

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

In analyzing the acts of hedonistic pleasure in the film *Lady Bird* (2017) and the causes of the main character's hedonism acts, several points can be concluded. Christine "Lady Bird" McPherson shows many examples of hedonism as she grows up and searches for her identity. Her choices, like wanting to attend an East Coast college, trying to fit in with popular kids, and engaging in risky behaviours like smoking, drinking, and stealing, are driven by her desire to find happiness and avoid problems. These actions show how teenagers often make decisions based on pleasure and satisfaction at the moment, even if it causes trouble to her and to her surrounding later.

According to Weijers' theory, Lady Bird's behavior fits different types of hedonism. She often ignores the consequences of her actions, which is an example of folk hedonism. Her insistence on being called by the name she chose, "Lady Bird," shows value hedonism because it brings her personal satisfaction. Motivational hedonism is seen in her efforts to find happiness through relationships and gaining social status, while her selfishness at times—putting her needs above others, like her family—shows hedonistic egoism.

Lady Bird's hedonistic behaviour was primarily driven by her belief that material possessions and peer approval were extremely important. Lady Bird envies wealthier classmates and dreams of having more, like a big house, which shows how consumerism influenced the pursuit of happiness and social status. She even

hides her family's financial struggles to fit in with richer friends, showing the pressure to be accepted by others, even if it means pretending to be someone she's not. Moreover, the film also shows that Lady Bird's pursuit of pleasure creates conflicts with her family and friends, which leads to moments of regret.

All in all, *Lady Bird* presents a realistic portrayal of how teenagers often seek pleasure as a way to cope with their personal struggles and social expectations. The main character's actions may appear impulsive or self-centered, but they reflect a deeper need for freedom, recognition, and happiness. The film shows that the pursuit of pleasure is not always shallow; sometimes, it becomes a way for young people to explore their identity and deal with emotional challenges. This makes *Lady Bird* a meaningful and relatable depiction of teenager in a modern cultural context of early 2000s era. Last but not least, the writer hopes that this analysis could provide a great help to many researchers in the future with similar topic and the object of the research.