

Article

## The (Re)Construction of Househusband's Role in The Intern Film

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**Abstract:** The role of the male as breadwinner is a common construction in society. However, there are families with certain agreements with particular conditions that require the husband to stay at home with domestic roles. This condition usually addressed the husband as a househusband. This research analyzes signs identified in The Intern film (2015) that portrays the househusband which further interprets the characteristics and roles of the househusband. Roland Barthes' semiotics method is applied in order to be able to analyze both the denotative and connotative meaning of the identified signs regarding the househusband. From the study, it is identified that there are two roles of househusbands constructed in the film 1) caregiving, and 2) act of service. Househusband duties are identified as everything domestic affairs outside of the public domain. The term househusband is not meaningfully accepted based on the preferences of men carrying out domestic duties, therefore, the term stay-at-home dad is preferred because it constructs the role of the father as a whole.

**Keywords:** sign; meaning; househusband; film; semiotics

### Introduction

The construction of gender roles in society is inseparable from how the media represents them. These representations are accepted by the audience, unconsciously, and as media users, shared and collectively perceived in their social interactions. In everyday life, the media continuously convey its message which intrudes on our consciousness (Wood, 1994). It is further stated by Wood that the media continuously presents certain stereotypes regarding women and men that limit the perception of their audience, and it is happening until the present time. When the media unstoppably displays one construct, it is consumed and is simultaneously discussed in the realm of social interaction, it allows the meaning to be (re)formed according to what the media represents. Gender roles in the household, as one example that is often discussed and debated when social reality shifts from what is so-called collective understanding. Househusband is one of the interesting topics to see and peel off because it is often discussed both in the media and in interactions in the private sphere.

A question raised such as "Is it true that a househusband is a useless man?" is one of the titles written in digital media, originally in Bahasa Indonesia entitled "*Benarkah bapak rumah tangga adalah lelaki yang tak berguna?*" tends to be provocative and invites debate among the people. The title was picked up in the online media mojak.co written by Maurent Elizabeth was published in November 10, 2018. The writing arose out of the author's anxiety about a friend's

statement that men who are at home are a type of irresponsible individuals, those who do not love their family and do not know about themselves. The topic is very interesting to discuss and further analyze.

Then, two years later, an article titled "The househusband is a solution, therefore, no need to feel uncomfortable", which in Bahasa Indonesia is "*Bapak rumah tangga adalah solusi, jadi tak perlu risi*", was written by Denny Dominicus and published on January 31, 2020 in Magdalene.co attracted the attention of researchers due to giving a different perspective. In the article, there are several excerpts of speech that are commonly heard and discussed in society regarding the role of the husband and the wife that is commonly constructed. Such an article could be a source of insights for the audience, or society in general, who eagerly spend some time reading the whole article, not just merely the title, to have a comprehensive point of view of the idea. The article could lead to critical thinking of the reader with the possible question arise, such as "is that really the case?" However, these arguments are presented in online media containing women's articles with a feminist perspective. Furthermore, not every individual can understand the context or can access information related to feminist views. The lack of understanding of the feminist context possibly triggered the narrow construction of househusbands and then shrunk the construction role of men in the domestic sphere. This is how media could play a role in meaning construction.

There are many digital and conventional media platforms that become mediums to represent gender roles that are generally used as references by society and are further used in building meanings in social interactions. Film as one of the mediums that shows gender roles in the context of social life still highlights gender roles in an unequal manner. This is shown in several studies such as those conducted by Briandana and Hajariah (2013) with the results of studies that brilliantly reveal gender roles by highlighting female masculinity. In addition, Basarah (2019) critically highlighted healthy living from the point of view of feminism theory but still found that maintaining health is better done by women than men. Therefore, studies need to be balanced with similar studies to provide a different point of view.

