A CULTURAL STUDIES ON IDEAL WOMAN IN MONA LISA SMILE (A FEMINIST APPROACH)

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ABSTRACT :
In addition to get enjoyable and pleasure, we also get much knowledge by watching films. We know about the social life and custom of a culture, people and even increasing of understanding the inequity in our society, beside as the entertainment, some films are the form the idealism of directors mind. Mona Lisa Smile film which is inspired by Mona Lisa painting, a masterpiece of Leonardo Da Vinci tells a story of a person, a teacher who tries to open her students mind to their freedom to do whatever they want with their lives. She encourages her students to believe in themselves, to study to become career professionals, and to improve their economic futures and not to conform to stereotypes of women made by society that women born to become housewives and mothers which synchronize whit American dream. Like the Mona Lisa painting this film describes how every woman has to hide their problem and oppressed with smile. In analyzing cinema or film the writer uses grammar of television culture through the level of reality, and level of ideology. The technique of analysis through Rolan Barthes’s Semiotic analysis by perceiving sign system of Mona Lisa Smile film, signified and then, interpreted. The method used in this study is qualitative method that assumes all knowledge is relative, and there a subjective element to all knowledge research. The data in this research are qualitative data. The analyzing combines with the theory of gender and feminism. Through the analyzing the quotes, dialogues and behavior the writer find that every woman figure faces their problem with their smile. They look like strong and stiff like nothing happens. They hide their problems with smiling, including the liberal figures like Katherine Watson, Giselle Levy and Amanda Armstrong. So it can be concluded that the women who were oppressed, neither the conventional characters nor modern character, altogether using their smile to hide their problem.