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Social Media and Women Empowerment: A Digital Feminist Analysis of “Watch Us Rise” by Watson and Hagan

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Abstract: This research study aims to explore the role of digital media in women empowerment in the context of Watson and Hagan’s novel *Watch Us Rise* (2019) by keeping in view Mendes, Ringrose and Keller’s work *Digital Feminist Activism* (2019) as a model framework. This study finds out different ongoing aspects of digital feminism and efforts of young feminist activists for women’s rights. Mendes, Ringrose and Keller (2019) claim that young feminist activists are using digital media as a platform to fight against rape culture by using different hashtags. This research study aims to find out different opinions and feelings of feminists regarding digital feminism. In this particular research study, it is described that Watson and Hagan (2019) have also used different hashtags in their work which are labeling *Watch Us Rise* (2019) a digital feminist text. In order to determine the role of digital media in women empowerment, Watson and Hagan’s (2019) work has been analyzed from digital feminist perspective. The findings of the research reveal that digital media is empowering women by providing them digital space and online support.

Introduction

The present article analyses the Watson and Hagan’s work *Watch Us Rise* (2019) to find out role of digital feminism in women empowerment. This study provides all those ongoing aspects of digital feminism which writers used in their work. It also reveals how digital media is involved in the lives of young feminists. The present study also highlights all those issues for which feminists are fighting with the help of digital media. They are fighting against rape culture, harassment at work place, institutional racism, sexual discriminations, body shaming and slut shaming. Watson and Hagan (2019) raised all these burning issues in their work. In *Watch*

digital feminist work that is highly needed in 21st century. The present study reflects how young feminists have started online campaigns for women’s rights and how digital media is providing them a platform to spread awareness about women’s issues. Digital media is providing equal opportunities to all women without racial discrimination.

Watson and Hagan’s work *Watch Us Rise* (2019) is a thought-provoking story of two teenage feminist activist girls Chelsea and Jasmine. The setting of the novel is New York City and it is written in American context. This co-written work seems to be autobiographical novel. This particular novel is a representation of the digital feminism and this type of novel is the need of

Us Rise (2019) writers have used different hashtags that are clearly labeling their work a

time. It covers a wide range of topics like feminism, racism, harassment, sexism, body shaming, slut shaming and use of digital media, friendship and misogynist attitudes of society for women. The writers of this particular novel are feminist activists. Renee Watson created another feminist work *Piecing Me Together* (2017). The major theme of Watson's works is feminism. The present study is significant as it highlights the role of digital media in women empowerment. It also explores different growing aspects of digital feminism in Watson and Hagan's novel *Watch Us Rise* (2019). This study aims to manifest the involvement of digital media in women empowerment by keeping in view Mendes, Ringrose and Keller's Work *Digital Feminist Activism* (2019) as model framework. The present research study is conducted to find out the answer of the research question: How digital feminism is involved in women empowerment in context of novel *Watch Us Rise*?

Theory of feminism focuses on three main schools of thoughts: mainstream feminism, radical feminism and social Marxist feminism. Feminists are focusing on patriarchal oppression system, sexual discrimination, stereotyping and power relations. In theory of feminism, digital feminism is trending term these days which is associated with fourth wave of the feminism. Social media is providing feminist activists a platform to stand against rape culture, sexual violence and harassment. In the recent years much advancement came in feminism with the use of internet. Feminist activists are utilizing from social media by starting online campaigns and movement by using different hashtags. Mendes, Ringrose and Keller (2019) conducted their research on very high-profile feminist campaigns like #BeenRapedNeverReported, #WhoNeedsFeminism, #MeToo, #Hollaback!, #EverydaySexism, #CropTopDay. These researchers analyzed the posts of these sites to find out the responses of women about the experiences of rape culture and the experiences of feminist activists by using digital media as a tool. They conducted interviews with the organizers of

these sites and with their users. So, for present study their research project-based book *Digital Feminist Activism* (2019) is adopted as a model framework. Mendes, Ringrose and Keller are the writers of the book *Digital Feminist Activism Girls and women Fight Back against Rape Culture* (2019). They conducted their research project to find out reasons of using digital media by feminists and to find out use of modern technologies to document the experiences of rape and harassment. These researchers used different methods to find out the results of their research questions and one of these methods is content analysis. They analyzed the posts of the selected websites to find out results. In the present study their book and their method of analysis is adopted as a model framework to find out the answers of the research questions. Mendes, Ringrose and Keller (2019) are the theorists of the present study.

