

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

Through a comprehensive examination of all four episodes of the mini-series, the writer concludes that *When They See Us* is a powerful depiction of the structural injustices and biases present in the American criminal justice system via the eyes of the Central Park Five. It exemplifies how institutional racism may have profound negative impacts on marginalized people if kept unchecked and unchanged. The institutional racism and legal injustice depicted in the mini-series, such as racial profiling, forced confessions, lack of evidence, and false convictions, expose the inadequacies in legal systems that disproportionately affect people of color.

The mini-series exposes the severe and long-term impacts of institutional racism and legal injustice on the lives of the Central Park Five and their families. The show also emphasizes the psychological and emotional costs of incarceration as the stigma ex-convicts in the eyes of society and the difficulties of readjusting to a world that has changed irrevocably. It also encourages the audience to recognize that the impacts of institutional racism and legal injustice toward the Central Park Five are not just terrible incidents but rather illustrate the broader systemic issues that require comprehensive reforms to justice and equality and raising awareness of the need for changes in American criminal justice system to achieve fairness for all individuals, regardless of their race and ethnicity.

When They See Us further illustrates the intertwining relationship between legal injustice and institutional racism portrayed and broken down in several instances. The portrayal of how institutional racism has a significant impact on the unfair treatment during the process of arrest and interrogation of the Central Park Five in which based

on racial profiling, resulting in biased investigations that involve manipulations such as forcing them to make false statements, physical abuse, the use of racial slurs, and the absence of basic protection in law whereas these boys were being interrogated without the presence of their parents or guardians, all of which illustrate the inadequacy of the police as an institution that is expected to dispense fair justice, regardless of the race of the individuals they serve.