Cover Letter

August 22nd 2025,

Dear Editor in Chief of Journal Feminism and Gender Studies,

We are submitting a manuscript for consideration of publication in Journal Feminism and Gender Studies**.** The manuscript is entitled "**"Life in Plastic, but Patriarchy isn't Fantastic": *Barbie* (2023) as a Confrontation of Gender Inequality**". It has been approved by all authors, has not been published elsewhere and that it has not been submitted simultaneously for publication elsewhere.

Our research demonstrates that *Barbie* (2023) critically deconstructs traditional gender roles by exposing masculinity as fragile and dependent on validation, while redefining femininity as a space of strength, leadership, and emotional depth. The film subverts the male gaze by challenging women's objectification and foregrounding real female experiences such as motherhood, aging, and emotional labor. Barbie's transformation from an idealized doll to a self-aware woman symbolizes the rejection of patriarchal standards of perfection and the reclaiming of identity through choice and vulnerability. These findings highlight the film's role as a cultural critique that resists patriarchal narratives and reimagines gender equality. The study contributes to feminist media discourse by showing how popular cinema can be a site of resistance and by encouraging audiences to reflect on the societal systems that shape and confine gender roles.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

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