Literature Review

Rentschler (2014) reveals that young feminists use internet to respond the rape culture. Rentschler explores how young women respond to rape culture through social media. In this modern age feminist bloggers utilize digital media to reveal rape cases and sexual harassment at public place. "The internet provides a space where feminists can learn from each other about why things some feminists see as harmless can be hurtful and offensive to others" (The landersson, 2014, p.529). Now a days many young women use digital media and some systems based on cell-phone and some other tools based on mobile data. All these cell-phone based systems are very helpful in revealing harassment cases and to identify harassers by uploading videos and photos on social media. Hollaback's politics is based on revealing harassment cultures that remain hidden in mainstream media. Young women use Hollaback's mobile to create content to read and respond "Produce". According to Rentschler (2014) internet misogyny is increasing day by day and it provides ability to offer online support for sexually harassed and assaulted people. So, this study suggests that rape culture needs

community-based innovation in which young women develop courage to see, hear and respond rape culture. Rentschler's (2014) research shows use of social media by young feminist not only exposes hidden rape cases but also they share their own experiences at online spaces.

Baer (2016) investigated that renewed feminist politics emerged due to the interference of digital platforms. This study focuses on SlutWalk Berlin and tweeter campaigns #Aufschreie and #YesAllWomen. In 2014 tweeter introduced a new wave of posts under the hashtag #YesAllWomen it draws attention towards sexism, misogyny and violence. The recent surge in feminist activism has been inspired by feminist ideas politics and protests including SlutWalk, FEMEN and Pussy Riot in Germany. In 2011 SlutWalk protest began in Canada and hundreds of the marches took place in seventy cities. FEMEN is a Ukrainian-based group founded in 2008. At the same year its first protest held in Kiev. Identity formation and sites of empowerment occupy a dual function in digital platforms. SlutWalk is started in Toronto in 2011. This protest has world-wide actions that drew attention to slut shaming, victim blaming and rape culture and issues of consent. In 2012 images of FEMEN'S BlackFencing has gone viral on social media. According to Theresa O'Keefe (2014) FEMEN and SlutWalk is a fail feminist strategy. They do not seek disrepute what constitute the desirable female body (2014). In O'Keefe's (2014) views such type of body politics is very dangerous.

Jackson (2016) opined that Black Lives Matter attained international fame and it became a cultural and technological phenomenon. Hashtags that linked to it used more than 10 million times. All those activists who support Black Lives Matter shutdown in all the big cities of America. Activists started the campaign of Black Lives Matter through social for re-imagining a democratic process for black lives. Black lives matter and black freedom movement were interlinked and some other projects like Black Youth project and Dream Defenders were the

organizations of black activists. Today these political contradictions are responded from racial justice activists. The discourses of intersectionality that value all black lives insisted by the organizational founders of black lives and the other members of this movement. Sarah suggests that all the activists of 21st century exemplified by the Black Lives Matter movement. They finally succeeded in making racial issues visible in mainstream America. All those activists who belong to Black Lives Matter movement gained national attention. Many other hashtags were also arisen alongside with #BlackLivesMatter and their main focus was to liberate of black lives politics. Many popularized hashtags were created by black women that monitor racial aspects and experiences of street harassment.

Gill (2016) explores that young feminists or the post-feminists use analytic lens in this age of post feminism. In neoliberalism they capture different contradictory patterns through social media. They are focus on individualism. Gill's (2016) research reveals that different activities are occurring on social media that draw attention towards postfeminist notion. According to Gill (2016) we all are still postfeminists. We are moving away from this concept due to fourth wave digital media-based activism.

Sobieraj (2017) discussed Bitch, Slut, Skank, Cunt: Patterned residence to women's visibility in digital publics in her research study. Sobieraj's (2017) research is based on two years in-depth interviews with those women who have been receiving gender based digital abuses. This study shows how women are being threatened for unwanted sexual violence and this violence has long constrained of female's use of public spaces. "The abuse can be particularly burdensome for women of color who receive racialized gender-based attacks and race-based attacks in addition to kinds of harassment white women experience" (Gray, 2012). In this age of technologies digital media facilitates women to construct digital spaces with great potential of inclusivity. All those

people who belong to marginalized groups can easily use these tools to enter and explore and share their experiences freely. All these spaces proved very helpful and valuable spaces of solidarity for disadvantaged groups. According to Sobieraj (2017), the use of social networking system is easy and less costly than all the other sources. It is easier to start a blog than launch a newspaper. Female journalists, academics, political figures, activists and bloggers often find themselves targeted for abuse. The abuse is burdensome for radicalized women of colour and gender-based attacks in addition to experiences of white women's harassment. Sobieraj's (2017) research reveals that digital misogyny is common among young women over a quarter who report having been sexually harassed online.

