THE BLACK PEOPLE LIFE IN HARPER LEE’S *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD*

A GRADUATION PAPER

Submitted in Partial of the Requirement for Gaining the Bachelor Degree in English Literature

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2016
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I certify that this thesis is definitely my own work I completely responsible for content of this thesis. Other writer’s opinion or finding included in the thesis are quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standard

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Saya menyatakan bahwa skripsitersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang Munaqosah untuk memenuhi sebagian syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

Atas perhatannya yang kami diberikan, saya ucapkan terimakasih.

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ABSTRACT

THE BLACK PEOPLE’S LIFE IN HARPER LEE’S TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

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This research aims to describe the black people life and the factors that is the evidences of the differences between black and white people.

This research uses qualitative method with analysis of document as the method to collect the data. Then, descriptive become the technique to analyze the data. The main data of this research is a novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* that has been written by Harper Lee. The novel which published in 1962, it become one of bestseller and got a Pulitzer Winning in Literature. This novel contains about humanity, especially about differences of skin color. So then, it appears the problems how black people life and the factors that become the evidences of differences. This research uses dynamic structuralism to analyze the problem. After reading, collecting the data, and analysis, the conclusion that black people have been ignored and refused by white people. It is reinforced by the factors that appears; economic factors, education factors, religion factors, and law factors.

Keywords: Black people, white people, life, differences
ABSTRAK

THE BLACK PEOPLE’S LIFE IN HARPER LEE’S TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

Oleh: Wahyu Anggraheni

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendiskripsikan kehidupan orang-orang kulit hitam dalam *To Kill a Mockingbird* yang dibuktikan dengan factor-faktor sosial yang ada.


Kata kunci: kulit hitam, kulit putih, kehidupan, perbedaan
MOTTO

You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view. Until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it.

Harper Lee, To Kill a Mockingbird
DEDICATION

I dedicate this graduation paper to

My beloved father, Jumadi

My beloved mother, Sutriyah

My lovely brothers, Suryo Bagus Kuntoro and Ginanjar Mursyid

My beautiful sister, Lutfia Rachmadani

My lovely partner, Aleyo Sas Melas

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Assalamu‘alaikum wr.wb

All praises be to Allah, The Lord of the world, who has given blessing for me to arrange this graduating paper. Sholawat and salam to prophet Muhammad who has brought the people from the darkness to the lightness. The graduating paper entitle “The Black People Life in Harper Lee’s To Kill a Mockingbird” has be done as the requirement for gaining the bachelor degree in English Department, State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. This paper is arranged completely by the helps from the sincere people. So, I really deliver my gratitude and appreciation to them. They are:

1. Allah SWT for the mercy and blessing me

2. The Dean of Faculty Adab and Culture Science, Dr. Zamzam Afandi, M. Ag.

3. The Head of English Literature, Dr. Ubaidillah

4. Ulyati Retnosari, M. Hum as my academic advisor. Thank you for your supports and advices

5. Dwi Margo Yuwono as my advisor, who has given advices and guidance in arranging this paper.
6. Jiah Fauziah, M.Hum, Febrianti Dwi Ratana, M.Hum, Margo Yuwono, M.Hum, Danial Hidayatullah, M.Hum, Bambang Hariyanto, M.Hum, Arif Budiman, M.A, Fuad Arif Fudiyartanto, S.Pd, M.Hum, M.Ed, and all of lecture in English Department and in the Faculty of Adab and Cultural Sciences for their advice and guidance.

7. My beloved parents, *Bapak* Jumadi and *Ibu* Sutriyah

8. My beloved brothers and sister, Bagus, Anjar, and Lutfi

9. My Lovely partner, Eyo thank you for being my absurd partner

10. My beloved friends in English Literature chapter 2010


12. My second home PSM Gita Savana


As the writer believes that every human being cannot be excluded from the lacks, there are still some errors and mistakes in this graduating paper.
Therefore, the writer does hope all the constructive correction to make this graduating paper get improved.

