

The Modern Women in *Sex and The City*: A Feminist Approach

Andi Febriana Tamrin¹, Finka Dwi Novitasari², Basri³, Muhammad Bisyr⁴
Fakultas Ekonomi dan Ilmu-ilmu Sosial, Universitas Fajar^{1,2,3,4}
Email: andifebriana90@gmail.com¹

Abstrak. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis karakter perempuan dalam novel *Sex and the City*. Metode penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif deskriptif. Feminisme Gelombang Ketiga oleh Rebecca Walker. Sumber datanya adalah unsur karakter pada novel *Sex and the City* karya Candace Bushnell yang diterbitkan pada tahun 2001 terdiri dari 27 bab dan 289 halaman. Sedangkan instrument penelitian dalam penelitian ini adalah dengan mencatat hal-hal yang dianggap penting. Teknik analisis data dalam penelitian ini menggunakan kualitatif dalam kaitannya dengan teori, konsep dan metode. Hasil penelitian menemukan bahwa berdasarkan novel terdapat 2 karakteristik yang menggambarkan gelombang ketiga oleh Rebecca Walker. Yaitu; Pemberdayaan Seksual yang ditemukan dalam diri Samantha dan (teman lan) dimana mereka menggunakan laki-laki hanya untuk seks, Pilihan (lajang atau menikah) dapat dilihat pada Carrie dan Miranda dimana mereka tidak tertarik untuk menikah dan berkeluarga, dan Power (wanita karir) yang juga dapat dikatakan sebagai suatu pilihan, ditemukan di Samantha, Carrie dan Miranda dimana sebagai wanita sukses mereka memiliki kemampuan untuk mendapatkan apapun yang mereka inginkan, sendirian. Juga kebebasan untuk membuat setiap pilihan dalam hidup mereka.

Keywords: Seksual, Feminisme Gelombang Ketiga, Wanita Karir, Wanita Lajang

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INTRODUCTION

In today's modern times, the role of literature is increasingly important. Not only providing pleasure, literature is also a means of conveying moral messages to society. Literary works that are made at a certain time become the driving force for the creation of literary works in cultural, religious, political, economic and educational terms. Literary works are also used as a tool in the form of documents within a certain period of time. But literary works are not always a reflection of the circumstances at which they were written.

According to Fananie (2001), "literature is a work of fiction, it's a creation based on a spontaneous emotional outburst that is capable expresses the ability of a good aspect of beauty which is aspect based linguistic and meaningful aspects". The description is based on personal descriptions and is descriptive in nature. Each expert reveals certain aspects (Fananie, 2001).

One of the famous objects of literature is women. Women become an interesting object to discuss in literature. Also, they become the object in the social, political, economic, religious, cultural and literary fields. Thus, women are one of the items and inspirations in a literary work both in poetry, romance, novels, short stories and others.

In the past, women were still very much attached to traditional values that were rooted in society. So, if there are women who have a career to develop their skills outside the home, then they are considered to have violated tradition so that they are excluded from the interaction of society and their environment. Thus they do not have the opportunity to develop themselves in the midst of society.

The position of women in the United States has continued to change rapidly in recent decades. More and more women have responsibilities as a worker outside the home. Even women also take part in leading the country. In addition, in the field of economy and leadership, women also experience progress in the health sector, and then advance the woman's personality (Chu & Posner, 2013)

As time goes by, many women who live in big cities play multiple roles. There are even some who have been able to develop themselves and their important positions in society, so that women cannot be underestimated by men. This statement has pros and cons, especially for women who also have families.

In today's society a women should be well settled to pay her own bills. Then only she will get respect and she had the will power to face any problem, both physically and mentally. If a woman has a good job, then they will be looked at more and less easily by others.

Feminism is a movement to fight for women's rights. One of the main objectives is to get women out of conditions of freedom and injustice. Feminism is a political movement that examines many different aspects of human life, especially aspects of

injustice that have long suffered by women (McAfee, 2018). This was championed by women who then gave birth to feminism into three waves.

The first wave characterized by thinking about the rights and equality of women and men, meanwhile the second wave that tries to question who women are and how women's experiences can become an academic study. There are also post-feminist waves with their characteristics cut off from previous waves.

