

The Representation of Motherly Love in the Main Character in the Indian Thriller Film “Mom” (2017)

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Abstract

The objective of this study is to describe the representation of motherly love (love a mother as the main character (Devki) to her stepdaughter (Arya) in the film Mom (2017). The author uses descriptive research which is described through the storyline in terms of dialogue and action. The analysis shows that Mother's love is represented in the form of a mother's struggle for her stepdaughter who gets sexual violence and injustice in the law. Devki, a mother wants to avenge all the criminals who have been involved in the abuse of Arya. Arya is not Devki's biological child, but she loves her very much. Devki the mother is willing to play “dirty” and hires a private detective to complete his noble mission, but Devki is not aware of another danger that threatens him. She did various ways to avenge the suffering her daughter experienced from the perpetrators. As a child, we must have often heard stories about her life suffered because of the torture of her stepmother. In this film, we see a woman as a mother with sincere affection. This film proves that not all stepchildren will end up suffering. Devki proves that she is Arya's stepmother, but her love for her daughter is not about blood relations. Although Devki did do wrong, we may have to admit it. A mother's instinct does not know the meaning of her child, adopted child, or stepchild. A person who plays the title of mother sometimes acts out of sanity for the sake of a child, but she proves that a mother will go through all her limitations to give justice and happiness to her child. Devki is willing to risk his life to give a new life to Arya. She tries to return Arya's life and smiles. Devki is an image of the strength of a mother who is full of love from a stepmother towards her stepdaughter.

Keywords: *love, film Mom, motherly love, representation*

INTRODUCTION

Bollywood is the official name for the popular Hindi-language Indian film industry, based in Mumbai (Mutum et al., 2013). Bollywood represents an important and thriving Indian film industry (Bajaj, 2016). Since the first Indian films have become quite a fun spectacle, even in Indonesia alone, Indian film fans are quite high. Different from before, recently it is known that Indian films are increasingly varied. The stories raised are very varied and interesting to follow, ranging from fictional to real stories coloring the world of Bollywood films. Indian films are known to have their own characteristics compared to other countries, such as dance and music (Chakravorty, 2017).

Indian films are full of themes. The theme is the core of the problem that the author wants to put forward in his work. Therefore, the theme is the result of the conclusion of various events related to the characterizations and setting. So it can be concluded that the theme, is a subject or core issue that underlies a story (Nuriadi, 2016). A theme is a main idea or thought. This term is used in various ways, one of which is in writing. Every writing certainly has a theme that it raises in the story. The theme is the core or subject that forms the basis for the development of the story (Hidayat, 2021). Wiyanto (2012) states that theme is one of the intrinsic elements in writing short stories, poetry, novels, and other written works. In writing, the theme is like the foundation of a house. Understanding the theme is the basis of the story of an article. Themes can be moral, ethical, religious, socio-cultural issues, technology, or traditions that are closely related to life problems or family problems. Themes can also be in the form of the author's views, ideas, or the author's wishes in dealing with problems that arise. Themes refer to aspects of life that will later give value or meaning to a series of stories (Wicaksono, 2017).

Indian films often present dramatic stories that often invite tears and sadness. Films with various themes were made during the period (Rishi, 2012; Sriram, 2018). One of the interesting themes is love (Ayob, 2022). Love is a theme that often fills the destiny of human life. That's why perhaps the conversation about love becomes a topic that is often tempting. Likewise in literary works, discussing the problem of love is a theme that never gets old. Both when reading works written in the past, as well as recent ones. This is certainly not surprising, because the issue of love is a very universal thing. Where every living being can feel it.

The film is an audio-visual technique that is very effective in influencing the audience. It's a combination of drama with a blend of sound and music, as well as dramas guided by behavior and emotions, which can be thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. The film is a process of direct sensations conveyed to our senses (Richard & Gary, 2010). So, film as an art is very powerful in people's lives and is built on a complete sign system (complex) such as pictures, sounds, music, places, words, and other elements that formed it. Currently, literary works are the most in-demand and sought after by people in a movie (Fitria, 2020, 2021). Films have a fairly broad communication power covering the whole world and the public and the imagination of the film is high and interesting.

