Form of Discrimination Against Female Characters with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Korean Drama Series Extraordinary Attorney Woo

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Abstract

The drama series Extraordinary Attorney Woo is a Korean drama that portrays the life of a lawyer with an autism spectrum disorder. This drama series has sparked controversy among the public due to its portrayal of individuals with autism being deemed unrealistic. Discrimination occurs because society perceives individuals with autism as needing care and being deemed useless in society. These forms of discrimination are analysed based on the Villines discrimination model, which consists of hostile ableism, benevolent ableism, and ambivalent ableism. This research aims to understand the forms of discrimination against female characters with autism spectrum disorder in the drama series. This research adopts a post-positivist paradigm with a qualitative approach. The results of this study show that almost three-quarters of the total episodes depict various forms of discrimination, including hostile ableism, benevolent ableism, and ambivalent ableism. These findings align with the director Yoo In Shik's intention in creating the extraordinary attorney woo drama series, which is to portray the societal reality towards individuals with autism spectrum disorder, who are considered in need of care or even deemed useless in society. These findings imply that the depicted forms of discrimination are the director's efforts to provide understanding to the public regarding the existence of discrimination against individuals with autism spectrum disorder within the context of the main character's profession as a lawyer.

Keywords: Ableism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Discrimination, Korean Drama, Qualitative Content Analysis

INTRODUCTION

The South Korean drama series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" is directed by Yoo In Shik and has been airing since June 2022 on the Netflix streaming platform. "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" tells the story of Woo Young Woo, portrayed as a brilliant lawyer living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). According to Kompas.com, during the press conference for the launch of the series, Yoo In Shik mentioned that the public is craving heartwarming stories that tend to capture the sentiments of minorities, especially individuals on the autism spectrum, who might be much larger in number than one might expect in this drama (Pangerang, 2022). Professor Kim Byung Gun, the advisor for "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," stated, "The production team of the series aims to create characters that break the stereotype that individuals with autism need care or cannot be useful in society" (Tempo.co, 2022).

In recent years, the South Korean entertainment industry has been enriched with dramas focusing on individuals with disabilities. This is due to the active efforts in South Korea's entertainment world to combat long-standing stigmas related to mental illness, suicide, disabilities, and the LGBTQ community (Dian, 2022). The endeavors of South Korean entertainment professionals to challenge these stigmas have been steadily increasing, as evident in various Korean dramas addressing the stigma surrounding individuals with disabilities, including "Good Doctor" (2013), "It's Okay to Not Be Okay" (2020), "Move To Heaven" (2021), "Our Blues" (2022), and the latest addition, "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" (2022).

	TV Series	IMDB Rating	Rotten	Google Rating
No			Tomatoes	
			Ratting	
1	Good Doctor	7,9	-	72%
2	It's Okay to Not Be Okay	8,6	-	95%
3	Move To Heaven	8,5	-	93%
4	Our Blues	8,6	-	93%
5	Extraordinary Attorney Woo	8,6	100%	97%

Source: Google.co.id

Based on the rating comparison above, the "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" series has the highest rating compared to other similar series. In fact, this series is the only one rated by Rotten Tomatoes. Even so, "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" faced controversy in South Korea due to its portrayal of individuals with autism, which was deemed unrealistic compared to real-life situations. According to CNBC Indonesia (2022), the series sparked debate in Korea because of its depiction of autism spectrum characters that were considered mismatched with the realities of society. Various comments emerged, including one from a mother with an autistic child who said, "For society, Woo Young Woo's achievements are like a young child winning an Olympic cycling medal without being able to run."

Other comments came from individuals on the autism spectrum, with one expressing, "Society does not recognize mild autism; I feel like I am 'discarded.' Throughout my life, I believed that I was just strange, and such thinking has made it challenging for me to thrive in a community." Psychiatrist Professor Kim Hee Jin from Chung-Ang University Hospital in Seoul responded to the controversy regarding the unrealistic portrayal of autism spectrum characters by stating, "The public's understanding of 'useful' autism remains very limited in South Korea. The public views autism as a severe cognitive impairment" (CNBC Indonesia, 2022).

Discrimination against individuals on the autism spectrum is not unique to South Korea; it is also prevalent in Indonesia. According to data from the World Health Organization in

2022, there are an estimated 5,530 cases of autism spectrum disorders in Indonesia. As reported by Wijayanti and Diah (2020), Budhiman, the chairman of the Indonesian Autism Foundation, noted that cases of bullying of individuals with autism are still common. Many in society consider autism a contagious and incurable disease, even equating it with mental disorders. Although societal treatment of individuals with autism in Indonesia has improved, they still do not receive their rights as stipulated by the country's laws (Wijayanti & Diah, 2020). According to Tempo.co (2022), there are still few companies providing job opportunities for people with disabilities, a lack of facilities for people with disabilities, and societal stigmatization, as they are often seen as incapable of performing tasks like everyone else.

In the series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," Woo Young Woo is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder by a doctor when he is five years old. This diagnosis is due to several autism symptoms exhibited by Woo Young Woo, including speech delay, social interaction difficulties (not responding when called), emotional disturbances (lack of empathy), sensory perception issues (inability to tolerate loud noises), and echolalia (repeating others' words) (CNN Indonesia, 2022). Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by persistent social communication and interaction impairments across various contexts, as well as restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, or activities (Zaky, 2017). ASD can also be understood as a neurodevelopmental disorder that affects an individual's language development and ability to communicate, interact, and behave (Makarim, 2021). From these definitions, it can be concluded that Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurological disorder that can impact a person's ability to communicate within a social environment.



