

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

According to Long (1991:3) literature in the broad sense, perhaps, literature means simply the written records of the race, including all its history and science, as well as its poems and novels; in the narrow sense literature is the artistic record of life, and most of our writing is excluded from it, just as the mass of our buildings, mere shelter from and from cold, are excluded from architecture. Jones (1986:1) states that literature, in its broad sense includes all written materials. Since the general grouping of materials will be in a very various number; history books, philosophical works, novel, poems, plays, scientific articles, dictionaries, magazines, school textbooks, etc. Thus, he divides those general group into two. Hmlyn (1998:1) also describes about literature in a different way. He states that literature in the word originally meant all written language. More formally, literature is defined, according to one dictionary, as writing in which expression and form, in connection with ideas of permanent and universal interest, are characteristic or essential features, as poetry, romance, history, biography, essay etc. Not all good books are literature, but all literature is good, interesting, significant, well written, etc.

One form of literature is a movie script. Scripts are the backbone of filmmaking. They tell you not only what's happening in a scene, but they also dictate how it should be filmed. It is a document written in the form of a screenplay for use by actors, directors, or writers to help prepare them for their roles. The process of breaking down a script involves reading it and then identifying all the major parts that are needed to make the script work. (Filmmakinglifestyle.com, 2023)

Using characteristics that are typically classified, such as race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, and socioeconomic status, to treat people

or groups unfairly is known as discrimination. (Theodorson George A, 1979, p 115 116). Discrimination has become a serious social problem. In America discrimination against the colour of skin or black people has been a prominent and dire reality for more than four centuries. Black people have been treated unfairly physically, economically, culturally, psychologically, and politically. Discrimination is a very important term regarding the issue of diversity. In history discrimination has been a major cause of reduced diversity from higher education and other societies. In the 90s era, racial and gender discrimination still occurred by white people against black people even though black people thought that discrimination was not important (Fred L Pincus, 1998, p 120)

According to Goldmann (1977:17), a world view or world vision is an appropriate term for a whole complex of ideas, aspirations, and feelings that link together members of a social group (a group which, in most cases, assumes the existence of social groups) and which opposes them to members of other social groups. The world view is not born suddenly, it is a slow and gradual transformation of the old mentality necessary for the awakening of a new mentality and overcoming the old one. This long process is because the worldview is a consciousness that maybe not everyone understands. The consciousness that is possible is consciousness that states a group tendency towards a coherence overall, coherent and integrated perspective on the relationship between humans and others with the universe (Goldmann, 1981: 97).

I use *Just Mercy* movie script as my research material. Adapting from a novel by Bryan Stevenson and releasing in 2019, *Just Mercy* is a movie script based on a true tale and directed by Destin Daniel Cretton. The protagonist of this movie script is a young attorney called Stevenson. He is a Harvard graduate student who has a desire to help convicts of the death penalty without a clear justice process. At that time after graduating from college, Stevenson immediately set up an office and was given the name "Equal Justice Initiative" with Eva Ansley who is a white person. Initially, Stevenson interviewed several people sentenced to death to help with their cases, such as convicts Walter McMillian, Herbert Richardson, and Anthony Ray Hinton. Among several convicts interviewed by Stevenson, he felt that many things

were not true in the McMillian case, Stevenson felt that it was not McMillian who committed the murder because the previous evidence did not make sense. It is not easy to help the McMillian case because of the many people who interfere and hinder Stevenson's intention to reveal the truth about the McMillian case. When Stevenson attempted to help McMillian, he was terrorized, blocked, and constantly watched by white people. Until finally Stevenson got evidence to reduce and even acquit McMillian with a fairly difficult effort because it was rejected by the court. Until the end of the film McMillian gets his freedom and is found not guilty.

In this study, I will analyze the treatment received by black people when in the environment of white people. Treatment received by black people when in the environment of white people. Various acts of discrimination have been felt by black people. Also shown how black people survive and fight white people so as to be free from acts of racial discrimination. Although it takes time to get justice and be free from acts of discrimination, the main characters in this movie script managed to get what they were fighting for.

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background above, I identify that there are several issues regarding racial discrimination using the theory of genetic structuralism in this movie script. The main characters, Bryan Stevenson and Walter Mcmillian received racist treatment from their environment. Bryan Stevenson, who was a lawyer at that time, tried to help Walter Mcmillian, who was unfair in his case. Because Bryan Stevenson's persistence in wanting to help Walter Mcmillian made him have to experience discrimination from white people.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification above, I limit the problem of this research regarding the movie script Just Mercy by Destin Daniel Cretton on the concept of racial discrimination using the theory of genetic structuralism through an intrinsic approach: characterization, plot, setting, and using an extrinsic approach: racial discrimination through the theory of genetic structuralism in the movie script.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the explanation above, the problem is identified according to the issues of racial discrimination and genetic structuralism issues. I formulate the problems as follows:

1. What is the characterization, plot and setting based on the *Just Mercy* movie script?
2. What is analyzation of racial discrimination through the theory of genetic structuralism using the *Just Mercy* movie script?
3. What is the elaboration between intrinsic and extrinsic approach using the *Just Mercy* movie script?

1.5. Objectives of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objective of the research are as follows:

1. To explain the characterization, plot, and setting presented in *Just Mercy* movie script
2. To explain racial discrimination through genetic structuralism theory in *Just Mercy* movie script
3. To elaborate between intrinsic and extrinsic approaches using the *Just Mercy* movie script

1.6. Benefit of the Research

The benefits are expected as theoretical and practical. For theoretical, this research aims to develop knowledge about literature and apply literary theory, in this case hierarchy of needs theory in *Just Mercy* movie script. This research hopefully to be beneficial to increase knowledge and understanding of the hierarchy of needs theory and it can be applicate to literature for studied development.

For readers, in this case, students, this research intends to help developing new thoughts and perspectives towards the sociology of literature. For practical give benefits for practice problem solving especially about human needs. Also help the students to find reference in the way to do their own research. For the commons,

to introduce literature not only as entertaining medium also a moral value that belong it, which many meanings consist on it to give a lesson and reference in purpose of life.

1.7. Systematic Organization of the Research

According to the title of the research, this thesis consists of five chapters, namely:

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of: Background of the Problem, Identification of the Problem, Limitation of the Problem, Formulation of the Problem, Objective of the Research, Method of research, Benefit of the Research, and Systematic organization of the research.

CHAPTER 2 : THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The second chapter (Chapter 2) contains a theoretical basis that contains a framework of theories that has the descriptions about intrinsic elements, and extrinsic elements which is using the Genetic Structuralism approach according to Goldman.

CHAPTER 3 : RESEARCH METHOD

Chapter 3 contains the research method approach that is used in this research.

CHAPTER 4 : ANALYSIS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION THROUGH GENETIC STRUCTURALISM THEORY ON THE MAIN CHARACTER MOVIE SCRIPT *JUST MERCY*

Chapter 4 contains research data, analysis, and conclusion.

CHAPTER 5 : CONCLUSION

Chapter 5 contains the conclusion of the research. The final part of the thesis which is bibliography contains the references that are used to support this research.