Film many raise various themes of life, for example about love and it is lifted from reality or reality that occurs in community life. The theme of love generally dominates the world of cinema because the theme is usually adapted to the tastes of the market or society. The value of love depicted in the film relates to the reality that occurs in community life. Talking about love is broad in scope and the meaning of love according to each person is also different. Love is inseparable from human life (Fromm, 2013). Every human being must have felt love and must have love inside his heart. Love is something abstract, a deep emotion or feeling that is shown through the attitudes and actions of someone who knows love. Love exists because of the interaction with each other and not only applies to lovers but also love for family, love for others even love for the environment. So in a film, there is always love depiction. But on this occasion, the researcher only focuses on the depiction of love in the main character.

Love is a universal thing (Fromm, 2013). He adds that the objects of love according to Erich Fromm are brotherly love, motherly love, erotic love, self-love, and love for God. Mom is a 2017 Indian thriller film with the theme of love, especially the love of a mother to a daughter. Mom is directed by India Ravi Udyawar and produced by Boney Kapoor, Sunil Manchanda, Mukesh Talreja, Naresh Agarwal, and Gautam Jain. Having a deep moral message, the film was made in four languages and received good comments and praise from film critics. Not only that, but this film is also a sign of actress Sridevi's 300th appearance in a feature film. This crime thriller genre film tells the story of Devki Sabarwal (Sridevi) who is a biology teacher who is looking for the perpetrators of the rape of her stepdaughter, Arya

(Sajal Aly). Devki has taken legal steps to seek justice, but still, the perpetrator managed to avoid the accusation. Devki is looking for a way with all his might to destroy the life of the perpetrator of the rape.

Several previous studies have been conducted related to the representation of the mother in literary works. First, Rahma (2007) states that in “Rindu Kami PadaMu” film, a mother is represented as a person who loves her child very much and is full of warmth, and friendliness. Mothers are also represented as someone who can understand the needs and desires of their children. The mother is represented as the dominant figure in the household who can always be relied on by other family members. The advice that mothers teach to their children makes mothers a symbol of morality like children. Second, Hermawan (2016) states that the “Air Mata Ibuku” film consists of two connotative and denotative meanings of a mother's affection. Denotative meaning means a mother who always gives love to her child without a father. While a connotative meaning means the desire of a mother who gives love and wants her child to have good morals and a good education. Third, Maulati & Prasetyo (2017) state that “Room” film depicts a mother who is forced to become a single parent, who is responsible for maintaining, caring for, and educating her child, even though there is a male figure who is the biological father of the child. Fourth, Andhani & Putri (2017) state that in “Sabtu Bersama Bapak” film a mother's role as a single parent is described as a simple person, who doesn't care about his appearance, and possesses a strong nature to face life raising their children. She keeps their children happy his son even though he was in trouble, trying to cover up the illness. An-Nahdi (2018) states that in the film Mother, symbols and signs of a mother's patience are found regarding the problems of life's tests in which in this film a mother is not treated well by her child. With patience and compassion, the mother can pass life's trials with patience, and forgiveness, and maintain good relationships even though the child's behavior is arguably disobedient in this film. Fifth, Choirmanta (2019) explains that Rachel's role as a mother has fulfilled Chantal's need for a good example, role model, and educator, as well as a patient, compassionate, and consistent caregiver. Sixth, Hazazi (2020) states in the “Air Mata Terakhir Bunda” film, it is the struggle of a mother as a single parent in educating and providing for her family. Mother's love is willing to sacrifice whatever is done to make the children happy by continuing to educate their children by studying as widely as possible so later they can be a way of goodness for their children. Seventh, Febriyanti, et al (2020) state that in “Ibu Maafkan Aku” the film tells how Hartini works as a solver stone, she never gives up and complains about what Hartini has always felt. Hartini works sincerely for the children. It shows is mother owned by Hartini just out of responsibility and demands of the social environment. Eighth, Febriyanti, et al. (2020b) stated that “Mother Forgive Me” tells about the role of mothers in the family, educating children and with a lot of struggles and sacrifices and so on. The role of the mother in this film is dual roles because the father has passed away. Even though they have to support their family, the role of the mother in this film is very important and is a symbol of all the struggles and sacrifices that mothers have given. Ninth, Putri & Putri (2021) state that the representation of the mother's role is a construction of the various roles that a mother has in general, so the representation on the Bird Box film poster is one of the roles that a mother has, namely the figure of a mother who is the captain for her children and can provide a sense of security, comfort, and can also be a place to depend on their children. Tenth, Tjhandy, et al. (2022) state that in the film “Yang Tak Tergantikan”, there is a representation of the role of single-parent mothers including the representation of single-parent mothers struggling to make a living family, single-parent mothers always prioritize the needs of their children, mothers single parent plays an important role in family communication, mother's independence single parent as the only parent in the family.

