

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter consists of two parts. The first section puts forward conclusion as the result of the findings and the discussions in the previous chapter. The second section contains suggestions for further research.

5.1 Conclusions

The study is aimed at investigating the representation of racism and anti racism towards the blacks and to reveal the contribution of power in the issue in a novel by Kathryn Stockett, *The Help*. Based on the findings, racism in the novel is manifested into two firms that are prejudice and discrimination. Besides, the racism is also imposed and maintained by the whites as the power holders.

The prejudice towards the blacks can be found in the significance of skin color for the whites. They believe that the darker skin pigmentation of the blacks can endanger their health. The blacks are also associated with criminality by suspecting them as thieves. Besides, the whites emerge as the symbol of universality which affects their perception towards the blacks. They believe that the blacks are irrational and different.

The prejudice in the whites' mind is manifested into discrimination. The black maids are not allowed to go to the same bathroom where the whites go. The blacks do

not have a chance to use some public services and can only go through the back door. This illustrates the position of the blacks in the society; the margin. They are marginalized by the racist government and environment.

Power plays its role in the racism issue. The interplay of power emerges through the discrimination and the resistance. As the power holders, the white bosses impose and maintain the discrimination to the black maids. Yet, as Foucault (1982) says, power brings resistance. The resistance of the blacks is revealed when they refuse to agree with the discrimination silently. Some try to resist the power by making the whites feel ashamed. However, there are also white people who show resistance towards the power of the whites. They cross the line and show respect, love and care towards the blacks.

From the analysis, it can be figured out that racism stem from hatred. It is the hatred in the whites' heart which leads them to be racist. Thus, the reason beyond the racism which is penetrated by the whites is not the skin color or status, but because they do not want to live contiguously with the blacks. Once the hatred is replaced with love and care, the racism disappears.

On the whole, the text of *The Help* proves that being racist is not a faith, but a choice. When the hatred is replaced with care, respect, and love, the prejudice and discrimination vanish. As the result, the racism issue which brings bitterness for the

blacks can be abolished and every citizen from any background and status can live in harmony.

5.2 Suggestions

Considering the findings of the research, some suggestions are needed in order to conduct better research related to racism issue. Regarding the importance of source, it is suggested to collect a deeper related research about anti racism both in history and literary work analysis. Furthermore, conducting the analysis of anti racism in a more comprehensive analysis is also recommended.

Another suggestion is to investigate the influence of racism towards the blacks. The research can see the effect in postcolonial framework to reveal the reconstruction of identity as blacks in America.