

Power Relation between Katniss Everdeen and President Snow in *The Hunger Games* Trilogy

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims to examine the dynamic of the power relation between Katniss Everdeen and President Snow in *The Hunger Games* trilogy, and how the power relation reflects domination and resistance. For the analysis, this paper applies Foucault's theory of power relations. The discussion concludes that the power relation between Katniss and President Snow is formed through the distribution of power that makes them subjects who can exercise power. In the process, it leads them to create a power relation where they complement each other's power. A productive network is then formed as they work out the power relation with objectives and rationalization to exercise their power throughout the trilogy. Furthermore, domination and resistance are reflected in the power relation through the use of those two effects of power as strategies by President Snow and Katniss, respectively, resulting in interchanging responses of domination and resistance that affect a series of events in the story.

Keywords: *domination, Foucault, power relation, resistance, The Hunger Games.*

INTRODUCTION

The Hunger Games trilogy is a young adult dystopian series written by an American author, Suzanne Collins. The trilogy consists of *The Hunger Games* (2008), *Catching Fire* (2009), and *Mockingjay* (2010). The trilogy is heavy with themes of survival, rebellion, and war as it presents its world-building in a dystopian society. The setting is in the country of Panem, a post-war North America, where the central city of Capitol is surrounded by twelve districts. Since it is a dystopian fiction, the world is built with some common themes of dystopia, such as government surveillance, totalitarian regimes, poor living standards, brainwashing, concealing of information, class dichotomies, and police brutality

(Nyman, 2015). Hence, creating an imagined world where most people have a poor quality of life and find it difficult to survive.

According to Sar & Murni (2012), the author of a dystopian fiction intends to critique the social, economic, and political issues in the real world by conveying a message to the reader about a possibly bleak future where society falls, and humans have to fight for their survival. Similar to Collins, who was also inspired by the idea of reality TV and her concern about the war in Iraq (Sar & Murni, 2012). Collins wrote the trilogy to caution the reader about what a great war could lead the world into and deliver the idea that humans can still choose for a better future rather than surrendering to the world

where many disadvantages become the consequence of humans' past actions.

As the trilogy revolves around the themes of rebellion and war, it provides a variety of characters to complement the story. From the fearless protagonist to the deceiving allies and antagonists, the trilogy can capture the complexity of each character and the real portrayal of relations between them. Hence, Katniss Everdeen as the protagonist and President Snow as the main antagonist are then intertwined in the distribution of power as they take crucial roles to play in Panem's politics. Power is distributed to help them navigate their motives and actions to fulfill their roles. Thus, enabling them to exercise power and create a power relation in the process.

Since power relations exist between the protagonist and main antagonist in *the* trilogy, it would be interesting to analyze the dynamic of the power relation portrayed in the trilogy and how the power relation reflects the domination and resistance between the two characters. Discussing this topic would show that the story is not only about a reflection of a bleak future, war, violence, or survival in a dystopian world but also about the portrayal of power relations between enemies and how it could affect the characters in making decisions and carrying out actions that affect a series of events in the story. Therefore, this paper addresses the following two questions:

1. How is the portrayal of the power relation between Katniss Everdeen and President Snow in *The Hunger Games* trilogy?
2. How does the power relation in the trilogy reflect the concept of domination and resistance?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Due to its popularity, *The Hunger Games* trilogy has been conducted in many pieces of research before. The researches have a wide variety of focus, ranging from the discussion of Katniss Everdeen's character to the societal problems that are portrayed in the story. The focus on power and power relation is also apparent in some of the studies.

Regarding pieces of research that relate to Foucault's theory, Alwin and Mustofa (2019) discuss the power relation between President Snow and Katniss using the Foucauldian approach. Yet, the research only focuses on the power relation in the second book, *Catching Fire*, and discusses how power is exercised by President Snow as the oppressor and Katniss as the oppressed. Thus, their power creates a power relation that leads to one action being carried after the other, and Katniss's power can be perceived as a reaction against President Snow's oppression.

Mutiara (2015) also applies Foucauldian discourse in her article that points out totalitarianism as the main issue in Panem because not only is it practiced by the Capitol, but it is also exerted in the concept of democracy by District 13 as they take the role to lead the rebellion. Mutiara concludes that democracy in the trilogy turns out to be totalitarianism in disguise.

