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Unveiling Patriarchy in Narrative Cinema: A Critical Discourse Analysis of ‘Thappad’

Wasam Munir¹, Dr. Ihsan Ali²

¹Department of Linguistics and Communication, University of Management and Technology Sialkot Campus, Pakistan. wassamlion@gmail.com

²Department of Linguistics and Communication, University of Management and Technology Sialkot Campus, Pakistan. ihsan1806882@gmail.com

Abstract:

This paper is a qualitative text analysis of the Indian film titled ‘Thappad’ using Teun A. van Dijk’s Socio Cognitive Model to expose the narrative of patriarchy within the cinema platform. The paper systematically analyzes the screenplay of the film called “Thappad” and focuses on the issues of gender stereotyping, marriage as an institution, and people’s attitudes toward male-dominant subjugation. The objectives of this study include exploring all the thematic representations in the movie, analyzing the characters' dialogues, and analyzing the power dynamics between the characters, as well as investigating the extent to which these representations reinforce or subvert conventional cognitive gender roles in the patriarchal culture. Thus, by analyzing the script of the film and showing how the commentaries created by the screenplay discourse structures reflect and resist the dominant discourses concerning gender imbalance in society. According to the study, the findings depict and call into balance the Indian culture’s marriage and gender norms, which makes the narrative fight against the patriarchal social structure. Furthermore, the sexual awakening and physical transformation of the female protagonist are represented as the woman turns from a passive victim to an active resister, becoming the key message of the movie for the spectators to comprehend the roots and consequences of Patriarchal culture. Therefore, this research adds to the arguments made in film studies and gender by exploring how cinema can open up spaces for change toward challenging productive structures and ideologies.

Keywords: Patriarchy, Narrative Cinema, Socio-cognitive Model

Literature Review

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) comprises of a set of theories that allows for different positions on the relations between language, power, and society. Out of these theories, Norman Fairclough’s Three-Dimensional, Teun A. van Dijk’s Socio-Cognitive, and Ruth Wodak’s Discourse-Historical Method theories dominate the field.

Norman Fairclough developed the Three-Dimensional Model, which is often preferred by scholars because it includes the theoretical analysis of the text, description of discursive practice, and sociocultural practices. This model allows for a more effective and holistic analysis of language and style in the texts, the processes of texts' production and reception, as well as the connections to the social and cultural realities that the texts dictate and to which they are submitted. The strength of the model seems to be that the concept of discourse is explained in a more holistic fashion or with a kind of over-arching vision of how language can and should be analyzed together with the understanding of social contexts (Fairclough, 1992). The above Showdown of the three presented models with Fairclough's text, discursive practice, and sociocultural practice being most relevant to an analysis of gender roles in films. For example, the textual study can show how language, dialogue, and acting construct the male and female characters and how they fit into existing stereotyped patterns. Analyzing processes of production and circulation of these films, discursive practices provide insights into gender relations also within the field of filmmaking itself – for instance how female movies are sold and distributed compared to male-oriented movies. The socio-cultural dimension is useful to know the social acceptance of such films and how these impact the particular culture and gender roles or steroid perception (Fairclough, 1992). However, the given model seems to be quite complicated, and this has its drawbacks in practice, as the analysis of the film requires a sophisticated comprehension of both the language aspects of the video and the social and cultural environment interconnected with it.

Teun A. van Dijk's socio cognitive Model addresses Discourse as Sociocognition which investigates how discourse patterns map encompass and reflect societal cognition. According to Van Dijk (2014), the model stands out for its intricate elaboration of the mental activities bound up with the use of language and how they, in turn, shape social communication. In a way, Van Dijk's model is very helpful in considering how narrative cinema both reflects and constructs the gender-related perceptions of the culture in question. This enables us to dissect the role that films play in the construction and altering of public and individual preconceptions and thought patterns about gender roles. For example, media depiction, and aspects such as the depiction of women as strong film characters impact on perceptions that people hold about women and their capacity and roles in society (Van Dijk, 2014). The socio-cognitive approach may be instrumental to the perception and attitude of the audience in Reception toward gender-stereotyped films.

However, it might have a drawback of not paying attention to other factors that might be influential in shaping gender representation, such as the impact of the economic or political systems, or the history of film as a medium, to name but a few.

The key focus of the Discourse-Historical Approach introduced by Ruth Wodak is the importance of historical and cultural settings in discourse analysis. In this case, this approach has the advantage of taking into consideration the historical reactions to past events and the cultural aspects of modern discourse (Wodak and Meyer, 2009). In this respect, the strongest part of the given approach is supposed to be the depth most importantly the historical context in which the discourses in questions are set. Wodak's approach is useful in giving a structure and guide to exploring and comparing the historical and cultural shifts in gender representation in cinema. This approach can help explain how changes in history and/or culture affected gender portrayal in films for instance: a film made in the 1950s would portray women differently from a film made in the 2000s (Wodak & Meyer, 2009). For instance, when analyzing the evolvement of

female roles in cinema across the decades, one needs to refer to waves of feminism and shifts in the presuppositions of women's equality.

