

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

In this chapter the researcher discusses about the analysis of the data. The researcher has two aims to find. The first is how the author of *Undercover Jihadi Bride* portrays masculinity most important in Abu Bilel character, secondly, to find the reason why Abu Bilel is a suitable example of Hegemonic Masculinity inside terrorist organization. To give better understanding, researcher equipped this chapter with theory based on experts in this field..

4.1 Bilel's Masculinity in the novel Undercover Jihadi Bride

Masculinity is set up by society on how a man should look like and how a man should behave. Society decides whether or not a man has the sense of masculine, thus it has many definition depends on period of time, and other settings such as cultures, profession, etc.. Different given setting will give different construction on how to be a man and its implementation within society. For the example in a work such as modeling and military they have different standard for being masculine. As a model, physical appearance is all that matters to show their masculinity. The talents must have great physical appearance such as muscles, height, strong face line, and so on. But in military masculinity is never about physical appearance only. A soldier will be called as masculine if that soldier is strong, and aimed special skill that related to physical strength. Thus it is very possible if there more than one definition of masculinity in one community (Connell, 2000:10).

Undercover Jihadi Bride has several male characters that are worth to be analyzed because they show different forms of masculinities. Men in this urban era more likely have different understanding on how to be a real man it is also called as modern masculinity. Modern masculinity is often understood as more expressive, egalitarian, and peaceable (Connell, 2012:2). From what Connell has stated that modern men are more expressive on how they feel. What Connell

means by egalitarian is that modern men believe that all gender should be equal in both treatment and also has an equal right as men. This modern kind of masculinity can be seen in the character of Andre the photographer who help Anna to take a picture while she has a conversation with Bilel the terrorist on her laptop.

“who does this insane pervert think he is, to ask you what kind of lingerie you wear?, first he practically orders you to go to Syria, then he wants you to marry him, and now this talk about your garters! What next? Will he ask you to strip for him? For the sake of Allah? I hate this guy” (Erelle, 2016: 135).

Andre is furious on how Bilel talk with Melodie. He thinks that it is not polite asking what kind of underwear that a woman wears. Besides Andre has already witnesses Bilel blabbers about being a good men in front of God, but this kind of question is nothing like something that God would see it as a good thing on man. The way Andre responses on Bilel question is the form of the freedom of expression. He does not afraid to show his expression on how angry he is toward Bilel. Edward says that, “...the New Man promised a new dawn in men’s inner emotional happiness and expression, as typified in the now overly common imagery of men holding babies...” (2006:11). Meaning, men in this era are more free to express what they feel, they do not think it as something shameful to show their true feeling toward others. Edward mentions about men holding babies as the example of men being gentle toward baby which is weaker than a grown up man. From what Andre says it can be seen that he is fully care about Anna’s feeling as a women when he thinks that Bilel question is undermining women pride by thinking that women as an object. He does not hesitate to show his anger for women he cares about.

Another example of modern masculinity is coming from Charly. He is Photographer who accompanies Anna in her trip to turkey to investigate one of terrorist she knows. *“Charly was levelheaded, spoke softly, and made free use of his dry wit. He was always in control, even if it didn’t seem like it. Humor and*

sangfroid were his weapons” (Erelle, 2016: 165). From quotation above it can be seen that Charly is a person with gentle and bright personality. The way he speaks softly is one thing that indicates him as gentle. It means he does not want to empower other people, especially a woman like Anna. Anderson in his book said that, “It’s about being a gentleman, polite, and respectful. Not just respectful toward one another, but toward women...” (2009: 122). The statement from Anderson supports the researcher statement that modern masculinity is more gentle and showing respect toward others. Charly’s behavior is capable to show the reader that he is what modern men looks like. Anna also defines him as always in control. He is able to hold back his anger which makes him far from being called as a bad temper person. Moreover, Charly is an expressive man. He has a good sense of humor that he usually use it to calm a serious atmosphere in some situation.

Besides expressive and gentle, Charly also portrays as a caring man. For a man that just met Anna for work to replace Andre’s, he shows a lot of caring behavior toward her.

“Please, I don’t want to know your real name. As far as I’m concerned, you’re melodie. I don’t want to risk I calling you by your real first name. You can tell when you finished the job”, I smiled. Charly wasn’t uptight at all. And I thanked God, if he existed for putting him on my path” (Erelle, 2016: 160-16).

The dialogue above comes from Charly in his first meeting with Anna. Anna was trying to introduce herself as Anna the journalist, because she is sure that Charly only knows her as Melodie the terrorist bride. His dialogue above shows that Charly is genuinely a caring person. He does not want to endanger Anna by miss called her by her first name, because he knows that if it happens not only their mission to get more information about terrorist recruitment will fail but also Anna’s life will be on the line. “Popular representations of men and women have changed enormously... there are now images of men taking a caring parenting role...” (Pilcher, and Whelehan, 2004:139). Charly behavior that shows his

careness toward Anna is the example of *caring parenting role*. He believes that their project is actually dangerous even with the smallest mistake, that is why he intends to protect Anna.

Though, masculinity is not something that can permanently set. It has different definition and implementation based on several aspects such as cultures, period of time, and setting like job, school, ethnic group and etc. (Connell, 2000: 10). *Undercover Jihadi Bride* shows at least two kind of different masculinity forms. Andre and Charly that the researcher had mentioned are the example of modern masculinity that developed in their living environment. They both are modern man with modern way of thinking. It is good to have Andre and Charly as the example of modern masculinity, but however the researcher will focus on Abu Bilel Al-Firazi as the antagonist male character that is part Islamic State. Bilel shows different kind of masculinity form from Andre and Charly.