Post feminism is the third wave of feminism which was born because of the intersection between feminist thinking and postmodern thinking. Post-feminist thinking seeks to deconstruct the understanding of gender equality into gender differences. Post feminism has contributed a new idea that demands new thinking in the age of the internet, consumerism, celebrity culture, and selfish. This thinking also provides a critique of the second wave of feminism, which defines sexuality and the body (Arivia, 2006).

Feminist post demands gender equality. In this case women demand men's recognition of equality between them. In essence, the goals of the post feminism movement are very different from those of previous feminist movements. Post feminism no longer aims to pursue equality (because in this sense the existence of men is still taken into account), but to make women meaningful because they must have meaning (Conelly, 2000).

The unmarried and single career women are often underestimated by society. A phenomenon in 21st century that shows single women chose to pursue careers in order to fulfill the economic demands as well because they are pessimistic about getting married. In contrast to the older tradition, women should have been married when they reached 20 years of age. However nowadays women prefer to pursue their career. Women at 30, tend to exchange goals and values live towards values as well as a new lifestyle oriented work, career success and personal pleasure.

Sex and the City is one of the novels that talk about women in modern era. According to the author, Candace Bushnell, it is a collection of essays based on her and her friend's lifestyles. The depiction of women's life style such career, social circle and their sexuality are interesting point about the novel that author vividly portrayed. Therefore the term "world of women" comes up as the characteristic of Bushnell in *Sex and the City*. The four women become the star of the novel in which they bring the interpretation of what female in today's society. Also, how the author reveals the sex drive of the women and how they just "used" men for sex are a part of their life in New York.

As mention previously, this study uses Feminism study in which focus on the Third Wave Feminism. It emphasizes the notions of "universal womanhood," body, gender, sexuality and heteronormativity of women (Walker, 1995).

In explanation, the chosen title of this study is *The Modern Women in Sex and the City: Feminism Approach* in order to reveal how the women characters in *Sex and the City*.

RESEARCH METHOD

The research uses descriptive qualitative method to collect process and analyze the data from the research. To be specific, the researcher uses library research that taken from the novel as primary data. The researcher also uses theories as the secondary data. Secondary data are used to support the result of the primary data analysis. For the data collecting, the researcher used *Sex and the City* novel that described third wave feminism based on Rebecca Walker as the primary source. The novel which contains 289 pages was first published on 1997, and republished on 2001, 2006 and 2008. For this research, researcher use 2001 novel edition. In order to get analyzed data in this research, researcher applied the instrument which is called note taking.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Findings

The novel talked about a woman named Carrie Bradshaw. She is a famous writer who lives in New York City. Now she's doing her latest research on friends who have sex like men.

Basically, it is no longer common for a man to change their sex partner, from one woman to another. Another case in *Sex and the City* novel, Candace Bushnell discusses the sex life which has become a part of the life of women in New York. Here, Candace Bushnell reveals the opinion of women in sexual freedom, to have sex with who they want, and choice between career and family.

Commitment is a willingness to face a partner, which is an indication of a desire to face problems that occur in the relationship. American culture is "free" in almost every aspect of life. This includes determining a sex partner. In Indonesia, sex before marriage is considered a violation of social norms / values. Sexual behavior before marriage is sexual behavior that is carried out without starting a formal marriage process according to the law or according to the religion and belief of each individual.

Carrie's job makes her met a lot of people. All kinds of people from different fields of work, such as model, producer, artist, so on. Basically, they are friends. They don't hesitate to share stories and experiences with each other. There are various views of the "women who have sex like men" from each female characters. The views are based on the experiences they have.

The objectives of this research are intended to answer research question in first chapter. There are 4 main female characters that the researchers analyze. Those are will be described as follows:

a. Samantha Jones

Samantha is a fortyish movie producer. She is the hottest one from the other characters in the novel. She shows the ability of women in the sexual world which the way she dresses up to make men interested. As a successful single woman, she didn't

need a male figure in her life. She just needs a man only for sex and her pleasure. She didn't think of having a husband as a life partner, because now she feels that she already has everything. For a woman like her, why did she have to commit to one man while being single and successful women, she still can get all what she wants.

Because if you're a successful single woman in this city, you have two choices: You can beat your head against the wall trying to find a relationship, or you can say "screw it" and just go out and have sex like a man. Thus: Sam.

Many women in their thirties to early forties have as much money and power as men-or at least enough to feel like they don't need a man, except for sex.

(C.6/P.48)

The success that Samantha has makes her have high self-confidence. It is one of the characteristics of modern women. She is firm women, and she knows what she wants in her life. She's woman who did not hesitate to express her opinion.

