

Chapter 5

Conclusions and Suggestions

5.1 Conclusions

From the findings and discussions elaborated in the previous chapter, it can be concluded that the novel *Shanghai Baby* gives a portrayal of new generation of women in China which is against the traditional values and stereotypes given to women in China. The portrayal of contemporary Chinese woman is presented through the main woman character in the novel. The main woman character in the novel has different traits compared to most women in China. She is described as an independent, smart, ambitious and active woman. The concept of woman in the novel is similar with the concept of women's liberation developed by Simone de Beauvoir who states about the four aspects that can be carried out by woman to release themselves from the oppression of men. These aspects are that women can work; women must become intellectual beings; women must create social transformation within society; and women must refuse internalization of their otherness and also reject the status as 'the other' in society.

The main woman character in the novel has applied the four aspects developed by Simone de Beauvoir. She has her own job, she is intellectual and she also creates social transformation in China through her novel. Through her novel, the main character manages to refuse the status of object and ignore the view of male dominated society in life. She is able to release herself from the

position where woman is considered to be ‘the other’ in society although by doing that she must also sacrifice few things like her boyfriend and her family.

In the end, the main woman character in this novel is described as a woman who has equal position with men in society. The portrayal of woman in the novel *Shanghai Baby* also can signify the spirit of existentialist feminism. It can be seen from how the main woman character in the novel has applied the four aspects developed by Simone de Beauvoir to release herself from the patriarchal society in China and to reject the label as ‘the other’.

5.2 Suggestions

There are still many limitations exist in doing this research. Furthermore, it is realized that this novel is still open to analyze with other theories and approaches. To support further researches on this novel, several suggestions are recommended, such as:

- a. Analyze the portrayal of the contemporary Chinese woman described in the novel by using other theories like post colonialism theory. This is because this novel also describes about how westernization brings massive impact to Chinese culture.
- b. Use other feminism theories to uncover some aspects that may have not been revealed in this research. This is because by using different feminism theories, the result of the study will give more comprehensive descriptions about women in China.

