



**DISCRIMINATION PICTURED IN *THE HELP* MOVIE (2011)
DIRECTED BY TATE TAYLOR.**

A THESIS

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The writer honestly confirms that she compiles this thesis entitled “Discrimination Pictured in *The Help* Movie (2011) Directed by Tate Taylor” by herself and without taking any results from other researchers in S-1, S-2, S-3 and in diploma degree of any university. The writer ascertains also that she does not quote any material from other publications or someone’s paper except from the references mentioned.

Semarang, October 2020

Nur Ika Cahyaningrum

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“A little progress each day adds up to big result”

- **Nur Ika Cahyaningrum**

“Don’t quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion”

- **Muhammad Ali**

“I am not in competition with anyone but myself. My goal is to improve myself continuously”

- **Bill Gates**

*I, from the deepest of my heart, dedicated
this Thesis to my beloved family, who
always support me and my friends, who
always encourage me and colored my
days as long as my college life.*

APPROVAL

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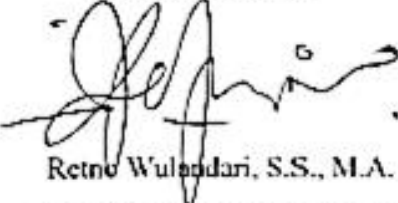
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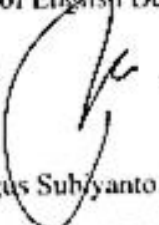
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ABSTRACT

The Help (2011), a film by Tate Taylor, is an adaptation of a novel of the same name by Katryne Stockett. This film tells the story of Black women who work for white people. The purpose of this study is to show the racial discrimination that occurs in *The Help* movie. This paper also shows that social class and racial identity can be a factor of discrimination. The writer uses the theory of discrimination, social class, and intrinsic and extrinsic theory to support this study. In analyzing the thesis, the writer uses library research methods and supporting sources such as books, journals, e-books, and website articles. Through this study, the writer get results about existence of discrimination against Black maids in *The Help* movie and how black maids dare to express what they have experienced when working with the Whites.

Keywords: Discrimination, Social Class, Black Maids, *The Help*

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

There are various perspectives when it comes to defining discrimination. The term “discrimination” is used to signify a different thing. The word “discrimination”, is derived from the Latin noun “*discriminatus*” and the Latin verb “*discriminare*” means “shouts against offenses or wrong doing that may not be clearly defined in law” (Virgil A and W. August Low, 1981:535). Meanwhile, according to Skinner, “Discrimination is a behavioral process: the contingencies, not the mind, make discriminations” (Skinner, 1974: 105). Discrimination is prejudicial treatment against someone or group from superior group to the inferior based on the aspects such as race, gender, age, or sexual orientation.

When explaining discrimination, it is still related to race because discrimination can occur due to racial discrimination. According to Cornell and Hartmann, ‘race’ is distinct from ‘ethnicity.’ In the case of race, a significant distinction is an assumption of a biological. Races are characterized by a general perceived physical characteristics, which are assumed to be fixed. At the same time, ethnicities are defined by perceived common ancestry, history, and cultural practices, which are viewed as more dynamic and self-affirmed than assigned by others (Cornell and Hartmann, 2006).

In short, the race is distinct from ethnicity while racism itself comes from differentiation based on race. Racism is actually “an ideology of racial domination.” (Clair & Denis, 2015:14), which is a superior race, used to justify discrimination by inferior treatment for other social racial. The racialization process that is usually from physical differences such as skin color or eye color is typically used to differentiate the group and make different treatment for some racial groups. Racism is a global hierarchy of superiority and inferiority along human lines produced and reproduced politically, culturally, and economically by the nation’s institutions for the centuries of the “capitalist/patriarchal western-centric/Christian-centric modern/colonial world-system” (Grosfoguel, 2015:10).

