

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter presents the conclusion and suggestion of the present study. The chapter is further divided into two sections. The first section elaborates the conclusion of this study, and the second section presents suggestion for further study.

5.1 Conclusions

The present study investigates the representation of Palestinians in the three speeches of US representatives regarding the UN General Assembly Vote on Palestinians statehood resolution in 2012. The study aims to uncover the ways Palestinians are represented including the strategies used by the US representatives in their speeches and to unpack the ideologies underlying the representations.

The study finds that Palestinians are represented explicitly negative in the speeches. It can be seen from the extremely wide gap between the percentage of inclusion compared to the percentage of exclusion along with the use of negation in the form of phrases containing negative semantic loads evidenced in the speeches. They are represented as the blamed party over several negative actions addressed to Israel. Based on the representations, underlying ideologies are successfully drawn, and the ideologies underlying the representation involve “colonialism”, and partiality.

However, different speakers and context of each speech influence the speakers’ decision in representing the Palestinians, and it is resulted in the different strategies used in representing the Palestinians in their speeches. The study also finds that their diversity of functions in the government does influence their ways and

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strategies in representing Palestinians, but the diversity does not influence their ways in representing their country differently from the two other representatives because in some important ways they all contribute to a similar construction of representing the US and they also have the same ideologies underlying their representations on Palestinians.

Based on the finding above, it can be concluded that representation supported with transitivity as a tool to identify semantic categories contained in the speeches are two important things in doing CDA. Representation itself reflects and emphasizes its interpretations and underlying ideologies in the investigated texts. Thus, CDA can be used as a tool for social analysis applied in language. It is in line with a statement from Wodak and Meyer (2009) which explain that CDA is “fundamentally interested in analyzing opaque as well as transparent structural relationships of dominance, discrimination, power and control as manifested in language”.

5.2 Suggestions for Further Studies

For further research, there are some suggestions to expand the study of representation of social actor. First, since the present study uses transcription of political speeches as the object of the study, the future researchers is encouraged to enlarge their scope of study in terms of the form of the object of the study by taking not only transcription of speeches, but also transcription of interviews or press conferences. It aims to seek the strategies of representation used in the different forms of political discourse. Second, the present study uses political discourse as the object of the study. Further researchers can also expand their object of the study by taking other kinds of discourse, such as: educational, cultural, or social discourse. It is expected to reveal interesting findings in the study. Third, in conducting the present study, van Leeuwen’s (2008) sociosemantic approach on social actor is utilized supported with

Halliday's (2004) Transitivity analysis as a tool to identify semantic categories in the speeches. Thus, the future researchers are suggested to utilize different framework other than van Leeuwen's (2008) sociosemantic framework in conducting the study, such as: van Dijk's sociocognitive approach or Reisigl and Wodak's discourse-historical approach.



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