



Bakalářská práce

The Opinions of Fans on the Representation of Mother-Detectives in Money Heist

Studijní program:

B0114A300068 Anglický jazyk se zaměřením
na vzdělávání

Studijní obory:

Anglický jazyk se zaměřením na vzdělávání
Český jazyk a literatura se zaměřením na
vzdělávání

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Liberec 2024



Zadání bakalářské práce

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<i>Specializace:</i>	Anglický jazyk se zaměřením na vzdělávání Český jazyk a literatura se zaměřením na vzdělávání
<i>Zadávající katedra:</i>	Katedra anglického jazyka
<i>Akademický rok:</i>	2021/2022

Zásady pro vypracování:

Goals: The thesis will be based on structured interviews with audience members of the Netflix series Money Heist between the age of 20 and 25 who consider themselves feminists to a certain degree and are fans of the series. The respondents will be asked about their opinion on two female detectives, who are also mothers. The two detectives, Raquel and Alicia, are influenced by their family lives, which occasionally create a conflict with their career choices. We will investigate whether there is a difference between the views of male and female participants in their response to the characters. The objective is to find out whether the gender of the audience members has an impact on their opinion on, and emotional attachment to, these characters in the series.

Methods:

Structured interviews with 10 male and 10 female fans between the age 20 and 25

Secondary literature on young people's views on career and family

Secondary literature on fan culture and feminism

Secondary literature on mother-detectives on a TV screen

Rozsah grafických prací:

Rozsah pracovní zprávy:

Forma zpracování práce:

Jazyk práce:

tištěná/elektronická

angličtina

Seznam odborné literatury:

Archer, Alfred. 2021. Fans, crimes and misdemeanors: Fandom and the ethics of love. *The Journal of Ethics* 25, (4) (12): 543-566, <https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/fans-crimes-misdemeanors-fandom-ethics-love/docview/2597614821/se-2> (accessed June 21, 2022).

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Datum zadání práce:

21. června 2022

Předpokládaný termín odevzdání: 14. července 2023

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The Opinions of Fans on the Representation of Mother-Detectives in Money Heist

Abstract

This bachelor's thesis aims to detect whether the gender of feminist fans of Money Heist impacts their opinions regarding topics such as feminism, culture war, and mother-detectives. The theoretical part of this thesis mainly focuses on the potential feminist characters in Money Heist and the complex relationship between fan culture and feminism. The practical part of this thesis is based on structured interviews. The structured interview mainly investigates whether there is a difference between the views of male and female participants in their response to two chosen female characters and related themes such as feminism and the general portrayal of strong female characters in media.

Keywords

Money Heist, feminism, fandom, culture war, female characters, gender, mother-detectives

Názory fanoušků na znázornění matek-detektivek v seriálu Money Heist

Anotace

Cílem této bakalářské práce je zjistit, zda pohlaví feministických fanoušků seriálu Money Heist ovlivňuje jejich názory na témata jako je feminismus, kulturní válka a matky-detektivky. Teoretická část této práce se zaměřuje především na potenciální feministické postavy v seriálu Money Heist a na složitý vztah mezi fanouškovskou kulturou a feminismem. Praktická část této práce je založena na strukturovaných rozhovorech. Strukturovaný rozhovor zkoumá především to, zda existuje rozdíl mezi názory mužských a ženských respondentů na dvě vybrané ženské postavy a na s nimi související témata jako je feminismus a obecné ztvárnění silných ženských postav v médiích.

Klíčová slova

Money Heist, feminismus, fandom, kulturní válka, ženské postavy, gender, matky-detektivky

Acknowledgements

Firstly, I want to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Sándor Klapcsik, Ph.D., for his valuable advice, patience, and time dedicated to this thesis. I would also like to thank the respondents for their willingness to answer the structured interview. Last but not least, I want to thank my family and friends for their support throughout the whole time of my studies.

Poděkování

V první řadě bych chtěla vyjádřit svou upřímnou vděčnost svému vedoucímu, Sándoru Klapcsikovi, Ph.D., za jeho cenné rady, trpělivost a čas věnovaný této práci. Také bych ráda poděkovala respondentům za jejich ochotu odpovídat na strukturovaný rozhovor. V neposlední řadě chci poděkovat své rodině a přátelům za jejich podporu po celou dobu mého studia.

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1 Introduction

Money Heist, originally known as *La Casa de Papel*, is one of the most successful Netflix shows of all time. The show comprises five seasons and revolves mainly around the investigation of two well-planned national robberies. While narrating the course of the robberies, the show frequently uses flashbacks to help the viewers understand its characters and the robbery planning process better. This show can be considered remarkable not only for its heist drama and tension but also for the way female characters, especially the ones this thesis concentrates on, play a significant role in the show.

This thesis aims to look deeper into the combination of being a female detective, more specifically, the leading investigator of a national heist, and a mother at once, which is the case with the two protagonists this paper focuses on. This involves the characters of Raquel Murillo, who is in charge of the investigation of the first heist in the first and the second season, and Alicia Sierra, who is in control of the investigation of the second heist in the third, fourth, and fifth season of the show. This thesis examines whether the fact that they are both mothers affects their work lives and how.

The theoretical part of this thesis mainly focuses on the potential feminist characters in *Money Heist*, and the complex relationship between fan culture and feminism. The practical part of this thesis is based on structured interviews with audience members of the Netflix series *Money Heist* between the age of 20 and 25 who consider themselves feminists to a certain degree and are fans of the series. The respondents were asked about their opinion on two female detectives, who are also mothers. The two detectives, Raquel and Alicia, are influenced by their family lives,

which occasionally creates a conflict with their career choices. The structured interview mainly investigates whether there is a difference between the views of male and female participants in their response to these characters and related themes such as feminism and the portrayal of strong female characters in media.

The aim of this thesis is twofold. First, this thesis intends to find out whether fans who consider themselves feminists, at least to a certain degree, would mark *Money Heist* as a feminist television series. Using this show as a feminist symbol during protests (Salerno and Warenburg 2023, 177) proves that some fans consider it a feminist show. However, one of the actresses, Alba Flores, herself claimed in an interview that *Money Heist* is not a feminist production. She admits that there are strong female characters, but the male characters still have much more weight. She also adds that she and a few other female actresses met with the screenwriters about the feminist side of the show. According to Alba Flores, this meeting resulted in the screenwriters themselves saying that *Money Heist* is not dominated by feminism (eCartelera 2020, 8:30).

Thus, this research aims to find out whether fans who consider themselves feminists have a different opinion about this subject. Ultimately, as Andi Zeisler observes, “pop culture is as complicated, frustrating, and full of mixed signals for women as it’s ever been. It’s imperative that feminists continue to analyze it, create it, critique it—and ultimately, make it better” (Zeisler 2008, 148). Although, according to Alba Flores, it was not the intention of the directors to make this a feminist show, some scenes could be referred to as feminist. The fact that it was not a purpose does not mean that fans cannot perceive the show as feminist.

Second, the thesis intends to shed light upon a rarely researched aspect of the contemporary “culture war” in fandom, which is a tangible issue in the field of culture and fan studies these days. Individuals who identify as feminists or feel like they belong to minority groups strive to garner attention by actively demanding more and more minority characters in TV shows. When it comes to minorities, the *Money Heist* Netflix show displays not only the topic of feminism but also issues like facing the challenge of being a non-native resident, which is what the character of Nairobi is experiencing while constantly being called “mutt” (a racial slur of mixed race people) and facing other insults by her enemies. Furthermore, the topic of homosexuality, through the characters of Helsinki or Palermo, is also displayed in the show.

As Suzanne Scott observes, not all fans welcome efforts for diversity in popular culture: frequently, a pushback occurs by mostly heterosexual or white male fans who challenge this overemphasis on political correctness (Scott 2019, 2; Kempshall 2023, 203). For example, some individuals are bothered by the possible impacts of feminism in *Star Wars* and complain that “having two *Star Wars* movies in a row with female protagonists is taking things too far, and [this] is a clear sign of political correctness taking over Hollywood” (Shaw-Williams 2016, as cited in Scott 2019, 26).

This research tries to expose a not-so-explored section of this culture war by focusing on male fans who consider themselves feminists. As the situation around *Star Wars* suggests, male fans, who show antifeminist tendencies, exist in contemporary culture (Scott 2019, 26; Kempshall 2023, 202-204). Nevertheless, there is a considerable lack of research conducted about male fans (primarily white heterosexual male fans) who consider themselves feminists at least to a certain extent. Thus, this thesis aims to discover how these fans perceive *Money Heist*, especially concerning

their views on the mother-detectives, feminism, and the general inclusion of strong female characters in media.

For language enhancement and grammar-checking purposes only, I used Artificial Intelligence Chat GPT 3.5 and Grammarly Edu throughout the thesis to improve my English language drafts. The translation of the interviews was done by Artificial Intelligence, specifically Chat GPT 3.5. However, all ideas in this thesis derive from my own research.

2 *Money Heist* and feminism

Money Heist is a Spanish crime drama, which has been written and directed by Álex Pina, a Spanish director. The premiere of the first season was in 2017. With five seasons in total, the show consists of 48 episodes overall. *Money Heist* won many awards, but the most significant is probably the international Emmy award for *Best Drama Series of 2018*.

Money Heist can be considered a show with a large fan base. This has, however, not always been the case. According to a documentary, in 2017, the first season of the show was released on the Spanish TV channel Antena 3 and was quite a success in Spain, but a slow decline occurred with the second season. The show started to lose its audience, but luckily, Netflix decided to buy it. With this change, the numbers began to grow (Pablo Lejarreta and Santander 2020, 2:57). As Elena Neira and her colleagues observe, "twelve days after the release of the second season, the company announced letter to shareholders (for Q1 2018) that *Money Heist* was the most viewed non-English language series in the platform's history" (Neira, Clares-Gavilán, and Sánchez-Navarro 2021, 10).

All the show's main actors suddenly started gaining thousands of followers on social media from all over the world and realized that the show was getting very famous (Pablo Lejarreta and Santander 2020, 3:17). The show started to interfere with real life, as red jumpsuits and Dali masks, which are a symbol of this show, started to inspire people all around the world. People started wearing them at different kinds of protests, such as civil rights protests or feminist protests (Lejarreta and Santander 2020, 5:50). Another symbol of the *Money Heist* show is the song *Bella Ciao*, an Italian folk song that was rediscovered thanks to this show. People started singing it while fighting for democracy, the environment, or feminism (Lejarreta and Santander 2020,

6:01). As Salerno and Warenburg observe, “Since 2018, the series has revived the use of ‘Bella ciao,’ making it a popular protest song worldwide: from the Chilean ‘estallido social’ (2019) to the 2020–21 Indian farmers’ protests; from the Yellow Vests movement in France and the environmental appropriation by Extinction Rebellion to feminist protests in Spain” (Salerno and Warenburg 2023, 165). The *Bella Ciao* song has been used by feminists multiple times. For example, at the end of 2020, Polish feminists used it to demonstrate abortion rights (Salerno and Warenburg 2023, 177). To conclude, the *Money Heist* show was not just another ordinary Netflix show, but as one of the main actors stated, the show became “a worldwide phenomenon” (Pablo Lejarreta and Santander 2020, 10:35).

The first and second seasons of this show are all centered around a group of robbers who are trying to rob the Royal Mint of Spain. The head of this group is called "The Professor." He is a mysterious middle-aged man who is behind the whole heist. Before the robbery took action, he devised a genius plan and found the perfect group of people for its realization. The next three seasons of *Money Heist* portray a second heist. This time, the robbers are robbing the Bank of Spain with the professor's brother's plan. Both of these heists are investigated by female detectives, who are also mothers, which is crucial for this thesis.

The first character is Raquel Murillo, who is later known by her nickname as "Lisbon." Her character is portrayed by a Basque actress, Itziar Ituño, and is the central figure mainly in the first season of the show. Raquel is a woman living in a man's world since she is a middle-aged inspector working for the National Police Corps. Her position as the chief of the Royal Mint robbery investigation is crucial, especially because she has to make quick decisions since there are many hostages inside the

building. Her strong point is negotiating with the robbers, which is one of her main tasks.

Although she is in charge of the entire investigation of the Royal Mint robbery, and one would have thought she would be well respected, being a woman does not make work life easy for her. She has to endure inappropriate comments from her colleagues. Moreover, she has to deal with the fact that everybody at work knows about her personal life, which is unpleasant. She filed a domestic violence charge against her ex-husband, who also works for the police. On top of that, Internal Affairs believe that the charges Raquel made against her ex-husband are made up.

Raquel is an essential character for this thesis mainly because she is a mother and a detective at once. She and her husband have a daughter, Paula, who is about six years old. When Raquel is working during the robbery, Paula is with her grandmother, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease, which complicates the situation. Paula's grandmother is told never to let Paula go anywhere with her father since there is a restraining order against him.

The second character is Alicia Sierra, who is portrayed by Spanish actress Najwa Nimri. Alicia appeared in Season 3 for the first time and became one of the key figures of the show as she replaced the former police investigator, Raquel. Alicia is the lead police investigator in the case of the Bank of Spain heist. Although she is in an advanced stage of pregnancy, she is believed to be the best detective for this job and, therefore, was called to deal with this case. The character of Alicia is portrayed as highly intelligent. She is known for her punctilious investigative skills and strategic thinking. Also, she does not hesitate to use unconventional methods to achieve her objective. At the beginning of Season 3, she illegally tortures the character of Rio in

order to locate and arrest the leader of the robbers, The Professor, and the rest of the gang. Later, the police department uses this step against her, and she is fired, but she manages to find and catch The Professor on her own.

Beyond her professional qualities, Sierra's personal life adds another layer of complexity to her character. Since her husband died, she has become a single mother who tries to cope with the challenges of balancing her demanding career with her parental obligations. This aspect of her life humanizes her character, offering a glimpse into her vulnerability and providing a broader context for her actions. By the time she is working with the Spanish Government and the CNI, she is nine months pregnant, but she does not let it limit her in any way. Sierra's dedication to her career comes first, and she continues working even though all the stress from such a tense work environment is not healthy for the child. Her main goal is to finish the job. However, not so long after catching The Professor in his hideaway, her water breaks, and she gives birth to her daughter Victoria, which changes the course of her actions. The inescapable tension between her professional obligations and her role as a mother serves as a central theme in her character. Through Sierra's character, the show offers an in-depth portrayal of the impact of parenthood on one's identity.

