**CHAPTER IV**

**FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

**4.1 Findings**

In this study, the author has examined the types and causes of family conflict in the novel rich people problem. This study uses a sociological approach. There are 2 types of conflicts that occur in the Rich People Problem novel, internal conflicts and external conflicts. Internal conflicts are divided into 2, namely socioeconomic status and family structure; external conflicts are divided into 3 a) gender b) temperament c) self-regulation processes. occurs in rich people, the problem is caused by lack of communication in the family, which can lead to conflict and a high selfish attitude can also trigger family conflict in rich people. Problems that cause conflict in the family are differences in language, tradition and haritage.

**4.2 Discussion**

After analyzing the major characters that supported minor characters, the researcher concludes that sociology aspects are important to build this story. The social aspects that related of social phenomena consist of sociology aspect, economic aspect, cultural aspect and political aspect. This discussion based on sociological approach theory by Singewood and Laurenson. In Rich People Problem novel, there are many conflicts faced by the characters that describe by Kevin Kwan.

Conflict faced by Rachel Chu between Eleano r's family. Rachel Chu is girl who called American born Chinese. She 24 years old her mother is Kerry Chu.

She is an economics prfessor in New York University. She is from Cupertino California. She is Nicholas's girlfriend. Nicholas Young is one of Asia's richest men. He is fom Young's family. Young is overseas Chinese. They are the ones who left China long before the Communist came they spread throughout the rest Asia and quietly amassing great fortunes over time. When Nick will come back to Singapore with Rachel all the families knows about it. Eleanor, Nick's mother was concerned about background of Rachel. Then she hires the investigator to investigate Rachel. Eleanor rejects the relationship bet ween Rachel and her son. Nick have plane to marry Rachel, but Eleanor and his grandmother reject it because of the background of Rachel. The conflict between Rachel and Eleanor family is social conflict that happens because reject the value and felling in society. Marriage is one of social phenomena that occur in society. The phenomena will occur if the family will accept the relationship between couple. Not only values and feelings but also the social culture influences in social phenomenon.

Conflict faced by Rachel and her mother (Kerry Chu) It happens based on deceitfulness. The relationship between mother and children is very important. During Rachel life, he lies to his mother about her father. Kerry tells Rachel that her father was died. Rachel knows the truth after the conflict between Eleanor's family. Rachel is very angry with her mother because her father still life in prison. She will find her father in prison. With the help of Rachel's friend, she can repair the relationship with her mother. Kerry tells all her past. Rachel understanding what happens and then they can forgive each other.

The conflict that occurs toward all the characters, it is related with social phenomenon in social life. Sociological aspects are show in every conflict of characters. The story on Rich People Problem novel is interesting. Kwan describes every part with different conflict so that the researcher interested to analyze the family conflict that happened in some characters.

**4.2.1 Types of The Family Conflict**

**a) Internal Conflict**

**1) socioeconomic status**

**Conflict between Rachel and Eleanor's family**

Conflict begin when Eleanor knows her boy, Nick will come back to Singapore with his girlfriend, Rachel. Eleanor thinks Rachel is a Taiwanese girl and Eleanor does not like it. Eleanor hired a private investigator to cheek up Rachel. Eleanor's explanation about Rachel with her husband is captured in the following dialogue:

*"Well, if her last name happens to be Chu, how can you accuse her of pretending to be a Chu?" Philip said with a chuckle.*

*"Aiyah-don't contradict me! I'll tell you how she's being deceitful. At first, the private investigator told me she was ABC, but then after more digging he found out that she's not even truly American-barn Chinese. She was bornin Mainland China and went to America when she was six months old". Kwan (2013:102)*

*"So?"*

*"Did you hear me? Mainland China!"*

*Philip was baffled. "Doesn't everybody's family ultimately originate from Mainland China? Where would you rather he be from? iceland?"*

*"Don't be funny with me? Her family comes from some ulu ulu village in China that nobody has ever heard of. The investigator thinks that they were most likely working class. In other words, they are PEASANTS!" Kwan (2013:103)*

