CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

This research has explored the role of parental influence on character building in the main character, Mei Lee, from the animated film Turning Red. The analysis specifically examined how Mei's mother, Ming Lee, contributed to Mei's development through various parenting roles and an authoritarian style, as proposed by Prabowo (2020) and Baumrind's parenting theories. The findings indicate a significant relationship between Ming Lee's parental roles and Mei's character growth, particularly in areas such as honesty, discipline, responsibility, and independence.

1. Character Building of Mei Lee

   Mei Lee's journey toward self-acceptance, responsibility, and resilience was heavily shaped by her mother's parenting style and expectations. Key character traits identified in Mei, such as honesty, hard work, and a love of peace, align with the 18 character values promoted by Kemendikbud. Mei's internal struggles and ultimate acceptance of her identity exemplify the impact of parental guidance on personal growth.

2. Parental Roles of Ming Lee

   Ming Lee's parenting roles—as an educator, facilitator, companion, motivator, and role model—were pivotal in shaping Mei's character. Through her authoritarian style, Ming provided structure, discipline, and a sense of responsibility. While Ming's overprotective tendencies initially stifled Mei's independence, the film illustrates how open communication and empathy eventually allowed Mei to reconcile her personal identity with her family's expectations. This analysis highlights the need for balance in parental involvement to foster both obedience and independence.

3. The Influence of Parental Styles

   Baumrind's theory of authoritarian parenting, as reflected in Ming's approach, demonstrates both positive and negative effects. While Ming's high expectations and strict boundaries nurtured Mei's discipline and sense of responsibility, they also created pressure and internal conflict. The

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narrative underscores the importance of adopting a balanced approach, where parental expectations are met with emotional support and understanding to encourage a well-rounded character development.

B. Suggestions

Based on the findings, this study provides several recommendations for future research and practical applications:

1. For Future Research

    Future studies could explore a wider array of animated films to further analyze the relationship between parenting styles and character development in young protagonists. Comparative research on different parenting styles, such as permissive or authoritative, across various cultural backgrounds would enrich the understanding of character-building influences.

2. For Educators and Parents

    Turning Red demonstrates the value of animated films as educational tools that can engage students in discussions about character education, cultural identity, and family dynamics. Educators can integrate films like Turning Red into curricula to illustrate character values such as honesty, empathy, and responsibility. Parents might also use such films to open conversations with their children about self-acceptance and resilience.

3. For Film Producers and Content Creators

    Producers and content creators should consider the educational potential of animated films. By incorporating themes that reflect family values, cultural identity, and positive character traits, they can produce content that not only entertains but also instills valuable lessons in young audiences.

4. Limitations of the Study

    This study primarily focused on the main characters Mei Lee and her mother, Ming Lee, without delving into secondary characters' contributions to the narrative. Additionally, the emphasis on Ming's authoritarian style may overlook other subtleties within the family dynamic that could provide a more nuanced perspective on Mei's character

development. Future research may address these limitations by exploring a broader character set and including alternative perspectives on parental influence.

C. Pedagogical Implication

This research holds several pedagogical implications, particularly in the field of character education. The findings demonstrate that parenting styles and parental roles significantly influence the development of a child's character traits such as honesty, discipline, responsibility, and independence. These values are essential not only in family environments but also within educational settings.

For educators, the portrayal of character development in Turning Red can be integrated into teaching materials to promote discussions on moral values and self-identity. Teachers may utilize scenes from the movie to encourage students to reflect on their own experiences with family expectations, personal growth, and the importance of communication. This approach can support character-building efforts aligned with the 18 values promoted by the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture (Kemendikbud).

Furthermore, the study emphasizes the importance of collaboration between teachers and parents in fostering balanced development. Understanding the impact of both authoritarian and empathetic parenting approaches can guide educators in responding more effectively to students' emotional and behavioral needs. By incorporating these insights into lesson planning and school programs, educational institutions can create supportive environments that nurture both academic achievement and personal development.