

**POWER AND GENDER OPPRESSION  
IN LAUREN WEISBERGER'S THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA  
AND SETH GRAHAM SMITH'S PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES**

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*Keywords:*

Power  
Gender Oppression  
Women Liberation

**ABSTRACT**

This study aims to analyze (1) what power is exercised in novel *The Devil Wears Prada* and *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*, (2) how gender oppression depicted in both of novels, and (3) how gender oppression lead to women liberation in both of novels. Marxist Feminism approach is used to analyze the data by applying Engel's theory of power, young's types of gender oppression and Marx, Engel, and Lenin's theory of women liberation. The result found that all the indicators of the exercise of power by the ruling class reveal in both of novels. In relation to gender oppression, the main female character in *The Devil Wears Prada* gets exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness and cultural imperialism in the workplace. Meanwhile, some female characters in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* get the five faces of gender oppression as the impact of the exercise of power in their society. Moreover, the eight elements of women liberation mostly reveal in both of novels. Hopefully, this study would provide understanding in term of feminism, how the change of woman position into equal position and why those feminist fight for the equality. Moreover, it has limited value as means to understand the social position of women in capitalist society.

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**INTRODUCTION**

In the words of Melinda Gates (2003) "A woman with a voice is by definition a strong woman, but the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult", emphasizing on the quotes indicates that it is not such easy task for women to voice their opinion in the society. It takes tremendous struggles to make their existence and voice are considered by others, even they have to experience some gender oppressions in order to get the goal. This representation also supported by the findings of some studies quoted in a critical discourse analysis that conducted by Magalhaes (2007, p. 186). It shows the implicitly and explicitly identity of women in a certain community. First, a study that is done by Lima (1997) shows that Brazilian textbooks associated women identity as passive, weak and lack of logical in reasoning. This result of the research supports the previous research done by Hardi (1989) that mostly

women are more "incompetent or silly" than men. These results of studies contribute such a negative image of women in the society. It creates the general perception or prejudice about the role of women when they have to compete with men, such as in the family or workplace. The poor position of women is getting worse when they come from different social class. The limitation is not only about gender discrimination but also from class discrimination.

Marxist feminist's ideology firstly comes up from Friedrich Engels (1884) who explained that the inferiority of women is not a result of their biological nature but of social affair. In addition he said that one way for women to emancipate themselves in through the elimination of capitalist. Meanwhile, Mies (2014, p. 12) states that Marxist feminist is the realization of the tendency to the new feminist critique and rebellion into the former theoretical

body of Marxism. Marxist feminism is a subtype of feminist theory that explains about structure of modern industrial society that emphasized on class and labor.

According to Dahl (1957, p. 203) power is the ability to influence and control other's behavior. Power is also defined domination's relation that causes something unjust or oppressive power over relation (Allen, 2016, p. 33). According to the traditional Marxist account of power, domination is understood on the model of class exploitation. Domination result from the capitalist appropriation, of surplus value that is produced by workers. This is happened since what is good for the ruling class must also be good for the whole of the society , with which the ruling class identifies itself (Engels, 1884, p. 95). Thus, based on the above definition of power, it can be concluded that power is the ability used to dominate others. It is used to serve a certain people/group/system purpose/ victory. It is generally exercised by the ruling class over middle/ low class. In addition, Engel's idea about Marxist feminism conception of private property gives rise to the following factors: economic inequality, dependence and Political confusion and ultimately unhealthy social relations between men and women (employers and employee). This is the root of the oppression of women. It happened since there are both of powerful and powerless (upper and lower class) that play role in that kind of relationship.

Lynch (1998, p. 65) states that the existence of power relation cannot be seen, touched, or even realized, it is mixed up among relations. If there is relationship then, there is power relation as well. The statement is in line with Davis who claimed that power relation is every time and everywhere, contextual, power is throughout the structure of domination, is in connection to concrete situated social practice (Lazar, 2007). In relations to Marxism, there are still view point differences of socio cultural system people between the powerful and powerless people. Power is an important factor that determines the destiny of poor proletariats. In addition, according to Tyson (2014, p. 54) Marxism divides people into group of bourgeois and proletariat. The first group is bourgeois. Bourgeois (capitalist) are those who have natural

resources or like farm that brings them power. Another group is proletariats (worker). This group is a group who don't have any kind of natural resources. They are the majority of population and work hard, but the benefit goes to bourgeois, meanwhile they live in poverty.