The representation of gender roles is always distributed to the audiences through multiple platforms, including movies. A film released in 2015 entitled *The Intern* is one of the films that boldly represents a househusband as one of the characters. The object of this study is the signs in the film *The Intern* (2015) written by Nancy Meyers tells the story of a 70-year-old man named Ben, played by Robert DeNiro, who applies for an intern position at a fashion start-up company (Djendri, 2020). The film also stars Anne Hathway as Jules Ostin, Anderson Holm as Matt, and several other stars. Although the main highlight of this film tells the experience of a person of retirement age still wanting to work and contribute to his job, there is something interesting about this film, which is related to the portrayal of a househusband. Jules, starred by Anna Hathway, became the boss and founder of the fashion start-up where Ben works is a brilliant and brilliant alpha woman building her business having a husband Matt, casted by Anders Holm, taking on the role of househusband. The representation of an Alpha wife and a caring husband is drawn nicely yet at some points the representation is twisted to the old stereotype of husband and wife in society. Therefore, taking signs in this film into account for further analyzed regarding the construction of househusband representation is needed.

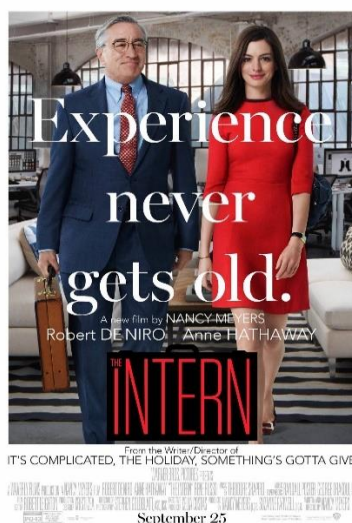


Figure 1. The Intern Film Poster  
Source: IMDB

This study is not taken far at the critical level to be able to first identify the available signs in the construction of the meaning of gender roles, in this context it is the male who plays the role of the househusband in the domestic context. This research focuses on the construction of the househusband in the film *The Intern* which was further identified and analyzed using the semiotic method of Roland Barthes. With that, this study is presented based on the following research question: How's the (re)construction of a househusband's roles in *The Intern* film?

### Literature Review

Studies on househusband-related films become interesting to be conducted when films can provide audio and visual sensations that are much more interesting than reading articles. The representation of the role of the husband or father in the domestic context is still seen as one topic that needs to be studied and further discussed. Research conducted by Chell (2001) was conducted on the basis of assumptions related to the roles of husbands and wives constructed based on gender roles formed, and this will be used as their expectations in the future. In keeping with these assumptions, Chell found that their expectations regarding the roles of husband and wife in a household were not the same. This study found that female students can accept the concept of a househusband compared to male students.

Previous studies related to gender roles in the context of the role of husband and wife in the household have been carried out by scholars from various disciplines, including in the field of communication science. Burkstrand-Reid (2011) discusses how to meet the needs of the family; Employment, health, tax fulfillment, and so forth—are the basic needs of the family. In her discussion, it was said that Joan Williams, a professor who wrote *Reshaping the Work-Family Debate: Why Men and Class matter*, saw the importance of involving men and classes in the reform of *work-family law reform*. One of his efforts was that it was important to realize that the choice for the father to stay at home may not be an option. Broadly speaking, this study shows the public role of husbands who are considered more qualified to work outside the domestic sphere to meet the needs of the family. This discussion is the same when talking about the body and sexuality where culture plays a role in the construction of related meanings that consciously or unconsciously have influenced the individual's perspective (Putranto et al, 2021).

Rohman (2013) found that there are three aspects of change in women) in a study on women's representation in the films *Stepford Wives* (1975), *Orlando* (1992), *When Night is Falling* (1995), and *Stepford Wives* (2004). These include equality in work, expression of sexual identity, and the image of 'highly educated women'. The films analyzed show some unchanging aspects related to the representation of women such as motherhood, sexuality myths, and the position of women as victims. The results of this study are interesting and relevant to the research that will be carried out regarding the representation of househusbands in the film *the Intern*. To see the representation of the househusband, the role of the wife as a comparison needs to also be looked at in the analysis.

Meanwhile, Ridaryanthi & Sinuyul (2021) in their research on gender roles in the context of women superheroes, found that regardless of the construction of superheroes attached to the characters in the film, the construction of female traits that become stereotypes in society remains inherent. For example, Gamora, who is constructed as a superhuman with strength and speed as her superpower, is described as full of loyalty, respect, and obedience to Thanos because of the power relations in that context. Besides, she is also caring for her sister, Nebula. Further analysis found that although this film represents a form of empowerment of female characters, at the same time it is still not far from being depicted that the figure of this woman superhero is also close to domestic aspects that are very familiar in society. This is the trigger in this study that the role of *househusbands* in the domestic sphere is still attached to certain stereotypes attached to men.

