RACISM ASPECT IN GET OUT MOVIE DIRECTED BY JORDAN PEELE

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to determine all aspects of racism in the Get Out film, especially the type of racism, the effects of racism and the type of stereotype. This research used descriptive qualitative method. The data is collected through films that are watched repeatedly and analyzed by the writer and the writer looks for a theory that is in accordance with the observation process from the opinions of experts, journals, books, and social media, then compared with existing opinions. The author uses the theory of Samovar and Maher, well-known researchers who study racism and discrimination. The author found that the racism experienced by Chris Washington in the film Get Out was developed from the beginning to the end of the story. The result of the research film Racism is a belief system or doctrine which states that biological differences inherent in the human race determine cultural or individual attainment - that one race is superior and has the right to rule over another. The results of this study can be concluded that the types of racism are divided into two forms, namely Individual Racism and Micro-Aggression Racism. And also, this research can be concluded that there are two stereotypes of racism, namely discrimination and prejudice.

Keywords: racism, discrimination, main character, movie

ABSTRAK


**Kata kunci:** rasisme, diskriminasi, karakter utama, film

**INTRODUCTION**

**Background of the Study**

Literature is sciences that discuss literary works. Literature is the result of one’s thoughts in expressing something that has meaning and value. In the literary works there are two types of literature work, namely fictional literature and non-fiction literature as expert ((Literature & Wolf, 2016) stated that “literary works are fictional and non-fiction literary works.”

Many literary works that can be found in real life such as poems, prose, novels, dramas and movie. This research discusses the main thing in the movie that is racism. It is an important issue which creates different emotion reaction, even it can become a high emotion. Especially when the people actually offended by the bias in words or deeds.

Humans have no right to choose the color of the skin and physical appearance from when they were born. God created the human condition differently which is not to make the human itself assume that higher than another race. Somehow cultural differences create ethnical conflicts in society as the impact of prejudice, which emerge by the judgment of person or group, attitude or behavior against them. Racial prejudice tends to be on the negative assessment that will lead to racism. Racism is caused by ego a particular race (superiority race) feel that they are more dominant, as a result they are can organize minority race. One background behind the existence of racism is cultural, history and religious. Racism pushed the occurrence of racial discrimination. Racism is sourced from individual sometimes discriminate against the people of one or more races. Essentially,
Racism is a philosophy of life (way of life) which has the presumption that one particular group does not equal by means of human or not. It means that human who has lowest race.

Racial stereotypes have been affecting people of color for generations and continue to have an impact to this day. With many headlines in the news of BLM (Black lives matter) protests as well as instances of police brutality, it’s quite clear to see that the topic of race is still very controversial even in today’s society. Throughout history there has always been some degree of racism, whether it be as obvious as segregation to as passive as not hiring someone due to the color of their skin, it still exists. Though it is quite clearly much less prevalent in modern day society it still exists and has detrimental effects on people of color in the long run.

This research discusses *Get Out* movie released in 2017, *Get Out* follows Chris Washington, a successful Black photographer, during his first visit with his White girlfriend’s family, the Armitages. Chris slowly becomes aware of the ultimate purpose of the visit: a transformation in which the brain of an elderly White supremacist will be implanted in Chris’s body and take over his life—replicating Andre Hayworth’s reincarnation as Logan King. To save himself, Chris must resist the hypnosis used as part of the transformation and escape the Armitage estate.

**Statement of the Problem**

The following are the research problems.

1. What are kinds of racism that discriminated the main character in the *Get Out* movie?

2. What are the effect that the main character felt in the *Get Out* movie?

3. What are the racism stereotype found in the *Get Out* movie?

**Objectives of the Research**

1. To identify kinds of racism that discriminated the main character in the *Get Out* movie.
2. To identify the effect that the main character felt in the *Get Out* movie.

3. To identify racism stereotype found in the *Get Out* movie.

**Literature Review**

**Definition of Movie**

According to (Arfani, 2018) “Movie is a form of entertainment that enacts a story by sound and a sequence of images giving the illusion of continuous movement.”

As claimed by (Rabiger, 2009) stated “Each movie is interesting and entertaining, and makes the audience think. Each piece of work is unique and interesting so there are many ways that can be used in a documentary to convey ideas about the real world”.

Also, Gatot Prakoso in (Romli, 2017) (stated that Movie is a live image, the result of a celluloid pile, which is rotated using a projector and fired on the screen, which is engaged in a movie theater).

**Definition of Character**

According to Baldick in (Nuraeni, 2016) says, “Character is a personage in a narrative or dramatic work, also a kind of sketch briefly describing some recognizable type of person.”