Patil (2007) claimed that an oppression that is associated with the gender norms, relation and stratification of a given society, can be called as gender oppression. In more details, based on a report of Community Accountability within the People of Color Movement (Incite!,2005, p. 5), it is defined that gender oppression is as the result of individual acts of abuse and violence, patterns of power and control, and system of abuse and violence that are created to against women and girl due to their gender. The definition of gender oppression can be presented more clearly in the following table:

**Table 1. The Definition of Gender Oppression**  
 (Adapted from Community Accountability within the People of Color Movement: 2005, p. 6)

Subject	Action	Object
Individual ( Mostly men but can be women, transgender)	Individual acts of abuse and violence against women and girls*.	Women and girls ( especially if more vulnerable or have less power because poor,
Organization ( Workplaces, Coalitions, Constituencies and Movements)	Pattern of power and control elevating men and/ boys* at the expense of women/girl.	person of color, indigenous, immigrant, queer, less education, disabled, English second language or no English, young, dependence on the person/organization who is doing it)
System ( Imperialism, capitalism, Militarism, religion, race, heterosexuality and patriarchy )	System of abuse and violence targeting women/girl	

**\*Note: Men/boys and Women/girls can include biological-born, transgender or Man/boy-identified person (Masculinity) or women/girl identified person (Femininity).**

In more detail Young (2009, pp. 45-58) claimed that there are five types of gender oppressions, which will be explained as follows:

- 1) Exploitation is the act of using human's labors in order to gain profit while not compensating them fairly
- 2) Marginalization is the act of relegating or confining a group of women to a lower social standing or outer limit or edge of the society.
- 3) Powerlessness is a condition where a certain class of women is dominated by the ruling class and is situated to take orders and merely have the right to give them.
- 4) Cultural imperialism is associated with taking the culture of the ruling class and applying it as a norm. In other words, the other groups of women, in this case should follow the laws made by the ruling group although it is not appropriate for them. The ruling group is the one who has right to make laws for the society
- 5) Violence It is the most real and visible form of gender oppression. Members of some groups live by knowing that they must fear random, unprovoked attacks on their person. These attacks do not necessarily need a motive but are intended

to damage, humiliate, or destroy the woman/women.

In relation to Marxist feminism, capitalism can lead women to be oppressed, as stressed by Evelyn Reed's in Tong (2009, p. 107) that the same capitalist economic forces and social relations that brought about the oppression of one class by another, one race by another, and one nation by another also brought about the oppression as a women is the worst kind of oppression for all women. Marxist believes that the oppression of women is inextricably link to the class society. The capitalists are using any divisions within the working class to attack the conditions of the workers. The fight against women oppression is a struggle for the entire working class, regardless of gender; the only of working class is in unity and cohesion. As stated by Bardwaj (2016, p. 34) that the liberation of men and women from the slavery of inhuman capitalist is the true strength of Marxist Feminist ideology. Meanwhile, Barrett (2014, p. 258) claimed that when women's oppression is entrenched in the structure of capitalism then the struggle for women liberation cannot wholly disengaged. This statement is in line with the goal of Marxist feminism as stated by Sheivari (2014) that liberating women by transforming the conditions

of their oppression and exploitation actually becomes Marxist feminism goal.

In relation to the literary works, some novels represents the portrayal of women who become the victims of the exercise of ruling class power, consequently they have got some oppressions and struggles that are done as the significance of power to gender oppression. *The Devil Wears Prada* and *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* are considered as two novels that represent these values. Some studies were done in relation to the issues, Spiker (2012, p. 16) states that *The Devil Wears Prada* depicts not only female power in career, love and friendship but also how women use their power effectively to compete in world of business. Chretien (2011, p. 3) told that the thesis examines that canonical literature/ monster mash-up subgenre, focusing specifically on its originating text, *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*, as a case study to explore and understand the cultural work being done in this subgenre. In relation to the issues, this study is emphasized on to see what power is exercised in the novel *Pride and Prejudice and zombies* and *The Devil Wears Prada*, to find out how gender oppressions are depicted in the novels and to find out how gender oppressions lead to women liberation in both of novels.