Figure 1 Poster Serial Drama Extraordinary Attorney Woo (Source: CNN Indonesia)

Despite being diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, Woo Young Woo surprisingly displayed his intelligence in the field of law. His interest in law became apparent when he was a child and witnessed a dispute between his father and the owner of the rented house where he lived. During that time, the five-year-old Woo Young Woo astonishingly recited

several criminal articles in great detail, which left his father astonished by his intelligence. He could memorize and understand legal articles (CNN Indonesia, 2022). However, despite his intelligence, Woo Young Woo could not escape the prejudice and discrimination from the surrounding community towards individuals on the autism spectrum.

Individuals on the autism spectrum often face stigmatization and harsh discrimination from society, where they are frequently equated with mental disorders and considered to lack intelligence like normal people. Individuals with autism typically struggle with socializing with others because they often immerse themselves in their own world, making it difficult for them to connect with people around them (Wijayanti & Diah, 2020). In the series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," depicts discrimination in the workplace and societal discrimination against the character Woo Young Woo, who is on the autism spectrum. In this study, the researcher will analyze the forms of discrimination against individuals on the autism spectrum based on Villines (2021), which includes three forms of discrimination:

1. Hostile Ableism

This form of hostile ableism includes openly aggressive behavior or policies, such as intimidation, harassment, and violence.

2. Benevolent Ableism

In this form of ableism, people with disabilities are viewed as weak, vulnerable, or in need of rescue. This form of ableism seems to warn against and undermine a person's individuality and autonomy and reinforces unequal power dynamics.

3. Ambivalent Ableism.

This form of ableism is a combination of hostile ableism and benevolent ableism. For example, a person may begin a social interaction by treating the person around him in a warning manner, and then turn hostile if the person rejects his behavior.

In the first episode, when Woo Young Woo starts his job at the largest company, Hanbada, he does not receive a warm welcome but rather experiences condescension and discrimination from his fellow office workers. One form of discrimination can be seen in a scene involving Kang Ki-Young, who plays Jung Myung, a senior at the law firm. In this scene, Jung Myung questions the CEO of Hanbada Law Firm about why the company hired a lawyer with autism.



Figure 2 Cut Scenes Depicting Rejection in People on the Autism Spectrum (Source: Extraordinary Attorney Woo Episode 1)



Figure 3 Cut Scenes Depicting Rejection in People on the Autism Spectrum (Source: Extraordinary Attorney Woo Episode 1)

Jung Myung holds a negative prejudice against individuals with mental disabilities, especially those on the autism spectrum. Jung Myung stated that he cannot accept lawyers with autism spectrum disorder because he believes they lack good social and communication skills. Jung Myung considers both of these attributes crucial for lawyers when dealing with clients and in the courtroom. The prejudice exhibited by Jung Myung falls under the category of Benevolent Ableism, as he views Woo Young Woo as weak due to his perception that all individuals with autism lack effective communication skills and are unsuitable for work as lawyers.

While working, Woo Young Woo continuously faces discrimination in the law firm where he works. This can be observed from the numerous scenes depicting various forms of discrimination that Woo Young Woo experiences. Across a total of 16 episodes, there are 28 scenes portraying discrimination, with an overall duration of 22 minutes and 47 seconds, illustrating unfair treatment by fellow lawyers and the surrounding community. Woo Young Woo is also seen as successful in the law firm because of assistance from the firm's CEO, who happens to be a close friend of Woo Young Woo's father. However, his coworker and close friend, Choi Soo Yeon, stated that Woo Young Woo succeeded in the firm because he achieved a high national score of 1,500. The assumption that Woo Young Woo succeeded as a lawyer in a prominent law firm due to his parental connections falls under the category of Hostile Ableism, where his coworkers intimidate him by insinuating that he was accepted because he is considered 'special' rather than for his intelligence.

Woo Young Woo is often perceived as unable to solve problems due to his limitations. Even his coworker, Kwon Min Woo, remarked, "Regular lawyers would have a hard time, let alone Woo Young Woo (who is on the autism spectrum)." This perception also falls under Benevolent Ableism, as it considers individuals on the autism spectrum as weak and incapable of performing tasks like normal people. Woo Young Woo is also frequently viewed as abnormal by coworkers and clients because of his echolalia (repeating others' words), which he often exhibits when he feels enthusiastic. In some scenes, he is shouted at to stop when echolalia occurs. This also fits the definition of Hostile Ableism, involving verbal aggression in the form of derogatory remarks directed at individuals with autism.

The discrimination faced by the character Woo Young Woo doesn't only occur in his workplace; he also frequently experiences discrimination from the surrounding community. In flashback scenes from his school days, Woo Young Woo was subjected to discrimination by his classmates. He often received hurtful comments, was perceived as

weak and lacking control over his own body, and experienced bullying that left him with bruises from physical violence inflicted by his peers. In a more severe incident, Woo Young Woo was slapped by his teacher in front of his classmates because he was asked by a classmate to say something he didn't even understand himself.

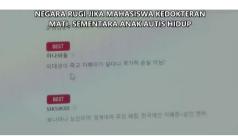


Figure 4 Scenes that depict societal discrimination against people with autism (Sumber: Extraordinary Attorney Woo Episode 3)

Discrimination against individuals on the autism spectrum can also be observed in one episode that addresses a suspected murder case involving a person with autism spectrum disorder and his own sibling, who was a medical student at a renowned university in South Korea. Due to this alleged murder case, discrimination by society worsened, as evidenced by various public responses such as "The country will suffer if a medical student dies, while an autistic child lives," "It's time for autistic people to be isolated from society because they are dangerous," and "I will be much more cautious now if I encounter an autistic child." Woo Young Woo, who is a lawyer representing the person with autism in the murder case, was dismissed as the attorney for the case because he was considered to share the same weakness, which is being on the autism spectrum. Even in the courtroom, Woo Young Woo faced discrimination from a prosecutor because of his autism spectrum.

