

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Conclusion

Bastard out of Carolina is a semi-autobiography novel that is written by Dorothy Allison. This novel is narrated by a girl named Ruth Anne “Bone” Boatwright who lives as a bastard. Here, the character of Bone is the reflection of Dorothy Allison herself during her childhood. In order to achieve the goal of this study that is to find out the factors that cause Allison become lesbian and how Allison’s identity as lesbian is constructed in the main character, it is important to know the characteristics of Bone. In the novel, her identity is explained by her personal description, conversation between characters, the speech, and her past life. As the result of this research, there are three factors that make Allison become a lesbian; those are cultural influences, parental influences, and abusive experience. Then, for the process of Allison identity construction as a lesbian, there are two main stages that are portrayed; those are childhood and adolescence.

Cultural influences describes Bone’s differences on her physical look. Parental influences shows about standardization in Boatwright’s family which is different from the common family in society. While abusive experience is divided into three kinds of abuse; those are sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse. In sexual abuse, Bone has been raped by her step-father. After that, in

emotional abuse, Bone got bullied by her friend. Then, in physical abuse, Bone got slap and hit from her step-father.

Furthermore, the process of Allison's identity to become a lesbian is started in the identity construction in childhood. In her childhood, there are four stages that construct her identity; those are infancy, early childhood, pre-school, and early school. At the infancy stage, Bone felt comfort and got trust from parents. Then, at early childhood, Bone felt inferior. For the next, at pre-school, Bone started to imitate her uncles' behavior. After that, at early school, Bone saw her parents' sexual activity. In addition, in the process of Allison identity construction in adolescence, it is divided into two parts; those are identity confusion and identity construction. In the identity confusion, Bone finds out about her sexual orientation and the concept of beauty from Raylene. After that, in the identity construction, Bone has made Raylene as her role model. It is because she is the only person who can understand Bone's condition. Raylene is her lesbian aunt who likes to live freely. So that, Bone felt comfortable when she was together with Raylene. Thus, the identity construction of Bone during adolescent was mostly influenced by Raylene. Her convenience in the relationship with Raylene was the result of her identity construction that shaped her to become a lesbian.

5.2. Recommendation

Dealing with this research, there are some recommendations that can be presented by using Dorothy Allison *Bastard Out of Carolina* and be beneficial for those who are interested in doing literary research.

First, for the future researchers, it is recommended to analyze this novel in environmental aspect by using ecocriticism theory. How the atmosphere of the situation and place affects the environment in the novel. The future researcher can analyze the environmental development of Bone circumstances from beginning until the end of the story. The second recommendation that can be offered to the future researcher is about the psychological aspect. Since the story mostly describes about the main character, the psychological aspect that appear from the novel can be the main focus of analysis by future researcher.