Mendes & Ringrose (2018) conducted research on #MeToo and the promise pitfalls of challenging rape culture through digital feminist activism. Tarana Burke is an African American women's activist who founded #MeToo movement in (2006). #MeToo hashtag provided a platform to feminist activists. "Tweeter is overwhelmingly a negative toxic space for women" (Shaw, 2014). Results of the study exposes that how digital feminism is generating positive connections in community and supporting views of feminists and in rape culture and solidarity. Despite threats of attack, feminists found many strategies to deal with this. Some viral digital movements such as #MeToo and many more like it (#BeenRapedNeverReported and #YesAllWomen) are providing platforms for women and young girls' voices. These campaigns provide significant spaces to young girls and many other feminist women to participate in debates which are being held at public places on sexism, rape culture and sexual harassment. This research encourages researchers to continue exploring the experiences of participants. Jouet (2018) analyzed digital feminism: Questioning the renewal of activism in her study. Jouet (2018) conducted her research in France. Jouet's (2018) study analyses that how feminists use digital media to promote feminism.

This study is based on qualitative surveys and face to face interviews with activists. In Western societies feminist activists are gaining empowerment through digital media. In this study Jouet analyzed different forms and strategies of online feminism in France. In the start of 21st century 3rd wave of feminism came with latest technologies like internet, social media, Facebook and twitter accounts. In 2016, feminists launch new campaign #I Am Feminist. In this campaign dare was given to followers to send their selfies with a short message. Many protests were arranged by feminists against cyber-sexism and street harassment. In Germany the hashtag #Aufschrei collected 57000 postings in three days in reaction to sexist comments. Digital media contributed to a reconfiguration of feminism in France like many other countries. Digital media attracted young feminists and it proved very helpful to regenerate feminism and to bring gender issues in public sphere. Feminists are facing the re-emergence of reactionary forces in Western countries. The results of this study show how young feminists use social media to reduce cases of cyber-sexism and street harassment. It shows that young feminists are gaining empowerment through use of digital media in Western countries.

Jackson (2018) conducted her research on young girls who declare themselves as feminists by using social media. In Jackson's views digital media provides a safe platform to young feminists. They can easily contact with other feminists and can share their notions and experiences with other feminists both locally and internationally. Findings of the study are highlighting all those ways which digital media is providing to young feminists for exploring activism and feminism.

Theoretical Framework

Digital feminism is a new trending term in 21st century. It belongs to fourth wave of feminism. Digital feminism is engagement of feminism or activism and it belongs to feminist ideologies on

internet. Fourth wave of feminism perceived popularity due to use of social media it is providing a safe platform to social activists and feminist activists. They can easily raise their voices against social injustice, sexual violence, harassment cases and rape culture through the

use of digital and media it is providing a safe platform to social activists and feminist activists. They raise their voices against social injustice, sexual violence and rape culture. Many feminist scholars stated that digital feminism has been the great advancement in feminism in last 50 years. Positive use of social media is giving empowerment to women.

Some very famous hashtags or online movements are following: #YessAllWomen, #BringBackOurGirls, #NotOurAsianSideKick, #SolidarityForWhiteWomen, #GirlsGaze, #WhyStayed, #GirlsLikeUs, #SayHerName, #PrettyPeriod, #Women'sRights, #BlackLivesMatter, #GenderEquality, #FemaleEmpowerment, #IntersectionalFeminism. In the fourth wave of feminism social media is promoting feminism and it perceived fame globally. Some feminist works of 21st century which are associated with the fourth wave of feminism are following: *Men Explain Things to Me* by Rebecca Solnit (2014), *The Vegenda* by Rhiannon Lucy Cosslett and Holly Baxter (2014), *Sex Object: A Memoir* by Jessica Valenti (2016), *Everyday Sexism* by Laura Bates (2016).