*"You are not seeing the big picture. This girls is a obviously a cunning, deceitful GOLD DIGGER! You know as well as I do that your son can never marry someone like that. Can you imagine how your family is going to react when he brings this gold digger home?" Kwan (2013:104).*

That dialogue explains that Eleanor does not want Rachel has relationship with her boy even her daughter in law. The dialogue shows the existence of economic aspect. Economic activity refers to social institution such as family and studied economic phenomena in term of social classes, status groups, and many more. In the dialogue shows social classes and status group. Eleanor assumes that the girl from Mainland China is inappropriate with her family especially Rachel Chu. She is a gold digger, cunning and deceitful. The existence of social class and status group from Rachel Chu makes Eleanor increasingly dislike her. Eleanor continues to investigate Rachel until Eleanor knows the truth. Nick will marry Rachel, but Eleanor and his grandmother disagree with that. They are opposing the Nick's decision to marry Rachel. Those facts are reflected in the following dialogue:

**2)** **family structure**

The conflict is still ongoing, even Nick's grandmother and Nick's mother don't approve of Nick and Rachel's marriage, because for her grandmother marriage is a social and family background is still a tradition that must be carried out, Nick's grandmother and mother's explanations who did not approve of their relationship were recorded in the following dialog:

*"No matter Nicky," his grandmother smiled. "I do not I give you permission to marry her. Now let's stop all this nonsense and go home. I don't want to be stuck having dinner here, when the cook hasn't prepared properly for me. I'm sure she didn't get any fresh fish today." Rachel's jaw dropped.*

*"Ah Ma, I'm sorry I don't have your blessing but that doesn't change a thing I intend to marry Rachel, if she'll have me," Nick said calmly, glancing at Rachel hopefully,*

*"Don't talk nonsense. This girl does not come from a proper family," Su Yi said. Kwan (2013:457)*

The dialogue indicates that Nick's mother and grandmother disagree with Nick's decision to marry Rachel. Girgis et al (2010:247) state that "marriage is the type of social practice whose basic contours can be discerned by our common human reason, whatever our religious background". Marriage is part of social. In society marriage rate is part of complex system and interacts to perform various necessary function. The dialogue above, Nick will marry Rachel, which is mean social meaning related to problem of social change as a reflection of values and feeling. Nevertheless, for Eleanor and his grandmother rejects the marriage. It means they reject the social values and feeling.

**b) External Conflict**

**Conflict between Rachel Chu and Her Mother (Kerry Chu)**

The relationship between mother and children is very import and fundamental. The good relationship or not between mother and children greatly affects the relationship itself. The favorable relationship that based on affection and honesty will make conflict controllable. While, if the relationship based on deceitfulness will appear miserable conflict, indeed it can disintegrate relationship between mother and children. A conflict should resolve as soon as, in order to do not disintegrate social and cultural norms that happen between them. The example of conflict that happens between mother and children, it can see in the Rich People Problem novel.

In this novel, there is relationship between mother (Kerry Chu) and her child (Rachel Chu). The relationship is based on deceitfulness. Her mother lies about Rachel's father. Kerry tells Rachel that her father was died a long time ago, but now she knows the truth that her father still alive and now he in prison. This fact is reflected on the following dialogue:

*"You're liar! A kidnapper! You've deprived me from knowing my father, my real family. How could you Mom" Kwan (2013:472)*

**1) Temperament**

The dialogue above tells Rachel have conflict with her mother, Kerry. Rachel angry because her mother lies about her father. She thinks her mother is a kidnapper. The conflict increasingly peaked, Rachel getting angry with her mother. The fact is capture in the following dialogue:

*"So everything you've told me my entire life has been a lie! A BIG FUCKING LIE!" Rachel held the phone away from her face and screamed into it, her hands shaking with rage."Kwan (2013:472).*

The dialogue above conflict happens because the deceitfulness. Kerry hides the truth about the father, but Rachel does not know about the truth. Rachel is very disappointed and angry about that. Then, Rachel will find her father to know the truth. Rachel was still angry with her mother. It means Rachel disintegrating social and cultural aspect that happens in society. If the conflict is not immediately resolved, it can result a split in both of them. Conflict that can be overcome prevent disintegrate a relationship between both of them.

