CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

In this chapter I will conclude my analysis. I conclude that Lawrence has realistically and skillfully shown the social and inner conflicts experienced by the major characters.

In the first conflict, Walter’s drinking problem and abusive character are the background of Gertrude’s objection to Walter’s plan for William. The husband behaviour has caused disappointment to her marriage. Gertrude’s ragged marriage background makes her determined to educate her sons, which then also brings intimate relationship with them. Gertrude does not realize that the intimate relationship she has with her sons will affect William, who becomes obsessive to find the Gertrude’s figure in the woman that he attracted to. Meanwhile, Paul has to deal with Gertrude’s possessiveness, especially after William’s death.

The intimate relationship between Gertrude and her sons affects the sons’ decision in their relationship with the women they love. William and Paul suffer from inner conflicts and social conflicts in their relationship with Lily and Miriam. The cause of the conflict is mostly caused by Gertrude’s possessiveness of her sons. Gertrude’s possessiveness is shown from her fear of losing her
sons. Gertrude herself experienced an inner conflict in accepting her second son’s marriage because of her possessiveness.

The social and inner conflicts shown in the novel are not all well solved, which at the same time makes them to be more realistic, because in reality, not every conflict can be solved. As the result of the inability of the major characters in solving the conflict well, the conflicts often lead the major characters to another conflict. The examples can be seen from William’s unresolved inner conflict, which has caused the shift of the intimate relationship from William to Paul and then it causes Paul and Gertrude to have a social conflict on the intimate relationship. Another example is Paul’s resolution to his social conflict with Gertrude. The resolution leads Paul to suffer an inner conflict and he does not realize that his solution leads him to another conflict.

Although the novel is first published in 1913, I find that the conflicts in it are still relevant to today’s families. The problems occur in the Morels family can also occur in families at the present time, such as the domestic violence by a husband to his wife and children, the symptom of Oedipus complex from a son towards his mother, or the problem of a mother possessiveness towards his son.

The relationship between Walter and Gertrude, which shows disharmony, is also still relevant to families nowadays. There are still many families who share the same problem like Walter and Gertrude. Different opinions often lead to conflicts. If the conflict is not well solved, it may also affect their children. As in the Morels’ sons William and Paul, who cannot make important decisions in their life.
From all the conflicts which Lawrence has shown through the Morels family, I conclude that a conflict is part of a family life. There is no family that is free from conflicts. The most important matter is how the family is able to find the solution for the conflict without creating other conflicts. The Morels’ conflicts have given me a lot of understanding about how every family member should face and deal with the conflict that occurs in their family.