Analytical Framework

A digital feminist work *Digital Feminist Activism: Girls and Women Fight Back Against Rape Culture* (2019) by Mendes, Rigrose and Keller is adopted as a model framework for the present study. In this book writers present their research project that was conducted by these three writers in order to capture the experiences of doing digital feminist activism. This project combines different methodological approaches like ethnographic methods, content analysis, in depth interviews, thematic analysis, surveys and focused group interviews. Except these above given case studies,

they also conducted semi-structured interviews with 4 males and 78 females from several international contexts. They also analyzed digital content pieces over 800 including tweets, selfies and blog posts. Their work highlight how female's present rape culture by using digital platforms including mobile apps, Facebook, Tumblr, Twitter and blogs. In this project Mendes, Ringrose and Killer (2019) raised some research questions about digital feminist media and these questions are following: How digital media is being used by young feminists to negotiate the experiences of sexual violence, harassment and sexism? What experiences of the harassment, rape culture and misogyny are women responding to? Why females are selecting technologies of digital media in such ways? What are their experiences of using digital media to encourage activism? To answer the following question, they conducted their research on digital campaigns or online feminist movements. These online feminist movements are following:

Who Needs Feminism?

This campaign was launched in 2012 by 16 students of Duke University enrolled in the "Women in Public Sphere". These students used a very famous site Tumblr to share their own pictures holding signs which were explaining why they need feminism. There were 5,000 submission of original Who Needs Feminism? in 2012. In the world there were 60 Universities who have started their own Who Need Feminism? campaigns and their own separate websites. On this site Tumblr participants use different ways and signs to express their need for feminism. "Consequently Tumblr has become a platform that is particularly popular with marginalized groups including people of color, queer communities and girls and women" (Cho, 2015; The landerson, 2014; Warfield, 2016).

#BeenRapedNeverReported

This hashtag #BeenRapedNeverReported created by a very famous lady reporter of Toronto star

Antonia Zebias with her close friend Sue Montgomery. These two friends started using this hashtag to share the stories of their own sexual assaults. This hashtag became a trending hashtag within 24 hours. And in all over the world people used this hashtag round about 8 million times. Jian Ghomeshi is a host of radio programme of Canada. Ghomeshi fired from the job of host after the allegations of sexual violence. In 2014, after Ghomeshi's allegations of sexual violence this hashtag became a trending hashtag. The most active time of this hashtag is from November 2014 to March 2015. So in this hashtag people share the stories of their sexual violence. As Fileborn argues "Documenting the emotional harms of practices such as street harassment is a deliberate curatorial strategy used by participants to challenge notions that are minor or not harmful to encourage appropriate response from readers" (Fileborn, 2018).

#EverydaySexism

Everyday sexism hashtag began in 2012 by British feminist Laura Bates. This hashtag or project includes the experiences of sexism like body shaming, harassment at work place and sexual assaults. People start sharing their own stories on this site. They submit their experiences on homepage, Twitter and via Email. This hashtag became very popular hashtag. In the starting two months it gathered 1,000 entries all over the world. Laura Bates was surprised because she was not expecting such popularity. Bates says "It was originally established to record instances of sexism" (Bates, 2014, p.18).

#CropTopDay

This hashtag #CropTopDay began by a teenage girl Alexi Halket in 2015. She was the student of Suburban Toronto high school. Uniform of this school was inappropriate crop top. This dress looks like a supports bra. Halket decided to organize a protest against this inappropriate school dress. Halket used digital media to spread this word crop top day for protest. She used

Twitter, Facebook. This hashtag (#croptopday) became protest hashtag. This hashtag spread all over the world with in few days. The tweets of this hashtag focus on the connection of school dress codes and rape culture. This hashtag show, how teenage girls are using social media as a tool to gain the attention of feminist activists. #CropTopDay is a school based feminism club of teenage girls. Young feminist activists challenge rape culture within institutionalized school context. Young feminist girls start operating joint Twitter account. They share the experiences of the rape culture online and offline. After studying this hashtag, we came to know how young feminists are utilizing social media for their feminist activities. Digital media is providing a platform for young feminists.

Hollaback!

Hollaback is a nonprofit organization which began by a group of seven people who belongs to New York City in (2005). This organization has multiple ways or means through which users can easily share the experiences of harassment. They share their experiences through uploading the pictures of their harassers. They share stories through mapping their harassment via a GPS-based app or also can share the place of harassment. In this organization users have different means. Basically, Hollaback is anti-street harassment project. Users share the stories of street harassment on this Hollaback website.

