

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Problem

A movie script is a document that details all the narrative and visual elements of a feature or short film. The document contains very specific formatting, including story paragraphs, character dialogue, and sometimes visual and audio cues (Stamm, A: Celtx.com). Movie Scripts communicate information and ideas, and they show us places and ways of life we might not otherwise know. As important as these benefits are, though, something more is at stake. Movie Scripts offer us ways of seeing and feeling that we find deeply gratifying. They take us through experiences. The experiences are often driven by stories centering on characters we come to care about, but a Movie Script might also develop an idea or explore visual qualities or sound textures. Bordwell, (2017:2). Before a movie is shown, the screenplay or movie script is an important part that cannot be forgotten.

Successful screenwriters often spend years perfecting their craft as they learn the most powerful ways to write engaging dialogue and build emotionally compelling plots. Although some successful screenwriters receive formal training in filmmaking or screenwriting, education is not a requirement to become a great screenwriter. The most important qualities shared by screenwriters are dedication and commitment to writing a great story. Screenwriters are generally contracted as freelancers; they are not hired as employees by large studios. It is common for an up-and-coming screenwriter to write a spec (speculation) script which they then pitch to studios for sale. Alternatively, a screenwriter may be commissioned by a studio to write a screenplay, in which case they will work closely with the producers and studio executives in the development of the movie script.

Some screenwriters can write in multiple genres (action, comedy, drama, sci-fi, horror, etc.) but most screenwriters prefer to specialize in one of these categories and often become known for their work in that particular area. However, what sets great screenwriters apart are the new innovative ideas and styles they add

to each genre. A screenplay is the literary expression of the story, characters, actions, locations, and tone of your film written in a specialized dramatic script format.

Whether you write the script yourself or work with someone else's material, it's important to remember that the screenplay is not the final product. It is an intermediate step in the production of a film and serves many functions in all stages of the project's development. It is often said that the screenplay is the blueprint for the entire process of making a film, in the same way, that an architect's rendering serves as the blueprint for the construction of a house. In many ways this is true; however, unlike an architectural blueprint, a screenplay should remain a rather more flexible document throughout the process. It's important to keep in mind that screenplays evolve. They should be revised and rewritten, at every stage of a film's progression, as new ideas or circumstances emerge, Cherrier, (2012:22). Cherrier said (2012:31) When you write a script, try to do as much as possible with actions. Converting feelings, intentions, and character traits into actions and behavior is at the heart of screen drama and is essential to establishing an indelible understanding of character. In a screenplay or movie script about to be shown, there are many issues of discrimination, racism, and the reflection of oppression tucked in it.

A theory of emancipation, as described in the provided sources, is a framework that focuses on the human desire for freedom from domination. This theory is evolutionary in nature, drawing from an evolutionary root principle called the utility ladder of freedoms, which starts from the inherently emancipatory quality of human agency. Human agency, or the faculty to act with purpose, is a universal feature of the human species that has been selected for its power to shape reality. The quest for freedoms is adaptive, waxing and waning in response to existential constraints on people's action resources. When these constraints recede, the quest for freedoms awakens and spreads, leading to the growth of solidarity and the eventual guarantee of freedoms by rulers. Conversely, if existential constraints persist, the quest for freedoms remains dormant, and rulers are unlikely to guarantee or abide by these freedoms. Emancipation, more broadly, refers to the act of freeing a person from a previous restraint or legal disability, and it can also encompass efforts to procure economic and social rights, political rights, or equality for a specific group or more generally. Karl Marx discussed political emancipation in his

1844 essay "On the Jewish Question," which entailed equal status of individual citizens in relation to the state, equality before the law, regardless of religion, property, or other private characteristics of individual people. Emancipatory theory, which preserves Marxian formulations concerning fatal contradictions that ultimately capitalism cannot contain without an anticipation of its own negation, seeks to transcend classical Marxism by exploring the psychoanalytic, phenomenological, and historical dimensions of human bondage. Emancipatory theories remain Marxist because they accept Marx's theories of alienation and of deep-seated internal contradictions, but they are willing to revise models of crisis and strategies of appropriate class-radicalism. In the context of critical theory, the idea of emancipation has typically been understood as a process of rationalization, and critical theory, if nothing else, is a moral construct designed to reduce human suffering in the world (<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/abs/freedom-rising/theory-of-emancipation/811942B4872AABA71F20207FB1764020>).