Carrim (2017) examines the cultural identity of married couples who work and at the same time share the domestic work including in terms of childcare. The study found that wives expect husbands to be more involved in domestic work, including childcare. The exchange of domestic roles and public roles in the television soap opera 'World Upside Down' conducted by Wahid and Lancia (2018) shows that women have the ability to play the role of breadwinners replacing roles that have been dominated by men. Meanwhile, men, or in the context of the family is husband, in the soap opera tend to 'accept' their role changes due to their financial incompetence. In this analysis, it appears an injustice in which the husband 'enjoys' his new

role and at the same time still demands the woman or wife to perform a domestic role while at home. In other words, with financial circumstances requiring wives to work outside the home, they are still charged with domestic work that has been constructed as their obligation.

Wentworth (2001) looked at how the roles of househusband and housewife were accepted or understood by 526 students. The results of this study are quite interesting where most female respondents tend to question the structure in household roles that they do more than men do. The results of this study also show that the role of the househusband is still perceived negatively.

Several studies on the representation of gender roles were conducted by scholars such as Briandana and Hajariah (2013) with the results of studies that revealed gender roles by highlighting the masculinity of female characters in films. In addition, Basarah (2019) highlighted healthy living from the point of view of feminism theory but still found that maintaining health is better done by women compared to men. On the other hand, Ridaryanthi & Jinguli (2021) highlights how characters in animated films construct gender roles of exchange portrayed feminine as well as masculine. With the consideration of the previous studies, it is not apparent that femininity is always attached to female characteristics alone, or that masculinity necessarily indicates the characteristics of a man. Therefore, studies need to be balanced with similar studies to provide a different point of view.

Related to *The Intern* film which was released in 2015, several previous studies and other reference sources have focused more on the feminist point of view regarding Jules as a career woman, mother, and wife highlighted (Wibowo et al, 2018). While Trisnawati et al (2021) highlighted gender stereotypes in the film *The Intern* from the audience's point of view was further discussed related to the exchange of roles between men and women; Men become husbands who do activities at home, while women become working wives. However, this exchange of roles is not further discussed in depth regarding its depiction.

Some of the above studies are the foundation of a thought that justifies the importance of conducting research related to the representation of the househusband in the film *the Intern*. Does the picture contained in Wahid and Lancia's (2018) research exist, or does Rohman's (2013) study influence how the househusband's representation builds up in this film. The common thread of this research with previous studies lies in how gender roles are shown, presented, or represented in a film. The research of Briandana and Hajarian (2013), and Basarah (2019) still highlights women as the main axis of studies related to gender roles. Based on this, this study wants to reveal how the signs in the film give a construction of meaning related to the gender role of the character househusband, a man with the status of a husband who lives at home, and plays a role in the domestic sector in full so that it becomes a differentiator.

In addition, to state the position of this study, regarding the methodology, the qualitative approach was used in this study with the semiotic methods of Roland Barthes. Besides, due to the unsimilar research focus compared to the previous studies, we could address the difference in the methodological state as the novelty of this research. However, this study has justification for the choice of method due to the issues related to the construction of the role of men in the domestic context that have not been highlighted in many of the studies before. The approaches and methods used can help the analysis process to interpret the construction of the role of the househusband in a denotative and connotative context that is comprehensively explored from the signs in the film related to the role of the househusband.