Tough (Bergstrand & Jasper, 2018, p. 230) stated, “Characters are familiar tropes because they are conveyed by diverse media, both fictional and nonfictional. Narratives, rhetoric, ideologies, frames, and the like shape our understandings largely through the characters they create.”
“Characterization, or personality, is defined, as in fiction, by what the character do, by what others say about them, and by setting in which they move” quoted by (BARNET et al., 2015).

According to (Grosfoguel, 2016 p. 10) “Racism is global hierarchy of superiority and inferiority along the line of the human politically, culturally and economically produced and reproduced for centuries by the institutions of the capitalis/ patriarchal western-centric/ christian-centric modern/ colonial world-system.”

Definition of Racism

According to (Grosfoguel, 2016 p. 10) “Racism is global hierarchy of superiority and inferiority along the line of the human politically, culturally and economically produced and reproduced for centuries by the institutions of the capitalis/ patriarchal western-centric/ christian-centric modern/ colonial world-system.”

According to Liliweri in (Mulyana, 2019 p. 76) Racism is discrimination against a person or group of people because of their race. Sometimes this concept becomes a political doctrine for claiming a race is superior to other races.

As shared by Samovar in (Arni, 2015). ” Racism is a trust to superiority that people may treat another people roughly based on their race, skin color, religion or originality.

Types of Racism

According to Samovar in (Arni, 2015, p. 10) racism can be grouped in forms personal racism and institutional racism.

1. Personal racism consists for actions, beliefs, behaviors, and racial actions as part of an individual.
2. Institutional racism refers to the act of degrading a race or feeling antipathy carried
out by certain social institutions such as school, company, hospital, or criminal justice system.

Based on M. J. Maher in (Humaira, 2014, p. 7-8) racism can be classified into several parts based on behavior and victims and the effects caused by both parties, namely:

1. Individual racism, that is a person’s actions on the basis of race carried out by offender by ignoring the existence or forming jokes against one’s race.
2. Micro-aggression, hostile actions that are physical or psychological attacks on others).

Cause of Racism

Samovar said that (Arni, 2015, p. 20) Racism is created due to cultural factors, economics, psychology, and history.

((Bogosyan, 2013)) Mno Bogosyan on catholicismandracism.weebly.com mentions main cause of racism are:

1. Instinctive reaction for species protection
2. Fear of loss and displacement (FEAR)
3. Ignorance (The condition of being uneducated, unaware or uniformed)
4. Lack of self-love, feeling of unworthiness and desire to feel superior

Based on (Grosfoguel, 2016, p. 10) “Racism can be marked by color, ethnicity, language, culture and religion.” The causes of racism are mostly due to differences in color, ethnicity, and religion

Effect of Racism

(American Psychiatric Association, 2016) stated that “Recognises that racism and racial discrimination adversely affect mental health by diminishing the victim’s self-image, confidence and optimal mental functioning. Attempts should be made to eliminate racism and racial discrimination by fostering a respectful appreciation of multiculturalism and diversity.”
1. Depression

According to M(Bogosyan, 2013) Racism can have a lot of effects on a victim. Victims can become angry, bitter or violent. It can destroy a person’s self esteem. It can destroy communities and creates divisions within society. A Cornell News Service study in 2009 did a study on the effects of racism saying that racial discrimination erodes mental health. The study finds that black people may have poorer mental health as a result of two mechanisms: Firstly; chronic exposure to racial discrimination leads to more experiences of daily discrimination and secondly it results in an accumulation of daily negative events across various domains of life, from family, friends, health and finances. A person’s whole world can change from experiencing discrimination and they can become depressed, anxious and mentally unwell.

Said by (Debora, 2017) Racist acts carried out often lead to acts of social discrimination, slavery, segregation or restrictions, racial violence to genocide or racial extermination

2. Anxiety

According to Dr. Tahirah Abdullah on adaa.org:

In addition to experiencing racism at all levels frequently, we know that these experiences have significant negative effects on both physical and mental health outcomes for Black Americans. Some researchers have suggested that chronic experiences of racism and microaggressions result in "racial battle fatigue," which includes anxiety and worry, hyper-vigilance, headaches, increased heart rate and blood pressure, and other physical and psychological symptoms.