Bilel's masculinity is more like what masculinity stereotype in the past years, it is called as traditional masculinity. This kind of masculinity is obsessed with power, domination, control, authority, and so forth. The image that this kind of masculinity made is a strong man, not only in physical power but also power to control other people (Edwards, 2006:2).

“The man in the video wore military fatigues and called himself Abu Bilel. In the back of his car his bulletproof vest sat beside one of his machine guns, an Uzi-a historic gun originally manufactured for the Israeli military. He presented a series of weapons, including “an M16 stolen from a marine in Iraq” (Erelle, 2016:10).

The line above is Anna talks about Bilel's video that she found on facebook. Bilel is very proud of his job. He often made video of himself showing off his activity in battle field or just simply shows off his weapon. Bilel does not do all of his bragging action for nothing. He wants to be considered as a true man with power on his hands. He wants to build an image of a professional fighter to whoever sees his postings. It is part of his method to recruit new member of Islamic State that is by giving the society a powerful impression which will help

him and convince people that it is a must to follow his path to join Islamic State. Connell also mentions that, “boys more often make an aggressive move and a claim to power...” (2009:16). By those evidences, it is a sure thing that Bilel is indeed a masculinist. He has both physical strength and ability to influence people whether with his action in battle field or by his words only.

The researcher finds out that Bilel uses his masculinity to recruit new member for Islamic State. One of his masculine actions can be seen in the beginning of Bilel and Melodie’s first conversation. Bilel directly asks someone he just talked to join Islamic State. “*you converted, so... you should get ready for your hijrah*” (Erelle, 2016:16). Melodie is a disguise of Anna to gather information about Islamic State. She creates Melodie as an innocent girl in her early 20’s who were just converted to Islam. The quoted dialogue above is come from Bilel. One of Bilel’s Jobs is to recruit people, especially an innocent person like Melodie. From the quotation, we can see that Bilel has no hesitation to recruit new people. His performance shows that he certainly has a lot of confident so that he can master his prey.

“Bilel was targeting the weak, and whenever they took his bait, he and others like him from the Islamic State tried as hard as they could to reformat them, erasing their pasts as one would clean up a disk before recording new information”, (Erelle, 2016: 17).

An innocent girl like Melodie is the perfect prey for Bilel to plant his influence trough his words. Moreover, Bilel also tried to dominates Melodie so he can put a new doctrine about radicalization. This kind of domination is one of the forms of masculinity. He decided to have one step ahead of Melodie to lead the conversation’s flow direction so that he can easily practice his doctrine and convince her to join Islamic State. Kimmel, mentions about men domination over woman in his book, “The old models of sex roles had reproduced the domination of men over women...” (2004:xxii). Meaning Bilel’s masculinity is the kind of old masculine roles that it is normal for men to dominates woman. In order to be dominant, someone must be confident to be able to convince other people to

follow their instruction, and that is what Bilel trying to do toward Melodie to convince her to join Islamic State. Tim Edwards in his book *Cultures and Masculinity* stated that, "...dominant set of masculinities exerting influence, control and power over other" (2006:2). Meaning that Bilel domination form is by influencing other people to follow what he desired.

Bilel's domination toward others does not stop at that point. He literally will do almost anything to make Melodie comes to Syria to join Islamic State. As a dominant, it is important for that person to make sure that he has the ability to control other people. The easiest way to proven the assumption is by dominating someone who has weaker personality than him. Thus, a masculinist like Bilel will rather choose an innocent person such as Melodie to be dominated. An innocent person like Melodie has low percentage on the failure, they tend to be more naïve and easy to get influence. "...one of the core issues with terrorist...is the potential to recruit innocent people who may have felt compromised and been allured..." (blackmore, 2016:29). Means that Bilel think that Melodie is the right person to be sell hopes. That is how Bilel gain his confidence, by justifying his expectation that his existence can actually effects someone's life. He wants to make sure that he is the one in charge.

"focus on the good! I myself am an important mujahid. I've been devoted to religion for a long time, and I promise you: I can be very, very gentle with the people I love, and very very hard on nonbelievers. I hope you're not one of them" (Erelle, 2016:32)

The dialogue by Bilel above was addressed for Melodie when she doubted the Islamic State's purpose on their violent jihad action. It can be seen that Bilel is trying to convince Melodie that there is nothing wrong with Islamic State action. Kimmel also said that masculine is combination between persuasive power and virile strength (2004:54). He is also trying to dominate Melodie by reconstructing Melodie's way of thinking about Islamic State action. On the dialogue above he tries to dominate Melodie by using both ways, by gently convince her and threaten her at the same time. By telling Melodie not to doubt their action is how

Bilel trying to be gentle toward Melodie. He knows that however he needs to be gentle if he wants to get Melodie's attention. But, at the same time Bilel tries to dominate Melodie by threatening her, he emphasized the line that saying, "*I can be very, very gentle with the people I love, and very very hard on nonbelievers. I hope you're not one of them*" (Errele, 2016:32). He wants to make sure that Melodie have to follow on what he believes including the purpose of Islamic State, or else he will treat her badly just like what he did on murdering people that he called as infidels. The idea of being a masculinist is dominating others, supported by Arthur Brittan on Edwards' book by saying that "masculinism is the ideology that justifies and naturalize male domination" (Brittan, Edwards, 2006: 20). Meaning, masculinist believes that to be a true man they have to possess the ability to control other people to get what they want.