The portrayal of motherhood combined with a career as a detective on television screens displays an intriguing combination of two conventionally distinct roles. As Gonçalves notes, "many of the feminine sleuths are single women, implicitly establishing, consciously or not, that a mother could not be a true detective owing to her family role" (Gonçalves, as cited in Leon 2014, 14). However, in recent years, some television shows, such as *Money Heist*, *The Lucifer*, *Brooklyn 99*, or *True Detective*, have examined this subject, offering the audience an insight into the challenges and complexities faced by women balancing their professional lives with

the demands of motherhood. The challenge of striking equity between a career and family is one of the most prominent themes in these depictions. Mother-detectives struggle to find a balance between their commitment to their work and their desire to be present for their children, which can lead to stress and conflict. Moreover, the portrayal of motherhood in the detective drama genre challenges traditional gender roles and expectations. The mother detectives defy stereotypes by demonstrating that it is possible to fulfill the roles of motherhood and a detective career at the same time.

Nevertheless, it is an important question whether these female detectives can be deemed as proficient mothers. Tutter comments on the female detectives as follows: “her consummate dedication to her work comes at the expense of her family, partner, and, especially, her children” (Tutter 2023, 471). The author also adds, “When a brilliant female detective cedes her dominance at work, she fares better at home” (Tutter 2023, 472). This observation draws attention to the idea that the surrender of professional dominance may result in more harmony in family environments, which results in the female character becoming a better mother. In Greer’s words, “women are told they can ‘have it all,’ but ultimately are shown that marriage – and, subsequently, motherhood – should take precedence over a career” (Greer 2017, 330). Based on this citation, the author also inclines to the idea that a woman cannot prioritize her career and be an ideal mother.

The structured interviews asked fans if they view Raquel or Alicia as bad mothers since, according to Seidel, motherhood as such is often discussed and portrayed, “cultural representations of bad mothers are often rendered problematic by conventional social expectations of women” (Seidel 2013, 16). The author also adds that: “Because the bad mother is not supposed to exist, many mass media representations tend to demonize her as an aberration. At the same time, we are

fascinated with her, a stock character whose currency is endlessly renewed” (Seidel 2013, 16).

In the view of Tutter, “the contemporary brilliant female detective adheres to a remarkably rigid and stereotypical formulation that invariably compromises critical facets of her humanity and femininity, including her capacity to sustain mature, healthy, intimate relations—in particular, to be a good mother and partner. Thus, she is either voluntarily childless (i.e., barren) or a bad mother” (Tutter 2023, 468). The author also explains that the very traits that make the talented female detective exceptional in her line of work are the ones that make her defective in her personal and family life including motherhood (Tutter 2023, 469). As literature predicates, when a female detective is portrayed as a successful and proficient one, it is very unlikely that she would also be able to fulfill the role of a nurturing mother simultaneously. In Tutter’s words, “for the brilliant female detective, the choice is clear: to be a bad mother or barren” (Tutter 2023, 475). The structured interviews seek to ascertain whether this idea also applies to Raquel and Alicia or whether they are portrayed as caring mothers, according to the fans.

3 *Money Heist* and its fandom

This thesis and research are based on the opinions of fans of the *Money Heist* Netflix show. As Paul Booth observes: “As more and more television shows develop serialized plots that extend beyond the boundaries of the television set, it’s the fan sensibility that is being courted” (Booth 2010, 17). Thus, the range of subjective experiences, emotions, or moods that the fans face during each crucial scene or turning point of the show certainly matters. The impact that the show and its characters have on its audience, in general, can provide insight into the overall impact and significance of the show.

A noteworthy aspect connected to fan sensibility is whether it is possible to be a fan of a particular show and still think critically about some features or characters. For example, one of the crucial characters of *Money Heist* is Berlin, who is intensely misogynistic and frequently assaults women with inappropriate comments. Despite these characteristics, according to a poll (“Poll Results: Favorite ‘La Casa de Papel’ Character - IMDb,” n.d.), he is considered the most favorite character of the series. This can be explained by the fact that, as Alfred Archer states, it is “possible to be a fan of a person or a team whilst maintaining a critical stance towards them” (Archer 2021, 561). This means that people, including feminists, can consider themselves a fan of the character of Berlin, even though they perceive or condemn his misogynistic tendencies. Archer also adds that “fandom also involves overlooking the faults of the beloved” (Archer 2021, 550), which would lead to the observation that fans of Berlin admire him as a character for his positive sides, such as being wise, experienced, a good leader of the gang or his calmness in tense situations, while they remain blindfolded about his misogynistic behavior.

The *Money Heist* show caused a few cultural conflicts and controversy for a range of global audiences. As in the case of *Star Wars* (Scott 2019, 26), there is a tangible cultural conflict in fandom around *Money Heist*, regarding the aspect of feminism and strong female characters in the show.

There are two sides when it comes to the topic of feminism and strong female characters in this series. The first group of fans feels troubled by the feminist aspects of this show, while the second group of fans, mainly feminists, celebrate the strong female characters. Audience members express their opinions on fan websites and social media such as *Reddit* or *Quora*, which serve as the primary source for this chapter.

An author of a post called “Tired of all the post #metoo discourse!” (Marlinlenchanteur 2019) expresses a negative attitude not only towards feminism in *Money Heist* but also towards the #metoo movement:

So, I'm currently watching season 3 and I'm really getting bored to death seeing all the nonsense about feminism and the post #metoo movement.
(Marlinlenchanteur 2019)

Am I the only one fed up with the show constantly turning to a male/female opposition for the sake of criticising men behavior in the series?
(Marlinlenchanteur 2019)

One of the audience members responds to this post by providing additional commentary on LGBTQ aspects:

Don't forget all the homosexual shit they somehow added to the show.

its all because Netflix has gone liberal the past year (Marquee_ 2019)

Other posts which articulate a critical perspective on feminism emphasize the “ridiculous” or “dumb” nature of “forced” feminism in the series, which supposedly distracts the viewer from the storyline. Such participants of the discussion agree that the feminist themes are not integrated naturally into the plot and could have been handled better without overtly bringing sexism into the narrative.

In my opinion this feminism is very forced, (could we call it female chauvinism?, maybe). (NeilTennat 2019)

I just started season 3 and it feels as if it becomes worse: A row between Denver and Monica. He wants to protect her because of the child. Conclusion of the row: He is a dirty sexist and Monica says that "she doesn't want to renounce of the heist only because she is the mother". And then of course Palermo joins and shows his balls talking about patriarchy. That's just too ridiculous and it's getting really annoying. (Sebanimation 2019)

Nairobi's feminism is a bit annoying, but I guess this could just be part of her character. [...] Monica and Denver's argument tho, that was just dumb. (RowanGoldTree 2019; emphasis added)

I hate it too because it sounds very forced. (Thaslal 2019)

However, other audience members, most probably feminist ones, angrily react to these opinions, providing a strong disagreement, which proves the “fight” between the two sides of this cultural conflict:

You need help. (Colonel Angus 2018)

A particular show has *too much* feminist story? IT'S ABOUT FUCKING TIME
(Oveidptvzseu 2018)

In my opinion I think people are looking way too into it. “Let the matriarchy begin” followed by the matriarchy collapsing an episode later is just bad writing, not feminism shoved down our throats. (TryingMyHardestNot2 2019)

In another online discussion, a fan highlights the definition of feminism in order to defend feminism in the show:

The definition of feminism is the equality between men and women in the society. What is your problem with that? Is the equality between white and people of colors bothers you too? (Neptune_Mars 2020)

On the other hand, the last sentence of the fan suggests that this audience member feels overwhelmed by the backstory of the characters and would prefer if the show was centered purely around the heist:

However, they should focus more on finishing the heist than on melodrama between the characters. (Neptune_Mars 2020)

Another frequently discussed topic in the context of *Money Heist* is whether the show is sexist or not. Here, the character of Berlin is often mentioned. Despite his inappropriate behavior towards women, he is considered one of the most favorite characters by fans:

The only 100% sexist character that I remember on that series is Berlin, and I can assure you that no Spanish, nor any other sane human being is like that, thanks God. Still, one of my favourite characters. Like my writing teacher once famously said, “if you want to create a good story, you need to put a big bastard on it”. Berlin and his sleazy, turbocharged sexism fits the bill perfectly. (Collado 2020)

On the other hand, there are also individuals who do not perceive *Money Heist* as a sexist show:

The show is not sexist at all, quite the contrary, but is brave and shows sexism and feminism, and is brave enough to depict a grey area rape and call it by its name (what Berlin does). (Sheridan 2020)

Moreover, some individuals appreciate that the female characters in this show are not sexualized, which can be a prejudice against female detectives:

I enjoy this show because it is the first thing I've watched on Netflix where the women are not outrageously over sexualized. (Mistamoobs 2018)

... they want people to watch it and most american males wont watch something that they see as "a girl show" like *Orange is the new black*. (Mistamoobs 2018)

To summarize, social media and fandom websites provide a clear example of the contemporary culture war. There are fans on the side of feminists, and, on the other side, there are audience members who hold a negative attitude towards the exaggerative portrayal of feminism in *Money Heist*. Judging from these online discussions, people not only mention feminism but also touch on the topic of sexism, sexual assault, the #metoo movement, misandry, gender equality, and political correctness. These are all frequently discussed topics in culture studies these days; what is more, they became visible in my structured interviews, as well.

4 Methodology

The data for this thesis were collected through structured interviews conducted with a sample of 20 individuals (10 male and 10 female) who consider themselves feminist to a certain degree and also self-identify as fans of *Money Heist*. They are hereby marked as M1-10 (the male ones) and F1-10 (the female ones), since they were informed that the structured interview would be anonymous. All participants are between the ages of 20-25.

The participants were selected mainly among university students. The aim was to specifically target individuals who actively express feminist opinions and express a positive stance towards *Money Heist*. Since this thesis aims to detect the difference between the views of male and female fans of *Money Heist*, the participants were equally divided into ten male and ten female participants, ensuring diversity in terms of gender.

The structured interviews were conducted individually with each participant to gather qualitative insights into their feminist beliefs and opinions on *Money Heist*. The interview consists of open-ended questions designed to explore various themes regarding the show, including the portrayal of gender equality, representation of feminism, and other essential subjects. These structured interviews aim to capture a range of perspectives and opinions. Therefore, the participants were asked to provide detailed answers while justifying their arguments.

Each structured interview consists of 10 questions. The first four questions gather essential information, including gender, age, and whether the respondent considers himself a feminist and a fan of *Money Heist*. These four questions were included in the interview to detect whether the individual is suitable for this research.

The following two questions focused on the perceptions of two chosen characters, Raquel and Alicia, mainly regarding their motherhood. Questions 7-9 aim to ascertain how the male and female participants perceive characters such as mother-detectives, who serve as an example of strong and independent female characters in general, and the last question detects whether the respondents perceive this show as feminist or not.

The structured interviews were conducted either in person or online via Google Meet. Each interview session lasted between 20 and 40 minutes, allowing the respondent to express their thoughts. As the interviewer, I maintained a neutral stance toward the questions; therefore, the respondents could express themselves freely. However, the respondents were guarded to avoid deviating from the topic too much. The structured interviews were recorded with a Dictaphone app and later transcribed into Word documents. Since all the respondents are Czech, the interviews were collected in Czech and then translated into English.

After the data from the interviews were transcribed and translated, the responses were systematically analyzed by comparing the responses of male and female respondents. The comparative analysis will be the central focus of the following chapters.

The structured interview questions analyzed in detail in the thesis are questions 7, 8, 9, and 10:

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?
- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

10) Would you mark this show as feminist?

However, some of the responses regarding Raquel or Alicia, in responses to Questions 5-6, and their motherhood are included in the analysis.

5 Analysis

5.1 The Opinions of Male Feminist Fans

This section of the analysis deals with the opinions of male fans of *Money Heist*. Although the structured interview does not directly ask about the subject of cultural war, some respondents started talking about this topic on their own. Exactly seven of the ten male respondents touched on the topic.

According to the structured interviews, the majority of the male respondents hold a positive view on the inclusion of strong female characters in *Money Heist*. However, they express a sense of displeasure coming from forced gender equality in other films or series. This issue is discussed by M10:

There are certain shows where diversity is forced like they have to have a strong female character for the sake of diversity, but here, I liked that the women were still women and not some kind of tomboy trying to be masculine at all costs. These were simply women who had their own interesting attributes, so I found the female roles very interesting, and I would say they were sometimes even more interesting than the male roles. I would say there were more interesting female roles than male roles. So, for me, it was done very well, and I think that is why the show was so successful because it is not a case of having women just to meet some standard. I remember, for example, the series *Sex Education*, which has a lot of characters with feminist traits, and this issue is pushed so much that it can actually annoy people. (M10)

The respondent partly attributes the success of *Money Heists* to its female roles, suggesting that they were perhaps better elaborated than in other series, such as *Sex Education*.

Another example of forced diversity in media, which some respondents mentioned, is *Marvel*. In the words of M9:

In this series, the female characters are not forced, but in some series and movies, it is outright forced, and that bothers me. For example, in *Marvel*, it is pushed too hard, and the effort to cast women just for the sake of gender balance is too obvious. (M9)

Another respondent who mentioned *Marvel* is M1:

I am bothered when TV shows force some female characters just to cast a female, but it did not bother me in this series because they were well-acted, and it made sense for them to be there. But when it does not make sense, like in some modern movies, and there is a woman, then it bothers me a lot. Like now with *Marvel*, it just bothers me. Same with *Star Wars*, it bothers me; it does not fit there, and it is screaming political correctness, which is pointless. *Captain Marvel* also aggressively pushes feminist agendas. That is why I do not watch *Marvel* anymore. They have shifted into such political correctness that it is not very good; it lacks soul. (M1)

This comment reflects a critical perspective on the portrayal of feminism in media. The respondent holds a negative opinion of *Marvel* and *Star Wars*, which aligns with

Suzanne Scott's observation regarding some audience reactions to *Star Wars* (Scott 2019, 26). On the other hand, M1 appreciates that *Money Heist* presents feminism in a balanced manner.