Another factor that can support discrimination is social class. According to Wright, the social class often sees a relational concept, in which classes are defined and ranked relative to one another. A focus on the objective social class requires a direct determination of a person’s social class, which based on the socioeconomic variables (Hoover & Kim, 2016:2). The main variables are income, education, and occupation (Hoover & Kim, 2016:3). Sometimes, researchers use one of these variables to measure social class, and sometimes two or all three of these variables are combined to measure social class. Based on Warner, W. L., & Lunt, P. S. (1941) classify the limits of social class into the four social classes such as the upper class, the middle class, the working-class, and the lower class.

The movie tells a young white woman who is an inspiring journalist, Eugenia “Skeeter” Phelan. The story focuses on her relationship between the two

black maids, Aibileen Clark and Minny Jackson, during the Civil Rights Movement in 1963, Jackson, Mississippi. Eugenia “Skeeter” Phelan wants to be a journalist and writer, so she decides to write a book from the maids’ point of view. In this book, Eugenia “Skeeter” Phelan exposes the discrimination faced by black maids when they work for white families. In America, around the 1960s, Black domestic workers were referred to as “the help”.

The help movie has a background setting in the 1960s. In 1963, a civil rights activist named Medgar Evers. An activist who wants ended segregation schools between white and black people. However, his attempt was rejected in 1954 by the decision of the Brown V Supreme Court. Because Medgar Evers himself wanted to enter the Faculty of Law at Mississippi University, his unsuccessful attempts to integrate the oldest institution in Mississippi received the attention of the national office of the NACCP (National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People). Evers decided to move to Jackson and became the NACCP's first state field secretary in Mississippi. Evers also recruited members across Mississippi and organized voter registrations, demonstration and boycotts of white-owned companies that practiced discrimination. Evers movement made him the visible civil rights leader in this state of Mississippi. As a result, his family and himself often received threats and acts of violence. Medgar Evers was killed on his way home in Jackson by Byron De La Beckwith and brought national attention.

The writer wants to analyze discrimination against black maids in *The Help* movie. At the beginning of the 1960s in Jackson, Mississippi *The Help*

movie tells about the differentiation between the black maids and the white family. The writer is interested in *The Help* movie because the movie can show real discrimination in the beginning 1960s in Jackson, Mississippi. Beside the discrimination that show in the movie, there is also social class that shows from the white family. The meaning from the real discrimination in the movie is about the segregation between whites and blacks especially black maids that exist at that time in Jackson, Mississippi. At that time, Jim Crow laws still used in that moment, laws that segregated people by race in restrooms, hotels, restaurants, and most other public accommodation.

1.2 Research Problem

The problems of this study are going to be one primary analysis, analysis of discrimination shown in the movie and the intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements to prove about the discrimination in *The Help* Movie.

The followings are the formulation of research problems:

1. What factors cause discrimination against black maids in *The Help* movie?
2. What makes black maids brave to show the racial discrimination that happens in *The Help* movie?

1.3 Scope of the Study

The scope of this study is to analyze discrimination pictured in *The Help* Movie (2011). To improve this analysis, the writer is also analyzing the intrinsic and the extrinsic elements. The intrinsic elements are the character, conflict, and setting, while the extrinsic elements are about the factors that support discrimination

against black maids and why black maids speak up about discrimination that they face in *The Help* movie.

1.4 Purpose of the Study

The purposes of this study are:

1. To analyze the factors that causes discrimination against black maids in *The Help Movie*.
2. To analyze the reasons of why the Black maids fight the discrimination against white people in *The Help Movie*.

1.5 Method of the Study

1.5.1 Method of Research

In this study, the method of research applies library research to collect the data and information which will support of this research. According to Zeid (2004: 1), library research is “a literature search while utilizing library resources to obtain research data”. It means that library research collect the data from the library data collection by reading and recording and only on library collection materials without using the field research. Meanwhile there is another meaning of library research.

According to George (2008:1) states that: Library research is not a mystery or a lucky dodge, but an investigation you control from start to finish, even though you cannot usually tell what sources you will discover. On other side, library research is a form of structured inquiry with specific tools, rules, and techniques”.

The primary data source in the research is *The Help Movie* directed by Tate Taylor. Then for the secondary data conducts from other sources, such as books, journals, e-books, and website articles.

