



**BUDDHI DHARMA UNIVERSITY**

**THE ANALYSIS OF THE HOMOSEXUAL IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT  
OF PATRICK AND BRAD AS SEEN IN STEPHEN CHBOSKY'S NOVEL  
THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER**

**Presented as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Undergraduate  
Program**

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## FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

Final Project Title : The Analysis of the Homosexual Identity Development of  
Patrick and Brad as Seen in Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks  
of Being a Wallflower*

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## FINAL PROJECT APPROVAL

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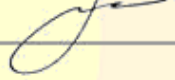




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I honestly declare that this thesis is my own writing, and it is true that I do not take any scholarly ideas or work from others. Those all cited works are quoted in accordance with the ethical code of academic writing.

Tangerang, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020



Widya Kartika Margo

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Tangerang, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

The writer



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Widya Kartika Margo



## ABSTRACT

The topic of this research is the analysis of the homosexual identity development process by Patrick and Brad in Stephen Chbosky's novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (TPOBW). The research is aimed at showing the stages of homosexuality identity development which have been experienced by Patrick and Brad and their struggles for being homosexuals when living in a strict heteronormative and homophobic environment. To achieve the above goals, this research employs the theory of homosexual identity development by Eli Coleman. This research employs descriptive qualitative to analyze the data which contain the narrations and dialogs from TPOBW. The research findings show that the five stages of homosexual identity development – pre-coming out, coming out, exploration, first relationships and integration – were undergone by Patrick as the homosexual in the novel, seen through the life of Patrick in his adolescence period. However, Brad only experienced the pre-coming out stage as the way he was stuck in the denial projection of his homosexuality. The illegality of homosexuality in Brad's environment affects how Brad was stuck in the first stage. With regard to Patrick, in the more incorporated personality, the self-acknowledgment of the homosexuality causes Patrick to be mentally arranged in managing social vilification. It is concluded that Patrick experienced the five stages of homosexual identity development whereas Brad did not, and that both of them struggled for being homosexual although Brad had to do so more than Patrick did due to their different family support.

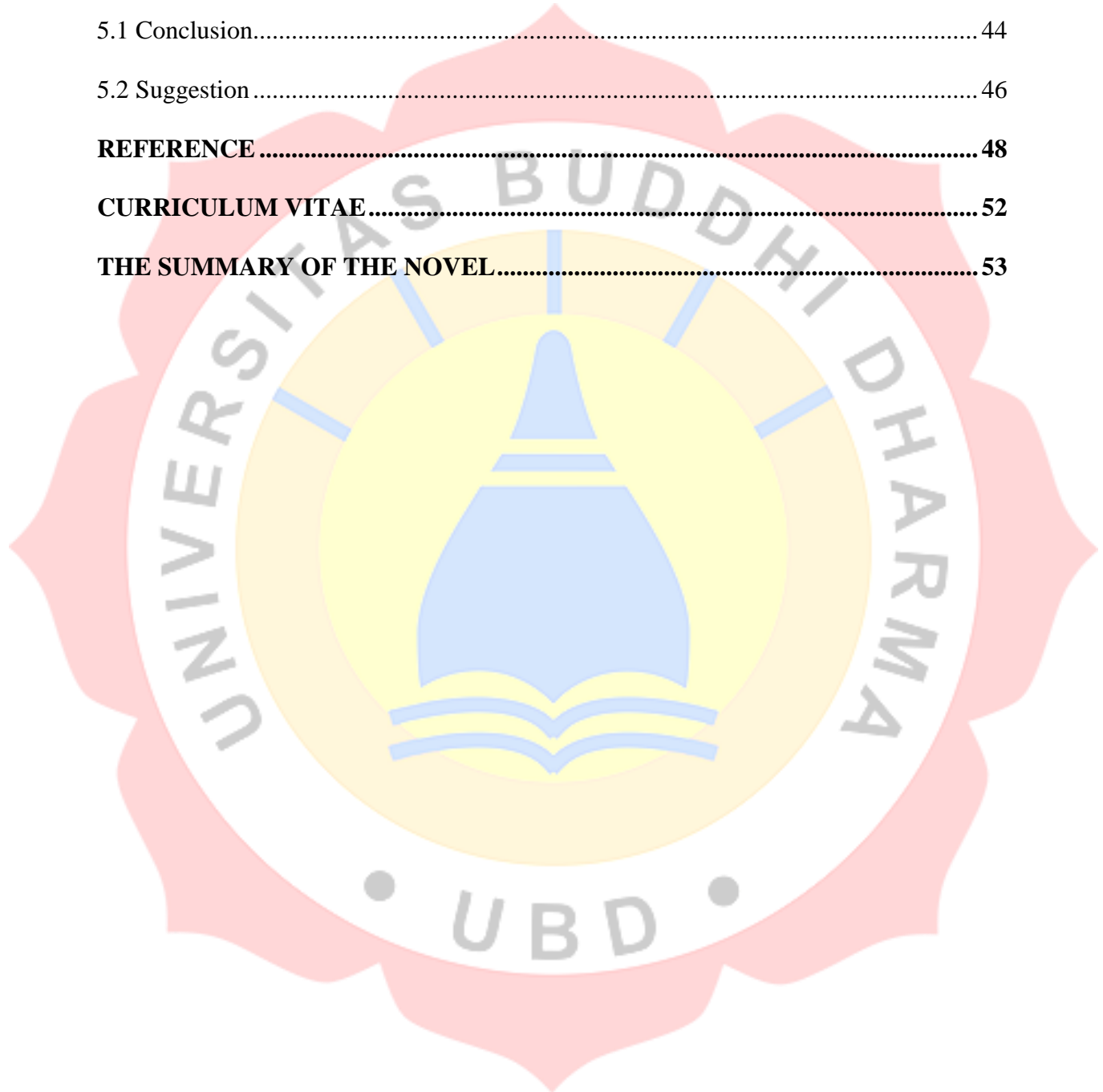
**Keywords:** *Homosexuality, Homosexual IdentityDevelopment, Adolescent, Literature*