Marvel was also mentioned by M2, who additionally mentioned *Disney* as a negative example, but he highlighted the 2023 *Barbie* movie as a positive illustration of feminist traits integrated effectively into the narrative. He was answering Question 9 as the following:

I would like to see similar characters; I do not mind; I do not see a reason why not. But it must not be forced. Films and series should emphasize the story, script, and characters. They should not be made just to convey the idea of feminism because then it becomes too obvious. *Disney* is now trying to include the idea that no one should be offended in all their creations, but it is not paying off at all because it is at the expense of the story and quality script, and people do not like it. The entire new phase of *Marvel* is going down the drain. The new *Star Wars* too. But then we also have good examples of feminism. For example, the new *Barbie* movie seemed excellent to me because it took those themes and portrayed them well from both sides. It is a general problem nowadays that big brands have to please everyone. (M2)

Another respondent who indicated dissatisfaction over the over-promotion of female characters and the forced gender equality in films and series was M8:

Female characters were portrayed very interestingly and, most importantly, it did not bother anyone. It was not one of those series where you feel like the

creators were trying to please everyone. The women simply fit in and were good at what they did. (M8)

The subject of gender equality was also mentioned by M7, who admires how *Money Heist* managed to balance male and female characters in a healthy measure, unlike other series:

I have noticed that nowadays, gender equality is being strongly promoted, and sometimes it gets on my nerves, but in this case, I found it interesting that the creators included female detectives and other strong female characters like Tokyo or Nairobi. I viewed it positively; it was good that not all the characters were men, and it was nicely balanced. I think this also contributed to its greater reach and appealed to more viewers. (M7)

Out of the ten male respondents, only one responded in a way that is undoubtedly on the side of the minorities (including feminists) in the culture war. This respondent, M6, thinks that films and series still promote men over women. The respondent stated that he would welcome more strong female characters in movies. These are his words:

I believe that it is important to show this topic [that female characters can be in leading positions such as leading detective] more because these characters can challenge traditional gender roles and stereotypes. I feel like films and series, especially these crime or drama genres, are still too men-centered. These

female characters can inspire and empower women by showing the strength and versatility of women. (M6)

In conclusion, according to the structured interviews, male fans express two types of opinions regarding the culture war. Seven respondents out of the eight who touched on the topic of cultural war hold a similar opinion. They feel overwhelmed by modern films and series since they force female characters too much, but they do not perceive this phenomenon to be applicable to *Money Heist*. According to the male respondents, the creators of *Money Heist* effectively achieved balance in the portrayal of male and female characters. Despite the inclusion of strong female characters, such depictions were perceived as sensible and coherent with the thematic essence of the narrative. One respondent out of the eight who touched on the topic of the culture war would welcome more strong female characters in films and series since the media, in his view, still keeps promoting strong male characters at the expense of female ones. Two respondents out of the total number of ten did not mention anything regarding this topic in their responses.

5.2 The Opinions of Female Feminist Fans

According to the structured interviews, all female respondents hold a positive view on including strong female characters in *Money Heist*. However, two female respondents indicated concern about it becoming a stereotypical topic. The first female respondent to mention this was F4:

On the one hand, yes, I like seeing such characters, but on the other hand, I would not want it to become some kind of stereotype where everything is the same, turning the characters into archetypes. So yes, it's interesting and I would like to see something similar, but I always like it as a side theme to the main one, which in this case was a very action-packed heist. I think it fits well into the genre, and I liked the contrast between the action-packed heist and the glimpse into the family life, showing that the character deals with real problems at home like any other person. I think it's great that the show gives insight into the problems a woman and mother faces in such a work position. (F4)

The second female respondent expressing this concern is F10, who emphasizes that to avoid career women becoming cliché, they must always be portrayed engagingly, as in *Money Heist*:

In my opinion, it is quite common in TV series to depict a career woman. It reminds me of a love triangle, except here, the triangle consists of a woman, a child, and a career. However, it is also a current and unavoidable topic, and men are still generally perceived as more career-driven, so why not balance it

out? To avoid becoming a cliché, the series needs to present this theme in an interesting way, which was successful in this case. (F10)

The other respondents who touched on some of the topics of the culture war expressed support for integrating strong female characters, such as mother detectives, in TV series and films. F5 and F6 view the inclusion of strong female characters in media as significantly beneficial. F5 suggests that media should portray such characters more often:

I would definitely like to see it more often, and it should be depicted more because in other films, the theme of career and motherhood isn't really addressed, in my opinion. Regarding other series, I remember *Ginny and Georgia*, where the mom (Georgia) was such a mega girl boss, and *Euphoria*, where one of the main characters was transgender. It didn't bother me, but it might bother some people with controversial opinions. (F5)

F6 would also prefer balancing male and female characters in media:

I think that TV series and films don't show such characters [female detectives] enough. When I think of various films like *James Bond* or *Mission Impossible*, the main character is always a man and everything is done by men. Women are in very few films, so this should be balanced. I can't recall any other detective series right now. When there are detective stories in films, the women are usually childless and seem to have no life outside of work. Generally, these female detectives don't want to endanger their families with their work and are

alone, dedicating their entire lives to their jobs. This is the case, for example, in the series *Without a Trace*, *NCIS*, and similar crime shows. (F6)

The other six female respondents also stated that they would prefer to see characters such as mother-detectives in media more frequently and provided various comments to justify their opinion. The most common response from these female respondents was that characters such as mother-detectives prove and can inspire women, showing that to combine a demanding career with motherhood is possible.

All of these respondents agree that they would like to see similar characters like mother-detectives in other series and films and perceive the inclusion of such characters as significant. Moreover, these respondents agree that *Money Heist* managed to incorporate the mother-detectives into the narrative in an original way. Some of the respondents also provided an example of other shows containing a mother-detective.

In conclusion, according to the structured interviews, female fans express two kinds of opinions regarding the culture war and strong female characters such as mother-detectives in media. Two respondents are concerned that strong female characters such as mother-detectives may become stereotypical if not portrayed in an unusual and fresh manner. However, they believe that *Money Heist* did manage to incorporate the two mother-detectives in an enriching way. The eight other female respondents express a strongly positive stance towards the integration of strong female characters who combine motherhood with a career in media. Moreover, they explained that more balance between male and female characters is generally desirable in other media programs.

5.3 Results

The responses to the following research questions relevant to the analysis will now be briefly summarized.

Table 1

Question number:	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10
7)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
8)	Not exactly	No	Not exactly	Not exactly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
9)	Yes with concerns	Yes with concerns	Yes	Yes with concerns	Yes	Yes	Yes with concerns	Yes with concerns	Yes with concerns	Yes with concerns
10)	Yes	No	Not exactly	Not exactly	Yes	Yes	Not exactly	Yes	Not exactly	Yes

Table 2

Question number:	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10
7)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
8)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
9)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes with concerns	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes with concerns
10)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Not exactly

As for Question 7, none of the male and female respondents responded negatively towards including female characters in leading positions in this show. Both male and female respondents acknowledge the importance and positive impact of including female characters in this show and appreciate the balance in portraying male and female characters. Both groups positively evaluate that the show effectively integrates strong female characters in a natural and contextually appropriate manner, which means that they strongly disagree with the opinions of some participants of the culture war who expressed their negative views on the female characters of the show on social media.

The interviews reveal several particularly compelling reasons why the series – and popular media in general – should depict strong female characters such as mother-detectives. The first reason is that the portrayal of characters such as mother-detectives in the media breaks down traditional gender roles and acknowledges that women can excel in demanding work professions while also being mothers (M6; M8). Characters such as mother-detectives can make the audience feel inspired since these characters showcase the resilience of women while demonstrating that balancing career and family is possible:

These female characters can inspire and empower women by showing the strength and versatility of women. (M6)

I think it's important to show that females are able to work as a detective and can be great at this job. (M3)

I liked how strong Raquel was in achieving the most she could in her career. Despite being abused and blackmailed by her husband, she didn't break down and was excellent at her job. She managed to raise a child on her own, take care of her sick mother, and handle a demanding career – a great element showing that a woman is capable of many things. (F8)

The second reason why media should portray strong female characters such as mother detectives, which some respondents mentioned, is resembling reality. The respondents appreciate the accurate portrayal, mainly of Raquel's character. Reflecting on the challenges of balancing career and personal life makes the narrative more authentic and relatable for the audience (M8; F4; F5). The third reason why the inclusion of characters such as mother-detectives may be beneficial is because these characters make the show significantly more exciting and engaging (M3; M6; M8; M10).

As for Question 8, three male respondents answered with a yes, four with a no, and the other three answered neutrally, saying that they did not mind the feminist trends, but it did not strictly make them enjoy the show more. Nine female respondents answered Question 8 with a yes, and only one answered no, which indicates that female fans tend to enjoy the feminist trends in the show significantly more than male fans and also that the feminist themes in the show were a critical element that made the show enjoyable for the female audience.

As for Question 9, the main difference implies hypothetical concerns about the “forced” or “stereotypical” female characters in media in general. The majority (seven) of the male respondents expressed disapproval of the forced and irrelevant female characters in other TV shows and films but *Money Heist*, whereas female respondents

did not mention any examples of films or shows where female characters seem forced. Two of the female respondents indicated a light concern that strong female characters like mother-detectives might become stereotypical if they are not portrayed in an unusual manner. While only one male respondent remarked that he would welcome more strong female characters in media, the general attitude of male respondents leaned more towards being overwhelmed by the current excessive inclusion of female characters in media. On the other hand, female fans provide an explicit call for increased representation of female characters in media. Female fans not only appreciate the balance between male and female characters, but also emphasize the need for more frequent inclusion of female characters in leading positions who combine careers with motherhood, like Raquel and Alicia.

In Question 10, respondents were asked to justify their opinion and specify in what aspect the show was or was not feminist. Some provided specific scenes as an example to explain their perspective. On the one hand, *Money Heist* features strong, independent female characters like Nairobi, Tokyo, or Raquel, who challenge traditional gender stereotypes by showcasing female leadership, which indicates a shift towards women's empowerment. On the other hand, the show also presents examples of misogyny, mainly by the character of Berlin. His sexist comments and terrible treatment of women create a contrast with the feminist traits of the show.

The first reason why male respondents perceive the show as feminist is that the show portrayed some essential traits and disproved some gender-based prejudices:

I probably would label it as a feminist show since there are important themes that should be heard. Such as it is possible to be a woman and a leader and it is possible to give orders to men when you are a woman in a leading position. I

don't like the stereotype that only a man can be the boss. I think whoever is better at the job should be the boss. (M6)

I would probably label it as feminist because there are important themes there that are good to know about. It was important, and it was nice that they subtly introduced it. It emerged from social prejudices, and it created a nice demonstration of that. I think the first series showed them that feminists are responding, and then the creators decided to introduce Alice. (M1)

The second reason why the show can be perceived as feminist, which was mentioned by some male respondents, is because the show contains many strong female characters (M5; M8; M10). M8 and M10 highlights that although the show includes many strong female characters, their casting does not feel forced, suggesting that some other films or shows do forcibly cast female characters in leading positions. M4 stated that the feminism was mainly in the two mother-detectives:

I perceived it as that the feminism being depicted primarily through Raquel and Alicia from the perspective of their motherhood. (M4)

Although one half of the male respondents inclines more to the opinion that the show is not feminist, no specific reasons were provided to justify their answer. The only respondent who reasoned his response was M2:

I would definitely not call it feminist, as it is not the main theme of the series. However, feminism was represented in the fact that the main investigators were women. (M2)

The opinions of female respondents on the perception of *Money Heist* as feminist are pretty unequivocal. Unlike male respondents, most of the female respondents perceive the show as feminist. One of the most common arguments is, just as was the case with male respondents who perceived the show as feminist, that the show contains strong female characters. Raquel, as a female detective, was mentioned by many respondents (F2; F4; F5; F7).

Not only female detectives but also other characters like members of the robbery team were mentioned as examples of characters who, according to the female respondents, represent feminism:

Additionally, there were other characters like Tokyo, Nairobi, and Monica. So, in my opinion, the series perfectly challenged traditional gender roles, such as the idea that men are tough and women shouldn't handle weapons, etc. In this series, women and men were on the same level, which I thought was great. I really liked the tough women. (F5)

On the other hand, two female respondents answered that they would not mark *Money Heist* as a feminist show, although they admit that it has some feminist features (F9; F10).

To conclude, all of the male and female respondents responded positively towards including female characters in leading positions in this show. Several reasons why the series should, according to the respondents, portray strong female characters, such as mother-detectives, were mentioned. Out of the total number of ten male respondents, seven of them mentioned concerns about the overrepresentation of women in media in general. On the other hand, out of ten female respondents, only two touched on this topic, proving that the male audience is generally more concerned about forcing gender equality in media and perceives this theme more significantly than the female audience.

As for Question 10, there is a major difference in this case, as female respondents perceive feminism in *Money Heist* more significantly than male ones. 8 female participants responded with a “yes,” while only 5 male ones did so. Both male and female respondents who consider the show feminist give very similar reasons. The most common answer from both male and female respondents is that the show portrays female characters who challenge traditional gender roles. The most frequent examples were the mother detectives, who managed to combine motherhood with a very demanding career and were in the leading position where they had to give orders to men. Another frequently mentioned example was the characters of Nairobi and Tokyo, who were, on the other hand, the critical parts of the team of robbers. These characters are admired, among others, for repeatedly standing up to Berlin, the gang’s leader.

Both male and female respondents who would not mark the show as feminist still admit that it contains many feminist features.

5.4 Interpretation

The structured interviews resulted in a few significant points. Firstly, regarding the perspective on the culture war, the structured interviews show that the male audience is generally slightly more concerned about forcing gender equality in media and perceives this theme more significantly than the female audience. On the other hand, both male and female respondents provided several reasons why the media should portray strong female characters, such as mother-detectives. Secondly, regarding the perception of the show as feminist, the results show that the female audience is generally slightly more inclined towards the feminist aspects of the show. Furthermore, significantly more female respondents mark this show as feminist than male respondents.

The responses to Question 8, whether the feminist trends in *Money Heist* made participants watch or enjoy the show, indicates that for female respondents, the strong female characters of *Money Heist* are simply more relatable. Female respondents seem more empathetic towards female characters, which is proven, for example, by some of them mentioning that they can imagine how challenging the situation must have been for Raquel. For example, F2 mentioned that she deeply felt empathy for what Raquel was going through, while F5 mentioned how sorry she felt for Raquel when she was worried about her daughter. This emotional bond with the female characters made the series more enjoyable and engaging for the female fans since women tend to feel more empathic sadness towards female characters than men (Stuijzand et al. 2016, 434).

Another reason why female fans might have enjoyed the feminist trends in the show more than male ones is because the strong and independent female characters serve as role models for the female audience (Melnick 2002, 44; Wakefield 2001, 131).