While the negative impact of racism on mental health is pervasive and far-reaching, these studies suggest a link between racism and symptoms associated with anxiety. There are three specific ways we think experiences of racism negatively impact stress and anxiety for Black Americans: perceptions of lack of control, internalization, avoidance of valued action.
Stereotype of Racism

One of the key elements in the product and reproduction of racism is the presence and utilization of stereotypes. Essentially, these are the attribution of characteristics, in a simplistic way, to a group that has been racialized. This attribution or categorization of others is typically couched in negative or hostile terms, and these stereotypes sustain derogatory views of others – and to justify, discrimination and various forms of exclusion.

1. Prejudice

(O’Connor, 2017) stated that “Prejudice can color the way we see other people. Prejudgment may cause a person to ignore information that contradicts their prejudice.

(Devine, 2016) stated that “In mental health and other health care settings, prejudice can undermine client care—even if the provider is unaware of their own prejudice. For example, research consistently shows that doctors are less likely to take women’s pain seriously. They may believe that their female patients are faking or exaggerating their pain, or that they are reacting with excessive emotion to relatively minor pain. This can lead to misdiagnoses, and even be fatal.”

2. Discrimination

Prejudice is an attitude that can trigger abusive actions. Most sociologists define discrimination as action or a group of actions.

According to (Lippert-Rasmussen, 2018), “Prejudice can lead to discrimination, but it is not the only factor in discrimination. A person can also harbor prejudices without discriminating, especially if they are mindful of their own prejudice and take proactive steps to counter it.”

As claimed by (Arrow, 2015), “A prejudicial belief that seniors are slow, sick, or uninterested in learning new things can lead to discrimination. For example, a person charged with hiring at a company that prizes innovation may refuse to hire
older workers. Their prejudicial belief in seniors’ refusal to learn new things may even cause them to ignore evidence to the contrary in an applicant’s résumé. When this attitude plays a role in many decisions, it can lead to systemic discrimination. A company that allows ageist attitudes to affect hiring may eventually have only young employees, or mistreat its older staff.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research uses qualitative descriptive research methods are using analysis, using existing theories as supporting material, and producing various theories. Data is not limited to the collection and compilation of data but includes analysis and interpretation of the meaning of the data. Becomes a discourse and conclusion in logical, practical, and theoretical thinking. The researcher collects the entire data and materials with a variety of resources. Such as books, journals, articles. And other references from internet sources. And also the primary resources of this paper are still the movie itself by watching the movie several times to understanding the plot. The researcher pays attention in every segments, narrations, gestures, and dialogues or how racism is towards the main character in the movie. Taking notes, categorize and put forward findings that are considered important and interesting (discrimination and racism).

Mentioned by Bogdan and Taylor in Moleong ((Moleong, 2013)suggest that descriptive qualitative method is research procedures that produce descriptive data in the form of written or oral words from people and observable behavior. This method is interpreted as a procedure for solving problems by describing the state of the object of research based on visible facts. It is mean that this method is focuses on researching a paper by emphasizing the description of the object and it is writing, supported by existing data.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION
Analysis of the Story

The Researcher analyze the movie with several parts. The first part is analyzing the kinds of racism, then analyzing individual racism and Micro-aggresion racism.

Kinds of Racism That Discriminated the Main Character in The Get Out Movie

To analyze this section, the writer refers to Maher in (Humaira, 2015, p. 7-8) theory, individual racism and micro-aggresion racism. The researcher choses the theory because the writer found two clear evidence in the movie and the writer more easily identified it.

1. Individual Racism

Individual racism, that is a person’s actions on the basis of race carried out by offender by ignoring the existence or forming jokes against one’s race. The researcher found supporting dialogues about individual racism.

Rose: "Mom and dad, my, um, my... My black boyfriend will be coming up this weekend, and i just don’t want you to be shocked that he’s a black man."

Chris: You said I was the first black guy you ever dated.

Rose: Yeah, so what?

Chris: Yeah, so this is uncharted territory for ‘em. You know, I don’t want to get chased off the lawn with a shotgun.

In this scene, Chris talking with Rose about her parent that will meet Chris. But Chris assumes that Rose parent will not like black people dating their daughter and will kicked out Chris from their houses. We can see how Chris view of white people in this case is Armitage family. The term “racism” is often used in a loose and unreflective way to describe the hostile or negative feelings of one ethnic group or “people” toward another and the actions resulting from such attitudes. Individual racism refers primarily to the prejudice and discriminatory behavior of white individuals against blacks and other
minority groups. This behavior in this scene shows racial prejudices that have not been adopted by individual choices, but merely the consequences of general conformity with norms and conventions in communities where legal, government and business institutions systematically discriminate against certain racial groups.

