THE FORMATION OF STEVIE’S SEXUAL ORIENTATION IN APRIL SINCLAIR’S COFFEE WILL MAKE YOU BLACK

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS
Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra in English Letters

By
RATRI SARWANINGTYAS
Student Number: 064214054

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A Sarjana Sastra Undergraduate Thesis

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Approved by

Ni Luh Putu Rosianandi, S.S., M.Hum
Advisor

Tatang Iskarna, S.S., M. Hum
Co Advisor

October 14, 2010.

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Defended before the Board of Examiners
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- Oliver Wendell Holmes-

Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.

-Albert Einstein-

Never regard study as a duty, but as the enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later work belongs.

-Albert Einstein-

God puts something good and lovable in every man His hands create.

"The American Vandal," speech, 1868

-Mark Twain-
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MY UNDERGRADUATE THESIS
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ALLAH SWT
MY BELOVED FATHER
MY BELOVED MOTHER
MY DEAREST BROTHERS
ALL OF MY BEST FRIENDS
ALL OF MY GREAT LECTURES
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(Ratri Sarwaningtyas)
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ABSTRACT


Coffee Will Make You Black novel is written by April Sinclair that tells about the life of a girl named Jean Stevenson who is usually called as Stevie. There are many things that happen in her life which teach her about anything including sex.

The research focuses on the finding of the formation of Stevie’s sexual orientation. There are three questions that are analyzed in this paper. The first question is about Stevie’s characterization, the second question is about the influencing factors that form Stevie’s sexual orientation, and the last is about the process those factors form Stevie's sexual orientation.

The writer uses library research method as the primary source. The writer also collects the data from the internet to support the thesis. The approach that is used in this thesis is psychological approach. The reason why the writer uses this approach is because the main goal of this thesis is to find the factors that influence Stevie’s sexual orientation and to find out how those factors can create her sexual orientation. To help finding all of the answers, the theory of psychology is needed.

From the analysis, the writer finds that the main character’s sexual orientation changed from heterosexual to homosexual. At her age of 11 until 15, she is described to like the opposite sex. But when her age is 16 her sexual orientation changes. She becomes a homosexual. There are many factors that create the change her sexual orientation. The first factor is the false values that she gets from her mother. The first value is “adolescence topic is taboo to be talked.” It makes Stevie becomes more innocent in this topic than her friends. The second value is her mother unconsciously builds hatred in Stevie’s mind by continuously telling Stevie that boy is bad. This factor forms Stevie’s sexual orientation by shaping Stevie’s mind-set as a growing up girl. The second factor is her bad sexual experience. This experience gives her a big trauma. By that experience, she learns about the hurt feeling that is caused by the betrayal of a boy. It makes her becomes a traumatic girl. This factor form Stevie’s sexual orientation by giving her a big truma in her life. All of those factors are the factors which form Stevie’s sexual orientation.
ABSTRAK


Novel Coffee Will Make You Black yang ditulis oleh April Sinclair menceritakan tentang kehidupan seorang anak perempuan bernama Jean Stevenson atau Stevie. Banyak hal-hal yang dia pelajari dari kejadian di hidupnya termasuk soal sex. Di dalam novel ini, dia digambarkan sebagai seorang gadis yang mengalami perubahan orientasi seksual.


CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Sexual activity is very common for every person. To support this activity, desire is needed. All of the people in the world are designed to have sexual desire. Susan Nolen and Hoeksema put a quotation from Schiavi and Segraves to explain about sexual desire in their book entitled *Abnormal Psychology: Fourth Edition*.

An individual’s level of sexual desire is basically how much he or she wants to have sex. Sexual desire can be manifested in a person’s sexual thoughts and fantasies, a person’s interest in initiating or participating in sexual activities, and a persons’ awareness of sexual cues from others (2007:578).

The quotation above explains that every person has the different level of sexual desire. It depends on how much a person wants to do the sexual activity. It is related with what a person is thinking about sex, how much a person is interested to start the sexual activity, and how well a person can catch the sexual signal from other people.

This desire is important for the people to support the sexual activity which is related to the human reproduction. Based on Neil R. Carlson’s book which entitled *Physiology of Behavior: Tenth Edition*, “Reproductive behaviors constitute the most important category of social behaviors, because without them, most species would not survive”(1977:330). It means that reproductive behaviors or it is usually called as sexual activity is very important for the people because it can influence the existence of human in the world.
In the book entitled *Human Sexuality*, Anthony Kosnik, William Carroll, Agnes Cunningham, Ronald Modras, and James Schulte state that sex is very important aspect in life. Sex will give the big influence to the human behavior. We cannot separate sex from human’s life because sex is one of the parts of it.

Sex is seen as a force that permeates, influences, and affects every act of a person’s being at every moment of existence. It is not operative in one restricted area of life but is rather at the core and center of our total life-response (1966:81).

In the same book, they also state that “Human sexuality is characterized by a consistent pattern of interest and concern that can grow ever deeper and richer.” (1966:93). It means that human sexuality is created by the attractive feeling to do the sexual activity which is naturally developed.

“It is a natural part of life to have sexual feelings. As people pass from childhood, through adolescence, to adulthood, their sexual feelings develop and change.”(http://kidshealth.org/parent/emotions/feelings/sexual_orientation.html#). The quotation above also states that human desire of sexual is a natural thing. It takes much time to develop. It will naturally grow up.

Benjamin B. Lahey and Anthony R. Ciminero in their book entitled *Maladaptive Behavior: An Introduction to Abnormal Psychology* state that sexuality is very important for human being. Without it, human being will not survive. It is also related with the relationship of each person. Besides that, sexuality has close relationship with the life’s pleasure.

Sexuality is one of the cornerstones of human existence. It is essential to reproduction and survival of the species; it is intertwined with many aspects of social relationships; and it is a significant part of life’s pleasure and meaning (1980:505).
Fran Ferder and John Heagle in their book entitled *Your Sexual Self: Pathway to Authentic Intimacy*, stated that “Our sexual feelings are intensely personal and private; they come from the center of ourselves as embodied persons” (1992:52). It means that sexual feeling is owned by everyone and it is very personal and private.


According to Sigmund Freud’s psychoanalytic theory of personality, sexuality begins in infancy. The development of sexuality is a major part of the development of personality (1994:395).

Besides the sexual desire, the people in this world also have their own sexual orientation. A person can have the sexual attraction with the other sex, the same sex, or both sexes. The people who like the other sex are called as heterosexual. The people who are interested with the same sex are called as homosexual. And the last, the people who like the both sexes are called as bisexual. Raymond J. Corsini puts a quotation from Diamond in his book entitled *Encyclopedia of Psychology: second edition, volume 3*.

The term homosexual is best reserved for those whose sexual activities are exclusively or almost exclusively with members of the same sex, the term heterosexual for those whose erotic companions are always or almost always with the opposite sex, and the term bisexual or ambisexual for those with more or less regular sexual activities with members of either sex. (1994:399).

Martin E. P. Seligman, Elaine F. Walker, and David L. Rosenham state the same thing in their book entitled *Abnormal Psychology: fourth edition*. 
If you have had erotic fantasies only about the opposite sex, you are exclusively heterosexual. If you have had erotic fantasies only about members of your own sex, you are exclusively homosexual. If your erotic fantasies involve both sexes and you have often masturbated to both kinds of fantasies, you should consider yourself bisexual (2001:536).

Both quotations above show that it is very possible for the people to have the different sexual orientation. The people can decide their own sexual orientation based on what they feel and with whom they are interested.

According to Neil R. Carlson in his *Physiology of Behavior: Tenth Edition* book, it is said that some investigators believe that sexual orientation is determined by childhood experiences, especially interactions between the child and parents.” (1977:346). It means that childhood is a very important phase for the development of human sexuality. It has great influence for someone’s sexual orientation. The key words that Carlson wants to tell us are the word childhood and parents. Parents have big influence for the child personality development. Parents also influence the child’s sexual orientation development.

Based on Anthony Kosnik, William Carroll, Agnes Cunningham, Ronald Modras, and James Schulte in the book entitled *Human Sexuality*, “The theory receiving most support today is that homosexuality develops as the result of environmental factors, with special emphasis on parental influence.” (1966:73). The quotation shows that the development of someone’s sexual orientation can be caused by the situation of the environment especially from the parents.

James. C. Coleman in *Abnormal Psychology and Modern Life: 5th edition* (1964:587), explains that someone takes a lot of time to shape his/her sexual behavior. We can see it in the quotation below.
Adult sexual behavior is the end result of a long process of development and differentiation, and the ultimate sexual patterns very greatly, depending upon the training and experiences of the child (1964:54).

He explains that people has to pass so many experiences first before they can decide their own sexual orientation. It is called as complex process. In other word, we can say that the people’s sexual behavior will be developed automatically by their life’s experiences.

The fact that is stated above is related with the focus of the study on this undergraduate thesis. This paper concerns about sexual orientation. It focuses on the sexual orientation of the main character in Sinclair’s Coffee Will Make You Black named Jean Stevenson. She is called as Stevie since she has a friend with the same name, Jean, in her class. This thesis analyzes about the factors that lead the main character into her sexual orientation and how those factors shape her sexual orientation.

This topic is interesting to be analyzed because every person has the different factors that shape his/her sexual orientation. It is different from one person to another. It depends on their private experience in their life.

”It takes time for many people to understand who they are and who they are becoming. Part of that understanding includes a person's sexual feelings and attractions.”(http://kidshealth.org/parent/emotions/feelings/sexual_orientation.htm). The quotation above also states that time is the important key for the people to grow up in every aspect of life including sexuality.
B. Problem Formulation

Based on above, three problems are presented as follow:

1. How is Stevie characterized in the novel?
2. What are the influencing factors which form Stevie’s sexual orientation?
3. How do those factors form Stevie’s sexual orientation?