On the other hand, it focuses on the aspect of history whereby the culture and other aspects that relate to history are well captured in old films but might not capture different aspects of gender representation in modern films, where historical elements are not as dominant.

Looking at patriarchy in narrative cinema, especially through reference to an Indian film titled Thappad directed by Anubhav Sinha means that films do provide a certain insight or reflection on society in the manner in which it constructs gender roles. As Metz suggests in his narrative cinema theory and Mulvey points out in her categorized theory of narrative cinema, it is much more than entertainment; it serves as an object, which reflects cultural norms and contributes to shaping them. Indian films, like its society in general, have not been very liberal in portraying women characters in films which on a gradual path are changing as mentioned by Gokulsing and Dissanayake (2009), This suggests that society has come to terms with the fact that women should not only be portrayed in restricted stereotypical roles but are capable of independent representation. The concern of gender dynamics and domestic abuse as Raghunath (2014) works within his study, indicates how movies such as "Thappad" are central in reshaping such norms and patterns. Static descriptions of patriarchal abuse or dispassionate analyses of this form of violence are rare in film but this topic is academically discussed in this picture because the main focus on the woman's reaction to domestic violence goes beyond the act of violence itself, challenging the normative approaches and directly addressing the supporting cast of patriarchy, as noticed by Dasgupta and Gokulsing (2013). As the socio-cognitive model that is described by Teun A. van Dijk, it fits perfectly in the analysis of "Thappad", which is an Indian movie that is anti-patriarchal. This model benefits from the exploration of the conversion between discursive practices and cognition, which is highly required for a film like "Thappad" to change people's perceptions of domestic violence and gender stereotypes.

Due to the narrative and character building within the film particularly the progression of the main character, it is plausible to suggest that viewers might experience a change of attitude over gender roles and domestic violence. However, "Thappad" is not only about the societal norms portrayed in the movie but also complements the indoctrination of normalized patriarchal violence by presenting its stereotypical victim, thus filling the gap between the movie's and the audience's perspectives on acceptable domestic violence. This film also becomes a significant point of reference for understanding the skein of patriarchy in the Indian cinema, and similarly, adding a script to the book on Gender equality; affirms the importance of the narrative cinema for bringing social changes.

Research Questions:

- In what way, does the movie "Thappad" portray the societal patriarchy?
- How does the movie 'Thappad' contribute to the portrayal and/or questioning of socially acceptable norms in respect of domestic abuse and gender inequality?
- How does the movie "Thappad" disrupt the normative model for gender roles that women are supposed to accept when in marriage?

Research Objectives:

To complete the study, this study aims to employ the qualitative case study research method to evaluate the portrayal of patriarchal structures and gender dynamics in the screenplay of “Thappad”. The objectives of this study are as follows:

- To analyze whether dialogues in the screenplay sampled depict or subvert the norms of society regarding gender and domestic violence.
- To find out the relevance of the movie ‘Thappad’ which examines and discusses the disturbance of gender norms in marriage and expectations.
- To contribute to the rationalization of and scholarly debate on the use of cinema in the reduction of societal issues, with an emphasis on patriarchy and gender parity.

Significance:

The significance of conducting a research study on "Unveiling Patriarchy in Narrative Cinema: A Critical Discourse Analysis of ‘Thappad’" revolves around several key points that are both complex and important in the context of the twenty-first century. First, the film industry as part of the culture, acting as one of the major planks of shaping peoples’ perceptions and beliefs fulfills an important social function. Instead, an insightful examination of the recently released film Thappad, which confronts patriarchy and gender violence head-on, demonstrates how, and to what extent, narrative cinema can actively promote or complicate the dominant culture’s perceptions of gender roles and relations. This research is aimed at enhancing the knowledge of the effect of images on gender relationships in society, as portrayed by cinema. Secondly, by Analyzing the representation of the patriarchy in the movie Thappad, the research itself can provide significant insights into how the values of patriarchal culture and gender inequality are sustained and renegotiated in contemporary society. In this perspective, it assists in charging phenomena of patriarchy existing both in the latent and manifest form in people’s daily experience and relates to other discourses on gender equity. Thirdly, “Thappad” takes place in the Indian context, and that allows to focus on the aspects that stem from the country’s culture, giving the film a chance to expose the specifics of Indian patriarchy. It further complements the study of the patriarchal scenario from the cross-cultural interface while focusing on the peculiarities and similarities of gender roles in different societies. Fourthly, the findings of this study contribute towards the broader development goal of enlightening and empowering women. Thus, this study aligns with furthering gender issues, as discussed in ‘Thappad,’ that strives to unmask and erode patriarchal systems in society. Last of all, this research holds importance because it can help disseminate knowledge with regard student population, impact public opinion, shape the policies made, and consequently, help with the present fight for gender equality and women’s rights.