#MeToo movement

An American feminist activist Tarana Burke coined term #MeToo in 2006. She is considered the pioneer of #MeToo movement. #MeToo hashtag is mother hashtag of all movements. In this hashtag feminist activists share the stories of sexual violence and sexual abuse at work place. #MeToo movement started in 2006 but has gone viral in 2017. It became an international movement in a very short span of time. Tarana Burke not only fights for the rights of black people but also, she is the prominent

member of the activist’s group “The Silent Breakers”. In the field of feminist digital activism #MeToo is most high-profile example. In this profile many women share their stories by using this hashtag. #MeToo movement is a platform where all women can share their experiences of sexual harassment and sexual assaults.

Textual Analyses

This novel is being analyzed through the lens of digital feminism theory by keeping in view the Mendes, Ringrose and Keller’ work *Digital Feminist Activism* (2019) as a model framework to find out the role of social media in women-empowerment. The analysis of the novel reveals the role of digital media that is being played in the lives of young feminists. It also finds out all those ongoing aspects of digital feminism which are involved in women empowerment.

This analysis highlights that two teenage girls, Chelsea and Jasmine who stand up in school for women’s right with the help of digital media. It also points out how these young girls undergone various problem but don’t lose hope. The analysis of the novel finds out how these young talented girls take some initiatives for the restatement of their club which was shut down by principal of their school. It also exposes that the reappearance of women’s club is a big victory for Chelsea, Jasmine and all other women, concerning this particular club. It also discusses that institutional racism and very trending term hashtag feminism that is used by the writers of this particular novel. So in the following lines some chunks are taken from the novel as textual sample for analysis.

“May be I just need to start my own magazine, or club, and create a space where learning and talking about women is normal and doesn’t get shut down right away.” (Watson and Hagan, 2019, p.58)

Young feminist are utilizing social media for feministic purposes and debates. Watson and Hagan (2019) the story of two young feminist girls who are using digital media as platform for using

their voices in favor of women’s rights through poetic art and essays uploading on their blog (Write Like A Girl). Chelsea the leading character of the novel is feminist activist and poet. In her poetry she speaks about female oppression and body shaming. So in above given statement Chelsea says she needs a space where talking about women and their issues would be a normal thing. The social media is providing a space where they can raise their voices for justice. Digital media is providing feminist a platform where they can share their experiences. Similarly Mendes, Ringrose and Keller’s (2019) research Project reveals that from many decades feminist activists are trying to create a space where they could speak freely and safely without any threat. Digital media provided them a safe space where they can talk about harassment, social injustice, sexual violence and patriarchal oppression. In their project they analyzed many famous websites and find out how these websites are facilitating women to raise voice for justice all over the world with in no time.

“Our site had been visited more than hundred times, and look-every time I refresh, the number goes up. I refresh again and the number bumps up to 153.” (Watson and Hagan, 2019, p.96)

Above given statement is showing that Chelsea and Jasmine’s blog (Write Like A Girl) gone viral at the very first day of its start. They are happy to see many people are visiting and liking their blog and reblogging their posts. In the same way Mendes, Ringrose and Keller’s research project *Digital Feminist Activism: Girls and Women Fight Back Against Rape Culture* (2019) reveals that #BeenRapedNeverReported spread all over the world at the first day of its start. They also mentioned in their project that this hashtag #BeenRapedNeverReported used by people 8 million times. So this above stated line reflects how digital media is empowering women especially two young girls of the novel Chelsea and Jasmine by providing them a platform where their thoughts ideas and issues about women are going to be listened and valued at international

level. Everyone is noticing them along with their posts.

“Underneath the photo it says: #princeslife #princesrock #goodlife #princeslikeagirl #squadgoals #whysoserious #jokesonthem” (Watson and Hagan, 2019, p.152)

Above mentioned hashtags are taken from the novel *Watch Us Rise* (2019). These hashtagsshow how digital feminist novel it is. In the modern age of technologies many young feminists are using different hashtags for their campaigns and movements. In the recent yearshashtag feminism became trending term and used by many feminists. Mendes, Ringrose and Keller’s (2019) research project discloses many feminist hashtags that are very high-profile hashtags and are being used all over the world. In their project they analyzed some high-profile hashtags like #WhoNeedsFeminism, #CropTopDay, #MeToo, #BeenRapedNeverReported, #EverydaySexism.

