

**GENDER REPRESENTATION
IN *KURIKULUM MERDEKA*
ENGLISH TEXTBOOK
FOR SECONDARY LEVEL**

THESIS

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Sarjana Pendidikan (S. Pd.) in English teaching



**UIN SUNAN AMPEL
S U R A B A Y A**

By:
Ahmada Rahmadhani
NIM 06020521028

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF TARBIYAH AND TEACHER TRAINING
UIN SUNAN AMPEL

**SURABAYA
2025**

PERNYATAAN KEASLIAN TULISAN

Saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : Ahmada Rahmadhani
NIM : 06020521028
Jurusan/Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Fakultas : Tarbiyah dan Keguruan

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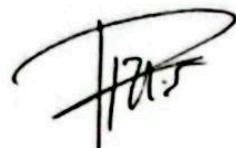
06020521028

ADVISOR APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis by Ahmada Rahmadhani entitled "*Gender Representation in Kurikulum Merdeka English Textbook for Secondary Level*" has been approved by the thesis advisors for further approval by the boards of examiners.

Surabaya, 27 May 2025

Advisor I,



Dr. Rizka Safriyani, M.Pd.
NIP. 198409142009122005

Advisors II,



Sigit Pramono Jati, Ph. D.
NIP. 198605182011011005

EXAMINER APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis by Ahmada Rahmadhani entitled "*Gender Representation in Kurikulum Merdeka English Textbook for Secondary Level*" has been examined on 18 June 2025 and approved by the Board of Examiners.



Prof. Dr. H. Muhammad Thohir, S.Ag., M.Pd.
NIP. 197407251998031001

Examiner I,

Dr. Rizka Safriyani, M.Pd.
NIP. 198409142009122005

Examiner II,

Sigit Pramono Jati, Ph. D.
NIP. 198605182011011005

Examiner III,

Dr. Irma Soraya, M.Pd.
NIP. 196709301993032004

Examiner IV,

Dr. Siti Asmiyah, M. TESOL
NIP. 197704142006042003

PUBLICATION SHEET



KEMENTERIAN AGAMA UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA PERPUSTAKAAN

Jl. Jend. A. Yani 117 Surabaya 60237 Telp. 031-8431972 Fax.031-8413300
E-Mail: perpus@uinsby.ac.id

LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH UNTUK KEPENTINGAN AKADEMIS

Sebagai sivitas akademika UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini, saya:

Nama : Ahmada Rahmadhani
NIM : 06020521028
Fakultas/Jurusan : Tarbiyah dan Keguruan / Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
E-mail address : 06020521028@student.uinsby.ac.id

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Penulis

Ahmada Rahmadhani

ABSTRACT

Rahmadhani, Ahmada (2025). *Gender Representation in Kurikulum Merdeka English Textbook for Secondary Level*. A Thesis. English Language Education Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: Dr. Rizka Safriyani, M.Pd and Sigit Pramono Jati, Ph.D

Key Words: *English Textbook, Gender Representation, Kurikulum Merdeka*

Studies on gender representation in textbooks have been conducted over the years. However, despite the numerous studies on gender representation in English textbooks in Indonesia, only a few studies have analyzed gender representation in *Kurikulum Merdeka* English textbooks. This study aims to analyze how gender is represented in the *Kurikulum Merdeka* English textbook “English for Change” for Grade XI, which is published by the Indonesian Ministry of Education. This research is a qualitative study using critical discourse analysis from Fairclough in 1989 which consists of description, interpretation, and explanation. The aspects studied in this study are gender visibility and occupation in text and pictures. These aspects are based on the adaptation of Porreca's 1984 framework and Wu and Liu's 2015 framework. The findings show that the “English for Change” textbook for Grade XI mostly tends to represent females more than males, regardless of whether there are aspects that show significant differences or not. These findings are different from most previous studies in the previous curriculum, which tended to represent males more than females. This indicates a shift in focus in textbook representation, reflecting a more progressive effort to provide space for females to promote better equality. Females are also portrayed as individuals with diverse occupations and social roles, although their presence is less distributed throughout the unit, and they no longer tend to be only attached to domestic roles. This finding is associated with trends when the textbook was published, in which several social issues showed an effort to recognize females. In addition, *Kurikulum Merdeka* emphasizes the spirit of inclusive learning, which includes accepting and appreciating student differences, including gender. The findings also highlight the challenges of representing gender in textbooks in a completely consistent and evenly distributed manner. This study suggests that textbook publishers should be concerned about the gender distribution of both males and females in each unit. Textbook readers are also advised to be critical of how gender is represented in the textbook. In addition, other frameworks and other *Kurikulum Merdeka* textbooks can be further analyzed for future research.