## RESEARCH METHOD

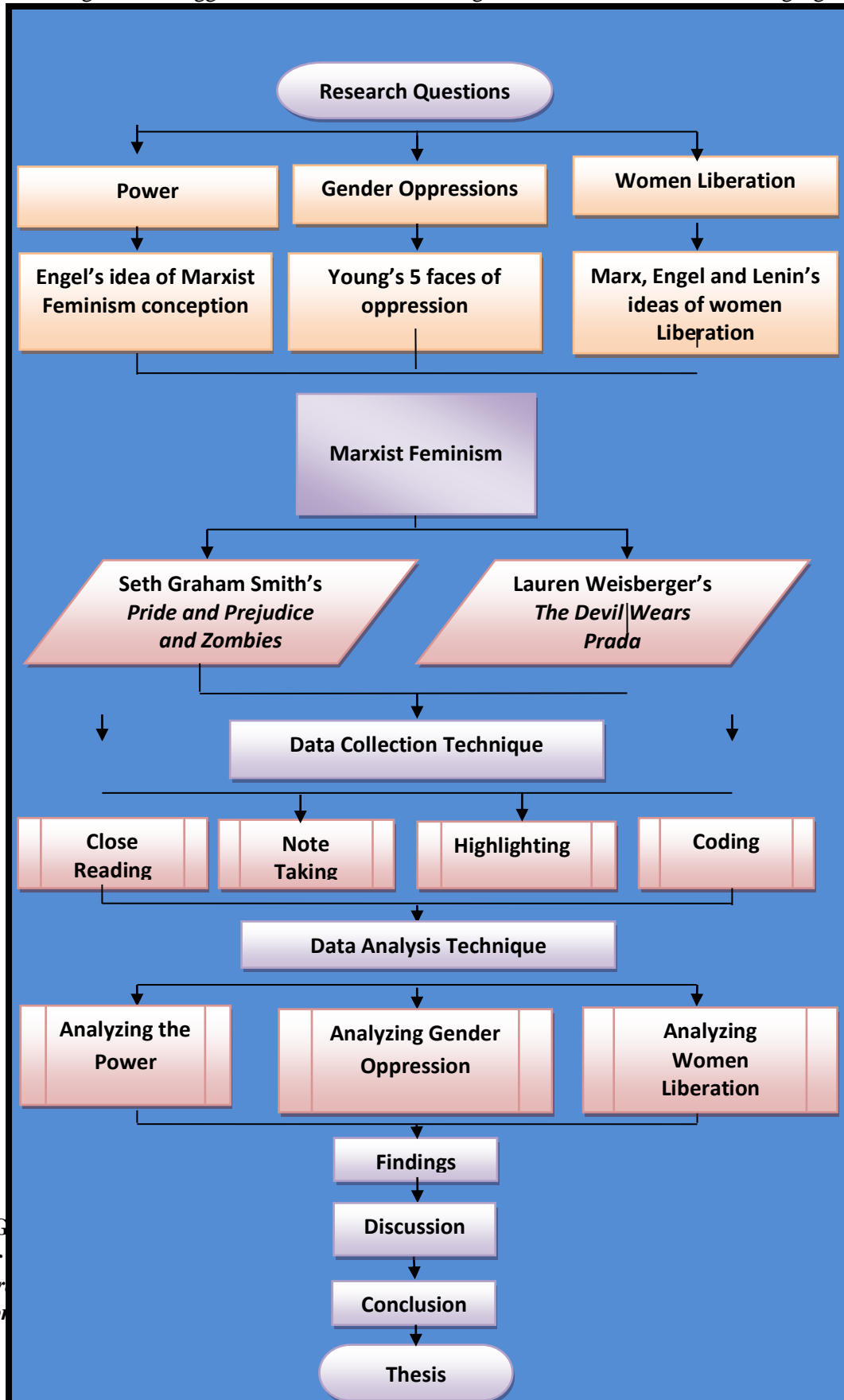
The main data are taken from the novels *The Devil Wears Prada* and *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* in form of words, sentences, phrases, expressions, atmospheres, plot, and characters in the dialogue, narration, and illustration of the novels. The research methods are arranged into the following four steps: intensive close reading, noting the data, highlighting and coding the data from the novels.

