

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the writer wants to review the basic concept which derives from its story until the application of theories and its relation with the main theme of this thesis. Having read Dreiser's *Sister Carrie*, the writer is interesting in analyzing it because the writer finds some aspects of class struggle based on materialism. The class struggle is seen clearly in the presence of characters and setting. Therefore, the writer formulates two problems, namely to describe the general class struggle in the novel and to describe Carrie's class struggle. The existence of class struggle in the novel gives the basic knowledge to the writer, therefore, it really helps in accomplishing the topic of writing. The data in this research is namely anything that is related to Carrie's class struggle. The method of this writing is library research and browsing the internet with deductive method. Library research is applied to find the relevant theoretical base.

In this novel, Dreiser presents the exuberance and social transformation in 1899-1900 in America. The social condition during that period traces the vagaries of fortune in the developing capitalistic society. Some tragic aspects of American capitalism are seen clearly by the existence of lower and higher classes. Hanson's family is described as lower class that does not get an opportunity in anything such as power, status and education. In society, power is the person's ability to do or act. If someone has no money, he or she does not have authority in society. Status is important measure for being accepted by society, because society views

that people who has high position and wealth as the one that has high value in the society. In education, it is imposible for lower class to expand their knowledge because of their poverty. They have no chance to study more in formal education. While, Hurstwood's family is described as the higher class. It is different from lower class people. Hurstwood's family lives in good fortune and has a chance to get power, status and education. Both Hanson and Hurstwood family have different life style in using their wealth and leisure times. People life's style is the way to do or act in the society. For higher class people it is the grand or elegant way that is done or made as superior. They live in luxur es with many servants, so they have a chance for pleasure.

In exploring the topic of this thesis, the writer focuses the analysis on Carrie's character struggles her life from poverty to material success and happiness. Carrie gets influence from the society where she lives as a middle class. She leaves her poverty and country home to Chicago. At Chicago, Carrie gets job as a worker of leather company. She becomes a working class. Because of the social condition, she has the conflict between human needs and the demands of society for material success. To fulfill her physical needs, Carrie is as the mistress of two wealthy men. She becomes obsessed by a desire for wealth to be an actress. Carrie's efforts can change her class status from middle class who gets honour from society.

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