

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the conflicts in the Burger's Daughter by Nadine Gordimer, I would like to draw some conclusions. As the protagonist, Rosa experiences three inner conflicts and three social conflicts. The conflicts in this novel deal with the Apartheid system in South Africa.

There are three inner conflicts experienced by Rosa. First, Rosa faces the dilemma whether to continue her father's struggle against Apartheid or not. The second inner conflict is about Rosa's engagement in order to help her father. The third inner conflict is when Rosa has to decide whether to return to South Africa or not. All of the inner conflicts experienced by Rosa are finally resolved.

Besides inner conflicts, Rosa also experiences social conflicts. There are three social conflicts in this novel. The first social conflict happens between Rosa and Baasie about different perceptions concerning Rosa's father in his struggle against Apartheid. The second social conflict happens between Rosa and Clare Terblanches about Rosa's objection to help Clare in fighting against Apartheid. The third social conflict happens between Rosa and Conrad about her dislike for

Conrad's opinion which causes a dispute. All of these social conflicts in this story are finally resolved.

All the conflicts found in this novel share the same issue, that is about the struggle against Apartheid and Rosa's legacy as the daughter of an anti-Apartheid activist. Being Lionel Burger's daughter means that Rosa has the obligation to continue her father's struggle. Moreover, Rosa must get involved in his affairs. All her life, Rosa has been living in her father's shadow and after her father's death, his legacy becomes the source of all conflicts in her life.

Based on this novel, I think that Rosa actually inherits the knowledge she needs to continue her father's legacy and the spirit to fight for the rights of the blacks from her parents, especially from her father. She feels responsible as the Burger's daughter to continue the struggle against Apartheid, which is her parents' legacy. But actually deep in her heart, she has her own point of view that every person has the freedom to choose what to do.

Moreover, I have my own opinions on the three social conflicts experienced by Rosa. In the first conflict, Baasie, her black foster brother, thinks that it is not fair if only Lionel who gets appreciation for his fight against Apartheid, because he is white. There are also a lot of black people sacrificing themselves for their own freedom. But Rosa thinks that her father is sincere in helping the blacks to gain their freedom from discrimination. I think Rosa should understand Baasie's objection to the interview concerning appreciation of Lionel's life, because as a black, Baasie also wants a lot of black freedom fighters get appreciation like Lionel. I think Baasie's objection is the proper thing because

black people also do the same struggle for justice by fighting against Apartheid like several whites, to get equality in all aspects of life, especially for black people in South Africa.

The second social conflict is when Rosa refuses to help Clare Terblanche. Clare asks Rosa to help her by lending her the key to the room where important documents are kept. Because she is the daughter of Rosa's parents' ally, Rosa must help her. But Rosa thinks that if she helps Clare, both she and Clare will be in a lot of trouble. I think that Rosa should be helpful, especially since Clare's parents have a close relationship with Rosa's parents. Although there will be consequences to be faced when Rosa helps Clare in the anti-Apartheid struggle, they can face them together and mutually help each other.

The third conflict is between Rosa and Conrad. Conrad thinks that Rosa has to continue her father's struggle against Apartheid as the responsibility of being a daughter of an anti-Apartheid activist. He thinks that Rosa is irresponsible if she runs away from her responsibility. But Rosa has a different opinion. She thinks that everyone has their freedom to choose their own way of life. I think Rosa should not only think about her personal life but she should also think about the needs of others, especially black people.

In this story, I sympathize with Rosa because she makes the right decision especially at the end of the story by going back to her country, South Africa, in order to continue her father's struggle against Apartheid for black people. I find that the novel is actually interesting but it is not easy for me to read, because of its

language and plot. As for the author, I choose Nadine Gordimer because she lifts the topic of racial discrimination. Especially in this novel, the author shows the importance of assisting others in life through the protagonist's conflicts.