Based on the previous above, it shows similarities and differences with this similarity. In similarity point, the previous studies and this research have the same focus on the description

of the mother's love for her children and analyze a film with the theme of "motherly love". At different points, the object of research is different. The 1st research analyzes "Rindu Kami PadaMu" film, the 2nd research analyzes "Air Mata Ibuku" film, the 3rd research analyzes "Room" film, the 4th research analyzes "Air Mata Terakhir Bunda" film, the 5th research analyzes "Ibu Maafkan Aku" film, in the 6th research analyzes "Sabtu Bersama Bapak" film. The previous studies take the object Indonesian films. While this research takes the object Indian film (Bollywood) entitled "Mom". Mom's film tells the story of Devki as a biology teacher who loves her stepdaughter, but inevitably she has to face the harsh reality when his stepdaughter becomes a victim of rape then she struggles to find justice. It shows motherly love from a mother to her stepdaughter. Therefore, the objective of this study is to describe the representation of love from a mother as the main character (Devki) to her stepdaughter (Arya) in the film Mom (2017).

METHOD

This research is qualitative and descriptive. The objective of qualitative research is to explain how individuals perceive the significance of an event and how they come to view it from numerous angles (Neuman, 2013). Interpretation is strongly tied to qualitative research. This research only describes, characterizes, writes, and recounts the circumstance, item, or occurrence as it is. It also can give an impression, opinion, or theoretical view of something. Documentation serves as the tool for data collection. Document analysis is also advantageous when combined with other qualitative data-gathering techniques. According to Altheide & Schneider (2012), a document is any recordable or retrievable symbolic representation that may be analyzed. The sorting document is an Indian film with English subtitles named Mom which was released in 2017. The data on the language, subtitles, and sequences linked to Devki's (the main character) portrayal of motherly love in the film Mom are studied qualitatively. The researcher watched the film "Mom" several times, concentrating on the conversation, subtitles, and scenes. Then, the researcher takes note of the pertinent data points pertinent to the study objective.

The investigation of this representation is conducted by analyzing an existing visual text. The characters' facial expressions and speech (dialogues) reveal this visual text. Representation is a study procedure that needs an examination of real signs, which can take the shape of all sounds, phrases, images, or things that function as signs and are grouped by signs and others into a unified system that can convey and express meaning. Because semiotics is the study of signs, semiotics analysis is required to examine the text for this research (either from the scene, narration, or visual appearance in the film).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

This study describes love from the main character (Devki) as a stepmother to her stepdaughter (Arya) in the film Mom (2017). The Mom film shows several proofs related to motherly love from a mother (Devki) to her stepdaughter (Arya) can be seen below:

Example 1. 00:08:15 - 00:10:11

Arya	:	There's a party on Saturday night. All my friends are going.
Anand	:	Do you know about this?
Devki	:	Saturday is Valentine's Day, right? Where's the party?
Arya	:	Can I go, Papa?
Anand	:	But where's the party?

