

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Through the seven books of *Harry Potter* series, J. K. Rowling does not merely show the journey of a wizard boy on conquering the power of evil. The writer believes that the society in the wizarding world suffers from hegemony, enacted by a governmental institution that affects its people. It also depicts an obvious hierarchy and class system of two different sides: the bourgeoisie and the proletariat. These two groups are represented by the power-hungry Ministry of Magic and the rebellious Order of the Phoenix respectively. Furthermore, the condition that runs in the magical community itself reflects the state of the hegemonic society in Britain.

The hegemony that runs throughout the Ministry is caused by the idea that blood purity, which is the pride of pureblood elitists, is valued and respected much more than other blood statuses. The pureblood families are considered superior due to their wealth and social status; they become influential as they receive privileges in many aspects. On the other hand, there are prejudices toward other blood statuses, because their blood is not 'pure' due to the fact that they associate with Muggle, the people with no magical ability, or because they reject the notion of pureblood supremacy. To the pureblood elites, association with Muggle is considered as staining the wizarding pride, and that blood purity has to be preserved as an indication of wizarding superiority and powerful magical ability.

The discrimination and domination done by the Ministry are furthermore expanded through media manipulation, in which they spread a false sense of safety under chaotic circumstances by publishing the information in the newspaper only in accordance with their liking. The Ministry does this in order to manipulate and impose their belief to the public as a means to maintain their position and gain the advantages only for themselves.

Some people of the rest of the magical community becomes gradually aware of their stance, creating the presence of the class struggle. This is caused by the conflict of interest between the point of view and ideology of the Ministry and the people. They do not wish to be working under the control of the Ministry, and thus start a rebellion for the sake of achieving their own goal. The rebellion is formed through the rise of the Order of the Phoenix, a secret society that voices the truth of the current hegemonic condition. The Order's agenda is spread by broadcasting the news and becoming a morale support for the non-purebloods that are under the Ministry's unfair treatment. The aim of the rebellion itself for them is to reach a fair, classless system of a society.

The class conflict reflected by the relationship between the Ministry and the Order can be seen in British society. The United Kingdom, particularly England, is notable for their hierarchical structure and class system. There are distinguished classes, each with their own characteristics and purposes. The bourgeoisie of British society is reflected by the Ministry of Magic, as the institution itself depicts the nature of bourgeoisie by keeping the power and domination only in their hands. It is also similar with the pureblood families in

Harry Potter series, as they are proud and glorify their social position and ancestry. On the other hand, the proletariat, the working class of Britain, is often discriminated for their social background. They are deemed as the lesser worthy group and are often ignored and overlooked, as how the non-pureblood wizards are regarded for their association with Muggles. The proletariat is represented by the Order of the Phoenix as they see the necessity to demolish what they believe as the corrupted ideology.

The parallelism between the wizarding world and the British society explains Rowling's criticism about how a hierarchical structure with a certain class overpowering, dominating, and hegemonizing over another is not the desired society. A rebellion may occur from the other group to eliminate a particular ideology in order to reach utopia, in which all blood status is equally respected. The conflict between utopian impulses and ideological forces are also depicted through Harry's dualism, where he represents individuality by sacrificing himself and represents togetherness by fighting against hegemony with the Order. Harry also becomes the spirit of the proletariat in order to overrule a hegemonic domination, as it is similar to how Margaret Thatcher marks the rise of the working class by retaining power and position.

In the end, *Harry Potter* as a fantasy series displays heavy Marxist sentiments of how power and class come into play. Through Rowling's representation, the writer believes she encourages the idea that everyone with any background, including the working class, can also obtain power by overthrowing a certain oppressive ideology and fighting against hegemony.