In this story, conflict Rachel and Kerry resolve the problem with support Rachel's friend. Kerry explains the truth about her father who in prison. Fang Min, he is Rachel's father, but not her biological father. Fang Min always treats Kerry badly and horrible, not only Fang Min who treats Kerry badly but also Fang Min's family. When Kerry feels bad because Fang Min another guy comes to amuse her. Until they fall in love and pregnant, but people know the baby is Fang Min's baby. The Fang Min's family is very happy with the Kerry's pregnancy. Until her mother-in-law invited a famous fortune-teller over, who divined that Kerry was going to have a boy and make Kerry's in-law more excited, until the baby born is not boy but girl. Fang Min's family disappointed about that. Kerry's in-law wants a boy, but in their city not allowed children, more than one except the baby is handicap. Kerry's in-law decided to do pour the acid in Rachel's eye. Kerry knows her plans and decides to kidnap the baby and run away from Fang Min's family and start new life with her daughter.

**2)** **self-regulation process**

The explanation of Kerry to Rachel, the conflict can resolve immediately, so that they can fix up their relationship. The conflict improves on forgive each other. The fact is captured in the following dialogue:

*"Oh Mom,"Rachel cried, "I'm so sorry. So sorry for everything..for all the terrible things I said to you on the phone."*

*"I know Rachel".*

*"I never knew... I never could have imagined what you were forced to go through." Kerry looked at her daughter affectionately, tears running down her checks. "I'm sorry I never told you the truth. I wanted so much never to burden you with my mistakes." Kwan (2013:522)*

The dialogue above shows that the conflict can resolve with talk and forgive each other, not only talk and forgive but also honesty, patience, sincerity and understanding. All the feeling can make the conflict recede. It shows from dialogue above. Furthermore, conflict resolution is the best way for Rachel and Kerry relationship because they do not break the social and cultural aspect in society.

**4.2.2 Cause of The Family Conflict**

After analyzing the collected data, the writer found that there were 3 (three) conflicts, namely: 1. language differences, 2. traditions and heritage, and 3. differences in origins 4. Rachel and Nick's way of solving problems. In the next sub-chapter the conflicts mentioned earlier will be explained one by one.

**1) Language Difference**

This first conflict begins with the differences in the language used by Rachel and Nick's family. Nick (main character) tries to introduce Rachel (main character) to his grandmother in Cantonese (one of the dialects used by Nick's family), while Rachel talks to grandmother Nick in English. This action disappointed Nick's grandmother because parents usually have a tendency to use their own local language more. Actually, Rachel can speak Chinese but in this case it states that Rachel forgot to use her Chinese (that was not intentional). As a woman who grew up, lived, and worked in America, it was normal for Rachel to use English spontaneously because English was the primary language of use in her country. However, Rachel is not quite proficient in two Chinese Dialects, Cantonese and Hokkien even though she was born in Taiwan (a Chinese-speaking country). He still didn't understand and couldn't speak both in the dialect. Nick's family, especially his grandmother, usually speak Cantonese or Hokkien. Things like this can trigger a conflict between Rachel and Nick's family. Because of this problem, Nick's grandmother is not very interested in Rachel. On page 106, it is written that Nick's grandmother suddenly ignored Rachel and started talking to the others.

**2) Tradition and Heritage**

Every country has its own heritage, including China. China has a different Lunar New Year. Chinese people around the world always celebrate this occasion even though they no longer live in China. This is one example of a permanent tradition that is still carried out by the Chinese tribe. Tradition itself covers many aspects of Chinese society and one of them is culinary. There are lots of Chinese Cuisine. One of them is dumplings. Making dumplings can bring the family together, especially when celebrating Chinese New Year. This second conflict is shown by Rachel who first came to the party organized by Nick's family. There are so many kinds of Chinese specialties, especially dumplings. When Rachel saw and tasted the dumplings at the party, Rachel was very shocked and surprised, because Rachel really liked the dish and it was the first time Rcahel had seen the dish. This makes Nick's family, especially Nick's mother, view Rachel as not worthy of Nick. As a family that has passed down the tradition from generation to generation, they think that Rachel will not be able to pass on this dumpling tradition when Rachel and Nick get married.