Characters such as Raquel, Alicia, Nairobi, or Tokyo demonstrate intelligence, endurance, and leadership, which may seem inspiring and contribute to the enjoyment of the show. On the other hand, male respondents are, according to the structured interviews, more interested in other aspects of the show, such as action and the tension connected with heist planning and strategy. These themes seem to be more critical to male respondents than the feminist traits of the show.

Regarding Question 9, according to the structured interviews, many respondents, especially males, fear superficial feminism in media. The respondents expressed a concern that strong female characters may become “forced” or “stereotypical” if portrayed too often and in an unoriginal manner in media, and they mentioned *Marvel*, *Disney* and the *Star Wars* franchises as examples. These responses are the most difficult to clarify, because, based on secondary literature on the franchises in question, there are two plausible interpretations to explain this. First, it is entirely possible that the respondents are somewhat influenced by the antifeminist pushback of mostly heterosexual or white male fans who challenge the supposed overemphasis on political correctness (Scott 2019, 2), stating that things are going “too far” in this direction (Scott 2019, 26). The fact that Kempshall (2023, 203, 204) uses the term “forced diversity” to describe the discourse of white supremacists and antifeminists in the *Star Wars* fandom is exceptionally telling.

On the other hand, the second way to interpret this concern is that although female characters symbolize empowerment, they may lack other human traits which make them relatable and realistic. As Podoshen (2021, 132) comments, this can indicate tokenism, a situation whereby “those from minority groups (such as African Americans, women, etc.) fill roles that are perceived as reserved for members of the majority or dominant group.” This means that instead of “meaningful inclusion,”

“realistic portrayals” and “authentic representations” that resonate with the fans (2021, 133) marginalized people are “included merely for institutional benefit” (2021, 132) to lure more viewers and readers. As this happened in case of several *Marvel* comics, “many loyal readers saw *Marvel’s* changes as overly opportunistic, artificial, and perhaps rushed, especially at the expense of doing it right” (Podoshen 2021, 134). Koushik and Reed’s article about *Disney’s* commodification of feminism and *Star Wars* confirms the potential risk of portraying female characters for the purpose of satisfying a potential market demand: “while the incorporation of major female characters seems to be positive, ultimately it amounts to little more than tokenism done in the interest of serving marketplace interests” (2018, 9).

The respondents highlighted in their responses to Questions 5-7 that by casting significant female characters, such as the ones from *Money Heist*, who are well thought-through and enrich the narrative in various ways, gender equality can be achieved without upsetting the audience. According to de Bruin-Mole, when discussing a popular storyworld’s engagement with feminism, an important factor is “whether a storyworld contains engaging, fully realized female characters” (de Bruin-Mole 2018, 228). As Podoshen observes, audiences detest “Mary Sue” characters, that is, female characters who are “flawless and immeasurably strong, without any real downsides or vulnerabilities” (2021, 137).

The respondents highlighted that they appreciate the female characters in *Money Heist* since they have an interesting background and vulnerabilities, and they are well-integrated into the narrative. This is valued by the respondents in the character of Raquel, as they appreciate that the series shows her emotions and weaknesses, which brings her closer to the audience. This was mentioned, for example, by M10 when he was describing the character of Raquel: “The family background added an

extra layer of depth to her character, and because she's a mother raising a child on her own, it made the story more developed.”

According to Koushik and Reed, *Disney* is using the narrative language of feminism and women's movements in lieu of crafting female characters that are more than simply female versions of male character archetypes. This should not be framed as a successful feminist narrative. In order for a narrative or a character to be successfully feminist, that character or story should be conceived in such a way that her gender is a part of who she is, not simply a consequence of a marketing strategy constructed to broaden the audience of a film in the interest of selling merchandise (Koushik and Reed 2018, 9).

The complex feminine character is something that one of the male respondents also mentioned while describing why he welcomed the feminist attributes in *Money Heist*: “I liked that the women were still women and not some kind of tomboy trying to be masculine at all costs. These were simply women who had their own interesting attributes, so I found the female roles very interesting” (M10). This respondent appreciates that female characters in *Money Heist* manage to maintain their feminine side and suggests that portraying female characters in a masculine way may shed a negative light on feminism. As research indicates, “Female characters are acting in more stereotypically masculine ways, but male characters are not displaying feminine behaviors. This likely reflects the privileged status of males, and denigrates the feminine” (Hentges and Case in Booth and Larsen 2019, 118).

Lastly, regarding Question 10, the reason why more female respondents than male respondents perceive the show as feminist might be because women are generally more aware of and affected by gender inequality since they may even have a personal experience with it (García-González, Forcén, and Jimenez-Sanchez 2019, 11).

Therefore, women are more likely to recognize feminist traits in media. On the other hand, some of the male feminist respondents may not have experienced gender inequality personally or observed it as closely as female ones, which may lead to a lack of understanding of the significance of such portrayals. However, some of the male respondents indicated that even though they do not perceive the show as feminist, they understand that females might view it differently.

6 Conclusion

This bachelor's thesis aimed to detect whether the gender of feminist fans of *Money Heist* impacts their opinions regarding topics such as feminism, culture war, and mother-detectives. The thesis is partly based on secondary literature concerning fandom and feminism, partly on social media research, and mainly on structured interviews with chosen respondents, whose opinions serve as the basis for this thesis.

The theoretical part provided a brief overview of the fandom of *Money Heist*, especially the audience members' opinions shared on social media regarding the feminist topics of the culture war. It also intended to explain which types of questions were used for the structured interviews, what the reason for their inclusion was, and how they are related to culture studies.

The analytical part of this thesis analyzed the opinions of twenty respondents equally divided between 10 male and 10 female respondents who self-identify as fans of *Money Heist* and feminists to a certain degree, comparing the opinions of male and female respondents. This comparison aimed to detect how gender can influence the perception of various aspects of the show, such as cultural perspectives, views on chosen characters, and the overall attitude towards the feminist aspects of the series.

The three main conclusions of the analytical part are the following:

1) My participants significantly differ from those members of the audience who condemn and criticize the "forced" inclusion of strong female characters in *Money Heist*. This indicates that those members of the audience who consider themselves feminists to a certain degree and fans of the show are in favour of the strong female characters and mother-detectives in *Money Heist*.

2) Nevertheless, some negative views on the increased inclusion of female characters in recent popular culture still appeared in the responses of my participants, especially in case of the male fans. This indicates that these views are quite influential in the fandom of *Money Heist*, in a way similar to the culture wars surrounding the *Star Wars*, *Disney* and *Marvel* franchises. It remains somewhat open whether this is the influence of right wing antifeminism or the media industry's practice of tokenism, unconvincing storylines and weak characterization, but the respondents' overall opinion rather indicates the latter.

3) More empathy towards feminist issues and characters were discernible in the female participants, which indicates that the strong female characters of *Money Heist* are potentially more relatable to women than men who consider themselves feminists (Wakefield 2001, 133).

This thesis intended to contribute to the broader discussion on gender representation in films and series and media use on a sample audience by analyzing the commonalities and differences in the views of male and female feminist fans of the *Money Heist* Netflix show. Further research might expand this thesis with a more detailed analysis that would explore other significant characters from *Money Heist* and thus touch not only the theme of feminism but also other timely topics such as race or LGBTQ, since they were also represented by various characters in the show. Furthermore, different age groups, educational backgrounds, and nationalities of the fans could be compared with a more extensive sample. More focused questions of the culture war could help to decide to what extent right wing antifeminism and the media industry's practice of tokenism influence feminist viewers. Such lines of research could be conducted in a Master's Thesis.

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8 Appendices

F1

1) **I am a:**

- a) Male
- b) Female

2) **I am:**

- a) 21 years old

3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**

- a) Yes
- b) To some extent
- c) No

4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**

- a) Yes
- b) To some extent
- c) No

5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Raquel seemed like a good person to me, but when it comes to motherhood, not so much because she didn't have time for her daughter and instead pursued her career. There was even a scene where the little girl told her that she would rather be with her dad because her mom didn't have time for her, so I don't consider her a good mother. I think such a demanding career cannot be reconciled with motherhood, maybe only if the daughter were older, but when she's so young like this, I would rather devote myself to her than become distant from my own child. I would rate her a 6, because she was a good person, but her motherhood wasn't ideal.

6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

She seemed to behave as if she wasn't even pregnant. She didn't do anything typical of pregnancy, like resting. She kept doing her own thing and didn't consider the pregnancy at all. During pregnancy, she was definitely a bad mother. After giving birth, there was a bit of a turnaround. Overall, I disliked her character; she seemed very negative, insensitive, and unsympathetic. I would rate her a 4, because she didn't behave during pregnancy as she should have.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

Yes. It was interestingly portrayed, and I liked that it makes the viewer reflect on it. I think Alicia's irresponsibility as a mother influenced my overall view of her.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

Yes, I perceive it positively. It's a deviation from the norm and it highlights that women also have the right to such positions in the workplace and can handle it excellently.

- 9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?**

This series handled it very interestingly. It was not just about feminism; there was something else going on all the time. It is hard to say if other films could depict this theme in such an interesting way; I can not judge that. But I would like to see this theme more often. I think it fit well there and they integrated it well into that genre.

- 10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?**

Probably yes. I would definitely choose the side of Nairobi and the other women. Berlin constantly insulted and disrespected women. Women have the same rights as men, and that should be respected.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 24 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I think Raquel is definitely a good mom. I believe the fact that she is a mother influences her position as a policewoman a lot. You can see this, for example, in the scene where she's working on a case and her mom calls her saying something's happening with her daughter—her ex-husband took their daughter, and Raquel immediately leaves work to go after her. So, I think this shows that Raquel is a good mom because her daughter always comes first for her, and being a mother influences her work. Motherhood can definitely be combined with a detective career, and Raquel is proof of that. Raquel was one of my favorite characters ever; I would give her a solid 9 because I liked how determined she was, how she managed everything, how she balanced her work and personal life. I really admired her, and I felt deeply connected to her throughout everything.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Many people might perceive Alicia negatively, but I actually liked her even more than Raquel; I would easily give her a 10. My rating is connected to the fact that I think she is a great mother. I liked the scene where she points her gun at the professor, saying she's thinking about her child; she knows she's pregnant and tells him she won't shoot him because someone will need her for the next 18 years. So, I think she's always thinking about her child, even if it may not seem that way at first glance. I believe she would breathe for that child.

The fact that she's doing everything alone, with no one helping her after her husband died, earns my admiration even more. I really liked her in the series.

Regarding balancing her career and motherhood, I think that at such an advanced stage of pregnancy, she should have taken time off and rested more to avoid endangering the child, especially since she acted in tense situations. So, I think she's a good mom, but the combination of motherhood and her career wasn't entirely suitable. I think motherhood influenced her a lot, affecting her decisions differently; for example, if she wasn't pregnant, she might have seriously shot the professor.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

I think the characters Raquel and Alicia were portrayed very interestingly. Each of them was in a completely different situation—one already has an older daughter and the other is pregnant. However, I believe both were portrayed very intriguingly and both were very strong personalities. I really liked the theme of motherhood and career in the series—I liked the contrast there, seeing that in both cases, they are very important women, both have children, and both are significantly influenced by their children.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

I really liked that Raquel was the first character where we might have expected a male investigator for such a big case, but it was actually a woman—very interesting and very smart. And as for Alicia, it's the same case—they could have chosen a strong man instead of her as a negotiator who would instill fear with muscles, but they chose a pregnant woman who knew how to handle it with words, and she was simply in the right place. So, I really liked that in the main roles on the "good" side—the police—both were women in both cases. So yes, I really liked that and enjoyed the series more because of it.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

I would like to see similar characters. For example, I love the Netflix show *Lucifer*, where the main investigator is Chloe, who has a daughter. So, I think it is a trend that could appear more frequently. I believe it is important for such characters to be represented in series.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Belin's (misogynist)?

To a certain extent, I consider the show to be feminist, definitely not misogynistic; rather, I lean towards feminism. The show demonstrates this by featuring women in leading roles on the side of "good"—the police trying to stop the heist. These women are very smart and calculated. Even on the side of "evil"—the robbers—there are also very smart and strong women like Tokyo or Nairobi, who often outsmart men. So, the show portrays this in multiple ways, but I perceived feminism most strongly in the fact that the lead investigator of the national robbery is a woman in both cases. I would definitely align more with Nairobi's side, because I consider myself a feminist too.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 22 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I think it was very difficult for Raquel to balance motherhood and her career, and she had to make various compromises. Sometimes she had to neglect her daughter Paula because she had to be at work all the time. However, I think she tried to find a balance, and her family life was portrayed frequently in the series. The audience had enough information about her and could see how she felt and that it troubled her. For example, the scene where she called the Professor about Paula showed how much she cared about her daughter. During the investigation, she also had to deal with family issues, such as when Paula's father took her away despite a court order. These personal matters made her life more difficult. I believe family matters were more important to her than her work, even though her work was her life's mission. She always realized that family is irreplaceable. In my opinion, it wasn't possible to give 100% to both because her work demanded a lot of time that she missed with her daughter. I would rate her an 8 because I found her character likable. I think the character was well-written, and I liked her development, including her interactions with the Professor. Her decision to join the robbers and change sides was very interesting. Overall, her storyline had a very interesting development. I think it was typical for her character to always tie her hair with a pencil during negotiations. I liked this detail because it's memorable and everyone associates it with her.

