

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter consists of the conclusion of this study and also suggestion for further studies. The findings which are discussed in the previous chapter are summed up in the conclusion and the suggestion contains recommendation for further studies.

#### 5.1. Conclusion

After analysing the novel entitled *A Child Called 'It'* by Dave Pelzer from the perspective of child abuse and Family Systems Theory, it can be concluded that the concepts of Family Systems Theory are realised in four ways: family projection process, nuclear family emotional process, triangling, and differentiation of self. Family projection process and nuclear family emotional process are the triggers of child abuse in which the mother's concern projection and the parents' arguments cause the child abuse. Meanwhile, triangling and differentiation of self are the concepts that perpetuate child abuse. The father's failure in reducing the tension between the mother and the main character and also the main character's lack of self-differentiation make the child abuse unstoppable.

Therefore, child abuse has its own explanation from the perspective of Family Systems Theory. Child abuse is produced from the mother's great concern about David. The concern is caused by little David's delinquency. From this point, the mother tries to fix his delinquency through physical punishments. However, the punishments that she gives have crossed the line. Rather than fixing David's delinquency, the mother commits child abuse that hurts David physically and emotionally. Then, this condition makes the relationships among the family members worse. The mother uses wrong methods in disciplining David. The father, who is supposed to be a savior for David, leaves home because he cannot bear to stay at home any longer after witnessing the child abuse. He also cuts off his communication with all family members after leaving home. The other sons of the Pelzer family reject him because they do not want to be the next victim of their abusive mother. The happy family is then gone and all family members are

Hafidza Fitriyantisam, 2017

**AN ANALYSIS OF A CHILD CALLED 'IT' BY DAVE PELZER FROM FAMILY SYSTEMS THEORY PERSPECTIVE**

Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia | repository.upi.edu | perpustakaan.upi.edu

in bad relationships because of the child abuse. This condition proves what Murray Bowen mentions about family. He calls family as inseparable units and indeed each family member is interconnected.

## **5.2. Suggestion**

The results of this study only show four out of eight concepts of Family Systems Theory which are triangling, differentiation of self, nuclear family emotional process, and family projection process. To have a better understanding of all concepts of Family Systems Theory, conducting further studies that analyse different types of family issue such as drug-addict family or broken home family is recommended. The findings of further studies might cover the other concepts of Family Systems Theory that are not discovered yet in the findings of this study such as multi-generation transmission process, sibling position, emotional cutoff, and societal regression. The further studies may also apply Family Systems Theory in other literary works.