

Chapter V

Conclusion and Suggestion

This chapter presents the conclusion of the research, which are based on the findings and the discussion in the previous chapters. This chapter also presents the suggestion for further research on text analysis.

5.1 Conclusion

The study deals with the issue of child abuse in the novel entitle *Matilda*. It also deals with power relation and resistance. The aim of this research is to investigate the types of child abuse, the way power is exercised by adult characters, and the ways main character reacts toward adults' abusive acts.

The previous chapter shows that child abuse is categorized into verbal abuse, physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, and neglect. In addition, the way adult characters exercise their power manifested in two ways; through legitimization and coercion. Furthermore, the way main character reacts toward abusive acts upon her categorized into three ways; verbal resistance, physical resistance, and psychological resistance.

The research leads into several conclusions. First, the findings show that family and school are two important institutions for children where abusive acts

toward children can happen. All of abusive acts are associated with power inequalities; between children and their parents and their teacher. Second, based on the findings, boys are more likely to experience physical abuse than girls at school; boys and girls experience verbal abuse at school equally. Third, as the oppressed one, the main character finds herself has to resist power exercised over her. She does not let the adults abuse her and exercise their power without any resistances.

It may be the fact that the effect of child abuse can destruct a child's life both physically and mentally. By doing the research, it is hoped to give certain information and awareness for adults to prevent abusive acts toward children. As the next generation of a nation, children need support not only from their family but also from their surroundings.

5.2 Suggestion

It is more interesting if the future research which rises child abuse issue uses the psychoanalysis theory to discover the psychological aspects that trigger the abuser to do abusive acts. Besides, the researcher suggests finding out another potential topic which rises conflicting interest in the eye of power relation theory such as gender and political issue.