- 6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I think there was a big twist when Alicia gave birth. Compared to Raquel, Alicia was quite different in my opinion. She didn't let being a mother affect her as much. For example, the scene where Alicia was driving with the baby and almost crashed into the oncoming car just because she was stubborn—that was extreme, something I don't think Raquel would do. Alicia was determined to achieve her goals, and her career was very important to her. Unlike Raquel, I don't consider Alicia a good mother; she's portrayed as completely inconsiderate and relentless in her investigations. I think when a mother doesn't give attention to her child from early on, it can have consequences in the future. I didn't like Alicia as much as Raquel, but she was interesting and created tension in the series. However, I didn't approve of her methods, like torture, and her cunning and arrogance. She was an extremist. So, in terms of what she brought to the story, I'd give her a 6, but in terms of her character traits, I would rate her lower.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

When I was watching it, I wasn't thinking critically and didn't really notice it much, but upon reflecting on it now, I think it was really fascinating. I believe this portrayal of strong female characters disrupts traditional gender roles and stereotypes, and it strengthens the position of women, especially in an industry dominated by men. For instance, in the tent where the investigation was taking place, Raquel was the only woman and held the highest authority there. It was evident that she stood up against the colonel who tried to undermine her, yet she wielded greater power. I think this theme was portrayed very effectively. When combined with motherhood, it becomes even more powerful that a mother can function, albeit not perfectly, in such a role.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

Yes, it's definitely important to portray such strong female characters in the series. For example, they balanced out characters like Berlin, who had issues in how he treated women, such as when he assaulted Ariadna. I like the contrast between such male characters and the strong women who resist them. It would be boring if there were only men and no one challenged them in their lives.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

I believe that films should definitely portray these various perspectives because it illustrates the challenges of balancing personal and career life. Especially these days, I think it is quite important, as in the past, career was not as prominent for women, whereas now it is relevant because many women either delay having children until after their career or seek to combine both. Thus, I find it to be a very current topic. This series might inspire women that it is possible to have a child and maintain a career. It is certainly not a common theme for this genre, but I think it was creatively and effectively depicted here, fitting well into the series. Without it, the storyline would have been less compelling.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's

I would probably call it a feminist show; there are definitely feminist elements. For example, when Nairobi took over the leadership of the heist, it showed that women can also take charge, make tough decisions, and are not afraid. They are just as valuable as men, if not more so, in the heist. Women were depicted as very beneficial to the heist. Berlin repulsed me, and I didn't like him because of how he treated women. Women didn't put men down, insult them, or take revenge on them, but Berlin did this to women on a daily basis. I would definitely rather join Nairobi's side.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 22 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

In my opinion, she didn't take care of her daughter much because she was always at work. So, I think that given her job, it didn't affect her much because she was always working and didn't pay much attention to the little girl, so I don't consider her a very good mother. Even the little girl complained that her mother didn't have time for her and that she would rather live with her father. Raquel told her that they wouldn't see each other much and Paula replied that they already don't see each other much now. But on the other hand, when Paula wanted to live with her father, Raquel acted like a good mother because she tried to explain to Paula that her father had done some bad things. I think in her case, it's not possible to combine motherhood and a career because the job is so time-consuming and dangerous that she doesn't have enough time for her daughter to provide her with a normal childhood, and there were also scenes where Raquel had to face threats aimed against her daughter, so I think it affects her performance at work and puts her child in danger. In my opinion, she should have declined the position because of her daughter, but I understand why she didn't because she's good at her job and enjoys it. But she should probably try to find more time for Paula and set some boundaries or arrange childcare, for example, with a nanny. I would rate her a 6 because the character itself didn't seem particularly interesting to me. She was a female detective, which I've seen before in shows like "Lucifer" or "Brooklyn Nine-Nine". I liked that she was smart, but I didn't like that she neglected her child, and in the end, I think she didn't do well at either – motherhood or her career. I feel like she sacrificed the little girl's childhood for her work.

- 6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I think that it didn't affect her and she was fully dedicated to her work until she gave birth. Because as long as she had the baby in her belly, she didn't think at all about being pregnant. At a time when she should have been calm and preparing for childbirth, she was chasing criminals. But then when she started giving birth, I think a turning point occurred. First, she let the Professor go so he could help her with the delivery. Overall, after giving birth, I think she became a good mother, she was caring, held her child, and tried to ensure the baby was safe. She wanted to be cautious because of her daughter, and when the Professor sent her to find the gold, she initially doubted it because she was thinking about her daughter's safety and was reluctant to go on the mission. I understand that policewomen are like any other women and therefore want families and children, but I think it's a job that is very hard to combine with motherhood. In my opinion, it's probably necessary to have a partner who is willing to stay at home with the child and take on the parental role, but in this show, both detectives were single mothers, making it even more unrealistic to combine the two. I would rate Alicia an 8 because she seemed much more interesting to me than Raquel and had extensive character development. I appreciate that she was smart and resourceful, and I also found her character simply original. With Raquel, it was clear that the creators tried to make her a positive character, which can't be said about Alicia. She didn't seem like a positive character to me, but her development was interesting.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

Yes. I've seen this theme in a few series like *Lucifer* or *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, and I like it. In this series, I found it interestingly portrayed because it also addressed topics like domestic violence and similar issues, which definitely added something extra to the show.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

Yes, I liked that women were represented in important positions. Not only the detectives, but also the character of Monica. She was very interesting, she accidentally got pregnant and then dealt with the right to have an abortion. Other characters like Tokyo and Nairobi were also very strong.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

On one hand, yes, I like seeing such characters, but on the other hand, I wouldn't want it to become some kind of stereotype where everything is the same, turning the characters into archetypes. So yes, it's interesting and I would like to see something similar, but I always like it as a side theme to the main one, which in this case was a very action-packed heist. I think it fit well into the genre, and I liked the contrast between the action-packed heist and the glimpse into the family life, showing that the character deals with real problems at home like any other person. I think it's great that the show gives insight into the problems a woman and mother faces in such a work position. I particularly liked the contrast between the action-packed heist and the glimpse into family life, where we see the character dealing with real problems at home like any other person. I think it's great that the series shows the kind of issues a woman and mother in such a job position faces.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

Yes, I would label it as a feminist series because it features strong female protagonists both among the robbers and the detectives. For example, Raquel is the superior of men who listen to her and follow her orders without having any issues with a woman holding an authoritative position. In my opinion, the feminist side is more pronounced, even though Berlin was provocative and even raped someone, which is a significant issue. However, what stood out more to me was that women tried to stand up to him and take command, and they succeeded in doing so. So, in the end, I feel like the women's side sort of prevailed. Additionally, apart from Berlin, I don't think anyone else there was misogynistic. Maybe that's why he stood out, but he was alone against several strong women.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 22 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Due to her child, she cannot fully devote herself to her daughter. It was interesting how she had to immediately switch multiple times from her work life to personal life when she was called to work because something was happening with her daughter. It was evident that it was important to her, and I also felt that it disrupted her work, but it still wasn't extreme considering how much she sacrificed for her job, risking her life and her family's. I would say she's a good mother because even though she does such a tough job, she tries to balance it with family life and does what she can for it. However, I think if she had a different job, it would definitely benefit her relationship with her daughter. If she didn't have such an extreme case like this heist, the career of being a detective and a mother could definitely be reconciled. Actually, Raquel also tried to do that and somehow managed it. I would rate her a 7. It seemed like an unexpected plot twist when she later joined the robbers; that was very interesting. I thought it was really great that a woman held such a high work position and was such a girl boss. The problem with gender stereotypes is, unfortunately, still a very relevant topic today, and women are often considered inferior just because they are women. So, I appreciated casting Raquel as a woman, and moreover, a mother, who is also the lead investigator.

- 6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

It seemed to me that Alicia would go completely overboard and prioritize her career above all else, with motherhood being a totally subordinate matter for her. She was in her ninth month of pregnancy and chasing villains there, but then when she gave birth, I felt she started to realize she had a child and something to protect, yet her career still seemed to come first for her. I remember the scene where she drove towards Marseille, and just because of her stubbornness, she endangered the life of her child. So, in my opinion, she definitely wasn't a good mother. It was, in my opinion, quite an extreme case of motherhood. As an investigator, she was excellent, and everyone had tremendous respect for her. Even men admired her. For being such a girl boss, I'd give her a 9, but for being a bad mom and a bit of a witch, I'd give her a 4.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

When I was watching the series, I didn't really notice it, but now that it's been pointed out to me, I find it incredibly interesting how it challenges traditional gender roles. In other movies and series, such positions are typically occupied by either men or women, but their family life isn't shown. I can't think of any other films where the background of these characters has been depicted. I think it's great to depict this combination because it brings us closer to the character and shows us what they deal with outside of work and cases, such as their concerns at home and in relationships like all of us. However, on the other hand, I felt really sorry for Raquel when she was struggling because of her daughter. Certainly, portraying this combination is important, and it should be shown more. When you hear "heist drama," it wouldn't occur to me at all that this theme, let alone their motherhood, could be incorporated there, but it doesn't seem completely off-topic to me. I appreciated that the creators included it.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

Whenever there was a scene where women did something cool, I always thought to myself, "Yes, that's awesome!" So, I definitely enjoyed it more because of that. For example, I liked how everyone had immense respect for Alicia. If I saw men in those positions, it probably wouldn't have interested me as much, but seeing women in those roles always made me think it was really cool.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

Yes, I would definitely like to see it more often and it should be depicted more because in other films, the theme of career and motherhood isn't really addressed in my opinion. Regarding other series, I remember 'Ginny and Georgia,' where the mom (Georgia) was such a mega girl boss, and 'Euphoria,' where one of the main characters was transgender. It didn't bother me, but it might bother people with controversial opinions who might think that minorities are being cast just to avoid offending anyone. I find it very interesting because it challenges traditional gender roles. In other films and series, men or women usually hold such positions, but their family life is not shown. I can't think of any other example where the background of a character and the combination of motherhood and career are depicted. I think it's great to show this combination because it brings us closer to the character, and we see what they deal with outside of work and the case. They have concerns at home and in their relationships, just like all of us. On the other hand, I felt very sorry for Raquel when she was troubled because of her daughter. Depicting this combination is definitely important and should be shown more often.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

The feminism was definitely depicted by having two main investigators, both of whom were women who had to deal with motherhood. Firstly, this isn't often shown in films, and secondly, if it were a man, the audience would only see his work life and nothing else. Additionally, there were other characters like Tokyo, Nairobi, and Monica. So, in my opinion, the series perfectly challenged traditional gender roles, such as the idea that men are tough and women shouldn't handle weapons, etc. In this series, women and men were on the same level, which I thought was great. I really liked the tough women. I found the feminist side more significant, and I remember scenes where Nairobi stood up to Berlin more vividly. Interestingly, I didn't even particularly notice Berlin's sexist remarks towards women, because unfortunately, that's quite common nowadays and people don't really pause over it anymore, which is actually quite sad.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 22 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Maternity significantly affects her; in some cases, she is very sensitive to it, considering her daughter even at work and thinking about her protection. For example, when the Professor threatened her, he always brought up her daughter or mother, knowing where they lived, which was a weakness for Raquel. If I were her daughter, I would probably be very bothered that my mom wasn't there for me, so from the daughter's perspective, I don't think she was a good mother. However, she was a great investigator and probably made good money, so she tried to support her family. When she was home, she tried to spend time with her daughter. But it seemed strange to me that she entrusted her daughter to a mother who suffers from Alzheimer's; in her place, I would have chosen a nanny. The daughter would certainly prefer her mother to be there for her. According to me, it is possible to combine a career with motherhood, but it depends on perseverance; she must consider that work is at the expense of the family. I would give her a score of 10 because I was a big fan of hers; I liked that she was an investigator at first and then found her way to the Professor and his team of robbers when she got to know them better. She was a good character for me; she could give up her work that she had been doing for several years and switch to the other side.

- 6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I don't consider her a good person, let alone a mother. It seemed to me that she wasn't mentally stable; she was completely crazy during pregnancy. However, on the other hand, it seemed to me that she would do anything for that child because she was very determined. She was capable of pulling a gun on her boss, playing by the rules, so I judge her by that. I think the child was important to her because her husband died, and the child was all she had left of him. But she was really passionate about her work, so she didn't consider pregnancy a limitation, but after giving birth, I think she would have done anything for the child. The birth changed her a lot. Alicia worked extremely hard, so motherhood didn't seem to limit her, and she combined it with her career, but it didn't seem healthy to me. I would give her a score of 6 because at first, she was just a tough cop with ambitions, but then her approach went to extremes and harmed the robbers I was rooting for, which bothered me. However, thanks to her, the series had drama and development, and I would give her credit for always making me immediately want to watch the next episode to see what she would do next.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

Certainly, it was great that they were both women and that they were smart and successful. I think because they were women, their male colleagues couldn't stand it and actually did things to harm them. For example, there was a colonel who constantly undermined them because his ego couldn't handle it. It seems that these men simply couldn't stomach the fact that a woman could achieve such things. I feel that's also true in real life. When men see a successful woman, they envy her and can't appreciate her. Even if a woman earns more, men often struggle with that. Society is set up in a way that men always think they should be better at everything.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

Yes, I definitely enjoyed the show thanks to the strong female characters. Essentially, all the key characters were women, who were passionate and led most of the actions. Even though Berlin was the main leader, the women always rebelled and came up with new ideas, which definitely added to my enjoyment.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

I think that TV series and films don't show such characters [female detectives] enough. When I think of various films like James Bond or Mission Impossible, the main character is always a man and everything is done by men. Women are in very few films, so this should be balanced. I can't recall any other detective series right now. When there are detective stories in films, the women are usually childless and seem to have no life outside of work. Generally, these female detectives don't want to endanger their families with their work and are alone, dedicating their entire lives to their jobs. This is the case, for example, in the series Without a Trace, NCIS, and similar crime shows. According to me, that theme suited this series well because it was interestingly incorporated, delving into personal lives with a tied-in storyline, showing those children, and it just fit there perfectly.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

I would probably label it as a feminist show because there were two female investigators and other strong female characters in the series. Overall, women in the show were heard and not afraid to stand up to men. Several times, women took the lead and stood by their opinions, whether they were women from the team of robbers or hostages. I would definitely choose Nairobi's side. In some cases, I liked Berlin, but it bothered me how he treated women. It was clear that he disliked being commanded by a woman; he was originally, I think, from the army, and there were signs that a man must be in charge, that a man is something more, and a woman must obey him.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 25 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Raquel has had a lot of terrible moments in her life. Her husband abused her and she also had to protect her daughter from him. Moreover, working as "the only woman" among men is not easy. In fact, she does everything on her own. It is like she always has to prove that she is equal to men. And maybe also because of her work, which is very important to her, she is not a great mother. She is not as close to her daughter as a good mother should be. In my opinion, you cannot even be a good mother if you have such a demanding job and no one to help you. However, I do not think Raquel is necessarily a bad mother because she cared deeply about her daughter. If I had to rate her character on a scale from 1 to 10, I would give her a solid 7 because I find her story interesting, even though it is sad. Also, when she joined the Professor and his group later in the series, I found her even more interesting, and her relationship with the Professor is one of my favorite parts of Money Heist.