Arya	: Zodiac Farms, it's not too far from here.
Devki	: It is very far. Who else is going?
Arya	: Like I said...all my friends.
Devki	: Is Sapna going? And Rishi?
Arya	: Any more questions, ma'am? I am not asking for your permission.
Anand	: Fine, we'll think about it.
Arya	: What's there to think? Don't you trust me?
Devki	: Of course dear, we trust you.
Arya	: Then? Do you need mam's approval for this too?
Anand	: Arya, behave yourself!
Devki	: I spoke to your dad. He's agreed. You can go to the party. What are you going to wear? Never vent your anger on food. Finish your dinner.

Based on the dialogue above, shows the representation of motherly love from a mother (Devki) to her stepdaughter (Arya). One day, while eating, Anand is scheduled to go on a business trip to America, Arya asks permission to attend a Valentine's party at a farmhouse (Zodiac Farms). At home, however, despite his constant and warm approach, Arya's stepson remains frozen and distant. At first, Devki hesitated and barely allowed Arya to go because the location of the party was quite far from home. But Arya insists on attending the party, Devki allows this with great hesitation, she finally relents and lets Arya go. Devki and his stepson's relationship is not harmonious. Arya cannot accept Devki's presence as her mother even though her father and Devki have been married for a long time and already have a beautiful sister. No matter how good Devki's attitude is, Arya doesn't care. He feels Devki snatched his father to forget and no longer loves his mother. The form of a mother's love for her child can take various forms, ranging from interacting face-to-face, asking questions, empathizing, being a listener, and helping children solve problems such as persuading fathers to comply with their children's wishes. Giving real attention to children can be one of the best options to emphasize the value of love for them.

Example 2. 00:28:31 - 00:30:07

Devki	: Sir...sir...I need your help. My daughter hasn't reached home yet. Please help me. My daughter was attending a party at the farmhouse. I'm trying her phone.
Police 1	: What's the name of your daughter? And which farmhouse did she go to?
Devki	: Arya Sabarwal. Zodiac Farm.
Police 1	: Yeah... what's the problem?
Police 2	: Her daughter's disappeared.
Police 1	: She hasn't disappeared. She just hasn't returned home yet. Take a seat, ma'am.
Devki	: Sir, I am very worried. I've been trying to call her but it's unavailable.
Police 1	: Sit down and tell us everything. What's the age of your daughter?
Devki	: 18 years.
Police 1	: Give us her phone number. Sir, get to work and trace this phone number.
Police 2	: You shouldn't be worried. It's Valentine's Day. She must be out with her boyfriend.
Devki	: What are you saying?
Police 2	: Ma'am, kids these days are just like that.
Devki	: Don't worry. She must be enjoying herself somewhere. We deal with such cases every day. Sir, please. You might have dealt with similar cases before. But my daughter isn't like any of them. She called me at 12:30 and said she was coming home in 45 minutes. That means she was coming home! Look at the time now. It's been 3 hours. She isn't at her friend's place or the party, nor is she answering her phone.

Based on the dialogue above, shows the other representation of motherly love from a mother (Devki) to her stepdaughter (Arya). Arya's decision to go to the party was the beginning of the tragedy that befell her. Mohit, his classmate who has a crush on him decides to take revenge because his love was rejected by Arya. Mohit and three of his friends kidnap Arya and sexually abuse her before dumping Arya in a ditch. At his house, Devki is worried because until after midnight Arya has not come home. Devki's anxiety increases when Arya's cell phone cannot be reached even though the friend who went with Arya to the party has already returned home. Unable to just sit and wait and stay at home, Devki finally goes to the party venue to pick up Arya but Arya's friends who are still at the party don't know where Arya is. At 3.00 am, Devki comes to the police station to report the loss of his son. The policeman on duty ignores Devki's report. For them, Devki is just too worried. After all, his son had only been missing for a few hours, so it couldn't be concluded that his son was missing, let alone going to a party. It shows a mother who is worried that their daughter doesn't come home until late at night and then tries to call and find information about their daughter's whereabouts the mother here is carrying out one of the family's functions, namely the protection of children.



