

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **CONCLUSION**

In this chapter, the present writer is going to conclude her analysis about her discussion on the theme of Ernest J. Gaines' Of Love and Dust that is revealed through the protagonist's characteristics. The theme of the novel is 'disappointment and frustration can change one's personality'.

Marcus, who is the protagonist of the novel, has experienced many problems during his life. He experiences not only torture and extortion but also rejection and rude treatment from his society. Marcus faces a very difficult life. He strongly believes that someday God will show miracles to him in facing his problems, and his friends will give him help. Unfortunately, the miracles that he is waiting for never come true. God, friends and people never come to help him. He feels great disappointment and comes to the condition of frustration, this causes his personality to change. Marcus, who is portrayed as a craven man who is also faithful, submissive, and open becomes unfaithful, brave, rebellious, reticent, aggressive and revengeful. Marcus feels disappointed when

he sees he does not have a life that he has expected before. Moreover, he feels frustrated after he sees that all of his efforts for a peaceful life fail.

The disappointment and frustration change Marcus's characteristics for the worse. He acts rudely to people and will think negatively of everything that they do to him. He does not believe in friendship nor people. He only thinks about himself and his own happiness. The most terrible change is he loses his faith in God.

Human beings face problems and difficulties in their lives. However, there are only few people who are strong enough to be able to survive in facing this condition. A Man who is strong enough will face his problems with courage and can recover easily. He does not give up on his life and continues to survive. On the other hand, there are situations, where man cannot face his problems and difficulties, and then he gets disappointed and frustrated. Frustration comes out when the goal that people hope for cannot be fulfilled, and this situation causes difficulties for people in solving their problems. The more frustrated he is, the more likely it is for him to change. How he changes depends on how he deals with his problems. Marcus, who is weak and disappointed with God, friends and girls that he loves, has changed to be unfaithful, brave, rebellious, reticent, aggressive and revengeful. This can happen to anyone at anytime anywhere.

Although the story Of love and Dust is only a fiction, the character of Marcus looks real, for many people in this world have faced a lot of disappointment and frustration during their lives and consequently their personalities change. Gaines has made the readers understand more about the

condition of people who live in disappointment and frustration and how their personalities can be formed.

The present writer concludes that the novel Of Love and Dust has affected the reader. Gaines has also succeeded in conveying his ideas that disappointment and frustration can change one's personality.

The novel Of Love and Dust is written in simple language and portrays the characteristic of African-American's speech in his writing. The story itself is really tragic but full of moral lessons.