CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter is divided into two sub-sections. The first sub-section presents the conclusions of the study based on the findings and discussion from the previous sections. The second sub-section presents several recommendations for further studies.

5.1. Conclusions

The aims of this study are to investigate the representation of Disney’s white and non-white women in the films *Brave* (2012) and *Moana* (2016) and to reveal the meaning behind the representation. In Disney’s Brave, as the representative of white woman, Merida is represented as a rebellious woman in the domestic sphere. On the other hand, Moana as the representative of Disney’s non-white women is represented as a devoted princess towards her people in the domestic sphere.

The analyses Merida’s and Moana’s characterization show that Disney’s white and non-white women are represented differently. Disney’s white women are often placed in the context of domesticity as can also be seen from the franchise of Disney’s princess films which often put women in their domesticity and subordination to men in their lives. However, Disney through the representation of Merida shows that in the domesticity, women should not be less-powerful or subordinate to men in their lives. Merida’s strong disagreement towards the idea of the arranged marriage represents the egalitarian idea that women have an equal right to choose someone to love.
Therefore, it can be concluded that compared to Disney’s white women who are often represented in their domesticity, Disney’s non-white women tend to be placed in the public sphere. Disney’s non-white women tend to be represented as a devoted, self-sacrificing, but also obedient to their family. Disney seems to depict Disney 21st century non-white women as the devoted one and more independent in the realm of public domain. The status of the nation of non-white women that is not as powerful as the whites might contribute to the representation of non-white women who are strong and devoted to their nation and tribe. From the representation, it can also be implied that Disney challenges the expected norms proposed by several theorists that say white women have been often put in the public sphere meanwhile the non-white women in their domesticity. Moreover, through Merida and Moana, Disney also challenges the previous Disney’s women representation by making both of them, regardless of their skin color, as a new archetype of Disney princesses who are more egalitarian, brave, can stand on their own feet, and not dependent on men.

5.2. Recommendation

There are also several recommendations that are proposed for the further studies. One of the suggestions is to compare different representations of particular characters presented in animated films using mise-en-scene theory. The next researchers can use any films from different popular animated production house such as Pixar or DreamWorks. It is also recommended to conduct a study using other film technique elements such as camera movement, sound, or framing.

Moreover, the next researchers can also try to compare characters based on their skin colors in the films. It is interesting to see how one big production house or one group of people perceives someone based on their skin colors. The writer hopes that with this study, there will be more studies in the field of film studies that focus on animated films.