C. Objectives of the Study

From the problem formulation above, this thesis has three objectives of the study. The first, this thesis is made to analyze about the characterization of the main character in Sinclair’s *Coffee will Make You Black* named Stevie. The second, it is made to find out the factors that lead Stevie into her sexual orientation. And the last, this thesis is made to identify how those factors create Stevie’s sexual orientation.

D. Definition of Terms

To make the same perception about what the meaning of sexual orientation is, this thesis will be completed with some of the definitions of sexual orientation taken from many books.


Gary R. Vandenbos in his book entitled *APA Dictionary of Psychology* explain also about the definition of sexual orientation.
One’s enduring sexual attraction to male partners, female partners, or both. Sexual orientation may be heterosexual, same-sex (gay or lesbian), or bisexual. Also called as gender orientation; object choice (2007:1389).

From both quotations above, it is concluded that sexual orientation is related with someone’s decision in choosing partner. It can be with the same sex or the different sex.
CHAPTER II
THEORETICAL REVIEW

A. Review of Related Studies

This part is about the related studies containing a lot of quotations from other people about *Coffee Will Make You Black*. One of quotation is taken from an undergraduate thesis and the people’s opinions about *Coffee Will Make You Black* novel. The purpose of this part is to give more information to the writer about this novel.

Stevie’s personality is shaped by her environment, including her family, friends, and community. She is described as a girl who is easy to be influenced by others. Her environment changes her character and appearance. At the first, Jean Stevenson or Stevie does not have enough self-confident to gain friendship in her school. As time goes by, she changes into a cool and popular girl. M. Helena Carolinda Dua stated it in her thesis “The Influences of family and Environment toward Jean’s Personality Development in Sinclair’s *Coffee Will Make You Black*” in the following quotation:

> Her personality developed when the confusing Jean was influenced by other black girl’s perceptions of the importance of changing appearances, like they should straighten hair, have pre-marital sex, even use bleaching cream, to gain the self and community respect. Besides, how the family and community had developed the main character’s personality from an obedient, innocent, seductive, and unconfident girl to girl who is confident, and has her own principles to be proud Afro-American. (2005:13)

*Coffee Will Make You Black* is the novel which gives the reader controversial issues. The issues that are given by the writer in this book are sex,
It is described through the main character. Stevie, the main character in the novel, has a best friend named Carla. They get a lot of experiences about life together, including experience, concerning at sexuality. It can be seen in the following quotation:

Carla and Stevie share many experiences, such as learning about sex, getting boyfriends, a pregnancy scare, peer pressure, and questioning sexuality. In the end, Stevie matures and realizes that no matter what she discovers about herself, she just hopes she will be strong. This heartwarming novel is enlightening and enjoyable to read. However, because of the profanity and controversial issues such as sex, lesbianism, and racism, it is best suited for a mature audience (http://www.edb.utexas.edu/resources/booksR4teens/book_reviews/book_reviews.php?book_id=17).

April Sinclair uses the slang language in this novel. This language is a language which is always be used by the Negroes. She also shows about the picture of a black girl in 1960. It is stated by Suzanne Ruta in www.ew.com in the following quotation:

Sinclair writes like Terry Mcmillan’s kid sister, in earthy, slangy dialogue peppered with down home expressions. A girl is as ugly as “homemade sin.” Winter weather is “stomp-down cold”. She has a knack for framing heavy questions in quick, easy, upbeat vignettes that make the 60s sound like the good old days. (http://www.ew.com/ew/article/0,,301287,00.html).

After getting a lot of experiences in the case of sexuality, the main character in this novel suffers a kind of confusion. Her confusion is related to her sexual orientation. She realizes that she is more interested with a nurse in her school than her own boyfriend. It is stated in the following quotation:

April Sinclair writes frankly about a young black woman’s sexuality, and about the confusion Stevie faces when she realizes she’s more attracted to the school nurse-who is white-than her teenage boyfriend. As readers follow Stevie’s at time harrowing, at times hilarious story, they will learn what it was like to be black before black was beautiful. (http://aalbc.com/authors/april1.htm)
In *Coffee Will make You Black*, Stevie is characterized as a curious girl. She always tries to find the answer of her question about life, including about sex. She is described as a smart and beautiful girl. She has good potential inside herself. Unfortunately, she is raised in a conservative family. She has never taught about sexuality since she was in elementary school. She must learn about it by herself. She learns it from her school environment.

Stevie is raised by a conservative mother and an alcoholic father, and her parents will not explain puberty or sex to her, therefore, she must learn on her own. After being betrayed by some of her sexually liberated friends, she becomes close friends with Carla, a girl from the wrong side of the tracks. Carla and Stevie share many experiences, such as learning about sex, getting boyfriends, a pregnancy scare, peer pressure, and questioning sexuality (www.edb.utexas.edu/recources/booksR4teensbook_reviews/book-reviews.php?book_id=17).

The quotation above shows that Stevie has been betrayed by some of her friends. It means that she must learn something about sex with so many bad experiences. The cause of these things is her mother’s character. She is too conservative, so Stevie never gets brief information about sex from her.

Stevie is a smart and active girl. But, her family does not support her in many ways. Her mother does not realize about the lifestyle that Stevie’s environment has, so she never gets an explanation for her question about sex. Kate Mose states it in www.bn.com.

Stevie is smart, funny, observant and refreshingly innocent of doctrinaire posturing, whether as one of the few “sistahs” at her mostly white college or as a sexually confused out-of-towner just arrived at the eye of the Bay Area’s gay and lesbian storm. Because of her confusedness in sexuality thing, she decides to become a lesbian (www.bn.com).
In that quotation, I can understand that the most serious problem that she has is her confusion in the case of sexuality. Her knowledge in sexuality is not enough to protect her from the environment. That confusion leads her to be a homosexual person.

Stevie is described as a Chicago black girl who has big confusion about sex in her mind. It makes her has different sexual orientation. Besides that, the condition of her environment at that time gives also any kind of influence. For example is her race. The comment from Sarah Clark in this following quotation will give explanation about it:

It’s Chicago in the late 1960s, and Jean “Stevie” Stevenson is figuring out her life and her world. Covering her life from age 11 to 16, Stevie deals with peer pressure, must decide necking with her boyfriend to having a crush on the white school nurse. Appeals: strong, female, African-American protagonist, first person point of view, historical setting in Chicago at a time of social change, fast paced, coming of age story that also deals with race, sexuality and identity. (http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/606095.Coffee_Will_Make_You_Black_A_Novel).

A mother sometimes cannot tell her children about the truth of something. For example is about sexuality. It makes the children have to learn it by themselves. April Sinclair, the writer of this novel, put this kind of character through the character of Stevie’s mother. She is described as a conservative mother who will not explain about sexuality to her daughter when she thinks that her daughter is still too young to know. It is stated by Nardsbaby through his comment in the following quotation:

It’s a coming of age story where you meet young stevie, whose learning all about life and what it has to offer as far as what is a friend? A period? And the big deal about sex? I think April Sinclair did an excellent job; we need
books because sometimes mama can’t talk to you because she’s too afraid! I was tempted to call the school up and ask why the big fuss? (http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/606095.Coffee_Will_Make_You_Black_A_Novel).

April Sinclair describes Stevie, the main character in the novel, as a girl who wants to be appreciated by her friends in the school. The problems that are shown by April Sinclair in this novel is something new for the reader. She does not only put the problems related with friends inside the novel, but also the problem related with sexual orientation and racism.

Stevie's dream is to be popular and cool, and her wish is granted when "all the way cool" Carla invites her to a party. Soon Stevie has had her first period, her first kiss (from sexy Yusef), and is learning that cool is not necessarily kind, for that dog Yusef has his classmates spy while the two show themselves to each other. All this is fresh and authentic. The trouble starts with Stevie's arrival at high school, which coincides with the "black is beautiful" period (it's 1967). Here, the flow is disrupted by obvious setups intended to make points about race and sexual orientation. (http://catalog.dclibrary.org/vufind/record/u349171/reviews).

Coffee Will Make You Black is a book which shows about all of the things that is related with the process of the main character into her adolescent. This novel is completed with the sex issues and friendship’s problems. April Sinclair writes it in funny and simple way. It makes this novel becomes interesting to be read.

This book spans 5 years in the life of Jean Stevenson or "Stevie" as she is known, an African-American girl growing up in Chicago. The story starts with an adolescent Stevie in the spring of 1965. Follow Stevie's journey through her high school years. All that stuff about puberty, changing relationships with friends and family, exploring sexuality and generally coming of age. All told in an extremely humorous, touching and down to earth way. A great story to go with the great title! (http://www.abasplace.co.uk/books/books/htm).
This novel tells about the life of a girl who tries to get her self-identity. She is described as a smart girl who is always asking bravely about sexuality. This behavior is something that rarely happens in the period that this novel is set. So, this novel is made in the honesty way.

But what sets this book apart is that Sinclair adds another layer of interest. She throws in the question of sexual identity (probably something most people didn’t talk about in the era the book is set). Yet this is what makes this a real coming of age tale, it’s about a young black woman trying to find her true self.(http://www.thatblackgirlsitescm).

In Coffee Will Make You Black is shown about how a family and friendship can influence someone’s personality. The main character here bravely described as a girl who is interested with the same sex. She is interested with a nurse in her school that can make her feels comfortable.

The novel traces Stevie’s five years of her life, from first crushes to first kisses to first love. She learns a lot about herself through her friendships and her family, all while trying to pave her way in a racially-conscious time. But Stevie does make a white friend in Nurse Horne, one of the few Caucasian faculty members at her predominately black school. Nurse Horne believes in her and tells her she can become anything she puts her mind to. She also lets Stevie know it’s ok to be “funny,” to embrace her blossoming sexuality (http://sistahsontheshelf.com).