- 6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Alicia does not let the pregnancy affect her at all. She is very smart, but also very cruel. She works hard until she gives birth, moreover, she smokes during pregnancy and does not care that it might harm the unborn baby. Combining motherhood (pregnancy) and work is no problem for her because her work comes first and she does not let the pregnancy stop her. So I do not think she is a good mother. However, it seems to me that motherhood has changed Alicia a little for the better, she seems to be more empathetic after giving birth. On a scale from 1 to 10 I would give her a 2, she was one of my least favorite characters in Money Heist from the beginning when she tortured Rio and showed herself to be an evil and inhuman person.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

In my opinion, it was very interesting to see this topic in the series. It was fascinating to see how each of the women dealt with the situation of combining motherhood and work differently.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

As for me, the feminist trends in this series were definitely key elements and made the series more interesting. I think I would not have enjoyed the series as much without these elements.

- 9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?**

I would not mind at all if these characters appeared in series and movies more often. On the contrary, I think it is important to show that women (mothers) are able to handle a job (such as a detective) that can be perceived by some as "a male job" and thus disprove some people's prejudices that women cannot do these types of jobs. Although it may not seem like it, this theme was a great fit for this series.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Belin's (misogynist)?

I would mark this series as feminist because it shows what women have to deal with in everyday life and how they are able to handle different situations brilliantly. The female characters in Money Heist are shown as strong women who are able to face the same problems and situations just like the male characters do. I would say it is balanced - the series shows both feminist and misogynist elements, making a great contrast between these two opposite trends. Personally, I would rather take Nairobi's side because I have an aversion to misogynists.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 22 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I think the combination of motherhood and career worked well for Raquel; it wasn't overplayed. Being a single parent, she had no choice but to work a full-time job, and it's understandable why she didn't give up that job when she was so good at it. I see Raquel positively as a busy mother who managed to take care of her child, provide for her family, and be successful in her career. She was placed in a distinctly masculine leadership role in her profession. I perceive feminism in her in the sense that she does traditionally masculine work and ultimately acts like a man. I would rate her an 8. I liked how strong Raquel was in achieving the most she could in her career. Despite being abused and blackmailed by her husband, she didn't break down and was excellent at her job. She managed to raise a child on her own, take care of her sick mother, and handle a demanding career – a great element showing that a woman is capable of many things. Later she was also one of the leaders when it came to the heist.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I found Alicia's situation a bit too extreme, considering she gave birth in hiding and then carried the child everywhere with her, which I think was too much. While it showcased that women can handle everything, this case was already extreme. I wouldn't evaluate it positively because, at the very least after

childbirth, she should have taken a few weeks off. It seemed overly drastic to me, and her intense work presence definitely impacted her motherhood, which I see as negative and certainly had a detrimental effect on the child. I would rate her a 4.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

Yes, I found it very interestingly portrayed. I liked how they highlighted how much a woman can manage, especially in Raquel's case.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

Probably yes, because I enjoyed seeing such strong female characters, who are able to combine motherhood with such a demanding career and also ones like Tokyo who were a part of the robbers.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

Why not, I think similar characters could easily appear more often. It fit nicely into the detective-drama genre in this case, but it's hard to say whether other creators could successfully incorporate it as interestingly.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

Before you pointed it out, I hadn't even thought about it being a feminist series, but now that you mention those aspects, I can see it. I see it more as a social dilemma, whether to be on the side of those who steal or on the side of the state. There is a significant role for women, but initially, it didn't occur to me. Feminist scenes include women having guns – this equalizes them with men, as they are not afraid to use them. Another thing is that Tokyo is the narrator – I think that's very important. She tells the whole story. In addition, the creators mix up who is important a lot. For example, Monica is pregnant, and the story revolves around her. Then there's Nairobi, with a hidden story of an abandoned child she lost. If women weren't there, it would just be about the heist, without that other layer of the story. The most sexist character in the series was Berlin.

His behavior was disgusting in how he interacted with Tokyo and the others. The Professor, when he called the inspector, talked to her as a pervert, which was part of his alter ego. The Professor otherwise respected women, unlike Berlin. When there were remarks, they were mainly about why a woman should decide.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 24 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I consider her to be a good mother. She comes across differently to me than Alicia. I would give her an 8, because I found her likable and I think she is strong given the type of work she does. I believe she was already doing this work before motherhood, so I think that considering she is surrounded by men at work, she must maintain a certain face, and I think that on top of everything, being a woman during such a period, like being a mother, must be extremely demanding. I think she is a good mother, but I don't think that the combination of her career and motherhood is good, perhaps before the robbery started, because it definitely added a lot of problems and concerns.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I can imagine that every woman can be a good mother if motherhood was desired, but combining motherhood with her career definitely did not work for me. There were moments when she clearly risked her own life and the life of her child, for example, the scene where she drove towards Marseille, and she did things during pregnancy that could endanger both herself and the child, which I consider very bad, and I think there must have been something wrong with her psyche. Anyway, I would rate her character a 4. I can't quite say why, but I had the feeling that she just wants to ruin the whole gang of robbers, and I enjoyed seeing the whole gang go down with her.

- 7) **Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

I think the portrayal of these characters in the series was 100% very interesting, but somehow the motherhood aspect didn't fit there. It felt like something that was unnecessarily added, and I don't think it would have influenced my experience of the plot in any other way, even if Alicia, for example, hadn't been pregnant. It probably wouldn't have had any other impact or sympathy on me if she had been without a belly.

- 8) **Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

No, probably not, even though I like and enjoy seeing empowered women who can handle themselves and similar things. However, I think it's not necessary for a woman to be empowered at all costs. I'm a supporter of a healthy balance and complementarity in partnership.

- 9) **Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?**

I definitely like female detectives. It seems sexy to me how women can communicate and manage men, but I don't necessarily perceive it as a form of feminism or empowerment. I think some women are born for it, but I feel it must also influence their personal lives. Generally, I'm not drawn to detective genres, but *Money Heist* was something unique. I think this particular series was well-suited for this theme [mother-detectives], and it was exciting because Raquel was both a detective and a mother, and then she joined the robbers.

- 10) **Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Belin's (misogynist)?**

I wouldn't label *Money Heist* as a feminist series, it did not occur to me while watching it, but I believe feminism is present in the female detectives. The series, in my opinion, is not misogynistic, but there certainly was misogyny in the Colonel, who completely disrespected Raquel and tried to demean her by bringing up her personal matters. So, misogynistic men were there, but I wouldn't categorize the series as either feminist or misogynistic. I think Berlin had prejudices against women. I believe that men and women should complement each other, but if I had to choose, I would probably lean towards Nairobi's side. I'm judging purely based on sympathy. But if I were to consider

who could lead the group forward, it would be Berlin, despite his misogynistic behavior. I would probably grit my teeth and stick with him.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 23 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

It affects her a lot; her husband is prohibited from seeing their daughter, so she is on her own. In my opinion, the violence from her husband has greatly affected her, which is why she is very cautious about her daughter and fears for her safety. She prevents her daughter from having contact with her father, even though he wasn't mean to her but to Raquel. I would consider her a good mother because, on one hand, it's good that she protects her daughter, but on the other hand, she should want her to have a relationship with her father. I believe women are capable of handling a lot of things at once, but Raquel didn't quite manage it. Evidence of her failure as a mother is the scene where little Paula told her that they never spend time together and she wants to move in with her dad. I understand that Raquel tried to provide for Paula financially, and solving the heist would have brought her great career success, but I think her work had a very negative impact on her relationship with Paula. I felt that Raquel let herself be blinded by career growth and didn't spend much time with her daughter. I would rate her a 5.5 because, in my opinion, she was quite an average character, nothing new that I hadn't seen before, and she was somewhat nondescript. She didn't have distinctly positive or negative traits. The character simply wasn't very dominant, which isn't necessarily bad; she just didn't seem very interesting to me.

- 6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

She seemed much more striking and interesting to me. I felt like she didn't consider at all that she was pregnant and should take care of herself; I remember scenes where she smoked, for example. So, in this respect, her pregnancy didn't influence her career at all; if anything, it might have strengthened her even more and made her more reckless and uninhibited. However, with the birth came a turning point, and her attitude towards motherhood changed. She still remained on the edge; there's a scene where she says she has someone to live for and is grateful, but then there's also a scene where she drives towards Marseille and uses her child against him, emotionally blackmailing him that he won't kill a mother and a child. But then, when the Professor sent her to search for gold, she said she couldn't because she was breastfeeding. I consider her a good mother from the birth onwards; she tried to care for the child and expressed that she had someone to live for. She was, in my opinion, a much better mother than Raquel because she had boundaries. She said she wouldn't go searching for gold because she was a breastfeeding woman and took motherhood seriously. In my view, a person has to choose whether to be a great mother and an average police officer or vice versa. You can't do both perfectly. And certainly not combine it with a baby, as in Alicia's case, because the child needs her constantly. I would rate her an 8 because I really like dominant women in series, and she definitely was one. She was very prominent, interesting, independent, dominant, and uncompromising.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

In my opinion, it is quite common in TV series to depict a career woman. It reminds me of a love triangle, except here the triangle consists of a woman, a child, and a career. However, it is also a current and unavoidable topic, and men are still generally perceived as more career-driven, so why not balance it out? To avoid becoming a cliché, the series needs to present this theme in an interesting way, which was successful in this case.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

Yes, because it's always great to see strong and independent women, which wasn't very common in earlier works. Before, women were often seen as supporting roles, and movies focused on a male perspective of the world. Having a dominant character who drives the plot forward through her actions and decisions is interesting to me. I would say the situation is much better now

than it used to be, but our world is still quite male-dominated, so strong, independent female characters who are on par with men are fantastic.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

Certainly, it's important for films to portray these aspects, but I would be concerned if it became a "trend," similar to how LGBT representation has sometimes felt forced in every series. I have nothing against LGBT representation, but it shouldn't be shoehorned into every story just for the sake of it. So, depicting motherhood is definitely important, and it's great to show a woman who can balance motherhood and career, but it shouldn't be overdone. In my opinion, around 2013, there was a rise in LGBT representation, and sometimes to appear politically correct, every series included a homosexual character, even if it didn't make sense to include them. For example, in "Brooklyn Nine-Nine," there's Rosa, whose character eventually reveals she's bisexual, but it made sense for her storyline and didn't contradict what was established in previous seasons. However, when hyper-correctness began, as seen in shows like "Sex Education," where there's a black character who is also homosexual, it can feel exaggerated. I understand it's a new series, but it seems overdone. When I think back to a classic like "White Chicks" I feel like today, that movie wouldn't be released at all, even though it's funny and doesn't offend anyone. We live in a time when this hyper-correctness is essentially a form of censorship, and we can't joke about black people. It seems to me that motherhood fits into that genre because it completes the characters of those women. Motherhood always belongs to a woman.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's

I probably wouldn't strictly label it as a feminist show particularly because women weren't depicted as perfect mothers. Overall, the mastermind behind the entire heist was also a man. Additionally, there was the Colonel, who tried to undermine Raquel because his ego couldn't handle her leading the investigation. However, there were certainly many feminist aspects and plenty of strong female characters challenging men. I would rather be on Nairobi's side because I wouldn't be able to respect Berlin, who doesn't treat others, especially women, with respect.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 23 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

It certainly had a huge impact on her work commitment. Her motherhood distracted her from her work, so I think that it was her weakness, although an unintended weakness. It wasn't her fault, but it held her back from work. That child definitely influenced her immensely. It distracted her away from work; whenever something happened with her daughter, she went to deal with it. Once, she even left the tent where she was working. She prioritized family over work, which the professor actually took advantage of. It seems to me that this is portrayed very well in that series – that a woman under such great commitment and pressure should maybe have a nanny or other people to help her. Because women have such a complex that they simply want to handle everything on their own, but when a man has such a position at work, he might have three assistants and two nannies at home just to handle everything 100% and it's somehow balanced, but Raquel had to handle everything on her own and it was ultra-hard. I think she was a great mother but not so good at the job itself. It's certainly possible to combine motherhood with a career, but I think that the child is somehow affected when the father or mother is not with them for a certain period of time. When you consider education, for example, parents spend less time with the child compared to the time children spend in school, so the only time you can really get to know the child is when they are young, and with such a career, it's not very feasible, so you'll either have a good career, or a child, or you'll have a partner at home who will take care of the child, and it doesn't matter if it's a woman or a man. I remember a scene when Paula told her mom that she

would go live with dad because mom never has time for her anyway. A young child has no chance to understand and cope with the fact that the parent has no time for him. I would give her a 7. I liked that it wasn't a boring portrayal of feminism, because Netflix and various TV shows nowadays in these political times produce many of these shows, and it's a total "overfeminism", which doesn't set a good example for feminists, and it's fanatical, but in this case it was quite nice because feminism was there, but it wasn't shoved in my face when I didn't want to see it. So, the feminist aspect of this series seemed great to me.

6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?

Alicia is, in my opinion, the complete opposite of Raquel. Raquel preferred the child over the job, even though it might have annoyed her, but Alice preferred to sacrifice the child rather than the job. She was much more invested in her work than Raquel. She would do anything to get the job done and nothing stopped her – not even the child. In my opinion, she wasn't a good mother – definitely not in the early stages of the series, but then it started to change back when she gave birth to the child, it softened her a bit, and she began to behave a little more like a mother – but only after she closed that case – at first, it's like she closed off her career so she could be with the child. She was forced to sacrifice her career when the harsh deeds from the times she focused only on her career caught up with her. I liked that she was like a mirror, the complete opposite of Raquel – it was well portrayed that she was career-driven. It definitely influenced her that her husband died, and she had to do everything on her own. It was like she immersed herself in some task and into herself to forget the pain of losing her husband. After she has caught the professor, she will probably immerse herself in motherhood, and it will be her next career. Her character pissed me off so much but she played it perfectly. It appeared to the audience that she was mega-negative and actually like an inverted villain. Villains should be those robbers, not the cops, but here she was kind of the villain and played that character perfectly, and for how she played it, I liked her better than Raquel because Alicia "annoyed" me more in the series, which means she affected my feelings and emotions, so it stuck better in my memory. I find it interesting when such a character is in a show because then I remember it better. Compared to Raquel, Alicia was always decisive and didn't let anything go, only when the professor outsmarted her. I'd give her an 8 for how distinct she was.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

I really liked that there was extreme one versus extreme two (Raquel vs. Alicia) and that there were so many circumstances around it that forced them to behave

this way, and it seems to me that it was portrayed very nicely. It was depicted to the extreme to make it stand out in the series, so you might even sympathize with them. For Raquel, family and child were a burden, and the same fate befell Alicia when she also gave birth, which suggests that women are worse at that job because men don't have such societal precedents in their work. It is wrong, but common sense suggests that in some jobs, they'd rather hire a guy than a woman because a child is a burden and it's demanding. Especially in such emotionally demanding work, it must be tough because she's actually the boss.