Wassalamu’alaikum wr. wb.

Yogyakarta, 19 March 2016

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT .............................................. ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

NOTA DINAS ................................................................. ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

ABSTRACT ........................................................................ III

ABSTRAK .......................................................................... V

MOTTO ................................................................................. VI

DEDICATION ...................................................................... VII

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ...................................................... VIII

TABLE OF CONTENTS ................................................... x

LIST OF FIGURE .................................................................. XIV

LIST OF TABLE ................................................................... XV

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION .................................................. 1

1.1. The Background of Analysis ....................................... 1

1.2. Problem Statements .................................................. 3

1.3. Objectives of the Study .............................................. 4

1.4. Significances of Study ............................................... 4

1.5. Literature Review ..................................................... 5

1.6. Theoretical Approach ............................................... 6

1.6.1. Dynamic Structuralism .......................................... 6

1.7. Methodology of Research ......................................... 6

1.7.2. Data Source ......................................................... 8

1.7.3. Data Collection Technique .................................... 8
LIST OF FIGURE

Figure 1: Plot Stage of *To Kill a Mockingbird*  11
LIST OF TABLE

Table 1: The Factors of Evidences

30
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Background of Analysis

Literature is the part of human life and it has aesthetic sense that can be shown in writing even orally. As cited in *Oxford Dictionary* cited that literature is writing that are valued as works of art as well as. Wallek and Warren have said, literature is a creative activity in works of art (1977:3). Literature is one of way to explore the beautiful mind, hence, Wallek and Warren said that literature is imaginative work. In another word it calls fiction (1977: 14).

Novel is one of fiction prose. In European languages, the term novel is roman, which is derived from medieval term, the romance. The English name, is derived from Italian Language novella which was a short tale in prose (Abrams, 1971: 177).

Novel can be the way to express the imaginative thinks of the author. However, novel is not always about imagination. It can be the own experience of the author. One of the figures who uses the own experience is Harper Lee. She was born in Alabama. She is the one of best author in 1960s. She has written novel with title *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Moreover, she got the Pulitzer prize because of her bestseller novel. Her childhood is the inspiration to write her novel
when she lives in Alabama. *To Kill a Mockingbird* is the one and the only novel that she writes.

*To Kill a Mockingbird* is a bestseller novel. It talks about the social life in Alabama about 1930s. The story set in the middle of 19th century or in three years of Great Depression in Alabama. It was published in July 11, 1962. It becomes one and the only novel that Lee has been written before she published her second book in 2015. This novel become one of her big achievement, hence her novel got the Pulitzer Prize Winning in Literature.

Started from the life of two brothers name Jem and Scout, the story begins. They live in the small town called Maycomb. There, almost all of people know each other, because they life nearly one another. The life of Jem and Scout changes when their father Atticus Finch helps the black people. When their father helps the black people who is reputed as the scum of society person, the threatening starts coming from people around them. Moreover, when they got the problems, Scout learns the knowledge from the problems in her family. In this novel Lee uses the eight years old children named, Scout, to bring the story.

This novel is chosen to be analyzed because it is the great novel that has so many lessons about human right. This novel shows many conflicts about white and black people in America. Moreover, this novel becomes more interesting because the author uses eight years old girls as a point of view. A girl who should play with her friends, but here she must see how black people life with all they hardness.
Beside, in Islamic perspective, there is no different treatment between human, because human are same in front of the God. It has been written in holly Quran, Surah Al Hujarat verse 13:

يَََٰٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقۡنََٰكُم مِّن ذَكَرٖ وَأُنثَىَٰ وَجَعَلۡنََٰكُمۡ شُعُوبٗا وَقَبَآَٰئِلَ
لِتَعَارَفُوَٰٓا إِنَّ أَكۡرَمَكُمۡ عِندَ ٱللََِّّ أَتۡقَىَٰكُمْۡۚ إِنَّ ٱللَََّ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٞ

