

## ABSTRACT

### **THE DISCOURSE OF RESISTANCE BY INDIGENOUS ROTE WOMEN IN INDONESIAN FILM (A Sara Mills Critical Discourse Analysis of Women From Rote Island)**

Haifa Salsabila Hutomo <sup>1)</sup>, Isti Purwi Tyas Utami, S.Sos., M.I.Kom.<sup>2)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup> Student of Communication Science Department, Universitas Pembangunan Jaya

<sup>2)</sup> Lecturer of Communication Science Department, Universitas Pembangunan Jaya

*Indonesian films that portray Indigenous women as both victims of injustice and central protagonists remain rare. Women From Rote Island presents the experiences of Indigenous Rote women who face sexual violence and human trafficking. This study aims to analyze the discourse of resistance by Indigenous Rote women in the film by examining the positions of subject, object, and audience. The research uses a qualitative approach with a critical paradigm and applies Sara Mills' model of critical discourse analysis. The unit of analysis includes 23 scenes that depict acts of resistance by female characters. The findings show that women dominate the subject position and act as agents of resistance against patriarchal values and repressive customary norms, especially related to sexual violence. Male characters are more often placed as weakened objects. The audience is directed to see the truth through the women's perspective. Forms of resistance include rejection, denial, appropriation, repression, and violence. However, this resistance does not fully shift the patriarchal social system. The changes shown are more individual than structural. Patriarchal practices in Rote culture, which position women as subordinate in a patrilineal system, are still visible. The film portrays resistance that challenges patriarchal dominance, but does not entirely dismantle it.*

**Keywords:** Critical Discourse Analysis, Sara Mills, Film, Women From Rote Island, Patriarchal Culture.

Libraries : 63

Publication Years : 2015 – 2025