Figure 1. Representation of Motherly Love (Devki) to Her Daughter (Arya)

Based on the dialogue above, shows the other representation of motherly love from a mother (Devki) to her stepdaughter (Arya) during the hospitality. Arya went to this party and

rebuked Mohit and his new friend Charles. Charles, Mohit, Jagan, and The guards attack Arya as she leaves the party. They feel annoyed with Arya and also the mother. They then kidnapped Arya then threw her into the sewer. Got the news of Devki's heartbreaks. A few days later Arya was finally found unconscious in a ditch in very poor condition. Her body was covered in wounds, her neck was broken and the saddest thing was the doctor said that Arya was sexually assaulted. Knowing Arya's condition, Devki is devastated. He immediately called Anand and asked him to come home. Her husband Anand returned home and left his business. After a while, Arya came to her senses, recovered, and told who had attacked him. Mothers will be very worried when their children are sick or even hurt. A mother wants herself to be sick and hurt more than her children to be in pain; whatever the pain. Usually, mothers will be protective of their children to keep away from the attacks of all things that are not good. A mother will do anything to heal her children.



Figure 2. Representation of the Struggle of Mother (Devki) to Her Daughter (Arya) to Get Justice

Based on the dialogue above, shows the other representation of motherly love from a mother (Devki) to her stepdaughter (Arya) to get justice. Time passed, and slowly Arya's physical condition began to improve. By his father and mother and the police who handle this case, represented by Inspector Matthew (Akshaye Khanna) Arya is asked to tell what happened to him so that the perpetrators can be caught and brought to justice. Based on Arya's information, the four perpetrators were finally caught and brought to trial. But apparently, the evidence submitted by the police and Arya is not strong enough so that the law is unable to ensnare the four perpetrators. Yes, all four were found not guilty and acquitted. Arya and her family are devastated, and her inner wounds are getting deeper. Seeing his daughter's condition "as if he didn't want to die", Devki was very sad, his trust in law enforcement officers had disappeared. Secretly he decided to avenge his daughter's suffering in his way.

Devki then remembers the figure who approached him at the police station some time ago. He immediately contacted Daya Shankar Kapoor (DK) detective and asked DK to help him take revenge on the four people who hurt his daughter. Devki wants to prove that he loves

Arya even though she is just a stepmother. She is determined to find out the culprit and who caused Arya to experience this unfortunate incident. The film Mom tells a love in the struggle of a mother who goes for her child. She must fight for his son even though he knows what the consequences will be.

Discussion

The film Mom tells about a mother (motherly love) who wants to give justice to her daughter who is being sexually abused. Where he is willing to do various ways to take revenge for the suffering experienced by his daughter by the perpetrators who persecute her. As explained above, Mom's film tells the story of Devki, who is none other than a biology teacher who inevitably has to face the harsh reality when his stepdaughter becomes a victim of rape. That night, the figure of Arya who was none other than the adopted daughter of Devki asked permission to attend a Valentine's Night event with her friends. Throughout the night, Arya was enjoying the party until one day her friend, Mohit, kept bothering her and wanted to spend the night with her. However, Arya, knowing his bad intentions, immediately avoided Mohit's behavior firmly. One time when Mohit was under the influence of strong alcohol and also using drugs he tried hard to kidnap, torture, and have sex with Arya together with his gang friend. After being satisfied with this and convinced of Arya's death, they finally threw her body into the water channel. The incident was soon investigated further by inspector Matthew Francis who immediately investigated the case carried out by Arya and his friends and arrested all of them involved in it. The trial was finally about to begin, but unfortunately, the results did not support the statement that Arya was the victim of the case. In other words, the perpetrators were eventually acquitted of the charges. Until one day Arya got into trouble with assault, but the evidence of the attack was weak and the judge released the attacker. Devki looks for a way to help solve the problem of the attack. Then Devki fights to get justice for his daughter. Devki recalls being offered help by a detective and asking for help from Detective Daya Shankar Kapoor (DK) to carry out a mission.

