

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 5.1. Conclusion

The analysis in this thesis reveals that ideology contributed to initiating and prolonging the civil war. It reveals the existence of two conflicting ideologies, the Autobots and the Decepticons. The Autobots' ideology emphasizes freedom, while the Decepticons show a preference toward the use of order. Further examination of the discourse reveals that the Autobots' preference for freedom and the Decepticons' preference for order manifested in ways that make them come off as incompatible. These incompatibilities lead to a disagreement over leadership between Optimus Prime and Megatron along with their respective followers, the Autobots and the Decepticons.

Furthermore, it is revealed that the reason why such conflicting ideologies exist is due to the existence of an oppressive ideology called Cybertronian traditions. This ideology has been naturalized and accepted as part of a well-established hegemonic society. While the Autobots show some conformities toward said ideology, the Decepticons are fully determined to rebel against it. Further analysis implies that ideological conflict implies some political issues namely power struggle between Optimus Prime and Megatron, class conflict between the higher classes and the lower

classes, and identity politics of Autobots vs Decepticons, as the reasons the civil war lasts as long as it is.

*Transformers: Exodus* implies that the power struggle in the novel is caused by a dispute over leadership. Due to their ideological views, both Optimus Prime and Megatron are determined to be the leader of Cybertron. Therefore, it appears that the conflict is egocentric in nature, as both leaders insist to be the ones in power. The leaders eventually managed to secure the consent of their followers and legitimated their self-interests into the interests of the whole group.

Furthermore, the legitimation of the leaders' ideologies by the followers appears to be a result of rationalization influenced by class conflict and identity politics. The Decepticons as the lower class and the Autobots as the higher class have too little in common and fail to find a common ground. As the result of the inability to compromise, both groups choose a violent approach by using war to solve their problem. In the end, the group has characterized each other as enemies and dismissed any chance of reconciliation. As the result, the war is prolonged.

Through his writing of *Transformers: Exodus*, author Alex Irvine demonstrates the impact of philosophical conflict and provides valuable moral lessons. The novel exhibits the importance of toleration, peace, and diplomacy. It highlights exodus as the ultimate consequence of ideology-based civil war. It shows the readers that while everyone may have different views, it is normal and should not lead to hostility. Therefore, it is important to not let philosophical differences disrupt the peace.

Additionally, even if a conflict seems to be unavoidable, the actual problem should be solved instead of being prolonged.

### 5.2. Suggestion

This thesis analyzes the representation of civil war and ideology conflict in *Transformers: Exodus*. It also talks a bit about some aspects that are related to the real world. However, there is a limitation because the thesis focuses more on issues found in the book only. Therefore, I suggest other researchers explore other topics that are not within the scope of this thesis. Future research may try to make a comparison between the novel with the real-life political affair. I suppose a psychoanalytical examination of Megatron's possible narcissistic traits will also be an interesting topic to explore.