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Sexual orientation plays an important part in our life. It is an essential thing about how individuals see themselves and how they genuinely identify with others. It is about manner in which and individual communicates for oneself sexually. Sexuality includes an individual's emotions and feeling of character, a self-acknowledgment of one's sexual practices. It likewise includes sexual encounters, contemplations, and dreams. Sexual identity and sexual practices are firmly identified with one another. Sexual identity refers to individual's origination of themselves sexually. Sexual behaviors refer to the sexual acts performed by the person. Below is a Michael W. Ross' statement, an expert in sexual behaviors. Ross (in Stephen Epstein, 1991: 828) states as follows.

Sexual preference/orientation. Traditionally this would refer to what psychoanalysts have called "object choice," namely, whether the gender of one's preferred or fantasied partners is the same as, or different from, one's own; whether gender is, or is not, an important dimension in the selection of a partner; and whether this preference/orientation is stable or variable over time. Beyond this, sexual preference/orientation can be extended to include other characteristics (physical, emotional, behavioral) or statuses (race, ethnicity, class, religion, etc.) that one may consistently feel compelled or inclined to seek in a partner.

From era to era people believe that woman and man are supposed to be together, It is believed that God made man and woman to be together to be matched in couple, live together and complete each other. Nonetheless, for certain individuals, that example of life isn't anything but difficult to follow. These

individuals discover that they are explicitly and genuinely attracted in to others who have a similar sex with them. These individuals are characterized to have sexual disorientation since an attraction toward somebody of one's same sex is not respected as a normal sexual orientation because it against the sexual morality.

Edmund Begler (1956) states as follows

According to the popular definition, a homosexual is a person who derives his sexual excitement and satisfaction from a person of his own sex, in contradistinction to a heterosexual, who is sexually attracted to the members of the opposite sex. The popular theory also accepts the subdivision that separates those who are exclusively homosexual from the "bi-sexual" who allegedly divide their attention between both sexes.

To those people who have sexual disorientation, particularly like homosexual, usually have a hard time from their society and get a trouble because most societies consider this sexual disorientation as a disgrace of the society. It is not rare to find past societies with the thought that homosexual behavior as a sinner and deserves a punishment from society. It is just because they are different from the "normal" sexual orientation. For those who choose to live with their disorientation sexuality often find it hard to live in a normal society. However, they cannot lie with their own sexuality and emotion which are different from what the society expects.

The issues about disorientation sexual bring the controversy of homosexuality has impacts in some people who reject the homosexuals. The against of the abnormality spread through hatred, dislike, and discrimination towards homosexual individuals is known as homophobia (Adams, Wright, and Lohr, 1996:440 in Maria) also they are still so many homophobia spread around

the world with their own beliefs to against homosexuality. Therefore, the existence of homophobic is threatening the well living of the homosexual because homophobic tends to be harsh to force homosexuals to stop their lifestyles. Even, they are threatened with the abuse such committing a crime or even a murder. It is just because of the difference of sexual orientation. The crime ranges from verbal abuse to vicious murder.

Homosexuality issues are now easy to find in such era, many literature works and films bring homosexuality context as it is not a taboo thing anymore. For example many new Netflix shows started including homosexuality as their main character or additional character. Homosexuality is a world-wide topic to be discussed and openly practiced by the doers. Regardless how common it has become to the society, some opinion in society still find this as abnormal thing because it against the nature where man and woman are the only relationship that matters the morality and go as the nature. The controversy of homosexuals is inevitable throughout the centuries and become the issue in society.

The controversy is basically rooted in the difference of the beliefs and the perspective of human rights. According to (Veronique Mottier 2008: 25) In giving sex a special status by proclaiming it to be the first sin, Christianity put sex solidly at the focal point of Christian profound quality. The student of history and social scholar Michel Foucault's *The History of Sexuality* broadly called attention to the incongruity of Christian morals characterizing sex at the same time as something shameful, which ought not be spoken about, and as the sin 'par excellent', which must be followed in its genuine appearances, yet in addition in the psyche's most

profound concealed wants. Through the development of methods, for example, Catholic admission and the thorough assessment of one's own inner voice cultivated by the Reformation, Christianity

Because people in society have the capability to think on its own, many people have a different perspective and share the different values on what they believe. Roughly, the homosexuals are often to be seen as a sinner and immoral if it meets the value of the religion's belief. Consequently, not a little people who holds such a strong belief that this is something wrong and acknowledge as a sin do such a violent towards homosexuals. On the other hand, people who fight for homosexuality's rights are also not that little. These people have a different opinion that homosexuals are also a human and deserve the equal treats just like other human despite their sexual orientation.