The series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" is considered intriguing by practitioners because it addresses the issue of discrimination faced by individuals on the autism spectrum, or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), with the character representing an autistic individual being portrayed by a woman. In South Korea, it is closely linked to a patriarchal culture. The patriarchal culture in South Korea perpetuates ongoing differences in behavior, status, and power between men and women in public life, resulting in gender hierarchies (Sarwendah, 2017).

This portrayal of a woman succeeding in the field of law, especially a character like Woo Young Woo, who is depicted as more capable than male colleagues in the series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," challenges the patriarchal norms. In reality, there are also many women on the autism spectrum, although not as many as men. According to research conducted by Carol Povey, the Director of the British National Autistic Society's Center for Autism, the male-to-female ratio of autism spectrum individuals is 3:1 (Ontiveros & Heredia, 2019). However, the media in Indonesia tends to depict individuals with autism as male, perpetuating the stereotype that most individuals on the autism spectrum are male, even though there are also many women on the autism spectrum (Wijayanti & Utami, 2022). Furthermore, what intrigued the researcher about examining the series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" is that it is inspired by the real-life story of the world's first lawyer with autism spectrum disorder. According to a report by Hankook Ilbo on July 24, 2022, the series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," especially the character Woo Young Woo, is inspired by the real-life story of Haley Moss, a lawyer with autism spectrum disorder from Florida. Haley Moss is a member of The Florida Bar, the third-largest professional lawyer association in the United States. In an interview with the Korea Herald, Haley Moss mentioned, "In school and at work, I often faced discriminatory treatment from the community and even from parents with autistic children. Even though I passed the bar exam and met the qualifications as a lawyer, I still had to work hard to prove that I also deserved the same opportunities as other lawyers" (Endriana, 2022).

The series is considered more interesting to the researcher compared to films because the character development in a series tends to be more extensive and in-depth, whereas films are limited in their duration and often focus on the main character's conflict and storyline. "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" consists of 16 episodes and outperformed the average ratings of four other series, including "The King of Tears Lee Bang Won," "Twenty Five Twenty One," "Business Proposal," and "Again My Life." "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" achieved an average national rating of 10.93% and reached the highest rating of the year 2022, at 17.53% in the final episode. Based on the global top 10 Netflix rankings, "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" held the number one position for two years with an estimated 45.58 million hours of streaming worldwide (Rakawinanggi, 2022).

Therefore, the researcher was interested in examining the forms of discrimination against the character Woo Young Woo, a female with autism spectrum disorder, in the Korean series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo." Consequently, the researcher conducted a study titled "Forms of Discrimination Against Female Characters with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Korean Drama (Qualitative Content Analysis of the Character Woo Young Woo in the Series Extraordinary Attorney Woo)." This research employed a Post-Positivist paradigm, a qualitative approach, and content analysis as the research method. Content analysis is a qualitative research technique that emphasizes the accuracy of content and communication messages, as well as the interpretation of symbols and the meaning of symbol interactions in communication.

Two previous studies served as references for the research. The first study, titled "Assessment of Workplace Discrimination Against Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)" by Ashley Ann Cooper from Nova Southeastern University, USA, found that individuals with mental disabilities, particularly those with autism spectrum disorder, were viewed more negatively than those with physical disabilities. This negative perception had the potential to lead to discrimination. The study also found that individuals with autism spectrum disorder faced more challenges in adapting to changes in the workplace and in society. Individuals with autism often encounter discriminatory practices in society. Although there have been successful individuals with autism in the workforce, they often faced discrimination, including a lack of job opportunities, insufficient accommodations, a

lack of job training programs, and a lack of socialization and understanding of the communication styles and legal regulations for individuals with autism among normal employees, making acceptance more difficult.

The second study, titled "Critical Discourse Analysis of People With Disabilities in the Film Dancing in The Rain" by Nafisah Febby Nurani in 2020, revealed that the film "Dancing in The Rain" contained stigmatization of individuals with disabilities, involving unfair treatment, such as considering individuals with disabilities undeserving of assistance and even viewing them as threats to society. Social stigma against individuals with disabilities could lead to isolation, being the subject of jokes, perceived helplessness, and alienation from society. In Indonesian social and cultural practices, individuals with disabilities are a marginalized minority group. The misunderstandings of society create false paradigms and intolerance. Additionally, media discussions about individuals with disabilities continually portray them as helpless and suffering, making them targets of violence, subjects of jokes, and seen as ignorant and isolated by society.

Both of these previous studies provide supporting data for the researcher's investigation into discrimination against the character Woo Young Woo, a female with autism spectrum disorder, in the Korean drama "Extraordinary Attorney Woo."

Based on the background of the research outlined, the research problem can be formulated as follows: "What Are the Forms of Discrimination Against the Female Character with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Woo Young Woo, in the Korean Drama Series 'Extraordinary Attorney Woo'?". From this research problem, the objective of this study is to determine the forms of discrimination against the female character with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Woo Young Woo, in the Korean drama series 'Extraordinary Attorney Woo'.

METHODOLOGY

In this research, the post-positivist paradigm is used, with a qualitative approach through content analysis. A paradigm serves as a researcher's viewpoint aimed at seeking and understanding the meaning of a phenomenon to be studied. Essentially, paradigms are used in research to observe patterns and functions of the phenomenon under study. A paradigm provides the foundation for researchers to conduct research using the concepts and methods established by the researcher. The paradigm used in this research is the postpositivist paradigm, which exhibits characteristics of data reduction based on logic, empiricism, and deep causality (Creswell, 2014).