In analyzing the writer uses Marxist Feminism approach. This theory emphasized on the discrimination both of class and gender, which is based on economic perspective. This theory divides the group of people in the society into bourgeoisie and the proletariat, which are also called as the capitalist and working class. In fact, this kind of class division can also represented by the role of gender in the society, especially in the family called as masculinity and Femininity.

The interpretation was done along the analyzing process, discussion and drawing conclusion stages. This action was done so that the data could be delivered clearly and details through this thesis. The procedures taken to analyze the data are:

1. Analyzing the data of novels Weisberger's *The devil Wears Prada* and Smith's *Pride and prejudice and Zombies* applied by the Engel's idea; Economic inequality based on private property, dependence, and ultimately unhealthy social condition between the employer and the employee (men and women).
2. Analyzing the data of novels Weisberger's *The devil Wears Prada* and Smith's *Pride and prejudice and Zombies* applied by Irish Young's theory of the types of gender oppression namely exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness, cultural imperialism, and violence.
3. Analyzing the data of novels Weisberger's *The Devil Wears Prada* and Smith's *Pride and prejudice and Zombies*. It applied Marx, Engel and Lenin Idea of Women Liberation ideas that were synthesized by Mies (2014, p. 178), they are : First, when women questions appear as the response of system capitalism. Second, the women enter social production (that is, waged labor outside the household) in order to gain a material base for their economic independence and emancipation. Third, no limitation between, as capitalism has eliminated the differences between men and women, because all are made property less wage workers. Fourth, Women as women may be oppressed or subordinated but they are not exploited in the same way as male workers are exploited. This exploitation they can fight, together with men, in the struggle for change of production relations (class struggle). Fifth, the struggle against their specific oppression as women has to take place on ideological plane (through legal action, education propaganda, exhortation and persuasion. Sixth, women should unite in order to liberate themselves so that their struggle will be stronger. Seventh, women can participate not only in wage labor, but also in political activity. On the level of man- woman or employee-employer relations have to achieve true equality or democracy between man and woman and/ or employee- employer. This is possible

through the ideological of struggle. The research diagram can be seen on the following figure.



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comes from middle class family; meanwhile Miranda is the high class leader in the Runway. Of course, their financial base would be totally different it can be seen from their daily life styles that are represented in the novel. Andrea is a simple and ordinary girl that lived and grown in the common environment (Weisberger, Ch.2 p.7). In contrary to Andrea, Miranda is an extravagant woman. She has glamorous life, wealthy, as well as popularity (Weisberger, Ch.P). She frequently exercises her power to oppress Andrea so that at the certain point she comes to the conclusion that she is inferior and Miranda is superior (Weisberger, Ch.8p.84).

Dependence is the next indicator that indicates the exercise of power over others. Here it can be seen that the proletariat's fate is on the bourgeoisie's hand. The condition is illustrated when Emily, Miranda's first Assistance, repeatedly reminds Andrea that their leader, Miranda is their priority. A little mistake or ignorance means that their career in Runway end (Weisberger, Ch.5 p.47). This is the way Miranda uses her power toward her workers by reminding them that they careers depend on Miranda's hand.

Unhealthy relationship between employers and employee reveals on the novel (Weisberger, Ch.6 p. 60), when Miranda's husband, Mr. Tomlison asks Andrea whether she is happy or not working for his wife, she tells lies by saying that she loves working for Miranda very much. Deep in her heart, Andrea feels that the relationship between her and Miranda is like a predator and baby mammals.

