

## Chapter IV

### CONCLUSION

*The Red Badge of Courage* describes about the soldier story in the midst of American civil war that happen in 1861-1865. This novel which published in 1895, successfully bring the author, Stephen Crane, into the peak of his popularity. Many critics label Crane as genius because he successfully illustrated the horror of war in his story by the power of his imagination since the American civil war ended up 6 years after the author was born.

After analyzing the novel, the writer concludes Stephen Crane as a skeptical person toward the American civil war. Despite achieving glorious deeds, the war also bring pain, suffering, and nightmare toward the soldier where Crane described in his novel through the Soldiers condition in American Civil War as the main character of the story, Henry Flemming. The result of the analysis can be separated into three parts:

1. In the first analysis about the soldier view in the beginning of war, the writer finds the similarities between Henry and war soldiers' early motivation in the Civil war. Henry who participates in war because of his admiration toward heroic figure of war and patriotism affirmative shared similar motive with early volunteer soldier in the American Civil War stories. The writer assume that Crane using Henry to represent his thought toward the soldier who drunk on the achievement in the war and desire to become the heroic figure of war.
2. Soldier Desertion becomes the second issue in this analysis, and Stephen crane describe it through the action of Henry Flemming who run away from the battlefield. From the text, the writer concludes that Henry reflect the deserter soldier of war who escape because of the accumulation of weariness, distrust toward their government and commander, and the psychological burden cause by the fear of dead and panic toward the war.

3. At the end of analysis, the writer focuses on the result of war and its paradox to the soldier. From the novel, the writer finds that the soldiers of war change their behavior and their idealism that is influenced by their environment in the war. The soldiers who fight for liberty ironically act differently to achieve it. The soldier affected by the madness in the battlefield that shows as the act to save the nation by destroying it, they saved the life by destroying life. In the end, the only one left for these soldiers numerous traumatic experiences, pain, and fear of the war after the civil war ended.