All of the quotations above are discussing about Stevie’s life and personality in Coffee Will Make You Black novel. All of them just give comments on the general problem. But this paper goes deeper to the main character’s sexual orientation. It focuses on the sexual orientation of the main character. This paper is identifying the factors that create Stevie’s sexual orientation and how those factors can influence the main character’s sexual orientation.
B. Review of Related Theories

1. Theory of Character and Characterization

This paper discusses about the characterization of the main character in *Coffee Will Make You Black* novel as the first question in problem formulation. This is the reason why the writer put the theory of character and characterization in this paper.

a. Theory of Character

The definition of character can be found in Abrams’ book entitled *Glossary of Literary Terms*:

A character is a person presented in dramatic or narrative work, endowed with moral and dispositional qualities, which are expressed in what they say, for example, the dialogue, and what they do, for example, the action. The ground in a character’s temperament and moral nature for his speech and action constitutes his motivation. (1981:20).

Another statement by Abrams can also be found in his another book entitled *A Glossary of Literary Terms: 6th Edition* in the following quotation:

Characters are the persons presented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with moral, dispositional, and emotional qualities that are expressed in what they say—the dialogue,—and by what they do—the action. (M. H. Abrams, 1993:23)

Abrams stated that characters are something given by the writer in a work in order to help the reader to understand the whole story. The reader can see it through the dialogue and action that is done by the character.

Another quotation is taken from Robert Stanton’s book entitled *An Introduction to Fiction*. In the quotation below, he said that character is important.

Character can make story more alive, and it is generally used in tow ways. The first, character marks out the person who appears in the story. The second, character refers to the mixture of interest, desires, emotion, and
moral principles that make up each of the person. A character’s reasons behave as he does is his motivation (Stanton, 1965:17).

From this quotation, it is clear that character is very important in a work. By seeing their behavior, interest, desire, emotion, and moral principle, we can see their motivation.

Sylvan Barnet in his book *Literature for Composition: Essay, Fiction, Poetry and Drama* (1988:712) state the ways to understand the characteristic of a character through:

i. What the character/figure says

How the character says will help the readers interpret her/his characteristics.

ii. What the character does/acts

The readers can learn the attitudes or behaviors of a character and they may guess how actually the author creates the character.

iii. What other characters say about the character

A character interacts with other characters. They share their opinion and gives comments about that character. Such opinion and comment may reflect the characteristics of the character drawn.

From Sylvan Barnet statement above, the reader can easily interpret the characteristic of a character in a work. By analyzing the character’s dialogue, the reader can understand the characteristic of the character. By analyzing the character’s action, the reader can imagine the behavior of a character. And by analyzing about other character’s opinion about a character, the reader can understand the characteristic of a character.
Based on E.M Forster’s book, entitled *Aspects of the Novel Related Writings*, wrote about the character’s categories. There are two categories that exist for character.

Character can be divided into some different categories as proposed by different experts. Character can be divided into round character and flat character. Around character cannot be described in a single phrase; it needs much more observation and does not create types. A flat character is not changed by circumstances, he or she moves through circumstances. We can express the flat character in a single sentence. (Forster, 1974: 46-54)

From the quotation above, we can understand that character is divided into two. Round character is more complex than the flat character, because it can change. But a flat character is easier to be explained, because it cannot change.

According to Holman and Harmon’s book entitled *A Handbook to Literature*, there are two types of characters in fiction, which are called as round (dynamic) and flat (static) character.

A static character is one who changes little bit. The pattern of action reveals the character rather than shows how the character is changed in response the actions. On the other hand, a dynamic character is a character who is modified by actions and experiences, and one objectives of the work in which the character appears is to reveal the consequences of this actions. (1983:83).

**b. Theory of Characterization**

Holman and Hormon in their book *A Handbook to Literature* state that characterization is the creation of the imagery personages who exist for the readers as lifelike. Both character and characterization are related each other. There are three basic method of characterization (Holman & Hormon, 1986:p.81)
i. The explicit presentation of the character by the author through direct explanation whether in a book’s introduction or throughout the work, illustrated by action.

ii. The presentation of the character in action; therefore the reader will be able to conclude the attributes of the character from its actions.

iii. The presentation from within a character – without comment on the character by the author – of the impact of actions and emotions on the character’s inner self, with the expectation that the readers will come to the clear understanding of the attributes of the character.

From the quotation above, the reader can understand that there are three kinds of basic method about characterization. There are the presentation that given by the author, the presentation that is shown in action, and the presentation that comes from the character itself.

Mary Rohrberger and Samuel H, Woods Jr write the theory of characterization in their book entitled *Reading and Writing about Literature*:

The process by which an author creates a character is called characterization. There are two principal ways an author can characterize his character. First, he can use direct means to describe physical appearance, intellectual, moral attributes and the degree of sensitivity of the character. Second, he can use dramatic means and place the character in situations to show what the character is by the way he behaves or speaks.(1971:20).

Based on the quotation above, there are two ways of a writer to characterize a character. The ways are the direct way and the dramatic way. The first way is to show how the characters look like. The second way is to draw the personality of the characters.
2. Theory of Sexual Orientation

The focus of this paper is about the sexual orientation of the main character. To find out the factors that form the main character’s sexual orientation and how those factors form it, the writer uses many theories that are related to the sexual orientation.

The term sexual orientation refers to the sex (that is, male or female) to which a person is attracted. There are several types of sexual orientation that are commonly described:

i. **Heterosexual.** People who are heterosexual are romantically and physically attracted to members of the opposite sex: Heterosexual males are attracted to females, and heterosexual females are attracted to males. Heterosexuals are sometimes called "straight."

ii. **Homosexual.** People who are homosexual are romantically and physically attracted to people of the same sex: Females who are attracted to other females are lesbian; males who are attracted to other males are often known as gay. (The term gay is sometimes also used to describe homosexual individuals of either gender.)

iii. **Bisexual.** People who are bisexual are romantically and physically attracted to members of both sexes.

(http://kidshealth.org/parent/emotions/feelings/sexual_orientation.html)

The theory above explains about the types of sexual orientation. The first is heterosexual. This is the normal sexual orientation. Women are attracted to men and vice versa. The second is homosexual. It means that the person is attracted to
the same gender. The last is bisexual. It means that the person is attracted to both sexes.

Sexual orientation is the idea that everyone is homosexual, heterosexual or bisexual. Supposedly, everyone fits into one of these boxes. Which box a person's sexual desires fit into is also supposed to tell us what sort of person they 'really' are. (http://www.sexualorientation.info/)

The quotation above supports the previous one. In the quotation above, it is explained that everyone has their own sexual orientation. It can be homosexual, heterosexual, or bisexual. This orientation will show someone’s personality.

Based on those theories, the writer can conclude that the main character in Coffee Will Make You Black is a homosexual person, because at the end of the novel she is described as someone who is attracted to the same gender.

To find out the factors that can lead someone into homosexuality, this paper is completed with the theory from James C. Coleman about the causal factors of homosexual. On his book entitled Abnormal Psychology and Modern Life; 4th edition, he explains about the psychosocial factors in homosexuality. He stated that there are many causes of homosexuality that exist in our life such as bad experience related to sexuality with the opposite sex. “It would appear that many different pathways may lead to homosexual behavior, including early learning, traumatic experiences with members of the opposite sex, and prolonged heterosexual frustration” (1971:488). In this book, he also explains about the cause of homosexuality in five points. The factors are:

i. Early homosexual experiences and their reinforcement.
The development of homosexuality is frequently associated with homosexual experiences before sexual behavior is well different into a heterosexual pattern.

ii. Negative conditioning of heterosexual behavior.

A variety of circumstances may lead to conditioning in which heterosexual behavior becomes an aversive stimulus.

iii. Being reared as a member of the opposite sex.

iv. Pathogenic family patterns.

v. Blocking of sexual expression.

Since the only sexual role that is considered appropriate during early adolescence is abstinence, and since the biological sex drive is intense during this period, it is not surprising that sexual tensions, coupled with curiosity, often lead to experimentation with members of one own’s sex or to fantasies about such activities in connection with masturbation.

All of those factors above are the factors that can lead a person into a homosexual based on James C. Coleman. The first factor is the homosexual experience that someone gets. The second is the condition that makes a heterosexual behavior seems wrong. For example like a boy who has kissed his girlfriend in front of his parents. Because of what happened, the parents gave him a terrible punishment. By that horrible punishment, that boy learns that heterosexual behavior is wrong. The third factor is the parents’ habit to treat their children in the opposite sex way. The fourth is the wrong pattern that parents give in the way of teaching them about the values that exist in life. And the last is the
curiosity of someone to know about the taste of having sex with the same sex. It can give pleasure that can shape the pattern of homosexuality.

In his another book entitled *Abnormal Psychology and Modern Life; 5th edition*, he explains also about the causal factors of homosexuality. There are:

i. Genetic and hormonal factors.

Early research led many investigators to conclude that homosexuality resulted from an abnormal androgen-estrogen ratio. A great deal of research has also been done on the differences in levels of plasma testosterone in homosexual and nonhomosexual males (Brodie et al., 1974; Kolodny et al., 1971).

ii. Homosexual experiences and their positive reinforcement.

The development of homosexuality is frequently associated with pleasant homosexual experiences during adolescence or early adulthood.

iii. Negative conditioning of heterosexual behavior.

A variety of circumstances may lead to conditioning in which heterosexual behavior becomes an aversive stimulus.

iv. Family patterns.

v. General socio-cultural factors.

It would appear that a variety of socio-cultural factors, including the specificity of expected role behavior and the severity of social sanctions for deviations, may markedly influence the incidence of homosexual and other unconventional sexual life-styles.

