

### *Abstract*

*This study aims to analyze how family communication narratives within the sandwich generation are represented in the film Home Sweet Loan, using a qualitative approach with Tzvetan Todorov's narrative analysis model. The film is selected due to its explicit portrayal of emotional tension and dual burdens experienced by the younger generation particularly women who are caught between supporting their nuclear and extended families. The protagonist, Kaluna, symbolizes the sandwich generation who sacrifices her personal aspirations to fulfill the economic needs of her family. Through Todorov's five narrative stages equilibrium, disruption, recognition, repair, and new equilibrium the film reveals a transformation in family communication from initially authoritarian and closed dynamics to a symbolic resistance against imbalance. Key scenes were analyzed to uncover the dominant communication patterns, including Kaluna's emotional suppression, confrontations with her parents and brother, and her final decision to leave home. The findings show that the family communication portrayed in the film reflects authoritarian and negatively permissive patterns, characterized by parental dominance and the lack of equal dialogue. The interpersonal communication displayed is emotional, restrained, and instrumental, placing intense pressure on the female child as the emotional caregiver of the family. The conclusion to the research problem is that Home Sweet Loan offers a layered and complex representation of family communication within the sandwich generation context. The unequal communication patterns create latent and overt conflict between Kaluna and her family, ultimately driving narrative and relational changes toward independence and personal identity reconstruction. The film not only functions as cinematic storytelling but also acts as a social mirror reflecting the realities of urban Indonesian family communication, especially within non-egalitarian structures.*

*Keywords: Family Communication, Sandwich Generation, Film Narrative, Tzvetan Todorov, Authoritarian Communication, Home Sweet Loan.*