## **Methodology**

This research was carried out based on a constructivist paradigm in which qualitative is employed as the approach in the implementation. Cresswell and Poth (2018) state that constructivist frameworks or social constructs provide an opportunity for researchers to be able to understand the world in which the subject under study is located and work to recognize the background of that subject in shaping interpretations. The unit of analysis in this study were identified, analyzed, and interpreted using the semiotic method of Roland Barthes with the following framework:

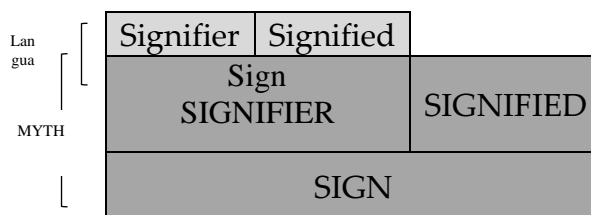


Figure 2. Semiology Roland Barthes  
Source: Budiman (2011)

1. Data Collection



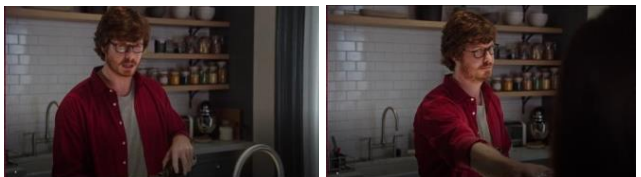




Data were selected based on the criteria that refer to the representation of the househusband in the film. Scenes were selected through observation and presented in Tabel 1.







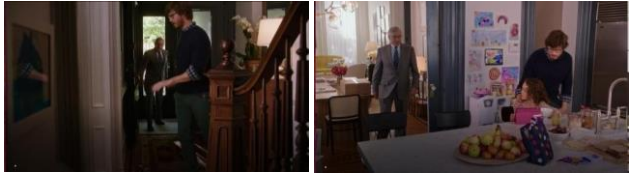
2. Data Analysis

Analysis units, which are coded as D1 until D9, were analysed using a set of semiotics method by Roland Barthes as seen in Figure 2. The analysis units were analysed based on the denotations and connotations meaning interpretation and further discussed the construction of the meaning from the perspective of the semiotics using Barthes' order of signification.

Based on a thorough observation, analysis units were identified and grouped as shown in the following table:

Table 1. Analysis units

<p><b>D1</b></p>  <p>Romantic relationships, caregiving</p>  <p>Romantic relationship</p>  <p>Domestic roles; home chores, Romantic relationship</p>  <p>Social Relationship</p>	<p><b>D6</b></p>    <p>Domestic roles; home chores, caregiving Romantic relationship Gender role as husband</p>
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<p><b>D2</b></p>  <p>Romantic relationship Caregiving</p>	<p><b>D7</b></p>  <p>Domestic roles; home chores, caregiving Romantic relationship as father</p>
<p><b>D3</b></p>  <p>Domestic roles; home chores, Romantic relationship</p>	<p><b>D8</b></p>  <p>The role of the father: Caregiving</p>
<p><b>D4</b></p>  <p>Social relations</p>	<p><b>D9</b></p>  <p>The construction of naming and meaning regarding the role of househusband</p> <p>Conversation: Ben: "Matt seems like a terrific guy..." Jules: "...I agree, he is." Ben: "...how does the <i>househusband</i> work..." Jules: "They actually prefer to be called a stay-at-home-dad"</p>
<p><b>D5</b></p>  <p>Domestic roles; home chores, caregiving</p>	

**The Findings and Discussion**

Based on previous research that has been studied regarding the content of the film and the meaning in this film, it is highlighted a lot regarding Jules working as a successful businessman, the exchange of gender roles in the public and

domestic spheres, but once the role of the husband as a stay-at-home dad or househusband is not studied or discussed in depth. By saying so, even though this film was launched in 2015, issues related to the construction of gender roles are still being discussed, such as the study of Trisnawati et al (2021) which discusses gender stereotypes in this film and highlights the exchange of roles between men and women. In this section, the results of the study will present units of analysis related to the depiction of a househusband which will then be continued with a discussion related to how the construction of the role of the househusband is shown in this film by Nancy Meyers.

