

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 5.1. Conclusion

The problem of Women and Blackness from the novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe has been solved using the reader-response theory. Readers have succeeded in reading the novel and understanding the story's content and factors that influence the ability of respondents to create meaning when reading women and blackness in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* to provide various interpretations and different perspectives from the respondents, which is the main target of this research.

After researching women and blackness in Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* with 26 respondents from the English Department's Students class of 2018 at Andalas University and providing 12 questions related to the research topic, the researcher may come to the following conclusion. First, all respondents like the story of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Second, respondents remain aware of a gap in the story between black and white women. Third, most respondents are unfamiliar with Harriet Beecher Stowe and her work. Forth, the majority of respondents agree that Eliza is an essential woman role in the novel because she is fighting for her human rights and responsibilities. Then, most respondents agree that the problem of gender, beauty, and parenthood occurs between black women and white women in the story, with problems arising due to a difference in skin color, where the existence of black women can be said to be treated as if they were enslaved. In contrast, the existence of white women has received proper recognition and treatment from the surrounding community. Most respondents also disagree that black women are better mother figures in the story because being a good mother is regardless of skin color.

Besides that, from the results described above, the researcher concludes that two factors influence respondents' opinions on women and blackness in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, namely the knowledge factor of the respondent and the personal

experience factor of the respondent. Respondents' knowledge influences respondents' creation of meaning and use of language style, and respondents' knowledge also influences respondents' choice of words used in answering questions. It can be indicated that respondents in this research have varying levels of reading knowledge and understanding; some read and understand, as evidenced by answers that are clear and well-written, and those whose reading comprehension is not good, as evidenced by answers that are unclear and not a good choice of words. Respondents provided their responses based on their emotions or personal experiences while reading the story, resulting in different meanings and ideas for each respondent. This can happen because respondents come from various backgrounds, so when they interpret a reading, they carry a background with them, which impacts their reading imagination and helps them generate meanings based on their background and imagination.

Furthermore, based on the many perspectives highlighted by the respondents in their responses, the researcher concluded that the respondents comprehended the topics of the stories in addition to the problems of women and blackness in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Based on the responses of the respondents, the researcher believes that the reading had a positive impact on the respondents since the respondents may state that the researcher's topic is still a current issue. The positive responses indicated that *Uncle Tom's Cabin* had a good influence on the respondents and their perspectives about women and blackness. Respondents stated that Harriet Beecher Stowe describes the problems that black and white women experience well in the story and that Stowe successfully described her thoughts in the novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* about the problems of feminism, racism, and injustice faced by black women in the nineteenth century. Lastly, the story of women and blackness positively influences the respondents, regardless of whether they are white women or black women. However, some respondents have different perspectives on women's points of view in the stories. The influence of reading *Uncle Tom's Cabin* on women and blackness issues is evident in respondents' perspectives of black and white women in the story.

According to most respondents, black women's lives are very unpleasant; they struggle to survive in the evil of slavery, and there is no freedom of life. Respondents were also appreciated for their bravery in confronting injustice and their strong spirit in defending their rights. As stated by the respondent, white women's lives are luckier than black women's lives, white women are more educated and beneficial, and white women have better living conditions than black women. The respondent also stated that most white women in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* have good hearts and understand how to treat their fellow humans. The responses of these respondents demonstrate that the stories about women and blackness in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* impact the respondents since they may generate meaning from their point of view if they are compared to the women in the story after reading *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

## 5.2. Suggestion

The researcher completed research on women and blackness in the novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, despite various concerns and challenges experienced throughout the research process. The author expects those future researchers who will research Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* so they might do better research or strengthen the weaknesses contained in this research. Finally, the author expects that future research may be able to identify the more interesting issue and topics from Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