Meanwhile, Aristya (2019), in her undergraduate thesis, makes use of Foucault's theory of power relation to analyze Percy Jackson and the Olympian series. Her findings point out the existence of familial and transactional power relations and the portrayal of power in the series that reflects how power works in reality since every individual has a part in influencing the system of power that exists in society.

As for the pieces of research that revolve around power, Tahir (2017) states that the Capitol is a representation of the upper class that dominates the lower class represented by the Districts. However, Tahir also states that the upper class's domination is not always negative, as it provides service in exchange for the lower class' power or skill.

Mohamad (2018) also states that money, media, and security apparatus create "the unholy triangle of power" in the trilogy, which leads to the existence of a mechanism of power as a device for the Capitol to maintain discipline among the people in the districts.

Furthermore, as presented in the novel *The Hunger Games*, the display of power from the Capitol and Katniss reflects the concepts of power abuse and resistance, as stated by Wildstam (2014).

In addition, Toisuta and Handojo (2017) point out Katniss's characteristics in the trilogy as a

representation of girl power as she represents an independent, self-determined woman who depends equally on her brains and brawns. Thus, as the protagonist, Katniss is able to survive in the world she lives in.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Regarding Foucault's theory of power relations, it has been defined "as a way in which certain actions may structure the field of other possible actions," and therefore, "what would be proper to a relationship of power is that it be a mode of action upon actions" (Foucault, 1982, p. 791). In other words, the focus of power relations in his theory is the action upon action done by the subjects involved in the power relation. Yet, the actions are not merely an action but could be a form of strategy from the subjects to deal with the situation where domination and resistance are involved. In relation to that, Foucault states, "in order to understand what power relations are about, perhaps we should investigate the forms of resistance and attempts made to dissociate these relations" (p. 780). Hence, resistance actions become the center point to recognizing the form of power relations between the subjects.

Moreover, Foucault has constructed a number of principles that need to be established when analyzing power relations:

"1) *The system of differentiations*, which permits one to act upon the actions of others as every relationship of power puts into operation differentiations which are at the same time its conditions and its results; 2) *The types of objectives* that are being pursued by those who act upon the actions of others; 3) *The means of bringing power relations into being*; 4) *Forms of institutionalization*, whether it is in the form of an apparatus closed in upon itself (such as scholastic or military institutions) or the state, whose function is the taking of everything under its wing, and to a certain extent, the distribution of all power relations in a given social ensemble; and 5) *The degrees of rationalization*, how the exercise of power is elaborated, transformed, and organized as it endows itself with processes which are more or

less adjusted to the situation" (Foucault, 1982, p. 792).

Therefore, the power relation in the trilogy will first be analyzed by the actions of resistance to draw out the domination that occurs and strategies between the subjects. Later, the power relation will be analyzed using the five principles to establish the form of power relation between the subjects involved.

METHODS

The method of library research was conducted by doing a close reading of *The Hunger Games* trilogy as the source for the data. The data consisted of passages from the novels that center on Katniss Everdeen and President Snow as individuals and their relation to each other. The data were obtained from all written materials such as description, narration, and conversation in the novels. Moreover, a close reading of Foucault's books on power relations was also conducted as the theory became the source for data analysis.

As the method of critical literacy focuses on the critical interpretation of applying certain theories to a text, the method becomes useful for analyzing the data in this study. The critical literacy method is conducted in three steps. First, read the books to grasp the general understanding and then re-read them while focusing on the power relation in the narrative. Second, note-taking and highlighting the important and relevant points to the research topic. Making comments on the notes is also required to help the discussion. Third, matching the data and drawing conclusions about the observed topic.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Power Relation Between Katniss Everdeen and President Snow

The trilogy portrays the power relation between Katniss as the protagonist and Snow as the main antagonist responsible for setting a revolution in

motion. As the story revolves around the uprising of the rebellion that leads to a revolution in Panem, it offers a place for the characters to show who could exercise their power and how they could work together in exercising their power to reach their goals. By working together in a power relation, they are influencing each other in making a decision or carrying out an action as part of the productivity in the power relation. The power relation becomes significant as the productivity from it connects to how the story unravels for the characters involved.