The representation of motherly love in the main character of the Indian thriller film "Mom" (2017) is a central theme that drives the narrative. The film, directed by Ravi Udyawar and starring Sridevi as the main character, Devki, explores the intense and unyielding love a mother has for her daughter, Arya, and the lengths she will go to protect and seek justice for her. Devki is a stepmother to Arya, who initially struggles to accept her. Despite the strained relationship, Devki's love for Arya is unwavering. This is profoundly tested when Arya is brutally assaulted, and the legal system fails to bring the perpetrators to justice. Devki's motherly love transforms into a fierce, protective force, compelling her to take matters into her own hands. She meticulously plans and executes a series of actions to ensure that those responsible for her daughter's trauma are held accountable. Throughout the film, Devki's actions are driven by her deep-seated love and commitment to Arya. Her character exemplifies the strength, resilience, and determination of a mother. The film portrays her as both nurturing and fiercely protective, willing to cross moral and legal boundaries to safeguard her daughter's well-being. The portrayal of motherly love in "Mom" is multifaceted, highlighting not only the tender and caring aspects but also the ferocity and resolve that can arise when a mother's love is tested. Sridevi's performance powerfully captures this complexity, making Devki's character a compelling and relatable embodiment of motherly love. The film ultimately underscores the theme that a mother's love knows no bounds and can drive her to extraordinary lengths to protect her child.

Devki enlists the help of her transgender student to drug him and performs a penectomy on Baburam which ends in death. Devki then poisons Charles with cyanide from apple seeds and makes it look as if Mohit did it. Devki sets the alarm in Mohit's apartment, it is from here that police find apple pieces and cyanide. Mohit Pun was arrested on charges of attempted murder of his cousin Charles. Unfortunately, Devki's work is discovered by inspector Matthew

who finds his glasses left behind at Mohit's house. Along with Inspector Matthew's investigation, Jagan, who was involved in the rape, launches his revenge. Jagan kills DK in his office sadistically and he goes straight to Johnson Cottage to kill Devki. When the lights go out, Jagan comes to Arya who is in the living room, Devki seeing this tells Arya to go and call Anand. Jagan abuses and tries to kill him by wrapping Devki's head in plastic until he is out of breath. Feeling Devki is dead, Jagan looks for Arya who goes out, but Devki is still alive and searches for Arya's whereabouts. Before Devki finds his daughter, Jagan hits him from behind and intends to shoot Devki. Suddenly Inspector Matthew shoots and corners Jagan. Devki holds and points a gun at Jagan, he expresses all his anger towards their doings on his daughter. Inspector Matthew gives his gun to Devki and says if you want to kill him, use a proper gun. Devki is fighting with himself until he hears Arya hiding behind a tree calling him "Mom". Devki without hesitation finally shoots all the bullets at Jagan, Arya who sees him running, and then hugs Devki.

Films that take revenge as the theme are common. But Mom managed to make the act of revenge into an act that looked right even though it was wrong. The first half of the film shows thriller scenes that run slowly. But as time goes by, it shows that this film has a rather clumsy theme of revenge. Amazingly, even though this film has many components and characters that are interrelated. But we can see, that each character in this film looks strong in their respective roles. We may rarely get this in thriller films, especially in Indian films. When watching Mom, we don't feel at all that this is an Indian-made film. Mom may not be the best film in this thriller genre, but it is well worth watching. This film gives us another perspective on the meaning of a mother. Born or not born from her womb, the mother's love knows neither the presence nor the absence of blood ties. This film also tells us, that not all Indian films are always filled with Bollywood dances and songs.

In another sense, love is a feeling that every human being desires in the world, for example, a mother's love for her child is the opposite love of the child for his mother. Love will appear when there is a feeling sympathetic from within to the loved one, but the emergence of love. Love is very natural and cannot be fabricated or engineered. Every human wants themselves to be loved, especially the mother's love for children because by feeling the love of the mother, every human being can feel great happiness from the mother's love not only give happiness to their children but by educating children well. As a child, we must have often heard stories about her life suffered because of the torture of her stepmother. But in this Mom film, we will see, that when a woman is predicated as "Mother" then her affection is sincere. This film also proves, that not all stepchildren will end up like Cinderella. Devki proves that she is Arya's stepmother, but her love for her daughter is not about blood relations. Devki did do wrong, we all have to admit it. But she also proves that a mother will go through all her limitations to give justice to her child. Devki is willing to risk his life to give a new life to Princess Arya. She tries to return Arya's life and smile, which he loves, to the way it was before.

