

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

4.1. Conclusion

Nabokov's *Lolita* is arguably one of the most controversial literary works due to its theme which is considered to be a taboo within most societies. What makes this novel interesting to be discussed is the personality of its characters and the true nature of their relationship. One of which is the relationship of Humbert and Dolores that involves sexual intercourses, unlike general parent-child relationship. Dolores's case, in which a daughter who has affection towards her father, can be seen in Electra complex perspective.

The symptoms of Dolores's Electra complex can be seen in her attachment towards Humbert. In the novel, Humbert describes how Dolores initiates sensual contacts with him and acts possessively towards him. On the other hand, Dolores perceives Charlotte as her rival, often squabbling with her and interrupting her time alone with Humbert. This is most likely caused by Dolores's unresolved penis-envy during phallic phase. Other than that, it is most likely also due to Humbert's overprotective and obsessive nature and Charlotte's domineering mannerism towards Dolores. As the result, Dolores overcompensate her lack of penis by turning into an alluring and domineering person in her relationship with Humbert. Other than Humbert, she also form a relationship with Clare, an old man who resembles Humbert both appearance-wise and personality-wise.

However, Dolores is able to resolve her Electra complex later in the story after she finds another means of surviving on her own without depending on her livelihood in the hands of older men. Later in the story, Dolores leaves her tortured past behind and marries Dick, a man who is not an older man like Humbert or Clare. She concludes her Electra complex and resolves her phallic phase as she lives as a mundane housewife—adhering to society’s expectation of femininity.