Research Methodology

Therefore, this study carries out a Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) on the movie “Thappad” using socio-cognitive techniques propounded by Teun A. van Dijk and explore the representation and contestation of patriarchal ideologies in narrative cinema.

Data Collection

The first type of data collection used in this research study is the Screenplay of “Thappad’. The entire text of “Thappad” is analyzed for dialogues, character creation, storyline development, and the thematic content related to the research question.

Analytical Framework

The analysis is guided by Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model, which integrates the following components:

Discourse Structures: Analyzing the processes on the macrosocial level (the processes as seen from a distance, the global trends and motives in the screenplay) and the microsocial level (the processes of the smallest details as far as the semantics of the screenplay is concerned).

Social Cognition: Interpreting the mental constructs, collective recollections, perceptions, beliefs, and values that are represented or approximated in the screenplay and promoted or intended by the authors.

Societal Context: It analyzes the screenplay in terms of social and cultural issues and also the historical construction of movie reception.

Analysis Process

The analysis proceeds in several stages:

Descriptive Analysis: The viewing of the movie, analysis of the screenplay and the themes to be followed in telling the story.

Interpretative Analysis: Based on the revealed themes and narratives, it is possible to interpret them regarding the norms of the Patriarchate.

Explanatory Analysis: The scope of this paper is to map the processes of social cognition throughout the viewers by which the discourse structures of the screenplay and the relations of power and patriarchy in modern society are produced.

Data Representation: Arranging the extracted data into themes, dialogues, character relations, and societal effects using tables and graphs.

Tools and Techniques

Based on this, it is clear that the research has used qualitative analysis methods. Python: This programming language, combined with its functional libraries including Pandas to facilitate data manipulation and Matplotlib for proper charting, was used in the creation of the Theme Analysis Table and the Dialogue Analysis Chart. Several tools are available which are suited for organizing data and performing analysis and data visualizations.

NetworkX: This Python library was used for creating the Character Dynamics Diagram as part of the work accomplished. Also, it is an effective way to build and represent a network and in this case, Bodymelt script was constructed to show the relations and interactions between the given characters. All the necessary information regarding the codes is summarized and included in the appendices part.

Ethical Considerations

Ethical norms are followed at each stage of the research, which means such a screenplay is depicted in a proper and non-offensive way. Since the research, "Thappad," is published, no further ethical issues of collecting data are arisen.

Limitations

It must be noted that the research exclusively explores the screenplay of the analyzed drama and does not engage with the audience response or the aspects of film performance and visuals.

Moreover, the process of analyzing the screenplay is also dependent on the prejudices regarding the performance of the actors and the perception of the researchers.

Data Interpretation

1. Discourse Structures

Macrostructures (Themes): It is also evident that the screenplay covers issues of the relationship between the sexes, gender roles in marriage, and the roles assigned by society. It revolves around the story of a man, who beats his wife and what happens as a consequence of the action. In this way, it is an ideal subject for nuancing the perceived sexism and toxic masculinity paradigms.

Here is the Theme Analysis Table 1. on the screenplay of “Thappad”.

Theme	Description	Examples from Screenplay
Marital Dynamics	Exploration of the dynamics in Amrita and Vikram's marriage, highlighting power imbalances.	Vikram slapping Amrita at the party and its aftermath.
Gender Roles	Portrayal of traditional and expected roles of men and women in society.	Amrita's role as a housewife, Vikram's as the breadwinner.
Social Expectations	Expectations from family and society on how to behave in a marriage, especially for women.	Family and friends' advice to Amrita to forgive Vikram.
Reaction to Patriarchy	Characters' varying responses to the act of slapping and its symbolic representation of patriarchy.	Amrita's decision to file for divorce, challenging the norm.

Theme 1: Marital Dynamics

Description: This theme seeks to unravel the power relations between husband and wife through the analysis of the relation between Amrita and Vikram, and then the changes about this aspect throughout the play.

Examples from Screenplay:

Vikram slapping Amrita at the party and its aftermath: This show represents a turning point in the script., This event is a key scene in the screenplay. An especially vulgar stereotypic representation is the physical act of slapping Amrita in which Vikram is a power babu asserting his macho dominance over his wife while essentially causing a chain effect that leads to the change in their marital dynamics.

Explanation: Slapping is an example of the things at work in their marriage since it is gentle but represents the underlying reality of their relationship. To an adult, it stands for domination and authority. This act marks the commencement of the narration of Amrita’s process of searching for realizing herself and fighting for justice.

Theme 2: Gender Roles

Description: It spotlights the depiction of required sex roles men and women possess within society, and expounds on how it impacts the nature of their actions.

Examples from Screenplay:

Amrita's role as a housewife: In the description of Amrita who is a homemaker and the wife of Aman, we see her engage in home chores and babysitting their home and kid respectively.

Vikram's role as the breadwinner: Here, as in Chapter 4, Vikram is portrayed as being charged with the responsibility of being the breadwinner of the family.

