

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Moving on from the findings and discussions, this chapter provides the conclusion to the research entitled “Gender Hegemony in Dennis Villeneuve’s *Blade Runner 2049* (2017)” Moreover, this chapter also presents the researcher’s opinion regarding the findings of the research as well as the researcher’s suggestions for later studies.

#### 5.1. Conclusion

The research aims to find out the construction of gender hegemony in the film *Blade Runner 2049* (2017). The findings from the research showed that the gender hegemony in the film is constructed through the exploitation of characterization. The exploitation comes in the form of the external action of the character K and Joi; two non-human characters that are assigned to act like humans. The hegemony constructed between K and Joi revolves around three major themes, namely love, loyalty, and revenge. The theme of love can be seen from the display of servitude, physical intimacy, support, and devotion. Meanwhile, the theme of loyalty can be seen from the display of devotion. As for the theme of revenge, the theme can be also seen from another display of devotion.

From the findings, it is revealed that the filmmaker presents K and Joi to exhibit stereotypical gender traits. The hegemony in the film reveals each character’s traits. K is generally portrayed as a *replicant* who is traditionally masculine while Joi is generally portrayed as a hologram who is traditionally feminine. In particular, Joi is

portrayed as a woman who exhibits stereotypical feminine traits such as being supportive and willing to sacrifice, while K is portrayed as a man who exhibits stereotypical masculine traits such as providing and being violent. The portrayal of stereotypical gender traits indicates the legitimation of the dominant position of men and the subordinate position of women. In addition, Mariette and Luv also perpetuates gender stereotype as they are portrayed as *femme fatale* in the film

Furthermore, the cinematic aspect and supporting characters also contributes to the construction of the gender hegemony in the film. How the cinematic aspect contributes to the construction of gender hegemony can be seen in the prop utilized and a costume worn by Joi in the film. Meanwhile, the supporting characters, Mariette and Luv, contribute to the construction of gender hegemony through their anti-traditional femininity which highlights the hegemony between K and Joi.

Besides that, the perpetuation of gender hegemony in non-human characters implies the filmmaker attempts to humanize K and Joi, particularly by establishing them as a heterosexual couple with a reciprocal desire for intimacy. Stylistically, the filmmaker also utilized certain cinematic aspects to help them achieve the humanization of K and Joi. This can be seen particularly from the selection of 1950's housewife dress as Joi's costume as a reflection of women's traditional domestic role and the utilization of the *emanator* as a prop that reflects K's loyalty towards Joi.

This finding, thus, suggests the filmmaker's attempt to appeal to the general audience who are familiar with the traditional male-female relationship reflected through the film's construction of gender hegemony. In other words, despite its

sophisticated story and non-human characters, *Blade Runner 2049* (2017) does not offer an alternative perspective to the male-female relationship.

## **5.2. Suggestions**

As this study revealed the construction of gender hegemony in a film, the researcher suggests that studies about other forms of hegemony in literary works should be conducted in the future. Based on the findings of this study, the construction of hegemony in certain literary works may reveal past and present social discourse. How the hegemony occurs within a literary work can be indicated from the character's actions, dialogues, or even appearance. Moreover, the researcher also expects that this study is able to raise the reader's awareness regarding gender hegemony in mainstream media as well as how it can occur in non-human characters. The researcher hopes that in the future, there will be more researchers that would discuss the issue of hegemony in their studies.