Symons and Altman (2015, 62) have found that in recent years, the European Parliament, the World Bank, and the USA have sanctioned governments including Uganda and Nigeria for discriminatory laws. Furthermore, both pro-LGBTQI activists and anti-LGBTQI activists from the West are trying to shape domestic law and practice in developing states (Nathalie Baptiste 2014)

Homosexuality does not only occur in adulthood, not a little teenager start questioning their sexuality also the feeling to find out their identity. It is not rare to find adolescent who find themselves attracted to their same sex gender. When it comes to adolescent, the older people such "The Parents" will hand their authority towards their children as if they do not accept the homosexuality than no children are allowed to feel that way. For instance, it is up to the parents not to the children. As the things said in Terrence Sullivan and Margaret Schneider (1987:13) Grown-ups are frequently hesitant to listen cautiously to adolescent



messages with respect about sexuality. At the point when teenagers distinguish themselves as being gay or lesbian, this is frequently excused as a phase, change response, or experimentation. While it is certainly accurate that gay experimentation is regular in early teenagers, and that some of it is transient, our experience would demonstrate that taking the declarations of self-identified young homosexual at face esteem is likely a progressively valuable beginning stage for helping experts and one which doesn't deny what they may feel they are.

As a result of the social issues, homosexuality has been discussed in literary works. Through literature it can bring a new perspective and value and takes place in the society, where the homosexuality is one of social elements. One of the literary works which has a homosexuality in teenager's point of views as its issue is a 2010 novel written by Stephen Chbosky entitled *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. The story tells about a teenager's life, which is taken perspective from Charlie who liked to write a letter of his daily life. Charlie became a great friend of Patrick who was actually sexually and emotionally attracted to men or defined as a homosexual.

In the story Charlie accidently looked at Patrick making out with Brad. He was a popular kid at school because he played a back-quarter on their football school team. Knowing that Charlie witnessed all of this, Brad had gone panicked as Patrick remained him to calm down and chased Charlie. He made Charlie swear that he would not tell it to anyone. Charlie agreed and kept that secret tight. From that event, Charlie often wrote a letter about the relationship of Patrick who became his 'secret' boyfriend. Patrick told Charlie almost

everything about his love life and about his *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* sexuality as he told Charlie that Brad had beaten up with his dad. He did so because his dad found out they had a relationship. In the story, the two homosexual characters in, Patrick and Brad represented a perfect example of two homosexuals who tried to maintain their secret relationship as Brad's dad was homophobic and stiff about how man should be a man up and masculine. It was opposite from Patrick where he was more open about his homosexuality also because the people around him were open-minded and could accept him as himself.

Therefore, it is interesting to find out how Patrick and Brad portrayed the process of their development towards their homosexuality. And how the homosexuality occurs in adolescent, precisely with analyzing how they deal with it. The researcher will investigate how they act and develop towards their homosexuality based on the process of homosexuality identity by Eli Coleman. In addition, she will also investigate how the homosexuality affects them in daily basis as a student in adolescence.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The homosexuality is still hard to be accepted in the society especially when it comes to the society who strongly believes that only the idea of heterosexual is considered as a normal thing, and the other idea (homosexuality) is considered abnormal and a sinner and having a mental disorder. In the story of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, there were two homosexual characters, Patrick and Brad that were growing up as teenagers with their disorientation sexuality. They had to find

out how to survive from this forbidden sexuality life in which they could not lie to themselves. This research focuses on the process of homosexual identity development of the two homosexuals in the above novel who have to endure by living in a strict, masculine, and class focused society and how the characters feel towards their homosexual identity.

### **1.3 Research Question**

1. How is the process of homosexual identity development character of Patrick and Brad as seen in the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*?
2. How is a struggle for love of Patrick and Brad as a homosexual couple in the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*?