The ability to have anything they want, alone. This certainly gives her the freedom to make every choice in life. Samantha believes that there many other things can be achieved, to be a successful woman. That is the reason why Samantha has sex without commitment. Because according to Samantha, men will only mess up her life.

Samantha was always with at least four men, and the game was to pick out which one was her lover. Of course, it wasn't really much of a game, because the boyfriend was the youngest, and good-looking in that B-Hollywood actor kind of way. **(C.6/P.48)**

Some man chooses to be with the older women. Just like Samantha, she is adored by young man. Especially with a successful career women like her. That's why her friends also admire her, because it wouldn't be easy in Samantha age to get young man who has a much different age from her.

Samantha finds happiness in not just one man, which her character shows a modern feminist, who is sexual. Here, Samantha clearly champions her right to have sex with whomever she pleases. She emphasized women's freedom to make a commitment or not, have sex without needing to be married.

b. Kitty

She is a twenty-five, young actress, who lives with her boyfriend, Hubert. At the first time when Hubert called her to go out together, Kitty was like underestimate him. Because Hubert is fifty five year old, which they have very different ages.

"Hubert loves it when I mess up," said Kitty. "He loves it when I buy too much many clothes, and I can't pay the bill. He loves to step in and take care of everything.

"Men are needy, and we're the goddesses that give to them," Kitty said triumphantly. She was well into her second margarita. "On the other hand, men are.....bigger. Larger. They're comfort."

"Hubert makes me feel really safe. He's allowing me to have this childhood I never has," said Kitty. "I don't buy this whole feminist idea. Men have a need to be dominant-let them. Embrace your femininity." Said Kitty **(C.13/P.132)**

In the next day after she spent night with Hubert, she found a bouquet of flowers in every room. Hubert also bought her all of her favorite author books. Hubert makes her feel really safe, and he takes care of everything. After that, Kitty changed her views of older guys and decided to live together with him, of course without commitment.

"It's other women who are really the problem," said Camilla.

"At the risk of sounding obnoxious, being beautiful is such a power, you can get whatever you want," said Kitty. "And other women know that and don't like you, especially older women. They think you're invading their territory."

"For a lot of women, when they reach thirty, they start to realize their age," said Camilla. "Men have given women this stigma. Obviously, a woman who looks like Christie Brinkley is not going to have a problem."

"But they get mean," said Kitty. "They make comments. Women just assume that I'm an idiot. That I don't know anything. That I'm stupid. That I'm with Hubert for his money. You get spiteful and wear an even shorter skirt and more makeup." **(C.13/P.132)**

According to Kitty, some women who are nearly 30 years old, or who are older than her, will feel threatened by a woman who is still young. Moreover, when the young women have a beautiful face, they will be underestimated by older women.

Having a considerable age difference with a partner sometimes gives negative views from others. Some people will judge that the woman only saw the man from the side of the material only. The woman is considered to use the old men only for certain purposes.

c. Carrie Bradshaw

Carrie is a writer based in New York City, she writes stories about women's lives and their problems. One day she met Mr.Big at a party. It was not her first met, they've met before but probably Mr.Big is already forget her. So, she started to talk to him and since then their relationship has become even closer. Not long ago Carrie is decided to live together in Mr.Big apartments.

The couple argue that marriage is something that will have a big impact on life. They realized that they were not ready to have a child. They are already very busy with their respective jobs. Where there was a lot of things that Carrie have to do, also Mr.Big. When they are home, they just want to rest quietly at home and spend time together.

"It was awful," she giggled. "You know how much I hate those kinds of things. All they talked about was babies and private schools and how this friend of theirs got blackballed from the country club and how one of their nannies crashed a new Mercedes."

She could hear Mr. Big puffing away on his cigar. "Don't worry, kid. You'll get used to it," he said.

"I don't think so," she said. **(C.10/P.104)**

Carrie thought that if they have children, their lives would change. Their responsibility will be even greater in the future. Carrie realized that in one week taking care of children and all household matters, will be an emotional stress for a woman. Cooking, washing, while she also has a career to do. It wouldn't be easy for her to perform both roles together.

