ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the construction of sexual harassment in the film Penyalin Cahaya using Greek mythology, specifically the characters Medusa and Perseus, through Roland Barthes' semiotic approach. Sexual harassment, defined as unwanted and coercive sexual acts, is often expressed through symbols and myths to provide a deeper understanding. The film Penyalin Cahaya utilizes the symbol of Medusa's head to highlight the injustices faced by victims and illustrates how myths can reflect social realities. In this film, Medusa represents victims who experience trauma and stigma, while Perseus, typically considered a hero in mythology, is depicted as the perpetrator of harassment. The film uses mythology to show power dynamics where victims are often in a weaker position compared to perpetrators, and employs reflection symbols to reveal the truth about harassment without adding further trauma to the victims. Medusa also symbolizes strength emerging from trauma, highlighting the victims' struggle and recovery. The research method employs semiotic design and descriptive methods to analyze symbols and signs in the film without making broad generalizations, with data analysis being inductive and focused on meaning. Findings indicate that the film effectively constructs a complex narrative about sexual harassment and power manipulation through the adaptation of mythological characters, revealing how mythological narratives are often used to obscure crimes and uphold patriarchal power.

Keywords: Representation, Film "Penyalin Cahaya", Semiotics, Roland Barthes, Sexual Harassment