One of the first Indian thriller films, entitled Mom, was released in 2017. In this film, we will see a mother's love for her stepdaughter, especially the struggle of a stepmother to give justice to her daughter. The story begins when Devki tries to avenge all the criminals who have abused his daughter Arya, who is now free from the snares of the law. Although not a biological mother, Devki loves Arya with all her soul and body, just like her biological daughter. This woman is determined to play dirty behind the police, with the help of a private detective. He took revenge one by one for the criminals who had raped his daughter and almost killed him. This film will take us to various types of revenge for the mother that we never imagined before. The mother's actions do not always run smoothly.

Visualization of a mother's affection can be one understanding that love affection for mothers can be mediated through visualization to bring out the meanings that the film producers want to convey, which can be seen from several scenes expressed by the researcher

is related to the type of film with build a mother's love story (Ratnasari, 2020). The signs of a mother's love and affection in this film can be seen in several film scenes, which are shown through verbal and nonverbal symbols of the main character, namely the mother (Zulfahmi, 2015).

A mother is the most special person in our hearts. When we talk about her character or the experiences we have with him, there are always things that will never be forgotten in our minds. Stories about love, longing, life lessons, happiness, to the sadness we have experienced with our mother. A mother would not bear to see or watch her child suffer, a mother wants to see all her children happy. Without us realizing it, maybe we have hurt our own mother's feelings and have made our mother cry, have made her upset and even without us knowing it we have accidentally yelled at her for a reason that we don't agree with.

A mother's love for children exceeds anything in this world. A mother's love is never-ending (Arora, 2020). The mother will sacrifice in any case for the good of the child. He will come forward when his child is hurt and will embrace when his child is sad. (Fromm, 2013; Fromm & Maccoby, 2014) explains motherly love is an unconditional affirmation of the child's life with its needs. In contrast to brotherly love and erotic love which is love between each other, the mother-daughter relationship in motherly love is an unequal relationship where one always needs help, while the other provides it. It is because of this altruistic and unselfish nature that motherly love is considered the highest kind of love, and the most sacred of all emotional bonds. Motherly love is love that does not expect anything for itself, this is the most difficult form of love to achieve, as well as the most deceptive.

Motherly love holds immense importance in shaping individuals and societies alike. It serves as a foundational element in nurturing and upbringing, laying the groundwork for emotional, psychological, and social development from early childhood through adulthood. The bond between a mother and child fosters a sense of security, trust, and emotional stability, providing a crucial framework for healthy relationships and personal growth. Beyond the familial sphere, motherly love contributes to the broader fabric of society by instilling values of empathy, compassion, and resilience. It forms the basis for understanding selflessness and sacrifice, as mothers often prioritize their children's well-being above their own. Moreover, motherly love transcends cultural and geographical boundaries, serving as a universal language of care and nurturing across diverse communities and traditions. In essence, the importance of motherly love lies not only in its profound impact on individual lives but also in its role in fostering cohesive and compassionate societies grounded in love and empathy.

The direction of a mother's love is the love of children. The mother loves her child without demanding anything in return. Mother's love is a feeling of peace and happiness that need not be sought. According to Erich Fromm, there are 4 elements regarding the concept of love the form of attention, responsibility, respect/appreciation, and understanding. Love contains care means that in loving, we must give active attention to the life and development of the one we love. This is evident, for example, in a mother's love for her child. The claim that a mother loves her child will be doubted if the mother looks indifferent and ignores her child. The essence of love is trying for something and making that something grow. The next aspect of love is responsibility. Being responsible here means being able and ready to "respond". This point is that the life we live is not only his problem but also our problem, our responsibility. We are as responsible for the lives of those we love as we care for ourselves. Responsibility can become domination and ownership if it is not accompanied by a third component, namely respect. Respect here means the ability to see someone as they are, by being aware of all the uniqueness that exists within that person. Appreciation means paying attention to others so that they grow and develop according to themselves. The person who is loved is allowed to grow and develop in his way and for his own sake, not forced to develop for the sake of the desires and ambitions of the person who loves. When we love, we feel at one with the person for who

