

**THE ROLE OF AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS IN SUPPORTING
GENDER EQUALITY IN SOUTH AFRICA'S PARLIAMENT**

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS



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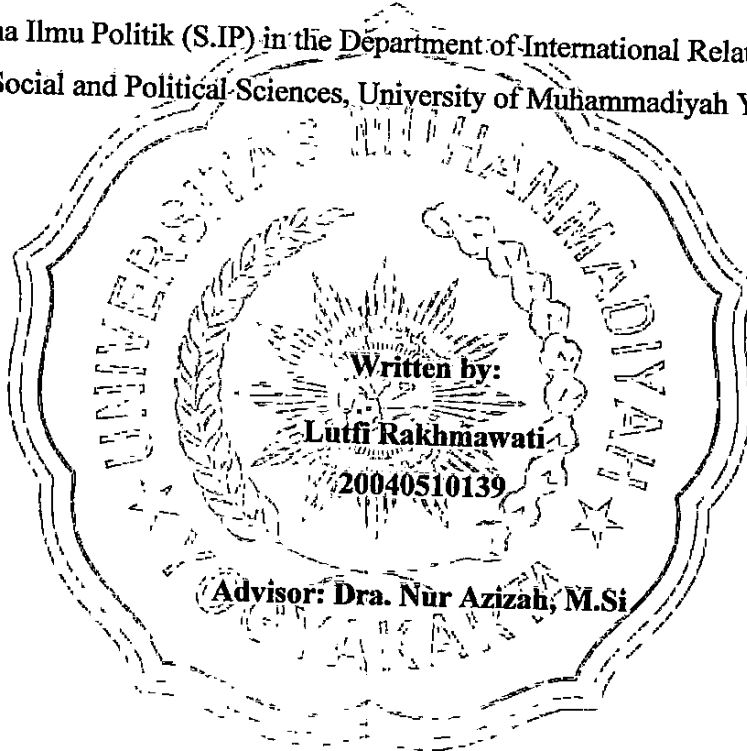
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Ilmu Politik (S.IP)
in the Dept. of International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences,
University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
FACULTY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES
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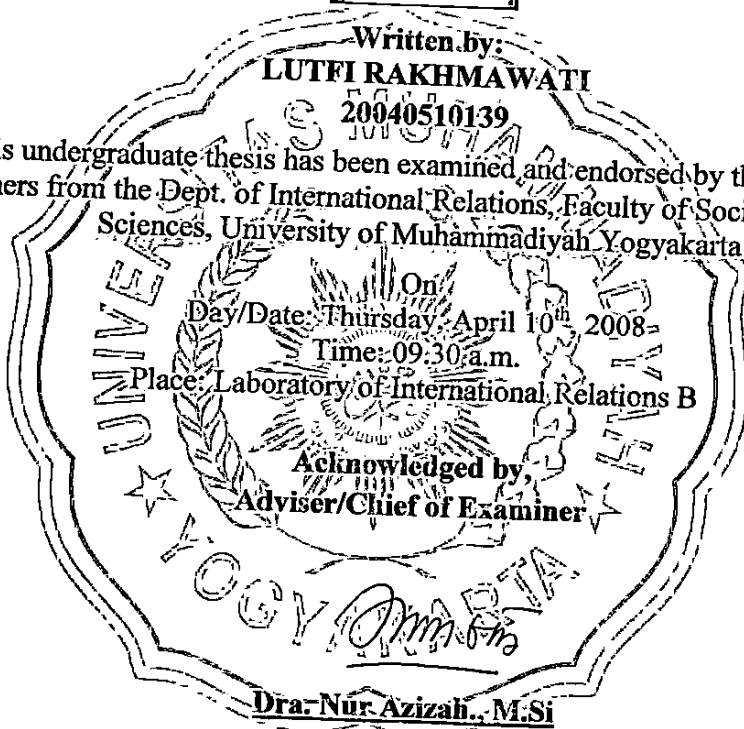
ENDORSEMENT PAGE

**This Undergraduate Thesis entitled:
The Role of African National Congress in Supporting Gender Equality in South
Africa's Parliament**

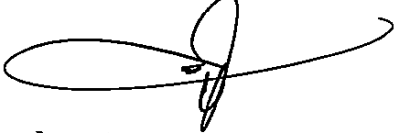


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For those who have brought endless love for me, and certainly will always do:
A, B, and C. You're every word, you're every line, you're everything...

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PREFACE



"Are defeats necessary?"

Well, necessary or not, they happen. When we first fighting for our dreams, we have no experience and do many mistakes.

The secret of life, though, is to fall seven times and to get up eight times"

(Paulo Coelho, The Alchemist)

This descriptive undergraduate thesis is aimed as the obligation to graduate from International Relations Department. The foremost consideration to carry out women issue is that women, whenever in the world, actually have the ideas to speak up. Although the fact that women's discrimination is beyond question, with their way, women can somehow survive and play important role in a nation's history. Particularly for they who experienced strict and long lasted discrimination against gender and skin color, South African women are very interesting object to explore. The further research, however, leads me to one situation, the women can not move forward unless the state, the people and the international community support their existence. By the end, I then can perceive that strong passion of women is not the only factor. Indeed, supportive political environment is a bigger matter that somehow, can work in effective way.

Along with the completion of the thesis, there are a lot of people's help and assistance. This is just a little *tribute* to their big *contribution*. Here I personally thank the following:

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ABSTRACT

For many countries, women's life has been, and will always be, big concern. Responding the gender discrimination that is easily found in all elements of life, gender equality concept is introduced as the solution in balancing men-women relations. As the actor in political aggregation and articulation, political party is one of the most influential political instruments in carrying the big agenda of gender equality. This thesis will merely focus on the efforts of African National Congress, the most powerful political party in South Africa, in supporting the women's participation in parliament as the part of campaigning gender equality.

At the end of the explanation, all I can conclude is a reflective idea on how a political party can effectively bring the voice of the women in parliament. Most of the country's failure in addressing women's issues, including gender equality, is caused by lack of commitment and cooperation among the elements of the society inside the country. When the elements of society work hand in hand, achieving the unbiased

ABREVIATIONS

ANC	(African National congress)
ANCWL	(African National Congress Women's League)
BWL	(Bantu Women's League)
COD	(Congress of Democrats)
CODESA	(The Convention for a Democratic South Africa)
CSVR	(Center for the Study of Crime and Reconciliation)
IDEA	(The International Democracy and Electoral Assistance)
IPU	(Inter Parliamentary Union)
NICRO	(National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation)
NP	(National Party)
SANNC	(South African Native National Congress)
SACPO	(African Colored People's Organization)
SACTU	(South African Congress of Trade)
SAPS	(South African Police Service)
PAC	(Pan Africanist Congress)
UN	(United Nations)

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