You see, things happen to people when they have kids in New York. Some parents remain normal. But others, decidedly, do not. They go a little bit crazy. Take all that energy and aggression, those hang-ups and unresolved issues that go into one's career, and imagine applying them to a child. When it comes to kids, people who were once garden-variety New York City neurotics can become, well, just plain crazy. **(C.19/P.187)**

As a modern woman, Carrie feels that she is not yet interested in having a family. This is because currently Carrie still wants to focus on her career. Carrie thought that having a child for a career woman like her would create problems in the household. The career that she has will always be the problem in the family.

It is not impossible, that she must give up her career to take care of the child. She's just not ready and she doesn't want that to happen.

Apart from not ready to have a family, Carrie also felt unsure about having commitment with Mr. Big. Every day the relationship between them feels more complicated. They are rarely meeting and difficult to communicate. After that, Carrie decided to end her relationship with Mr. Big.

"You middle-class American women who always want to hook a man, you are the ones who must play by the rules. You can't afford to make a mistake. But there is a certain type of woman-very beautiful and from a certain class-who can do whatever she wants." **(C.7/P.56)**

Here, Carrie emphasizes that she does not believe that men always have the most dominant position compared to women. This will make the position of women even more oppressed. Carrie argues that women deserve to be equal for their abilities. What Carrie concerns are the quality of women and how society views women in a real sense. So that women are in accordance with their ideas, voices and abilities. Not just a "sex toy".

We all sat back smugly, sipping tea, like we were members of some special club. We were hard and proud of it, and it hasn't been easy to get to this point-this place of complete independence where we has the luxury of treating men like sex objects. It has taken hard work, loneliness, and the realization that, since there might never be anyone there for you, you has to take care of yourself in every sense of the word.

“Well, why the hell should you feel anything?” Magda asked. “Men don’t. I don’t feel anything after sex. Oh sure, I’d like to, but what’s the point?” **(C.6/P.49)**

One day, Carrie was at Bowery Bar with some friends. She remembers when she slept with a guy, Drew. Afterwards she didn’t feel anything. She completely forgets about him after that. And the other girl was totally agreeing that why she should feel anything? They’re having sex only for fun, just like how men feel after they slept with women. It also shows that Carrie is trusted by her friends, because her friends easily talk about their personal opinion to her.

“All those men who end up disappointing you. After a while, you don’t even want to have feelings anymore. You just want to get on with your life.” **(C.6.P.50)**

From Carrie statement before, it shows that mostly men are always disappointing at the end. After feeling disappointment, she just wants to forget anything about them. The only thing she wants to do is to continue her life.

“Every time a man tells me he’s a romantic, I want to scream. All it means is that a man has a romanticized view of you, and as soon as you become real and stop playing into his fantasy, he gets turned off. That’s what makes romantics dangerous. Stay away”

The quotation described that Carrie is a narrow-minded person. Because Carrie thought that men would only disappoint. She rated all men are the same. Men think that women are only their imagination, they only act nice, even though it's just a trick. Many men see women only as objects and they do not respect women. Carrie thinks love is dangerous. Every commitment will always end in failure and disappointment because men always treat women in the wrong way.

d. Miranda Hobbs

Miranda is an executive director at a cable company. Being a career woman can make them get more value in society. She’s type of women who love to party in old man house, and meet some new friends. Miranda is really enjoying her single life. She loves her job and spent time together with her friends. As a single woman she feels free to do anything she wants in her life.

“I was just going to go home and get a good night’s sleep and wake up and work on Sunday.” That was the great thing about not being married, not having kids, being alone. You could work on Sunday. **(C.11/P.105)**

Based on the quotation before, it shows that Miranda still wants freedom. Currently she hasn't thought about marriage, but that doesn't mean she doesn't want to have a family someday. It's just that she is still focused on the career she has and still wants to have fun with her life as a single woman.

Having a career and some friends makes her think that she doesn’t need any other things to complete her life. Miranda doesn’t want to get married, because she’s

not ready to have kids. For a career woman like her, she thinks that she can't handle both things at the same time. She's not ready for taking extra responsibility in her life.

e. (Ian's Friend)

There is one of Ian's girls in his threesome who loved to have sex with all the guys he knows. As Ian said, that this girl idea is that she also can have sex with anyone.

"Her idea is: Why do women have to be different from men? If a man can have sex with every girl he wants, why can't she have sex with every guy she wants?" (C.8/P.78)

The sentence before explains that women today are women who live in modern era. Where women today are more aggressive, which they can have more than one sex partner, they have the freedom to have sex with every man they want. For this type of woman, they don't want men to take anything because they argue that man only underestimate them.