### **1.4 Goal and Function**

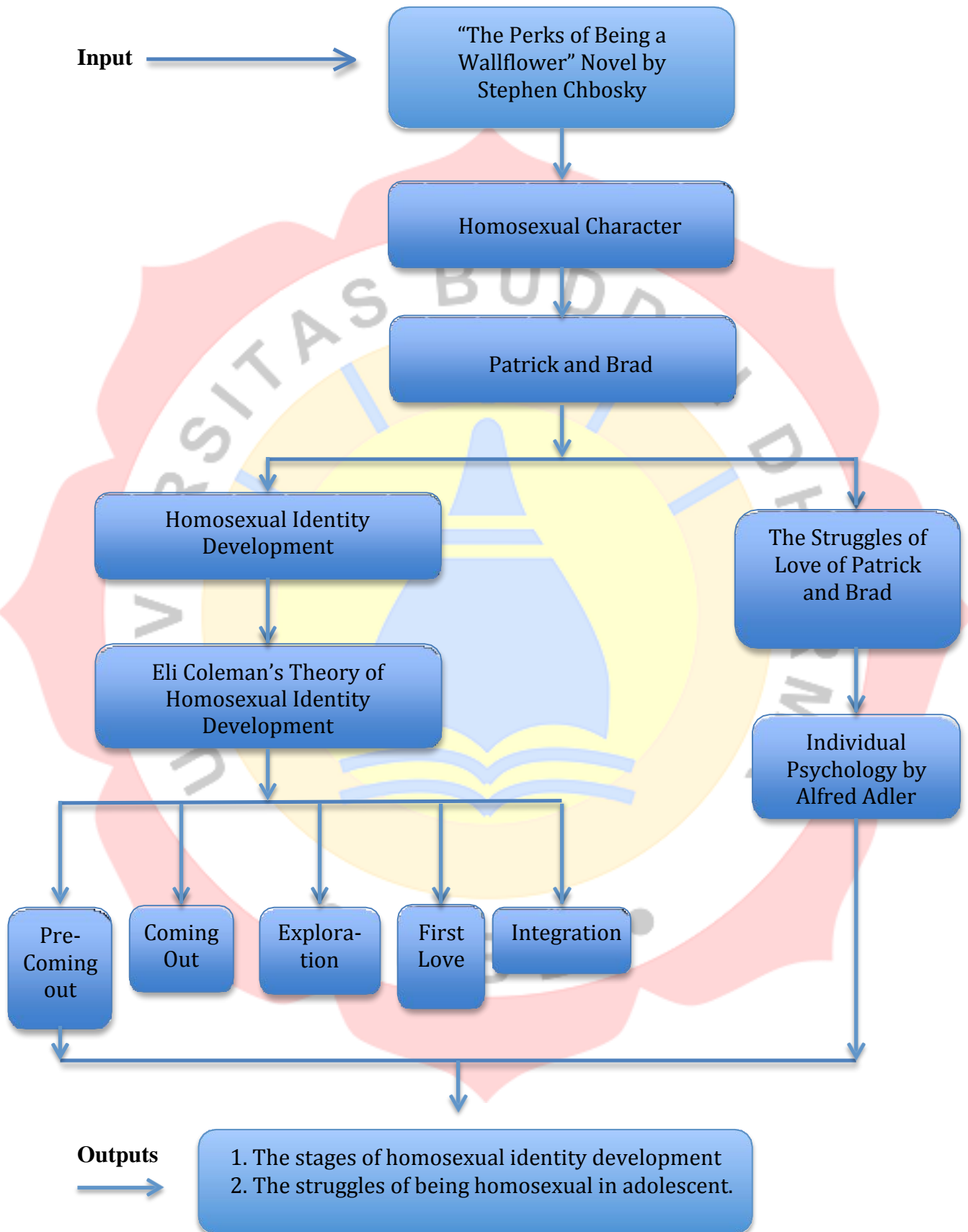
Research signifies compelling goal to find out the explanation of the implication of the feeling and the process of homosexual and homosexuality identity from the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. There are two goals of this research. The first goal is to show how the process of homosexuality identity development of Patrick and Brad *is as seen in the novel The Perks of Being a Wallflower*? In this regard, it is to find out what kind of homosexual identity development is experienced by Patrick and Brad towards their disorientation sexuality (homosexual) based on *Homosexuality Identity Process* by Eli Coleman. The second goal of this research is to show the struggles of Patrick and Brad for being homosexuality when living in a strict heteronormative and homophobic environment.

The functions of this research is to show to readers what homosexuality is, and what kind of homosexuality identity development as experienced by Patrick and Brad, the two characters of the novel, to portray their feeling towards their homosexuality by viewing it from the impacts that happen to them as a young teenager who has the minority of sexuality (homosexuality). In addition, the other functions of this research are to make readers have insights about the problems faced by homosexuals when they live in society against the abnormal sexuality and also serve as a reference to those who are interested in conducting research on the same topic.

### **1.5 Scope of Limitation**

This research only covers the issues of homosexuality among young people. This research is limited to discussing the process of homosexual identity development happening to young people as seen through the characters in the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Patrick and Brad, the two characters of the novel, as the representative of homosexuals that has been portrayed in the novel through their story by using Developmental Stages of the Coming Out Process theory by Eli Coleman. The researcher will analyze what are the stages of homosexuality identity development that both characters have experienced and the impacts of homosexuality in their adolescent lives.

## 1.6 Conceptual Framework



This research focuses on the analysis of the homosexual identity development process in Stephen Chbosky's novel "The Perks of Being a Wallflower". Patrick, the homosexual character of the novel had a relationship with Brad who appeared as a popular kid and struggled for his homosexuality. Brad suffered from his sexuality which led to self-denial and brought him to the addiction of alcohol and drugs. The relationship between Patrick and Brad was unusual and how they cope with their relationship is interesting to analyze.

In analyzing the homosexual identity development of the homosexual character in the novel "The Perks of Being a Wallflower", the writer applied qualitative approach to analyze the necessary data which were collected from the narrations and dialogs in the novel. At length, in analyzing the data, the relevant theories are employed. In addition to show the homosexual identity development in Patrick and Brad, the writer employs Coleman's homosexual identity development process to analyze the stages of homosexual identity development process that Patrick and Brad have experienced. The stages are pre-coming out, coming out, exploration, first love and integration.

For the outcome of the conceptual framework, the writer has formulated two research questions. One is to find out the stages of Patrick and Brad towards their homosexuality that is relevant to Coleman's theory to investigate how Patrick and Brad embraced their homosexuality and developed from stage to stage. The second is to analyze the struggles that Patrick and Brad had to face for being homosexuals in adolescent. In this regard, the theory of new criticism as the text itself is employed to analyze the data on the struggles of Patrick and Brad as homosexual teenagers in the novel.

## CHAPTER II

### THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Review of the Previous Study

Nowadays, LGBT issues become more popular and common to be analyzed in academic writing. Therefore the researcher found a lot of thesis and articles that have a similarity and related topic to this research about homosexuality as a part of queer in literature. The researcher found a thesis entitled "Homosexual Identity Development, as Reflected in E. M. Forster's *Maurice*: a Psychological Study", written by Andi Saputro from Yogyakarta State University in 2015. In his research, Andi Saputro aims to identify the homosexual identity development of an Edwardian gentleman named Maurice Hall and to explain how the identity development helps him confirm his sexual identity while living in a strict hetero-normative and homophobic Edwardian England. Similar to Andi, this research also focuses on the issues of homosexuality and also analyzes the identity development of homosexuality employing the theory of homosexual identity development by Eli Coleman and qualitative methodology as the umbrella for this research.