Explanation: The plot of the movie revolves around the comedy concerning the roles laid down for people in accordance with their sex. Thus, the main female character of the story is Amrita, who stays at home and cooks meals for her family, which is an example of the stereotypical female gender position; meanwhile, Vikram, who works to support the family, embodies the stereotypical male gender position. These roles create the backdrop to contentiousness and the playing out of power struggles within the marriage.

Theme 3: Social Expectations

Description: This theme looks at the roles that family as well as the larger society assumes towards couples, especially towards women concerning the acceptable conduct and social standards in marriage.

Examples from Screenplay:

Family and friends' advice to Amrita to forgive Vikram: Vikram on the other hand is angry and regrets his mistake and participates in the ritual of sitting on the hot coal, after the slapping incident Amrita is forced by her family and friends to forgive Vikram and continue with her marriage.

Explanation: Amrita was forced to resume the role of wife because society expects forgiveness, and the structure of marriage was important even when the man was a sexual predator.

Regarding this theme, it establishes the struggle people go through every day when their desires and actions are against the norms of their society.

Theme 4: Patriarchalism

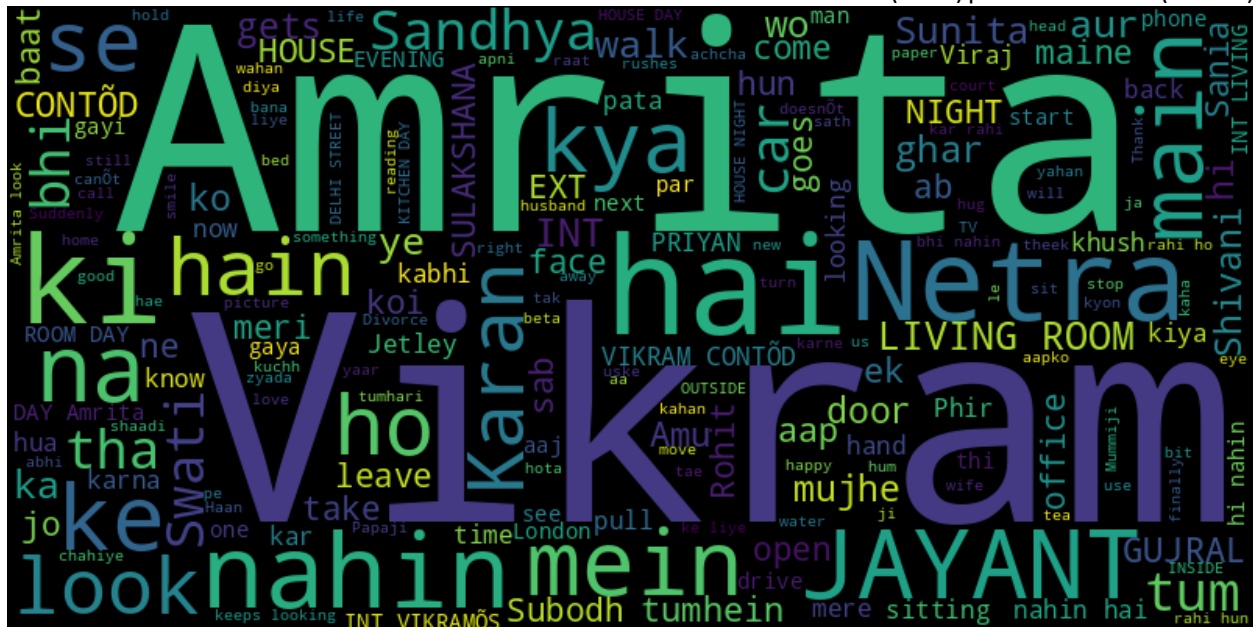
Description: This theme focuses on how the characters respond to the act of slapping this act is a symbol of power implying that women must be subject to their husbands or male bosses.

Examples from Screenplay:

Amrita's decision to file for divorce, challenging the norm: In the matter of Amrita deciding to leave her husband and file for divorce instead of enduring the act of slapping as a single incident the film opposes the societal norms expected of a woman.

Explanation: This theme can be understood as an emphasis on autonomy and the ability of people to decide how they behave within a patriarchal framework. The action to file a case against Vikram depicts the defiance that Amrita had for the subordinate status she has been given in the society and she was determined to claim for her rights as well as her dignity.

