

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this chapter, the writer will present the conclusion of the study regarding the answering of the research questions. The writer will also provide some suggestions considering the importance of the study and further attempts that are possibly taken by other writers to continue the study.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

In the conclusion, the writer briefly answers the point of the study related to the research questions formulated in the previous chapter. The research questions are (1) what inner conflicts the main character of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* has, (2) what the causes of the conflicts are, and (3) what the solutions to the conflicts are.

The first thing to conclude is what inner conflicts that the main character of the novel *The Grapes of Wrath* has. There are five events of inner conflicts faced by the main character, Tom Joad. The first inner conflict is between Tom's trait and his parole condition when Tom has to choose either to confront or to avoid a deputy. The second inner conflict takes place between Tom's trait and the unity of the family when Tom has to choose either to confront the armed men by raising the jack-handle on his hand or to hold himself by obeying his mother for the sake of the family. The third conflict takes place between Tom's trait and the unity of the family when Tom has to choose either to give up on his felling of tired of what happens around him or to obey his mother for the sake of the family. The fourth conflict takes place between Tom's fear and the unity

of the family when Tom has to choose either to overcome his fear of getting caught at any time or to maintain the unity of the family by staying with his family. The fifth conflict takes place between his desire to continue Casy's work and obeying his mother when Tom is hiding in a cave.

The second conclusion is concerned with the causes of the inner conflict faced by Tom Joad. There are five major causes that lead the conflict to happen. In the first conflict, the major cause is Tom's stubbornness insisting to stay around. Tom's stubbornness makes Muley Grave insist Tom to hide by giving him the worst option Tom has to take if Tom wants to stay around. Although Tom does not know that the land does not belong to his family anymore, Tom would not have had this inner conflict if Tom had just followed Muley to hide when the deputy comes. The second major cause that takes place in the second inner conflict is Tom's carelessness. Tom deliberately trips over a deputy to save his friend. If Tom had not tripped the deputy over, Casy would not have had to kick the deputy, and the deputy would not have had to ask the armed men to burn the Hooverville camp. Tom, then, would not have had to get out of the Hooverville and get stopped by the armed men. The third major cause of the third inner conflict is that the other men of the family have not got any job. If the other men have got a work to do, Ma would have been worried about the money, then they would not have had to move off the government camp to get job for the other member of the family, and Tom would not have had to fear anything. The fourth major cause is that Tom carelessly yet deliberately kills a cop. Although there is a possibility that Tom could be killed as well, Tom could have just nicely given himself or run away without killing the cop. The last major cause is that Tom choice to hide in the cave. Tom has no idea that the darkness of

the cave he is hiding into will somehow bring him into the enlightenment and rise the conflict.

The writer lastly concludes the solutions for the inner conflicts. There are eight solutions taken to overcome the five inner conflicts. In the first inner conflict, Tom decides to follow Muley Grave to hide rather than to confront the deputy. In the second inner conflict, after Tom decides to obey his mother to hold on himself, Tom then waits for the armed men to go away before he continues to drive with the lights off. In the third inner conflict, the solution is given by Ma Joad by giving Tom encouragement and strength. The next solutions for the next inner conflict is that by Ma Joad saying that there is no one to believe but the family, Tom decides to stay with the family for a while before he decides to hide in a cave. In the last inner conflict, the solution taken is that Tom tries to convince his mother that Casy did not duck quick enough before the blow landed on Casy's head. Tom also convinces his mother that he would better do something against the situation by uniting people rather than be driven out.

## **5.2 Suggestions**

### **5.2.1 Suggestion for the Readers of the Novel**

After doing the research, the writer hopes that the readers of the novel have more capability in handling their own conflicts, especially their inner conflicts. One conflict may result in different ways for different types of people in different places. One thing to note to be able to manage is compassion. Besides being the theme of the novel, through compassion, people will

likely be aware of what they are doing and be able to think clearer, that will yield into something good.

### **5.2.2 Suggestion for Teaching Literature**

The writer finds it very interesting in analyzing a piece of literary work, especially from the point of view of inner conflict analysis. The writer realizes that through only a few questions about the inner conflicts of the main character, the writer has gone deep into the analysis of the setting, characters, plot, and theme as well.

The writer then suggests that in teaching literature, it would be better if the students are asked to analyze in such a way through objective approach so that they would feel the way the story goes or the way the characters feel. The teacher may ask more to the students to relate the novel either to the reality, the purpose of the writer, or the function of the novel. By doing this, the students will be likely to have deeper understanding rather than asking students to do common reading comprehension questions about a story.

### **5.2.3 Suggestion for Further Study**

The writer realizes that in this study, the writer only limits his analysis into the emergence of inner conflicts of the main character, the causes, and the resolutions taken. The writer hopes and suggests that it is more likely for the other researcher to broaden the scope of the study regarding this John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath* into analysis through the extrinsic

elements, or the analysis from Ma Joad's point of view, or the relevance of the novel towards the reality.

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