ABSTRAK

Rahmadhani, Ahmada (2025). *Gender Representation in Kurikulum Merdeka English Textbook for Secondary Level*. A Thesis. English Language Education Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: Dr. Rizka Safriyani, M.Pd and Sigit Pramono Jati, Ph.D

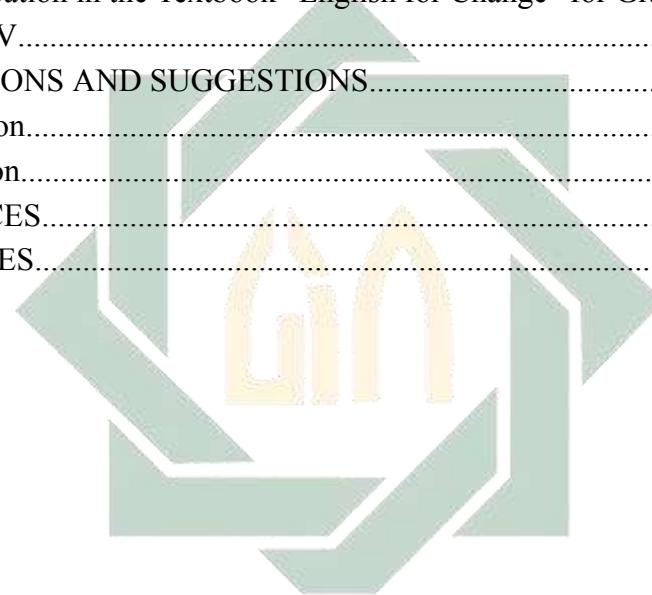
Key Words: *Buku Teks Bahasa Inggris, Representasi Gender, Kurikulum Merdeka*

Penelitian tentang representasi gender dalam buku teks telah dilakukan selama bertahun-tahun. Namun, meskipun ada banyak penelitian tentang representasi gender dalam buku teks bahasa Inggris di Indonesia, hanya beberapa penelitian yang menganalisis representasi gender dalam buku teks bahasa Inggris Kurikulum Merdeka. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana gender direpresentasikan dalam buku pelajaran Bahasa Inggris Kurikulum Merdeka “English for Change” untuk Kelas XI, yang diterbitkan oleh Kementerian Pendidikan Indonesia. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif dengan menggunakan analisis wacana kritis dari Fairclough tahun 1989 yang terdiri dari deskripsi, interpretasi, dan eksplanasi. Aspek yang dikaji dalam penelitian ini adalah visibilitas gender dan pekerjaan dalam teks dan gambar. Aspek-aspek ini didasarkan pada adaptasi dari kerangka kerja Porreca tahun 1984 dan kerangka kerja Wu dan Liu tahun 2015. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa buku teks “English for Change” untuk kelas XI sebagian besar cenderung merepresentasikan perempuan lebih banyak daripada laki-laki, terlepas dari apakah ada aspek yang menunjukkan perbedaan yang signifikan atau tidak. Temuan ini berbeda dengan sebagian besar studi sebelumnya dalam kurikulum sebelumnya, yang cenderung lebih banyak mewakili laki-laki daripada perempuan. Hal ini menunjukkan pergeseran fokus dalam representasi buku teks, yang mencerminkan upaya yang lebih progresif untuk memberikan ruang bagi perempuan guna mempromosikan kesetaraan yang lebih baik. Perempuan juga digambarkan sebagai individu dengan pekerjaan dan peran sosial yang beragam, meskipun kehadiran mereka kurang terdistribusi di seluruh unit, dan mereka tidak lagi cenderung hanya melekat pada peran domestik. Temuan ini terkait dengan tren saat buku teks tersebut diterbitkan, di mana beberapa isu sosial menunjukkan adanya upaya untuk mengakui perempuan. Selain itu, Kurikulum Merdeka menekankan semangat pembelajaran inklusif, yang mencakup penerimaan dan penghargaan terhadap perbedaan siswa, termasuk gender. Temuan ini juga menyoroti tantangan dalam merepresentasikan gender dalam buku pelajaran secara konsisten dan merata. Studi ini menyarankan agar penerbit buku teks memperhatikan distribusi gender laki-laki dan perempuan di tiap unit. Pembaca buku teks juga disarankan untuk bersikap kritis terhadap bagaimana gender direpresentasikan dalam buku teks. Selain itu, kerangka kerja lain dan buku teks Kurikulum Merdeka lainnya dapat dianalisis lebih lanjut untuk penelitian selanjutnya.