The different features between this research and Andi Saputro's (2015) research are that the subject of his research is *Maurice* by E.M. Forster, whereas the subject of this research is Stephen Chbosky's novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* along with its film adaptation. Besides that, Andi's research also aims to identify the five stages of coming out as homosexual identity development. In order to find the answers to the question research, this research

employed the theory of homosexual identity development by Eli Coleman (1982). To find out the homosexual identity development in the character of Patrick and Brad from *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, the researcher will focus more on how identity development helps them confirm their homosexuality by analyzing the stages of coming-out as the homosexual identity development process.

Second research by Maria Wintang Rarasati (2014) entitled as "The Issue of Homosexuality in Annie Proulx's *Brokeback Mountain* and Its Film Adaptation Directed by Ang Lee" this research applied qualitative method with several theories such as abnormal psychology and film analysis theory to find out the feelings felt by the main characters about their homosexuality, to find out the impact of the homosexuality towards the main characters, to find out the attitudes of the society toward a homosexual and to find out how the story and the film reveal the issue. The findings of this research as follows are the positive feeling about their homosexuality such as a comfortable and optimistic feeling and loves, whereas there are negative feelings about their homosexuality, such as feeling ashamed, feeling confused, feeling terrified. While for the impacts, the positive impact is the raise of self-confidence, and the negative impacts are having the feeling of fear with the homophobic, unrestrained feeling towards their couple, and feeling guilty toward their family. As the view of society towards homosexuals, the conservative is shown by refusing to hire the homosexual, being homophobic and murdering a homosexual. Both positive and negative feelings, impacts, and attitudes from society are mostly revealed in the short story using literary devices such as irony and symbols.



The third research is by Jared A. Bandel (2000) entitled "Queer Perspective: Gay Themes in The Film *Interview With The Vampire*" in this research, Jared focuses on location and citing specific areas where gay themes of identity go along with the theme of the same-sex family emerge.

The research utilizes the novel of *Interview with the Vampire* by Ann Rice as something critical touchstone and draws from Rolan Barthe's concept of "Rhetoric of the Image" to analyze the strength of the themes found in the adapted film *Interview with the Vampire*. The research finds several examples of the representation of homosexual lives and uncovers evidence of cinematic representation of a same-sex family. Jared concluded that while the film *Interview with the Vampire* is certainly an example of a queer movie, it also presents a same-sex family unit that may be the first thing of a kind.

The fourth research is by Istiqomah, Lia, (2007) entitled "Homosexuality in James Baldwin' novel *Giovanni's*" this research uses descriptive qualitative analysis and several theories such as psychological approach and abnormal approach, Istiqomah analyzed the effect of homosexuality in someone's life towards society. The aim of this analysis is to find out the major theme in the novel, finding out the impact of homosexuality towards the character's life, and knowing the treatment of the society to act toward homosexuality—the findings from this research. First, homosexuality is being the major theme in the novel. Second, there are two general effects of homosexuality on the character. The first is a positive effect or called as ego-syntonic homosexuality that covers the raising of self-confidence and feeling happiness. The second is a negative effect or ego-dystonic homosexuality that covers guilty feelings, depression, and the changes of

personality. Third, the treatment of society towards homosexuality is acceptance and rejection.

Fifth research is by Fajar Febriyanti (2018) entitled "GENE FORRESTER'S SEXUAL IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT IN JOHN KNOWLES'S *A SEPARATE PEACE*" in this research Fajar focuses on finding the influences of Gene Forrester to be a homosexual guy as the main character in John Knowles *A Separate Peace*. Forrester was a heterosexual man at first, but finally, a homosexual in his sexual identity. This research applies the concept of homosexuality, the concept of gender role, and the homosexual development process. It is used to find out Forrester's sexual identity.

## **2.2 Individual Psychology**

The life of Patrick and Brad are not smooth like a usual type of adolescent who engages the normal relationship and in no need to fight over their sexuality. Because they are still teenagers, the relationship between Patrick and Brad comes with the struggles and obstacles. Due to analyze a struggle for love of Patrick and Brad in adolescent ages as homosexuals, it is efficient to use the theory of Individual Psychology by Alfred Adler as the guidance. Individual Psychology can be categorized into six basic concepts: (1) fictional finalism; (2) striving for superiority; (3) inferiority feelings and compensation; (4) social interest; (5) style of life; and (6) the creative self (Adler in Hall, 1998:128).

### **2.3 Character**

Since the homosexual characters are being analyzed, it is essential to incorporate character and portrayal in light of the fact that from those concept the reader can comprehend the entire story of novel. Character plays the incredible jobs in the novel since it is the primary component of natural. Character is the primary center when the reader reads the novel. (Chatman in Willem G. Weststeijn 2004:57) Sees characters as more or less self-ruling creatures, not as only an element of the plot. In any case, what do we really do when we experience a character in an artistic work or a film? Chatman's answer is that over the span of perusing a story or watching a film we slowly build a character by sorting out their own characteristics. These characteristics are construed from a wide range of literary information: a character's name, his activities, thought and speech, what is said about him by the storyteller or by different characters, and so on. Along these lines we structure a picture of the character that is, on a basic level, a "worldview of characteristics," an attribute being a "moderately steady or standing individual quality"

### **2.4 Relationship Between Psychology and Literature**

To understand more about the value and the relationship between literature and psychology, it is better to know each discipline definition, as well as to understand how each discipline affects each other. Etymologically, the word "psychology" comes from the Greek words *psyche*, which means "life, soul, mind," and *logos*, which means "explanation" (Harper, 2005 in Andi). It shows that psychology refers to the study about mind or soul and connection between each other. The American Psychological Association (APA) said that psychology acts as an

academic and applied discipline that involves the scientific study about mental function and behaviors. The primary goal is to understand individuals. Psychologists can understand the role of mental functions that have been in individual and social behavior.