Based on the above exposition, the researcher employs a post-positivist paradigm to provide a perspective on the issue by improving theory. In this research, the researcher will correlate the issue with forms of discrimination against individuals with autism spectrum disorder as depicted in a television series by classifying scenes that portray discrimination against individuals with mental disabilities, including those with autism spectrum disorder, in the series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo." The researcher aims to gain new knowledge

about the portrayal of characters with autism spectrum disorder and forms of discrimination in the series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo."

Qualitative content analysis is a research method aimed at observing the content of messages in the media based on social context (Bungin, 2014). According to Bogdan and Taylor (Nugrahani, 2020), qualitative research is a research process that can yield descriptive data in the form of speech, writing, and behavior of individuals who are the subjects of the study. Qualitative research aims to comprehend phenomena of behavior, perception, motivation, and actions, which are then translated into written form.

Qualitative analysis differs in terms of research focus from quantitative research, where quantitative research primarily emphasizes questions like what, do, does, is, and is. Based on the explanation above, the researcher employs the qualitative content analysis method. In this qualitative content analysis method, various stages of analysis are applied to the text and content of the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo." Text or content analysis of this TV series is carried out to identify different forms of discrimination against individuals on the autism spectrum, particularly Woo Young Woo, through a thorough examination of the content. The stages undertaken by the researcher are as follows:

- a. Identifying the television series to be analyzed.
- b. Conducting coding through the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" by categorizing the discrimination that occurs against individuals with mental disabilities, specifically those on the autism spectrum.
- c. Creating descriptive narrative analyses based on each coding.

In this study, the researcher aims to investigate a phenomenon to understand both the explicit (manifest) and implicit (latent) messages to comprehend and explain how the character Woo Young Woo is portrayed as an individual on the autism spectrum. This research will provide a more in-depth and systematic exploration of the various forms of discrimination against individuals with mental disabilities, specifically those on the autism spectrum, within the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo."

Unit of Analysis

The analysis unit is one of the research components that are studied to obtain a concise explanation of the entire unit to be analysed, which can include individuals, groups, and social events (Morrisan, 2017). In any research, analysis units are necessary. In this study, the analysis unit chosen by the researcher is the scenes in the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," which portray forms of discrimination against individuals with mental disabilities, particularly the main character Woo Young Woo.

Each scene to be analysed will be described descriptively. The scenes in the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" will be analysed using scene excerpts that display verbal elements such as dialogues and non-verbal elements such as visuals, as well as the background scenes that depict forms of discrimination based on the concept of Ableism,

which comprises three forms: Hostile Ableism, Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivalent Ableism. In this research, there are 16 observation units, encompassing a total duration of 18 hours, 42 minutes, and 34 seconds, from which 11 episodes with a total of 29 scenes portraying discrimination, as described by Villines (2021), were identified. The overall duration of these 29 scenes amounts to 30 minutes and 7 seconds.

No	Visuals/Images	Narration	Time	Categorizatio n
	EPI	SODE 1		
1	Seperti apa Woo Young-woo sebenarnya? Dia sungguh difabel,	Kwon Min Woo: What is Woo Young Woo really like? He is really disabled or pranks us by pretending to be stupid. Choi so Yeon: You know what it was like to go to law school? We call him 'PPW', short for 'Definitely the winner Woo Young Woo'	00:44:27 s/d 00:44:32	Hostile Ableism Kwon Min Woo shows aggressive behavior openly, where he says that Woo Young Woo is a very disabled person.

Table 2. Sample Content Analysis Coding Sheet



Woo Young Woo: At school, they called me a 'loser.' There was a popular prank done to me. It's called the game 'Sorry'. 00:11:38 s/d Hostile Ableism

00:12:55

Woo Young Woo gets bullied or verbally and physically abused by his schoolmates, where Woo

Woo Young Woo:

I have to find a safe place. During the break, I ran away to the teacher's room. Young Woo is given the nickname loser, and gets other physical violence, which is considered a joke by his friends.

Mrs. Master:

Why keep coming here? Is it comfortable like that?

Woo Young Woo:

yes, I'm okay.

Woo Young Woo:

At lunch, I ran away to the security guard post.

3



Kwon Min Woo: 00:44:55 s/d 00:46:08

Benevolent Ableism

Will Woo Young Woo be punished?

Kwon Min Woo: Kwon Min Woo is aggressive by cornering his boss to give punishment to Woo Young



Jung Myung Seok: This is not special treatment. Kwon Min 00:58:42 s/d Woo: Young 00:59:00 Woo is Strong! You're not aware? You said his nickname "definitely the winner Woo Young Woo" this is not fair game. He continues to win against us, but we must not attack him. Why? Because he is autistic. We must always pay attention and help him, even give up an empty seat in the car!

I understand

it's special

treatment because

Woo Young

Woo has a

disability,

however

Woo, because he does not accept that Woo Young Woo is always treated special because he is considered

mentally disabled.

Benevolent Ableism

Kwon Min Woo aggressively says that Woo Young Woo is inappropriate to work as a lawyer because Woo Young Woo is considered autistic, and rejects Choi Su Yeon's behavior in trying to defend Woo Young Woo.



S NEGARA RUGI JIKA MAHASISWA KEDOKTERAN MALI, SEMENTARA, ANAK AUTIS HIDUP العلمي الملممم الملمم الملمم الملمم الملمم الملمم الملممم الملمم	"The state loses if medical students die, while autistic children live" "My neighbor is autistic and it's scary"	00:38:48 s/d 00:39:06	Hostile Ableism Woo Young Woo read a number of comments regarding an alleged murder case committed by an autistic
	it 5 Stary		person. Where the
	"Separate them"		comment aggressively states that autistic people do not deserve to live
			like normal human beings,
			because they are
			considered to have mental disabilities.