The power owned by Katniss and Snow as subjects

Power is evident in *The Hunger Games* trilogy through its characters. As each character has a role to play, they each own their power and are capable of exercising it, either for individual or collective purposes. Two of the characters with the most visible exercise of power are Katniss and Snow. Both of them are intertwined as citizens of a country where they have different roles and statuses but still hold a similar amount of power that they are able to exercise.

The first principle that shapes Katniss and Snow's power relation is the form of institutionalization, which comes in the form of the state. In the trilogy, Panem is introduced as the country in which Katniss and Snow live. Panem is at first described as an organized post-war country with the Capitol as the state in charge of the districts. Yet, when a rebellion once rose, the Capitol changed its course of law by creating the Hunger Games, where two tributes from each district are taken to fight to the death in a closed arena.

With the new laws and the existence of the Hunger Games, the Capitol exerts repression to control the districts under their authority. Therefore, the Hunger Games has become a tool for the Capitol to show dominance over the districts. However, it also becomes why Katniss and the rebels resist as a reaction to the Capitol's dominance. Even though the Capitol is framed as an institution that holds a greater power, it is only a tool for the authorities to exercise their power, the same way an act of defiance is a tool for the people to exercise theirs.

Since Foucault's theory of power emphasizes the materiality of power operating on the very bodies

of individuals (1980), it is to be acknowledged that power is actually spread among all of the citizens in Panem, including Katniss and Snow. Both of them gain their own power through the distribution of power that is always apparent among the people within the state's scope. Thus, giving them the ability to exercise their power as people of the state.

As Katniss and Snow are provided with their own power, they are able to use their power in the form of knowledge to navigate their daily lives, therefore fulfilling the notion that both of them have become subjects who exercise power. Such ability can be seen in a part of *The Hunger Games*. During the reaping (the drawing of children's names for tributes) of the 74th Hunger Games, Katniss's younger sister, Primrose, was reaped, and Katniss immediately stepped forward to replace her sister by declaring, "I volunteer as tribute!" (Collins, 2008/2011, p. 25). This part shows that as an older sister, Katniss uses her power to protect Primrose from going into the Hunger Games. In contrast, as a citizen, she uses her knowledge of the rule in the Hunger Games that allows a volunteer to replace a reaped tribute.

Furthermore, as subjects, Katniss and Snow have different roles and backgrounds, which display how different they are in perceiving the state and life in Panem, processing and reacting to things and exercising their power. This leads to the second principle that shapes their power relation: the system of differentiations. In the trilogy, Katniss and Snow's differences become significant in forming their power relationship since they have their own way of exercising power in order to act upon each other's actions.

Katniss, as the protagonist, is introduced as a sixteen-year-old who comes from a poor family in the poorest district, District 12. Although she lives in extreme poverty, she has managed to obtain the spirit to survive since her father died, and she had to take the role of the provider in the family. Thus, for years, she has known the burden of seeking food and money, and she has also trained herself to hunt in the woods so that she would have animals to barter with the people in the Hob (District 12's black market) and around the town. From the experiences that have toughened her up, Katniss gains the spirit to survive, and therefore, is determined to win the Games, or at

least fight her way to survive in the arena, so that she could keep her promise to Primrose to try to win.

At some point in the Games, the Gamemakers changed the rule that two tributes from the same district could become victors (Collins, 2008/2011). Knowing the public is invested in the romance, Katniss plays with the scenario of star-crossed lovers from District 12 with her district partner, Peeta Mellark, to survive (Collins, 2008/2011). However, when they are the only tributes left in the arena, the Gamemakers announce that they have canceled the rule and, therefore, only one tribute is allowed to win. Furious with how they played her, Katniss persuades Peeta to commit suicide with deadly berries, which fortunately provokes the Gamemakers to announce the two of them as victors (p. 400-403). This becomes an act where Katniss, as a subject, exercises her power to show who is really in charge of determining her choices. Yet, it is also an act where Katniss reacts to the rule made by the Capitol (that possibly includes Snow's involvement as the president), and in carrying this action, she exhibits an act of defiance in the process.

Meanwhile, Snow is introduced as the president of Panem, who rules and lives in the Capitol, and therefore appears to have a more comfortable life and significant role than Katniss. Especially with his position as the president, Snow is richer in experience and knowledge and has the right to authority. Yet, as the president, Snow becomes the antagonist figure that represents a totalitarian leader who runs the country with his own rulebook.

