

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1. Conclusion

Pride and prejudice are two human characteristics, which may occur any time, at any place and in any one. Pride is said to be someone's state of being proud. Pride can arise because of many reasons, for example, wealth, talent, social status and actions. Prejudice, on the other hand, is suggested when a person treats a target or other person more negatively than can be explained by chance or by the facts of the target's demeanor or behavior (Jones, 1997:137).

In Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice, readers are exposed to two human characteristics namely pride and prejudice. Pride is manifested in Darcy's character and prejudice is in Elizabeth's. Their speeches and actions clearly reflect it. Darcy's pride is shown in many occasions just as when he first comes to Longbourn and attends the Meryton ball. He refuses to dance with any woman outside his own party and his statement was: "Your sisters are engaged, and there is not another woman in the room whom it would not be a punishment to me to stand up with." (p. 8)

Darcy's expression above shows how he thinks highly of himself and looks down on others. He thinks that he is higher in status, wealth and achievement than every one else in the room. For him, associating with those outside his own party would be an insult. As a reaction to Darcy's pride, Elizabeth grows prejudice against

him. Her prejudice makes her believe everything that Wickham speaks of Darcy's qualities. It is easier for her to believe that Darcy is truly evil than to think that Wickham is lying about Darcy's qualities.

However, by the end of the story, both characters realize that either pride or prejudice does not bring them good effect and they have to change their behavior in order to find true happiness.

5.2. Suggestion

It is mentioned in the first chapter that a good literary work always contain a lesson that readers may learn by reading it. Pride and Prejudice wants to teach that people should not let their pride or prejudice blind them because this will lead them to unhappiness. Darcy's pride leads him to the sorrow of being rejected by the woman that he loves and Elizabeth's prejudice leads her to the sorrow of feeling guilty for misjudging Darcy. She also nearly loses the opportunity of being Darcy's wife and the mistress of Pemberley.

Overall, the writer sees that this thesis has answered the research problem presented in the first chapter. However, there are yet many ways in analyzing this novel. For other students who wish to analyze the same novel, the writer suggests that they make use of the extrinsic approach instead of the intrinsic one. It is also a good idea to try and analyze other works by Jane Austen because she has quite a numerous collection of works. After all, her works are still popular and widely read all over the world and her works offer many lessons that people can learn.

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