they are. To be able to do the previous three aspects well, love must also have a fourth aspect, namely understanding or knowledge. Understanding here is a deep understanding that can penetrate the core of the problem. This kind of understanding is only possible if we can go beyond caring for ourselves to see others in their context. In love, we can only know through understanding what lives within the human being – by experiencing oneness, not through the knowledge imparted by the mind.

Motherly love in films is often portrayed as a powerful and multifaceted emotion that drives characters to extraordinary lengths for their children. It is a theme that resonates across various genres and cultures, reflecting universal aspects of nurturing, protection, sacrifice, and resilience. In many films, the portrayal of motherly love evokes deep emotional connections and explores the complexities of maternal relationships. Characters often exhibit unconditional love and selflessness, prioritizing their children's well-being above all else. This love can manifest in acts of sacrifice, courage, and determination, where mothers confront challenges, adversaries, or societal norms to safeguard their children's futures. Films often depict the transformative nature of motherhood, illustrating how characters evolve emotionally and psychologically as they navigate the responsibilities and joys of raising children. From nurturing infants to supporting adolescents and adults, cinematic portrayals of motherly love encompass a spectrum of experiences—from moments of tenderness and joy to trials of heartache and adversity. Moreover, films explore cultural and societal expectations of motherhood, highlighting diverse perspectives and experiences. Whether through biographical dramas, comedies, thrillers, or animations, the theme of motherly love resonates universally, touching audiences by depicting the depth and complexity of this fundamental human bond.

CONCLUSION

This film is about the love of a stepmother named Devki, played by Sridevi, for her stepdaughter named Aarya. One day, Aarya becomes a victim of sexual harassment by her friends because Aarya rejects one of the perpetrators' feelings for her. Not only that but after the abuse, Aarya was thrown into a ditch with full wounds on her body. Since then, Aarya became depressed and locked herself in her room, although she gradually began to improve. However, after the failure to arrest the perpetrators of the abuse, Aarya again felt devastated to see the perpetrators still roaming free. Seeing Aarya's condition getting worse, her stepmother Devki asks someone for help to avenge her stepdaughter. Arya mentioned the names of the suspects one by one, but there was no evidence that the suspects he mentioned were guilty. This film shows motherly love in the form of the struggle of a mother who wants to give justice to her beloved daughter. Devki the mother wants to avenge all the criminals who have been involved in the abuse of Arya. Arya is not Devki's biological child but still loves her very much. Devki the mother is willing to play dirty and hires a private detective to complete his noble mission.

"In the Indian thriller film 'Mom' (2017), the portrayal of motherly love through the character of Devki undergoes a profound transformation, illustrating her journey from a struggling stepmother to a determined protector. The film explores motherhood within the Indian cultural context, examining societal expectations and familial dynamics that shape Devki's actions. Comparing Devki's relationship with her stepdaughter Arya to other maternal bonds in Indian and global cinema reveals the film's nuanced approach to depicting maternal instincts and sacrifices. The impact of tragedy on Devki's character development is central, as her quest for justice unfolds against the backdrop of a deeply personal trauma. Symbolism and visual metaphors enhance the emotional depth of the narrative, portraying motherly love through poignant cinematography and imagery. Critical reception of Sridevi's portrayal underscores the film's resonance in exploring themes of maternal resilience and agency. 'Mom'

challenges traditional gender roles by depicting Devki's unwavering determination and ethical dilemmas in her pursuit of justice, highlighting broader discussions on maternal roles and responsibilities in society. Ultimately, the film contributes to evolving perspectives on motherhood in Indian cinema, influencing future narratives and audiences' perceptions of maternal bonds."

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