

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The last chapter of this thesis presents the conclusion of the analysis on orientalism based on Edward Said portrayed in *American Sniper* movie through the aspect of timelessness, exotic images, degeneration and the binary oppositions. The writer portrays the image of Iraq through the attitude of the Westerners towards the Easterners. For addition, this chapter also gives suggestion for the further researcher who wants to conduct a similar research with this study.

4.1 Conclusions

This present study is aimed to nearth the ways in which westerners, represent non-western culture in the movie *American Sniper*. After conducting the study and analyzing the findings, it is discovered that the westerners represents Iraq culture in such ways that comfirms Orientalist's stereotyping. The stereotyping is evident in the narrative through characters' attitudes, the different setting, and the Iraqi culture.

American Sniper demonstrates the stereotypes of the Orient in four main aspects. Firstly, the Orient is timelessness. From the viewpoints of the Westerners, time in the Eastern land is regarded as standstill and perpetual. Nothing is really changed even a long time has passed. *American Sniper* illustrates the aspect of timelessness through the the Al-Qaeda and the leader known as Butcher. At the *American Sniper*, the Butcher is revealed as the stereotypical image of

barbarianism. To illustrate, the Butcher use drill to kill people and mutilated bodies of victims. This type of character and his behavior are unfamiliar to foreigners. He is heartless and merciless. The physical appearance of the members Al-Qaeda and the Butcher are demonstrated as savage through their costume. They also portrayed having a beard, a beard commonly found in terrorists. Al Qaeda members' and the Butcher's physical appearance are revealed as the stereotypical image of Terrorist. The Westerners believe that the Iraq people are dangerous, hated freedom, uncivilized and was a threat to them. In addition, the writer mentions another timelessness happen through the role of women in the movie, in discussions of general issues facing women in Iraq, the diversity of female and conditions is often lost. Accustomed the stereotypical depictions, westerners are told that Iraq women are passive, weak and always veiled.

Secondly, the Orient is exotic. The Orient is oddly different in the eyes of The Occident. In Iraq, everything looks strange in the eyes of the Westerners, for example, the director depicts how Iraq has a hot and dry climate. While westerners would not tolerate the Iraq climate because in the west the temperature is not as hot as in Iraq. Another example is Iraqi people having a strange eating habit such as eating goats.

Thirdly, the Orient degenerates. American Sniper movie illustrates the aspect of degenerate through the woman and the young boy attitude. The woman hand the grenade off to the young boy. Westerners thought what Iraq people means about jihad is an order to kill every non-Muslim. Besides, the image of young boy who will try to pick up the grenade launcher portrayed negative idea. Westerners

thought that children in Iraq had been taught to struggle with how to kill American soldiers. It can be implied that the Orient fits in all kinds of negative ideas in the Westerners' point of view.

Lastly, Orientalism constructs binary oppositions. Which refers to the Orient is everything that the Occident is not. Firstly, it is the binary opposition of the colonizer versus the colonized that it is related to the concept of Colonialism.

America is regarded as the colonizers whereas Iraq is regarded as the Eastern land that is a place to be colonized. America wants to carry out the mission to take advantages of the resources which is petroleum wealth. However, when the colonizers get what they want, they eventually leave the colonized place. The second binary opposition is between the educated and the ignorant, or foreigners and Iraq people. The movie portrays the old man who considered ignorant and uneducated whereas the Western people are portrayed as knowledgeable and learned. The old man does not know nor understand even simple English and he has poor English communication skill.

The lesson learned from this movie is there's been a lot of controversy surrounding the *American Sniper* movie, it's portrayal of war and how accurate the story being told is. American sniper feeds America's hero complex and it isn't the truth about war. Real life is not like the movies but the Hollywood keeps trying to make us believe that elite commandos can do anything and save anyone all the time. This movie has the potential to distort how the United States views its own history and troops. Therefore, U.S wants to be recognized by the world as a country that has power and strength. The aim of the U.S for making those

negative stereotypes is because U.S wants to consider as a hero. While Iraq as an inferior need to be civilized by the U.S and all at once is the guiltiest part in the eyes of the world.

5.2 Suggestions

The present study has revealed the representation of Iraq culture in the movie *American Sniper* using the theoretical framework of Orientalism which is proposed by Edward Said (1978). The writer suggests the further researcher to analyze the object from different perception using other approach; psychological approach, for example. This approach can be used to identify the psychological condition of the main character, Chris Kyle. Kyle has more psychological conflicts whether to protect his comrades and becomes one of the most lethal snipers in American history or his struggle to be a good husband and father to his family.

The writer also realizes there are many interesting objects that can be used beside *American Sniper*. The writer expects that the further research can conduct a research about Orientalism in different objects such as poems, short stories, and novel that can give more influence or impact to the readers. For example: *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis (novel), *Aladin* by John Musker and Ron Clements (movie), and *Ligelia* by Edgar Allan Poe (short story).