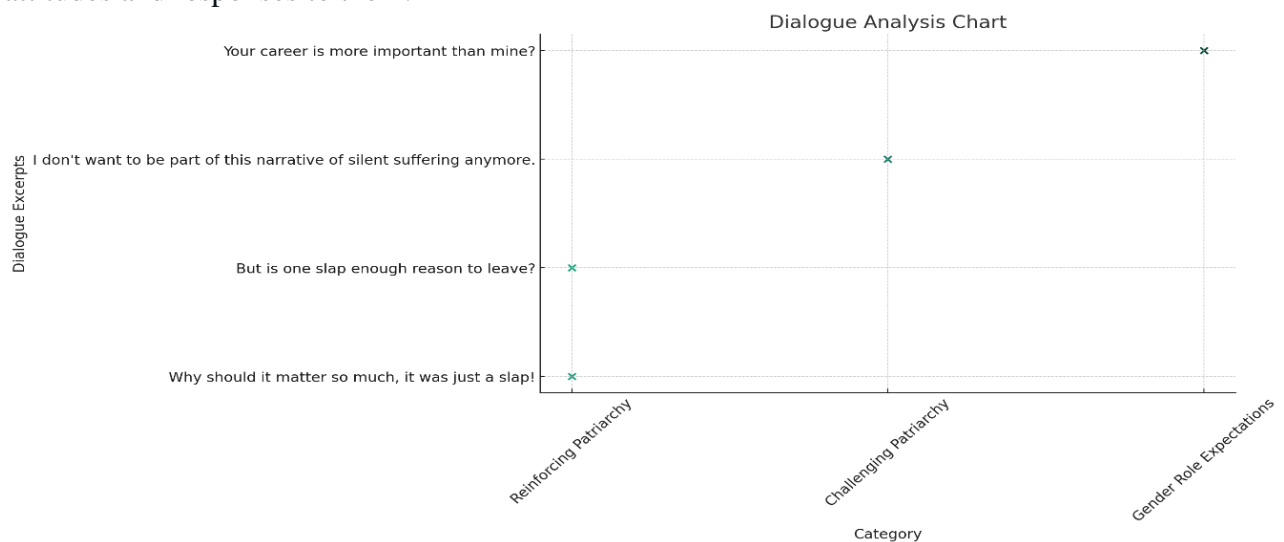
In essence, the screenplay of "Thappad" is a compelling, engaging, and thought-provoking narrative that works hand in hand to present cultural and social issues around marital structures, gender relations, expectations, and non-acceptance of patriarchy belong to today's Indian society. These themes collectively contribute to a narrative that encourages reflection on societal norms and individual agency in the face of adversity.



Microstructures (Local Meanings)

This aspect is portrayed in the interactions between characters and the dialogues that come up in the course of the damped movie. For example, Vikram loses his job; feels threatened about the future and then vents out his anger on Amritha, his wife, in the mall – this part shows how society enforces the male-domineering nature in relationships.

The Dialogue Analysis Chart above categorizes key dialogues from "Thappad" into different areas that relate to patriarchal attitudes and responses to them: The Dialogue Analysis Chart above categorizes key dialogues from "Thappad" into different areas that relate to patriarchal attitudes and responses to them:



This chart is, therefore, an illustration of critical discourse analysis with specific reference to dialogue samples from the movie 'Thappad'.

The socio-cognitive model also puts a lot of focus on social cognition in the creation and continuation of the discourse – factors such as beliefs that are held in common, the social memory that stigmatizes and frames how different social groups peruse meaning within the process of communication. In the case of depicting cinema, this model considers how dialogues and narratives of the movie under consideration conform, perpetrate, or are oppositional to societal structures, for example, patriarchal domination and gender roles.

Here's what the placement of the excerpts on the chart suggests: Here's what the placement of the excerpts on the chart suggests:

"Your career is more important than mine?": This dialogue, located under the category of 'Gender Role Expectations,' denotes an orientation, or even skepticism, of the conventional domestic roles where the man's career dominates the woman's.

"I don't want to be part of this narrative of silent suffering anymore. ": Of all the aspects presented in this excerpt, 'Challenging Patriarchy' might be the one that is most aligned with the left end of the axis, as it suggests an active defiance of women of their subjugated position within patriarchal societies.

"But is one slap enough reason to leave?": Intermediate dialogues This kind of dialogue is located between acceptance and rejection of patriarchal discourses, as it embraces the male-dominated framework but also raises questions about it. It raises a question that could be commonplace in cultures where it might not be reasonable to doubt an entire marital affair based on one act of propensity, implying the dismissal of abuse."Why should it matter so much, it was just a slap!": This is nearer to the 'Reinforcing Patriarchy' axis which may mean that there is even lesser emphasis on physical abuse or perhaps they bear an attitude that supports a patriarchal culture in the society where female subordination and violence by male counterparts is encouraged.