1.5.2 Method of Approach

The writer used two method of approach to analyze this thesis. The writer will analyze intrinsic aspects and extrinsic aspects of this movie. The intrinsic aspect is divided into two elements; there are narrative elements and cinematography elements. The writer uses objective approach to analyze the intrinsic element.

According Abrams in *A Glossary of Literary Term*:

“Objective criticism deals with a work of literature as something which stands free from what is often called “extrinsic” relations to the poet, or to the audience, or to the envioning world. Instead it describes the literary product as a self-sufficient and auotonomoud object, or else as a world-in-itself, which is to be contemplated as its own end, and to be analyzed and judged solely by “intrinsic” criteria such as its complexity, coherence, equilibrium, integrity, and the interrelations of its component elements.” (2008:52).

Meanwhile, the writer will analyze the act of main characters using sociological approach through a study of work to analyze the relationship between literary work and society. According to X.J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia, “sociological approach examines literature in the cultural, economic and political context in which it is written or received” (1995: 1790-1818). The writer uses sociological approach of literature in this study because it is related to social problems.

1.6 Previous Studies

The previous studies of the research are *Racial Discrimination reflected in Tate Taylor’s The Help Movie (2011): A Sociological Approach* by Nurindah Khusnul Khotimah. From the previous studies, the objectives of the study are to analyze the movie based on its structural elements and to analyze the movie based on the sociological analysis. In the previous studies, the writer writes about racial

discrimination reflected in *The Help* Movie with a sociological approach. Another previous studies which is used in the research is *The Representation of Racial Discrimination in The Help Novel by Kathryn Stockett* by Maya Danastri Suastifa.

From the another one of previous studies analyze about the representation of racial discrimination from the character in *The Help Novel* are Aibileen and Minny Jackson. The writer is also using the theory of representation of Stuart Hall to explain about the racial discrimination. From the theory we know about the various kinds of Racial Discrimination. Beside using theory about racial discrimination, the writer is using the theory of intrinsic and extrinsic aspect.

1.7 Organization of the Writing

I. Introduction

The first chapter of this study consists of the Background of the Study, Research Problems, Objective of the Study, Scope of the Study, Method of the Study, and Organization of the Writing.

II. Literature Review

The second chapter of this study consists of Tate Taylor's biography and the synopsis of *The Help* movie that will be analyzed by the Writer.

III. Theoretical Framework

The third chapter of this study consists of the theories that are used by the writer, which are discrimination theories, social class theories, intrinsic theories, and extrinsic theories.

IV. Discussion

The fourth chapter of this study consists of the discussion of the movie not only from intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements but also from discrimination and social class.

V. Conclusion

The last chapter of this study consists of a conclusion from the discussion of the movie.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Synopsis of *The Help* Movie

The Help is adapted by the same Kathryn Stockket novel, which entitled *The Help*. This movie tells the story of a white journalist named Eugenia Skeeter Phelan and the black maids. In this movie, we can see the difference between white people and black maids, especially when there was a rule about differentiating the bathroom between black maids and white people. In the 1960s, the treatment for black people is unfair.

Eugenia Phelan, usually called Skeeter, is a young woman who has just returned home after successfully graduating from the University of Mississippi. She has ambitions to develop her career as a writer, while her current job is a columnist for "housewives guidance" columns in a local newspaper. Because of this job, she asked Aibileen, a black maid who spends his life raising white children to answer domestic work questions.

One of Skeeter's friends, Hilly Holbrook, who is trying to submit a bill regulating that the blacks and whites bathrooms should be separated. This regulation makes Skeeter uncomfortable, and decided to write a book based on the real-life of black maids. At first black maids are reluctant to talk to Skeeter about how white people treat them and how they feel working with white people because they are afraid of losing their jobs. Aibileen is the first person to dare to share her stories. One of Aibileen's friends who is working at Hilly's house,

Minnie just got fired by Hilly. Minnie Jackson is a black maid who likes to talk frankly and seems to be outspoken and tends to be rude, which makes her being fired repeatedly. Minnie initially refused to participate but later agree to share her story as well.