To support the theory of causal factors of homosexuality number iv above, which is about the family pattern, it is needed to put the theory that is related with
the family pattern especially the theory about parents. S. Shirley Feldman and Doreen A. Rosenthal, in their *Talking Sexuality, Parent-Adolescent Communication*, explain about the reasons why parents should give sex education to their children. “There are many reasons why we might expect parents, as primary socializers of their children, to be involved in the sex education of their children.

i. A fundamental task of parenthood is to transmit values to their children, and beliefs about sex and sexuality reflect religious and personal values of great importance to parents. Many parents assume, or at least hope, that talking to children about values will result in children’s adopting those values and acting accordingly.

ii. Many parents assume that children’s lack of information about the potential risks of adolescent sexuality contributes to their risky sexual practices (2002:3).

The theory below is taken from the same book entitled *Talking Sexuality, Parent-Adolescent Communication* to support the theory from S. Shirley Feldman and Doreen A. Rosenthal above.

In the twenty-first century, the good parent is expected, among other things, to socialize children for adulthood, to nurture and to protect them from harm, to be available to them and to engage in open communication. Good parents are also expected to be responsive to the viewpoints of their children, to listen and to learn as well as to teach (Quatman, 1997). This together with the fact that sex is very much on the agenda in today’s society, has led many parents to feel an obligation to discuss sexuality (2002:3-4).

The theories about parents above show that it is important for both parents to care about the children’s development. Not only one of them, but all of them. To build a two way-communication between parents and children is a must.
Benjamin B. Lahey and Anthony R. Ciminero also explain about the causes of homosexuality in their book entitled *Maladaptive Behavior; An Introduction to Abnormal Psychology*. Those factors are:

i. Positive reinforcement for participating in opposite gender activities, such that boys develop feminine interests and girls develop masculine interests.

ii. Parental punishment or lack of encouragement for engaging in heterosexual activities such as dating.

iii. Aversive experiences with early heterosexual relationships. For example, some women who are forced into a sexual relationship through incest or rape may have a conditioned aversion to sex with males. Homosexual men often report having been caught and severely punished as a child for their attempts to sexually interact with girls.

iv. Lack of same-sex models, including adults and peers, who demonstrate and encourage heterosocial and heterosexual behavior.

v. Any combination of experiences that prevent heterosocial skills from developing or condition high levels of anxiety in relating to the opposite sex.

vi. Intense and repeated sexually pleasure as in masturbation with a same-sex friend during early adolescence.


To support the theory number iii above, which tells us about ‘Aversive experiences with early heterosexual relationships’, it is needed to put a quotation
taken from Jack Roy Strange’s book entitled *Abnormal Psychology: Understanding Behavior Disorders* below.

Ford and Beach, then, view homosexual behavior as accidentally acquired through unfortunate childhood experiences or through seduction by a homosexual adult (1965:188).

Based on Ford and Beach, homosexuality can be formed by the bad experience related to sexuality that happened in somebody’s life. Besides that, he also states that a force from a homosexual person to do homosexual activity can also gives influence.

2. **Theoretical Framework**

The related theories presented above have given contribution for this paper. The theory of character and characterization used to analyze the characteristics of the main character in the novel as the problem formulation number one. The theory of sexual orientation is written as the related theories in order to help the writer to answer the problem formulation number two and three. The sexual orientation theory contains the theory of the types of sexual orientation, the causal factors of homosexuality, and the reason of the importance of communication between parent and child in sexuality.
CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

A. Object of the Study

_Coffee Will Make You Black_ consists of 239 pages. The thickness of this book is 1.5 cm. The height is 22 cm. It was printed by Hyperion in 1994 in New York. This book is divided into 3 parts and 24 chapters. The first part shows the reader about the main character’s life from spring 1965 until summer 1967. The second part is from fall 1967 until fall 1968. And the last part is from fall 1969 until spring 1970.

This novel is interesting to study because the story is very good. The author put a unique character as the main character of the story. This character makes the reader wants to know more about her, especially about the love story. Because of the interesting story, this book gets many awards. The American Library Association named _Coffee Will Make You Black_ as the Book of the Year (Young Adult Fiction Category) in 1994. April also received the Carl Sandburg Award in Literature from The Friends of the Chicago Public Library for _Coffee Will Make You Black_. _Coffee Will Make You Black_ was a National Best Seller in 1994. In 1995 it was performed at Victory Garden in Chicago as a play.

In this novel, April Sinclair is describing about the life of a black girl who lives in the Southside of Chicago. Her name is Jean Stevenson. Her nickname is Stevie. She has 2 little brothers named David and Kevin. Her father is a janitor in a hospital and her mother is a housewife.
Stevie is a curious girl. She always asks about anything that she does not know to her mother includes about virginity. Unfortunately, her mother is a conservative mother. Her mother never answers Stevie’s question completely. She thinks that Stevie is too small to know about that kind of things. As the result, Stevie gets many bad experiences in her life. It happens because of her lack of knowledge in sexuality thing. This is one of the factors that lead her to have different sexual orientation with the others.

B. Approach of the Study

The approach that is used in this paper is psychological approach. Lewis Leary affirms that psychological is an approach that applies principles of modern psychology to characters or situations within a work of literature or to the person who wrote that work (1976:57). The psychological approach itself concerns with the efforts of analyzing a piece of literary object based on the psychological theory. It means that psychological approach tries to solve the problems that are formulated by the paper’s writer based on the psychological theory. The psychological theories used in this study are the theories of the types of sexual orientation and the theories about the factors that can influence someone’s sexual orientation. Those theories are used as a device to analyze and find the factors that lead the main character in *Coffee Will Make You Black*’s sexual orientation.
C. Method of the Study

This study is a library research. All of the data are found in the library. The primary source in this study is April Sinclair’s *Coffee Will Make You Black*. It is chosen because it has an interesting problem in the story revealed by the main character. To support this study, many books are chosen as the secondary sources. The first is *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*. It explains about the description of the psychological approach and Freud’s theory. Freud’s theory is used because this study concerns with the main character’s psychological. So, this theory will give the complete explanation about how to analyze it correctly. Another source is the *Abnormal Psychology and Modern Life: 5th edition*. This book explains about many factors that can lead someone into sexual deviations. It helps this study to analyze the factors that lead the main character in the story to have different sexual orientation in her life.

To finish this study, many steps are done. The first step was the author read the primary source which the focus is the characterization of the main character. The second step was the author determined the problem formulation. The focus of this study is the sexual orientation of the main character because this is the eye-catching problem that the main character has. The third was the author read the secondary sources in order to get some theories related to the topic. The fourth was the author applied the theory of James C. Coleman into the main character’s problem. The last, the author drew the conclusion.
CHAPTER IV
ANALYSIS

This part analyzes about the answers of the problem formulation. There are
three questions in the problem formulation above, so this part will also be divided
into three parts. All of those questions will be analyzed one by one based on the
related theories that are chosen to be used.

A. Stevie’s Characterization

This part explains about how Stevie is described in the novel. The
characterizations that are explained below are the characterizations that can help
the writer to analyze the factors that create the main character’s sexual orientation.

1. Stevie is characterized as a smart girl but innocent

In Coffee Will Make You Black novel, the writer describes Stevie as a girl
who has good potential in herself. At school, she is known as a girl who is smart
and diligent. All of her teachers agree about it. When Stevie and her friends were
reading a diary in the auditorium, they were caught by the teacher. The rule is all
of the students are not allowed to be in the auditorium when there is no event
there. The teachers felt surprised to know that Stevie was there. Mrs.
Cunningham, one of her teachers, also said that she felt very disappointed to her.
Mrs. Cunningham felt surprised that Stevie, who is known as one of the best
students in school, can break the school’s rule.

I don’t know when I’ve been so disappointed. Jean, you are one of my
brightest students. No one expects anything from Carla, but you have
really disappointed us (1994:54).
From what Mrs. Cunningham have said in the quotation above, it is clearly shown that Stevie is popular with her smart brain in school. The phrase ‘you are one of my brightest students’ shows it directly to the reader. That phrase can give a clear clue to the reader about one of the characterizations of Stevie in the novel.

But, the sentence ‘Nobody is perfect’ can represent her as a human. Although she can be called as a smart girl in school, but the word ‘smart’ is not suitable with her knowledge in the case of adolescence including sexuality. In the novel, she is characterized as someone who is lack of information about it. She is innocent in this topic.

The story shows to the reader that she often does not understand about what her friends are talking about, especially about the world of adolescence. There are many things which are related to the case of adolescence that her friends know well, but she does not. There are a lot of quotations taken from the novel that show clearly about her innocence clearly below.

The first quotation that shows her innocence is given seen when she was 11 year old. She has been asked by one of her friends about virginity. Stevie does not understand what the meaning of virgin is. Her innocence is seen very clearly in that quotation. She is lack of vocabulary which is related to the sexuality. The quotation below will show more about it.

I’d snuck a peek inside and looked up the word “virgin. I’d seen the word “pure” and “spotless” and “like the Virgin Mary, mother of Jesus.” I thought I was a good person for the most part. I didn’t steal and I tried my best not to lie (1994:4).

To find out the meaning of virgin, she opened her dictionary. But she still cannot get the meaning of it clearly. She thinks that the meaning of virgin is
related with somebody’s goodness. She believed that she is a good girl, because she never takes something that is not hers. She also always tries to keep herself away from lying. She thought that Michael wanted to know whether she is a good girl or not. In her confusion, she decided to write “Not exactly” as the answer of Michael’s note.

Her answer to Michael made her other friends named Denise and Gail wanted to know more about it. They felt very surprised with Stevie’s answer. They wanted to know about the boy who has made Stevie became not virgin anymore. Then they tried to get information from her. Denise and Gail came to Stevie’s house to ask about it to her directly.

