

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

*Cowboys* is a movie which tells about the journey of Joe Johnson, an eleven-year-old boy who comes out as a transgender man. The movie mostly represents gender dysphoria experienced by Joe Johnson as the main character.

As shown in the movie, Joe Johnson has shown various symptoms of gender dysphoria. The writer finds that Joe Johnson has confessed that he is a boy, despite being born biologically female. Joe's confession indicates that Joe is a transgender man. The second symptom is that Joe strongly prefers wearing only typical masculine clothing. The last symptom is that Joe strongly prefers masculine figures and toys. These symptoms are consistent with the diagnosis of gender dysphoria.

Gender dysphoria experienced by Joe Johnson is influenced by social causes such as misgendering, gender stigma, and social withdrawal. Moreover, the gender dysphoria that he experiences disrupts his social life because other boy bullies him.

During his transition process, Joe receives support only from his father, Troy. When Joe confesses to Troy, Troy accepts and fully supports him. This is different from Sally, who strongly rejects Joe as transgender. Rejection from his mother makes Joe leave home with his father to explore the Montana Mountains.

When Joe leaves, Sally regrets what she has done to Joe. After Joe returns, Sally changes her attitude. She becomes able to accept Joe as transgender.

This analysis of the movie *Cowboys* not only depicts gender dysphoria through the character of Joe Johnson but also reveals that transgender people who suffer from gender dysphoria need support from those closest to them. Those people play essential roles in the healing journey from gender dysphoria.