Bilel's masculinity somehow looks rougher and violent if it is compared to Andy and Charly's masculinity that tending to be more gentle and caring. There are strong stereotypes between society about the relation between being masculine and violent. Society had gone too tight in set up how one gender should act. This kind of misinterpretation can bring violence in behalf to prove their masculinity. Kimmel stated in his book:

"The ensuing paradox behind messages that call for individuals to embrace aspects of both the masculine and feminine complicates the understanding and use of gender. A man should be passive, yet often must act in violence;..." (2004:1).

There are too many points to fill so that they can achieve of what is called as being a true man. By this research the researcher aimed to analyze more on Bilel's Characteristic and his masculinity.

4.1.1 Bilel's Masculinity on How He Convinces Melodie to Join Islamic State.

As a terrorist with high position in the organization, Bilel shows a very smooth step to convince Melodie that joining Islamic State and being

a terrorist is the right path for her. He starts his action by showing Melodie his angelic side, and reassuring that everything is beautiful in his organization. He tries so hard to create a wonderful vision if Melodie agree to marry him and go to Syria where Islamic State currently had stayed.

“it’s a whole other world here...soon to be your world. During the day while I’m off fighting, you’ll spend your mornings perfecting your Arabic and your afternoons doing whatever you want. You can hang out with your girlfriends or visit children in hospitals and orphanages” (Erelle, 2016:168).

He drew Syria as a beautiful place where no war ever happened. He tries to picture a condition in Syria as normal as possible to convince Melodie to come to Syria. By doing it can be considered that Bilel was totally aware that people who just converted to Islam seeks for peace and harmony, yet he also aware that Islamic State has nothing to offer about harmony and peacefulness. Macnamara says that, “...people can be converted through persuasive argument” (2004:272). Bilel fully aware that if he continues his persuasion he will succeed to brings Melodie to join him in Syria.

Not only fed her tons of beautiful vision, Bilel also spoils Melodie with praising and sweet talks. Bilel had been praising Melodie since the first conversation they had. *“you’re sweet. It’s your inner beauty that counts. I have a good feeling about you, and I want to help you lead the life awaiting you here”* (Erelle, 2016:36). He wants to reassure Melodie that she has a good hearts, and people who have good hearts should go to Syria to join their fight. He acts like he cares about humanity because he can see that Melodie has high interest about humanity. Anna told Bilel that Melodie is a teenage in her early 20’s, meaning that Bilel knows that Melodie is somehow prone to get influenced by something she interested in. all of this fact show that Bilel would do almost anything to attracted

people to join him in Islamic State including acting as someone who is not him at all.

Other than all the sweet talk, fake vision, pretending as a good-hearted man, and give fake promises are something that Bilel capable of to achieve what he desired. Bilel is not only desired to bring Melodie to Syria to join Islamic State, but also he insists to marry Melodie.

“listen to me! I love you more than I’ve loved anyone. You should be here with me. I cant stand to think of you in that corrupt country. I’ll protect you. I’ll shelter you from the world evils. When you come to live with me you’ll see what a paradise me and my friend are building... im so excited for you to be here. Melodie, my wife! Hurry up! I can’t wait.”(Erelle, 2016:3).

Anna’s camouflage happen to made the terrorist fall for her. Bilel’s desire is no longer to invite Melodie to join Islamic State, but also to eager to marry Melodie. Bilel tries to take the advantage of Syariah law which requires the wive to be loyal and obedient to the husband. Aisha Lemu in her book explains about woman duty in Islam marriage, “Sincerity towards her husband is an essential requirement for a wife. It underlines all her duties and manifests itself in many ways” (2007:9). Bilel thinks that after the marriage he can fully take Melodie under his control. Besides that, from what Bilel saying above can be seen that Bilel tried to brainwash her by saying that she should leave her country, abandon everything including her family (Erelle, 2016:17). Besides that, Bilel also sell fake promises to protect Melodie once she reaches Syria.

Bilel believes that Melodie is a teenager with her idealistic love story about marriage. Thus he insist to marry Melodie, so he can reassure her that she has romantic love story waiting for her in Syria with Bilel as her husband. *“...You’ll be really well taken care of here. You’ll be important and if you agree to marry me, I’ll treat you like a queen”* (Erelle, 2016:52). Bilel is very confident with what he is doing, including

delivering sweet talks, fake promises and so forth to Melodie. For Anna he sometimes looks like someone who is madly in love with a woman which gives Anna a chill when she imagine what will Bilel the man in love capable to do for his revenge. Yet, Anna will never trap in a cheap trick like what Bilel is trying to do to Melodie. From what he was saying on the quotation above it can be conclude that he desperately want to bring Melodie to join her.

Anna Erelle thought that if the young innocent girl Melodie was real, she would definitely fall for Bilel's sweet talk and promises. He was a smooth flatterer. Though, Bilel is not someone who will be under control in a long period of time. He tried his best in pretending that he is a good man, but in the end of the day Bilel would show his true skin as a terrorist.

4.1.2 Bilel's masculinity After Melodie Refuses His Command.

"listen Melodie! Among other things, it's my job to recruit people, and I'm very good at my job. You can trust me..." (Erelle, 2016:52). Bilel is one of important member of Islamic State that came from France. Thus he speaks French and Arabic fluently. He is well trained as both soldier in battlefield and as someone that recruit new people especially thus who come from France.

