

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

After analyzing *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, the author discovered several things. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* is a novel that tries to criticize the problems of middle school life, some of which are bullying that often occurs and parental obstacles that hinder their children's freedom to choose their happiness. "...Let me just say for the record that I think middle school is the dumbest idea ever invented. You got kids like me who haven't hit the growth spurt yet mixed in with these gorillas who need to shave twice a day. And then they wonder why bullying is such a big problem in middle school." (Kinney 3). Bullying is also a problem nowadays, and the target is always students who are unpopular and considered bookworms. Greg's character considers himself included in it, so he tries to get out of this devil's hole by becoming famous and avoiding bullying in this way. Kinney represents that middle school is very harsh on children, and he hopes that there will be a solution to the bullying problem.

Greg's family life is harmonious, but Greg's parents' mindset is still too rigid to give their children space to choose their happiness. Mom always thought that if Greg were active at school, he would develop his social and academic skills. Likewise, Dad thinks that he can develop his physical skills and health if Greg does more activities outside the house. Greg's parents' thoughts are correct and suitable for supporting Greg's future life. On the other hand, Greg may feel burdened or

uncomfortable with this pressure because his interests and priorities may differ. This kind of conflict between parents' expectations and children's desires is how Kinney criticizes the problems in middle school life that occur today.

The analysis of Greg Heffley's character contradicts the utilitarian moral path; Greg Heffley's character violates customary moral rules in 3 parts: Egocentrism, Manipulative, and Lack of Sympathy. Nevertheless, Greg's character develops himself with this. If an immoral act carried out by someone has no consequences for the perpetrator, big immoral acts will come in the future, no matter how good the intention is for a big goal, if it is based on an immoral act, even if it is only as small as possible, it will produce bad consequences. Greg is a person who works hard to achieve his goals. He often falls into mistakes he makes himself and violates customary morality, but he manages to learn and develop himself and learn from his mistakes.

The consequences paid for the moral violations committed by the protagonist are enormous; what he fought for becomes meaningless and disappears, but with enormous consequences, the protagonist also manages to learn a big lesson. It cannot be denied that this book, which tells about middle school life, is only a comedy book and does not teach good morals to be a moral reference for early readers. However, character development is the primary key to the aesthetics of this book. This book is not suitable for teaching morals but can be a reference for developing the character of young readers to continue to develop better. Greg's character development is the most crucial moral lesson here. Diary of a Wimpy Kid is children's literature for entertainment, and Greg's character is intentionally silly for comic effect. Therefore,

it is not easy to understand this story's context and learn moral lessons from certain aspects of the story. Looking at Greg's story from a utilitarian point of view, we can understand that the consequences that Greg receives are lessons that can develop his character to be wiser for the future. The moral analysis in this research concluded that Kinney created the character Greg, hoping it would teach young readers and indirectly lead them to be themselves and stimulate self-confidence. Chasing popularity is good, but all of this must be achieved by working hard.

5.2 Suggestion

From the above analysis, the writer would like to propose the following suggestions:

1. Diary of a Wimpy Kid should be introduced as moral material for bullying cases in middle school and the causes of this bullying. Through the implied intentions of the protagonist, this novel presents many moral questions that can be discussed and is helpful as a tool for conveying resolution to bullying cases.

2. Diary of a Wimpy Kid is children's literature that, at first glance, tells about silliness and comedy. However, this book can be used to evaluate adults regarding how the home environment is crucial in the development and growth of children's socialization in their school environment. This can trigger a discussion regarding ethical and moral problems that arise in the middle school environment and moral aspects that can potentially harm society in the future, as well as what can be done to improve or avoid them.

3. Further analysis and criticism can be carried out on Diary of a Wimpy Kid using various literary criticism theories; further researchers can explore themes such

as capitalism, consumerism, or concepts of power that may be related to Greg's efforts to become popular. Future researchers can also analyze reader responses to dig deeper into what readers feel and read. Interpret the entire novel or carry out deconstruction to look for contradictory ideas and arguments.

