

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of study, statements of the problem, objectives of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and significance of the study. These subchapters are explained in detail to conducting the study.

1.1 Background of The Study

Racism is one of the worst social issues that exist these days in each part of the world. Racism is a case or hassle that has been around for an extended time. The racism that passed off in 1841 proved that this discrimination had existed for loads of years. Racism itself as stated by Delgado and Stefancic (2017: 154) is an act of discrimination, persecution, separation based on differences in race or ethnic groups. Racism is likewise the perception that one race receives variations in a human person and that certain races are superior to others. This problem can cause division and destruction for society and the country. Racism means that a group of people commit acts of discrimination and give bad treatment in people's lives.

Racism is increasing every year and is also happening in every country in the world. This can be proven from information about the issue of racism that spreads quickly from social media, such as television or newspapers. Like the case of George Floyd that occurred on May 25 in the United States, a black man was killed by Derek Chauvin, a white police officer. At that point, George Floyd turned into accused of the use of counterfeit \$20 payments whilst he sold cigarettes at Cup Foods, after which the police got here and attacked him viciously, ensuing in his dying. This case

attracted the attention of many people about the case of police brutality. The case was judged that George's death was unfair. This news is quoted from ny.times which provides news about racism that happens to black people in America.

From this case, violence and racism still occur when the victims are black people. Social status also influences racism. The above statement shows that the United States is a country that is still plagued with racism. The influential social impact has resulted in how Americans perceive themselves as influenced by skin color and race. These racist activities take many forms in society. Hughes and Kroehler (2010) state that discrimination is an act carried out by a person in daily activities that involves arbitrary rejection of privileges, prestige, and power to members of minority groups (219). Black people are discriminated against by white people because of the color of their skin. It is classified as racism because black people are unable to hold and exercise the power and privileges of black people, so their lower existence results in them being subservient to white people.

Literature is a paper or print that expresses the expression of human life in society. Wellek and Warren (1982: 94) state that literature represents lifestyles and lifestyles offered with social reality, despite the fact that nature and the arena or subjective people are gadgets of literary imitation. Literature cannot be separated from real life because literature is an expression of society. Through literary works, an author attempts to specific his concept of what she or he has skilled in lifestyles or the social situations surrounding him. This happens around them ranging from natural phenomena to people's lives in their communities.

Literature is an intermediary used by writers to criticize every aspect of life. For example, social problems contained in literary works. These social issues consist of racism, inequality, violence, and others. Racism is one of the many social issues determined in a few literary works. The story that presents the issue of racism is the novel *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas.

In this thesis, the novel *The Hate U Give* is the object of research to be analyzed. This novel tells the story of a sixteen year's old girl named Starr Carter, who lives in a different world, namely Garden Height, where the environment is especially black township. But it doesn't allow the situation that his parents decides to send Starr and his brother to the luxurious Williamson school where the majority are white. These different circumstances make it difficult for him to have to be two different people. An incident that makes his life even more complicated when he is the only witness of a police officer who shot his unarmed friend Khalil. This news become a national issue and attracted a lot of attention because the person who is killed unarmed is black. Starr, who witnessed the incident, had to endure the pain of the injustice his friend received from society because people are more interested in Khalil's past due to the fact that he is a gang and a drug dealer. And it is paying off for the police to have a chance to win and even the law is trying to make this police action justified. This accidental misunderstanding led black people to protest against white people over criminal cases. Starr has also been in dangerous situations, such as being threatened with death or someone shooting at his house. Starr is confused when he wants to tell the truth that he will be threatened and also his community but he

wants the justice that Khalil deserves. This novel was written by Angie Thomas Published by Walkers Book, 87 Vauxhall Walk, London in 2017. This novel has 444 pages consisting of 26 chapters.

Since the problems on this novel suggest us that individual experiences may describe the life experiences of Black people who is living in the United States always get bullied by white people. Black people experience a lot of racial discrimination that happens on a daily basis that keeps happening over and over again. This novel also tells how Starr's struggle to voice justice happened to his friend who experienced acts of racism to the point of death. Cases of racism that occur are still mostly done by white people. The increasing number of cases of racism states that this is very serious and concerning. This novel can be used as a view that racial discrimination is not justified and the need for justice to promote justice for people who have experienced such acts.

This has earned Angie Thomas' first novel by winning prestigious awards, such as the Goodreads Choice Awards Best Debut Goodreads Author 2017, Goodreads Choice Awards Best Young Adult Fiction 2017, National Book Awards 2017 for Young People's Literature, Boston Globe-Horn Book Award 2017, Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2018, Coretta Scott King Honor (Author) 2018, Indies Choice Book Award Winner Young Adult in 2018, Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award Winner 2018, Blue Spruce Award Winner 2018, Garden State Teen Book Award Winner Fiction in 2018, and Winner 2019 Buckeye Children's and Youth Book Award.

Critical Race Theory is applied in this research because this theory is applicable to the topic of discussion. Critical Race Theory is a theory about human behavior and social process that is relevant to racial group categorization. This theory has some tenets that are appropriate in analyzing this research. These tenets are everyday racism, material determinism, social construction, differential racialization, intersectionality, and voice of color. These tenets are used to know the issues of racism that are socially constructed in American society as represented in *The Hate U Give*. In this research, I focus on the discussion of racism that is portrayed in the novel to limit the discussion.

Previously, there was a study that used the same data, namely the novel *The Hate U Give* by Putri Erina Br.Pinem entitled *Racial Discrimination Portrayed in Angie Thomas's Novel The Hate U Give* (2020) explaining how racial discrimination was portrayed in it and also how the stereotype, prejudice, and social rejection happened. And focus on research on the intrinsic elements and apply the sociological theory. And also research from Christin Ayu Rizky's The title is *The Struggle of African Americans Against Racial Discrimination in Angie Thomas's The Hate U Give* (2020). The difference is that this thesis focuses on only 2 characters, namely Starr and Maverick and applies character and characterization theory, racial discrimination theory, and adaptation theory to discrimination.

Therefore, this study uses Critical Race Theory, because it is a theory to find out more about racism in several aspects that have been described in the six basic tenets. And the theory explains about human behavior and social processes that are

relevant to racial group categorization. These tenets are used to know the issues of racism that are socially constructed in American society.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the study which has described above, there are two questions for the statement of research problem, they are:

1. What is racist attitude represented in *Angie Thomas The Hate U Give*?
2. How is racism socially constructed in American society as represented in *Angie Thomas The Hate U Give*?

1.3 Objective of The Study

1. Based on statements of research problem of the study, it is direction:
To Explain racist attitude represented in *Angie Thomas The Hate U Give*
2. To Explain racism socially constructed in American society as represented in *Angie Thomas The Hate U Give*

1.4 Significances of The Study

The writer assumes that this study is valuable for the reader both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this study is expected to provide motivation in the development of literature, especially the analysis of the novel, and also improve the definition of racism. The writer assumes that this study comes to be a reference and measuring to the reader who wants to take similar theory and novel. Practically, this study is expected to increase the discourse associated with the study of the novel and racism, for those who have read the novel.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This observation targeted focused on the critical race theory concept to the evaluation that applies in the novel *The Hate U Give* through Angie Thomas. Therefore, the evaluation of this observe is to symbolize the problems of racism found out withinside the novel associated the social situations withinside the American And this observation and this study explains the benefits of the finding of this study to other researchers or the reader. This supply to readers or researchers for the following observations which examine the same source of data or theory.