Data Collection Technique

The analysis unit is one of the research components that are studied to obtain a concise explanation of the entire unit to be analysed, which can include individuals, groups, and social events (Morrisan, 2017). In any research, analysis units are necessary. In this study, the analysis unit chosen by the researcher is the scenes in the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," which portray forms of discrimination against individuals with mental disabilities, particularly the main character Woo Young Woo.

This research utilizes the technique of gathering data through content analysis by collecting relevant scene documentation related to the research subject. The data collection techniques employed in this study include both primary and secondary data. In the collection of primary data, documents in the form of scenes from the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" were gathered. The analysis unit in this research consists of scenes depicting forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities, particularly those on the autism spectrum or Ableism, involving the main character with autism spectrum disorder, Woo Young Woo. The unit of observation in this research encompasses the entire content of the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," with a focus on

indicators of discrimination against individuals with autism spectrum disorders, including Ableism subtypes: Hostile Ableism, Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivalent Ableism.

In this study, the researcher tests the data by using coding between coders based on the dimensions and indicators of discrimination against individuals with autism spectrum disorders. The results of this coding are then compared, yielding a high degree of similarity. Through this inter-coder data validation, the researcher will obtain more precise and detailed research findings regarding the forms of Ableism discrimination, namely: 1) Hostile Ableism, 2) Benevolent Ableism, 3) Ambivalent Ableism, which are present in the television series under investigation, "Extraordinary Attorney Woo."

In this research, the writers serve as coder 1 (first), and the person who acts as coder 2 (second) is someone with these conditions:

- 1. Has watched all the episodes of the series at least once.
- 2. Understands and has experience in qualitative content analysis. In this study, the measuring tool used is the three dimensions of discrimination against individuals with autism spectrum disorders, which include Hostile Ableism, Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivalent Ableism, as seen in the following table:

No	Unit Analysis	Categorization	Indicator
1	Ableism	Hostile Ableism	Intimidation
			Abuse
			Violence
		Benevolent Ableism	Weak
			Vulnerable
			Need Help
		Ambivalent Ableism	Reminding

In this data testing method, researchers use the Holsti formula or Holsti formula in calculating the degree of reliability or validity of the measuring instruments used by researchers as shown in the table above, through the formula:

$CR = \frac{2M}{N1+N2}$

Information:

- CR : Coefficient reliability (reliability between coders)
- M : The same amount of coding (approved by all coders)

N1: Number of codes created by coder 1

N2: Number of codings created by coder 2

In the use of this Holsti formula, if the calculation results show a reliability rate above 0.7 or 70%, then the measuring instruments used in the study are really reliable. If the reliability calculation results are below 0.7 or 70%, the measuring instruments used are not reliable (Eriyanto, 2013).

Unit Analysis	Category	Indicator	N1	N2	Reliability Test	Presented
	Hostile Ableism	Intimidation	7	7	2(7)/7 + 7	100%
	Ableism	Abuse	0	0	2(0)/0 + 0	100%
		Violence	5	5	2(5)/5 + 5	100%
Ableism	Benevolent	Weak	3	3	2(3)/3 + 3	100%
	Ableism	Vulnerable	0	0	2(0)/0 + 0	100%
		Need Help	10	10	2(10)/10 + 10	100%
	Ambivalent Ableism	Remind	5	5	2(5)/5 + 5	100%

Table 4. Results of Coder Analysis 1 and 2 of the Concept of Ableism Dimensions of Hostile Ableism,Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivaalent Ableism

Source: Processed by Researchers

The table above shows the results of the categorization of discrimination against individuals with autism spectrum disorders based on three categories: Hostile Ableism, Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivalent Ableism. These categories were identified through scenes in the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" based on the analysis conducted by the researcher as both coder 1 and coder 2. The findings indicate scenes containing forms of discrimination in the category of Hostile Ableism, with 7 scenes demonstrating the intimidation indicator, and 5 scenes portraying violence as an indicator. In the category of Benevolent Ableism, 3 scenes exhibit the weakness indicator, and 10 scenes depict the indicator of needing assistance. Additionally, in the Ambivalent category, there are 5 scenes identified with the reminder indicator.

Based on the reliability coefficient calculated by the researcher through coder 1 and coder 2 for the Ableism analysis unit, the coefficient reliability is 1.0, or 100%. Looking back at the minimum threshold for reliability based on Holsti's formula, the data is considered reliable because it meets the coefficient reliability requirement of above 0.7, or 70%.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The researcher will present findings regarding the forms of discrimination against female characters with autism spectrum disorders in the television series "Extraordinary Attorney

Woo." Firstly, the researcher will begin by discussing the comparison of scenes that contain and do not contain forms of discrimination against characters with autism spectrum disorders. This will be followed by an introduction to the forms of discrimination against characters with autism spectrum disorders using the concept of Ableism by Villines (2021), which includes three forms: Hostile Ableism, Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivalent Ableism.

Furthermore, the next step is the data validation phase using reliability testing through inter-coder reliability. In the reliability testing phase, the researcher serves as coder 1, while another person who is knowledgeable and has experience in qualitative content analysis serves as coder 2.