Bilel's masculinity manages to be calmer when he feels that he is going to get what he wants. Yet, he will not be easy to anyone especially when he does not get what he wants. Bilel was very sweet when Anna as Melodie act to follows Bilel's direction to go to Syria. But the sweetness was gone along with Melodie's refusal. *"listen to me," he said, his tone hardening. "you're going to shut up for a minute and let me speak..."* (Erelle, 2016:176). Those are the first harsh words that come from Bilel for Melodie since their first talk. That happens when Melodie tries to resist Bilel's plan on Melodie's trip to Syria. Anna decided to create another character in her plan to get information about Islamic State, it is

Jasmine Melodie's best friend who join the trip to Syria. Anna find a trouble that she cannot continue her trip to Turkey's border to meet her friend who is one of Islamic State to get more information that related to Bilel. She ended up have to aboard her mission and flight back to French, thus Anna use the character of Jasmine as the excuse to cancel Melodie's trip to Syria. She wants to wrap Melodie's story tidily so that Bilel will not be suspicious on her disguise. Littleton stated that, "This fear of a loss of power through sexual domination can be seen on a larger level through political domination and loss of territory." (2016; 3). Meaning, Bilel acts all furious is as the result of his anxiety to lose his control on Melodie.

Yet, Bilel seems does not listen on the excuse that Melodie made. Instead, he shows his true colour of Abu Bilel the terrorist. "*You can't talk to me like that! Who do you think you are? I'm the one who gives orders around here, not you...*" (Erelle, 2016:177). For once again, he wants to let Melodie knows that he is the one in charge. He wants to convince Melodie that he is the dominant, thus she has to listen to him and follow his order. As a dominant it is very natural for him to be bossy and force someone to do things that they do not want only to achieve his goals. "male...see themselves as dominant, forceful..." (Kimmel, 2004:394). Meaning that men think they are dominant and allowed to be forceful toward others. In the sub-chapter the researcher already shows how Bilel try to dominate other trough calmer approach such as doctrine, convincing and so on. But this time Bilel shows another kind of dominating action that is more threatening than what he shows to Melodie before. Anna was already expected that someday she will face Bilel's rage because she never thought she would go to Syria for Bilel. She is also fully aware who is she facing, Abu Bilel Al-Firanzi the French right-hand man of the Islamic States's leader.

Melodie kept receiving Bilel's threatening saying as the cause of her disobedient toward Bilel's instruction.

"...from now on you're going to shut up. I'm part of a terrorist organization. You can't talk to me like that. Don't you know who I am? I command a hundred soldiers 'every day. I haven't told you a quarter of the truth. I'm wanted internationally; that's why I can't even go to our cities in Turkey. I can only travel to Iraq. I'm thirty-eight, you brat, and you and your friend can't bring me down. You don't know who I am. You'd better tread lightly" he punctuated his words with sadistic laugh" (Erelle, 2016:178).

From Bilel's lines it is clear that the sweet and calm Bilel is never exist. It is very natural for human being not capable to pretend as someone else when they will not get anything that they intended. The thing is equally happen for Bilel. It is obvious that Bilel wants dominate Melodie by emphasizing that he is the leader between himself and Melodie. He also tried to discipline Melodie that he believes as his wife. Bilel knows well that woman is fragile to any threaten thus in his dialogue he emphasize more on who he is. Connell says that, "Some men believe that women who are dependent on them must be their property. This is a common scenario in domestic violence..." (2009:3). Thus, it is natural for him to suddenly being violent over Melodie, because he thinks that Melodie is his belonging. He brags about being the leader of many soldiers inside the terrorist organization, he also proudly mentions that he is an international criminal that being wanted by many countries. All of those things that Bilel said are only to threaten Melodie for her to continues her trip to Syria.

Bilel's verbal violence does not stop there. His anger gone worse when Melodie left him a message that she decided to abort the trip and flew back to France.

*"Who do you think you are, you little bitch?"
"You've underestimated who you are dealing with...a terrorist"*

organization!”

“The people you talked to last weekend have fifteen years of counterespionage experience. We’ll find you in a matter of minutes”

“You wanted to make an idiot out of me; I’ll make you pay.ROFL.” (Erelle, 2016:204).

Those are message from Bilel after he knew that Melodie will never reach Syria to meet him, which is means that he failed on his mission. In his messages it looks like Bilel being more free to curse, it sounds very natural for him as a terrorist who lead hundreds of soldier. There are many factors that cause his rage. First, what he knew is that he was dealing with a girl in half of his age yet he failed to make her come to join Islamic State. Second, he felt humiliated. Bilel is very proud of himself as a terrorist, somehow he repeatedly mentioned about who he is and what he capable of, but still he caught Melodie underestimate him by disobeying his order and flew back to Paris. Connell said that, “...hierarchies of resources and respect, often enforced by violence” (2009:95). As a terrorist it is very natural for them to share terror surrounds them. From what Bilel said in the message it is clear that Bilel threaten Melodie by saying that he will come for her for her to pay what he did to him. Littleton said that, “loss of territory can result in both personal and cultural shame as well as the loss of masculine status” (2016; 3). From littleton statement it can be concluded that Bilel violent is as the result of his fear of shameness.

4.1.3 Bilel Masculinity inside Terrorist Organisation.

Under the leadership of Abu Bakhr Al-Baghdadi, Islamic State is widely known as international terrorist organization after they took over Syria and terrorized several countries such as French, England and so on. Not only the world that called them as terrorist, but they also proudly declare themselves as a terrorist. It can be seen in Bilel’s dialogue when he tries to threaten Melodie. He says that Melodie should not underestimated

him because he is the terrorist, he can find her in ease and do bad things to her (Erelle, 2016:204). Islamic State also do not hesitate to show their violent to the world through internet. They continually post violent video to social media, whether it is to spread the terror or their radicalization (Close, 2014:4). This kind of act definitely kinds of violent act for other society outside the Islamic State's environment, but for them it is very normal to show their violent to other people so that they can be seen as a true man by their people. This kind of manliness in this organization is recognized as the hegemonic masculinity exactly is inside terrorist organization.

