

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS

After analyzing *The Color Purple* by Walker, the researcher draws some conclusions related to the factors and the process of Celie to become a lesbian. There are two factors that cause Celie to become a lesbian. The first is psychological factors. Psychological factor refers to the self-esteem and psychological well being of the individuals related to her or his sexual orientation. The experiences of childhood can affect an individual's psychology. In almost of her life, Celie is treated badly by the men around her. During her childhood, Celie has some bad experiences. Celie has been raped by her father in the early age. Celie's father abuses her physically and verbally throughout her childhood until Celie is given away to marry a man her father chooses for her. After leaves her father house, Celie is also abused by her husband physically and verbally. Besides being treated badly by men around her, Celie experiences the feeling of being loved by another woman. Lesbians tends to recreate mother-daughter bonding. Celie feels comfortable around Shug because Shug reminds her of her mother and her sister. The second factor is social and environmental factors. Celie lives in patriarchal society where women is treated as subordinate of men. The existence of Shug, changes Celie's life. Celie believes that she is worthless until Shug comes around and she teaches Celie how to love and to be loved. Those are the factors that can cause a person to become a lesbian as we seen in Celie.

There are four stages of homosexual identity development process that Celie experiences. The first stage is sensitization or emergence. In this stage, Celie has not felt any lesbian feeling yet. She only knows that she is afraid of men. She prefers to look at women because women not scare her. The second stage is identity confusion. In this stage, Celie begins to feel confused about her feeling. She does not know why she likes to be around Shug. She only knows that she likes Shug more than she likes her husband or any other women. The third stage is identity assumption. In this stage, Celie starts to sexually be attracted to Shug after knowing her for awhile. She starts to experience sexual experimentation with Shug. Shug teaches Celie about woman's body part that can please her. The fourth stage is first relationship. In this stage, Celie begins her relationship with Shug. She leaves her husband to live with Shug. In this stage Celie experiences the dream world stage, misery and enlightenment. The dream world stage begins with her life in Memphis with Shug. For the first time Celie is happy. She has friends, a job and someone who loves her. However, her misery comes when Shug betrays her. Shug is in love with another man. Celie is heart broken and she feels her life collapsed. She leaves Shug because she does not want to be around Shug while Shug is with another man. Through her misery, Celie learns something. She starts to accept the reality that she is no longer lives with Shug. She still loves Shug eventhough Shug betrays her. Celie decides that she will accept Shug if one day Shug decides to come back, but if not, Celie is content with her life. She is happy as long as Shug is happy.

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