

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSIONS

After analyzing the *North and South* novel, it can be concluded that there are some social problems in British working class society during the Victorian Era. The problems included in form of poverty, health problems, and unjust treatment. The poverty was caused by low wages, the health problems in society are caused by poor work safety and air pollution, and the unjust treatment towards the working class was caused by a tyrant master and lack of care.

Firstly, the poverty in the lower class was experienced by Mr. Higgins as the working class. Their physical work and full of risks were paid with low wage, which was as much as sixteen shillings a week. For them, such a small wage was truly not enough for them and their families.

Secondly, the health problem in the novel is experienced by Bessy Higgins, the daughter of Mr. Higgins. Bessy suffered health problems because the fluff had infected her lungs when working in the carding room. In the end, this disease caused death for her.

Thirdly, unjust treatment is experienced by Mr. Higgins as the working class. The higher class as the owner of the mill did not care about the welfare of their workers so they suffered from the tyrannical actions. Giving low wages to their workers was a kind of injustice to the worker's rights.

Finally, it can be seen that the novel entitled *North and South* can give the benefit to understand the social condition and problems of British society during the Victorian Era. In addition, knowing the social conditions at that time will help the readers to understand the social issues that occurred in this novel.