Just as the researcher had explain in the precious chapter that masculinity formed by certain factors, one of them is culture that agreed upon the society. Islamic State's circle is somehow rougher than most of society in this globe. Every one of them are required to be powerful, fearless, and the more that individual have authority over others the more that individual being respected. This kind of masculinity also called as traditional masculinity. What it means by traditional masculinity is that a man who are brave, strong, and those who are a risk taker. Kimmel in his book said that those man who still adapt traditional masculinity are a risk taker, they will to put themselves in danger to proven that they are masculine (2004:17). It does not mean that all men have to be violent and brutal so that they can be called as masculine. For the example how people in urban era agree that being masculine is by being gentle, responsible, expressive, and so forth. This kind of masculinity can be seen in *Undercover Jihadi Bride's* characters such as Andre and Charly. The agreement between societies in constructing masculinity is what it called as hegemonic masculinity. Beynon Conclude hegemonic masculinity by states that, "... 'hegemonic masculinity', which defines successful ways of 'being a man' in particular places at a specific time" (Kimmel 1994;

Connell 1995; Beynon 2002). Andre and Charly's masculinity is the hegemonic of this modern era. Connell states that, "Modern masculinity is often understood as more expressive, egalitarian, and peaceable (2012:2). In other side we have Bilel who has different hegemonic masculinity because he is living in a different circumstance than Andre and Charly.

4.2 Bilel as the Example of Hegemonic Masculinity Inside Terrorist Organization.

An organization is formed by people who have the same vision and goals to achieve. Thus, they gather themselves in purpose to achieve their goals in ease. It is supported by Hatch's statement in her book, "Organization happens when people work together to accomplish some desired end state or goal" (2011:11). It is not different with Islamic State which is a militant organization. Islamic State is compound by people who have the same purpose. Despite their brutality and violent action that the media had defined them, it is undeniable that this organization is extremely solid. Their rules and vision are firm. They are not only hard on people who do not share the same vision, but also to their own members who disobey their rules. For them doing violent action is something normal and a must to do. Violent is seen as something masculine that every men living inside the organization should do. Just as what Connell says, "Many people believe that women and men are psychologically opposites, that men are more intelligent than women, that men are naturally violent..." (2009:ix). Meaning, certain people believe that being violent is part of the requirement to be masculine. It inspires Islamic State's members to behave violently. The way Islamic state's members define how should a man behaves is considered as the hegemonic masculinity inside Islamic state which is part of terrorist organization. Bilel is currently living under this tough circumstance that makes him have to proof himself that he is masculine. Thus, Bilel behavior that had been showed in *Undercover Jihadi Bride* is the most suitable character in this novel to present the hegemonic masculinity inside Islamic State.

Just as the researcher had explained in the previous chapter that masculinity form is something agreed upon the society, the agreement between society on constructing masculinity is what it called as hegemonic masculinity. The researcher statement is supported by Connell's statement, "hegemonic relates to cultural dominance in the society as a whole" (2005:78). Andre and Charly's masculinity is the example of hegemonic masculinity that being practice and construct by French people in this urban era. In other side we have Bilel who has different hegemonic masculinity because he is living in a different circumstance than Andre and Charly. Islamic State's environment is somehow rougher than most of society in this globe. Every one of them are required to be dominant by being powerful, fearless, and the more the individual has authority over others the more that individual being respected. For the example is Islamic State proudly shares video of them killing people on social media, their purpose is no other than spreading the terror and also radicalization (Close, 2014:4). Besides, they also want to show off their power by capturing people and play with their life so that the world see and do not underestimate them. This kind of masculinity is also known as traditional masculinity. The meaning by traditional masculinity is that a man who are brave, strong, and those who are a risk taker. Kimmel in his book said that those man who still adapt traditional masculinity are a risk taker, they will put themselves in danger to proven that they are masculine (2004:17). This hegemonic masculinity is identical with violent because they are tend to be rough to show off themselves and dominate other people. Being dominant in this kind of organization is like the need of every man inside the organization so that people will respect them as a man. Being dominant is also a scheme of man to embody the historical structure of the masculine order to fulfill society perception about man (Bourdieu, 2001:5).

However the researcher finds that being dominant in the organization does not always necessarily have to be violent. In some cases like Bilel and other

Islamic States' members who are responsible for recruiting new member they have to be persuasive in order to dominate the targets.

"I love you for the sake of Allah. You are my treasure and the Islamic State is your home. Brick by brick we we'll build a better world where kafirs won't be allowed and we'll carve a name of ourselves in history. I've found a huge apartment for you. If you bring friends I'll find even a bigger one. You'll take care of orphans and the wounded during the day, while I'm fighting. We'll spend our evenings together...insya'Allah!"
(Erelle's, 2016:4).

Those lines are from Bilel who tries to persuade Melodie to join Islamic State. First, he tries to convince Melodie that he loves her and she should join Islamic State by saying that Islamic State is her home. He also promises to Melodie about beautiful stuffs such as buy her apartment, he even intends to invite more people to join him by saying that he would buy a bigger apartment if she invites more friends. It means he tries to command Melodie to invites more friends by using sweet talk rather than being hard on her. Bilel even plants the idea of romantic war story on Melodie by saying, *"You'll take care of orphans and the wounded during the day, while I'm fighting. We'll spend our evenings together...insya'Allah!"* (2016:4). He makes Islamic state's war sound romantic like a love story that she can find in war movies. This manufacture sounds less violent than spreading terror, but it surely works to dominate the targets especially an innocent woman like Melodie. It proves that being dominant is not always being violent to others but being persuasive as well. Hamel says that, "the dominant aggressor is not necessarily the one who hits more often, but the one who maintains control through verbal and emotional..." (2005:36).