Skeeter then compiles a draft of the writing, which include stories from Aibileen and Minnie. After that, Skeeter send a draft of writing to Miss Stein, an editor in New York. Miss Stein feels interest with the story, which is written by Skeeter and argued that this book would be worthy if there are at least a dozen black maids who contributed to these books. Miss Stein also request that Skeeter have to finish her book immediately because the political situation would be more supportive. Nevertheless, black maids are afraid and do not want to take a risk of telling stories about what they are feeling and doing.

Until there is news emerged of the murder of Medgar Evers in Jackson, Mississippi. From the news, the conditions of racial tensions has increased. The condition in Jackson made the black maids realize that Skeeter's book will give them an opportunity to speak and be heard by the environment. Starting from that, Skeeter gets many stories that come in for her book immediately. Finally, the book is published, and the black maids feel very pleased. Skeeter also share the royalties with each of the black maids who contribute and she gets a job offer at a publishing company in New York.

2.2 Short Biography of Tate Taylor

Tate Taylor was born on June 3rd 1969 in Jackson Mississippi is an American actor and movie maker based on Internet Movie Database accessed on December 17th 2020< <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0853238/#actor>>. He is best known for directing *The Help* (2011), *Get on Up* (2014), and *The Girl on the Train* (2016) (informationcradle.com; editor; 2020 ; <https://informationcradle.com/tate-taylor>). Accidentally, he attended the same preschool in Jackson as writer Kathrynne Stockett. Taylor has worked in New York City and Los Angeles for 15 years.

When he directed the movie *The Help* (2011), based on Stockett's novel *The Help*, Taylor has an outstanding achievement because of the movie. In June 2008, before the book was published, she gave him the right to make the movie adaptation. Despite generally receiving positive reviews, the movie has been a huge commercial success, earning more than \$200 million worldwide and has been nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture.

Tate Taylor has been nominated and has won industry awards including the Vail Movie Festival Vanguard Award, the 2012 BAFTA Best Adapted Screenplay nomination, the 2012 Writer's Guild of America Best Adapted Screenplay, the 2012 Critics Choice Award nomination, the 2012 Outstanding Directing, and Outstanding Writing Award nomination, the 2011 Chicago Film Critics Association. (Despotakis, Costas. 2019. Tate Taylor trivia: 34 facts about the famous director!. <<https://www.uselessdaily.com/movies/tate-taylor-trivial-34-facts-about-the-famous-director/>>).

CHAPTER 3

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

There are two aspects in literary works; they are intrinsic aspects and extrinsic aspects. In analyzing a movie, the intrinsic aspect is divided into two elements; there are narrative elements and cinematography elements.

3.1 Intrinsic Aspects

3.1.1 Narrative Elements

Narrative element is still connected with intrinsic elements. Narrative elements is a functional part of a story, such as a theme, character, setting, dialogue, and conflict (Norton et al., Abrams.M.H, 1957:173). Therefore, the writer will explain below the narrative elements seen in *The Help* movie.

3.1.1.1 Theme

According to Abrams, theme is:

Sometimes used interchangeably with “motif,” but the term is more useful for general concepts or doctrines, either implied or explicit. An imaginative work design to include and make it persuasive for the reader.(Norton et al., Abrams.M.H, 1957:170).

From the explanation above, theme is the main idea story of the movie that can persuasive to the viewer so that the movie will be interesting. In other words, theme can consider the topic of the story in general.

3.1.1.2 Characters

Characters play an essential role in the story. According to Abrams, character is:

The persons represent a dramatic or narrative work, who is interpreted by the reader to have a particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities through the inference of what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it in the dialogue and from what they do the action. (Abrams,M.H, 2009:42).

Meanwhile, Hugh Holman states that characters could be classified into major and minor characters. A major character is a character with a three-dimensional treatment. A character who plays an essential role in the story and has complex personality traits. Major characters is usually called main characters, who is the center of the main plot and story conflict. Mostly, dialogue and intuitive thinking have taken place. Different from the main characters, a minor character have two-dimensional character and a single character. A Minor character exists to support the main characters but does not have less influence on the story (1960:81). From the explanation above, characters present the main idea of the story through the dialogue, action, conflict, and gesture.