Power is the ability used to dominate others. It is used to serve a certain people/group/system purpose/ victory. It is generally exercised by the ruling class over middle/ low class. It reflected in the three indicators of economic inequality, dependence, and unhealthy relationship in which Miranda as the ruling class tends to dominate her workers, especially her female workers to serve her purposes.

## **2. Economic inequality, Dependence and unhealthy relationship between Employee and Employers in *Pride and prejudice and Zombies***

Economy inequality in this novel causes class discrimination in which the power of high class/the ruling class tried to control the lower class. As told in the novel (Smith, Ch. 7 p.14) that the only Mr. Bennet's property is his estate which can only produce two thousand pounds a year. the worse thing is that the patriarchy system in their place doesn't allow Mr. Bennet to inherit his that limited wealth to his daughters. In contrary to Mr. Bennet Family, Mr. Bingley, Mr. Darcy, Lady Catherine, and their family come from prosperous family or high class family. However, this economic inequality has led them to a condition where the ruling class tends to exercise their power to the middle class in order to get a certain people's purpose (Smith, Ch.56 p.181). It represents a condition which economic inequality play important role in the exercise of power.

The second indicator of the exercise of power is dependence. Beside love, economical dependence becomes another motive of Jane Bennet to have relationship with Mr. Bingley. Mr. Darcy realizes Jane's motives to his friend that she will take advantage of him after they get marriage. Moreover, after Jane suffers from severe flu and stays for some times in the Netherfield. He assumes that Jane has been infected by the zombies' plague which will harm his friend, Bingley. Then Mr. Darcy exercises his power by arranging scenario to separate Mr. Bingley and Jane. Bingley's dependence on Darcy's opinion has been used by Darcy to influence Bingley to leave for Herfordshire. His departure left an impression that as if Bingley who has left Jane and discontinue the relationship. This is learned by Elizabeth through Darcy's letter (Smith, Ch.35 p.103).

Unhealthy relationship between the middle class and the ruling class also reveals in the novel. Born in the middle class family, Bennett's daughters are often subordinated by the people from the upper class' members. Many people are dislike toward Mr. Darcy because of her manner, especially Mrs. Bennet. She doesn't like the way he treats and subordinate one of her daughters, Elizabeth. It seems that member of ruling class freely exercise their power to insult and judge those from the middle class using the rude words.

In conclusion, the three indicators; economic inequality, dependence and unhealthy relationship between men and women (employee and employers) of the exercise of ruling class power exist in both of novels. In conclusion, the ruling class' power tends to be exercised in these three conditions. By the existence of these three indicators, it gives greater chance for the superior to dominate the inferior ones using their power. As it is defined as the ability used to dominate others. It is used to serve a certain people/group/system purpose/ victory. It is generally exercised by the ruling class over middle/ low class.

## **b. Gender Oppression In The Devil Wears Prada**

### **1. *Exploitation, Powerlessness, Marginalization, and Cultural imperialism in The Devil Wears Prada.***

Exploitation is a face of oppression that is mostly found in the Novel *The Devil Wears Prada*. This happens since Miranda as the employers or the ruling class always tends to exploit her employee in order to address what she needs. These can be seen from some illustrations in the novel that Andrea does not only handle to serve snacks, lunch, drink and dinner but also collecting Miranda's dirty clothes after her photo shoot session, getting the latest Harry Potter novel for Miranda's twin, organizing Miranda's brother in law's wedding party, etc. They are generally known as women's tasks in the household. Women are able to produce most of the material goods, for example cookware, clothing, tools, sheltering etc. As claimed by Marx in (2009, p. 99) that since employers have monopoly on the means of production, including factories, tools, land, means of transportation, and means of communication, workers are forced to choose between being exploited or having no work at all. This actually that is experienced by Andrea.

The next form of oppression that is found in the novel *The Devil Wears Prada* is gender marginalization. It is the act of relegating or confining a group of people to a lower social standing or outer limit or edge of the society. It reveals in the novel is when Miranda frequently calls Andrea as Emily (Weisberger, Ch.8 p. 84). It seems that both Emily and Andrea are similar

in Miranda's view. Both of them are her female workers who come from middle class so she thinks that it doesn't matter for her to marginalize Andrea by calling her using her other female worker's name.