Moreover, the effect on being dominant in persuasive way cannot be undermined. The effect however can create destruction on people's mind as much as the violent way does. For those who take the persuasion seriously will stick to their recruiter for the rest of their life.

"her daughter ran away to Syria a year before to join Tarik, the man of her life and a fanatic devoted to the Islamic State's cause...With Tarik dead, Samira saw no reason for her

daughter to stay... but Leila was clear: she now belonged to that sacred land wanted to do her part in the fight to create a religious state in the Middle east. With or without her husband” (Erelle, 2016:5).

The quotation above is a true story that experienced by a mother whose daughter went to Syria for the sake of her love who is Islamic State’s members. The mother thought that her daughter will come back home after her husband’s death. But instead of getting back home she insists to continue her husband’s fight along with Islamic State. Tarik is successfully dominating Leila so that she follows her husband path even after his death. Leila is more like being brainwashed which makes her easily give up her life for Tarik and Islamic state, and turning her back on her own mother.

By the proofs and explanation which previously delivered, the researcher concludes that being dominant, powerful, firm, and having authority are how people inside Islamic state as terrorist organization visualize manliness which makes it as the hegemonic masculinity inside the organization. The researcher also finds out that Abu Bilel possesses all of the aspects of hegemonic masculinity inside Islamic State which makes him the most eligible character from *Undercover Jihadi Bride* to visualize hegemonic masculinity inside terrorist organization.

4.2.1 Bilel is a Dominant Character.

It is clear that Bilel is a dominant compared to the rest of characters in the novel. He shows his domination very often toward other people around him.

“You’re so cute, and innocent! No, I’m not hurt. I’m the real deal.... If somebody wants to take me out, he’ll have to get up early. You’re pure, melodie, so I’m gentle with you, but I’m a nonbeliever’s worst nightmare...” (Erelle, 2016:72).

In Bilel’s dialogue above, he tries to convince Melodie that he is a reliable person. By doing that, Bilel successfully make sure Melodie that he is a

great person to follow, and after that Bilel can easily dominate Melodie. What the researcher means by dominating in here is that how Bilel plants his ideology over Melodie so that Melodie will do things as he says. However, domination can appear imperceptibly and invincibly (Bourdieu, 2001:1). From the dialogue above researcher also finds that Bilel is not only tries to dominate Melodie by convincing her, but also by threatening her. The saying such as *“You’re pure, melodie, so I’m gentle with you, but I’m a nonbeliever’s worst nightmare...”*, proven that Bilel wants to make sure Melodie will follow his path as a believer, or else he will be Melodie’s nightmare.

By that evidence the researcher finds that Bilel possesses the ability to read situation then decide how he should behave. One time, Bilel is gentle when it comes to convince people, he uses sweet words, and encourages his prey. *“...of course you’re coming. You’ll see, you’ll make a whole new new life, a very happy one, for yourself”* (Erelle, 2016:74). The dialogue is coming from Bilel when he tries to convince Melodie to come to Syria. Rather than shows his rough side, he tends to be gentle and sweet over Melodie. He knows what Melodie needs are encouragement and the feeling of comfort. Yet, Bilel’s goal is clear by saying *“... of course you’re coming...”* these words can an encouragement for Melodie and also a threat for her.

In other time when the circumstance is quite the opposite, Bilel tend to be rougher. *“...His face contorted. “can you shut up with your crap for a second? everything is going to be fine. Let me talk to Yasmine”* (Erelle, 2016: 177). This dialogue said by Bilel when Melodie tries to resist Bilel’s instruction. Bilel gives a lot of praises to melodie when she does every bilel’s instruction. But bilel gets in rage even threaten her when she refuses his instruction. From the dialogue above it can be seen that Melodie refuse Bilel’s request to talk to Yasmine. The outcome is that

Bilel can no longer calm, he starts to use rougher words such as 'shut up' and 'crap' to threaten Melodie and makes her do things as he says. The researcher also finds another proof of Bilel's domination. *"...his anger seemed to be growing. He asked me to show him the room again. "Where are you exactly?" he asked. His tone is threatening and superior. He'd never sounded like that before."* (Erelle, 2016:177). The domination from this dialogue can be seen from Melodie's side that saying, *"His tone is threatening and superior. He'd never sounded like that before"*. This situation happens when Melodie refuses to bring Yasmine to talk with Bilel. When Bilel feels like he cannot get what he wants by showing his calm side, he will not hesitate to show his violence. Cramer in LaHaye's book says that, "At times anxiety expresses itself in anger..." (1978:36). Means that, Bilel is worried that Melodie might betray him thus he gets mad when Melodie refuses his order.

The researcher also finds that Bilel uses his marriage status to dominate Melodie.

"...by the way, now that we're husband and wife I want you to close your facebook account."

