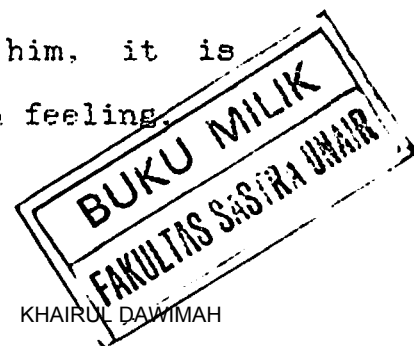


CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

From the analysis the writer comes to a conclusion that the biggest reasons of why Eddie Carbone eventually is encourage to break the conspiracy of silence has actually stemmed from his sense of the conscientious responsibility to abide his promise to Catherine's mother, Nancy. Determined to take care of Catherine as her mother wishes and pressured by his high self-dignity causes Eddie to nurse Catherine in such a protective way.

This condition causes the aroveal of Eddie's companionate love for Catherine. It is such an intense emotion, combining feelings of family affection and deep attachment. At first, there is nothing wrong with the condition. Nevertheless, as the time goes by, the companionate love of Eddie Carbone for Catherine has developed gradually until it has been changed into such a passionate love of which is more intensely emotional feelings. Unfortunately, Eddie does neither realize nor want to accept the reality. According to him, it is absolutely impossible for him to have such a feeling.



However, the conspiracy of silence is the most important norm in the Sicilian society's point of view which is concerned with the one's dignity in front of the people. The violation of the code of honor by breaking the conspiracy of silence is defined as immoral behavior so that the violator is simply presented as being immoral, so is Eddie Carbone. He is in danger of being severely punished. Now, he has to face the fact that the neighborhood, and even his closest friends such as Alfieri, Louis, and Mike look at him scornfully. They do not want to talk and listen to his explanation to defend himself as if they have never known who Eddie Carbone is for their whole life. Moreover, he has found himself as a social pariah in his own society, the one who does not deserve to be respected at all since he has already lost his right to gain social honor from the society due to the violation. The worst is that he has completely lost Catherine's affection and it has been changed into hatred. However, Eddie must accept the fact that he has absolutely lost his self-dignity in his own house and in his society. As he calls up the officer of the Immigration Bureau, actually, Eddie has eliminated his own right to esteem and be esteemed by the society unconsciously. However, it is absolutely an ironical condition since in the middle of the 1950's in American

society, it is the one who refuses to inform the existence of a criminal to the legal authorities will find himself as a social pariah. Unfortunately, Eddie would rather choose his position as a Sicilian with all their norms of society than the position as an American, even though he is now an American.

So, it is not so strange to see the fact that he does neither want to be humiliated nor offended because of this action. He would rather die to defend his self-dignity than admit to himself the truth of his feelings and the fact of his actions. It is the fact that the violation is absolutely rooted in his self-dignity and his self-deception. Furthermore, he acts under a compulsion of which has never been understood which alienates him from himself. He watches his own betrayal by using a certain view from a certain place as Catherine's guardian with a kind of detached horror but feels unable to intervene. The lawyer or narrator Alfieri is the person to whom he turns for solution of the problems but in another sense he is simply an objectification of his own tortured conscience. He does not wish to see himself as the willing victim of such an improper feeling or passionate love. It is a central irony of Eddie's personality that in some sense the author concedes the reader to be impressed by Eddie's own self-

perception which is controlled by subconscious level. When he confronts Marco that self-deception which is always rejected, but it is the expression of his motives. It brings him to the arousal of madness. In defence of his honor he destroys its meaning not merely in the sense that he is guilty of dishonorable actions but to the extent which appropriately have been seen as a tragic flaw. Eddie creates a lie which will relieve him of responsibility to defence his self-dignity. However, Eddie is such an individual who misplaces his passionate love for honor and family responsibility.

Nevertheless, no matter how important the conspiracy of silence is in Sicilian society, it is just a reflection of the egoism of The Mafia as the first organizer to build up their enormous power which is maintained through violence. Unfortunately, most of the Sicilians has never realized that The Mafia and its conspiracy of silence which is just troublesome for their life can be successfully resisted if all of them will cooperate against it. In this case, what Eddie Carbone does in informing on two illegal immigrants who are also his wife's cousins is neither illegal nor dishonorable actions. No matter what kind of reasons which drive him to do such a thing, he has merely done his civic duty as a good citizen since he has an obliga-

tion to report the existence of illegal immigrants, whoever they are, to the legal authorities as an American. Unfortunately, Eddie lives together with a group of people whom have never realized their obligation as citizens. Otherwise, Eddie will be esteemed and respected because of the action.

BIBLIOGRAPHY