In this research, there are 29 scenes as observation units that will be analyzed in terms of the forms of discrimination against female characters with autism spectrum disorders. The measuring tool used in this study is the discrimination framework by Villines (2021), consisting of three forms: Hostile Ableism, Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivalent Ableism. Within the category of Hostile Ableism, there are three dimensions: intimidation, harassment, and violence. Additionally, the category of Benevolent Ableism encompasses three dimensions: weakness, vulnerability, and needing assistance. Finally, the Ambivalent discrimination category consists of one dimension: reminding.

After the researcher conducted a qualitative content analysis of these 29 scenes, the researcher obtained the result that the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" only fulfils five dimensions, which include the dimensions of intimidation, violence, weakness, needing assistance, and reminding. In the intimidation dimension, there are 7 scenes, in the violence dimension, there are 5 scenes, in the weakness dimension, there are 2 scenes, in the needing assistance dimension, there are 10 scenes, and in the reminding dimension, there are 5 scenes. In quantitative terms, the number of scenes reflecting elements of discrimination against female characters with autism spectrum disorders that align with the categories in the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" is detailed in the following table:

No	Category	Indicator	Sum	Percent (%)
1	Hostile Ableism	Intimidation	7	100%
		Violence	5	100%
2	Benevolent Ableism	Weak	2	100%
		Need Help	10	100%
3	Ambivalent Ableism	Reminding	5	100%
	Т	otal	29	100%

Table 5. Categories of Form of Discrimination for People on the Autism Spectrum

Category	Indicator	Woo Young Woo's character	Information
Hostile Ableism	Intimidation	Found	In the drama series Extraordinary Attorney Woo, 7 scenes were found that contained a form of discrimination in the form of indicators of intimidation carried out by characters in the drama series to Woo Young Woo.
	Violence	Found	In the drama series Extraordinary Attorney Woo, 5 scenes were found that contained forms of discrimination in the form of indicators of physical violence and verbal violence, committed by characters in the drama series to Woo Young Woo.
	Abuse	Not found	In this indicator, there is no form of discrimination in the form of an indicator of harassment against Woo Young Woo's character. However, this indicator i found in other character who are women on the autism spectrum in episode 10, where this female character gets sexually assaulted by her lover who is a normal man.
Benevolent Ableism	Weak	Found	In the drama series Extraordinary Attorney Woo, 2 scenes were found that contained a form of discrimination in the form of weak indicators found in characters in the drama

Table 6. Form of Discriminations Between People on the Autism Spectrum Found and Thos not Found

			series who considered Woo Young Woo as a weak person.
	Need help	Found	In the drama series Extraordinary Attorney Woo, 10 scenes were found that contained a form of discrimination in the form of indicators of needing help, which the characters in the drama series did to Woo Young Woo.
	Vulnerable	Not found	In the drama series Extraordinary Attorney Woo, there is no form of discrimination in the form of vulnerable indicators found in Woo Young Woo's character. However, this indicator is found in other characters who are women on the autism spectrum in episode 10, where this female character is considered a very vulnerable child by her parents. The parents of the autism spectrum woman considered that her child was very vulnerable to being manipulated by people around her, so the mother ended up being very protective of her child.
Ambivalent Ableism	Remind	Found	In the drama series Extraordinary Attorney Woo, 5 scenes were found that contained forms of discrimination in the form of indicators reminiscent of the characters in the drama series to Woo Young Woo.

Based on the table of findings regarding the forms of discrimination against female characters with autism spectrum disorders above, it can be concluded that Woo Young Woo experiences discrimination both in the school environment and in the workplace. In this television series, there are 28 scenes containing various forms of discrimination, including intimidation, violence, the assumption that individuals with autism spectrum disorders are weak and in constant need of assistance, as well as other characters in the drama attempting to caution Woo Young Woo because they believe he cannot control himself. In the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," it is found that the indicator with the longest duration is the indicator of needing assistance.

For the indicator of needing assistance, 12 minutes and 21 seconds of scenes demonstrating this indicator are found. In social reality, people tend to perceive individuals with autism spectrum disorders as needing assistance because they are seen as lacking the ability to control themselves, especially in daily activities. This aligns with the opinion of the director and production team of the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," who states that the character of Woo Young Woo, a woman with autism, was created to depict the prevailing belief that individuals with autism need care or even considered useless in society.

Here are some examples of scenes that illustrate the indicators that have been found:

1. Hostile Ableism



Figure 5. Character Kwon Min Woo Does Not Provide Information Regarding New Case To Intimidate Character Woo Young Woo

The Figure 5 above is one of the shots from the scene of episode 5 at a duration of 00:06:10 to 00:06:50. The scene shows Woo Young Woo coming to Kwon Min Woo's room and asking why Lawyer Kwon Min Woo did not tell him that they would be assigned to handle the copyright theft case. Woo Young Woo feels unfair because Kwon Min Woo did not provide information about the copyright theft case, even though the case will soon be discussed in court. This is supported by the dialogue below:

Woo Young Woo: "Lawyer Kwon Min Woo, why didn't you tell me we were assigned to handle a case together?" Kwon Min Woo: "Didn't I tell you?" Woo Young Woo: "Yes, you didn't tell me" Kwon Min Woo: "Sorry, I think I forgot" Kwon Min Woo: "This case requires knowing a lot about the structure of an ATM machine. But it seems easy for you, right?" Kwon Min Woo: "Because you're a genius" Kwon Min Woo: "We're meeting a client today" Woo Young Woo: "What? Kwon Min Woo: "Today at 2:00 p.m. Oh, I forgot to tell you again"

The scene above is included in the form of Hostile Ableism in the intimidation category. Kwon Min Woo corners Woo Young Woo by deliberately not giving her any information about the copyright theft case. Kwon Min Woo says his alibi that Woo Young Woo is too genius, so she is considered able to handle the case without needing to know information about the root of the copyright theft case.