3.1.1.3 Setting

The setting is one of the crucial elements of the story. Setting can be explained as a background of the story such as time, place, and social background based on Abrams' statement in *A Glossary of Literature* (1999:284). Meanwhile, the setting is divided into three types such are setting of time, setting of place, and setting of social background.

3.1.1.3.1 Setting of Time

According to Holman setting of time is the time or period in which the action takes place and shows the exact time of the story (1960:453). The setting of time also explains the current time that appears in the story.

3.1.1.3.2 Setting of Place

Holman states that the setting of a place is the actual geographical location, it is topography, scenery, and such physical arrangements as the location of the story (1960:453). The setting of place usually indicates where the story takes place.

3.1.1.3.3 Setting of Social Background

Holman in *A Handbook to Literature* states that the setting of social background is the general environment of the characters, religious, mental, moral, social, and emotional conditions through the people within the narrative form (1960:453).

3.1.1.4 Conflict

Conflict is an aspect of narrative elements. Conflict can explain the struggle of the main characters. According to Holman conflict is:

The struggle grows out of the interplay of two opposing forces in a plot. It is the conflict that provides the elements of interest and suspense in any form of fiction, drama, novel, short story, or film. The term conflict not only implies the struggle of a protagonist against someone or something, but it implies the existence of some motivation for the conflict or some goal to be achieved by it. Conflict is the raw material out of which the plot is constructed. (1960:105)

3.1.2 Cinematography Elements

Cinematography is still connecting with taking a picture of the movie.

Cinematography is

from the Greek roots meaning “writing with motion.” At its heart, filmmaking is shooting — but the cinematography is more than the mere act of photography. It is the process of taking ideas, words, actions, emotional subtext, tone, and all other forms of nonverbal communication and *rendering them in visual terms.*(Brown, 2016:2)

Cinematography divided into 2 aspects, such are shots and audio. From the two aspects, there still can be explained about some elements are camera distance, camera movement, camera angle, mise-en-scene, and sound.

3.1.2.1 Shots

A Shot is taking pictures continuously with one camera without interruption to making a film. Another definition of shots based on Mascelli in *The Five C's of Cinematography* is a continuous view filmed by one camera without interruption (1965:13).

3.1.2.1.1 Camera Distance

According to Bordwell and Thompson in *Film Art an Introduction*, camera distance is about framing a figure places at a particular distance (2010:356).

Camera distance is also divided into an extreme long shot, long shot, medium-long shot, medium shot, close-up, medium close-up, and extreme close-up.

1. Extreme Long Shot

An Extreme Long Shot is also known as an extreme wide shot because of extreme long shot covering a wide area. Bordwell & Thompson states that

“This is the framing for landscapes, bird’s-eye views of cities, and other vistas” (2008:191). The explanation above shows the subject from a distance, or the area in which the scene is taking place.

2. Long Shot

Bordwell & Thompson states that “In the long shot, figures are more prominent, but the background still dominates” (2008:191). Long shot frames the whole figure of the subject from the head to the toes. Even the long shot’s focus is the subject, but the environment is also visible.

3. Medium Long Shot

A medium long shot is known as a three-quarters shot because of it frames the whole subject from the knees up. Bordwell & Thompson in *Film Art: An Introduction* states that “Shots in which the human figure is framed from about the knees up are called medium long shot” (2008:191).

4. Medium Shot

Bordwell & Thompson states that “The medium shot frames the human body from the waist up. Gesture and expression now become more visible” (2008:191). The explanation above, medium shot is also known as the waist shot because it frames the subject from the waist up.

5. Medium Close-up

Medium close-up frames a subject’s head and cuts off the around mid-chest and the focus are on the subject. According to Bordwell & Thompson, “The medium close-up frames the body from the chest up” (2008:191).

6. Close-up

Based on Bordwell & Thompson “The close-up is traditionally the shot showing just the head, hands, feet, or a small object. It emphasizes facial expressions, the details of a gesture, or a significant object” (2008:191). Close-up’s subject fills almost the entire frame because showing just the entire body.

7. Extreme Close-up

According to Bordwell & Thompson, “The extreme close-up singles out a portion of the face (often eyes or lips) or isolates and magnifies an object” (2008:191). The subject fills almost the entire frame in the shot and frames a subject’s face and cuts off mid-neck to show the face and entire head.