Powerlessness is a condition where woman from the low class people are dominated by the ruling class people and have no capacity or power to against them. Because of the market interest and expectation to this famous fashion magazine, Miranda gets very strict on her workers performance, especially female workers. The condition is illustrated when Miranda shows her dislike when Andrea is wearing two inch sling black in the office. She considers that they are too flat and not elegant. They are inappropriate to be used by a female official of a famous fashion magazine office like Runaway (Weisberger, Ch.13 p.192).The term *my girl* in the quotation refers to all of female gendered workers in that office should follow the rules in the office. Meanwhile the powerlessness is represented when the Andrea only remain silence and obey the next instructions from Miranda.

Cultural imperialism is a condition when the ruling class decided their culture as a norm or rule that should be followed by the lower class, even though sometimes it is not appropriate for them. In this novel, fashion and life style become important things that are emphasized by people in this business, especially Miranda as the leader. "*To be new woman*" (Weisberger.Ch.9 p.89) means Andrea should transform herself into new figure of woman that is more dynamic, fashionable, and elegant, especially in term of performance. Andrea tries hard to change her out of date style into more up to date style in order to follow the culture in her office. In short, she has to reflect the portrayal of modern women of the era.

### **2. *Exploitation, Powerlessness, Marginalization, Cultural Imperialism, and Violence in The Pride and Prejudice and Zombies***

Exploitation is found in this novel. This kind of oppression is experienced by Charlotte.The exploitation comes from Lady Catherine that hesitates on the capability of Charlotte as a woman and a wife (Smith,

Ch.30.p.84). She frequently comes to Mr. Collin's home only to find out some unimportant carelessness which may be done by Charlotte as his wife, such as: the wrong set of the furniture or other housemaid's mistakes. It is clear that the visits of Lady Catherine to supervise whether the chores in Charlotte and Mr. Collins household run well, are gender oppression. It can be seen that from the sentence: *seemed to do it only for the sake of finding Mrs. Collins's joints of meat were too large for her family*, it means that Lady Catherine search for Charlotte's weaknesses in handling the chores of the family. It can be called as gender exploitation.

Marginalization is another gender oppression that mostly found in the novel *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies*. Marginalization is not only done by individual but also by a system. The novel represents that patriarchy system has marginalized Bennet daughters. At that time, in England, a father couldn't inherit his wealth to his daughters but to a son or other male relatives of him. In the case of Bennet's family, since Mr. Bennet doesn't have a son, he has to inherit his wealth to his cousin, Mr. Collins. This is a form of gender marginalization that the only men who deserve to get the inheritance, not women. These women lose their rights to inherit estate from their own biological father. Thus, how patriarchy system marginalizes women in the family. As stated by Young (2009, p. 50) that Marginalization is perhaps the most dangerous form of oppression. A whole category of people is lost from useful participation in social life and thus potentially subjected to great material deprivation and even extermination.

The powerlessness is experienced by Jane Bennet when Mr. Bingley leaves her without giving any clear reasons and explanation (Smith, Ch.26 p.73). Moreover, when she meets Miss Bingley, she implies that Bingley has interested in Mrs. Darcy. These things really hurt her. She should have asked for clarification to Bingley toward their relationship, but it is inappropriate to be done by a woman. Even though she is disappointed and very curious on Bingley's news, as a woman, she is powerless to do something. It seems that Mr. Bingley, as a man of the ruling class, has privilege as decision

maker to determine and decide the fate of their relationship. Meanwhile, as a woman, she prefers accepting the reality and forgetting her wish to continue their relationship. This is the form of Jane's powerlessness on what Mr. Bingley did to her. As stated by Engels in Tong (2009, p. 105) that men represented the bourgeoisie and women represented the proletariat.

