

CHAPTER III

CONCLUSION

After I analyze the four themes of Kafka short stories, I conclude that there is a similarity of professionalism determination in each protagonist in the four short stories. The similarity is the protagonists have professionalism determination to choose what they want to do. These are the themes of each story and how the protagonists reveal the theme.

The first short story is Josephine the Singer, Or the Mouse Folk. The theme is professional determination is independent of public sentiment. The protagonist whose name is Josephine determines to sing for her career and her singing is subject to public sentiment. After she gains respect from the public, she gets an accident that makes her limp and she cannot do her job professionally. Josephine's fans want her to keep singing but she decides to resign from her job because she can no longer do it professionally. Josephine's decision to stop singing once again makes her to be a subject to public sentiment. Josephine has independence to decide whatever she wants. Nevertheless, she chooses to go against her fans' thought and she stops singing in order not to disappoint them.

The second short story is A Country Doctor, the theme of which is professional determination is of individual conscience. It is revealed from the protagonist, a doctor, who has his own conscience in doing his job professionally, and suffers from the society's judgment; because he chooses not to cure the boy because his conscience says that the boy comes too late to be cured.

The doctor faces a dilemma; it means everything that happens will be considered wrong. When he determines not to cure the boy, he is humiliated by the family for the consequence of his action. And the doctor has the right to choose what ever he wants to respond the consequence which is given by the family. He does not accept the consequence and run away for safety.

Then the third short story is A Hunger Artist, the theme of which is professional determination is not only about money but also for satisfaction. It reveals from the story that the protagonist who is an artist feels alienated from the society. The society ignores him because the artist chooses fasting as his job and the society thinks the artist's job is too old fashion. In spite of the fact, the artist determines to keep on fasting; when he fasts professionally he gets his own satisfactions. No matter where the place is to fast, the artist will feel satisfied if he can fast professionally, even if it does not bring him money.

The last story that I analyze is A Report to Academy and the theme is professional determination is not only for money but also for survival. The undercover soldier is captured by primitive people on his way back to the academy. He determines to imitate to the society to flee from the primitive people. He does not have difficulty to imitate the primitive people, because he is a professional imitator. And his professionalism determination of job does not

always bring him money but it can also save his life. So the soldier's determination in choosing the way to survive by imitating the behaviors of the primitive people, looks like conforming to the society, but actually it is only a part of his professional job as an imitator, which has saved his life.

From the analysis above I conclude that Kafka makes certain that such stories are to show that one's existence is made by one's own professional determination on choice. Relating to Sartre's existentialism theory which emphasizes on individual, who has no predetermined nature, it means that everyone can create his/her own essence by choosing his/her choice freely; he/she has free will, and has to run it professionally.

These four short stories of Kafka reflect the anxiety of life in every different society. Kafka emphasizes that every person has freedom to choose what he/she wants for his/her life and the personal professional determination in doing his/her profession will create a value to life. And through these short stories Kafka has successfully revealed the themes of existentialism through the protagonists' freedom of choice in determining to be professional in their jobs.