

## ABSTRACT

### **COMPARATION OF MAJOR WOMAN CHARACTERS IN WESTERN AND ASIAN HORROR FILM (Quantitative Content Analysis of the Characters Rini in *Pengabdi Setan 2*, Dani in *Midsommar*, and Seo-yeon and Young-sook in *The Call*)**

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This study aims to compare the depiction of female main characters in horror films from Indonesia (*Pengabdi Setan 2*), the United States (*Midsommar*), and South Korea (*The Call*). Female characters in horror films are often portrayed as passive, victimized, or lacking agency. Therefore, it is important to examine how horror films across cultures begin to present women as active and complex figures. This research adopts a quantitative content analysis method with a post-positivist paradigm. Data collection was conducted through visual observation of scenes featuring female protagonists, and coding was carried out by two independent coders to ensure reliability. The analytical framework includes five key indicators: screentime, characterization, social roles, female imagery, and narrative position. Findings show that Dani had the highest screentime at 124 minutes (72.5%), followed by Seo-yeon at 71 minutes (63.4%), Young-sook at 57 minutes (50.9%), and Rini at 40 minutes (33.6%). Rini and Seo-yeon were portrayed 100% as protagonists; Dani was 96.4% protagonist and 3.6% antagonist; Young-sook was 46.4% protagonist and 53.6% antagonist. Dominant social roles were: Rini as older sister (24 scenes), Dani as friend (36), Seo-yeon as daughter (52), and Young-sook as friend (34). The most prominent female imagery was "pillar" for Rini (29 scenes) and Dani (30), and "psychological" for Seo-yeon (76) and Young-sook (57). In terms of narrative position, all characters were mostly depicted as subjects: Rini 92.5%, Dani 64.3%, Seo-yeon 84.5%, and Young-sook 87%. These findings indicate that contemporary horror films from the three countries portray women as active characters with significant social, psychological, and narrative complexity.

**Keywords:** Depiction, Horror Film, Gender, Content Analysis

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