The word "literature" is etymologically derived from the Latin word *Literatura/litteratura*, which means "learning, writing, grammar" (Harper, 2005 in Andi) there are several definitions of literature. It is mostly because the word literature can also be defined as "culturally relative definition,"; and before the eighteenth century, literature in Western Europe indicated as all books and writings (Leitch, 2010: 28 in Andi). To understand the relationship between literature and psychology, Dudek said that literary works are "the product of the mind, a peculiar by-product of the human psychological make-up." The source of every work of literature is in a human individual, and that individual is in a particular state of mind and motivation. Literature represents the psychological assumptions of its creators, and literature According to Dudek (in Andi, 2015: 12) The source of literary works is from the human individual, where each individual's mind can develop the ideas into literature work, which represents the connection between psychology and literature. Dudek (in Andi, 2015: 13) further said how literature has a relation with the author and the world the author lives. Within that way we can enrich our understanding towards the work (Tyson,2006:29 in Andi's) Viewing literature through the psychological point of view will help readers to understand how characters' behavior can be explained in terms of psychological laws such as fear and sexuality as a primary indicator of psychological identity.

## 2.5 Identity and Sexual Identity

As stated by Hogg (1998) in Andi's (2015:21), identity is "people's concept of which they are, of what sort of people they are, and how they relate to others." It relates to self-image, self-categorization, and it is derived from multiple sources such as nationality, ethnicity, social class, community, gender, and sexuality (Woodward, 1991). In general, an individual's identity is contrasted by views of oneself that emerge from self-identification in terms of membership in particular groups. Sexuality became an important area for the identity formation process. Not like the identity of race or ethnicity, it required the awareness and consciousness about someone's sexual identity in life, later than the identity of race or ethnicity of someone's life. Sexual identity is the subjective views from the reflection of our self, romantically, and sexually attracted. It is about what these people feel and how they identify their sexual orientation as they fell. Sexual identity is also about the individual concept of themselves and sometimes the combination of the share of collective with groups (Haselden, 2009). A person can have a sexual identity while not being sexually active, and it may change over time or in different contexts. In short, sexual identity is a label that people adopt to signify themselves to others about who they are as sexual beings, particularly regarding sexual orientation.

Some factors that contribute to the process of sexual identity are gender identity, sexual orientation, and sexual behavior. The example of the differentiation of sexual identity and sexual orientation is when someone presents himself as a straight man to other people; therefore, he has the identity as a heterosexual man. This person might have sex with a man; because of that, his

sexual orientation is bisexual. Nevertheless, having bisexual as his sexual identity does not make him bisexual if he does think that he is a heterosexual man. It is about the preference of each individual of the period time and place on how they want to identify themselves.

## **2.6 Eli Coleman's Theory of Homosexual Identity Development**

Eli Coleman is a psychologist and sex therapist certified AASECT (American Association of Educators, Counselors, and Therapists). He has written several papers about homosexuality, adolescent sexuality, and sexual dysfunction. His famous, notable contribution is the Journal of Homosexuality, where Coleman becomes the editorial board. He came up with the stages of identity formation undergone by homosexuals. These are the five stages of theory development by Coleman about homosexual identity development, which describe the stages of identity formation seen in the same-sex sexual orientation. The five stages are pre-coming out, coming out, exploration, first relationships, and also identity integration.

### **2.6.1 Pre-Coming Out**

The awareness of the feeling and interest is a slow process. Homosexuals who realized about his interests and his feelings, often will ignore these feeling, repress, and even reject it. Pre-coming out is the first process in raising the awareness about homosexual Identity (Coleman: 1982). The growing of this awareness of same-sex interest has a negative impact on homosexuals, mostly because of the negative social attitudes towards homosexuality problems. Even homosexuals often developing negative self-image about them in the same way as

a society treat them, for example, by considering themselves a sick person, confused and immoral.

As Fisher stated (in Andi 2015:23), every time a homosexual denies the validity of his feelings or restrains himself from expressing; he does a small hurt to himself. He turns his energies inward and suppresses his vitality. The effect may be scarcely noticeable; joy maybe a little less keen, happiness slightly subdued, he may simply feel a little rundown, a little less tall. Over the years, these tiny denials have a cumulative effect. At this stage, homosexual often feels rejected. The religious leaders, family, and society make a negative statement about homosexuality. Because of that, lots of homosexuals at this stage more likely to feel depressed because society can't accept them as the way they are. Some homosexuals will deny and hide their true color while some of them might think about suicide.

### **2.6.2 Coming Out**

Coming out stage is the stage when the individual stops fighting against their true sexual identity and starts to make peace with their sexuality as homosexual. According to Coleman (1982), self-acceptance is the first task to develop the coming-out stage. When this feeling is accepted and acknowledged, homosexuals are ready to go to the next stage, which is to tell other people about their sexuality like their friends, therapist, or even the family members. At this point, the homosexual will accept rejection and or acceptance.