"why? I haven't posted any pictures of myself, and my post only encourages others to do good in the world"

"Because I said so. You're my wife now, and a good wife does whatever her husband asks"

Those are the dialogues between Bilel and Melodie after Bilel asks Melodie to marry him. From the dialogues, it can be seen that Bilel insists Melodie to close her Facebook account where they first knew each other. Melodie as a converted Muslim had already aware that women should not show off themselves to other people except their husband, Thus Melodie questions Bilel on why she should close her Facebook account since she had never posted any of her face on her account. But, instead of giving a logic explanation to Melodie, Bilel just gives a raw reason on why she must close her account. He uses their marriage status to make Melodie

does what he wants. In Bilel understanding, a wife should do whatever her husband says. Thus he doesn't have the feeling of obligation to give a reasonable reason to Melodie. Lemu in her book says that, "*Sincerity towards her husband is an essential requirement for a wife. It underlines all her duties and manifests itself in many ways...*" (2007:9). What Lemu's says is woman duties based on Syariah law. That later inspire Bilel to think that he has a full right to control his wife based on.

4.2.2 Bilel is a Powerful Character.

The researcher has spotted Bilel as a powerful character in the novel. The fact that the author of *Undercover Jihadi Bride* glorifies that Bilel is internationally wanted by the world for becoming a terrorist is the proof that he is powerful enough to get the world attention. Once Melodie asked about Bilel about his job description;

*“you kill infidels?”
“yeah, and traitors too. I kill anyone who tries to
prevent islam from dominating the world””
(Erelle's,2016:46)*

Since Melodie originally is a reporter, she needs to get as many accurate information as she can. Bilel once told her that hired new devotees is his job, she needs to dig deeper on whether or not he goes to the battle field to kill people as well. Bilel's response to Melodie is quiet clear that he also kills other people that he thinks deserve to be killed. The way he delivers his answer seems very calm just as it is normal for him to kill people in his daily life. It proven that he is often to go to the battle field to kill people and he is still alive until now. It means he is powerful enough to not to get killed in the battlefield. "...power differentials between participants are subtly revealed by how much one individual immediately echoes the linguistic style of the person they are responding to" (Mizil, et al. 2012; 1). It is also indicates that Bilel tries to be dominant over his conversation

with Melodie by showing his power through his linguistic. He emphasizes that he kills everyone and is very proud of it, he wants to make Melodie as his participant sure that Bilel is a strong man.

He does not hesitate to show off his power to other people to get recognition of his existence.

“I have a special surprise for you...Masha'allah”, the “surprise” was a picture of him, armed to the teeth. So cool. A gigantic M4 assault rifle was slung across his shoulder...he stood erect, puffing out his chest, smiling” (Erelle, 2016:24).

The dialogue in which Bilel shows off his pictures where he is fully armed and acts tough. The M4 assault rifle is a symbol of power that he holds. By showing Melodie a picture of him holding a rifle means that he wants to get recognized as a powerful person at least for Melodie. Fromm says that, “Another aspect of man’s craving for prestige is his sensitivity toward ridicule, particularly toward ridicule from women...” (1997:104). Bilel always tries to impress Melodie, and this time he tries to impress Melodie with his power through his weapon. It indicates that he wants to get recognition from Melodie that he is strong. Besides that Bilel also stated such a threatening word that actually shows his power as well. “... we’re the best at what we do, and we’re always one step ahead of everybody else. We killed them, and I can promise you, they won’t be going to paradise” (Erelle’s, 2016:46). By saying that “we’re the best at what we do...” means that he and his men are good at killing people to win the battles. The belief that people he’s killing deserve to die, gives him a strong motivation to always win the battle. Another proof which shows Bilel’s power is delivered by Anna. ““I was beginning to put together the pieces of who he was before becoming the vengeful, power-hungry man he was today”” (Erelle’s, 2016:79). Anna describes Bilel as a man who is greedy for power. For a man who is obsessed to conquer the world, it is a must for him to possess power so he can reach his goal.

Bainbridge in his book stated that, “Men’s dominance interaction often involve shows of strength...” (2015). It proven that Bilel wants to be the dominant by empowering the other person. This kind of desire actually creates him a strong will which later gives him the power that he needs.

The other proof can be found when Bilel tells Melodie about his battle with Al-Nusra;

““How many enemies died?, and what did you do with their bodies?”

“We killed at least twenty. Their bodies can rot in a mass grave...” (Erelle’s, 2016:70)

Bilel tells Melodie about how many people he and his men had killed in ease. For him it is normal to kill people that many and nothing to brag about. Since Bilel had claim that he is a professional in a battlefield twenty might not a big number for him. It will be different if other people who are new to this field had done this massacre, they will be proud of this achievement of theirs and brag about this to seek woman attention. Meaning, Bilel is a strong character compared to the rest of the character in the novel. Not only he is able to accomplish a lot of battle and still survive until today, he is also has the power to lead many people to fight with him in the battle field. Littleton stated that,

“When violence and aggression are considered masculine social norms, these attributes are practiced on the large scale by groups looking to assert their masculine identity and exert power, causing harm both to themselves and to others.” (2016; 2).

Meaning that violence for Bilel is part of social norms, therefore he exclusively shows his violent on the battle field and keep harming other people, so that he can be recognized as masculine.

4.2.3 Bilel is a Firm Character.

Every organization which based on military system hold a firm rule, which is if it disobeyed will cause a serious sanction. The same thing

happens inside terrorist organization such as Islamic State. Their purpose and rules are clear. This kind of strict atmosphere required the members to be strict to themselves as well so they can fit the organization. Bilel's character shows the definition on being firm itself through his behavior.

"I lifted my cup of tea, which was now cold, and blew on it reflexively.

"what are you doing?! Stop, that's haram! Melodie, Stop!"

Stop what? I didn't understand. His eyes were popping out of his head...

"don't blow on your tea!"

"But it's hot!"

"it's makloun! It's really bad. Do you know why?"

"no, why?"

"because it doesn't adhere to Islamic law, but to the laws of your country. Come on, Melodie!" (Erelle's, 2016:155).

