

Chapter V

Conclusions and Suggestions

This chapter will discuss the conclusions from the results of research that have been carried out related to the violation of the Journalistic Code of Ethics committed by the main character named Stephen Glass in the film entitled *Shattered Glass*. In addition, this chapter will also discuss suggestions for the related parties.

5.1 Conclusions

Shattered Glass is a journalistic-themed film based on a true story. The film starring Hayden Christensen as Stephen Glass, a journalist for the *New Republic* magazine. The *New Republic* is a well-known newspaper in New York, United States, and always discusses political issues in its reporting. The film *Shattered Glass* tells about the internal problems of the *New Republic* in 1998 when Glass did journalistic work without being based on a journalistic code of ethics. This film also shows clearly how journalists work to get news based on a code of ethics. A journalist needs a long struggle to find the truth of the news to be published, and it also takes a high level of accuracy to see the relationship from one fact to another that is found.

Based on the research that the researcher has done, the researcher concludes that this research is a problem formulation of how to represent violations of the Journalistic Code of Ethics in the film *Shattered Glass*. This film is analyzed through the theory of Syarifudin Yunus, from his book entitled *The Book of Applied Journalistic Codes of Ethics*, and also the supporting

theory of the Freytag Pyramid. To analyze it, the researcher also uses a qualitative approach. This method emphasizes solving the problem of violating the journalistic code of ethics by paying attention to text elements, image elements, and scene elements.

Glass is told as a journalist who is intelligent, ambitious, and imaginative whose writing always attracts readers and stays on his job even with a small salary. Glass loves his job. Glass imagines famous people like the president will read his writing. However, his desire is not worth the effort and ability. Glass doesn't show that he is a really well-informed journalist. He is like a storyteller to their readers because the articles that he writes is based on his imagination. Glass can also capture everything around him and can position himself as someone involved in the story.

During Chuck Lane's tenure as an editor at The New Republic, Glass wrote 14 articles, and the one that became the largest writing, as well as the writing that broke down Glass's lies, was the article entitled "Hack Heaven". The article is about a hacker named Ian Restil who is flooded with prize money by a computer company called Jukt Micronics that he doesn't want to hack. The researcher of Forbes magazine named Adam Penenberg found a lot of inappropriate and suspicious facts in the article. Their suspicions were right, it turned out that Glass's article about hackers had absolutely no supporting facts and was found.

Lane tries to prove whether the facts that Glass wrote are true, in the process of proving it, Glass always evades by lying. Even when Lane asked Glass to accompany him to the place where the event took place and at the

scene, there was already plenty of evidence that the incident did not happen, Glass still evaded claiming that he had been deceived.

Lane, who is still suspicious of Glass, continues to search for evidence of the truth in the writing. After being investigated by people, the time and place that Glass wrote down turned out to be the result of his writing and never existed. Not discouraged to confirm that Glass is a liar, Lane reads several articles written by Glass in New Republic Magazine and again Lane finds Glass's writings that are odd.

The most unfortunate thing is how the journalistic code of ethics is seconded by the journalists themselves. The most frequent violation in this film is the level of truth and authenticity of the information which leads to a violation of the journalistic code of ethics. The offenses committed by a journalist named Stephen Glass occur continuously while producing articles and information to advance his own career, to gain praise, and to gain popularity. At the end of the film, it is proven that from 41 of Glass's writings, 27 of them are lies. Lane decides to fire Glass anyway.

Based on the journalistic code of ethics according to Syarifudin Yunus, Glass had violated the journalistic code of ethics related to data accuracy, data balance, and falsified data such as emails, telephone numbers, business cards, websites and he even ordered his brother to become George Sims (Juct Micronics). As a journalist, prioritizing the truth and discipline of verification is the main thing to do and it has been stated in the elements of journalism. Kovach and Rosenstiel offer five verification concepts, that a journalist should not add or fabricate anything in their reporting, not deceive or even mislead

readers, be transparent and honest in reporting, and rely on self-reporting, meaning that the data obtained is sourced directly from the reports obtained in the field, if it comes from other people, it is immediately necessary to verify the data, and the main thing is to be humble.

There is nothing wrong with imagining, but it is important to know that it can be expressed in different forms of writing. Journalism is seeking the truth, and lies in the world of journalism are fatal. The writings that are produced can affect the people who read, if the writing is just an essay or a lie, it is very detrimental to many people, especially the media company itself.

5.2 Suggestions

Based on the results of the analysis that has been presented previously, the researcher would like to practical advice and theoretical suggestions to parties related to this research :

5.2.1 Practical Advice

1. The researcher hopes that this research can have a positive impact on film-making practitioners in conveying a message so that the resulting work also gets a positive response from the audience. It is hoped that in the future films in Indonesia will be able to produce quality works and still uphold originality with the content of constructive moral messages.
2. The researcher also really hopes that there will be more films related to journalism to be a learning tool. This can have a very positive impact on the interest of journalism students in studying their field of science in a way that is not monotonous and fun.

5.2.2 Theoretical Suggestions

1. The researcher hopes that the research on the film Shattered Glass with the theme of Journalism can be a reference in making the reader's thesis.
2. The researcher hopes that in the future journalism students or aspiring journalists will learn more and deepen more about the Journalistic Code of Ethics. This is because the successors of Journalism understand very well in the field what is recommended and not recommended in their coverage.