Katniss acknowledges how the authority in the Capitol punishes those who would not follow their orders, and therefore when she attempts to commit suicide with Peeta in the Games, she assumes that the authority in the Capitol would do something to the Gamemakers if they end up not having a victor.

“Yes, they have to have a victor. Without a victor, the whole thing would blow up in the Gamemakers' faces. They'd have failed the Capitol. Might possibly even be executed, slowly and painfully, while the cameras broadcast it to every screen in the country.” (Collins, 2008/2011, p. 402)

From this excerpt, Snow is implied as the authority who could punish the Gamemakers if they made a wrong move with the Games. Katniss assumes

that Snow would give punishment to those who make the Capitol look like it does not have control over its people, and the punishment would be treated like a public execution as a way to show the Capitol's power. Even though the excerpt is only Katniss' assumption, it still shows how Snow would exercise his power as a subject to maintain his control.

Later, at the beginning of *Catching Fire*, Snow pays Katniss a visit before the Victory Tour to inform her about the heightened situation in the country and order her to help him subdue the districts. With Snow personally ordering Katniss to do the subduing, she believes that he also does it to control her as to how things have turned out between them.

“... this man who despises me. Will always despise me. Because I outsmarted his sadistic Hunger Games, made the Capitol look foolish, and consequently undermined his control.” (Collins, 2009, p. 22)

From this excerpt, it is clear that the two of them have begun their contention for power, but with Snow having the upper hand as the president, he is able to dominate Katniss. Such a case of the upper hand is seen in how Snow has the information from all of the districts while Katniss has no idea of the effect she has caused in the districts. With the advantage of being a president, Snow, as a subject, has the knowledge of the situation he must face, and therefore he could calculate his exercise of power before taking it into action. Unlike Katniss, Snow would assess the situation and then take calculated action to execute his exercise of power.

Katniss and Snow's exercise of power

According to Foucault, the exercise of power is a way in which certain actions modify others since power exists only when it is put into action (1982, p. 788). Therefore, some actions carried out by Katniss and Snow throughout the trilogy are results of their exercise of power, which incite them to react and respond to each other.

For example, the action that starts the inevitable conflict is Katniss' attempted double suicide with her district partner, Peeta, in *The Hunger Games*. Yet, the act happened because it was incited by the Gamemakers' cancellation of the rule that allows two tributes from the same district to

win. Leading Katniss to realize that she has been played as a tribute for the Capitol's advantage, and she decides to take her own action by attempting double suicide.

By threatening the Gamemakers with having no victor for the Games, Katniss and Peeta are then announced as victors, but with a consequence that follows for Katniss. After Haymitch informs her about how the Capitol is furious with her action, he reminds her to continue with the scenario of the star-crossed lovers so that she can defend herself for being madly in love with Peeta that she would rather die than have to live without him (Collins, 2008/2011). This is the Capitol's response towards Katniss' action in the Games in which they are trying to show the public that Katniss was not defying them and is still in control of the Games.

Even though it is not explicitly mentioned, Snow's position as the president is challenged by Katniss' act of defiance as it implies how the Hunger Games as his weapon can be turned against him by a mere tribute, and that would not look well to the public, especially in the districts where the Capitol represses them. Therefore, to get things back in control, Snow might have indirectly ordered Katniss to pretend her action was an act of love and nothing else. Hence, this is the beginning of their relation as the two have acted out an exercise of power toward each other: Katniss by resisting the Capitol's dominance and Snow by maintaining the Capitol's control of dominance.

Katniss and Snow are different in exercising their power. Thus it leads to the third principle that shapes their power relation: the means of bringing power relation into being. At the beginning of *Catching Fire*, during Snow's unexpected visit to Katniss' house, he is very clear in exerting his power as he threatens Katniss into accepting the order to put out her sparks that have ignited uprisings in the districts. Opening the conversation by reminding Katniss of her family that she has to take care of to put Katniss into a situation that she can not escape.

"My advisors were concerned you would be difficult, but you're not planning on being difficult, are you?" he asks.

"No," I answer.

