

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

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

Literature is one of the sources or references used in education. (Meyer, 2018) said as cited in (Sopiansyah & Inayah, 2021) literature is a term used to describe written texts characterized by careful use of language, including features such as creative metaphors, beautiful phrase, elegant syntax, rhymes, and aesthetic alliterations. This means that a literary work is an expression that concludes and puts meaning into language in which there are features such as creative metaphors, rhymes and others. The expression is poured in the form of a story and expressed through language orally and in writing so as to produce a work in the form of literature. Literary works can be divided into two parts, namely fiction, and non-fiction. Fictional forms can usually be seen in prose, poetry, films, and plays. Meanwhile, non-fiction forms can be seen in biographies, autobiographies, essays, and others. The meanings and messages contained in literary works such as prose and poetry can also be depicted in the form of movie.

The movie is a visual audio communication medium to convey a message to a group of people who gather in a certain place. Movie is an art form that becomes a phenomenon and has its own charm for society. Movie can be a means of conveying messages which of course have a big impact on society. Anita L. Cloete (2017) movie combines of three powerful elements, namely image, story and sound to give context and meaning to the story being told. In conveying messages to the audience, movie is an appropriate tool with these three elements. It will be very easy for a story in the movie to describe whether the movie depicts love, peace,

violence, death and others. Movie can also describe events/ phenomena that often occur. Social phenomena that occur in society such as forms of violence or discrimination such as stereotype.

Stereotype is a prejudice that arises based on someone's judgment or other people's assumptions based on the characteristics of their behavior. David Marx and Sei Jin Ko (2019) said stereotypes are widely held generalized beliefs about the behaviors and attributes possessed by individuals from certain social groups (ex, race/ethnicity, sex, age, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation). Stereotype are usually as justification for a prejudice which is usually negative, that is owned by each individual or a group. Usually, this can happen to individuals with individuals, individuals with groups, or groups with groups or cultures that are different from those of the group itself. This can be caused by the many kinds of problems that exist in society, giving rise to perspectives that include both positive and negative things.

The story in this movie tells of two friendly women of mixed race in the midst of life in 1920s America. This story begins when two people meet again after a long time of absence. But it was that encounter that sparked an exploration of black obsession, racial identity, and perceptions. The form of stereotypes conveyed in the *Passing* movie is also described in the form of actions taken by white people against black people because of their prejudice and hatred towards that group. The focus of this research is to reveal stereotyped images through various scenes and dialogues in the *Passing* movie.

The reason why this research was carried out because the writer feels interested in researching and showing stereotype depictions in the movie, so that

the writer can categorize them based to theory. This movie was chosen as a data for research because there is language that contains stereotypes and some discriminatory acts that occur in it. For example in the words Very white, very religious in data which illustrate that the white group looks cleaner and more religious. Although not necessarily everything will be the same as that. This is an interesting to study so that things about stereotypes can be accepted and studied so that readers also know the forms of these stereotype.

Social problems such as stereotypes are presented in the form of movies, especially Hollywood movies with various different genres. Research on stereotypes in movies is something new. This research is a form of enthusiasm to eliminate discrimination about stereotypes between white people and black people. This is a sort of black people's resistance against white people in essence, it is a community rejection of the problem of treatment, especially against discrimination, especially regarding stereotypes.

From the various studies conducted, this study examines the study of issues that are similar to the issue of discriminant. In this study, there are two focuses in solving the problem. The first is to discuss things that indicate the existence of stereotypical patterns, (Brand and Reyna, 2011) seen in this study, namely internal/ controllable/ stable, internal/ uncontrollable/ stable, and external/ uncontrollable/ stable. Brand and Reyna explain that this model will clarify the role of stereotypes as explanatory agents and rationalization and the impact of stereotypes in the Passing movie. The second is to focus on the form of resistance carried out in the film. According to King 2010, there are three forms of resistance, namely acquiescence, violence and non-violence.

In this study regarding stereotypes in the *Passing* movie, the author found data that served as a reference for conducting this research based on the theory Brand and Reyna, 2011 regarding three patterns of stereotypes. Can be seen in the dialog and image below:



Picture 1

- Irene** : What have you told him... about your family?
- Clare** : You know, I haven't had to worry about it as much as you'd think. There were my Aunts you see, who took me in after father died and gave me a home of sorts. **Very white. Very respectable. Very religious.** I met John not long after and as soon as I turned eighteen and legal we got married and well... went off and left for good.
- Irene** : And, you're happy?
- Clare** : Of course 'Rene. As you say, I have everything I ever wanted.

The first meeting between Clare and Irene in a restaurant in Manhattan made them feel curious about their respective lives. Irene tells her life story that remains as a black person. Clare also told him that he lived as a resident of White People so that it fostered many questions in Irene, why did Clare do that. Initially Clare felt life as White People was a good thing for his future. He felt that life as White People was very special and more appreciated by others. Based on the picture and dialogue above, one of the main assumptions about the white way of life. The dialogue describes that Clare as a white person has the notion that white people's lives are viewed with cleanliness, religion, and that is what makes Clare dare to enter into the white community even though in his statement Clare feels afraid. This is one form of stereotype that is done in this movie. This dialogue contains stereotypes, especially in the sentence "Very white. Very respectable. Very religious." this

sentence was conveyed by the character, to describe how the characteristics of white people. According to theory Brand and Reyna, 2011 the sentence falls into the internal/controllable/stable stereotype model. Because this pattern is under the control of the will of the individual who is stereotyped. This statement is included in a model that leads to stereotypes of traits that describe white people. The form of resistance carried out by Irene is also acquiescence, because Irene only questions whether Clare is happy or not. Irene just let this happen to her friend.

The stereotyped actions in the script for “Passing (2021)” cannot be separated from social conditions that exist in all corners of the world. From the past until now, prejudice against someone is still common. Therefore, research on stereotypes, especially in America itself, is poured and retold in the movie script Passing. This story is lifted to highlight a situation where conflict will limit the scope for people to love each other. This is also to remind us that differences in skin color are not something that makes us prejudiced arbitrarily.

## **B. Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the background of the problem above, the writer makes the formulation of the problem are arranged as follows:

1. What of stereotypes pattern can be found in the movie Passing?
2. How do the characters response the stereotypes that is aimed at them in the movie Passing?
3. Why do the characters in the movie Passing movie conform to stereotypes?

### **C. Purpose of the Problem**

The purposes of this research are out of pattern stereotype analysis appeared in *Passing* movie.

1. To investigate pattern stereotype analysis appeared in *Passing* movie.
2. To describe how characters response the stereotypes that is aimed at them in the movie *Passing*.
3. To explain the reasons characters in the movie *Passing* conform to stereotypes.

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

In this research, the writer limited the analysis and focused on the stereotypes that existed in the movie "*Passing*." In this movie, there were two main characters who had very different lives. Within this difference, stereotypes emerged that gave rise to racism, as portrayed in Rebecca Hall's "*Passing*."

### **E. Significance of the Study**

The findings of the study were expected to be useful both theoretically and practically:

#### **1. Theoretical Significance**

The findings in this study are expected to provide knowledge and become a source of information regarding the development of literary studies, especially regarding stereotypes. The findings of this study are expected to provide readers with an understanding of stereotype and fill in the gaps left by previous researchers.

## 2. Practical Significance

The findings in this study are expected to encourage readers to produce new findings regarding literary research, especially regarding of stereotype.

