

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 5.1 Conclusion

In this chapter contains some of conclusions of the research. The research is about feminism in Sylvia Plath's novel *The Bell Jar* through Esther Greenwood's characterization. The conclusion here is the characterization of Esther Greenwood and the relationship between the characterization and the feminism issue especially liberal feminism issue in this novel.

The characterization of Esther Greenwood is she was described as a girl who had different thought about life with other girls by the author. It is shown by statements about mostly girl with wealthy parents who prefer to study at posh secretarial school and marry a career man. She looked bored with those girls. She also has her own principle in her life such as never getting married. It is because she had been disappointed with her boyfriend Buddy and hated the idea of serving man. Second, she described as a girl who has different sense in fashion. She didn't like other girls who like make up. Besides that, she is a girl smart girl who has many dreams such as get scholarship to study in Europe and become a professor who writes many poems and long papers. But in the middle of the story, she was described as a girl who desperate with herself. It is because she couldn't reach her goal in study. She didn't accept in writing class. From her desperation, she began confuse with her destiny. She seemed has no fixed establishment in her life.

Through the characterization which had been explained above, Esther Greenwood's characterization had her own principle that she would never marry. She had a relationship to feminism especially liberal feminism. In this story, she mentioned her reasons why she never getting marrieds such as because she had a dream to get scholarship in Europe that she wanted to reach out someday. She thought that marriage is only a thing that can limit her action to do that. It is one in the form of liberal feminism in education. Second, she said that marriage would make her become a passive housewife whose just doing the entire house works in the house without a chance to work outside. She really believes it because she had seen Mrs. Willard and all her duties as a housewife and her boyfriend's statement about being a housewife. It is one of a kind of liberal feminism in work.

The liberal feminism in this novel is not only from liberal education and work only; the researcher also found there is liberal feminism in social. The evidence is Esther's statement that she hates a baby. It is because she had seen the pain of a woman who was birthing a baby and how the doctor relieve the pain for losing her trauma to have a baby again. She saw it is like a woman's oppression when she had oppressed by the pain that had to felt when having a baby. Then, she hates children because she saw her neighbor Dodo Conway did all her duties as a mother who rearing six children and still have a plan to have one again. She saw that all her Dodo's duties and all Dodo's children just like woman's oppression because of patriarchy culture which growth at that time.

In addition, the liberal feminism in social is not only found in her principle which she hates children. The liberal feminism here arises from her principle that she would never marry. It is because she had betrayed by her boyfriend, Buddy

because of his confession that he had slept with somebody. It made her curious to know whether men at that time same with Buddy. She asked her seniors and all her seniors said that men are same like Buddy. Then, she made a conclusion that finding a man who still virgin at that time was difficult. It made her wanted to repay what Buddy's done to her by doing the same thing. She thought that if a man could sleep with somebody before he married why a woman couldn't do that.

There is a similarity between the reality of the novel about people who had slept with somebody and who hadn't with the reality in the present time. According to the main character it is important to keep virgin before she get married, but in the reality of the novel there were lot of men had slept with somebody and they never told that to his girlfriend until his girlfriend found out after they were get married later. The similarity is important to keep virgin before married especially in territory with east culture. In the fact, there are a lot of men or women who had slept with somebody before they married same like the reality in the novel. It is because the influence of free intercourse between them. But, there were a lot of men or women who still keep virgin until they married.

All those things that happened in the character's life in the novel and the people at the present time depend on the environment where the live and their faith to God. It is also depends on the culture where they live. If in the novel the culture is west culture. According to this culture some, people see it is liberal to keep virgin until before they marry. But, in east culture it is important to keep virgin until they marry, because people with east culture see that a woman or a man who was not virgin before they marry, they just like bad people.

## **5.2 Suggestion**

The researcher hopes that there will be a suggestion to this research. It is because the suggestion can fix the research to be a better research. And the researcher hopes that this research can make contribution to feminist literary especially liberal feminism study later. The researcher also hopes that the reader will completely understanding about the feminist thought especially liberal feminism in education, work and social.