

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This last chapter contains the conclusion from the previous chapters. This chapter consists of two parts: a conclusion and a recommendation. The conclusion is acquired based on the result and the discussion of this research that answers the research question. In addition, the recommendation section includes alternative approaches for researchers that analyze similar studies for further research in the future.

5.1 Conclusion

The object of this research is a Netflix limited series entitled *Maid* (2021) directed by. This series tells stories about Alex's struggle to be independent after becoming a victim of domestic abuse and discrimination. This series contains 10 episodes and just ran for 1 season directed by Molly Smith Metzler. The analysis of gender discrimination in this series reveals several pieces of evidence of discrimination experienced by Alex. The research question centers on the depiction of gender discrimination according to McLean (1998) through manifestations of gender discrimination namely violence, subordination, stereotype, and double burden focused on the character Alex. The findings show that Alex experiences four manifestations of gender discrimination mentioned earlier categorized as violence, subordination, stereotype, and double burden. She undergoes major discrimination, primarily from her toxic and abusive partner, and partly from societal beliefs that view women as weaker than men. Additionally, she faces racism from others.

Alex experiences violence which predominantly consists of a higher number of non-physical violence compared to physical violence. Her partner primarily

subjected her to verbal abuse, manipulation, intimidation, and even worse death threats. Additionally, their child, Maddy, was also affected. Growing up in a dysfunctional family due to shared custody between her parents. Conversely, the evidence of physical abuse is comparatively limited, appearing in just one scene within the series. The various episodes of intimate partner violence have resulted in detrimental effects on her, leading to the experience of lasting traumas and severe episodes of depression. However, Alex encounters a substantial prevalence of subordination and stereotypes, though the primary concern remains the prevalent frequency of violence, which has precipitated a profound disturbance in her mental well-being. Moreover, Alex's experience of poverty intensified her struggle to be an independent single mother which forced her to work under Value's Maid, a freelance agency for house cleaning. The doubleburden experienced by Alex, where her roles as a working mother and a single parent necessitate her to juggle between two distinct worlds, ensuring that both she and her child can continue their lives. However the terms of marginalization it has not been found in this series, as the form of oppression is primarily driven by interpersonal dynamics, whereas the scope of marginalization is extensive, encompassing not just between individual-to-individual but also societal structures. Briefly, the factors that compounded to create a challenging environment for both Alex and her daughter, highlighting the broader impact of discrimination and economic hardship on their lives. Furthermore, the pervasive imbalance of power between genders in various societal spheres consistently yields detrimental effects for women. Women are commonly perceived as inferior and lacking agency, while men are positioned as the authoritative figures exerting control over them. This deeply ingrained disparity not only perpetuates gender inequalities but also fosters an environment where women face systemic challenges in asserting their rights and

influence. It underscores the urgent need for societal transformation to dismantle these power imbalances and create a more equitable and empowering future for all individuals, irrespective of gender.

5.2 Recommendation

From the analysis results several suggestions can be offered to analyze the character Alexandra Russell in *Maid (2021)*. The suggestion pertains to the applicants that may prove beneficial for future research in film studies. In addition to the gender injustice experienced by Alex, the structural poverty issues she faces can also be raised for analysis. As depicted in this series, Alex's life is profoundly distressing under poverty. The application of another literary theory to analyze *Maid (2021)* focused more on the structural poverty issues. This poignant depiction invites examination through the lens of Marxist theory, which aptly aligns with the exploration of structural poverty. The economic disparities, exploitation, and class struggles inherent in capitalism, as highlighted by Marx, provide a fitting framework to analyze the multifaceted dimensions of poverty experienced by Alex.