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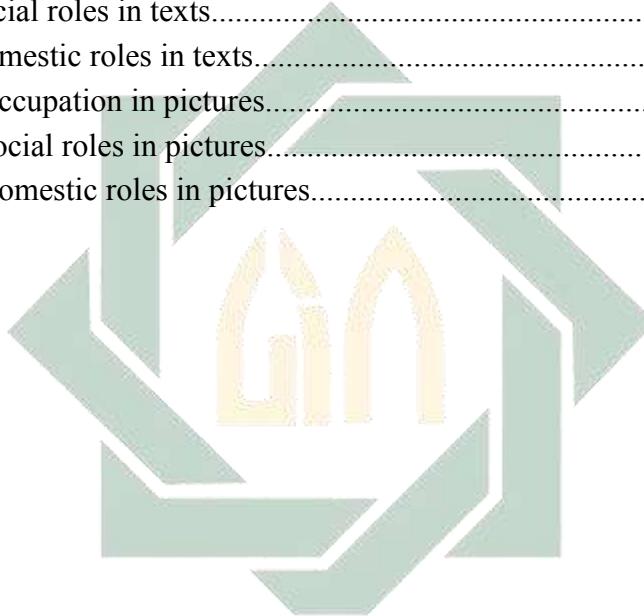
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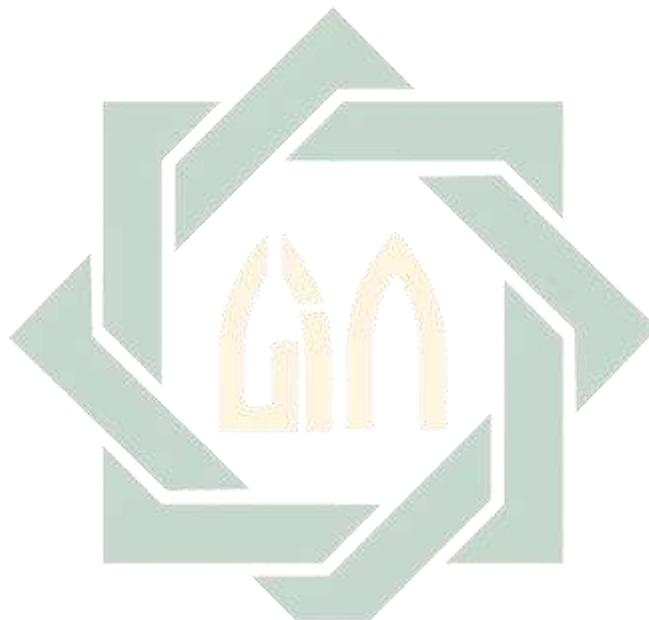
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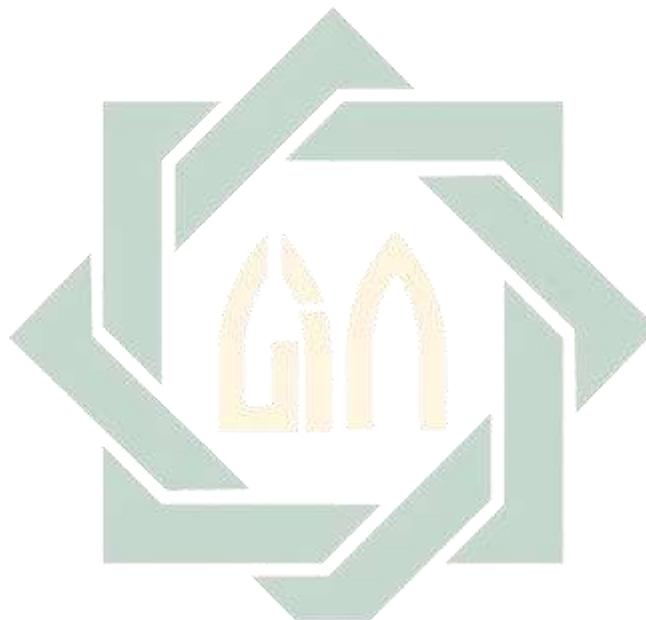
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- CLS : Critical Language Study
CDA : Critical Discourse Analysis
MR : Members' Response



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