

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, there are six sub-chapters conveyed including background of the study, problem formulation, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study and organization of the study. Sub-chapters explain in detail about the study problem that will be discussed. So, the sub-chapters will help readers to understand the problem.

A. Background of the Study

“A work of literary is any reflection of events or phenomena in a society” (Murwantono 165). It means that a literary work can become representations of the society. It is used to know the social circumstance happens at the present time. So, studying or analyzing a literary work can help understanding society’s desire. The literary work consists of novel, short story, poetry and etc. This study focuses on problem happens in the society who is poured into one of literary works, it is novel.

Georg Lukacs stated, “...the novel reflects, not by rendering its mere surface appearance, but by giving us ‘a truer, more complete, more vivid and more dynamic reflection of reality” (qtd. in Selden 28). The problems or the cases are discussed by novel, those truly happen in a society life, because writers usually choose a basic problem that is happening in the society. Afterwards, they pour their idea into the form of a novel. It means that the real representation is shown by the novel. It is about social problem is happening in the society. So,

novel can give information for readers about the problem. Thus, the novel can be analyzed to understand more what the problems are happening in the society.

The social problem which is usually discussed in the novel is about the difference of society background in a country that can appear social problems like discrimination. “Discrimination is often based on ignorance, prejudices and negative stereotypes” (Flowers et al. 217). It explains that discrimination will not happen without a reason. Explanation of discrimination is “...unfair or disadvantageous treatment on the basis of a personal characteristic” (ENAR 1). It means that discrimination is unfair treatment based on characteristic of person. In a book entitled *Discrimination* explains that “Discrimination contradicts a fundamental principle of human rights” (Flowers et al. 216). All people have the rights to get the same treatment, position and protection without discrimination, as that is explained in *International Convention*:

All persons are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to the equal protection of the law...The law therefore prohibits any discrimination and guarantees to all persons equal and effective protection against discrimination on any ground such as race, [color], sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status (Dimensions of Racism 186)

Although, it has explained that the discrimination is not in accordance with the fundamental principal of human rights, yet the discrimination still occurs today in countries that embrace multiculturalism. “...multiculturalism refers to situations in which people who hold ‘different’ habits, customs, traditions, languages and/or religions live alongside each other in the same social space” (Sociopedia.isa 1).

The country is America. The American society consists of various backgrounds. So, the discrimination is often found there. In *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science* explains that:

...the quest for freedom and the struggle for survival are the major aspects of African-American history. From the advent of the seventeenth century up to the twentieth century, African-Americans were exposed to various forms of oppression and discrimination that devastated their psyches and forced them to resort to escape mechanisms necessary for survival. (Albarrak 114)

It is proof that African-American people experience discrimination. They still get unfair treatment from White people until today. The discrimination happens because of stereotypes and prejudice. Marcus states that, "...stereotypes and prejudices are seen as roots discrimination" (qtd. in Fasbender 3). It explains that the discrimination happens because there are stereotype and prejudice. When this study explains about African-American people, it means explaining about one of races in America that is usually called Blacks. Whites have trust that Blacks are criminals, this is called racial stereotypes. Racial stereotypes about Blacks have spread throughout the society in America. Jewell defined Racial Stereotypes as a "...constructed beliefs that all members of the same race share given characteristic. These attributed characteristics are usually negative" (qtd. in Laura Green). Racial stereotyping occurs because a group sees characteristics on a member of another group. Then, they have the perception that all members of the group have the same characteristics as one has been seen. For this reason is, the racial stereotype will become causative factor racial discrimination after there is a racial prejudice. Whereas, assumptions based on stereotypes are not always true,

because there are still many stereotypes that the truth is not known yet reality almost people still do it.

Devah Pager said, “Racial discrimination...refers to unequal treatment of persons or groups on the basis of their race or ethnicity” (2). It explains that the racial discrimination is unfair treatment from individual or groups toward other groups based on their race or ethnicity. Difference of background is like color, race or ethnic that makes the racial discrimination happens in the society life. It can be seen in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*.

Something's bugging me. I wanted to ask Uncle Carlos, but I couldn't for some reason. Daddy's different though. While Uncle Carlos somehow keeps impossible promises, Daddy keeps it real with me.

Starr: “You think the cops want Khalil to have justice?” I ask...

The truth casts a shadow over the kitchen—People like us in situations like this become hash tags, but they rarely get justice. I think we all wait for that one time though, that one time when it ends right

Daddy: “I don't know,” Daddy says. “I guess we'll find out” (Angie Thomas 61).

The paragraph above explains that Starr asked a question to her Daddy about the justice for Khalil. However, she was aware if Blacks are mostly treated unfair. They hoped that someday they could get the justice.

The phenomenon of the racial discrimination happens in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*. Characters of *The Hate You Give* they were feeling that Khalil as Blacks experienced the discrimination because they knew if Khalil did not do a mistake when he drove a car. He was also not bringing the gun at that time. The white officer shot him without a reason until he died. For that reason was, Starr and other characters asked the justice for Khalil. Starr became a witness for Khalil's death, although, she was experiencing some negative impacts after the

incident. However, the White officer was not arrested by law enforcement authorities. It is clear, racial discrimination happens there. In addition, in the novel also explained some examples of other racial discriminations experienced by African-American people.

This study is intended to explain the racial discrimination reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*. This novel is chosen because it has a brave character who demands justice for the racial discrimination that is experienced by her friend. Though, she is experiencing negative impacts because of the shooting incident. In Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give* novel will be found some causative factors of racial discrimination, some forms of the racial discrimination and some negative impacts of racial discrimination. So, it can become a reference for readers who want to learn more about the problem.

B. Problem Formulation

The problems that will be discussed in the study are:

1. What are the causative factors of racial discrimination experienced by African-American people reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*?
2. What are racial discriminations experienced by African-American people reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*?
3. How are negative impacts of racial discrimination experienced by African-American people reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*?

C. Limitation of the Study

Limitation of the study focuses on the racial discrimination in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give* novel. How African-American people experience the

discrimination and what discriminations are experienced by them. Until appearing some negative impacts are for them.

D. Objective of the Study

Objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the causative factors of racial discrimination experienced by African-American people reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*.
2. To describe racial discrimination experienced by African-American people reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*.
3. To analyze the negative impacts of racial discrimination experienced by African-American people reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*.

E. Significance of the Study

In this study, there are some expectations:

1. This study of racial discrimination that is reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give* could be reference the students of English Literature program that want to learn more about racial discrimination.
2. The study could become facilities for the students of English Literature program in learning discrimination material to be easier understood.

F. Organization of the Study

This study is divided into five chapters so readers can easier understand. The first chapter is introduction. This chapter includes the background of the study, problem formulation, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study and organization of the study. The second chapter is review of connected literature. It includes of synopsis and some theories connected with literature: factors causing racial discrimination in America, racial

discrimination and negative impact of racial discrimination. The third chapter is research method. It covers types of research, data organizing and the data analyzing. The fourth chapter is findings and discussion. It is racial discrimination reflected in Angie Thomas' *The Hate You Give*. The fifth chapter is conclusion and suggestion.