"That's what I told them. I said any girl who goes to such lengths to preserve her life isn't going to be interested in throwing it away with both hands. And then there's her family to think of. Her mother, her sister, and all those ... cousins." (Collins, 2009, p. 23)

The way Snow exercises his power during his conversation with Katniss shows how he uses threats and manipulation as someone in authority, and he also makes use of the rights of control and surveillance to his advantage. Therefore, even though Snow as the president, has his own power, he also relies on the external instrument, which is his authoritarian government, to exercise his power.

Meanwhile, Katniss' exercise of power is more personal yet could reach many people who also share her experience as someone living in the districts. Through her actions, she exercises her power to show her freedom and capability, which also shows her resistance. Such an example is her volunteering for her sister which resulted in her getting support from District 12 as she was given a three-finger salute at the reaping. Another example of her exercising power is committing double suicide with Peeta in Games, which accidentally ignited the spirit in the districts to resist the Capitol through uprisings. Katniss's ability to affect the masses is one of her powers. Thus, Katniss' exercise of power is solely inherent in the body as she exercises power through her own actions and words, which also have the probability of affecting the masses without her in total control of it.

Shortly, while Snow exercises his power to maintain dominance over the people of Panem, Katniss instead exercises her power to encourage resistance from them. Hence, a power relation becomes inevitable between Snow and Katniss as they share the same amount of power over the people of Panem, only with different approaches and rights of authority.

Katniss and Snow's relationship of power

The productivity of the power relation is determined by how Katniss and Snow carry out actions upon actions as responses and reactions to each other's actions. The first example can be taken from the

previous excerpts involving Katniss' act of defiance in the Games that causes Snow to order Katniss to subdue the districts so that the resistance from the people would not spread more widely across the country. This also leads to their power relation's fourth and fifth principles: the types of objectives and the degrees of rationalization.

An example of both aspects can be taken from some parts of their conversation during Snow's visit at the beginning of *Catching Fire*:

"I think we'll make this situation a lot simpler by agreeing not to lie to each other," he says. "What do you think?"

I think my tongue has frozen and speech will be impossible, so I surprise myself by answering back in a steady voice, "Yes, I think that would save time." (Collins, 2009, p. 22-23)

This excerpt indicates a rational decision as both Katniss and Snow know the purpose of his visit: to talk about Katniss' act in the Games. Therefore, Snow establishes a deal with Katniss before addressing his purpose so that they can talk their way out to solve the problem that Snow would inform Katniss.

After talking about what is on the table for Katniss and Snow if the uprisings in the districts did happen, they come to a deal:

"Only you'll have to do even better if the uprisings are to be averted," he says. "This tour will be your only chance to turn things around."

"I know. I will. I'll convince everyone in the districts that I wasn't defying the Capitol, that I was crazy in love [with Peeta]," I say.

"Aim higher in case you fall short."

"What do you mean? How can I aim higher?" I ask.

"Convince *me*," he says. (Collins, 2009, p. 34)

Thus, in this excerpt, their objective is decided. The objective is to avert the uprisings in the districts, yet both Katniss and Snow also have their own personal objectives that they want to achieve. Katniss wants to protect the lives of her loved ones from Snow's threat, and Snow wants to keep his control over the country with no more defiance from the

districts. Hence, the two are connected in the power relation through the objective they need to achieve and the rationalization of their contestation of power to fit their situation and capability.

Another example can also be seen in the aftermath of the double bombing incident when Katniss believes Snow is responsible for calling the bombings and becomes more determined to kill him. Yet, when she accidentally encounters him in his chamber for solitary confinement, Snow tells her of the truth behind the bombings. Snow points out that it was District 13's president, Alma Coin, who was responsible for the incident and that she has been playing both him and Katniss for a fool as she makes her way into the position of Panem's president through the rebellion and keeping both Katniss and Snow from taking notice of her intention.

Katniss does not believe what Snow has said at first. Still, she thinks about what had happened in the war and makes her own conclusion when she finds out that Coin is planning to initiate another Hunger Games using the children from the Capitol, which leads her to think about Snow's confession again. Later, as Katniss ready herself to execute Snow, she suddenly remembers the deal she made with Snow and thus takes action as the executor:

"I search his [Snow] eyes for the slightest sign of anything, fear, remorse, anger. But there's only the same look of amusement that ended our last conversation. It's as if he's speaking the words again. "*Oh, my dear Miss Everdeen. I thought we had agreed not to lie to each other.*"

He's right. We did.