2. Micro-Aggression Racism

Micro-aggression, hostile actions that are physical or psychological attacks on others. Psychological violence is experienced by Chris Washington through some threats which are given by Missy Armitage. Threats are given to make Chris Washington under control of missy Armitage.

Missy: Come here, Chris, look at me
Chris: I found it.
Missy: Where was your mom?
Chris: She, uh... Sh-she was coming home. She wasn’t home.
Missy: From work?
Chris: Mm-hmm.
Missy: Mm, and... What do you do?
Chris: Nothing.
Missy: Nothing
Chris: I just sat there.
Missy: You didn’t call anyone?
Chris: No.
Missy: Why not?
Chris: I don’t know, I just... Thought that... If I did, it would make it real.
Missy: Hmm. You’re so scared. You think it was your fault. How do you feel now?
Chris: I can't move.
Missy: You can't move.
Chris: Why can't I move?
Missy: **You’re paralyzed. Just like that day when you did nothing. You did nothing. Now... Sink into the floor.**
Chris: Wait, wait, wait, wait.
Missy: Sink! Now you're in the sunken place.

In the dialogue, Missy Armitage was seen successfully mastering Chris's mind. There it appeared after Chris told his mother suddenly his body could not move. When does Chris ask why can't he move? Missy Armitage said that Chris was paralyzed. Paralyzed like when the day his mother died, Chris just kept quiet without doing anything.
Finally, Chris enters into his subconscious and is fully managed by Missy Armitage. Psychological violence itself is a type of violence in the form of pressure that can reduce mental and brain abilities. In the dialogue the violence carried out by Missy Armitage was by attacking Chris Washington. Making Chris like a guilty person who makes his mother died when he was a kid really puts tremendous pressure and suppresses his brain's ability to become weak so that it can eventually be controlled Missy Armitage. It can be analyzes that Missy Armitage hurt Chris with psychological attacks that make Chris remember his dark past.

The Effect To The Main Character in The Get Out Movie

Racism has many effects in the form of psychological intimidation, affect mental health (depression, anxiety, and mentally unhealthy) victims will feel angry and hurt, then the effects that lead to acts of slavery, genocide or destruction of race, violence that cause physical injury. In this section, writer categorizes the two main effects of racism which is impacting the main character.

1. Depression

Racism can have a lot of effects on a victim. Victims can become angry, bitter or violent. It can destroy a person’s self-esteem. It can destroy communities and creates divisions within society.

Missy: Do you smoke in front of my daughter?
Chris: I'm gonna quit, I promise.
Missy: That's my kid. That is my kid.
Chris: You interested?
Missy: What about your mother? What about her?
Chris: Wait, are we...
Missy: Where were you when she died?
Chris: I don't want to think about that... Home... Watching TV.
Missy: Do you hear the TV? What do you hear?
Chris: Rain. Missy: Rain. It was raining.
Missy tries to get into Chris' mind by asking what Chris doesn't want to think about. Missy Armitage has succeeded in getting into Chris' mind and really disturbing Chris's mind where he was forced to recall the incident when his mother died when he was a child. It can be seen that this makes Chris depressed about his past memories that he don’t want to remember.

2. Anxiety

According to Dr. Tahirah Abdullah that in addition to experiencing racism at all levels frequently, we know that these experiences have significant negative effects on both physical and mental health outcomes for Black Americans. Some researchers have suggested that chronic experiences of racism and microaggressions result in "racial battle fatigue," which includes anxiety and worry, hyper-vigilance, headaches, increased heart rate and blood pressure, and other physical and psychological symptoms.

In the scene when Chris discovers the box of photos, we understand more fully the extent of Rose’s skills and contributions to the family and the Order. Chris is definitely not Rose’s first conquest. Even before Chris is in the process of transformation, she is searching the internet for her next conquest. She is a practiced seductress, a femme fatale serving her family and the Order. Even after he discovers the photos, Chris tries to hold onto his relationship with Rose, asking her to leave with him when he tries to escape the house. Her duplicity does not become clear to him until he realizes she is stalling for time as she acts as though she can’t find her car keys. Chris’s stunned expression when he finally realizes Rose's complicity in the horror of the Armitage enterprise shows just how completely Rose has ensnared him. It can be seen that Chris starts to feel uncomfortable about his appearance at Armitage’s Household and want to know what is really happen in Armitage’s Household.

Racism Stereotype that found in the Get Out movie

One of the key elements in the product and reproduction of racism is the presence and utilization of stereotypes. Essentially, these are the attribution of characteristics, in a
simplistic way, to a group that has been racialized. This attribution or categorization of others is typically couched in negative or hostile terms, and these stereotypes sustain derogatory views of others – and to justify, discrimination and various forms of exclusion.