The results of the study will be presented based on the results of the analysis of nine (9) units of analysis related to a househusband in the film *The Intern*, as follows:

Table 2. Units of analysis

Data/Unit of analysis	Details
D1	Romantic relations, domestic role, caregiving
D2	Romantic role, caregiving
D3	Domestic roles; doing domestic chores, & romantic relations
D4	Social relations, politeness
D5	Domestic roles; doing domestic chores, caregiving
D6	Domestic roles; doing domestic chores, & romantic relations, role as a husband
D7	Domestic roles; doing domestic chores, caregiving, romantic relations, gender role as a father
D8	Gender role as a father, caregiving
D9	The construction of naming and meaning-making of the househusband role

### 1. Househusband and The Construction of The Role

In this section, the discussion will be divided into several sub-discussions (i) appearance characteristics, (ii) househusband character construction, and (iii) househusband role construction, as follows:

#### *Characteristics of the Appearance of Young Couples*

##### *Jules:*

Formal-casual dress style with color choices and minimalist dressing up that constrains the appearance of young entrepreneurs. As a young businesswoman, Jules is portrayed as casual yet formal in every appearance. The colors that are usually worn build the construction of young entrepreneurs who in red give a very strong, dominant impression and ambitious and bold nature, black and white indicates professionalism and credibility in the field of business being run.

Minimalist yet beautiful hair styling gives a dynamic impression, plus light facial makeup with colors as if without makeup gives a natural and light impression that merge in harmony with the character of a person who is easy to move, to grow with the capability and capacity she has.

A workplace with a dynamic and growing start-up concept was adopted in this film so that a digital start-up-based company was constructed that has been developing recently. The owner of the company has access to every line of work at the company and intervenes directly in the running of the business. This can then be attributed also to how the formal but casual appearance of Jules became her trademark.

Construction of a dynamic work environment that gives space to its workers to be creative without restrictions. Activities are carried out openly and interconnected between one person/division and another. A digital-based and creative-based office culture uses workplace concepts as it is to provide a space for creativity and dynamic movement among its employees. Fluid interactions flow from superiors to other co-workers with almost no barriers and are (lead to) egalitarian. Jules' flexibility as a company owner creates room for her to expect every corner of the office to get involved in every activity that takes place within the business.

##### *Matt:*

A modern man who looks smart with eyeglasses and has a gentleman's demeanor that is constructed through the facial hair that shows maleness which it becomes a symbol of strength, a male characteristic, with a relaxed and calm bearing. As a man, Matt is constructed relaxed and calm from the signs on his appearance, as well as that his appearance represents that he is a gentleman. In certain circumstances with a certain representation, the construction of trait stereotypes is represented also by a lighter, unusual color of clothing. This relaxed and informal appearance is motivated by Matt's status of not playing a role in the professional sector, therefore, there is no social necessity to look formal.

A multi-storey house with a multi-family home type that is not too luxurious with furniture that looks adapted to the shape of the room, as well as a kitchen that is also used as a place to eat. The lifestyle of the Brooklyn people where this film is made to present a picture of family life in the cultural context of the area. The shape of the building and the layout of the room are the hallmarks of changes in the type of multi-family home in one cluster or one building.

The home design which can be referred to as minimalist depicts a multifunctional space, especially in an open kitchen leading to the dining room. The daily activities of family members are centered there. The construction of the house and how the interior design of the room gives space, especially to the location of the kitchen, as a place to chat, share tasks and roles, and discuss trivial things to the point of importance, making this place very fluid. That way, it's also related to how Matt's later sightings were constructed.

## 2. Househusband Role Construction

The characteristics of the househusband referred to in this section are how the signs in this analysis describe the appearance or physical traits, character, and gender characteristics that can be interpreted through the signs. The units of analysis that have gone through the selection process are then categorized based on signs indicating the existence of gender roles, in this context domestic roles, carried out by the figure of the househusband; parenting, and doing household chores.

### *Caregiving*

Matt's gesture by opening the door and welcoming Jules, as his partner, after work can be seen as a form of a couple's appreciation for other couples who work outside the home as breadwinners. Work in the public sphere that makes money is seen as more valuable, therefore the seen-hard work and sweat are appreciated in such a way in the form of a welcome at the door of the house for the hard work that has been done.

The individual who plays a role in the domestic sphere, who takes care of the house and ensures it is comfortable to live in, seems to have a duty to provide comfort to another individual, who is his partner, by giving a welcome and appreciation after one day of work as a breadwinner whose measure of hard work can be seen in the form of income earned to meet the needs of the family.

