CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis in the previous chapter, it is proved that the Treaty of Versailles in Hitler’s speech is represented negatively. In the analysis, there are four main points concerning the representation of the treaty. The treaty is represented as the destruction of German economy, the treaty as a form of colonialism, the gain for the Jews and also the form of betrayal to the German people.

In the analysis of the representation of the treaty, there are some linguistic tools that are applied, such as the lexical style, syntax, rhetorics, and semantics. In the lexical style, the instruments used are lexicon and synonymy. In the use of rhetorics, the linguistic instruments cover both rhetorical figures and rhetorical structures. In the rhetorical figures, hyperbole, metaphor, and repetition are applied in the data. In the rhetorical structures, repetition of structure and rhetorical questions are found. In the use of syntax, the theories of active construction, passivization, nominalization, and topicalization are used. All the theories mentioned above are used in the analysis in order to reveal the negative representation of the treaty in the text.

Based on the analysis in the previous chapter, the first representation found is the treaty as the cause of economic destruction in Germany. This point
of representation is revealed through the use of lexical style and the rhetorical figure of repetition. It is found that the representation of the treaty as the destruction of economy is created because there is the use of some words that according to the context are related to the economic issues. Besides the choice of words, the use of repetition in the data also supports the representation of treaty as economic destruction since the repeated word is also related to the economic terms.

In the second point, the representation found is the representation of the treaty as a form of colonialism. The instruments used in analyzing this point are the lexical style, the syntactic elements of nominalization and topicalization. In this point, the treaty is represented as a form of colonialism because of the use of some words which according to the context is related to another party. In this case, from the words used, it can be revealed that there is another powerful party that controls a weaker party. Moreover, this representation is also created by the use of repetition of the word foreigner which indicates the other party who takes control. The use of nominalization and topicalization also supports the idea of the treaty as colonialism because the nominal phrases that are topicalized indicate that the phrases are used to emphasize something related to colonialism.

The third point of representation shows the treaty as a gain for the Jew. In this point, the representation is created because there are the use of lexical style, rhetorical figures of metaphor, and the semantic elements degree of specificity. By using those instruments, it is found that in the data these instruments are used to create the representation through the comparison provided between the Jew and the German. Different from the other points of representation, in this point, the rhetorical figures of metaphor is applied as a persuasive way in describing how the treaty creates a wealthy condition of the Jews. The semantic elements of
specificity is also used in order to put emphasis on the big effects of the treaty by giving specific details of the Jews’ prosperity.

The fourth point of representation is the treaty as a form of betrayal to the German people. As can be seen in the previous chapter, this point is the most dominant because the data found is mostly related to the act of betraying the German people. In this point, the representation is created by using some instruments like lexical style, syntactic elements of topicalization and passive construction, the elements of rhetorics, namely rhetorical question and rhetorical figure of hyperbole and repetition. Besides being found as the most dominant point, this point uses the most various linguistic instruments. In this point of representation, it is also found that it is not only the treaty which is negatively represented, but also the German government because of their signing the treaty. Thus, in this point, there are two negative representations found. The first negative representation is toward the treaty and the second representation is toward the German government. In fact, what is represented quite explicitly in the text is the negative description of the German government. Yet, if the context and historical background of the text production are taken into consideration, we can see that the treaty plays an important role. That is why such a negative description of the government can be considered to create a negative representation of the treaty.

After finding out the four representations of the treaty, it can be seen that there are two types of representation found. The first one is the direct one as found in the representation of the treaty as the destruction of economy and a form of colonialism. Another type is the indirect representation, in which the text represents the treaty through giving negative descriptions of the Jews and the German government. It is also found that the indirect representation employs
more various linguistics instruments, especially those which according to van Dijk create implicitness, such as the use of metaphor and rhetorical question.

Besides finding those four points of negative representation of the treaty, I also find that the linguistic instrument of lexical style is the most dominant instrument used. It is because in every point of representation, the lexical style is used and plays an important role in creating the negative representation.

Finally, I hope that this thesis can be useful for further researches on the topic of text analysis. The speech that is used in this thesis is a long one and it also needs a further and deeper research on the speaker and the German historical background so as to make a complete analysis of all the representations found in the text, how the text producer creates his position and also to reveal the real intention of this text.

(1,015 words)