The point of my arrow shifts upward. I release the string. And President Coin collapses over the side of the balcony and plunges to the ground. Dead."

(Collins, 2010/2011, p. 371-372)

Hence, the final act of killing Coin instead of Snow is the result of rationalization and objective from their power relation. The rationalization is present in Snow informing Katniss of the fact of what happened in the war and in Katniss taking notice of what Snow has said about Coin being right and exterminating Coin to prevent her from becoming Snow's successor in being an authoritarian leader.

That also becomes the objective: to prevent a future authoritarian leader like Snow from rising again in Panem. Although the objective is only implied, Snow knows his intention of informing Katniss about Coin is to tell the future of Panem will be the same if Coin becomes the president, and Katniss realizes that the rebellion will be for nothing if Panem ends up with another authoritarian leader in charge. Therefore, with the two thinking about the future of Panem, they come to a rationalization and an objective to protect the country from another misuse of power.

Domination and Resistance in Katniss Everdeen and President Snow's Power Relation

As the two have different knowledge and understanding of power, they exercise their power differently, leading to them exercising the effects of power: domination and resistance. These effects of power are apparent in the course of the trilogy as Snow makes use of domination to exercise his power. In contrast, Katniss uses resistance to exercise hers in response to Snow's power. Therefore, in a sense, Snow and Katniss are using domination and resistance, respectively, as their strategy to counter the other and work out the power relation. In the trilogy, Snow and Katniss make use of domination and resistance as their respective strategy to navigate their actions in reaching their goals and countering the other.

Domination and resistance as a strategy

As the president of Panem who is in charge of the Capitol and the districts and has the rights of authority, Snow owns power that could be exercised to his advantage. Coincidentally, he does exercise his power to his advantage, and that includes using domination in exercising his power and becoming an authoritarian leader who would do anything to keep the country under his control. Hence, it is no surprise that Snow uses domination as his strategy in order to maintain his position and control as the president. However, his choice of exerting domination as a strategy can also be understood as a way to balance the productivity in the country so that the country can keep running and the society does not fall apart.

Snow is trying to create a balance in society in which everyone is assigned to a role to exercise their power productively. Moreover, Snow's domination is

established according to his awareness of the power owned by each individual, how they exercise it as subjects, and the resistance that may arise in response to his domination. Therefore, in exerting domination, Snow employs a strategy to make sure his dominance works, especially when resistance becomes inevitable.

Consequently, when domination is exerted, resistance is incited to emerge. This is where Katniss employs her strategy of resistance to respond to Snow's dominance. As Snow becomes the dominant figure threatening her life's well-being, Katniss employs resistance to counter Snow's dominance and achieve control over herself. Hence, when Katniss first puts up her resistance in *The Hunger Games*, she contends against Snow's dominance which later leads the two to form a power relation in which they begin exercising their power with the strategy of domination and resistance to counter each other and achieve their respective goals.

The forms and means of domination and resistance

Examples of domination and resistance are reflected in some of the main events that set the trilogy's plot in motion. The first one can be seen from *The Hunger Games* where Katniss' attempted double suicide in the Games becomes a response of resistance towards the dominating rules of the Hunger Games. As it is known, the Hunger Games is made by the authorities in the Capitol to control the districts and prevent them from starting another rebellion. In its practice, the Hunger Games became a tool for the Capitol to repress the people and divide the districts so that they would not unite to fight against the injustices under the Capitol's control.

Yet, even though the existence of the Hunger Games is disadvantageous to the people in the districts, Snow as the president, still sees it as the most efficient way of control. Since he is responsible for running the country, Snow has to ensure that the country would not collapse and prevent that. He continues the annual Hunger Games with the purpose of controlling the country from going into another chaos. Unfortunately, after decades of having the country under control, an act of resistance finally emerges from a tribute in the Games.

When the Gamemakers canceled the rule that allows two tributes from the same district to become victors in the 74th Hunger Games, Katniss, as a tribute, decides to challenge them by attempting double suicide with her district partner, Peeta Mellark so there would not be any victor for the Games. Although the Gamemakers finally announce the two as victors, Katniss has to accept that what she did is perceived as an act of defiance towards the Capitol and that there will be consequences to deal with.