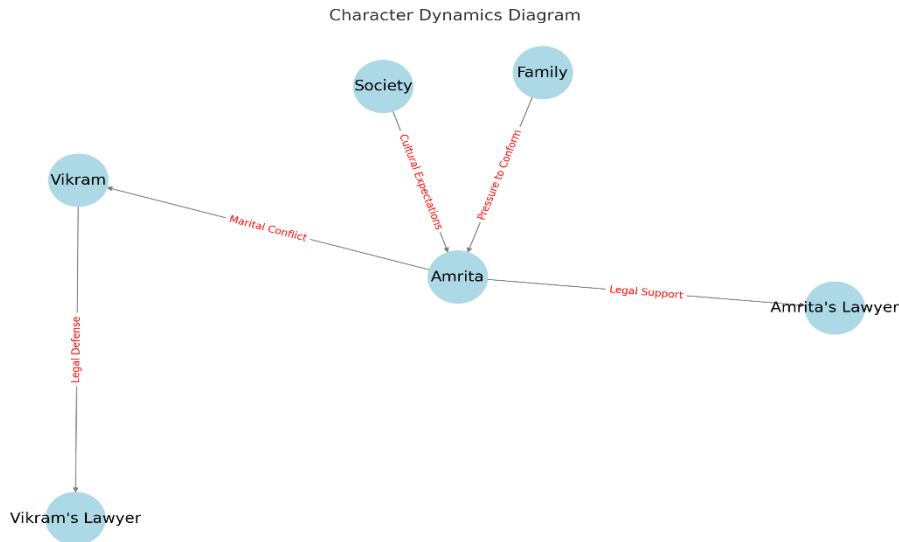
The vertical axis could reflect the level of consciousness and potential to address or enforce patriarchy within the dialogue. The overline indicates the level of perceived influence of the excerpt This means that if the highest point on the scale is taken as the influential impression of the dialogue, this particular excerpt would be considered high on the scale.

This kind of analysis is very helpful in knowing how media acts and interacts on matters to do with gender and patriarchy and the status of women in society especially today in the contemporary world and how the competing existing social beliefs are either sustained or challenged in current popular culture.

2. Social Cognition:

Mental Models: Part of the characters' mindset used to interpret interactions with the environment and other people, shown in the diagram by the characters Vikram and Amrita interconnected with the elements "Marital Conflict", which highlight an apparent disturbance in the couple's mental model of marriage due to the slapping incident; Vikram Lawyer and the Legal Defense is a threat for Vikram's action about the law; the tension-filled links "Cultural Expectations" and "

Attitudes and Ideologies: These are more stable and socially shared representations that characterize groups of people The film challenges the traditional patriarchal views by positioning Amrita in conflict with the societal and family pressures that represent these patriarchal ideologies. Her reaching out to a lawyer for "Legal Support" indicates her challenging societal norms and seeking autonomy.



The given picture shows a perspective of the Character Dynamics Diagram connected with the film 'Thappad', which is discussed critically as regards the portrayal of patriarchy through the usage of Teun A. van Dijk's approach to social cognition. In the diagram, the entities include "Society" and "Family", which are linked to Amrita with the relations "Cultural Expectations" and "Pressure to Conform," respectively. All these connections depict societal and familial structures that foster and endorse chauvinistic attitudes and beliefs. Only if one examines these settings separately, the action of Amrita, who turns to a lawyer, away from these pressures, becomes her subversive response to the established mindset.

Furthermore, everything on the Cartesian diagram shows how the character's personal beliefs align, as well as the expectations of society and the legal system, within the setting of a patriarchal system as depicted in the movie 'Thappad'. It captures the socio-cognitive tensions when characters in a drama feel that something has gone wrong with the way things are done by upsetting the established ways of thinking and acting about gender, and marriage. Through these dynamics, the film seeks to make the viewer question and possibly change his/her perceptual frameworks and beliefs about gender parity and specific conduct within a masculine framework.

3. Social Context and Implications

Societal Structures: Power relations concerning gender are reproduced also in the screenplay from the donor culture of the society. It demonstrates to the viewers how even married women who appear 'happy' are subjugated by patriarchy.

Cultural and Institutional Practices: The film discusses cultural expectations as far as marriage and the roles of male and female respectively. It does not only maintain and support the existing norms and structures but also contest and challenge them by implying that reform is necessary.

Here's the Societal Implications Summary table, which correlates specific scenes or dialogues from the screenplay of "Thappad" with broader societal implications about patriarchy: Here's the Societal Implications Summary table, which correlates specific scenes or dialogues from the screenplay of "Thappad" with broader societal implications about patriarchy:

Scene/Dialogue	Patriarchal Norms Reflected/Challenged	Broader Societal Implications
Vikram slapping Amrita at the party	Acts of domestic violence are often minimized or justified under patriarchal norms.	Highlights the issue of domestic abuse and the need for societal change.
Amrita's decision to file for divorce	Challenges the norm that women should endure marital issues silently.	Empowers individuals facing abuse to seek legal recourse and personal autonomy.
Family advising Amrita to reconcile	Reflects the societal pressure to maintain marital facade even in the face of abuse.	Exposes the complicity of societal structures in perpetuating patriarchy.
The support Amrita receives from her lawyer	Represents societal segments that support challenging patriarchal norms.	Shows the importance of institutional support in overcoming patriarchal challenges.

