

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This chapter presents the conclusion of the study that is derived from the result of the analysis that has been conducted in the previous chapter. This chapter includes the summary of the study and the suggestion for further research.

5.1. Conclusion

In examining gossip in the novel *Everyone Worth Knowing*, this study employs two theories; the representation theory that is proposed by Young (1999) and Lui's (2012) theory of gossip. The representation theory is used to find the representation of gossip in the novel which later is connected to the theory of gossip to answer the research question. The result of the analysis shows that most gossip in the novel is represented in the verbal depiction. The verbal depiction becomes the most evident of literary depiction that appears in the novel since gossip itself is verbal action which involves a talk or discussion.

In relation with the theory of gossip, the representation of gossip in the novel is depicted as the reflection of the modern human behavior that becomes the feature of certain society. Gossip is shown as the tool that has important roles through its function in the cycle of certain working world. Throughout the novel, gossip has been represented not only as the conversation that happens in social groups, but is also represented as the issue that entails many aspects such as gender bias, society's perception towards certain thing, and morality. The novel has shown another side of gossip that might be unfamiliar to some readers.

As a final remark, this study is conducted to provide alternative understanding towards gossip. Gossip that has negative label such as the damage of reputation is portrayed in different ways in this novel. Although the negative side of gossip is also shown in the novel, it is reasonable now to treat gossip in a different way. Gossip

actually can be brought into academic level since it contains aspects that have become the area of study such as gender issue, power, and literary research. Therefore, this study also neutralizes negative label of gossip by showing its social function.

5.2. Suggestion

It appears that there has not been any study which analyses the novel *Everyone Worth Knowing* by Lauren Weisberger before. The fact that this novel is less popular compared to Lauren's first novel probably becomes the reason why the novel has not been examined before. Other research about gossip in literary works usually uses more popular books such as *Emma* and *Gossip Girl* as their main data. This is actually a good opportunity for furthers research to make this novel as the content of the research to provide an alternative in the area of gossip study in the literary works. The novel contains some issues besides gossip that can be explored further such as the idea of popularity, the issue of celebrity, and power relation between the characters in the novel. The issue of gossip also can be examined by using the power relation theory to see the relation that happens between the characters in the novel. Since gossip in the novel is not only used as the tool to enhance people's social status, its influence can affect the relationship in certain working environment which can be analyzed by using power relation.