“If we really want to make a point that women’s voices deserve to be heard, that our school has to do better-let’s take action”. (Watson and Hagan, 2019, p.186)

In recent years feminist activists demanded SlutWalk marches to end all type of the violence and victim blaming. Mendes, Ringrose and Keller (2019) stated all these issues in their book. The leading characters of the selected novel are very enthusiastic and want to take some actions for women’s voices. Jasmine the main character of the novel is young fat black girl. In Amsterdam Heights School’s theater club, she suffered from racism. She is very ambitious girl and wants to do something for other girls. She says to Chelsea if we really want to do something for women voices that need to be heard we should take some actions. Chelsea asks her what we can do for it. Jasmine says we should think about more than a club. She says Amsterdam Heights School should do something better let’s take action. These talks show these two young girls are very brave and they want to do more things and women’s rights club is not enough. This thing shows digital media

is giving them empowerment and confidence. Many people are supporting them and their ideas online. Writers of the novel are also girls and they are also social activists and feminists. The story of Chelsea and Jasmine reflects their own life and their experiences of school life.

“So many of us have stories to tell about sexual harassment and getting catcalled on the way to school. Girls have talked about teachers making sexist comments in math and science”. (Watson and Hagan, 2019, p.269)

When Chelsea and Jasmine’s club shut down they decided a place for meet up. Every week they meet up at that place and discuss their ideas with each other. When they all meet face to face they share stories of harassment, sexual violence at public place and on the way of school getting catcalled. Jasmine says many students specially girls talk about some teachers of science and math by making very sexist comments. She also says parents of some students are not aware that where their children are coming from. Jasmine tells their friends and many other students inspired from our meet up and started their own clubs in school. At this meet up they discuss different activities they want to do and many other important things they discuss. They are planning many activities for coming days by using hashtag #WriteLikeAGirl. This thing reveals how these young girls are ambitious. They even don’t lose their hope and keep start their work for women’s rights club. This thing shows how empowerment and confidence these two young girls gained digital media. They are going to stand for their rights without losing hope.

“My body is not for yours for taking, grabbing, slapping, and commenting on. I am not the quench for your thirst. Don’t tell me to smile, don’t call me bitch when I walk away”. (Watson and Hagan, 2019, p.331)

The above given statements are showing rage of a black girl against men. She is tired from the way of living and from those roles which society has set for women, she said men take women’s

body as for granted especially women of colour. Mendes, Ringrose and Keller (2019) also highlighted the issue of body shaming several times in their work. They says, they analyzed the posts of many feminist websites and pointed out that young feminists are raising the issue of body shaming by sharing the stories of different women who suffered from these issues. And in Watson and Hagan's (2019) work leading character Jasmine Gray has written above quoted poem being inspired from Emory Douglas. In this poem she addresses from the men of the New York City.

Jasmine says, "I am not a toy like yo-yo you can't pull me close. She says can't own my body it's not your property". She says that you can't comment on my body and you can't grab me or slap me. Jasmine says in her poem that there is no need to tell her how to smile she knows to smile. She says, you have no right to call me bitch when she walks. She also says she is not your baby don't call her sexy. You even can't own her or rename her. These heart touching lines of Jasmine's poem reveals rage of a girl against man because women suffers from such type of the comments. The writers of the novel are also female and this novel *Watch Us Rise* (2019) is rich with the themes of social media and feminism.

Conclusion

After analyzing the selected novel, it could be said that writers of the novel raised the burning issues of the women that exists in current era. This particular novel exposes the fight of young feminists to end sexual violence, rape culture, slut shaming, body shaming, harassment and institutional racism. The textual analysis of the novel *Watch Us Rise* (2019) declares that Watson and Hagan's work is a complete representation of digital feminism. Analysis of the novel finds out some ongoing aspects of digital feminism like hashtag feminism. The findings of the analysis highlight the role of digital media in women empowerment. After analyzing the selected novel, it could be said that writers of the novel

raised the burning issues of the women that exists in current era. This particular novel exposes the fight of young feminists to end sexual violence, rape culture, slut shaming, body shaming, harassment and institutional racism. The textual analysis of the novel *Watch Us Rise* (2019) declares that Watson and Hagan's work is a complete representation of digital feminism. Analysis of the novel finds out some ongoing aspects of digital feminism like hashtag feminism.

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