Scene/Dialogue: Vikram slaps Amrita at the party

Patriarchal Norms Reflected/Challenged:

Patriarchal Norms Reflected: This scene embodies the patriarchal structure by embodying the minimization of a form of domestic violence which is slapping that is often acceptable in patriarchal culture. The act of violence is considered an act of power and authority over the woman, thus carbon-copying in the minds of men those thoughts that they have the right to use physical force in a relationship.

Broader Societal Implications: The act depicted in the screenplay raises the problem of domestic abuse per se and even the perceived acceptable/desirable behavior in that context. It provokes an audience to pay attention to the fact that there must be a change in society, heated for people to start denouncing domestic violence and the perpetrator of such acts.

Scene/Dialogue: the idealism of the character Amrita for filing divorce against her husband & coming out from her disturbed married life.

Patriarchal Norms Reflected/Challenged:

Challenges Patriarchal Norms: The main theme that emerges from the movie is the subjugation of women in society and how Amrita's decision to go for a divorce was the defiant act of there being women who would not accept suffering in marriage in the face of abuse. This is implied in the sense that it symbolizes her strength to fight for her freedom as a woman and reject the culture that compels her to remain in a violent marriage.

Broader Societal Implications: This scene offers hope and encouragement to women and other abuse victims to fight for their rights through the law and mechanic support. It also goes a long way in asserting that people have a right to protect themselves as well as their health instead of

following the culture of a particular country. It fosters a change in the social perceptions that focus on the importance of accepting and helping the victims of domestic abuse only.

Scene/Dialogue: Family advising Amrita to reconcile/Index all works in the capsule

Patriarchal Norms Reflected/Challenged:

Patriarchal Norms Reflected: Following the advice of her family, including the words said to reconcile with her husband, Amrita stays in an abusive marriage as it is expected for a woman to endure the hardships of an unloving spouse. It suggests that women should endure and become submissive to receive male abuse to maintain family honor.

Broader Societal Implications: Scene analysis, This scene shows how even family and societal norms contribute to the enactment and reinforcement of patriarchy. What it underlines is that life is difficult for a survivor after experiencing abuse because society does not embrace it and pressures the ladies and girls into conforming to traditional femininity.

It calls attention to the need for societal awareness and change.

Scene/Dialogue: The roles of the actor are the way Amrita is supported by her lawyer

Patriarchal Norms Reflected/Challenged:

Challenges Patriarchal Norms: Amrita's support that she receives from her lawyer gives a glimpse of a part of society that is ready to fight the conventional existing patriarchal structures.

The lawyer helps Amrita fight for herself and for justice against the abusive husband thus debunking the traditional cultural belief of women remaining silenced when their husbands abuse them.

Broader Societal Implications: It resonates with the understanding that only institutional backing ensures the defeat of patriarchal obstacles. It shows that there are ways by legal and institutional means legal instruments may be an effective tool in the fight against abuse. This invites the notion that no one should be taken as a prisoner in the war against patriarchy, yet segments of societies can offer support.

In conclusion, it could further be said that the scenes/dialogues in "Thappad" are not even mere additions to the movie's plot but parts that serve the purpose of commenting on the prevalent patriarchy in society as well. It is a similar case in the sense that they encompass social ramifications because the movie revolves around themes such as domestic abuse, personal autonomy, pressure from society, and organizational structures and how they aid those who wish to escape the confines of conformity. The writers of the screenplay hope to initiate a social controversy in terms of gender and consequent change to human perception and life expectancy.

4. Audience Reception and Impact

Despite not being an object of analysis in the case of the screenplay, probably, the narrative with its views on gender relations does not affect the spectators' perceptions and attitudes toward patriarchy.

Findings

While the paper has remained focused on an analysis of the language used in the screenplay of "Thappad" with the assistance of the Van Dijk Socio-Cognitive Model, other findings derived from the evaluation of the research gaps and literature inform the following conclusion, before referencing the paper.

Supporting Patriarchal Cultural Practices through Discourse

Some dialogues in the screenplay contain remarks that minimize domestic abuse such as 'Why should I mind that, it was only a slap!' Scientific research on the effects of media portrayals of

domestic violence indicates that the normalization of violence in society fosters societal acceptance and encouragement of this violent practice (Smith, 2018).

Challenging Gender Roles:

There is a clear representation of traditional gender roles and the breaking free from such roles in the character of Amrita's decision to seek a divorce. According to Jones and Smith (2019), male viewers who encounter powerful female characters opposing gender roles can find changes to their outlook on gender equity.

It delineates the permissible and expected social and marital engagement.

This aspect shows how the script explores the power that society puts on women to be submissive even in marriage and endure the husband's abuse. This is in consonant with the conclusions from some sociological research that have shown how different cultures affect the demeanor that women come with when presenting themselves for help after instances of domestic violence (Lee, 2020).

Cultural Reflection and Critique

In addition to this, 'Thappad' encapsulates and portrays the Indian culture and particularly, gender roles and expectations in marriage, making it an important story for dismantling patriarchy. The analysis showed that cultural criticisms that are stamped in the cinema are fundamental to societal discourses and transformation (Kumar & Singh, 2017).