The cultural imperialism reveals in the story after Elizabeth has had her dinner and returns to Jane's room, Miss Bingley and Mrs. Hurst start abusing her (Smith, Ch.8 p.18). They consider that her manner is impolite indeed. The only thing she can be proud of is that she has ever learned in Chinese combat school very well. Even Mrs. Hurst claims that her appearance and style are very wild and messy. In other words, Elizabeth doesn't reflect a figure of honorable lady at that time.

The last oppression is violence. One morning after Bingley and Jane engagement, Lady Catherine and her dojos (escorts) come to Bennet family (Smith, Ch.56 P.184). She has conversation with Elizabeth, she considers Elizabeth as unfeeling and selfish girl that insist to have relationship to Darcy. Because Elizabeth refuses her suggestion to stay away from Mr. Darcy, she tries to kill Elizabeth. She and her dojos by turn attacks Elizabeth. Some attacks cannot be avoided by her. Fortunately, because of Elizabeth excellent capability in martial art; she can beat them all as well. As stated by Young (2009, p. 57) that violence is intended to humiliate, damage, or destroy person. The violence reveals in the novel, belongs to ruling class repression. It is used as a tool to keep a certain group oppressed and show Lady Catherine's power to Elizabeth.

Thus, some faces of gender oppression in both novels are found as the result of power operation to gender oppression. The main character in the novel the *Devil Wears Prada* gets exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness and cultural imperialism. However no any violence oppression is found in the novels. Meanwhile In novel *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies*, the five faces of oppression reveal in the novel. They are: exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness, cultural imperialism and violence.



**c. Women Liberation in The Devil Wears Prada and Pride and Prejudice and Zombies**

Based on the eight elements of women liberation, it was found that the following

elements of women liberation that reveal in both of novels, they are:

**Table 2. The Elements of Women Liberations in Both Novels**

No	Elements of Women Liberation	<i>The Devil Wears Prada</i>	<i>Pride and Prejudice and Zombies</i>
1	When women questions appear as the response to system capitalism. The questions can be answered by the fallen of capitalism itself.	Andrea wants to find out the way to start her career and be independent from her parents' financial support.	Elizabeth and her sisters try to find out the way to survive from zombies attack and economic pressure.
2	Women enter social production (that is, waged labor outside the household) in order to gain a material base for their economic independence and emancipation.	Andrea goes out her home to apply for a job in Runway	Elizabeth goes out her home to learn martial art in Chinese and look for wealthy man to marry.
3	No limitation between, as capitalism has eliminated the differences between men and women, because all are made property less wage workers.	Andrea works together with other male friends in the workplace. They support and respect each other.	Elizabeth and Darcy work together as warriors that fight against the zombies.
4	Women as women may be oppressed or subordinated but they are not exploited in the same way as male workers are exploited. This exploitation they can fight, together with men, in the struggle for change of production relations (class struggle).	This element does not completely reveal in the story. Andrea and her male companion actually hate the way Miranda dominate her female workers though at the end of the story, she should liberate herself individually from the capitalism and exploitation of Miranda without any help from her male companion .	Elizabeth and Darcy, Mr. Gardiner, and colonel Fitzwilliam become Elizabeth's male companion in struggling against Lady Catherine.
5	Struggle against their specific oppression as women has to take place on ideological plane (through legal action, education propaganda, exhortation and persuasion.	Andrea persuades Emily to learn that actually Miranda has exploited them. Andrea quit to work as Miranda's personal Assistance.	Elizabeth persuades and gives exhortation to Jane to learn that Bingley and Darcy are not good guys. Elizabeth refuses when Darcy proposes her. Elizabeth fights against Lady Catherine in order to show her class struggle.
6	Women should unite in order to liberate themselves so that their struggle will be stronger. If the	Andrea overcomes her own problem in the workplace since she liberates herself	Elizabeth, Darcy and all of family members unite to against Lady Catherine's

No	Elements of Women Liberation	<i>The Devil Wears Prada</i>	<i>Pride and Prejudice and Zombies</i>
	struggle is done separately, it will only overcome certain problem.	individually from the dominance of Miranda.	arbitrariness.
7	After the revolutionary change, women can participate not only in wage labor, but also in political activity	Andrea works for Loretta, being good partners in workplace and they set some strategy to succeed their business.	Elizabeth suggests her husband to make reconciliation with his aunt, Lady Catherine.
8	On the level of man- woman or employee- employer relations have to achieve true equality or democracy between man and woman and/ or employee- employer. This is possible through the ideological of struggle	Andrea and Loretta work together as employee and employer in harmonious relationship. They support and respect each other to expand their careers in the future.	Elizabeth and Darcy work together as warriors in protecting their kingdom and area from zombie's attacks.