Figure 6. Woo Young Woo Gets Bullied By His Friends In The Form Of Physical Violence

The Figure 6 above is one of the shots from the scene of episode 4 at a duration of 00:11:35 to 00:13:07. The scene shows that Woo Young Woo often gets bad treatment in the form of physical violence by her school friends. During school, Woo Young Woo said that there was a very popular game, namely 'Sorry'. In the game, Woo Young Woo's classmates repeatedly teased Woo Young Woo, starting from nudging her while drinking milk which caused the milk to spill and dirty his school uniform. Woo Young Woo stumbled in the classroom corridor, which caused her to fall quite hard hitting the floor.

Although her friends apologized after doing bad things to Woo Young Woo. Her friends continued to do bad things to Woo Young Woo and made it a joke. Due to the bad behaviour of her friends, Woo Young Woo always tried to find a safe place every break, to avoid other bad behaviour from Woo Young Woo's school friends. This is supported by the dialogue below:

Woo Young Woo: "Nothing is different. At school they call me a loser, there is a popular prank that is done to me. It's called the 'Sorry' game." Woo Young Woo's friend: "Sorry (bumps and spills milk on Woo Young Woo)" Woo Young Woo's friend: "Sorry (knocks Woo Young Woo until he falls)" Woo Young Woo's friend: "Sorry (pushes Woo Young Woo's chair away until he falls on his lunch)" Woo Young Woo: "I have to find a safe place. During break, I run to the teacher's lounge" Teacher: "Gosh, why do you keep coming here?" Woo Young Woo: "Yeah, it's okay" Woo Young Woo: "During lunch, I run to the security post" Woo Young Woo: "But no matter how much I run away, I can't stop what happens in class during class"

The scene above is included in the form of Hostile Ableism in the category of violence. Woo Young Woo's school friends consider the physical violence committed against Woo Young Woo as just a joke. The physical violence committed by Woo Young Woo's friends can be seen to have an impact on Woo Young Woo's psychological condition, where she always tries to find safe friends away from his friends, because she feels threatened when she is around his friends.



2. Benevolent Ableism

Figure 7. Jung Myung Seok Considers Woo Young Woo As Weak Because She Has Autism

The figure 7 above is one of the shots from the scene of episode 1 at a duration of 00:18:50 to 00:20:20. The scene shows Jung Myung Seok entering Han Seon Young's room to ask about the new lawyer (Woo Young Woo). Jung Myung Seok asks if Han Seon Young has seen the second page of the new lawyer's resume (Woo Young Woo), because he does not believe that someone with autism is accepted to work as a lawyer at the largest law firm in South Korea. Jung Myung Seok assumes that the high score obtained by the new lawyer (Woo Young Woo) is not because of her intelligence in solving a problem, but only because of her ability to memorize. This is supported by the dialogue below:

Jung Myung Seok: "The new lawyer you sent has already signed in" Han Seon Young: "Really?" Jung Myung Seok: "Have you seen the second page of his resume? It says she has autism" Han Seon Young: "I saw the second page" Jung Myung Seo: "You saw it, but still accepted her?" Han Seon Young: "You were fixated on the second page, and didn't check the first page? Han Seon Young: "She graduated from a prestigious law school, with the highest score on the bar exam, if not Hanbada who would take this genius kid?" Jung Myung Seok: "Good grades can be obtained just by memorizing. I need a lawyer who can meet clients and go to court" Jung Myung Seok: "Someone with good social and communication skills" Jung Myung Seok: "How do I train someone who can't introduce themselves properly?" Jung Myung Seok: "She's different from me" Han Seon Young: "Different how?" Jung Myung Seok: "If you insist, I will hand over the case to her. I will test whether she is qualified, not just prejudice against the disabled" Jung Myung Seok: "If lawyer Woo Young Woo is judged to not meet the standards of meeting clients and going to court, can we fire her?" Han Seon Young: "Sure"

The scene above shows the category of Benevolent discrimination on the weak indicator. Jung Myung Seok thinks that Woo Young Woo is different from him because Woo Young Woo has weak thinking skills, and does not have good communication skills, which can be useful for defending his clients in court.



Figure 8. Choi Soo Yeon Thinks That Woo Young Woo Is Unable To Go Through The Revolving Door, So Needs Her Help

The figure 8 above is one of the scenes in episode 1 at 00:45:06 to 00:46:10. The scene above shows Choi Soo Yeon scolding Woo Young Woo who is having difficulty passing through the revolving door, while also helping her to get out of the revolving door. This is supported by the dialogue below:

Woo Young Woo: "One, two, three...." Choi Soo Yeon: "How can you not help him when he's doing that? Kwon Min Woo: "Then just help him" Woo Young Woo: "One, two, three....." Choi Soo Yeon: "Get out" Choi Soo Yeon: "Get out" Choi Soo Yeon: "Go out through another door if the revolving door is hard for you" Woo Young Woo: "That's because...." Choi Soo Yeon: "Are you stupid?" Choi Soo Yeon: "ARE YOU STUPID!" Choi Soo Yeon: "Gosh"

The scene above shows the category of Benevolent discrimination on the weak indicator. Choi Soo Yeon feels that Woo Young Woo cannot do anything without her help, and this makes Choi Soo Yeon upset. Choi Soo Yeon feels tired because she has to keep helping Woo Young Woo even for trivial things like helping her out of the revolving door.