“I didn’t think I met the definition of the word totally, “I said, glancing up at Gail and Denise. They both looked interested.
“I’m not completely pure and innocent. I’ve done a few things,” I admitted, remembering the time I picked some cherries off some people’s tree without asking, and other stuff along those lines.
“So, who’s the boy you messed around with?” Gail asked (1994:15-16).

The quotation above supports the statement that Stevie is an innocent girl. The question ‘who’s the boy you messed around with?’ shows that her friends know exactly about what the meaning of virgin is. When Stevie was still thinking that virgin means good, her friend already knew that virgin was related with the relationship between women and men.

The next quotations are taken when Stevie and her friends were in auditorium reading Tanya’s sister’s diary. In that diary, there was told the story about Tanya’s sister love story. She was described to have a sexual intercourse with her boyfriend in that book.
“I know the reason I be scared is ‘cause we don’t have no protection and I don’t want no baby.” I wondered what protection was. It didn’t sound like it was a gun or a German shepherd (1994:53).

The quotation above shows about Tanya’s sister’s fear. She was afraid of having a baby because her boyfriend did not use something to protect them from this risk. Her boyfriend did not use a condom at that time. Stevie did not understand about the meaning of protection clearly. She believed that it was not a name of a shooter or a dog, but she also did not know what it is.

In the next quotation she also has the same problem. She did not know exactly about the meaning of the word ‘rubber’. She even thought it as a kind of shoes.

“Okay. ‘Derick say he gonna buy some rubbers before the next time he rub his dick against me.”

Some of the quotations above can show Stevie’s innocence character in the story. She is described as a smart girl in school. Her teacher even calls her as one of the brightest students. In the other hand, she has less knowledge in sexuality. She is lack of information in this topic. That is why she can be called as a smart girl but innocent.

2. Stevie is characterized as a traumatic girl.

In the novel, Stevie is characterized as someone who has trauma in her life. Her trauma is related with her sexual experience. It happened when Stevie was 13 year old. At that time, her friend named Yusef Brown tried to get benefit from her. After got closer to Stevie, he asked her to get pee with him.
When Stevie was playing the swing with Carla, Stevie told her about what Yusef wants. She told to her, “He wants me to pee with him” (1994:94). She shared it to her in order to help her in making a decision that she will take. “I would be lying if I said I wasn’t kind of scared. I wanted to get your opinion, okay?” (1994:95). She wanted to know Carla’s opinion about it. In the quotation, Stevie said that she felt afraid. She felt afraid of it because she never does it before.

“Stevie, sometimes you have to get over being scared. You can’t stay a baby forever. Look at it like this, it’s just a body function. It’s natural. You pee all the time. The only difference is y’all will be peeing together.” (1994:95).

Unfortunately, Carla, as her best friend, did not forbid her to do that. Carla even supported her to get pee together with Yusef Brown. She tried to make Stevie sure that peeing together was a natural activity for everybody. She explained to her that it was very common for everyone. Carla said that Stevie did not need to be afraid. From the sentence ‘You can’t stay a baby forever’ by Carla, it is shown that she thought Stevie has not growing up yet in seeing it. Carla wanted Stevie to be more mature in thinking about that case.

To make herself sure about her decision, Stevie asked Carla what she will do if Tyrone, Carla’s boyfriend, asks Carla to do the same thing. “Would you do it?” I asked her point-blank. “Sure, if Tyrone asked me, I’d do it in a minute.” Carla snapped her fingers. “Just like that.” (1994:95). Carla gave the direct answer. She said that she will do it. From Stevie’s question to Carla, it shows that actually Stevie was not sure to do that. She
felt doubt of it. But Carla tries to make Stevie sure. The point is Carla supported Stevie to go with Yusef and get pee together with him.

My stomach was in knots and Yusef Brown was forever smiling at me from across the room. I had told him this morning that, yeah, I would pee with him today (1994:98).

From the quotation above, the reader can know about the decision from Stevie. She decided to get pee together with Yusef Brown. Stevie’s fear was not gone yet. She still felt scared of it. The sentence ‘My stomach was in knots’ shows it clearly. That sentence means she got an uncomfortable feeling because of her strong emotion. Meanwhile, after hearing that Stevie wanted to get pee together with him, Yusef Brown was very happy. The phrase ‘forever smiling’ shows about his satisfied feeling.

When Stevie was peeing together with Yusef in his house, Carla suddenly came to that place. Both of Stevie and Yusef felt very surprised to see her there. They did not expect Carla to be there with them.

“I gotta tell you something... I ain’t never peed with that boy in East St. Louis. I ain’t never peed with nobody!”
“Carla, you mean you lied to me?”
Carla nodded. “Stevie, I’m sorry, I was just talking smack, that’s all (1994:99).

Carla asked them to stop. Carla even apologized to Stevie because of her lie. Before Stevie made her decision, Carla lied to her in order to make Stevie sure that peeing together was not wrong to do. Carla said that she ever got pee together with a boy before. But the fact was she never gets pee together with anybody. She just tried to be a cool girl at that time.
Rolland came to that place to ask Stevie to stop peeing with Yusef. “Stevie, don’t pee with him,” Roland begged. (1994:101). He wanted Stevie not to finish it. Rolland knew that Stevie was trapped. Yusef has tricked her. Yusef told to all of his friends to watch Stevie and him peeing together.

I looked up. I could see some heads bobbing up and down, and heard laughing. I turned toward Yusef, who was cracking his knuckles. I felt my eyes filling up with tears (1994:101).

When Stevie looked up at the window, she realized that there are a lot of people behind the window. They were peeping on Yusef and her. They are laughing at her. Stevie realized that Yusef was not as sweet as what she thought. She felt very disappointed of Yusef. She was shocked by what Yusef has done to her. She cried.

My throat felt tight and my eyes began to fill up with tears, as I pictured myself standing butt naked in front of Yusef with his friends watching and laughing. I hated cold-blooded people (1994:102).

The quotation above described about the condition of Stevie’s feeling after what happened to her. Based on the quotation, it is seen that Stevie hates Yusef so much. She felt very stupid to be naked in front of Yusef and all of his friends. She seemed to be so traumatic of what happened to her. She felt ashamed of that moment. The last sentence in the quotation above shows about her hatred to Yusef and his friends. ‘I hated cold-blooded people’ means that she hated them so much because they are cruel to her. They were happy to see her suffering. She cannot prevent herself from crying. It was the only thing that she can do at that time to represent her feeling.
I couldn’t understand why Yusef had blabbed to his friends and done what he’d done to me. I never understood before how somebody could hurt you unless they hit you. But what Yusef did hurt me worse that the slap I felt when dived into the pool and forgot to tuck my head (1994:101).

The quotation above also shows about Stevie’s sad feeling. It shows about her trauma in her heart. After that bad experience happened in her life, she realized about something. She realized that it is better to be hurt in her body than her heart.

Based on all of the quotations in this part above, the reader can also imagine about Stevie’s environment in school. Most of Stevie’s friends actually were not good friends for her. Carla, who is Stevie’s best friend, cannot protect her from the negative affections. She even supports her to do something bad. Yusef, Stevie’s boyfriend at that time, is not a good boy for Stevie. He tried to get advantage from Stevie. Besides that, the reader also can see that Stevie is an innocent girl who is easily influenced by others, although she knows about what is good and what is bad. Her environment combined with her innocent character lead to bad sexual experience. It causes her to be a traumatic girl.

3. Stevie is characterized as a sexual orientation-changed girl.

Stevie is characterized as someone who has a change in her sexual orientation in life. The explanation of this characterization is separated into two parts. The first part shows about Stevie’s sexual orientation from her age of 11 until 15. The second part shows about her sexual orientation in her age of 16. This
separation is needed to show the change of the main character’s sexual orientation in her life.

a. Stevie’s sexual orientation from her age of 11 until her early 16.

In her age of 11 until 15, Stevie was characterized as someone who was interested with the opposite sex. The story describes that she liked boys for many times. When Stevie was 11 year old, she admired one of the boys in her school. His name is Michael Dunn. For Stevie, Michael was a very special boy with the special appearance. She loved to see his handsome face and style.

The first quotation that shows about her interest to a boy is when Michael had passed a note to her at school. Michael Dunn asked her if she was a virgin. Stevie felt very surprised of it. Stevie did not believe that a boy like Michael Dunn who has a good-looking appearance gave this note to her.

So, anyhow, I was really surprised to get this note from a boy like Michael Dunn, who’s tall with muscles and has gray eyes, curly hair, skin the color of taffy apples, and wears Converse All-Stars even though they cost $10 a pair (1994:3). The quotation above shows about the first contact between Stevie and Michael Dunn. He thought that Michael Dunn did not know her. But the fact was different. Michael Dunn paid much attention to her. Michael gave her a note. Stevie felt very happy to get that note from a boy who has a pair of beautiful eyes, nice hair, good color of skin, and cool stuffs, that makes her really proud of it.

Stevie adored Michael so much. Stevie loved to see the appearance of Michael. Especially to the Michael’s fashion style. She loved to see him in his cool jacket, the color of his pants, and the brand of his shoes. She admired all of
those Michael’s stuffs. For Stevie, all of those stuffs are really cool to be worn by him.

Michael was kicking a rusty can. I had to admit that he looked cute in his White Sox baseball jacket, his khaki pants, and his high top Converse All-Stars (1994: 18).

All of the quotations above are taken from the novel when Stevie was in elementary school. She looked very interested with the boy named Michael Dunn. At the dialogue, she repeated to tell the reader that Michael is a very cute boy. It shows that she adores him so much. Michael Dunn was a first boy explained in the novel which can make Stevie becomes crazy of him.

At the age of 13, Stevie was described to be interested with a boy named Yusef Brown. His appearance made Stevie liked him. Yusef Brown was a basketball player in her school. She loved to see him when he was playing the basketball game. She told it to her best friend named Carla. She told Carla about her interest to that boy. Carla supported her to get closer to Yusef then.