(Additional question: Do you think it's right that a woman was in the position of the lead investigator in both heists?)

I'm bothered when TV shows force some female characters just to cast a female, but it didn't bother me in this series because they were well-acted, and it made sense for them to be there. But when it doesn't make sense, like in some modern movies, and there's a woman, then it bothers me a lot. Like now with Marvel, it just bothers me. Same with Star Wars, it bothers me; it doesn't fit there, and it's screaming political correctness, which is pointless. Captain Marvel also aggressively pushes feminist agendas. That's why I don't watch Marvel anymore. They've shifted into such political correctness that it's not very good; it lacks soul. In this series, it's great that I didn't notice it in detail, and because I don't actively seek out that theme of female detectives, I saw it just as a good action-packed show, but those who actively seek feminism in films will probably see it a lot, so both sides can find something positive there.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

No, because while I do like advocating for women as I consider myself a feminist in some aspects, like women should have equal pay, etc., I don't think that it was a reason why I watched it; it was more of an interesting diversification of the show. I rather enjoyed the intrigues, they were good from both the female and male perspectives, so it was nice that it was balanced. Alice also outsmarted the professor several times, which was interesting.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

I probably wouldn't want to see it more because when we push too much for female characters to play certain roles, it won't mean that the woman is chosen for the character because she's a good actress, but because she's a woman, and that's not right. So I would like these topics to be addressed but to a certain extent. So it's not just about that – because when it's just about that, it's not a good movie for me because I don't seek out that theme so much, but here it was nice that the main focus was the heist, and this side theme didn't bother

me and I welcomed it. Perhaps TV shows could portray it more, but in an interesting way, not boring and bland, and certainly not extremist, because extreme feminism is not my cup of tea. But it's definitely important, it's very important in the world. It didn't fit into the genre at all, and that's what made it interesting and great.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

Modern critics probably wouldn't label it as a feminist show because there are female stereotypes that aren't very well-received, that a woman should be with her family, and that limits her, which actually sheds a negative light on feminism. I would probably label it as feminist because there are important themes there that are good to know about. It was important, and it was nice that they subtly introduced it. It emerged from social prejudices, and it created a nice demonstration of that. I think the first series showed them that feminists are responding, and then the creators decided to introduce Alice. The two contrasts that create the spark of the series are beautifully portrayed and create tension among the community of those people – the robbers – and that's great. It annoyed me that Berlin didn't acknowledge female talent. Nairobi was good and made no mistakes, and yet he insulted her because she was a woman.

(Additional question: Do you think Berlin was a good leader?)

The fact that he was in the position of leader was good because if Nairobi had been a leader, Berlin wouldn't have accepted her commands and would have undermined her; she was angry at him, but she was still able to function and took his orders, whereas he wouldn't. Those misogynists are worse in this regard. A feminist female might be angry but will get the job done, but Berlin wouldn't bear it due to his ego.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 23 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

It definitely affected her a lot, that's clearly seen in the series. I perceived that the heist was an exceptional situation in her career, but regarding her regular work and normal shifts she typically has, she wouldn't have a problem with that for sure. This was an extreme case. It seemed to me that she tried to balance it with motherhood, and I consider her to be a good mother. Her daughter was always her top priority. I would give her an 8 because she is, in my opinion, a well-written character with great character development. It was interesting to me that in the end, Raquel joined the robbers, and they managed to convince her that something was wrong with the Spanish political system, so it's actually good that they persuaded her.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

It really affected her when she had to start giving birth there. She acted like a psycho when she tortured Rio. In the end, she prioritized the child, but I didn't like how she behaved during pregnancy. Knowing that I'm in the final stage of pregnancy, I wouldn't go searching for the Professor with a gun, that was really stupid. In my opinion, she was psycho. Her giving birth in hiding was already a consequence of her decision to keep working. She should have said stop in time, it's about my child's health, and I'm quitting my job. I don't think she had

it completely together in her head. I would give her a 5 because I found her character unsympathetic. I didn't like her because she acted stupidly.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

Yes, I liked it. It was interestingly portrayed in the sense that the creators managed to incorporate this theme into such an action-packed series.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

It's not that I would enjoy the series more because of feminism; I liked the story and character development. It was an interesting idea, but it's not the main reason I would watch it.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

I would like to see similar characters; I don't mind; I don't see a reason why not. But it must not be forced. Films and series should emphasize the story, script, and characters. They shouldn't be made just to convey the idea of feminism because then it becomes too obvious. Disney is now trying to include the idea that no one should be offended in all their creations, but it's not paying off at all because it's at the expense of the story and quality script, and people don't like it. The entire new phase of Marvel is going down the drain. The new Star Wars too. Disney announced that a new Star Wars is to be made, and they announced that it would be directed by a strong feminist director who pushes the idea that men are inferior, etc., and they received a huge wave of hate until Disney's stock dropped. She explained that she wanted to make the film pro-feminist and that the main character would be Rey, and it was time for the main characters to be women and not men. People hated it so much that Disney had to fire the director. But then we also have good examples of feminism. For example, the new Barbie movie seemed excellent to me because it took those themes and portrayed them well from both sides. It's a general problem nowadays that big brands have to please everyone.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

I would definitely not call it feminist, as it is not the main theme of the series. However, feminism was represented in the fact that the main investigators were women. Berlin didn't have a weakness like Nairobi did, which she paid for. Purely because of his character, I liked Berlin; his character was very well thought out and they even made a spin-off series about him. I think it's more about the character than these stereotypes.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 24 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

It affected her a lot. Although her daughter was her priority, she neglected her upbringing due to her heavy focus on work. Combining both roles is possible if she had a functioning marriage or a nanny, but in her case, it wasn't ideal. I'd rate her an 8 because I liked how dedicated she was to her job, and the twist of her switching sides was interesting.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Motherhood affects her a lot because, while she was still pregnant, she could focus perfectly on her work and was very tough, but after giving birth, she softened, and maternal instincts took over, causing her to make mistakes. I think that after the birth, she prioritized her child and couldn't focus on work as much. I consider her a good mother because she then adjusted her priorities and realized that her child was more important than the investigation. Just like in Raquel's case, it could certainly be combined if she had a normal functioning marriage or a nanny, but in her case, it wasn't ideal because she was handling everything alone. I would rate her a 7, because it took an interesting turn when she appeared, adding some spice to the plot, and it was fascinating to watch how motherhood changed her personality.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

Yes, I liked it. I think it was depicted in a very interesting way. It nicely showed how a woman can prioritize her child over her career.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

It didn't bother me at all, and I didn't even notice it. It felt natural because I don't recall thinking about the presence of strong female characters while watching the series. It's interesting, but why couldn't the heist be investigated by two women? I don't see a problem with that.

- 9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?**

Yes, I think it's important to show that females are able to work as a detective and can be great at this job. But I also think that it is important to show that when a woman becomes a mother, the child should come first and not the career. I don't think it fits the genre generally but it definitely was interesting and it fit this specific show very well.

- 10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?**

I would not strictly mark it as a feminist show, although there were very strong and independent female characters. I think feminism is displayed in those female characters like Raquel, Alicia, and even Tokyo and Nairobi. All of them were capable of doing things that men traditionally do, and they were very successful at them. I don't see the show as misogynist either since the only character who showed misogynist tendencies was Berlin. Although his behavior towards women was bad, he was still a good leader, in my opinion. He was able to get the job done without including emotions, which is what was needed in their situation.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 23 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

It is certainly very difficult to combine this type of work with motherhood. I consider Raquel to be a good person, but not so much in terms of motherhood. I don't consider her a good mother mainly because she prioritized her job over her child. Combining motherhood with her work would only be possible if she had strong support from a partner at home, which she didn't have. The character didn't really grow on me, so I would give her a rating of 4. It bothered me how she behaved towards her child. Her character was well-written, but she seemed not very prominent to me. She came across as somewhat unsympathetic and uninteresting.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

At first, it seemed to me that motherhood didn't affect her at all during her pregnancy. For a pregnant woman, that's not a good sign. At first, she didn't acknowledge her pregnancy and acted as if she wasn't pregnant, but when she gave birth and saw that her child was in danger, she seemed to completely turn around and did everything to ensure the child was safe. I consider her a good mother to some extent, but on the other hand, she didn't prepare any kind of

stable environment for the child. However, once the child arrived, she tried to take care of it to the best of her ability. I liked how her character was complex and how she created plot twists, so I would rate her an 8. She seemed much more prominent to me than Raquel. It's not that she appeared more often, but she just stuck in my memory more. She was a bit psycho, especially with how she tortured others and single-mindedly pursued her goals.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

Yes, I found that this series does a good job of exploring the combination of motherhood and such a demanding job, especially in terms of time and mental demands. This was particularly evident with Raquel, as she truly didn't have time for her child, was mentally exhausted, and had her mind entirely focused on her work. I found this theme certainly interesting – it's clear that the characters grapple with a strong dilemma between pursuing their career goals and caring for their child, which really makes one think. This is not just in the context of being a detective mother but in motherhood in general, where it's a common issue that women often have to prioritize their child over their career or vice versa.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

The characters in the series were very well developed, but I don't think that influenced how much I enjoyed the series.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

Definitely, yes. I think it is important for movies and series to feature this type of character so that it has some impact, but of course, too much of anything is harmful. It is important for people to realize that women don't have it easy in terms of balancing motherhood and career and often have to choose one. I think this theme fits well into the genre because it develops the characters in some way and adds authenticity to the entire series. It deepens the characters, makes it easier for the viewer to get into the story, and overall, it fits the role of the thief as a strong character who goes after what they want. The conflict of motherhood and career works excellently in this series.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

The series didn't strike me as purely feminist. I perceived that feminism was mainly portrayed through Raquel and Alicia from the perspective of their motherhood. I didn't find it as strong in Nairobi's case, although it was certainly present. It seemed to me that the series tried to balance feminist and misogynistic traits, but I think the misogynistic aspect was more dominant. It fit more naturally into the thief stereotype and the heist drama, or perhaps I just noticed it more. I would probably side with Berlin, not because of his misogyny, but because he was decisive and knew how to maintain order, which is crucial in such situations. He didn't get easily shaken, stuck to the rules, and didn't let emotions get in the way. I think Berlin is popular because his character was the most thoroughly explored, and the audience knows the most about him.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 24 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

On a scale of 1 to 10, I would rate Raquel an 8. She definitely didn't have it easy, being a police inspector, raising a child on her own, taking care of a mother with Alzheimer's disease, and dealing with an ex-husband who beat her during their marriage. I think that if such a situation occurred in real life, anyone would go crazy and completely break down. Although she often came close to that, she managed it as best as she could. All Raquel wanted was to take care of her family and do her job, which, in my opinion, she did very well. Raquel's only goal was to take care of her family and do her job, which from my perspective, she did very well. She would do anything for her daughter, and when the authorities and police tried to take her daughter away, they turned against her. The only thing she could do was to join the opposite side to protect her daughter. So yes, I think she was a good mother.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

On the other hand, Alicia initially didn't have to deal with a child, problems with her mother, husband, or the police. She was just a tough detective or as they would say in the series, she was a bitch, but she excelled at her job. So,

childbirth and the child influenced her a lot. When the police rejected her towards the end and she started giving birth in an enemy hideout, she preferred to use the enemy's help to save her child, which she has in common with Raquel— they would do anything for their child. As a character, I would rate her a 5; I didn't particularly like her personality that much, hence the lower rating.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

An interesting thought. It's hard to say whether it would be better or worse if a childless man were in the same position.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

I can't say that I didn't like the feminist trends in the series, but they certainly didn't compel me to watch it. The whole series had a lot of good aspects that made it enjoyable for me.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

As I mentioned in previous questions, it's interesting, but whether the series as a whole will be good doesn't depend solely on such aspects, so I don't think that's the most important thing. But I definitely liked the inclusion of these aspects.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

In this series, there are strong female characters who play important roles in planning and executing the heist. Characters like Tokyo, Nairobi, and Lisbon are key figures with complex personalities, actively contributing to the action, which I perceive as feminist. The series also highlights how the power dynamics between men and women are changing, which can also be perceived as supporting gender equality. It's hard to say; both ideologies are represented countless times in the series, but if I had to choose, it would probably be Nairobi, mainly because I didn't quite like Berlin's character that much.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 23 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Motherhood significantly influences Raquel, because she can not fully focus on her job. I think that for her as a mother it must be very demanding to combine personal and work life. I consider it almost impossible to be good at both roles in her case. If she had a reliable husband or a nanny who would help her take care of her daughter, maybe it would work, but in her case as a single mother it did not. Although she showed concerns for her daughter's well-being, she didn't manage to spend much time with her because of her job. Paula was very sad about that. I would rate her character an 7 out of 10 because I enjoyed how realistic the depiction of the difficulties she had while trying to balance work and family life was. Also, I liked how she evolved from a police officer to a member of the heist team. Her character development was engaging to watch.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Alicia didn't let motherhood affect her at all. While she was pregnant, she didn't care at all. And when the baby was born, she was still more invested in the job than taking care of her child. She even put her daughter in danger all

the time, so I don't consider her a good mother. Although the birth made her a bit more sensitive, she still didn't act like a mother should and getting the job done still seemed more important to her. She was too career-driven in my opinion. But it doesn't mean I didn't like her character. She was very intense and dramatic and it always made me watch another episode, because I was curious about what she will do next. For this reason, I would rate her character an 8 out of 10.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

I enjoyed how realistic it was in the case of Raquel and I enjoyed how it explained many things regarding her decisions. It was portrayed very nicely I think. In the case of Alicia, although she was a bad mother, it was pretty awesome of her to be able to catch the Professor while being 9 months pregnant. None of her male colleagues was able to catch him and they were not even pregnant.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

I watched the show mainly for the heist drama, but I enjoyed how the show offered both a male and a female perspective. Not only from the side of the police but also the robbers as the team contained both male and female members. And the female members were very important and had fulfilled some key tasks for the heist to be completed.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

Yes, I would like to see more characters like female mother detectives in films and series because such characters bring a unique perspective and add depth to the drama heist genre. I believe that it is important to show this topic more because these characters can challenge traditional gender roles and stereotypes. I feel like films and series, especially these crime or drama genres, are still too men-centered. These female characters can inspire and empower women by showing the strength and versatility of women. I don't think that women have to give up their careers to become mothers. I think it fits the heist drama genre well because portraying the two leading roles of the female characters (meaning her role as a detective and a mother) enriches the storytelling and increases the narrative's tension.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

I probably would label it as a feminist show since there are important themes that should be heard. Such as it is possible to be a woman and a leader and it is possible to give orders to men when you are a woman in a leading position. I don't like the stereotype that only a man can be the boss. I think whoever is better at the job should be the boss. Berlin annoyed me because he was not able to acknowledge and respect talented females just because they are women. So I probably would take Nairobi's side as she was objective and respected everyone – males, females, homosexuals,... She didn't make differences between people.