3.1.2.1.2 Camera Angle

The camera angle is about a high-low of shot where the frame is positioned. According to Bordwell & Thompson, camera angle is “The frame positions at some angle looking onto the shot’s mise-en-scene and also the number of such angles is infinite, since the camera might be placed anywhere” (2008:190). Camera angle can be classified into three categories, such are high angle, low angle, and straight-on angle.

1. High Angle

According to Bordwell & Thompson in *Film Art: An Introduction*, “The high-angle positions us looking down at the material within the frame” (2008:190). A high-angle shot is usually shot from above.

2. Straight-on Angle

Straight-on angle is the most commonly used camera angle in the cinematography of the movie. Based on Bordwell & Thompson, “The straight-on angle is the most common”. From the explanation above, the straight-on angle is most commonly used because the scene recorded object from eye-level of the viewer of the viewer average height.

3. Low Angle

Bordwell & Thompson in *Film Art: An Introduction* (2008:190) states that “The low-angle framing positions us as looking up at the framed materials”. Low-angle, where the camera points upward from below so that make people and something look big.

3.1.2.2 Mise-En-Scene

Mise-en-scene is one of the essential things in film making. Mise-en-scene can be explained as “mise-en-scene include those aspects of the film that overlap with the art of the theater, setting, lighting, costume, and the behavior of the figures” based on Bordwell & Thompson in *Film Art: An Introduction* (2008:112).

3.1.2.3 Sound

Bordwell & Thompson states that “Film sound constantly manipulates volume” (2008:467). Sound can be explained as dialogue or narration, music, and sound effect based on Mascelli in *The Five C's of Cinematography* (1965:67).

1. Dialogue

According to Holman, dialogue is “Conversation of two or more people as reproduced in writing and most commonly used in fiction particularly in drama, novels, and short stories” (1960:139).

2. Music

Music simplify identification when a different location is shown without need of titles based on Mascelli (1965:144).

3. Sound Effect

According to Bordwell & Thompson, sound effect builds the sound of body movement, such as walking (2010:67)

3.2 Extrinsic Aspects

A movie not only containing intrinsic aspect but also extrinsic aspects. Extrinsic aspects usually still connected with the movie. It can be a theory to analyze the movie that still related. Meanwhile, the writer chooses discrimination and social class theories to analyze the movie.

3.2.1 Discrimination

In *The Help* movie, discrimination is one of the topics shown in the film. The term “discrimination” is used to signify a different things. The word “discrimination”, is derived from the Latin noun “discriminatus” and the Latin verb “discriminare” means “a cry out against an offense or wrong doing that may not clearly defined in law” (Virgil A and W. August Low, 1981:535). Discrimination also has another meaning that mistreating someone because of who they are or because they have certain characteristics. Meanwhile, according to Skinner, “Discrimination is a

behavioral process: the contingencies, not the mind, make discriminations” (Skinner, 1974: 105).

The discrimination or preferential treatment of the respective persons or groups of person is justified (Reisigl, 2005). Discrimination consists if treating people differently based primarily on membership in a social group (Sue, 2003). As with prejudice and stereotypes, people think of discrimination in negative terms. Mostly the most majority of the research on discrimination has focused on it is negative aspects. When a person are singled out and mistreated because of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, or any other factor, discrimination has occurred and for the result, individuals lose opportunities and options. (Reisigl, 2005). Discrimination could take many forms and happen at different social levels, from the individual to the cultural.

The term racism cannot be defined without first defining race. “Race” is distinct from “ethnicity.” The race is generally understood as a social construct and characterized by general perceived physical characteristics. At the same time, ethnicities are defined by perceived common ancestry, history, and cultural practices, which are viewed as more dynamic and self-affirmed assigned by others (Cornell and Hartmann, 2006). Meanwhile, race is “A social construction that artificially divide people into distinct groups based on specific characteristics such as physical appearance (especially skin color) of ancestral heritage, cultural affiliation, cultural history, ethnic classification. (Wijeysinghe, C. L., Griffin, P, and Love, 1997:88).