From the dialogue above, it can be conclude that Bilel is someone who strictly holds his religion rule. On the dialogue Bilel is clear that he strongly forbids Melodie action on blowing her hot tea because it doesn't suit with Syariah law. For him it is haram to change the nature of things that the God had given. The people who change God's creatures nature such as blowing on a hot water can be consider as a kafir, because they doesn't stand on syariah's law (Erelle's, 2016:155). Littletone stated that, "This can be seen clearly in radical Islamist factions like DAESH and Al-Qaeda who have adopted an aggressive hypermasculinity in addition to a literalist interpretation of Islam..." (2016; 2). Bilel sees himself as a person who is faithful and loyal to his God. He also unintentionally explain the reason why he came to Syria and joining ISIS.

"there's only one thing you need to know: the true islam is the establishment of a caliphate. True Muslims are those who devote their lives to that cause, and that's ISIS. Everyone else is a non-believer"(Erelle's, 2016:70).

It means that his decision on joining ISIS is part of his faithful form to his God. Bilel is bold that other people who do not join ISIS is a non-believer which are allowed to be killed. He is very sure that the organization which he very proud of is devoted to his God. From the proofs above it is obvious that Bilel is a religious person even he is very strict on how to implements the rules, not only to himself but other people as well. However being a faithful person is not a bad thing at all. Yet, what Bilel belief such as taking other people right to live for the sake of his religion still cannot be justified.

There are always a reason behind something not excluding the reason on why Bilel being a cold-blooded man who will do almost anything to proven his faithfulness. Anna Erelle had digging for Bilel Information then mentioned it inside her novel.

“In another life, Bilel was called Rachid. Generally, he spoke very little of his early years. He was born near Porte de Clignancourt station, in northern Paris. His attendance at school was spotty, and he quickly dropped out. He claimed not to have kept any friends from the first twenty years of his life. A look of embarrassment crossed his face, and I couldn’t tell if he was lying about his past or his face, and I had been such that he’d retained very few memories from that time. In truth, I had impression that he didn’t have many ties to his past...” (Erelle’s, 2016:70).

There it can be seen that Bilel born and raised as a Muslim with Algerian roots in Paris, France. In a country where Muslim is a minority, it must be hard for him to make a good relationship inside his environment. This kind of situation led him into a radicalization in the 2000. The police also filled Bilel’s information with his small crime such as various types of theft (Erelle’s, 2016:79) before he gone to al-sham and joining ISIS. From the information that Erelle gets from the police she can concludes that Bilel is a lonely man who seeks for a place where it can fit him. *“...In reality, his proselytism was a way to combat his solitude”* (Erelle’s,

2016:80). Littleton stated that, “loss of territory can result in both personal and cultural shame as well as the loss of masculine status” (2016; 4). It proven that the rejection from the society where Bilel used to live in cause him to look for a suitable place where people can accept him.

4.2.4 Bilel and His Authority.

The author of the novel had written a part where Bilel talks to the other men on the other side of the phone call. Anna gets that the people who Bilel talking to is reporting to him about the area they guard.

*“oh, it sounded like they were reporting to you. You don’t want to brag, but I bet you’re a boss or something”
“you’re right; I don’t like to brag... but people respect me” (Erelle, 2016:49).*

The dialogues show that Bilel hold an important position in the organization. That is why he has people to lead and report to him. In Bilel perspective having authority over other people is something important that he can be proud of. He tries to act humble and low profile so that other people would praise him. But however Anna’s intuition as a reporter is rather strong for her to read Bilel’s move. She gets that Bilel wants to get compliment from Melodie thus she takes the bites and play along with Bilel’s drama. Little tone stated that, “men who have their economic power, or other forms of authority, taken away from them often align themselves with political movements operating with the intention to restore lost honor” (2016; 5). Meaning that, for Bilel having authority like what he has right now is as the cause of the authority he lost in France. He join ISIS to restore his honour as a man.

However in the end of the conversation Bilel tries to brag about how people around him respect him because of his authority.

“well, we conquer territory by eliminating people. But everyone has a specific job. I don’t mean to brag, but im very important, so I’m in charge of supervising operations. I give orders, and when all the kafirs are

dead, the emir decides what to do with their bodies”
(Erelle, 2016:50).

He tries to explain to Melodie about how important he is. Bilel says that his job is to order and lead other devotees to conquer their enemies. The way Bilel tells Melodie is emphasizing on how important he is in the organization so that it will give him a plus score to increase his masculine image on Melodie. Besides his purpose to get recognition from society that he has power, the researcher also find that Bilel’s behavior is the form of narcissism. “narcissism refers to extreme self-centeredness and/or self-love” (Kimmel, 2004; 561). The way Bilel always showing off in front of Melodie in an exclusive way is considered that he loves himself too much.

As a reporter and author of a novel which based on true story, Anna does not want to take Bilel’s confession about his position bluntly. She needs more proof to make sure that Bilel is actually having an important position on the organization. Anna gathers Bilel information through many sources such as from his criminal track record on the Police base information, and also from other IS devotee who is willing to share information about Bilel. From those sources, Anna drew a conclusion that Bilel is one of the most wanted criminal internationally and is Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi’s French right-hand man. *“I hadn’t believed him for a second. Bilel, the French right-hand man of the Islamic States’s leader-really?”* (Erelle, 2016:90-91).

By several characters such as being dominant, powerful, firm, and having authority that had been shown by Bilel on Anna’s adventure in discovering ISIS’ recruitment, the researcher finds that Bilel is the most credible character to portray a masculinist insde terrorist organization.