

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter consists of two parts. The first part presents the conclusions of the present study regarding the research questions which are presented in the previous chapter. The second part discusses the suggestions for further studies which are related to the present study.

5.1 Conclusions

This study has elaborated the refusal strategies found in family domain and its relation toward power possession possessed by family members. Based on the data analysis, there are 10 out of 11 strategies proposed by Aziz (2000) applied in the family domain. The 10 strategies are *direct NO strategies, hesitation and lack of enthusiasm, offering an alternative, postponement, general acceptance with excuse, giving reason and explanation, conditional YES, complaining and criticizing, put the blame on third party and questioning-justification of a request*. The analysis results the absence of *threatening* strategies in a family domain.

The most frequent strategies applied by parents are *giving reason and explanation* strategy (18.7%), followed by *hesitation and lack of enthusiasm* and *offering an alternative* strategies that share the same result (17.2%). Father tends to use *giving reason and explanation* strategy as frequent as the offering an *alternative* strategy while mother prefers to apply *hesitation and lack of enthusiasm* strategy. This means that the father seems to apply his rational side in

the statement since he is regarded logical figure in family. On the other hand,
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mother's choice to apply *hesitation and lack of enthusiasm* strategy implies her sensitive nature (Holmes, 2001) which is delivered through the utterances (Tannen, 2003)

The children tend to apply *hesitation and lack of enthusiasm* (25.0%), *giving reason and explanation* (18.7%), and *postponement* strategies (14.1%) in their refusal statements. The child #1 is likely to use *giving reason and explanation* strategy of refusal while the child #2 prefers applying *postponement* and *hesitation or lack of enthusiasm* strategies. This means that the child #1 is more clear, real and factual in refusing request since she gives elaboration or opinion on request that is asked to her. On the other hand, the child #2 is likely to show rejection ambiguously and unclear.

In term of speaker-hearer relation based on power possession, the relation between parents-children and the hearers do not influence the utilizing of the indirect refusal strategies as the common strategies used by both parties significantly. It is because both parents and children apply indirect refusal strategy when refusing request from powerful hearers, equal power hearers, and powerless hearers. Parents and children have similarity in refusing request from equal power hearers and more powerful hearers. They tend to use *hesitation and lack of enthusiasm* when refusing equal power hearer's request, while apply *giving reason and explanation* strategy to refuse more powerful hearer,

Furthermore, regarding to the nature of request, both parents and children have differences in selecting strategies when refusing low and middle ranking imposition of the nature of request. Parents use *giving reason and explanation*

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strategy in refusing low ranking of request while the children apply *hesitation and lack of enthusiasm* strategy. When refusing requests with medium request, the parents tend to use *offering an alternative* strategy and the children prefer to use *hesitation and lack of enthusiasm* strategy. The same result is found in the implementation of categorical refusal strategy in refusing high ranking imposition of the nature of request. Both parents and children are likely to refuse by giving reason and explanations.

5.2 Suggestions

This present study has revealed the refusal speech acts in family domain and how it is related to the term of power possession. The followings are some suggestions given for further studies. The first suggestion relates to the object of the present study which focuses on the refusal speech acts. It is suggested that further study may focus on the other kind of speech acts such as giving suggestion, requesting and so on.

The second suggestion deals with the respondents of the present study which only focuses on the subject of the study. It is suggested that further study may investigate speech act that is used in more varied subject that can be categorized based on complex variables.

The last suggestion concerns on the data collection technique used in the present study. Further research may use the other data collected techniques, such as interview in order to obtain more information from the respondents so that the data could be investigated deeper.