### **2.6.3 Exploration**

Exploration focuses on the stage when the homosexual tries to experiment with their new sexual identity. A gay man will make contact with a gay community at this point. Exploration is a period of sexual and social exploration; the individual must face several development tasks. First, individuals have to work on their interpersonal skills to meet and socialize with other homosexuals. Second, the individual has to develop their self attraction and competence with homosexuals, and "when gay men ... finally, permit themselves to become sexual with members of their sex, there is naturally a surge of interest and intrigue" (Coleman, 1982). The activity of these social and sexual explorations is known well as immoral behavior by outsiders (heterosexual). This stage is characterized by "awkwardness, intensity, and confusion," and individuals must be aware of this stage to know and understand their sexual Identity (Cole in Andi 2015:24). From a negative point of view, the perceptual from society will still give negative feelings and problems for homosexuals, such as rejection or even hatred that will lead to depression. However, on the positive side, individuals will develop a sense of personal attractiveness, social and sexual skills that are needed so they will have a good quality of adult lifestyle as a homosexual.

### **2.6.4 First Love**

Homosexuals are ready to enter this stage if they already have a sense of self-worth and capability to love and to be loved. This stage is needed to develop more intimacy, mostly when the sexual and social experiment and exploration lose its intrigue (Coleman in Andi 2015:25 ). At this stage, the individual has to learn about how they function as a same-sex relationship. Especially, if someone lives

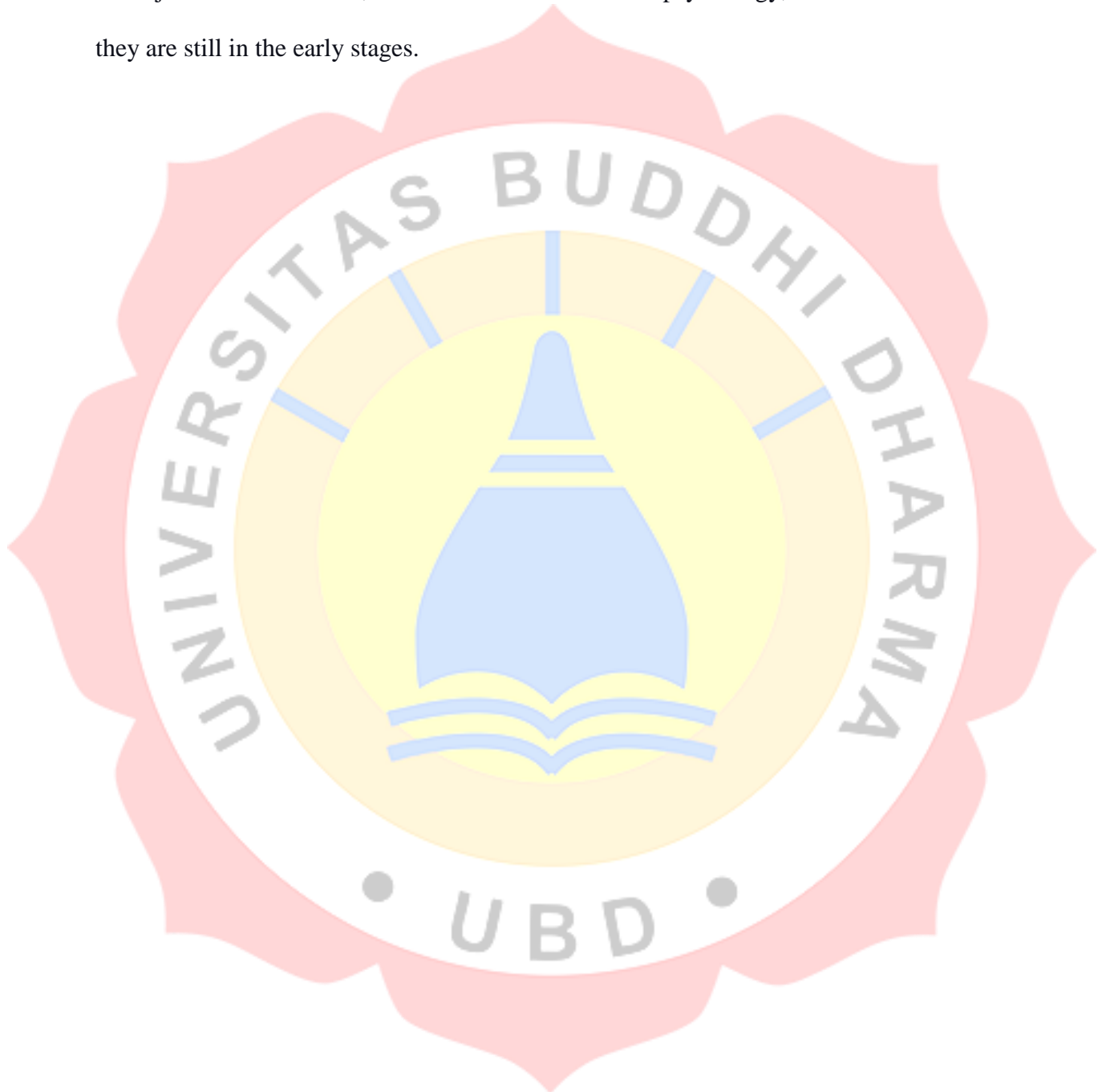


in a society where the norm that can be accepted is hetero-normativity. However, this stage also can be a disaster. There are several reasons why a homosexual relationship is finding a hard time to endure their relationship. This stage is mostly because this type of relationship is still a new thing for them. Therefore, individuals who are in this stage might not one hundred percent sure that the homosexual relationship will function well. Another factor that makes this stage become a disaster is the stereotype that came in the hetero-normativity society that says "gay and lesbian relationship ... is fraught with rejection and hurt, and never lasts long." (Coleman, 1982: 38). This stage marked with the intensity, possessiveness, and lack of confidence. At the first stage of a relationship, the intense positive response helps to build the self-concept of them, unfortunately, at the next stage, the response usually became negative, like when the individual lost their sexual interest with their partner, and at the same time increasing the interest in having the sexual activity outside the relationship. This relationship will end very unstable and cause some homosexuals back the stage of exploration because they believe that long intimacy relationships will never develop.

