

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter presents a conclusion of the findings and recommendation for the further researchers and any English teachers.

5.1 Conclusion

The main purpose of this study was to assess how male and female are represented in the English textbook entitled *Backpack Gold 1* for the first grade of elementary students. Therefore, a visual analysis was carried out to analyze the representation of gender in the particular textbook.

The findings showed that the proportion of male characters is higher than the proportion of female characters in *Backpack Gold 1*. Based on the findings of male and female characters in the textbooks, the difference between male and female characters can be seen based on their hair length. All male characters have short hair, while most female characters have long hair.

Nevertheless, it was found that there are female characters who have short hair. Pictured in this book, the short-haired female characters are either teachers or students. It is possible because on one hand, most schools in Indonesia have rules that the students should not have long hair, especially male students.

Short hair is considered neater than long hair. On the other hand, based on the data it was found that the teachers have short hair as a good example for their students.

However, a similarity was also found between male and female characters. The similarity between them can be seen based on their clothes and color of their clothes. First, most male and female characters frequently wear t-shirts. Second, blue color is frequently used by both male and female characters, even though, it was found that there are three male characters who wear pink color. Pictured in this book the male characters who wear pink color are a father or a son. This is possible because either a father or a son does not mind wearing pink color, because the clothes that they wear are usually based on the choice of his wife or his mother.

5.2 Recommendation

The following are some recommendations that might be useful for English teachers and further researchers:

1. This study only used visual images as the sources of data to study gender representations of one of the English textbooks used in Indonesia. It is therefore recommended that future research includes both visual images and written texts. Although visual images provide rich information, written text can offer specific information of equal importance.
2. This study examined one English textbook for grade 1 of primary school in Indonesia. There are other English textbooks series for grades 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of primary school. It is recommended that future research examines the English textbooks for grades 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of primary school. It is

expected that the combination of this study and future studies would provide a better understanding of gender representation in the English textbooks.

3. This study only examined one English textbook for primary school. It is recommended that future research examines other textbooks with different titles.
4. It is recommended for any English teachers to analyze a textbook before using it in the class because they will become familiar with the content of the textbook and recognize the strengths and weakness in order to fulfill the learner's needs especially about gender representation which is portrayed in the textbook that will construct the learners' view.