“Maybe, I’ll drop my books again,” I mumbled.
“Drop your books? You ain’t told me you dropped your books.”
“Yeah, last week, I guess I forgot.”
“Well?”
“Well, he stooped down and picked them up for me. He practically had no choice, since I dropped them on his foot.” (1994:72).

The quotation above shows about her interest to Yusef Brown. To get his attention, she even used a classic way. She used a way that can force Yusef to talk with her. She dropped off her books in front of Yusef just to make her got a chance to have a conversation. That was the first time she talked to Yusef Brown. For Stevie, it was a very nice moment. She even wanted to repeat it once again. Stevie’s desire to get closer to the boy was clearly shown here.
I felt somebody’s hands pushing up against my back. I started moving forward and I grabbed onto the swing’s chains. I turned around. I couldn’t believe it; Yusef Brown was pushing me! (1994:83).

When Stevie was playing alone with the swing, there was someone who pushed her back. She felt very surprised to know that Yusef Brown swung her. She felt very surprised to know that Yusef was there. She cannot believe that she can play the swing together with him.

Another quotation is taken when Stevie was finished her class at school. She was surprised to see Yusef Brown was waiting for her. He asked her to go home together. It made Stevie felt very happy. She accepted his offer directly.

I stumbled down the steps with Yusef walking on the outside. I had to grab hold of the banister on account of my weak condition. I felt like i died and gone to heaven, or at least like those women who used to be on *Queen for a day*. I can’t believe it, I said to myself as we walked our into the sunshine. I just can’t believe it (1994:85)

While walking home with Yusef, Stevie always tried to control herself. She cannot lie to herself about her happy feeling, but she also realized that she has to act normally. She cannot believe what happened to her and him at that time. That moment made her felt to be very special like a queen.

I felt so special walking with Yusef, I was waving to practically everybody. It seemed to me that all kinds of people were looking at me differently because I was with him. Yusef, who was wearing khaki pants and converse All-Stars gym shoes, Yusef who’d rather walk home with me today than pitch pennies (1994: 86).

Yusef’s good looking appearance made Stevie becomes very proud to walk beside him. She loved to see him in his stuffs. She enjoyed every seconds of that moment especially when she was walking with him in the crowd. She loved to be the focus of the people’s around there.
All of the quotations above clearly show about Stevie’s interest to both of the boys. Her first note from Michael and her first kiss in front of her house from Yusef was the unforgettable moments that she got from them. Michael Dunn and Yusef Brown can make Stevie became crazy about them.

By seeing and understanding all of the quotations above, it becomes easier to make a conclusion about the sexual orientation of Stevie from her age of 11 to her early 16. The conclusion of all of those quotations above is Stevie is interested with the opposite sex of hers. The people usually called it as heterosexual.

b. Stevie’s sexual orientation in her age of 16.

The explanations in the previous part show about the sexual orientation of Stevie when she was in her age of 11 to her 15. The conclusion is she likes boys. But in this part, it is shown about her sexual orientation in her age of 16. To see the difference between them, it is important to show some of the quotations describing Stevie’s changing of sexual orientation.

Her sexual orientation which was heterosexual has changed into homosexual after she met Nurse Horn. Nurse Horn is a school nurse. When the students got problems with their health, they will go to see Nurse Horn to get the medicine. So did Stevie.

Stevie often goes to see Nurse Horn. After Stevie becomes closer to Nurse Horn, they talked about many things. Even she decided to become Nurse Horn’s helper. Unfortunately, her continual conversation to Nurse Horn slowly makes her felt something different with her feeling.

Nurse Horn leaned over and hugged me. I felt myself get all stiff. Wait a minute, I wanted to say, nobody hugs me ‘cept my
grandmother. I’m sixteen years old; my mother doesn’t even hug me. What if somebody walks in here and sees us all hugged up like we’re in a Hollywood movie? But it felt kind a good, and the terry cloth was brushing up against my face and everything, so I just broke down and wrapped my arms around Nurse Horn and hugged she back (1994: 188).

Her unusual feeling to Nurse Horn was started with the comfortable feeling that she can get from Nurse Horn. The quotation above told that Stevie never gets that kind of comfortable feeling except from her grandmother. At the first, she felt afraid of other people’s opinion if they could see what she was doing with Nurse Horn. She was afraid of other people’s thought when they see two women are hugging each other like in the movie. But finally she did not care about it. She just wanted to enjoy that kind of feeling in that moment.

I was glad that Nurse Horn wasn’t married. I would hate to have to think of her going home to take care of some husband. Instead, I pictures her all curled up at home in a terry-cloth bathrobe, sipping peppermint tea and smiling to herself because she was thinking about me (Coffee Will Make You Black: 189).

From the quotation above, it is seen that Stevie begins to think about Nurse Horn. Stevie was started to become interest with her. In her opinion, Nurse Horn was very charming. She was happy to know that Nurse Horn was not married yet. She cannot imagine that Nurse Horn takes care a husband in her house. From the sentence ‘I would hate to have to think of her going home to take care of some husband’ in the quotation above, it is clearly seen about her jealousy. She would not happy if Nurse Horn pays much attention to others. Stevie imagined also that Nurse Horn is wearing bathrobe, drinking the peppermint tea, and thinking about her. From her imagination in the quotation above, it is clearly shown that she is interested with Nurse Horn. She likes her. But the point is,
Nurse Horn, a nurse that she adores much, is a woman. There are more quotations that will show the main character’s interest to the same sex below.

I wondered what Sean would think if he knew that I daydreamed about Nurse Horn more than him—that my favorite daydream was of Nurse Horn rescuing me from drowning and giving me mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. And sometimes I just remembered Nurse Horn hugging me against her terry-cloth bathrobe, telling me that I had potential (1994: 192).

From the quotation above, it is seen that she is more interested with Nurse Horn than her own boyfriend, named Sean. She even had a favorite dream about Nurse Horn. She loved to dream Nurse Horn saved her when she was drowning in the sea. Then Nurse Horn helped her by giving the rescuing breath.

Nurse Horn’s touch against my face reminded me of how cozy I used to feel up in Grandma’s lap when I was young. But when her thumb brushed my lips, I had a different feeling, cozy and exciting at the same time. (Coffee Will Make You Black: 239)

From the quotation above, it is seen clearly that Nurse Horn can give what Stevie’s need. Stevie loves Nurse Horn like she loves her grandma. But the quotation tells that there is something different between Stevie’s feeling to Nurse Horn and Stevie’s feeling to her grandma. In grandma’s lap she just felt cozy, but when Nurse Horn touched her lips, Stevie felt both comfortable and excited at the same time.

All of the quotations written above show clearly about Stevie’s interest to the same sex of her. She is interested with Nurse Horn than her own boyfriend. She even described to have jealous feeling to Nurse Horn. Her imagination about Nurse Horn is also given by the writer in the story to draw the main character’s sexual orientation.
By reading all of the explanations above, it can be concluded that when she was at her age of 11 to her 16, she was interested with the opposite sex. She was described to be interested with two boys named Michael Dunn and Yusef Brown. It was a normal sexual orientation or it is called as heterosexual. But when she was at her age of 16, her sexual orientation changed. She even felt more comfortable with Nurse Horn than her own boyfriend. It shows that she started to become more interested with the same sex. Her sexual orientation has changed from heterosexual into homosexual.

B. The influencing factors that create Stevie’s sexual orientation.

This part discusses about the factors that lead the main character in Coffee Will Make You Black novel into her sexual orientation. From the previous explanation above, it is known that at the end of the story, the main character in the novel is described to be more interested with the same sex. She is described to become a homosexual person.

After understanding about the main character’s sexual orientation, the factors that create her sexual orientation will be analyzed one by one. To find out all of those factors, this paper uses the theory of causal factors of homosexuality. The first theory is from James. C Coleman in his book entitled Abnormal Psychology and Modern Life; 4th edition and Abnormal Psychology and Modern Life; 5th edition. The second theory is from Benjamin B. Lahey and Anthony R. Cimino in their book entitled Maladaptive Behavior; An Introduction to Abnormal Psychology.
In their theory, there are many factors that are explained to be the cause of homosexuality. Every person can have the different factors in shaping his/her sexual orientation. But in the case of Stevie’s sexual orientation, there are two factors that create it.

1. The false values from her mother.

James C. Coleman said that one of the causes of homosexuality can be formed by the family pattern. The focus of family pattern here is about how the parents shape their children’s mind. It is about how they teach their children about the values that exist in life.

The influence of this factor is obviously seen in Stevie’s character. The main character in the novel is described to be closer with her mother. She always asks something that she does not know to her. Every new word that she got from her friends in school often became the topic of them to be talked about. Unfortunately, her mother is a conservative mother. Because of this characterization, her mother unconsciously gives the false values to her.

The first value is ‘adolescence topic is taboo to be talked’. This factor has the close relation with Stevie’s characterization number one in the previous chapter, which explains that Stevie is described as a smart girl but innocent. Like what has been explained before, Stevie always asks something that she does not know to her mother including about adolescence. And what makes Stevie becomes innocent in adolescence is because her mother never gives her any good answer about all of her questions. The second value is her mother unconsciously
builds hatred to the boys in Stevie’s mind. Both of those values give big influence to Stevie’s life.

a. Adolescence topic is taboo.

Stevie’s mother is a conservative mother. Her mother never answers her questions related to the topic of adolescence clearly. When Stevie is asking about something related to this topic, her mother always says that Stevie’s age is not yet enough to talk about it. She never explains the details of it to her. For Stevie’s mother, this topic is taboo to be talked. It made Stevie grows up as a girl with the lack of information about it. It made her became an innocent girl in the case of adolescence including sexuality.