Discussion

After find the female characteristics in *Sex and the City* novel, then the researcher analyzing the data by using third wave feminism based on Rebecca Walker. There are 2 characteristics that the researcher analyzes, which describes third wave feminism based on Rebecca Walker.

a. Sexual Empowerment

Empowerment can be defined as something to complement and add based on ability, in terms of sexuality, empowerment is a feeling of having rights to our own bodies and how we use them. Sexual empowerment does not always mean promiscuity. In this case, as long as sex is based on their own will and not someone else's.

The character that best described as someone who has a sexual empowerment is Samantha Jones. Apart from work, Samantha also spends her time changing her sex partners. From one man to another. There are various kinds of perspectives that discuss what drives humans to have sexual intercourse. There are those that aim to show expressions of love, seek material gain, or seek sexual pleasure.

Samantha was not interested in commitment; she was only interested in her sexual pleasure. Female pleasure is her primary goal and she think that she needs to use her power as a female to get her own female pleasure for sex. She is a pro-sex feminist and she did not hesitate to emphasize the importance of a woman's sexual satisfaction. Sexual pleasure is a certain pleasure. The basic right of women to the satisfaction of sexual gratification and not the right to be judged.

Because if you're a successful single woman in this city, you have two choices: You can beat your head against the wall trying to find a relationship, or you can say "screw it" and just go out and have sex like a man. Thus: Sam.

Many women in their thirties to early forties have as much money and power as men-or at least enough to feel like they don't need a man, except for sex.
(C.6/P.48)

Samantha is by far the most sexual. She does not hesitate to admit that she only uses men for sex. By portraying Samantha as a highly sexual being, this also shows that it is not only men who are described as very sexual beings, and women only want commitment. It can also be the other way around. When we read the title of this novel, *Sex and the City*, of course it is closely related to sexuality. As stated by Walker that there was nothing incompatible with sexuality and feminism:

"When I think back, it is that impulse I am most proud of. I deserve to live free of shame, that my body is not my enemy, and that pleasure is my friend and my right"

The quote before addressing a lot of the stigma that comes with women and sex. Women who enjoy sex and are discovering their sexuality through sex are shamed in our society, called sluts and whores. Through religion we are taught that sex prior to marriage is wrong, that sex is no more than an act between a man and wife that is used to procreate and bond. And those women who engage in the act before they are married are sinning. This leaves self-discovery unattended to. We are taught that our bodies are to be covered, and our desires and urges are normal, but should be ignored. In society pleasure for women is not a right but a privilege.

(Ian's friend) described as women who always have sex with every guy. She said that as a woman, she can also have a sex with every guy she wants. Man, and women are having the same rights to choose who they want to have sex with. Men and women have the same rights as long as it is their wish.

"Her idea is: Why do women have to be different from men? If a man can have sex with every girl he wants, why can't she have sex with every guy she wants?"
(C.8/P.78)

The statement before is also depicted in Walker declaration to *Ms Magazine* about the harassment committed by Judge Clarence Thomas against Anita Hill. Where Walker advises all women to,

"Do not vote for men unless they work for us. Do not have sex with them, do not break bread with them, do not nurture them if they do not prioritize our freedom to control our bodies and our lives."

This shows the reality of sexual harassment that occurred at Anita Hill, and the reality of racism that occurs in black women. An essay entitled "*Race-ing Justice, Engendering Power: Essays on Anita Hill, Clarence Thomas, and the Construction of Social Reality*," written by Toni Morrison (1992), shows that racism and sexism are historically related.

Based on the 2 characters, Samantha and (Ian's friend), the researcher found that they're reflected as women who lived in modern era which women in modern era are

a woman who have more courage to get freedom to their body, they have right to get their sexual pleasure. Meanwhile, sexual gratification used to be aimed only by men.

One example that shows a sexual pleasure is threesome. Threesome is three people that do sexual activity at the same time, which can also categorize as sexual behavior. There are various types of threesomes, for example is a threesome that involving 2 men and 1 woman. This usually happens to women who need more satisfaction in order to provide their satisfaction.

For western culture, threesomes are common things in society. This freedom is based on the fact that sex has become a culture and is considered legal by the country. Contrast with Indonesia, where Eastern culture considers this as taboo and contrary to the cultural values adopted.

b. Choice

Being Single or Married

Sex and the City often showed women making decisions. One form of choice is in relationships, in terms of career, so on. So, choice here was coded mainly through freedom in relationship (being single or married).

