

Chapter I

Introduction

This chapter present about introduction. It discussed about background, problem statement, objective of research, significance of research, and scope and limitation of research.

Background

In different life, we are born with the advantages and disadvantages. People are born with different skin color, hair color, and genders. Because of the differences sometimes lead to a range of actions that are not good. For example, people who have white skin color sometimes consider them self above rather than someone who has a black color. This is called discrimination. This attitude is alive everywhere, with different clothes.

Discrimination, according to Barker (2003) (as cited in Chin, 2004, p. 3), “is stereotyping and generalizing about people, usually negatively, because of their race; commonly a basis of discrimination against members of racial groups”. It can be said that discrimination is unequal treatment against individual, or group, based on something, usually categorical, or unique attributes, such as based on race, ethnicity, religion, or membership of social classes. The term of discrimination is usually to describe an actions of the dominant majority party in relation to a weak minority, so that it can be said that it is immoral behavior and democracy.

In discrimination, there is racial discrimination. According to CERD Article 1 (1965) (as cited in Weiwie, 2004, p. 8), defines racial discrimination as

any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, color, descent or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on the equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life. In my opinion, it is a discrimination against someone or group based on the race can be happen in public life.

American is one of country that did discrimination included racial discrimination. Yourdanian (2012), discusses about discrimination in America in the 60's. Although in the 60's was ever a Civil Rights Movement that gives equals rights to blacks but the racial discrimination still happened to blacks, especially in the South America. Blacks also often fought against the racial discrimination they receive. This racial discrimination exists in human life.

Because of this discrimination and racial discrimination is found in our social lives. Many literary works that take the themes that exist in people's lives. Literary works that take at most theme of racial discrimination is novel, drama and movie. Based on the research I did, I took movie to be analyzed. In the development period of time, movie is a combination of audio and visual classified as part of the literary work. As has been said above that movie can reflect the culture of a society or nation and can affect the culture itself.

The problem of discrimination and racial discrimination is very interesting, so many novelists and moviemakers to lift up this theme in their work. For this research, I take *The Help* as my subject because *The Help* adapt the discrimination included racial discrimination that found in human lives. Cited in

kathrynstockett.com, *The Help* is novel written by Kathryn Stockett for five years and published in 2009. The novel tells about African-American maids working in white households in Jackson, Mississippi around 1960s. Kathryn Stockett's childhood friend, Tate Taylor, produced the movie in 2010 with the same title is "*The Help*" and the movie released in 2011.

Cited in imbd, based on one of the most talked about books in years and New York Times best-selling phenomenon, *The Help* stars Emma Stone as Skeeter, Viola Davis as Aibileen and Octavia Spencer as Minny. They are very different, extraordinary women in Mississippi during the 1960s, who build an unlikely friendship around a secret writing project that breaks societal rules and puts them all at risk. From their improbable alliance a remarkable sisterhood emerges, instilling all of them with the courage to transcend the lines that define them, and the realization that sometimes those lines are made to be crossed—even if it means bringing everyone in town face-to-face with the changing times. This movie show the racial discrimination did happened to black in daily life.

The example of racial dicrimination in "*The Help*" movie are:

Missus Walters : *Oh, she just upset. Because the nigra uses the guest bath and so do we.*

(00:15:04,612 --> 00:15:07,365)

The meaning of Missus Walters's statement is Hilly angry when she must used the same bathroom that used by nigra. This is an act of racial discrimination that given by Hilly, where she shows the racial discrimination with does not want to used the same bathroom with black people.

In 01:21:00,856 --> 01:21:02,950, we can see scene seating separation in black and white on the bus. It means the white don't want to sit together with black. White people believes black people spread of diseases.

As we know, in this movie, racial discrimination is prominent conflict but I want to show and describe how the racial discrimination happened to black people and also what is the racial discrimination. In this movie, Hilly is the person always does the racial discrimination to black people and she make all people to refuse black uses the same bathroom with the white. But not only to refuse use same bathroom, racial discrimination happened in all public area, example there is sitting separation in the bus, different door in movie theatre and so on that shows racial discrimination in this movie. It is making me choose this movie because there are many racial discriminations as I want to describe more deeply in this research. So, it makes me interested to study and write this research entitled "Racial Discrimination in Tate Taylor's movie *THE HELP*".

Problem Statement

Concerning the background of the research, the statement of the problem in this research is; How is the racial discrimination reflected in Tate Taylor's movie "*The Help*"?

Objective of the Research

The objective of this research is to describe how the racial discrimination reflected in Tate Taylor's movie "*The Help*".

Significance of the Research

The significance of this research is to enrich the knowledge about discrimination and racial discrimination, giving more information about literary works, especially in literary criticism and to increase student interest and ability to find out the racial discrimination not only in literary works but in social life too. Then, this finding is expected to be useful for the students, for enrich their knowledge especially English students of the Universitas Negeri Gorontalo (UNG) when they are interested in doing similar research in future.

Scope and Limitation of the Research

Based on the problem statement above, this research is just focused on the racial discrimination in Tate Taylor's movie "*The Help*".