

ABSTRACT

This research is aimed to see how Chinese American people as immigrants in America construct their identity while facing two different cultures in society. This research is a descriptive qualitative study and uses a postcolonial approach. This study used *Mambo in Chinatown* novel by Jean Kwok as the main data. Another document, journal, and author's interview as the secondary data. The postcolonial concept by Homi K. Bhabha will be used as the main theory of this research which focus on three aspects: Ambivalence, Mimicry, and Hybridity. The data is collected after the researcher goes through a close reading of the novel. The findings and the results of this research shows that ambivalence occurs in three forms in this novel. First is individual ambivalence, ambivalence toward family, and ambivalence in society. Besides, mimicry is also seen in this novel. There are mimicry of manner, mimicry of value, and last mimicry of lifestyle. Last, the hybridity toward society seen in the novel is caused by social interactions that arise a new hybrid identity of immigrants. This study also high light that the struggle of the character in the novel reflects the reality life of Chinese American immigrants in America. Seen from their arrival in America and how the first-generation immigrants transfer Chinese culture and value to their children as the second-generation in America.

Keywords : Identity, Chinese American, Immigrant, postcolonial