

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION

The problem of adolescence rebellion which is presented by the author through Rafe in Patterson & Tebbetts' *Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life* reveals the reasons why a teenager like Rafe has become very rebellious as he reaches the most significant stage of human development, adolescence. The analysis describes Rafe's rebellion as a respond toward the problems which influence his psychology. The causes that take part of Rafe's rebellious behaviour are family's issue, depression, and school bullying. Furthermore, this chapter also discusses the impacts of Rafe's rebellion toward him and his surroundings.

The family's issue which occurs in Rafe's life is portrayed as Rafe's being not satisfied to be in his family. The family's issue that turns him into a rebellious teenager is his mother's situation. Carl, his mother's boyfriend, is described as a very influencing person in Rafe's rebellion. Rafe's feeling of not being loved properly by his parents has made him pressed. A frustration feeling arises as the occurrence of Carl's humiliation on Rafe is found. Therefore, being frustrated or humiliated by someone can lead a teenager to have a rebellious behaviour.

Depression, as another reason of Rafe's rebellion is also analysed. The feeling where Rafe is being pressed by his loss is mostly illustrated in the novel. The loss that is caused by the death of Leo, Rafe's twin brother, is one of the reasons why he suffers from depression. Leo passed away when they were only three years old of meningitis. Although Rafe does not really know his twin brother well, but he looks difficult to admit the death of Leo. As becoming an adolescence, Rafe still can feel the existence of Leo. It is described in the story that Rafe thinks that Leo is still around as his imaginary friend. The refusal of the death of his twin brother has indicated that Rafe is suffering from depression. This situation has made Rafe unable to control himself.

The other reason of Rafe's rebellion is school bullying. During the adaption life on his new environment, Rafe has to face a very serious situation. As a new transfer student in Hills Village Middle School, Rafe feels difficult to make an adaptation into a new society. Moreover, one of the reasons why Rafe does not feel comfortable is because a matter of bullying. Miller, his new friend is the student who bullies him. Miller does not like the presence of Rafe in his class. Miller does want anyone to become as mean as him. So, Miller starts to bully and disturb Rafe. However, Rafe tries to show everyone that he is not a weak person.

A vengeful feeling has lead Rafe to resist the authority of Miller. Rafe even tries to fight the superiority and domination of Miller by making some rebellious behaviours.

The rest of the discussion is about the impacts of Rafe's rebellion toward himself and his surroundings. One of the positive impacts of Rafe's rebellion by breaking school's rules is that he successfully make a good connection with his new friends through a rebellious way after making a turmoil during his class. In short, the rebellion that Rafe made by breaking school rules reflects his willingness to get the attentions from the others or to obtain fun and excitement. While, the negative impact of Rafe's rebellion is where Rafe has to take the school punishment as the result of the risk behaviour. His willingness to get the attentions from the others leads him to do such a rebellion.

While, toward his surrounding, the positive impact of Rafe's rebellion has almost no evidence except his family's issue that is finally over. The conflict among Carl or "Bear" and all of the member of Rafe's family comes to an end as Carl left them. Because of Rafe's rebellion, his mother finally realized that Carl is not a man who deserve to be the step-father of her children. While, there are negative impacts caused by Rafe's rebellion toward his surroundings. As it discussed in the previous chapter, Rafe's mother becomes the one who surely feels the negative impacts of her son's rebellion. She definitely feel sad knowing that his son shockingly has done a forbidden thing like breaking school's rules. Moreover, a good reputation of Hills Village Middle School and all of the teacher in it is being questioned as the effect of Rafe's vandalism.