### **2.6.5 Integration**

Coleman (1982: 39) describe this stage as "an open-ended, an ongoing process of development that will last for the rest of the person's life." Individual who has reached the integration sees themselves as the fully-function person in their society. They act with openness, warmth, politeness, and full of attention. The individual will have a new feeling about self-concept, exploring a new social network, and enjoying a new intimacy. Relationships at this stage are more likely to succeed. It is because the individual believes that they capable of keeping their

relationship in a long term, commitment, and relationship that characterized by "non-possessiveness, mutual trust, and freedom" (Coleman, 1982: 39). An individual at this stage also ready for rejection from the society that is inevitable, the rejection can be seen, but it will not affect their psychology, not like when they are still in the early stages.



## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Research Methodology is the particular techniques or methods used to identify, select procedure, and break down data about a topic. In research paper, the technique area permits the reader to fundamentally assess an examination's general legitimacy and unwavering quality. O'Leary (2004,p.85) describes methodology as the framework that related with specific arrangement of paradigmatic suspicions that we will use to lead our exploration. The research methodology is needed to help the researcher analyzes their research with particular set of paradigmatic.

In carrying out intitutional analyses the variety of methods are required, in order to find out the answer to the questions of the study. This research is adapting descriptive qualitative method as the umbrella of the study. According to John. W Cresswell (2014:5) Qualitative method is and approach for investigating and understanding the meaning individuals or gatherings credit to a social or human issue the procedure of research includes developing inquiries and procedures, information normally collected in the participant's setting, data analysis inductively working from specifics to general topics, and the researcher making interpretations of the meaning of the information and data. The final composed report has an adaptable structure. The individuals who take part in this type of request support a perspective on that honours and inductive style, an

emphasis on individual meaning, and the significance of rendering the complexity of a circumstance.

To analyze the content, qualitative analysis is required to analyze the data because the data of this research are non-numeric. According to Michael Quinn Patton (2001:5) qualitative data comprise of detailed description of circumstances, occasions, individuals, connections, and observed behaviours; direct quotations from individuals about their encounters, mentalities, beliefs, and thoughts; and extracts or whole entries from archives, correspondence, records, and case narratives. The point by point depictions, direct quotations, and case histories acquired by qualitative methods are crude data from the observational world. The information are gathered as open-ended story. The data collected in this research are used to analyze the homosexual identity development process of Patrick and Brad and the data collected in this research are also used to analyze how is a struggle of love for Patrick and Brad being a homosexual couple in adolescent age. This chapter presents the description of the research method that is used in this research, it presents the subject matter, subject materials, approach, and the procedure. It is made by the researcher as the guidance in carrying out research in processing, the subjects that are related and can support each other.

### **3.1 Subject Matter**

The subject matter in this research is the issue of the homosexual identity development process of Patrick and Brad, the two main characters of the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. By using the theory of Eli Coleman about the homosexuality identity process that discusses five stages of the homosexual identity process. Each character provides the information of their homosexuality

identity that can be different between Patrick and Brad from their point of view and the environment around them. The subject matter has become the focus of her research in order to answer the research questions formulated in Chapter I.

### **3.2 Subject Material**

The subject material is the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky, which firstly published in 1991, and had the second publication in 2012 followed by the adaptation of the movie from the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* in the same year. The writer of this paper used the original edition published in 1991. She studied the dialogues and the narrations in the novel as her necessary data. They are related to homosexual to find out the identity process of Patrick and Brad of their homosexuality. To analyze the data, the writer employed the theory of Coleman's *Developmental Stages of the Coming Out Process* and some additional undergraduate thesis and articles to support this research.

### **3.3 Approach**

The researcher of this paper applied qualitative approach. The data are used to describe the phenomena of homosexual identity development process that is portrayed in the novel from the point of view of the author. Therefore, to support this research the writer employed Eli Coleman's theory on the homosexual identity process to answer the research questions about how the homosexual identity development process portrayed in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* and to analyze how is a struggle of love for being a homosexual couple in adolescence period, based on Patrick and Brad's experiences about living as homosexual as it seen in the novel.

### 3.4 Procedure

The researcher took some steps to conduct her research. She started to read the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* and tried to fully understand it. In doing so, she aimed at finding out the homosexual characters from the novel and began to wonder what the process of the homosexual identity development that happened to Patrick and Brad. Then she read several thesis, books and articles those are talking and related to homosexual issues to support the data during the analyses. Furthermore the researcher pay more attention to the detail on how homosexual identity development on the novel could be analyzed by focusing on the data that related to homosexual identity development. To understand more about the story of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, the writer began to watch the movie directed by Stephen Chbosky. The movie was adopted from the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Next, she identified the dialogues and narrations in the novel related to homosexual identity development process to serve as the research data. After that, the writer the relevant theories to analyze the data. In this regard, Coleman's theory on the homosexual identity development process will be the main pillar theory for this research. Finally, she interpreted the data and produced the research findings from which she drew a conclusion.