1. Discrimination

Chris Washington as black people often get the experience several forms of discrimination. Discrimination is negative treatment toward inferior races which is given irrationally and causes a harm full impact for them. Through this narrative, Chris Washington as a black people shows us the form of discrimination toward him in his time when he visits a white family house.

One of the discriminations toward colored people is done through a compulsion to admit the falsehood that is created by white people. The human right of free colored people is often seized by white people. The evidence of this condition may be seen as follow:

Roman: You have been chosen because of the physical advantages you've enjoyed your entire lifetime. With your natural gifts and our determination, we could both be part of something greater. Something perfect.

In the dialogue, there is a scene where Chris Washington is confined in the basement with his legs and arms tied to a chair. In front of him, there is a television that shows a video where there is a grandfather the name is Roman Armitage who speaks like in the dialogue. He said that Chris had been chosen to be a victim of the Armitage family's research. The Armitage family made a study which combined the bodies of black people who were still healthy with the minds of old white people. If we look at the era of slavery in the 19th century that occurred in America, black people were made slaves because they had high and strong postures in spelling out various kinds of work but were considered to lack good thinking. It can be concluded in this scene, it is as if re-showing slavery but with a bandage of modernization and high knowledge. Not much different where the black body was made into a tool while the one who ruled it was white people. Combining the physicality of black people with the determination of white people is the goal of the Armitage family. This might seem to be a pessimistic conclusion. It would seem that if
groups are not stereotyped on the one hand, then they will be hit with discrimination and ingroup bias on the other.

2. Prejudice

Another form of racism in this narrative movie is prejudice. It is described as a negative state toward other people from different races. When we see slavery in America in the 19th century, prejudice is often given by white people to the colored people. Prejudice is frequently motivated by the hate of white people toward colored people. They may give prejudice without any reasonable cause. Prejudice is commonly the result of generalization of the current group. The perception of every individual is often seen from the general perception toward his group. But, in this movie the researcher found the prejudice from the black people that make a negative state toward other people from different races. In this case, the different races are white people. The form of prejudice in this narrative can be seen in this following part:

In the dialogue between Rod William and Chris Washington, there is a negative view given by Rod to white people.

Chris: Okay, get your own girl.
Rod: Goddamn.
Chris: See, it doesn't matter
Rod: 'cause you never take my advice.
Chris: Like what?
Rod: **Like don't go to a white girl parents' house. She doin', licking your b*lls or something?**
Chris: Yeah, bye.
Rod: You know what I'm saying, Chris?

In the dialogue, Rod William as a friend of Chris on a telephone tried to remind that white people are dangerous. Don't want to be invited to a white family house. And Rod said what would they do with you? Licking your b*lls or something? Then Chris closes his phone and ignores his friend's advice. In the dialogue there is a negative view of black people there are Rod on white people there are Rose Armitage.
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

In some scenes researchers found kinds of racism in the *Get Out* movie that discriminated the character, namely: First, Individual Racism carried out by each individual without involving other people. Second, Micro-Aggression in which the perpetrator commits physical violence or attacks the physical and psychological victim.

Apart from the type of racism, researchers also found two dominants effect of racism. First, Depression that lead victims can become angry, bitter or violent and destroy a person’s self-esteem. Second, Anxiety that lead victims worry, hypervigilance, headaches, increased heart rate and blood pressure, and other physical and psychological symptoms.

Finally, researchers also get the racism stereotype which is grouped into two. Discrimination, which is negative treatment toward inferior races, and Prejudice that described as a negative state toward other people from different races.

Suggestion

*Get Out* movie talks about the struggle of young black man because of discrimination, especially racism that he experienced and also this movie illustrates many realities that occur in society. Because this film tell racism, it is hopes to the government to pay attention to the behavior of its people who carry out acts of racism to be given a deterrent effect. Whereas, both the majority and the minority can respect each other both personally and in groups that differences in skin color, race, ethnicity and religion are not the reason to insult or humiliate one another and feel the most superior.
For English students especially those who want to research racism in the movie they should be more aware of the importance of racial problems so that they can make the wider community understand the adverse effects resulting from racism.

It is recommended that future research using qualitative descriptive methods, especially about the depiction of black racism in the movie, can be studied more broadly and more deeply about the issue of racism that has occurred to date. Research on racism in this movie needs to be refined in all aspects of racism between the black race and the white race, and research on racism against blacks can be resumed in the latest movie.
REFFERENCES