Another example can be seen in *Catching Fire*. Since Katniss' attempted double suicide has incited the uprisings in the districts, Snow orders her to subdue the escalating moods in the districts or else her loved ones will be harmed. Yet, Katniss' attempt to calm down the districts fails, and the resistance of the rebels in the districts gradually strengthens. In response, Snow executes a strategy of domination, which again incites a response of resistance from Katniss.

As the 75th Hunger Games, or the Quarter Quell, is approaching, Snow announces the new rule of the Games, which he uses as a tool to handle the situation with the rebels and Katniss as the initiator of resistance. With the rule that requires the victors to go back into the Games, Snow is able to simultaneously punish Katniss and send a message to the rebels. Yet, in response, Katniss becomes more determined to defy the rules in the Games by trying to keep Peeta alive so that he would become the victor, with the hope that her act will incite more defiance from the rebels:

Snow and Katniss' actions relating to the Hunger Games imply the forms and means of domination and resistance that are exercised as strategies. As the Hunger Games becomes a tool to exert domination, it can be said that the domination comes in the form of rules that are exercised over the people in the districts to control and prevent them from starting another rebellion that might collapse the country. Meanwhile, the resistance comes in the form of action carried by Katniss, who defies the Capitol's rules to gain control over herself. That means the resistance is exercised solely by and for Katniss as a subject to break free from the domination that represses her.

The effectiveness of domination and resistance

Snow's domination of the Hunger Games becomes effective in controlling the districts for decades before the event in the 74th Hunger Games breaks the effectiveness of the Capitol's domination. Snow's decision to strengthen the Capitol's force in the districts and use the Quarter Quell to handle the escalating situation becomes effective as he forces the rebels to lay low and not advance openly with their resistance. However, his control only lasts briefly before Katniss unknowingly follows the rebels' escape plan and blows up the Quarter Quell arena. Therefore, the domination exercised by Snow is effective in controlling the districts because it involves punishments that bring pain and/or death that people fear. Yet, it is only effective for a limited amount of time since punishments would not work for long if the people finally find the courage to fight against it.

As for the resistance exercised by Katniss, it becomes effective in inciting resistance from the people in the districts. Firstly, Katniss' act in the 74th Hunger Games is seen as an act of defiance that has incited uprisings in the districts. The resistance that Katniss has incited is also spread collectively across the districts and that means there is no way of subduing it since the people have finally found momentum to defy the Capitol and they are eager to advance with it. Secondly, when Katniss unknowingly follows the rebels' escape plan by triggering an explosion in the Quarter Quell arena, Snow bombs District 12 to the ground as a consequence. Yet, these consecutive events only lead to the beginning of the war between the rebels and the Capitol. Therefore, the resistance exercised by Katniss is effective in inciting the long-repressed spirit to defy the injustices and unite the districts to fight against the Capitol's dominance. Also, unlike domination that has limited time, the resistance could last for as long as the people unite to share the same purpose in resisting the dominance.

The productivity of domination and resistance

From the first act of domination in the Hunger Games that incites the first act of resistance in the Games, every act of domination and resistance that

follows throughout the trilogy correlates to one another and is exercised as interchanging responses between Katniss and Snow. When the two begin to form a power relation, Katniss and Snow are aware of each other's significance as a subject who exercises power. Over time, they learn to understand how they each exercise their power and how to counter one another. Hence, as Katniss becomes aware of Snow's dominance the same way Snow becomes aware of Katniss' resistance, the events in the trilogy are bound to happen because of their understanding and actions towards each other.

Such an example can be seen in *Mockingjay*. The war between the rebels and the Capitol has begun, and the rebels are working together with the secretly operating District 13. Katniss has decided to become the Mockingjay, the symbol of rebellion, whose duty is to act for the war propaganda to unite the districts. As Katniss publicly declares herself as the Mockingjay, Snow begins to work on his move by using Peeta, whom he captures in the Capitol, as a tool to disable Katniss. Snow publicly shows how he has tortured Peeta by presenting his worsening conditions in several interviews. Seeing Peeta tortured and unable to reach him, Katniss' mental state begins to break as she realizes her feelings for him.