"It was awful," she giggled. "You know how much I hate those kinds of things. All they talked about was babies and private schools and how this friend of theirs got blackballed from the country club and how one of their nannies crashed a new Mercedes."

She could hear Mr. Big puffing away on his cigar. "Don't worry, kid. You'll get used to it," he said.

"I don't think so," she said. **(C.10/P.104)**

Accordingly, it is significant when Carrie decided to end her relationship with Mr. Big. She's not ready for commitment and she also realized that she's not ready to have a child. Women who are married and have children, also have careers, have a heavier burden. They must be wise in dividing their time to balance these things.

Although choosing to marry or not, back to the woman's own choice, Walker urges women that they can afford to be mothers even when they also have a career to run. Throughout her last memoir, *"Baby Love: Choosing Motherhood After A Lifetime of Ambivalence"* (2007), Walker explores her experience of motherhood and how it has transformed her as a woman. She also reminds that being a feminist is not incompatible with wanting to be a mother:

"I do not suggest that all women have children, only that those who feel the urge should not ignore it because they fear career derailment or because they has difficult childhoods (Walker, 2007). "

Miranda Hobbs, choose to be a single woman. Stay busy with her job, enjoy career and party every night. She loves her daily routine without worried about anything else. For a woman who is more concerned with career, family life and personal

relationships are only a small part of their life which they don't really care about it. Conversely, by developing skills and potential in work is a satisfaction and makes them happy.

"I was just going to go home and get a good night's sleep and wake up and work on Sunday." That was the great thing about not being married, not having kids, being alone. You could work on Sunday." (C.11/P.105)

Women who are economically independent, do not need other people, they feel less pressure to marry. They may marry for other reasons. For some modern women, the unmarried period (in the status of single) is no longer a worrying period of waiting. But on the contrary, while they are still single, they will work and enjoy life to the fullest.

Hewlett (2002) argues that there are many women who have achievements but have to give up their careers to for family requirements. She found that there is an imbalance between the division of time in career and family. And in the end women will still have to choose between career and family (Hewlett, 2002).

There are also women who choose to play both roles, as career women and in family management, but they often feel they are not giving their best. Even so, there are also those who argue that it is impossible to carry out 2 roles at once (Hewlett, 2002). Meanwhile, older women have managed to rebalance their lives to refocus on family relationships (Hodges, 2012).

Power (which also can be categorized as a choice)

Power was seen in a variety of different areas, usually through representations of the women's careers and the power dynamics within their relationships with men. In this case, power was coded mainly through the women's career.

All the women in *Sex and the City* novel are incredibly successful career women. Career women can make their own money and don't need men. They can buy everything they need to achieve social standing.

Samantha Jones is a successful movie producer. Her success can be seen from many young men who try to get close to her. Apart from the sex appeal she has, of course she is admired for the success too.

At the party, Sam let him back her into a corner. He'd has a few drinks. "I always thought you were so beautiful," he said. "But I was scared of you." "Scared? Of me?" Sam laughed. "You were smart. And though. I thought you'd rip me to shreds." "You're saying you thought I was a bitch." "Not a bitch. Just that I thought I wouldn't be able to keep up." "And now?.." "I don't know." "I like it when men think I'm smarter than they are," Sam said. "Because it's usually true." They went to dinner, more drinks. "God, Sam," he in the air. "I kept reading about you in the papers. I kept wanting to get in touch with you. But I thought, she's famous now." "I'm not famous," Sam said. "I don't even want to be famous," and they started making out. (C.25/P.256)

From the data before, it can be seen that Samantha is adored by young man. The young man thought that she is beautiful, smart and famous and he's afraid that he would not be able to keep up. The data also shows that Samantha has the power that could make her looks smarter than men.

In addition, the thing that Samantha emphasizes is how she can keep it in society. Samantha shows her successes through the way she looks, what she wear. She always looks stylish with her fancy clothes designer, and it makes her always look attractive in front of men.