Racial Discrimination is an unequal or unfair treatment, practice, or policy against a group of people. According to Theodorson, discrimination "is unequal treatment against individuals or groups, based on categorical, unique attributes, such as race, ethnicity, religion or membership of social classes" (1979:115). The term racial discrimination is usually used to describe the actions of those who are more dominant and powerful than minorities whom they tend to perceive as weak to act arbitrarily. Theodorson (1979:258) said, "minorities are the groups that are recognized based on race, religion or ethnicity, who suffered losses as a result of prejudice". There are several types of discrimination such as gender discrimination, religion discrimination, economic status discrimination, social status discrimination, cultural discrimination, and racial discrimination. Among the many types of discrimination, issues related to racial discrimination are often encountered. Racial discrimination occurs when an individual is treated unfairly, or not given the same opportunities as other individuals in very similar situations, due to differences in their race, country of birth, ethnic background, and skin color. Slavery is one of the most common cases of racial discrimination.

I chose the movie script of Emancipation written by William N. Collage in 2020. The movie Emancipation itself was released in 2022, directed by Antoine Fuqua. Emancipation tells the story of a slave named Peter. Peter and his family are workers on Captain John Lyons' cotton farm located on the Atchafalaya River, Louisiana. One day, Confederacy soldiers came to take Peter by force to Clinton to build a railroad. In Clinton, Peter had to face the cruelty of Jim Fassel and his men at work. But Peter overheard a conversation between two of Fassel's men that Abraham Lincoln announced emancipation and officially abolished slavery.

Peter, who had no fear from the beginning, became even more rebellious when he heard that emancipation had been declared. But Jim Fassel and his men also oppressed Peter even more because of his attitude. Day after day he went through facing the cruelty of the white man. Until the day he and the other slaves fled through the Louisiana swamp to Baton Rouge, to approach Abraham Lincoln's army called the Union to try to get to freedom. What made Peter's journey even more difficult was that Jim Fassel and his pack of dogs also moved to hunt down the escaping slaves. Therefore, this research will describe how racial discrimination and slavery occur in the "Emancipation" movie script.

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem above, I identified that there is an issue of racial discrimination towards the practice of slavery that occurs in the "Emancipation" movie script. The character Peter is a black man who is oppressed because of his race. As we know, black people are looked down upon by white people. Moreover, the movie script "Emancipation" is set in America, where during the leadership of President Abraham Lincoln there was a civil war that resulted in the division of America into two camps, between anti-slavery and pro-slavery. Thus, the assumption of this research is the existence of racial discrimination experienced by black people characters in the movie script "Emancipation".

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

I limit the problem to the issues of racial discrimination and human fact based on Lucien Goldman's experienced with the characters of Emancipation, especially Peter. In examining these two issues, I will analyze the movie script of

“Emancipation” using intrinsic approaches including characterization, plot, setting, and dramatic point of view, and extrinsic approaches in presenting evidence regarding the issues to be discussed. This research is analyzed through the sociology of literature focuses on racial discrimination as the extrinsic approach.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

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

1. What is the characterization in the "Emancipation" movie script?
2. How do the plot and setting functions support the research theme?
3. How do the approaches of racial discrimination be used to analyze the movie script of “Emancipation”?

1.5. Objectives of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem, this research aims to prove the assumption of the issues of racial discrimination towards the characters in the “Emancipation” movie script. I will prove the problem statement as follows:

1. To reveal the characteristics in the “Emancipation” movie script.
2. Analyzing the plot and setting to reveal the themes of Racial Discrimination.
3. To analyze the “Emancipation” movie script to see discrimination by extrinsic approaches.

1.6. Benefit of the Research

This research is expected to be beneficial, both theoretically and practically. The benefits of this research are:

1. The results of this study are expected to contribute knowledge about racial discrimination for readers and students. And it is hoped that it can open up a view of how bad discrimination is in any form.
2. Practically, another benefit of this research is that this research is expected to be a reference for students, especially English literature students who want to study this theory for further research.

1.7. Systematic Organization of the Research

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION, Contains: Background of The Problem,

Identification of The Problem, Limitation of The Problem, Formulation of The Problem, Objectives of The Research, Benefits of The Research, and Systematic Organization of The Research.

CHAPTER 2: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK, contains the Theory Approach, which consists of the intrinsic approach and extrinsic approach. The intrinsic approach shows characterization, plot, setting, and theme. Through the extrinsic approach, the researcher uses the racial discrimination approach and the reflection of slavery.

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHOD, consists of the Time and Location, Research Approach and Method, Research Object and Data, Data Collection Technique, and Data Analysis Technique.

CHAPTER 4: RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN “EMANCIPATION” MOVIE SCRIPT, Contains, the analysis of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches that include focusing on Racial Discrimination and Human Fact.

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION, This chapter contains the evaluation of the previous chapters and the implications of the research results.