	Soft Spoken
Self-reliant	Sympathetic
Self Sufficient	Tender
Strong Personality	Understanding
Willing to take a stand	Warm
Willing to take risks	Yielding

Source: *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* 42 (1974):155-162. *Web. November 2017.*

The researcher used the indicators of masculine and feminine traits related to the limitation of this research. The masculinity and femininity traits of the female character: Prior was determined by the 20 masculine traits and 20 feminine traits in accordance to the research questions.

C.   RESEARCH METHOD

This research is qualitative research as Patton (2002) described that qualitative research is "characterized by its aims, which relates to understanding some aspect of social life, and its method which (in general) generate words rather than numbers, as data for analysis (2). This research fits into the theory mentioned, since masculinity and femininity cannot be counted or measured using particular formula, yet they are seen by observing the character. Content analysis is the right method to this research because it enables researchers to study human behavior indirectly for example is through the analysis of their communication (Fraenkel et al 2009).

In conducting a content analysis, the researcher can code either or both the manifest and the latent content of a communication. Fraenkel and Wallen define that "manifest content of a communication refers to the obvious, surface content—the words, pictures, images, and so on that are directly accessible to the naked eye or ear. No inferences as to underlying meaning are

necessary" (477). While latent content refers to the meaning underlying what is said or shown (477). In this research, the researcher decided to use the both of them.

This research focused on masculinity and femininity in woman. The researcher used Sandra Bem's theory to analyze the masculinity and femininity traits in the main character in the *Insurgent* novel. The researcher used twenty masculine traits and twenty feminine traits proposed by Bem, each of traits then given codes, after that the researcher analyzed them and explained them in narrative form.

D.   FINDING AND DISCUSSION
1.   Masculine Traits of Prior

Prior's masculine traits based on Sandra Bem L is found in *Insurgent* novel. From 20 of masculine traits by Sandra Bem, Prior has eighteen traits of masculinity, they are: aggressive, competitive, dominant, forceful, makes decision easily, ambitious, analytical, athletic, willing to take risks, masculine, act as a leader, assertive, defends ow self, has leadership abilities, independent, self-reliant, strong personality, and willing to take a stand. Some example of Prior's masculine traits would be described below.

a.   Competitive (CTT)

Competitive is a character belongs to person who has tendency to compare himself with others whether he is better or not from others (Garcia et al 2013), and usually followed by a desire to be better than others.

CTT01
PRIOR : "Why are you constantly escorting me places? Isn't there a depraved activity you're supposed to be taking part in? Kicking puppies or spying on girls while they change, or something?"
PETER : "I know what you did to Will, you know. **Don't pretend that you're better than I am, because you and I , we're exactly the same"**
PRIOR : "You're wrong," We may both be bad**, but there's a huge difference between us-I'm not content with being this way"**

This is the conversation between Peter and Prior, where Prior protested to Peter who always escorted her wherever she went. From Peter's sentence, he said that Prior was pretending to consider herself better than him. Then Prior replied that she was indeed just as bad as Peter but Prior was better because she was not proud to be like that . "That" means killing Will, she killed Will accidentally, while Peter did many bad things intentionally.

b.   Willing to Take Risks (WTR)

Person who is willing to take risks has no afraid to engage with risk-taking activity or experience for him. Risk-taking is defined as any purposive activity or action that involves challenge or danger sufficient that can create worry to most people (Levenson 1990). It can be said that people who will to take risks are people who dare to do something that is generally feared by others.

WTR01
Prior and Tobias were arguing each other about Prior's action when they were attackted

TOBIAS : "One thing I don't understand, **you were downstairs. You could just run away. But instead, you decided to dive into a crowd of armed Dauntless all by yourself. And I'm wiling to bet you weren't carrying a gun**" (Roth 210)

Prior and Tobias were arguing each other. Tobias was angry at Prior because she risked her life by diving into the crowd of Dauntless to attack Erick, while Dauntless traitors were there brought guns. Diving in Dauntless traitors without bringing a gun proves that she was willing to take risk by risking her life, considering that Dauntless traitor would kill her as an enemy. Prior's action showed that she did a brave action, which if someone else was in her position would choose to save herself by running away, instead of going to the enemies without any gun in her hand.

2. Feminine Traits of Prior

After analyzing the feminine traits of Prior, it showed that from 20 of feminine traits by Sandra L Bem, Prior has 5 traits of femininity, they are : compassionate, sensitive to the needs of other, sympathetic, understanding and yielding. Several explanation about Prior's feminine traits would be described below.

a. Compassionate (CMP)

It is defined as the feeling that arises when one is confronted with another's suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering (Schairer).

CMP
The narration about Tobias' action toward his father, Marcus.
PRIOR : (Then the belt flies through the air and hits Marcus in the arm. Marcus's face is bright red, and he covers his head as the next blow falls, this one hitting his back. All around me is laughter, coming from the Dauntless tables, but I am not laughing. **I cannot possibly laugh at this. Finally I come to my senses. I run forward and grab Tobias's shoulder)**
PRIOR : **"Stop! "Tobias, stop right now!"** (Roth 241)

b. Yielding (YLD)

In reference to oxford (1995) yielding person is easy to comply with the requests or desires of others.

YLD
MOTHER : "Take care to remember that, Beatrice."
PRIOR : "I will," I promise. (Roth 346)

This is the conversation between Prior and her mother in simulation. Prior's mother advised Prior about many things and commanded Prior to remember her advice, Prior's obedience is shown from her replied to her mother's command. It showed that Prior is a yielding character.

E. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the researcher concluded that Prior has eighteen out of twenty masculine traits in her character in *Insurgent* novel and five out of twenty feminine traits. The

masculine traits in the character of Beatrice Prior in *Insurgent* novel based on Bem's Sex Role Inventory theory are athletic, masculine, ambitious, analytical, acts as a leader, aggressive, assertive, competitive, defends own beliefs, dominant, forceful, has leadership abilities, independent, makes decision easily, self-reliant, strong personality, willing to take a stand and willing to take risks. Those traits are founded in the 29 data which consists of words, phrases, clauses and sentences from the text of novel. Meanwhile, other masculine traits which do not exist in Prior character are individualistic and self-sufficient. The feminine traits are compassionate, sensitive to the needs of other, sympathetic, understanding and yielding.

From these findings, Prior comes out the stereotype of femininity. She proved that female is also able to have the masculine traits in herself. Prior as female is dominated by masculine traits in herself. By this result, Prior is classified as masculine female. Therefore, we know that the presence of female who has masculine traits does exist, especially in *Insurgent* novel. As the conclusion, it is important to know that a person could have traits that cannot be limited by sex. Based on the analysis, gender equality seems to be one important issue in the society because based on general view men and women tend to be differentiated. Therefore, by having such awareness on gender equality means that women will be given equal treatment and opportunity without having to be discriminated. The researcher also suggests future researchers to analyze the impact of Prior's masculinity toward her social life including her personal life, her career, and her relation with her personal/ relationship.

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