

ABSTRACT

This thesis discusses about body image and self-esteem undergone by a seventeen years old boy named Troy, the main character in K.L Going's novel *Fat Kid Rules the World*. The study focuses on Troy's perception of his body, how his perception of his body image influences his self-esteem and how his self-esteem changes from negative self-esteem to positive self-esteem. Qualitative research is used in this study due to the fact that it provides understanding into the problems and help to derive the meaning from the quotations and conversations. In arranging this study, the writer used extrinsic and intrinsic elements of the novel. After doing analysis of the novel *Fat Kid Rules the World* by K.L Going, the writer found that Troy's perception of his body is negative because he always thinks that people always watch and make fun of his huge body and this perception influences his self-esteem becomes negative self-esteem. It appears since his mother died and finally his negative self-esteem can change from negative self-esteem to positive self-esteem by the help from his best friend who asks him to join a band and meet friends of like-minded. Besides, family who always give him support and encourage him to play the drums and convince him that he can be a good drummer.

Keywords: body image, self-esteem, perception