

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter discusses the conclusions which are drawn from the discussions in the previous chapter. Some suggestions are also given regarded to the future research.

5.1 Conclusions

This research aims to answer the research question, which are to find out the ways are gender roles portrayed through the main female character in *The Reader*. In general, it can be concluded that the gender roles in *The Reader* are subverted through doing men's job, joining the army and adopting men's roles in a society.

The attitude in adopting gender identity by doing men's job occurred as the main female character, Hanna, decided to work for a living. In that condition, Hanna had to go outside home to earn money, which were in that time only done by men. Additionally, gender roles were also subverted as Hanna joined the army. This contradicts to traditional gender roles that women should perform feminine qualities, such as being beautiful housewife and performing motherly, meek, gentle and nurture personality as mentioned in the traditional roles. The traditional roles perceive that man is stronger than woman, but Hanna's decision to join the army which is required the physical strength rejected this perception.

In the view of liberal feminists' perspective, it is safe to said that the portrayal of gender roles through the main female character in the novel does signify the spirit of liberal feminism because obviously the women in the novel has succeeded in liberating herself in the patriarchal society and the women has also achieved the equality in all aspect of her life.

From the description above it can be concluded that in particular way the traditional gender roles are subverted. Thus, woman is no longer perceived as a weakness or lower creature, but women can be equal with man in many aspects such as education, employment, politics and economy.

5.2 Suggestions

The author considered that this research can provide a useful reference for literature study and its application in the society, therefore, the writer suggested that;

1. Deep comprehension towards the literary works is important, so the students will gain more issues that can be raised from it.
2. Related further research should be intended to analyze the phenomena of subverting gender roles in more details topic, especially focus on gender theory or using other tools of analysis such as psychoanalysis.
3. In academic setting, literature teaching and learning activities should result in providing guidance, especially for women in particular societies, that there is equality between man and woman, as a novel is produced as the representation of human life, *The Reader*, shows that the values of gender

subversion is real and it can be a motivation for women to develop and subvert their traditional roles.

Thus, it should be realized that gender equality is important and it should be introduced and implemented in the society.