The quotation below is taken when Stevie was in the kitchen with her mother. She did not know the meaning of the word ‘virgin’. She got this word from one of her friends in school. Actually, she already tried to find the definition in the dictionary. But, she cannot get the clear explanation about it. Then she decided to discuss this topic with her mother. To start the discussion, she asked to her mother whether her mother was still virgin or not. Stevie also explained to her mother that she got this word from a boy who asked her if she was a virgin.

Her mother was very surprised to hear it. She was very surprised to know that her daughter can get that word in her age of 11. What her mother did at that time was not give the explanation about virginity, but she told Stevie that the boy who has asked that question was a dog.

“Well, Jean Eloise, you should have told him he’ll never get the chance to find out.” Mama frowned as she stirred the rice. “Humph, you stay away from that boy; he’s got his mind in the gutter.” Mama pointed her finger in
my face. “All men are dogs! Some are just more doggish than others. Do you hear me?” (1994:6).

It is clearly shown in the quotation that her mother did not want to have this kind of discussion with her daughter. She did not want to explain anything related to virginity. She even told to Stevie that she has to take a distance with that boy, because he is not a good boy. Her mother even calls that boy as a ‘dog’.

Another quotation is taken when Stevie was asking about ‘period’ to her mother. Stevie looked very interested to discuss it with her mother. Stevie wanted to know what her mother did when she got her period.

I stared down at my penny loafers. “Mama, what happens when you start your period?”
Mama patted her cornbread. “I don’t think you’re ready for this kind of discussion.” (1994:6).

The context of the word ‘period’ here is menstruation. For many mothers in the world, it is normal when a girl asks about ‘period’ to her mother because someday she will also get this kind of problem. But Stevie’s mother does not think the same about it. Her mother thought that Stevie was too young to know about the ‘period’ problem even though her age was 11. So, Stevie’s mother decided to not answer this question.

Her mother’s answer cannot make her satisfied. She still felt interested with that topic. In the previous quotation above, Stevie asked about what her mother did when she got her period. While in the second quotation below, Stevie asked about the age when her mother got her period. Unfortunately, in both of quotations, her mother’s answers are almost the same. She did not give the clear answer to Stevie.
“How old were you, Mama?”
“What difference does it make? Can’t you find something else to talk about? Getting your period is nothing to celebrate. Why do you think they call it the curse? It’s just the beginning of a lot of mess, you’ll see. It’s nothing to get excited about, believe me.” (1994:44).

The quotation above shows the uncomfortable feeling of Stevie’s mother in discussing that kind of topic. From the sentence ‘It’s nothing to get excited about, believe me.’, it is seen that Stevie’s mother thought her daughter was overreacting to discuss it. She even asked her daughter to find another topic to be discussed.

The next quotation has the different topic with the previous one. But, it is also talk about the world of ‘adolescence’. It was the meaning of the sentence ‘love came down’. But, her mother also did not want to explain it clearly to her daughter. She even got a little bit angry with Stevie’s question.

“Somebody said that her love came down. What does that mean?”
I added a little more milk to the potatoes.
“Who said some mess like that? I bet it was that Carla Perkins, wasn’t it? Mama wrinkled her forehead.
“It wasn’t Carla.”
“I bet she was there, I bet she had something to do with it!” (1994:50-51).

The quotation above is taken when Stevie was helping her mother in the kitchen. She was asking about the question related to the puberty problem. She asked her mother about the meaning of ‘love came down’. From the sentence ‘Who said some mess like that?’ it is shown that her mother felt surprised of her daughter’s question. She thought that ‘love came down’ phrase was not good for her daughter to know right now. It is clearly seen by understanding the word ‘mess’ in the sentence which means something that is negative. As usual, her
mother did not give any explanation to her, but she just commanded Stevie to stay away from someone who told her that phrase.

All of the quotations from the novel above show to the reader that for Stevie’s mother, adolescence topic is taboo to be discussed. She never wants to discuss it with Stevie. She always thinks that Stevie is not mature yet to know about that kind of topic. Because of that situation, Stevie knew that she will never get the true information about what she wanted to know. “I wanted to hear about the juicy stuff. Mama had never really sat me down and told me the facts” (1994:50). From the quotation, it is seen that she realized that she will not get the true information related to the topic of adolescence from her mother. “I would just have to find out stuff from other people. Mama wasn’t getting up off of nothing, I thought” (1994:51). The previous quotation shows about Stevie’s realization of her needs to ask other people about all of her questions.

‘Adolescence topic is taboo’, one of the values that Stevie’s mother’s have, gives the big influence to Stevie. It becomes the cause of Stevie’s innocent character. It drives Stevie to be a girl who is lack of information about it.

b. Hatred to the opposite sex.

Stevie’s mother is a conservative woman. One of the results of her conservative character is she always tries to protect her daughter from the negative effect of the environment in a wrong way. One of the results is she becomes rude when she was talking about boys in front of her daughter. She often says bad things about boy to her. From her mother words, Stevie learned to think that boys are always bad. It happens continuously to Stevie since Stevie was a
child. Actually, her mother just wanted her to be far from the wrong friendship effects. It is just a kind of a way of her mother to protect her daughter. But after a long process, this habit gave the bad effect to Stevie. Like what S. Shirley Feldman and Doreen A. Rosenthal stated in their book entitled *Talking Sexuality, Parent-Adolescent Communication* that “Many parents assume, or at least hope, that talking to children about values will result in children’s adopting those values and acting accordingly”. It means that the parents believe that any values that are taught to children will be adopted by them. The children will also keep those values in their way of living. So, the values that always be taught by Stevie’s mother to Stevie give effect also for her. And the result is, her mother unconsciously built hatred to boys in Stevie’s mind.

When Stevie was together in the kitchen with her mother, they were having a conversation related to the boys while cooking together. In that conversation, Stevie’s mother said that “All men are dogs! Some are just more doggish than others. Do you hear me?” (1994:6). In the quotation, it is shown that Stevie’s mother wanted Stevie to stay away from boys, because they are bad. The context of boys here is Stevie’s boyfriends in school. Stevie’s mother wanted her daughter know that they can give bad influence to her. Her mother even called boys as dogs. It was a rude term that her mother gave to the boys.

At the previous quotation, her mother called boys as dogs. But in the next quotation, her mother gave a different term for boys. She called them as riffraff. “We work too hard to let riffraff come along and drag you down.” (1994:91). The word ‘riffraff’ here absolutely has the negative meaning. In other words, her
mother wanted to say that boys, Stevie’s boyfriends in school, which are coming to Stevie’s life are bad.

The effect of what her mother did is seen in her sentence “I felt kind of scared and excited at the same time. I didn’t want to like a dog like Yusef Brown, but I just couldn’t help myself” (1994:73). At that time, she liked a boy named Yusef Brown. From what she said, it is seen that at the first she tried to deny her feeling to that boy, because she thinks that Yusef is a dog. But, she realized that she cannot do anything to change it. She admired him so much.

When Stevie has a conversation with Nurse Horn about boys, Stevie said “You mean they’re all not dogs. My mother says all men are dogs; some are just more doggish than others.” (1994:233). The quotation shows to the reader that what has been said to Stevie continuously by her mother gave influence in her mind-set. It was finally grow in her heart and mind. This is a kind of psychological effect that Stevie’s get.

2. Bad sexual experience.

Based on Benjamin B. Lahey and Anthony R. Ciminero, one of the cause factors of homosexuality is the aversive experiences with early heterosexual relationships. It is about somebody’s bad experience related to sexuality in life. It can drive someone to be interested with the same sex.

Like what have been discussed in the answer of problem formulation number one, the readers know that Stevie has a bad experience related to the sexuality in her life. This experience had led her to be a traumatic girl. It is also related to the explanation that Stevie is an innocent girl. The innocence character
that she has makes her becomes easily to be treated badly by one of her school friends. This character is the cause of Stevie’s bad experience in sexuality.

At that time, her friend named Yusef Brown trapped her. He wanted Stevie to get pee together with him. Actually, Stevie did not really know about this activity. Because of her innocent characterization, she becomes easily to be provoked by her best friend named Carla to do that. She agreed to do peeing together with Yusef Brown.

They plan to do that activity in the backyard of Yusef’s apartment building. Before they start peeing together, Yusef said “Don’t worry, ain’t nobody here.” Yusef put his hand on my shoulder. “It’s gonna be fun, you’ll see.” (1994:99). Yusef tried to make Stevie felt comfortable. He tried to make Stevie sure that there were nobody except them. It means that what they will do is a secret just for both of them. Yusef also tried to make Stevie sure that peeing together is a pleasurable activity. But, in the beginning of their peeing together, one of their friends named Rolland came to that place.

“Stevie, I heard them talking about it in the john, they didn’t see me. I would’ve been here sooner but Mrs. Verducci kept our class after school. And I had to do some detective work to find out where Yusef lived. They’re hiding in the basement, at the window,” Roland pointed. I looked up. I could see some heads bobbing up and down, and heard laughing. I turned toward Yusef, who was cracking his knuckles. I felt my eyes filling up with tears (1994:101).

Roland came to that place and asked Stevie to stop it, because Roland knew that Yusef trapped her. Yusef asked all of his friends to watch him peeing together with Stevie. And what Rolland said was true. She can look many heads in the window. She realized that Yusef was tricked her. Stevie felt shock because of
it. There is nothing that she can do except crying at that time. It was a very frightening experience that can give her a very bad trauma in her life. It was a terrible experience for her.

C. How those factors form Stevie’s sexual orientation.

In the previous explanation, it can be understood that there are two factors that build the main character’s sexual orientation in the novel. The first factor is the values that the main character got from her mother. This factor is divided into two points that are ‘adolescence topic is taboo’ to be discussed and ‘hatred to the opposite sex’. The second factor is her bad sexual experience in her life. By knowing all of those factors one by one, it can be easier to analyze about how those factors build Stevie’s sexual orientation. To make it easier, this part will be explained one by one based on each factor in the previous explanation.