3. Ambivalent Ableism



Figure 9. Woo Young Woo's father is warning Woo Young Woo not to repeat other people's words

The figure 9 above is one of the scenes in episode 1 at a duration of 00:10:21 to 00:10:59. The scene above shows Woo Young Woo's father warning Woo Young Woo not to start other people's words and talk about whales in front of other people. This is supported by the dialogue below:

Woo Young Woo's father: "Don't repeat other people's words or say strange things.
Woo Young Woo's father: "Don't be too blunt either"
Woo Young Woo: "Don't be echolalia, don't say strange things and be honest"
Woo Young Woo's father: "Especially, don't talk about whales"
Woo Young Woo: "What if the situation requires talking about whales?"
Woo Young Woo's father: "Do you work at an aquarium?"
Woo Young Woo's father: "Where is the situation for talking about whales?"
Woo Young Woo: "Regardless, what if such a situation occurs?"
Woo Young Woo's father: "Then it's okay"

The scene above shows the category of Ambivalent Ableism discrimination in the reminder indicator. Woo Young Woo's father understands very well that echolalia is a very common thing for people with autism spectrum. However, Woo Young Woo's father still strictly forbids Woo Young Woo from showing symptoms of echolalia when she is in the middle of society, so that Woo Young Woo does not make the people around her feel upset about what Woo Young Woo does.

In the television series "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," two indicators, namely harassment and vulnerability, are not found. However, both indicators are found in the female character with autism spectrum disorders in episode 10. In this episode, these indicators are portrayed through the character Ha Young, who is experiencing allegations of sexual harassment by her partner. Ha Young's mother makes every effort to advocate for her daughter's case. Ha Young's mother is extremely protective of her child, emphasizing to Woo Young Woo that her daughter has a different spectrum of autism than him, which makes her believe she must be vigilant in safeguarding her child because she is perceived as vulnerable to potential harm due to her daughter's perceived innocence.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of the research aligns with the main objective and research problem formulation, which is to understand the forms of discrimination that occur against women with autism spectrum disorder as depicted in the character Woo Young Woo in the Korean drama "Extraordinary Attorney Woo." Based on the findings, the Korean drama "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" not only portrays the positive aspect of the exceptional thinking ability of the female character with autism spectrum disorder, Woo Young Woo but also depicts various forms of discrimination frequently experienced by individuals with autism spectrum disorder. This is evident through scenes portraying different forms of discrimination against the female character with autism spectrum disorder, Woo Young Woo. Within the analytical framework, 16 episodes of the "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" series were observed, revealing 11 episodes containing instances of discrimination that the researcher used as observation units. Using the reference of forms of discrimination against individuals with autism spectrum disorder by Villines (2021), categorized into three types: Hostile Ableism, Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivalent Ableism, a total of 29 scenes were identified, with a total duration of 30 minutes and 7 seconds, equivalent to 11% of scenes containing forms of discrimination out of the entire 11 episodes.

The limited duration depicting forms of discrimination found in this research is due to the significant differences between serial dramas and films. Serial dramas encompass various themes or messages that directors aim to convey. In the case of "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," scenes depicting forms of discrimination represent only a small portion of the numerous themes found in the series. The drama also explores two other major themes: the romantic relationship between Woo Young Woo and Lee Jun Ho, and Woo Young Woo's career as a lawyer, featuring scenes where she employs her clever wit to solve cases.

Based on the concepts applied in this research, "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" demonstrates various forms of discrimination. The researcher categorized these forms of discrimination based on Villines (2021) into three categories: Hostile Ableism, Benevolent Ableism, and Ambivalent Ableism. In the Hostile Ableism category, there were a total of 12 scenes, with a combined duration of 12 minutes and 21 seconds, equivalent to 42.85%. Within the Hostile Ableism category, two indicators were identified: intimidation and violence. There were seven scenes depicting intimidation, with a total duration of 5 minutes and 8 seconds, equivalent to 45%. Additionally, five scenes depicted violence, with a total duration of 7 minutes and 13 seconds, equivalent to 55%.

In the Benevolent Ableism category, there were 13 scenes, with a combined duration of 14 minutes and 7 seconds, equivalent to 46.42%. Within the Benevolent category, two indicators were found: weakness and needing help. There were two scenes depicting weakness, with a total duration of 1 minute and 46 seconds, equivalent to 11%. Meanwhile, there were ten scenes depicting needing help, with a total duration of 12 minutes and 21 seconds, equivalent to 89%. Lastly, in the Ambivalent Ableism category, there were four scenes, with a total duration of 3 minutes and 1 second, equivalent to 14.28%. Within the Ambivalent category, only one indicator was identified: reminding. Five instances of this indicator were found, with a total duration of 4 minutes and 17 seconds, equivalent to 100%.

Based on the above findings, it can be concluded that the most common form of discrimination against individuals with autism spectrum disorder experienced by the main female character, Woo Young Woo, in the Korean drama "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" falls under the category of Benevolent Ableism. This category comprises 13 scenes with a total duration of 14 minutes and 7 seconds, equivalent to 46.42% of the three categories. Within the Benevolent category, the indicator that most frequently appears is the need for help, with ten scenes and a total duration of 12 minutes and 21 seconds, equivalent to 89%.

These findings align with the director Yoo In Shik's objective in creating the "Extraordinary Attorney Woo" series, which is to depict society's perception of individuals with autism spectrum disorder as people who need care or are considered useless in society. Professor Kim Hee Jin, a psychiatrist at Chung-Ang University Hospital, stated that in the social reality of South Korean society, awareness and understanding of autism are still extremely limited. Society often views autism as a condition involving severe intellectual disabilities that require assistance from inferior groups, leading to social stigmatization that can create barriers and unequal access to opportunities for individuals with autism spectrum disorder (Hurley-Hanson, Giannantonio, Griffiths, 2019).

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