Which means: “O mankind! We created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes that you may know one another. Verily, the most honorable of you with Allah is that (believer) who has At-Taqwa [i.e. he is the one of Muttaqin]. Verily, Allah is All Knowing. Well Acquainted with all the things (Taqiudin, 2011 : 925)

1.2. Problem Statements

Considering, the background study above, the problems appear about the novel:

1. How is the black people life in society based on To Kill a Mockingbird?

2. What are the factors that give evidences about differences of treatment based on skin color?
1.3. Objectives of the Study

The objective of the study is aims of research that come between academic indicators which will be reach (Fuad, 2013: 28). The writer has two objectives of study, they are:

1. To describe the black people life in *To Kill a Mockingbird*

2. To describe the factors that become one of evidences about differences treatments based on skin color.

1.4. Significances of Study

The significance of study describes about the important thing of the research to linguistic or literature development in the future (Fuad, 2013: 29). There are two significances of study:

1. Theoretically, this paper can be one of reference and additional discussion about dynamic structuralism in a novel. It also can be one of references bout humanity in *To Kill a Mockingbird* include moral value that carried on the content of the story.

2. Practically, it can be used to understand the content of the work *To Kill a Mockingbird*. As represented in the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*, it can be used to teach about the differences between black and white people during Great Depression Era in 1930.
1.5. Literature Review

There are many literature reviews about *To Kill a Mockingbird* but the writer only uses two of them. Literature review present some related paper from the other students which have same topic or same work. The first related study is graduating paper entitled “A Study on The Influence of The Setting towards The main Character in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*” written by Ika Santi Anggi Balladona (2004) from Sanata Dharma University. It describes about the main character who related to the setting of the novel. It uses more than one theory. First, it uses Abrams’ theory and Stanton’s theory to analyze the character in the novel named Scout Finch with her description. It also uses Gisell and France’s theory and Hurlock’s theory to gain more knowledge in understanding the character and her behavior. Last, it uses Abrams’ and Kenney’s theory to analyze the setting in novel. It tries to analyze the setting of time, place, and social setting. In conclusion, this research states that the setting influences the main character. Scout Finch can understand the place where she lives, because Scout analyzes the setting with her psychology.

Second related study is graduating paper entitled “An Analysis of Prejudice in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*” written by Abrina Simanjuntak (2011) from South Sumatra University. It says that the characters of *To Kill a Mockingbird* are full of prejudice. Every character has their prejudice to social life in Maycomb City. This paper uses mimetic theory. Mimetic theory related to
human life. In conclusion, this research shows there are three prejudices related to all characters. There are racial prejudice, social class bias, and gender bias.

Differences from the literature review which are found, the writer focuses on the life problem of black people in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The writer analyzes the evidence of it.

### 1.6. Theoretical Approach

In a research, theory becomes one of important things to analyze and understand the problems. In addition, Nyoman states that theory is a tool to direct and help understand the object (Nyoman, 2004: 93). So that, the theory is an important tool to understand the literary works.

In doing the analysis, the writer uses dynamic structuralism to analyze the data.

#### 1.6.1. Dynamic Structuralism

Dynamic structuralism is a branch of the theory of structuralism. Structuralism looks the literary work just from the intrinsic elements. According to Teuw, structuralism is the theory that emphasizes to the autonomy of literary works itself (Teuw, 1983 via Pradopo, 1994: 3). Since, it has a weakness, Vodicka and Jan Mukarovsky develop dynamic structuralism as a branch of the structuralism. It shows that literary works not only of intrinsic element but of the historical background and the background of its author. They jointly developed a
dynamic structuralism, and said that a literary work can not be separated from the
communication, the fact semiotics, signs, structure and value (nyoman, 1994: 4).
In addition Mukarvsky states that a literary work can be influenced by the time
and background to the work (Eagleton, 1996: 144).