In scenes D1 and D2, Matt is depicted welcoming Jules who has just returned from work. Matt greeted Jules at the door of the house with a warm greeting and held the door to let Jules enter the house. Accompanying the spouse who has just returned home from work; gives a sense of comfort and protection, as a form of appreciation. This is one of the domestic role cultures constructed in this film, namely the domestic role of a couple who gives a sense of security and comfort to their partner in their home.

A father's domestic role in giving affection to his child in the form of touch is shown in scene D8. If usually the father or husband is placed in the public domain, this scene in the film is described as his role in the domestic sphere which it gives a sense of comfort to his child.

### *Act of Service*

The existence of a construction of the role of serving and being served between spouses in the household. Romantic relationships are shrouded in the role of each individual involved in them; Some are constructed to play a role in the public sphere as breadwinners and a role in the domestic sphere as those who take care of the house and the whole. In relation to the two roles, there is an impression of one serving the other, and the other having the right to be served for the public role he has performed and appears in scene D3.



Similarly, in scenes D4 and D5, the role in the domestic sphere is always prepared for domestic work, including representing the family in receiving guests. The role of an individual in the domestic sphere will be in parts of the house such as the living room, family room, dining room, and kitchen. In these spaces, there are jobs that are becoming part of the duties of the individual who plays a role in his domestic sphere.

When a spouse or other family member has time alone in more hidden areas such as rooms or workspaces, individuals with domestic roles are always awake and prepared for work in other parts of the home, including making sure to open the door of the house if someone knocks from outside. The invitation to drink coffee as a form of hospitality is shown by the host who is preparing breakfast in the kitchen. When the invitation to drink coffee and coffee is served, it describes the habits or roles that the person is used to in the domestic sphere. Ordinary means that it is a part of his duties, perhaps a daily routine.

The data instructs Matt who is the one who will open the front door and welcome the guests or anyone coming to the house. This is because Matt's work area is at the bottom of the house which consists of spaces such as the living room, dining room, and kitchen which are directly connected to the front door. While the rest of the family was in another room upstairs in a separate house. This scene shows Matt's role domestically being the recipient and greeter of guests who come to the house. The appearance of domestic roles is not only focused on spouses or family members alone but openly on strangers who are becoming the guests in the house. This shows an openness to the status of male roles in the domestic sphere in the context of this data. The acceptance of domestic roles by male partners opens up space to allow others, outside the family, to see their roles as something ordinary, or "normal" for a man to do in the context of a husband.

### *Domestic Chores*

In this study, the unit analysis was interpreted as the construction of the role of the househusband, it is known that the activities of the husband, Matt in this context, in the kitchen are often highlighted in several scenes in this film. Preparing food, preparing drinks, and serving them to family members and guests is depicted in a repetitive manner that emphasizes the domestic work it does.

### 3. Myths Househusband in the Context of Gender Role

The concept of gender can be found in everyday life, for example, women are known for motherhood and emotionality. While men are known as male and mighty Fakih (1996). Masculine characteristics in males are associated with traits, such as strong, hard, and sweaty (Kurnia, 2004). Meanwhile, according to Fakih (1996), the gender context is formed through a long process by society socially and culturally, therefore the gender context is considered by society to be the nature between women and men as if it has a biological nature that cannot be changed anymore. Vice versa, women must be gentle and graceful, therefore, women are also indirectly encouraged to be gentle and graceful and this influences their physical and biological development.

Matt's domestic role was publicly performed by him to Ben who came to the house for the first time. There was no hesitation in offering Ben a morning coffee, even Matt performed his role in the kitchen. In the D6 and D7 units of analysis, the openness of domestic roles performed by men has not been generally accepted or commonly accepted by individuals characterized by the look in their eyes, facial expressions, and how is their tone in the conversation takes place. Domestic roles are usually attached to women; who will be at home and do chores or homework including ensuring the facilitation of the needs of other family members, including couples who have a role in the public domain as breadwinners.

