

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1. Conclusion

Rachel Sontag as the main character in *House Rules* receives abuse during her childhood from her parents. Both of her parents abuse her where her mother abuses her physically and her father psychologically. Her father is different from her mother where she abuses Rachel because of her unconscious condition under Bipolar disorder while he does it consciously. He abuses her with several forms of psychological abuse. In this research there are two parts of analysis.

First, the researcher concludes that Rachel gets two forms abuse treatment from her parents. She gets physical abuse from her mother who is a patient of bipolar disorder. She does it to Rachel when she is under lost control of herself and attacks Rachel. Her mother does two forms of physical abuse to her; choking and smacking. Rachel's mother chokes her neck after she falls her on the ground and sits on her when they are in the way to the hospital. The second time of her attack is smacking when Rachel is in the house. She pulls her by her neck to the kitchen and takes her down on the floor. She also smashes her daughter's head on the kitchen floor.

Rachel's father is responsible for psychological abuse to her. He does some several psychological abuses including rejecting, isolating and ignoring. Her father does rejecting to her in the form of verbal harsh treatments such as cruel criticism, blame her for any kind of mistake, and say that he is shame to have her

as daughter and wish she is never be born. He also isolates her from social interaction with her peers by limiting her to do activities out of house except for school and extracurricular schedule. Rachel also does not be allowed to meet her friends.

Her mother also responsible to do psychological abuse that is ignoring. She let Rachel in the cold for hours at winter night when she forget her keys to enter the house. She has knocked down the door for many times and also ringing the bell, her mother does not open the door for her even though she knows that Rachel is outside of the house and waiting for someone to open the door.

Second, the researcher concludes the effects of child abuse experienced by Rachel during her childhood. The abuse give many impacts to her, either in her behavioral or personality. Rachel gets jealous and envy with her sister –Jenny – because she almost never get the same treatment from their parents. Jenny is never being so concerned by their parents, especially their father for all of her behavior and attitude. She also gets envy with her friend – Nathalie – for having lovable father who is always show his love for her.

Rachel is also changed in her personality and behaviorally. She changed to be more introvert in front of new people because she cannot trust them and be afraid to share her own story, especially about her family. She also feels stressed with all of the treatments she gets in the home and it leads her to have a wish for leaving her house far away. Another effect that affects to her behavior is alcohol and drug abuse. She starts to consume alcohol for the in her senior years school

when she sleepover in her friend's house. She thinks that she will never get another change when she still at home and decide it as her only change to try something new because she is very interested in having a drink. She also starts to consumes hallucinogenic drug called Acid I her last year of senior high school. She uses that drug because she feels very depressed about her next study. Her father only allow her to enter women university even though she gets scholarship in Boston university because her father thinks that she cannot control herself if she live in a city.

Rachel's World view of this memoir book is the wrong side of child abuse done by parents to their own children. Even though many people think that parents can do some harsh treatment to their children to discipline them, but it still wrong to do. Children who should get love and protection from any danger from their parents but they even get the danger from their closest people; people where they lean on in this world because they still weak to stand alone in this world. Children abuse can give bad impact to the children and without people know it can influence them until they grow up. Rachel delivers to the readers her own experience getting the abuse and she clearly give them the evidence about how terrible the abuse she gets until lead her to do some bad behaviors since early. Rachel also tells the readers how she has to live under stress and afraid feeling because of the abuse treatment. She represents other children at the whole of the world that they also feel the same feeling when they get abuse from their parents.

4.2. Suggestion

The researcher hopes that this thesis can be helpful for the readers who want to know about Rachel Sontag's experience during her childhood in *House Rules*. The researcher also would like to give suggestion to the readers realizing the importance of reading the memoir book as the first source of information, knowledge and messages.

This research can be a guide for the readers to analyze a literary work especially memoir book. The researcher hopes that there will be another research using this memoir book that analyze in other elements of literary work and another point of view.

The last but not least, the researcher realizes that this thesis is far away from perfect. There are still many mistakes from the first to the last part. Therefore, the researcher really welcome to any constructive critics and suggestion toward this research.