1. The false values from her mother.

This factor is divided into two points. The first point is ‘adolescence topic is taboo’ to be discussed. The second point is ‘hatred to the opposite sex’. All of them are explained one by one below.

a. Adolescence topic is taboo.

Like what has been explained above, Stevie’s mother never gives the complete explanation to her about this topic. Her mother always says that Stevie’s age was not yet enough to discuss about it. Her mother even says to Stevie to find out another topic to be discussed together. In other words, it means that for Stevie’s mother ‘Adolescence topic is taboo to be discussed’.
S. Shirley Feldman and Doreen A. Rosenthal, in their *Talking Sexuality, Parent-Adolescent Communication* book, explain that parent should be the socializers of any information including about sexuality for their children. Parents should provide an open-communication between them and their children in the house. It means that parents should be responsive to all of their children’s questions. Based on them, this theory is an important theory for the parents to be kept in themselves. It should be applied in teaching children in order to get the best mental-development of them.

Unfortunately, Stevie’s mother is not a communicative mother in adolescence topic. She never gives the good explanation to all of her daughter’s questions related to this topic. She always thinks that Stevie is not proper yet to have that topic in a conversation. It makes her always asks her daughter to find out another topic to be discussed together. This conservative character of Stevie’s mother unconsciously affects Stevie as a growing-up girl. She never gets enough information about it. She becomes an innocent girl which is lack of adolescence information. It makes her always tries to find out the answer of all her questions by herself through other people. “I would just have to find out stuff from other people. Mama wasn’t getting up off of nothing, I thought.” (1994:51). It makes Stevie realized that she cannot get the answer of her questions from her mother. She has to find it out from somebody out there. She has to learn about it by herself.

As the result of this condition, Stevie always tries to learn about adolescence in her school environment. She tried to learn it from her school
friends. Unfortunately, her school environment was not a good place in teaching this kind of information. Most of her friends in school even give her bad effects. This condition combined with her innocence character, makes her became easily to be influenced by them.

The quotation below is taken when Stevie was walking home with her friends named Denise and Gail. Suddenly, Michael grabbed her behind through her skirt. She felt shocked with that.

“If they touch us like that again we should report them to somebody,” I said.
Denise and Gail stood looking at me with their mouths hanging open.
“Are we supposed to like it?” I asked, confused.
“Course, fool, you just s'posed to act like you don’t dig it,” Denise said, rolling her eyes like she couldn’t believe how dumb I was (1994:19).

From the quotation above, it can be seen that she tried to learn about how she should act in responding the boy’s mischievousness. After looking at her friends expression, she became not sure with what she has done. From the sentence ‘Are we supposed to like it?’, it is clearly seen that she tried to find the correct reaction that she must give from her friends. Denise said to Stevie that Stevie’s reaction was wrong at that time. Denise taught Stevie to ‘pretend’ like she got angry, although the fact is she should like it. It is clearly seen about how Stevie’s innocent character made her became easily influenced by her friends.

Another quotation is taken when Stevie was asking Carla, her best friend in school, about Carla’s suggestion to the problems of peeing together with Yusef. She wanted to get some advices from her best friend before she can decide her decision. And finally, she just followed what Carla has said to her.
“Stevie, you’ve come to far to turn back now. You this close to being Yusef’s lady.” Carla held her thumb and finger real close together.

The quotation above shows to the reader about how Stevie’s school environment is described in the novel. Carla, her best friend, also cannot protect her from the bad effect. Carla even supports her to do the wrong thing.

From all of those quotations above, the reader can conclude that starting from the values that Stevie’s mother’s have, it can give a very bad result to Stevie’s life. The value that ‘adolescence topic is taboo to be discussed’ shapes Stevie to be an innocent girl. The result of her innocence is she becomes easily to be influenced to the bad effects in her school environment.

b. Hatred to the opposite sex.

Like what have been explained in the answer of the problem formulation number two above, the reader can understand that Stevie’s mother often says something rude about boys. She ever called boys as dog and riffraff in front of Stevie. “All men are dogs! Some are just more doggish than others. Do you hear me?” (1994:6). “We work too hard to let riffraff come along and drag you down.” (1994:91). It happens continuously in Stevie’s life. After a long process, this value is grow-up in Stevie’s mind-set unconsciously. It is clearly seen in what Stevie was saying to Nurse Horn in their conversation. “You mean they’re all not dogs. My mother says all men are dogs; some are just more doggish than others.” (1994:233). This quotation shows to the reader that Stevie was learn something from what her mother have said continuously. She learned about ‘hatred to the opposite sex’ from her mother. She learned that boys are always wrong. Even
though it did not affect her directly, but finally this value influence her way of thinking. This was a long process for her.

All of those quotations above show that something that is taught by parents every day can give big effects to children. The children will keep it as the rule in their life. S. Shirley Feldman and Doreen A. Rosenthal in their book said that values that are taught by the parents will be adopted by the children to be kept in their mind. This is what happens to Stevie. Her mother unconsciously taught her about hatred to the opposite sex. Besides that, Stevie also ever gets bad experience in sexuality. This condition gives the stronger effect to build Stevie’s sexual orientation.

2. Bad sexual experience.

In the previous part, it has been explained that Stevie, as the main character in the novel, ever gets bad experience in sexuality. It happened when she was 13 year old. She was trapped by one of her school friend named Yusef Brown. She was trapped to do peeing together with him. Yusef said to her that there was nobody in that place at that time except them. But the fact was there were a lot of Yusef’s friend who were watching them. All of Yusef’s friend which were boys were watching them from the window. Stevie felt very embarrassed at that time. She could not imagine being half naked in front of Yusef’s friend. She was very shocked with that moment. She felt trauma of it.

When Stevie made a decision to get pee together with Yusef Brown, it means that she believed on him. She put her trust on him. But, what happened at that time was out of Stevie’s prediction. Yusef Brown was tricked her.
I couldn’t understand why Yusef had blabbed to his friends and done what he’d done to me. I never understood before how somebody could hurt you unless they hit you. But what Yusef did hurt me worse that the slap I felt when dived into the pool and forgot to tuck my head (1994:101).

The quotation above shows to the reader that what Yusef done to Stevie made her became hurt. Yusef has taught her about the hurt that she never gets before. She also realized that there was something that can make her feeling more hurt than somebody’s hit.

All of the quotation above shows about the moment that makes Stevie becomes a traumatic girl. That moment unconsciously decreased her trust to the opposite sex.

Both of factors that explained above are the factors which influence Stevie’s sexual orientation. The values that are given by her mother shape her into an innocent girl in adolescence topic. Besides that her mother also unconsciously builds hatred to boys in Stevie’s mind. Finally, those values combined with the bad sexual experience in her life make her sexual orientation becomes change.
CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION

In this paper, there are three problem formulations that are discussed in chapter IV. The first problem formulation is about Stevie’s characterization. There are three characterizations that explained in this paper which are related to the paper’s topic. The first characterization is ‘she is described as a smart girl but innocent’. The context of innocent here is related with the topic of adolescence. Stevie is a smart girl in school. She is well-known with her ability in learning the lesson in class. But, she even does not know about the meaning of the word ‘virgin’. She is not good in the knowledge of adolescence topic. This is why she is called as someone who is smart but innocent.

The second characterization is ‘she is described as a traumatic girl’. Like what have been shown above, Stevie is described to have a bad sexual experience. Her friend named Yusef Brown trapped her. Yusef asked Stevie to pee together with him. He also said that they were nobody else in that place except them. But the fact is there were so many people there. Yusef told to his friends to watch him and Stevie peeing together. Stevie felt very surprised to know about that. That moment gave her a big trauma in her life.

And the last is ‘she is described as a sexual orientation-changed girl. At her age of 11 until 16, Stevie is described to be a heterosexual person. The novel shows about her interest to some boys. She even described to be falling in love with some boys. But her sexual orientation changed after she met Nurse Horn.
She felt something different to her. Nurse Horn can give Stevie the different uncomfortable feeling that she never gets before. She even became more interested with Nurse Horn than to her boyfriend. That feeling makes her sexual orientation changed.

The second question of the problem formulation in this paper is about the factors that lead the main character in the story becomes a homosexual person. Based on the theories about the cause of homosexuality combined with Stevie’s characterizations, it can be concluded that there are two factors that influence her sexual orientation. James C. Coleman’s theory told that family pattern can influence a person’s sexual orientation. The context of family pattern here is about how the parents teach their children about the values that exist in life. From this theory, it can be concluded that her mother gives the big influence in shaping Stevie’s sexual orientation. It becomes the first factor that explained in the answer of question number two.

The first factor is the false values that she got from her mother. The values are ‘adolescence topic is taboo’ and ‘hatred to the opposite sex’. The first value leads Stevie to become an innocent person in the topic of adolescence. The second value from her mother influence Stevie’s way of thinking about boys. By saying rude words for the boys continuously, her mother unconsciously builds hatred in Stevie’s mind through the opposite sex.

The second factor is the bad sexual experience that she got. Like what has been explained above, this experience give Stevie a deep trauma. In the story, it is
told that she was crying because of this experience. She was very shocked to know that she was tricked by her friend.

And the last question of the problem formulation in this paper is how those factors build the main character’s sexual orientation. The first factor which is ‘the false values that she got from her mother’ teaches her about the false way to see life. By these values, she is shaped to be an innocent girl in adolescence topic. Besides that, she is also taught to have hatred to the opposite sex in her mind-set. And the second factor which is ‘the bad experience in sexuality’ decreases her trust to the opposite sex
BIBLIOGRAPHY