When the condition reverses, whatever the reason, it turns out that the situation has not been equally accepted by both partners; male and female, or husband and wife. In this scene, women who have a wide space in their public domain turn out to show an uncomfortable attitude when someone else outside the family sees this exchange of roles. A study conducted by Chell (2001) based on assumptions related to the roles of husbands and wives constructed based on gender roles formed, and this will be used as their expectations in the future. In keeping with these assumptions, Chell found that their expectations regarding the roles of husband and wife in a household were not the same. It is this expectation that may be causing the acceptance of the exchange of roles in the gender context to be not easy to accept, especially if it is the first experience of seeing it in a social context.

This acceptance and openness to the exchange of domestic roles and public roles are increasingly fluid as close relationships/relationships are built between the individuals involved. Increasingly improved habits and relationships between individuals establish a common view of the exchange of domestic roles and public roles that at earlier times might have been seen as unusual. Sayyida (2019), who focuses her research on the representation of gender role exchange in the film, stated that this analysis still looks at the side that this gender role exchange causes environmental pressure on the part of women. This is also illustrated in the D6 data when Ben first came to Jules and Matt's house and indicates how conjugal interactions with unusual roles take place. Jules gave a clumsy impression through the look in his eyes towards Ben, and vice versa.

The above may be because however, the construction of women's roles in the domestic sphere is still often dominant even when women are portrayed as individuals with certain strengths. As research conducted by Ridaryanthi & Sinuyul (2021) in their research on gender roles in the context of women superheroes found that regardless of the construction of superheroes attached to the characters in the film, the construction of female traits that become stereotypes in society remains inherent. Although power is fictional, the representation and construction of women's roles are still portrayed the same as that of a caring individual, for instance.

The exchange and reconstruction of signs and meanings related to this role provide flexibility in the interaction and acceptance between individuals so that the exchange of these roles becomes natural. The exchange of domestic roles and public roles in the television soap opera 'World Upside Down' conducted by Wahid and Lancia (2018) shows that women have the ability to play the role of breadwinners replacing roles that have been dominated by men. Meanwhile, men, or in the context of the family is husband, in the soap opera tend to 'accept' their role changes due to their financial incompetence. Acceptance between the two individuals involved is indispensable in this context, therefore, the roles become equal in their respective capacities.

The exchange of meanings that occurs through communication interactions regarding the understanding of the role of men in the domestic sphere and the designation of the role. Naming is important so that the construction is emphasized according to the preferences of the men who hold the role. In scene D9 of this study, Domestic roles are usually played by women, where when they become a wife who does not work in a public space, they will be referred to as 'housewife'. The role of this 'housewife' is around the domestic realm such as taking care of the house, cooking, cleaning, serving, and other things that are not converted into income in the form of money.

This role tends to be invisible, for it is called the domestic sphere, it is closed/private in nature. However, his role is very crucial in a family. On the other hand, in the context of the sign in this *scene*, the selection of the role name 'stay-at-home-dad' is preferred because it shows the role of the Dad who lives at home, not the housekeeper. From the terminology used, there are differently constructed values for essentially the same work; matters related to the domestic realm of households. Thus, the term *househusband* is not meaningfully accepted based on the preferences of men carrying out domestic duties, so the term stay-at-home-dad is preferred because it constructs the role of the father as a whole, not the role of the husband who takes care of the house.

## Conclusion

Based on this study, the following conclusions can be drawn from the results of the analysis and discussion in the previous chapter: there are nine (9) scenes identified that became the unit of research analysis. The results show that the role of the househusband can be categorized as (i) caregiving and (ii) act of service. Meanwhile, househusband duties are identified as everything domestic affairs outside of public domain work such as taking care of the house, family, and supporting activities. The term househusband is not meaningfully accepted based on the preferences of men carrying out domestic duties, therefore, the term stay-at-home dad is preferred because it constructs the role of the father as a whole, not the role of the husband who takes care of the house. This research uses a constructivist paradigm that limits the analysis in breaking down the myths that lie behind the meaning of the stay-at-home dad role. By saying that, the meaning of the role can be discussed further with a critical paradigm and justification for how the naming and construction of its role can be built in such a way.

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**Informed Consent Statement:** Any research article describing a study involving humans should contain this statement: ‘Informed consent was obtained from all subjects involved in the study. For studies not involving humans, please exclude this statement.

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