

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **A. The Background of the Study**

The social background may be littered with religion, ethnicity, race, culture, status, economic, and others. That background generally created an unavoidable conflict. Conflict is a component of human life and perpetually happens in a society caused by inequalities among the community or a unique concept. The problems caused by this social conflict have resulted in the emergence of "racism", namely the existence of groupings and differences intolerance based on the backgrounds brought by each person, even it has become a nature of humans to classify themselves by their standard of class.

The formation of racism causes Discrimination between teams that drives the emergence of the latest social ideas and values. Discrimination is defined as a violation of the fundamental principle that each person should be treated equally in equal status. Summarized from Craig (2005), discrimination is divided into four components: 1) the individual or group is treated differently between the victim and the comparator, 2) the difference may be detrimental to a particular racial individual or group, 3) the difference between treatment and effect is causally related to the characteristics of the individual or racial group protected by the anti-discrimination laws, and 4) no exceptions or justifications are permitted for such actions.

A person with a second-generation non-western background have the highest level of perceived discrimination. However, among ethnic minorities with native experience and citizenship, there is a high percentage of perceived

membership in discrimination target teams. This unavoidable contact between various groups of crimes and discrimination, beginning with robbery, humiliation, sexual harassment, trafficking, and murder, has finally emerged as a result of racism.

Ethnic countries, as well as the United States, have been dealing with it for decades. "Once someone of the black race has decided to become one of the blacks in American society means that he or she must always be prepared to face anti-black action by white people, in many places and at many times for an indeterminate amount of time. Being black means experiencing various forms of racial discrimination from birth to death" (Feagin 2010:187). This unavoidable contact between various groups of crimes and discrimination, beginning with robbery, humiliation, sexual harassment, trafficking, and murder, has finally emerged as a result of racism. The delivery of messages relating to problems in society, including the issue of racism, can not solely be sent through numerous news, each in print and electronic media, however also can be conveyed through films.

Harriet 2019 is a biographical work based on the real history of a woman named Harriet Tubman in 1871 from slavery in America. Harriet Tubman is a single figure of the slavery abolition movement. Tubman herself was a slave who escaped detention in Maryland and made at least 19 trips to free many slaves. This movie mainly tells about the struggle of a woman's first mission to help other slaves escape from the place of bondage. It reveals Harriet Tubman, a slave in the 19th century who is known for his heroic story. Harriet managed to help about 70 slaves to escape in the years before the civil war in the United States. This film shows several incidents of racism associated contain a background story concerning the clashes

that occurred. One event will result in another event that may have consequences for the characters within the film, and zip can stop it.

The movie tells about the struggle of Harriet's own life as the main character that experienced a bad condition as a slave, which causes discrimination feeling in her town. Slightly different from previous research on race caused by gender discrimination, Harriet experienced the case due to the bad experiences, and she had been mistreated for her family and herself for a long time by the white race.

*Harriet: Slavery is still alive. Those rice fields downriver are feeding Rebel troops, with the toil of a thousand slaves still in bondage. Our mission is to free those slaves. We've waited years to be allowed to fight in this war against our enslavement. And it will not be won without us! Now is our time! Are you ready to kill the snake?.*

The disregard for discrimination continued until she became a fighter for her people. This discrimination happened not just once, it was repeatedly in other situations even affecting her life. She felt depressed with that condition, and then she decided to go to Philadelphia to find Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery society, to freeing his people from slavery. This uses the racial discrimination theory by Gordon Allport to describe the history behind discrimination then, to analyze the kinds of discrimination.

This research investigates the causes of racial and analyzes how discrimination in America has reflected in the movie entitled Harriet. This film based on a real tragedy, and the researcher wants to deeply examine the conflicts of racism that have occurred and are still emerging in the present era. Instruct the readers about various issues and conflicts typical to *Afro-Americans*.

## **B. The Problems of the Study**

Based on the explanation on the background above, this research will answer the following questions:

- 1 What are the kinds of discrimination experienced by the characters in *Harriet* movie?
- 2 How are the characters fight against the discrimination as represented in *Harriet* movie?
- 3 Why are the racial discrimination reflected in *Harriet* movie?

## **C. The Objectives of the Study**

With the background of the problems of the study above, the objectives of this study are formulated:

1. To find out the kinds of racial discrimination as depicted in *Harriet* movie.
2. To find out how the characters fight against the discrimination
3. To find out why racial discrimination reflected in *Harriet* movie.

## **D. The Scope of the Study**

The scope of the research focused on the subject of Afro-American discrimination in *Harriet* movie script. The discrimination will analyze from the utterances spoken by all characters in the movie. *Harriet* was a movie by Kasi Lemmons in 2019 and contained 112 pages of the movie script. The researcher used the discrimination theory by Gordon Allport (1954) to found the types of discrimination used in the utterances of the movie.

### **E. The Significances of the Study**

In this study, the researcher would like to find out racial Discrimination as seen in *Harriet* movie. The researcher takes the data from *Harriet* movie script. Practically, this research expected to be useful for readers, students, and researchers as they can obtain some information about the racialism in society based on *Harriet* movie background, and it's expected to be useful to other researchers, the result can be referenced for them to make a further study.