Barkley, the twenty five year old up and coming artist and model chaser, has inserted himself at Samantha's table. "I'd love it if you'd stop by my loft sometime," Barkley said, flipping his blond hair out of his eyes. Samantha's was smoking a Cuban cigar. She took a drag and blew the thick smoke in Barkley's face. "I'll bet you would. But what makes you think I'd like your little paintings." "Well, you don't have to like my paintings," Barkley said. "You could just like me." Samantha grinned evilly. "I don't bother with men under thirty-five. They're not experienced enough for my tastes." "Try me," Barkley said. "if not, at least buy me a drink." "We're leaving," Samantha said. "We have to find a new hangout." **(C.11/P.110)**

At the other party, Samantha met another young man who tried to seduce her. This man comes to Samantha table and he was offering himself to her. At first, Samantha was act like she doesn't care about him. But, that's Samantha. She's just trying to not look "cheap" in front of the young man. When she said that young men are not her type, she shows that as a women, she also has the power to choose a man she like.

In *To Be Real*, men and women described their personal experiences of a "new feminism," one that Walker claims is:

"Like a welcome sign to my generation of young women, allowing us to at once differentiate ourselves from our feminist mothers and at the same time achieve mainstream power in our careers and love lives. It allows us the self-righteousness of being political activists without the economic sacrifice or social marginalization that has so often come along with that role. It is a feminism no longer on the defensive, without a fun, playful aesthetic that acknowledges the erotic and narcissistic pleasure women receive from beautifying themselves, a pleasure not to be denied."

Carrie Bradshaw is a writer for the New York City newspaper, and can be said that she's quite successful in her job. As one of the most famous writers in New York City, Carrie has a wide range of associations. She worked with many successful people from various fields. The success she achieved made her known and became an inspiration to many people.

Miranda Hobbes is an executive director at a cable company. Her life style as a women who love to party at rich old guys house is enough to show that she's represents the New York elite successful women.

Greenstein (2003), states that women must work harder so that their voices can be heard. Women must be prepared for every challenge that will come and be able to solve the problems themselves. Including in terms of knowledge, techniques, and technology so that women are more advanced in the future (Greenstein, 2000).

After found the women characters in the novel, the researcher found that Carrie, Miranda and Samantha Power as career women also described a modern woman, which today there are many career women who are successful in their respective jobs. For example, currently positions in politics are no longer reserved only for men, but now women could also do the same. One example of a woman who played an important role in politics is Hillary Clinton. She is an American Politician and diplomat. She is the first female presidential candidate in United States and also chose as senator in New York.

Women who have a leadership spirit must have 2 sides, namely women and female masks because they have a firm and courageous character. It is depicted in Samantha, Carrie, and Miranda characters. They're characters are described a modern women which as a single career women, their independence can be seen from their courage and their decision to live alone because they feel capable and do not need men for their life. Although, sometimes this stigma brings negative view for some people.

There are 2 reasons behind the development of a person's level of independence. First, because of the discipline and the last is there's commitment in every action and decision. Modern women in the 21st century often show differences in terms of "strength" with men.

Women, who are basically considered weak, are now even different. There are some women who actually tend to be physically stronger than men. Therefore, modern women of the 21st century have a lot of development and can be aligned with men in various aspects. But still do not leave the main nature of being a woman.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing *Sex and the City* by Candace Bushnell using Third Wave feminism based on Rebecca Walker, it can be concluded that there are 2 characteristics that Walker has emphasized. They are sexual empowerment and choice. Based on the novel, the researcher found that there are 2 characterizations that describe third wave by Walker. They are Sexual Empowerment, Choice (being single or married); and Power (career women) which also can be categorized as a choice.

The character that best described as someone who has a sexual empowerment is Samantha Jones and (Ian's friend). Sexual pleasure is their primary goal, they use man only for sex and they are not interesting for making a commitment. Choice, freedom in relationship (being single or married) found in the characters of Carrie and Miranda. As

a career woman, they're not ready for commitment and to have a child. They fear that married life will burden them, and they have to sacrifice their career. Power (women's career), can be seen in Samantha, Carrie and Miranda characters. These 3 women have a successful career in their respective fields. The success makes them have high self confidence. The ability to have anything they want, alone. This certainly gives them the freedom to make every choice in life.

Apart from contradicting the religion taught, as an Indonesian society which prioritizes the customs of eastern culture, having sex before marriage is something that is not allowed to do. Sex should be practiced in a noble manner, not with indulgence alone. Because after all, free sex behavior leaves a lot of negative impacts on psychological problems, such as sin and stress. Other than that, another impacts in the form of infectious diseases such as HIV / AIDS.

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