- 1) **I am a:**
 - a) Male
 - b) Female

- 2) **I am:**
 - a) 21 years old

- 3) **Do you consider yourself a feminist?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

It affected her a lot because she had a daughter and didn't have much time for her due to her career. Her daughter wasn't a baby like Alicia's; she was around 7 years old and could feel that her mom didn't have time for her and wanted to be with her. In the future, Raquel's lack of attention to her daughter could have a negative impact on her. Initially, she didn't pay much attention to her, but when the investigation started to fall apart, she began to spend more time with her daughter. I would rate her character initially around a 3, but when she teamed up with the Professor, I'd give her an 8 because things started to make sense. I liked how her perspective changed on the heist and the system. The thieves did it to show people that it was possible and that they could stand up to the political system.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Motherhood influenced her a lot, she was quite sharp at the beginning, but when she had a child, she calmed down a lot, and when she got together with the Professor, it calmed her down and the child certainly helped a lot. Since giving birth, she started thinking completely differently. She definitely wasn't a good mother because she wasn't careful at all during pregnancy. I enjoyed Alicia much more than Raquel. In my opinion, Raquel was a bit mopey,

whereas Alicia was pretty sharp. I would give her a 9. She was very prominent and knew how to create drama. I liked the scenes where she communicated with the Professor; she was very smart and could outsmart the Professor.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

I mainly watched the series for the action and drama, but I definitely noticed the aspect of motherhood. I think it was portrayed interestingly. I particularly enjoyed the flashbacks.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

Probably not, I didn't really perceive that while watching the series.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

I have noticed that nowadays, gender equality is being strongly promoted, and sometimes it gets on my nerves, but in this case, I found it interesting that the creators included female detectives and other strong female characters like Tokyo or Nairobi. I viewed it positively; it was good that not all the characters were men, and it was nicely balanced. I think this also contributed to its greater reach and appealed to more viewers. I think the theme fits well into the detective drama genre, especially the portrayal of Alicia, who was the complete opposite of Raquel. Raquel was extremely stressed and cried because of the case, and Alicia handled it completely differently—coldly. She had a huge ego and was very assertive; nothing surprised her. Not even a child stopped her.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

I probably wouldn't label it as a feminist show; while watching the series, feminism wasn't something I perceived. However, I can definitely imagine that some female feminists would look up to certain aspects of the series because there were plenty of strong female characters who proved that a woman can excel in traditionally male roles. Berlin had a huge ego and didn't let women do anything; he constantly insulted them and made sexist remarks. Misogyny

is, in my opinion, a frequently discussed topic today. I'd probably still choose Berlin's side despite being bothered by how he treated women; in my opinion, he would be the better leader. Nairobi was incredibly brash, and Berlin managed to remain calm, mainly because he had nothing to lose. Nairobi had a child, which was used against her. I remember the scene with Nairobi's son's stuffed bear, where they lured her and shot her. Nairobi's vulnerability lay in her child.

- 1) **I am a:**
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 - c) No

- 4) **Do you consider yourself a fan of this show?**
 - a) Yes
 - b) To some extent
 - c) No

- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I think it influenced her a lot. She had a tough time because she was on her own. For a man, that position wouldn't be as demanding, because he would have a clear mind and the child would be at home with his wife. In her case, I don't think combining motherhood and career was ideal, and she probably should have chosen a less time-consuming job. However, she probably didn't want to give up her career and accepted the job. Because of this, I consider her not a very good mother, because in my opinion, the child should have taken priority over her career. I would rate her a 7 because I liked that Raquel's personal life was developed. Being a single mother added an emotional depth that resonates with the audience. That's what made her character intriguing to me.

- 6) **How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

Here, the theme didn't seem as interesting to me as with Raquel, because it felt like the same thing again – mother-detective. In my opinion, motherhood didn't influence her much because she behaved as if no child existed. She definitely wasn't a good mother, and because of her, the child got into quite dangerous

and tense situations. However, as a character, Alicia was extremely intriguing, so I think the child was somewhat superfluous because she would have been interesting anyway. The way she was tough and could assert her opinion, and even catch the Professor on her own without police help, was really intense. I would rate her a 9 because she brought drama to the story, and I enjoyed watching what she would come up with next.

7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?

In Raquel's case, I liked it. It filled out her background and helped the viewer understand why she acts the way she does in certain situations. With Alicia, though, it seemed a bit unnecessary to me. She would just be as tough without a child as she was with one.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

Probably yes, because the female characters were portrayed very interestingly and, most importantly, it didn't bother anyone. It wasn't one of those series where you feel like the creators were trying to please everyone. The women simply fit in and were good at what they did.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

Yes, why not, but only if it's relevant for the story. I think it's important to show that females can also manage to do such a hard job, moreover while being mothers. I think it did fit the genre, because it made the story more deep and helped develop the characters a bit more. Also, reflecting on the real-world challenges of working mothers makes the story more authentic and relatable for fans, especially mothers. Showing the characters' weaknesses makes them more believable, and I think women tend to sympathize with them, which can make the story more engaging.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's

Yes, I think I could mark it as a feminist show since there were so many strong female characters. But it was not extreme, and the characters were not forced

into the story, which was good. I would choose Berlin as a leader because even though he treated women terribly, he was still a great leader and was probably the only one (also least that's what the Professor thought as well) who would be able to get the job done without being distracted by anything. Females can easily be distracted by feelings, which was proved when Nairobi was shot because the police showed her her son's teddy bear.

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- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I would rate her a 7. She was strong by taking care of herself, her daughter, and her mother with Alzheimer's, while also dealing with her ex-husband. However, I felt that her experience with her ex-husband didn't affect her at home – her personality didn't change after the violent experiences with him. At home, she was always kind to her daughter and expressed love, even though she could have seen her father in the daughter and had a problem with it. On the other hand, it did affect her at work; she was tough with men and didn't let them humiliate her. Motherly instinct showed when she later joined the robbers; she first secured her family – her mother and daughter – and "hid" them on a secret island. I remember scenes where Raquel came home and tried to dedicate time to her daughter and make up for the time spent at work. At the same time, Raquel was in the position of the family's provider, having to secure their financial stability, which took time away from her family. However, she tried to dedicate as much time as possible to her daughter. I definitely consider her a good mother. She tried to handle both career and family, but because she had to earn money, she couldn't devote as much time to her family, and at a certain point, not having enough time for her child might have felt like a personal failure. It seemed to me that she had two personalities – a loving mother at home and a tough investigator at work, which I found interesting.

- 6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

I would rate her a 9 because she was a very prominent character. Initially, she was a high-profile figure known for her professional achievements and was excellent at her job. When she lost her husband, she immersed herself in work and pursued her career. Even during pregnancy, she chased after the thieves until the very end. However, from the moment her child was born, she softened and had to accept the Professor's help for both her and her child to survive, which was probably maternal instinct, trying to keep her child safe. Despite this, she did not give up her career growth – she still wanted to catch the Professor, continued pursuing him even after they had a truce, and eventually found the gold the thieves stole. So, despite her motherhood, she didn't give up on her career; she just momentarily stepped aside to ensure her child's safety. I would say she prioritized her child and their well-being. She had a mission to catch the Professor and didn't give up on that. On the other hand, it also occurred to me that, for example, during her childbirth in the bunker where she found the Professor and was forced to accept his help, at that moment she wasn't thinking about her child (because throughout her pregnancy she didn't behave as a pregnant woman and didn't take care of herself), but rather about herself because if she didn't survive childbirth, she wouldn't be able to catch the Professor anymore. I think her child didn't replace her career because even after childbirth, she still pursued her goal and found the gold. However, being hunted, she eventually had to give up her career and focus on her child, but that wasn't shown in the series.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

Yes, it was portrayed very interestingly in the series, especially their background stories gave us a broader context of their behaviors and brought us closer to those characters. I found Alicia's perspective more intriguing, where she was depicted as childless initially, then pregnant, and finally with a child. There were nice contrasts in her approach to motherhood and progression in her behavior, which changed according to the situation. We see how it influenced her work. In each stage, she was somewhat a different person. It's clearly seen how childbirth softened her. With Raquel, we know she had a child, but we don't see her transformation.

8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?

It wasn't the reason why I watched it; I watched it because the show had a lot of hype, and feminism wasn't the main focus for me—it seemed more like a side theme. The main theme was the heist. However, I liked that the team members were gender-balanced, and it highlighted that a woman can be a police officer and a woman can be a robber, bringing a new perspective to the series. It was interestingly portrayed how the past influences both women and men—this can be compared. The show also depicted the dual approach—male and female—in how, for example, the robbers treated the hostages.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

Certainly, it depends on how the creators integrate the theme into the series. If it's done in an interesting and innovative way, like in this case, then I'm all for it. In this series, the female characters are not forced, but in some series and movies, it is outright forced, and that bothers me. For example, in Marvel, it is pushed too hard, and the effort to cast women just for the sake of gender balance is too obvious.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

I wouldn't label it as a feminist series, but rather as gender-balanced, which I liked. The balance felt natural. Berlin went through hell and high water, but the women there somewhat softened it. Berlin didn't let emotions get in the way and had a more rational approach. He was extremely clever, which perhaps wasn't highlighted as much with Nairobi, especially in the spin-off series about Berlin where it's explained that he was truly a genius. I would lean towards Berlin's side because even though he's a misogynistic jerk, he's still a better leader. Nairobi showed vulnerability when the police used her child against her, which completely broke her. That wouldn't happen to Berlin because he's so tough that not even his own child could bring him down.

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- 5) **How does motherhood affect the character of Raquel? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

If a man were in her position, it would be easier for him. It is harder for her because she is a mother, has a child, and bears a certain responsibility for the child that a man would not have to the same extent, as his wife would be taking care of the child at home. So, in my opinion, this role is definitely more difficult for her as a woman than it would be if a man were in her place. So, I think combining such a demanding career with motherhood is quite challenging. In my opinion, there are certain jobs where motherhood simply doesn't fit well. I would say she put her child in quite dangerous situations due to her career decisions, which I think a parent definitely shouldn't do. So, I'd say it was somewhat selfish of her, and I don't consider her a good mother because she prioritizes herself and her goals over her child. I would rate her a 7. The family background added an extra layer of depth to her character, and because she's a mother raising a child on her own, it made the story more developed. Her being a mother added intensity to the story that wouldn't be there if she were, for example, a man.

- 6) How does motherhood affect the character of Alicia? Do you consider her a good mother? Is it possible to combine motherhood with her career? On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you like her character in the series and why?**

In this case, it felt a bit repetitive. When I think about it in the context of the series, it seems like the creators said, "A mother-detective with a child worked in the previous season, so let's try to include that again." So, here it felt maybe a bit less interesting because as a viewer, I had already encountered that in the previous season. Alicia definitely wasn't a good mother; she seemed quite crazy to me and exposed her child to brutal danger. There were scenes where she used illegal methods like torture, so I would say it's very difficult to combine motherhood with such practices and expect the child to turn out normal. Motherhood felt somewhat unnecessary for her because the character was interesting on her own. If I ignored the fact that she was pregnant and had a child, I would rate her an 8 because the character was quite intriguing by herself.

- 7) Did you like the topic of motherhood and career in the series or not? Do you think that the representation of such characters in this series was interesting?**

In Raquel's case, I found it very interesting because her situation was quite realistic; she was a divorced policewoman with a child and a demanding job, so I found it very compelling. However, with Alicia, it just felt like too much. It seemed forced to me, and I felt that the focus on her motherhood detracted from the main storyline of the heist. Perhaps it was due to the context because the heist was already intense, and people were fighting for their lives, so in contrast, Alicia's child aspect felt somewhat uninteresting.

- 8) Did the feminist trends in the show make you watch or enjoy the show more?**

Yes, because I think most of the strong female characters were portrayed quite well. There are certain shows where diversity is forced, like they have to have a strong female character for the sake of diversity, but here, I liked that the women were still women and not some kind of tomboy trying to be masculine at all costs. These were simply women who had their own interesting attributes, so I found the female roles very interesting, and I would say they were sometimes even more interesting than the male roles. I would say there were more interesting female roles than male roles. So, for me, it was done very well, and I think that's why the show was so successful because it's not a case of having women just to meet some standard. I remember, for example, the series Sex Education, which has a lot of characters with feminist traits, and this issue is pushed so much that it can actually annoy people.

9) Would you like to see similar characters (female mother-detectives) in other films/series or not? Should films and series show this topic more? Is it important? Do you think it fits the genre (drama/heist)?

Assuming that this theme is relevant in the series, then yes, I agree. It all depends on how relevant this aspect is to the film. If it fits well, then I welcome it, but if it's out of place, it might bother me. At the beginning, in Raquel's case, I found this theme very interesting and welcomed it, so evidently it can fit into the genre of heist drama. Since it was a series and there was room to develop it deeper, I really liked it.

10) Would you mark this show as feminist? How does the show display feminism in your point of view? In your opinion, is the show more feminist or misogynist? Whose side would you rather take - Nairobi's (feminist) or Berlin's (misogynist)?

This series could indeed be considered feminist, but it's so well integrated into the story that it doesn't feel forced, and the strong female characters make sense with realistic backgrounds explaining why they're so strong. So, yes, I'd easily call it a feminist show, but it might not come across that way to everyone. The series seemed interesting to me because anyone can find something intriguing in it without being bothered that there are such strong characters. I thought the women were portrayed very well, but Berlin's character was absolutely brilliantly written in my opinion. Despite his bad behavior towards women, he was interesting because you never knew what to expect from him, and that's what made it so interestingly done. Plus, everything about how he behaved, etc., is why I think they made a separate series about him. Because the character is interesting in itself and has huge depth compared to all the other characters. For example, Tokyo also seemed extremely interesting at the beginning, but Berlin always had something extra to surprise you with.