

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter presents the conclusions of what has been discussed in the previous chapter of this research and followed by suggestions for further researches, for English teachers who use song lyrics as their teaching media, and for all the people who love to listen to the songs and singing its lyrics.

5.1 Conclusions

This study aims to investigate the alteration of the social issues and the representation of the issues in the Beatles' song lyrics over the three periods of their career by employing Fairlough's theory of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). The analysis of the data was accomplished by using two analytical systems of Systemic Functional Grammar, namely, Thematization and Transitivity analysis towards the seven selected lyrics of the Beatles.

From the analysis results, it was found that the social issues in the Beatles' song lyrics shifted from one period to others. In the early period, the issue was about love relationship between couple, which is represented as their own experience of loving someone. In the middle period two issues were found, the

first issue was about the important figures in their lives, which are represented as the powerful person and as the imaginary character in their minds. The second issue was about the universal meaning of love, in which the term of love is represented as the most important thing in life. Finally, two issues were also found in the late period, the first issue was about political issue that is represented by a critique towards the activists at that time. The second issue was about racial issue that is represented by two characters of the immigrant.

Based on the results of the study mentioned above, it can be construed that, first, the social changes of the sixties had influenced the development of the Beatles as a band. They had evolved from the teen idols into the countercultural missionaries. These changes were depicted in the evolution of their song, both in style and in theme. On the other side, their music also affected the social changes at that time. This analysis can be a small example of the dialectical relationship theory between discourse and social changes in society proposed by Fairclough (2003).

Second, regarding to the first inference above, it can be interpreted that song lyric not only can be used to entertain people but also can be used as the medium for the songwriters to communicate their emotion, ideas, even their beliefs to the listeners, whether explicitly or implicitly, with the expectation that the song lyrics can change the perspective of the listeners towards certain issues. The third inference can be drawn that in the song lyrics, it might contain some hidden ideologies.

5.2 Suggestions

With respect to the limitations of time and capability, this study can still be developed. The following are some suggestions for further research in the same plane.

First, it is suggested for further research to use other kind of discourses to be analyzed, such as poems, novels, film scripts, speeches, news articles, students' texts, even pictures or images. This is because pictures also carry several meanings and information. It is a way to express ideas that cannot be delivered verbally (Kress and Van Leeuwen, 2006).

Therefore, the second suggestion is that in analyzing the data, it is not confined only to Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar, but it is also possible to use Kress's Visual Grammar as a tool to analyze the data or to combine both analytical systems.

Third, it is suggested also that for Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) study, the analytical framework may concern other experts on CDA, such as Van Dijk, Wodak, Billig, or Van Leeuwen.

In addition, for English teacher who usually use the song and its lyrics as teaching media in the classroom, it is better for them to critically select the songs that will be used. It is because in the song lyrics might contain some hidden ideologies that possibly will not appropriate to be given to the students. The teacher should also warn the teenage students to carefully choose the songs that they want to listen.