When Katniss finally breaks down during a propaganda shooting, District 13 dispatches a mission to rescue Peeta and the captured tributes in the Capitol. Yet, when Peeta arrives in District 13, it is already too late because Snow has 'hijacked' or altered his mind so that he becomes afraid of Katniss and only wants to attack and kill her. This is how Snow exercises his domination according to his understanding of Katniss. Snow deliberately uses Peeta to exterminate Katniss with the expectation that she would not continue her duty as the Mockingjay and that would put the rebellion on hold from advancing further. However, Snow's action of altering Peeta only leads Katniss to seek revenge.

When the districts finally unite to rebel against the Capitol, Katniss finds a way to let herself into the city to kill Snow by joining the rebels' soldiers. However, when the rebels have reached the city, Katniss gets caught up in the double bombings incident that kills her sister, Primrose. Katniss assumes it is Snow who is responsible for dropping

the bombs, but when she meets with Snow, who is now a prisoner, he tells her about the truth behind the rebels' victory and how they both have been played by District 13's president, Coin.

After making an assessment of Coin herself, Katniss starts to believe in what Snow has told her because of how accurate his assessment of Coin is. Another reason that makes Katniss realize Snow is not lying is when Coin suggests they hold another Hunger Games for the Capitol's children. Hence, when it is time to execute Snow in public, Katniss decides to trust Snow and takes her own action to prevent Coin from becoming Snow's successor.

Thus, their actions prove that Katniss and Snow understand how they each exercise their power and what to do to counter them. Hence, the interchanging responses of domination and resistance that keep occurring throughout the trilogy imply the productivity of their power relation. Yet, as much as their interchanging responses of domination and resistance have caused a lot of changes and damage in the country, they become pivotal to the story as they set the plot in motion and, in the end, lead to the removal of the Hunger Games. That means Katniss and Snow are employing the productivity of their power relation to solve the conflict that they started in the first place.

CONCLUSION

From what has been discussed, the power relation between Katniss and President Snow becomes the most productive since it affects the series of events in the story. Using Foucault's theory, the discussion shows how Katniss and President Snow form their power relation. It is at first formed through the distribution of power in the state, which makes the two subjects that can exercise power according to their own experience and knowledge. Hence, the differences in their power exercise as a citizen and a president lead them to form a power relation where they complement each other's power through actions and responses towards one another. And in the process, the two become productive by setting up objectives and employing rationalization in their power exercise, which then affects how the story goes. The power relation between Katniss and

President Snow is also formed through their backgrounds, objectives, responses, and reactions that affect their exercise of power as subjects and the productivity in their power relation.

The power relation also reflects domination and resistance as the effects of power and strategies exercised by President Snow and Katniss. Domination is reflected in the exercise of power by President Snow as he uses it as a strategy to maintain his position and prevent the country from collapsing. Yet, it incites resistance reflected in the exercise of power by Katniss as she uses it as a strategy to break free from the domination. Thus, their interactions reflect the interchanging responses of domination and resistance that occur throughout the trilogy. Furthermore, Snow's dominance comes in the form of rules and punishments, such as the Hunger Games, to control and prevent the people in the districts from starting another rebellion that might destroy Panem. Yet, the domination only becomes effective for a limited amount of time as people could gather the courage to defy the rules and challenge the punishments. Meanwhile, Katniss' resistance comes in the form of actions that help her gain control over herself and defy the Capitol's dominance. And as a result, Katniss' resistance becomes effective in inciting the rebellious spirit among the people in the districts and thus starting a revolution in Panem. The resistance can also last for as long as the people share the goal of resisting dominance.

In The Hunger Games trilogy, the power relation between Katniss Everdeen and President Snow portrays a productive network between two characters from opposite stances. Implying that two subjects with different understandings of exercising power can produce products that affect a whole society. The domination and resistance reflected in the power relation also become pivotal to the story as they help the subjects to produce a productive network and results. Moreover, the findings in this paper imply that regardless of how far domination has been ingrained in society, resistance will always emerge as a reaction to oppose the dominance that occurs. This relates to the idea that the subjects' will to gain freedom is greater than the will to control.

Therefore, the stronger the domination exists, the stronger the resistance emerges in response.

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