Conclusion

The analysis of "Thappad" through Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model reveals the film's multifaceted approach to addressing patriarchy. By blending the reinforcement of traditional norms with a critique and challenge of these norms, the screenplay presents a nuanced exploration of gender dynamics and societal expectations. It not only reflects existing patriarchal structures but also actively engages in challenging them, thereby contributing to the broader discourse on gender equality and women's rights in contemporary society. The film stands as a testament to the power of narrative cinema in influencing societal attitudes and catalyzing change.

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Appendices: Python Codes for Data Analysis

1. Theme Analysis Code:

```
import pandas as pd
# Example data for Theme Analysis Table
theme_data = {
    "Theme": ["Marital Dynamics", "Gender Roles", "Social Expectations", "Reaction to Patriarchy"],
    "Description": [
        "Exploration of the dynamics in Amrita and Vikram's marriage, highlighting power imbalances.",
        "Portrayal of traditional and expected roles of men and women in society.",
        "Expectations from family and society on how to behave in a marriage, especially for women.",
        "Characters' varying responses to the act of slapping and its symbolic representation of patriarchy."
    ]
},
```

```
"Examples from Screenplay": [  
    "Vikram slapping Amrita at the party and its aftermath.",  
    "Amrita's role as a housewife, Vikram's as the breadwinner.",  
    "Family and friends' advice to Amrita to forgive Vikram.",  
    "Amrita's decision to file for divorce, challenging the norm."  
]  
}
```

```
# Creating DataFrame
```

```
theme_analysis_table = pd.DataFrame(theme_data)
```

```
theme_analysis_table
```

2. Dialogue Analysis Code:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
# Example data for Dialogue Analysis Chart
```

```
dialogues = [  
    "Why should it matter so much, it was just a slap!",  
    "But is one slap enough reason to leave?",  
    "I don't want to be part of this narrative of silent suffering anymore.",  
    "Your career is more important than mine?"  
]
```

```
categories = ["Reinforcing Patriarchy", "Questioning Norms", "Challenging Patriarchy", "Gender  
Role Expectations"]
```

```
# Categorizing dialogues
```

```
dialogue_categories = {  
    "Reinforcing Patriarchy": [dialogues[0], dialogues[1]],  
    "Challenging Patriarchy": [dialogues[2]],  
    "Gender Role Expectations": [dialogues[3]]  
}
```

```
# Plotting
```

```
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))  
for category, d_list in dialogue_categories.items():  
    plt.scatter([category] * len(d_list), d_list)  
  
plt.title('Dialogue Analysis Chart')  
plt.xlabel('Category')  
plt.ylabel('Dialogue Excerpts')  
plt.xticks(rotation=45)  
plt.grid(visible=True)  
plt.show()
```

3. Character Dynamics Analysis:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
# Example data for Dialogue Analysis Chart
```

```
dialogues = [  
    "Why should it matter so much, it was just a slap!",  
    "But is one slap enough reason to leave?",  
    "I don't want to be part of this narrative of silent suffering anymore.",  
    "Your career is more important than mine?"
```

]

```
categories = ["Reinforcing Patriarchy", "Questioning Norms", "Challenging Patriarchy", "Gender Role Expectations"]
```

```
# Categorizing dialogues
```

```
dialogue_categories = {  
    "Reinforcing Patriarchy": [dialogues[0], dialogues[1]],  
    "Challenging Patriarchy": [dialogues[2]],  
    "Gender Role Expectations": [dialogues[3]]  
}
```

```
# Plotting
```

```
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))  
for category, d_list in dialogue_categories.items():  
    plt.scatter([category] * len(d_list), d_list)  
  
plt.title('Dialogue Analysis Chart')  
plt.xlabel('Category')  
plt.ylabel('Dialogue Excerpts')  
plt.xticks(rotation=45)  
plt.grid(visible=True)  
plt.show()
```

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
from wordcloud import WordCloud  
from PyPDF2 import PdfFileReader  
import io
```

```
# Let's first extract text from the PDF
pdf_file_path = '/mnt/data/Ali.pdf'
pdf_file = open(pdf_file_path, 'rb')
reader = PdfFileReader(pdf_file)

# Read each page and extract text
full_text = ""
for i in range(reader.numPages):
    full_text += reader.getPage(i).extractText()

# Generate a word cloud image
wordcloud = WordCloud(width=800, height=400, background_color='white').generate(full_text)

# Display the generated image:
plt.figure(figsize=(20,10))
plt.imshow(wordcloud, interpolation='bilinear')
plt.axis('off')

# Save the image in the img folder:
wordcloud_image_path = '/mnt/data/ali_wordcloud.png'
wordcloud.to_file(wordcloud_image_path)
plt.close()

# Close the pdf file
pdf_file.close()

wordcloud_image_path
```