Wilson states that racism is “an ideology of racial discrimination,” where superior race is used to justify discrimination by inferior treatment of other social races (1999:14). Racism is a global hierarchy of superiority and inferiority along human lines that have been produced and reproduced politically, culturally, and economically over centuries by the institutions of the “capitalist/patriarchal western-centric/Christian-centric modern/colonial world-system” (Grosfoguel, 2015:10). People classified above the human line are socially recognized as a human beings in their humanity and thus enjoy access to their subjectivities, identities, epistemologies and spiritualities (human rights, civil rights, women’s rights and/or labor rights), material resources, and social recognition (Grosfoguel, 2015:11).

The definition of racism allows us to understand various forms of racism, avoiding reductionism from the many existing definitions. Racism can be marked by color, ethnicity, language, culture, and religion (Grosfoguel, 2015:10). Racialization takes place through the marking of bodies. Some bodies are racialized as superior and others as inferior. The critical point here is that the subjects located above the human line as superior (Fanon, 1967). “Being black in U.S. society means always having to be prepared for antiblack actions by whites in most places and at many times of the day, week, month, or year. Being black means living with various types of racial discrimination from the cradle to the grave.” (Feagin, 2010:187)(Burt et al., 2012:1). Racism is viewed as the coordinated interaction of particular types of stereotypes, prejudices, and

discrimination (Jones, 1997). Another definition of racism states racism can be explained as follow:

“The systemic subordination of targeted racial groups with relatively little social power in the United States (Blacks, Latino/as, Native Americans, and Asians), by the members of racial agent groups who have relatively more social power (Whites). This subordination is supported by the actions of individuals, cultural norms and values, and the institutional structures and practices of society.”(Wijeysinghe, C. L., Griffin, P, and Love, 1997:88-89)

According to Jones (1997), there are three fundamental components of racism. First, racism is rooted in beliefs about group differences (stereotypes) which are considered fundamental biological differences. Second, racism involves well-differentiated negative assessments and feelings about another group (prejudice) compared to one’s own. Whether or not the other group is described explicitly as inferior, one’s group is believed to be superior. Third, racism reflects the disparate treatment of groups (discrimination) by individuals and institutions in ways that are justified by and tend to perpetuate negative beliefs, attitudes, and outcomes.

In its very essence, racism involves negative attitudes and beliefs and social forces that allow these to translate into different outcomes that harm other races or offer unique advantages to one’s race at the expense of others (Feagin & Vera, 1995). According to Jones (1997) identifies two types of racism at the social levels. First, individual racism, which relates to personal stereotypes, prejudices, and discrimination creates and supports differences between members of different groups. Second, institutional racism, which refers to the intentional or unintentional manipulation or toleration of institutional policies (e.g. poll taxes,

admissions criteria) that unfairly restrict the opportunities of particular groups of people.

Therefore, individual racism can be explained:

“The beliefs, attitudes, and actions of an individual that support or perpetuate racism. Individual racism can occur at an unconscious and conscious level and can be active and passive. Examples include telling a racist jokes, using a racial nickname, or believing in the inherent superiority of Whites.”(Wijeysinghe, C. L., Griffin, P, and Love, 1997:89)

The different definition between active racism and passive racism. Active racism according to Wijeysinghe, C.L., Griffin,P. and Love, is

“actions which have a stated or explicit purpose maintain a system of racism and oppression against those in the targeted racial group. People who participate in racism actively advocate the continued subjugation of members of the targeted racial groups and protect “the rights” of members of the agent group. These goals are often supported by a belief in the people of color’s inferiority and superiority of white people, culture, and values.” (Wijeysinghe, C. L., Griffin, P, and Love, 1997:89).

Then, the definition of passive racism based on Wijeysinghe, C.L., Griffin,P. and Love is:

“Beliefs, attitudes, and actions contribute to the maintenance of racism, without openly endorsing violence or oppression. The conscious and unconscious maintenance of attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that support the system of racism, racial prejudice, and racial dominance.” (Wijeysinghe, C. L., Griffin, P, and Love, 1997:89)

3.2.2 Social Class

Social class reminds about two foundational figures of the sociological theory, namely Karl Marx and Max Weber. Social class is rooted in social stratification. According to Wright (1993: 2), social class is often viewed as a

relational concept, where classes are defined and ranked relative to one another. Based on (Bourdieu, 1987:12), the upper and lower classes, and the manufacturing and working classes are distinct because they are “situated at extreme ends of the distributions.” Then distinctions become “evidently less effective in the intermediate zones.”

