

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Conclusions

After the analysis of the oppression and resistance of black women from the novel "The Help" using the Black Feminist theory by Patricia Hill Collins was completed, the researcher concluded that oppression was experienced by black women who worked as maids for white families. Oppression found to be reflected not only from the story of Aibileen and Minny as the main characters, but also from other black maids. Controlling is a form of oppression that often occurs against these black women as maids who work for white families. Based on the analysis, this form of controlling made by the whites forced Aibileen and Minny, as well as other black maids to follow the rules that suppressed them. This oppression is usually carried out by white women as employers toward black women who are work as maids for them. Aibileen gets the treatment by Elizabeth Leefolt who is her employer and also Hilly. Meanwhile, Minny gets oppression through Hilly and also Miss Walters who was once her employer. The oppression they get is based on the bad stereotype of black women that develops in society.

The oppression reflected in the novel changes the attitude of black women, those who keep silent and obedient to all the rules made by white people against them triggered them to make a change. One of their resistance forms they able to do is by

telling about the injustice and inhumanity experienced by them as black women while were working for white families. They put big hope into this form of resistance to achieve equality and freedom of speech for all races and genders, which Aibileen and Minnie finally did with the help of Skeeter to publish the book anonymously. This resistance against the unfair treatment of black women in America is not only for justification, but also for equality of identity, respect, and meaning to their lives.

5.2 Suggestion

There are still many acts of oppression and resistance experienced by black women implied in this novel that can be used as the object of research, it can be taken from several minor characters in the story. The theory of Patricia Hill Collins used in studying this research can also be applied to other novels. Readers may be interested in studying the novel "Hidden Figures", besides this novel is still relatively new, the same theory can also be used to find more data that has never been studied using the theory of Black Feminist Thought. In closing, the researcher hopes that future readers can benefit from this research and can be inspired for other new research.