

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This is the last chapter of this research. In this chapter, the conclusion of the previous chapter is presented. Additionally, this chapter provides a recommendation for additional study.

5.1 Conclusion

The object of this research was an American fantasy period adventure movie titled *Dumbo* directed by Tim Burton released in 2019. This movie is about a family who works and lives in an almost failing traveling circus as they are faced with a baby elephant with extremely large ears, Dumbo. This research focuses on the anthropocentric traits of some of the humans that interact with Dumbo and his mother, Mrs. Jumbo. This study offers an analysis of the weak and strong anthropocentrism categories that can be seen in the characters such as the Farrier siblings (Milly and Joe), Holt Farrier, Max Medici, Rufus Sorghum, and V.A. Vandevere.

The first category, which is weak anthropocentrism, consists of the Farrier siblings, Holt Farrier, and Max Medici. These four characters fit the weak anthropocentrism description, in that they play a vital role in the decision-making process for the animal and they have self-interested motives to protect the environment by the end of the movie. The decision-making process can be seen in different stages of the movie. Characters like Milly and Joe show this at the start of

the movie when they discover Dumbo's ability. However, since they are just children, this decision-making process moves to their most trusted adult, that is Holt Farrier, their father. He shows his decision-making process for the animals when he makes a decision that the circus members have to help save Mrs. Jumbo from being euthanized. Last, at the end of the movie, Max Medici changes the circus format to be 'wild animals free', thus allowing the circus to release Dumbo and Mrs. Jumbo back to the wild. Certainly, as anthropocentric characters, they benefit from their interaction with Dumbo. The Farrier siblings gain a companion and an object to experiment after they connect with and befriends the elephant. In contrast, characters like Holt and Medici benefit from the elephant long before they develop into more admirable individuals. Holt gets to have a job and a place for his family to stay because he has to take care of Dumbo, while Medici gets profits from Dumbo's performances.

The second category, which is strong anthropocentrism, consists of Rufus Sorghum and V.A. Vandevere. These two characters fit the strong anthropocentrism description, that they have a very consumptive and destructive value system, thus their interest will require them to use nature exploitatively. Rufus Sorghum is basically an abusive person towards animals which can be seen by the use of a whip on the elephants, and he also uses Mrs. Jumbo for his egoistic purpose which is to get revenge on Holt. On the other hand, V.A. Vandevere uses Dumbo and Mrs. Jumbo to gain money and boost his business: Dumbo as a circus performer and Mrs. Jumbo as a piece for his exhibition. Both of these characters fail to improve any better and ultimately grow worse.

The findings of this research align with the weak and strong anthropocentric traits. Moreover, this research finds that to include oneself with and have compassion for nature, one does not have to be directly connected to them from the start. The self-interested motive to protect the environment can come after interacting with humans that care for nature.

5.2 Recommendation

There are at least two recommendations of theories that can be used to analyze the movie *Dumbo* (2019) according to the result of this research. The first recommendation is comparative study. With the same focus of anthropocentric reading, this movie can be compared with other circus themed movies from the same period of time or an older one.

The second recommendation is adaptation theory in literature. The *Dumbo* story has already been adapted into movies twice, the first one is the animation version that was released in 1941, and the second one is the live-action version that was released in 2019. Both movies, despite having the same main character *Dumbo*, are very different because of the different genres and plots. Future researchers can use the adaptation theory in literature to examine changes or development from both movies.