# CHAPTER IV
# CONCLUSION

## 4.1. Summary of the finding

The construction of knowledge networks through social media is something new. In a sense, knowledge is made to reach a wider public, faster and without obstacles space and time. Compared with making knowledge through the media directly (Galuh, 2017).

Social media and democracy are very closely related, as evidenced by the case in Malaysia the use of blogs and Facebook pages in the 2008 and 2013 general elections based on findings of the content analysis and in-depth interviews with the socio-political bloggers. It highlights the trends in blog use among the relatively distinct groups of socio-political bloggers and discusses some of the key findings within the prevailing political landscape in 2008 and 2013. This helps to contextualize and present a more comprehensive picture of the manners in which the online platform was used at particular moments in an election. The ways in which the online platform was utilized seems to reflect the particular social and political culture of Malaysian society (Hah, 2016). Meanwhile, social media in Indonesia has great power and can influence democratic life. This is proven by the rise of the case "Koin Prita" and "Save Satinah" in which the movement of the two cases were originated from social media which emerged into the real world so demonstrations and fundraising happened in both cases.

The younger generation, according to Harmadi (2016), grew during the advance of information technology, including the choice of politics and democracy so that it is often called as *Connected Kids* (Pahlevi, et al., 2018).

In Indonesia, around 130 million people are active social media users, which means that almost half of the total population in Indonesia are using social media. Most of the users of social media are the millennial generation. This research aims to find out how is the influence of social media on the political knowledge of the younger generation, especially in the 2019 presidential election which will soon be held. The main data obtained from questionnaires were from 114 respondents and supported by secondary data by interviewing 6 students of Faculty of Social and Political Science of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

Some of the findings from the research analysis are as follows:

1. After the data is collected from 114 respondents and has been tested, the results obtained are that social media has a strong influence on the students' political knowledge of the Faculty of Social and Political science at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. This finding is proven by the result of questionnaire which showed that knowledge of program, vision and mission, survey about both candidates had high result. From the result of interviews which revealed that the role of social media is very strong in disseminating political information and converted into an act and movement of caring for the nation and state of Indonesia.

2. Other findings from interviews are fake news or many hoaxes found on social media. Millennials also already have immunity to hoaxes by filtering information that is correct and reliable.

3. Social media twitter greatly contributed in the hashtag war between the two camps supporting the presidential candidates in the lead up to the presidential candidate debate. The example of Hashtag are #DebatPilpres2019, #PrabowoMenangDebat and #DebatPintarJokowi. The hashtag participated in enlivening the 2019 presidential debate. Each of these hashtags aims to do propaganda which ultimately affects social media users and form public opinion. The most popular hashtag is #2019GantiPresiden and #RakyatMauJokowi2019.

## 4.2. Suggestions

Based on the results of the research and conclusions that have been made, the researcher has several suggestions, as follows:

1. Social media has a significant influence on political knowledge, therefore political elites and accounts of political parties on social media as producers of information should be more intelligent in using social media and disseminating information, because the political elite is an example or role model for society who consume political information circulating among the public. Therefore, all information that spread in the society can be proven and is accountable for its truth, so the fake news or hoaxes cannot spread and make chaos in the society, especially in the millennial generation as the biggest consumer of social media.

2. For the millennial generation should be more careful in using social media. It is very important to filter the information to be absorbed and avoid news that contains hatred that recently has been viral on social media.

3. The government can crack down on hoax spreader accounts on social media in order to be able to punish hoax spreaders because it is very detrimental and can cause chaos in this country.

4. Political knowledge is expected to be used as a tool to initiate political movements or practices to build a better Indonesia.