Jan mukarvsky is one of a formalist and he develops structuralism to the
dynamic structuralism. Because of To Kill a Mockingbird is a novel that has a
social inspiration from the author, it became a subject of the research which
attention to social humanity. Mukarovky states that society can and does exert
influence in the literary works (Mukarvsky, 1970: 101). Mukarvsky apply the
concept of aesthetic functionality, norms and values as social fact.

- **Aesthetic function.** It is the important agencies in human affairs and
  accompanies every human act. Moreover, it is anchored in social behavior
  (Mukarovsky, 1970: 95).

- **Aesthetic norm.** It is the regulation of aesthetic function. It is also
  incorporated into social evaluation, sometime indicating exclusive
  membership in given social milieu (Mukarovsky, 1970: 95).

- **Aesthetic Value.** It is basically a social phenomenon. It is not only the
  changeability of the real life aesthetic evaluation but also stability of the
  aesthetic value must be derived from contact between art and society
  (Mukarovsky, 1970: 96).

Moreover, Mukarovsky state that three of them above, is broadly
distributed over the entire area of human life (Mukarovsky, 1970: 96)
1.7. Methodology of Research

1.7.1. Type of Research

In this research the writer uses qualitative method. Qualitative method is concerned with qualitative phenomena which relating to or involving quality and kind (Khotari, 2004: 3).

1.7.2. Data Source

In this research, the main data is a novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

1.7.3. Data Collection Technique

The method that the writer uses is documentation. It uses a novel as a document and the dialogue, narration, and events become the form of the data. To analyze the data, the writer read the document. Here the steps to collect the data:

a. The writer reads the novel and finds the problems of black people life in *To Kill a Mockingbird*

b. Searching the event that related to black people life and the differences between white and black people.

c. Exploring the black people life and the differences based on skin color *To Kill a Mockingbird*. 
1.7.4. **Data Analysis Technique**

The writer uses descriptive analysis. The writer analysis the problems in *To Kill a Mockingbird* through the theory and also uses the theory to describe each event that is founded.

At the beginning of the research, the writer finds the life problem of black people. The writer explores the differences between black and white people. Then, it is classified based on the factors.

1.8. **Paper Organization**

To be the good paper, this paper consists of four chapters. Then, each chapter has sub-chapter which will describe several points. Chapter one consist eight sub-chapters. They are background of study, problem statement, objective of study, significance of study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research (type of research, data source, data collecting technique, data analysis technique), and paper organization. Chapter two describes intrinsic and extrinsic elements of the object. Chapter three is the analysis. It describes the data of analysis. It describes the life about black people life and the evidences of differences. Chapter four is conclusion and suggestion.
CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1. Conclusion

In this chapter, the writer has two conclusion from her analyzes about black people and white people in the novel To Kill a Mockingbird. The first, black people are ignored from society. They live in the city and far from the central city. They also are refused by white people. White people refuse in every part of black people. They ban black people to come in their zone, as school and a church. Moreover, the white people who have black blood also have been refused. In addition, they give the rude treatments for black people.

The second is about four factors that become evidences of differences of black people live. The writer found economic, education, religious and law as the evidences. Economic factor emphasize the occupation of black people, there are a slave, a garbage collector, and a driver. Education factor mentions about black people who do not go to school and cannot read. The religion factor is shows how black people are doing bad activities in the black people church. Last is law where black people have no power to win, even they have a good lawyer.
4.2. Suggestion

From this paper, the writer suggest to the readers who want to analysis using dynamic structuralism theories needed to know about the background history of the author either the literary works that related to the novel. The advantages using two theories above, we not only take the massages but also know about the historical background of the literary works.

Another suggestion for the reader, if you want analysis about To Kill a Mockingbird, you can explore more about the intrinsic elements. Moral value is also important to be explored.
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