

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Problem

Music is sounds that are arranged in a way that is pleasant or exciting to listen to. (Oxford dictionaries online, 2021). People sing a song or play it on instruments as a way to express how they feel. Music is an industry that is developing in the United States and many singers from United States with a great music quality. In a song a singer and songwriter put a lot of sense that aims to deliver a particular issue in order to be able to understand and be understood by a listener so that the listener can feel the same way or at least can also feel what the singer wants to convey.

The singer put symbol and meaning into the song so the listener will understand what's on the singer wants to convey. Because of that theory that I will use to support the course of the research is the theory of symbols or semiotics. Semiotic takes meaning in a literary work through the symbols displayed in the literary work. According to the book the quest for meaning by marcel denesi,

"Semiotics Its central aim is to investigate, decipher, document, and explain the what, how, and why of signs, no matter how simple or complex they are. Since the middle part of the twentieth century, semiotics has grown into a broad field of inquiry. It has been applied to the study of body language, art forms, discourses of all kinds, visual communication, media, advertising, narratives, language, objects, gestures, facial expressions, eye contact, clothing, space, cuisine, rituals - in sum, to everything that human beings produce and use to communicate and represent things in some psychologically and socially meaningful way. " (Denesi, 2007)

With semiotics it would be easy for us to understand the meaning to every song that we listen because almost every song has the meaning or put the meaning on their song. That is why many singers who are part of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer + (LGBTQ +) community use songs as a means for them to convey what they experience and feel.

LGBTQ+ according to Susan Cochran and Vickie Mays' research, sexual orientation includes the following dimensions: sexual attraction; sexual behavior; sexual fantasies; emotional, social, and lifestyle preferences; and self-identification. (MentalHelp.net, n.d.). LGBTQ + stands for LGBTTTQQAAP Who stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and etc. LGBTQ + include sexual orientation and gender on it. And showed as that there not only one sexual orientation or as we know heterosexual or someone who like the opposite gender but also there are homosexual or someone who like the same gender even there are someone who like both of the sex male and female like bisexual, pansexual, omniseual.

Judith Pamela Butler is an American philosopher who studies about LGBTQ + so she studied about sexual orientation and gender performativity so they describe the performative gender and types of genitals that were influential in Francocentric philosophy, cultural theory, queer theory, and feminist philosophy in the 20th century. She has also written several books related to gender and sexuality. She is the person behind queer theory and gender performativity.

The word queer is describing or relating to a sexual or gender identity that is different from traditional ideas about sex and gender, for example if somebody is gay, bisexual or transgender. (Oxford dictionaries online, 2021) Queer is an expression used to denote someone with a gender or sexuality that is unique or different from what the general public says is normal. For example, the normal people know that gender is only 2 male and female. However, in the queer theory by Judith Butler, it is explained that according to her, identity is something that can change and is influenced by socially and repeatedly. For example, a person born with a male type of genital will say that the gender of the child is something of what

she does or in other words her performance. Where gender is a social construction which is inappropriate and can change over time or based on the person's performativity. What is meant by gender performativity here is that the gender of a person comes from what she displays, not from what kind of character she was born with.

Because of that many queer singers really want to show how they perform their gender and sexuality in a many ways or example through song, stage performance and many mor. One of the queer singer who expressed the sexuality and gender through the song and performance is Mikaela Mullaney Straus or what we usually know by the stage name "King Princess". She is a famous American singer who labeled herself as a queer singer. She uses she / her as her pronoun. She composed songs that depicted uneasiness and also as a representative if she was a queer woman. What make it interesting is how she dress up as a representative of masculine and feminine. We can see it through the various things that she includes in her songs, from album covers, song lyrics, music video clips, even to her interviews with the media. She really shows that she is a queer. Because of that, my analysis will be based on the performativity of the king princess through the theory of Judith Butler about queer gender and the performativity displayed by King Princess as a form of her gender identity and sexuality

Identification of the Problem.

Based on the background of the research, I want to show King Princess as a queer singer who tries to show her queer gender identity and sexuality to everyone through the media of songs (lyrics, music videos, and video clip covers).

Limitation of the Problem

This research is limited to the six songs by King Princess as the singer in her selected songs and music videos. The songs and the music videos are: 1950, Talia, Homegirl, Pain, Cheap Queen, Prophet. I will use Butler's theory about queer to show gender performativity in songs by king princess.

Formulation of the Problem

The research problem is formulated in form of research question, as follows:

1. How is gender performativity depicted in the King Princess' songs and videos?
2. In what ways does the King Princess express her gender identity through gender performativity?
3. How does the King Princess describe her sexual orientation through queer theory?

Objective of the Research

The following are the objectives of this study based on the formulation of the problem above as follows.

1. To find out the depiction of gender performativity through the King Princess songs and videos
2. To analyze how the King Princess expressed her gender identity through song lyrics and music videos

3. To analyze how the King Princess expressed her sexuality through songs (song lyrics, music videos.)

Method of the Research

This research uses a qualitative approach with a content analysis method. The qualitative approach is research by collecting non-numerical data with the aim of gathering as much information as possible in order to get answers to the research. (Simply Psychology, n.d.)

The data are collected through several song sources, the lyrics of the six songs, the music video of the six songs, as well as details related to the song such as cover songs, and several interviews if needed or related to my research.

The data analysis of this research is as follows: 1) After collecting the data, I would classify the data based on conotated and denotated meaning from Barthes theory. 2) Next, I would analyze them based on Queer theory to know the gender performativity and sexual orientation of the singer. 3) Last, I conclude the analysis, and provide the answers for my research questions.

Benefit of the Research

This research provides knowledge about the existence of gender performativity issue to makes readers understand about gender performativity through the explicit meaning contained in the song. This study also adds to the readers knowledge of literature study. And last, I hope this research can be useful for academic and non-academic research regarding gender performativity.

Sistematic Organization of the Reasearch

Systematics of writing is a method or sequence in completing a research, research, or writing work. This is important to pay attention to so that the resulting paper can be arranged neatly and neatly.

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, I describe the background of the problem, problem formulation, problem boundaries, objectives, benefits and writing systematics.

CHAPTER 2 : FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES

In this chapter I will examine the theory of queer gender and the theory of gender performative by Judith's butler. I will also take a sociological aspect, psychological aspect and historical aspect.

CHAPTER 3 : THE ANALYSIS OF GENDER PERFORMATIVITY OF KING PRINCESS SELECTED SONGS: A STUDY OF QUEER THEORY

In this chapter, I examine and analyze the data from king princess selected song in order to answer the research questions as mentioned in chapter one with the theories from chapter two.

CHAPTER 4 : CONCLUSION

This chapter contains conclusions and suggestions from all the research that has been done. The conclusion can be put forward the problems that exist in the research as well as the results of the completion of the research which is objective analysis. Meanwhile, the suggestion contains a way out to overcome the existing problems and weaknesses.