Based on the above analysis, this study found that most of women liberation elements found in the novels. There are only two elements of women liberation in novel *The Devil Wears Prada* that don't completely reveal in the novel. It is about the fourth and sixth elements of women liberation which states that women as women may be oppressed or subordinated but they are not exploited in the same way as male workers are exploited. This exploitation they can fight, together with men, in the struggle for change of production relations (class struggle) and women should unite in order to liberate themselves so that their struggle will be stronger. If the struggle is done separately, it will only overcome certain problem. Meanwhile *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* contains all elements of women liberation. It can be learnt that the women liberation in *The Devil Wears Prada* is a form of individual employee revolution meanwhile in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* is a form of collective employee revolution.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

### Conclusion

The exercise of ruling class power, gender oppression and women liberation reveal in these novels. In relation to the first research question, based on the three indicators; economic inequality, dependence and unhealthy relationship between men and women (employee

and employers), the exercise of ruling class power exists in both of novels. In conclusion, by the existence of these three indicators, it gives greater chance for the superior to oppress the inferior ones using their power.

In relation to second research, some faces of gender oppression in both novels are found in the novels. The main character in the novel the *Devil Wears Prada* gets exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness and cultural imperialism. However no any violence oppression is found in the novels. It is because, both of Miranda and Andrea are well educated women who realized that they live in modern era in which violence is not allowed to do by their law. So the tendency from the ruling class to do this kind of oppression is not found in the book. In novel *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*, the five faces of oppression reveal in the novel. They are: exploitation, marginalization, powerlessness, cultural imperialism and violence.

Dealing with the third research question, women liberation appears as the positive effect of gender oppressions. This study found that most of women liberation elements found in the novels. There are only two elements of women liberation in novel *The Devil Wears Prada* that don't completely reveal in the novel. It is about the fourth and sixth elements of women liberation which states that women as women

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In relation to the real life, the novels represent moral values about how actually power is exercised in daily life in order to reduce the impact of gender and social asymmetry. When someone has authority or power, it doesn't mean that he/she is able to treat other as what they like. They have to consider the impact of the decision that they take. They have also considers others values like politeness, humanity and cooperation in a relationship in order to maintain good relationship and for everyone goodness. When the ruling class exercises their power wisely, it will minimize the middle class oppression. In short, people who have wealthy and authority should consider the moral value of humanity when they will take any decision and action, so that the conflicts of between asymmetry class and gender can be minimized and even healed.

### Suggestion

Obviously, power, gender oppression, and women liberation are aspects that relate one

another. They can be found almost in any kind of social relations; in the family, workplace, government, society, culture, system etc. Ultimately, the theories used in this thesis is not merely limitedly applicable to this study but to the world wide of real life since both of novels *The Devil Wears Prada* and *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies* themselves also portray the real condition that commonly happened in our past, present and future society. As there is power exercised rudely by certain class to other middle/low class, it results oppression. The only way out of the oppression is by struggling against of the oppressor.

Hopefully, this study helps the readers' understanding in term of feminism, how the change of woman position into equal position and why those feminist fight for the equality. Moreover, it has limited value as means to understand the social position of women in capitalist society. It is suggested for other researchers to conduct different approach and theories to reveal more hidden values from both of novel since this study would provide theoretical and practical contributions to enrich the theory of analyzing literary works, especially Marxist feminism literary work. .

The writer realizes that this study is still far from perfect criteria however she really hopes that this study can give beneficial contribution for those who are interested in conducting researches that related to literature field.

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