The word class is a shorthand way of describing these hierarchical steps, but with generally unclear conceptions of what the terms mean. A focus on objective social class requires a direct determination of a person’s social class, based on the socioeconomic variables. The main variables are income, education, and occupation (Wright, 2005). Social class can be measured objectively or subjectively based on (Hodge, R. W., Siegel, P., & Rossi, P. 1964). To determine someone’s social class depends on socioeconomic status measures such as education, income, and occupation. These are fundamental factors that can affect someone’s social class. Sometimes one of these variables is used by itself to measure social class, and sometimes two or all three variables are combined to measure social class. When the occupation is used, sociologists often rely on standard measures of job prestige. “Since the late 1940s, national surveys have asked Americans to rate the prestige of dozens of occupations, and their ratings are averaged together to yield prestige scores for the occupations.” (Hodge, Siegel, and Rossi, 1964).

Based on Kerbo, H.R, social class limits into the four social classes such as the upper class, the middle class, the working-class, and the lower class. The upper class is defined as having a lot of wealth, power, and influence (Kerbo, H.

R. 2009). The upper class, the people who usually rich from they born or in the simple way born in a wealthy family too. The middle class is “ a social group consisting of educated people, such as doctors, lawyers, and teachers, who have good jobs and are not poor but are not too rich” (Kerbo, H. R. 2009). The working class, based on (Kerbo, H. R. 2009 is “generally work in blue-collar jobs such as factory work, construction, restaurant serving, and less skilled clerical position.” In other words, the working class usually reacts in predictable ways to government policies. The last one is the lower class based on (Kerbo, H. R. 2009) “Lower-class is a general term, many observers prefer terms that sound less negative such as poor people.” From the statement, the lower class relates to the social groups who are poor and usually do not have a very high level of education.

CHAPTER 4

DISCUSSION

4.1 Intrinsic Aspects

The intrinsic aspects that will be analyzed in the thesis are narrative and cinematographic elements. In narrative elements, the writer will explain about three components, such as character, setting, and conflict in *The Help* movie. Then, the cinematography is also used by the writer to support the movie analysis in the thesis.

4.1.1 Narrative Elements

4.1.1.1 Character

The analysis of the characters of *The Help* movie will be differentiated into major and minor characters. A Major character is the main character of the movie, while the minor character is the character that supports the main character and the movie.

4.1.1.1.1 Eugenia “Skeeter” Phelan

Eugenia Pheelan is the daughter of a wealthy Southern family. Skeeter is unique among young women in her social circle because she interests in writing than in pursuing marriage and family life. It can be seen in the picture 4.1 below, the framing of figure is medium close up and straight-on angle. Through this shot, the viewer can see about Skeeter’s appearance with sunglasses. Skeeter works as a columnist for “guidance for housewives” columns in the local newspapers. In picture 4.2 is taken with a close up, and straight-on angle. This picture presented

Skeeter's working place, which is The Jackson Journal. Meanwhile Picture 4.3 shows about Skeeter's appearance when she is working that wearing brown clothes is taken with long shot and straight-on angle. Through long shot, viewer can see Skeeter's appearance from the head to toe when she goes to work.



Picture 4.1
Skeeter's Appearance (00:04:25)



Picture 4.2
The Jackson Journal (00:04:51)



Picture 4.3
Skeeter's Appearance when working
(00:04:57)

Eugenia Phelan that is usually called Skeeter has a big desire to be a writer that's why she starts her career in journalistic as a columnist for "guidance for housewives". The picture below shows that picture 4.4 shows that Skeeter's desire to be a writer is taken by medium close up and straight-on angle. Through medium shot, the viewer can see about facial expression of the figures. Even it is such small jobs, but Skeeter feels happy that she is working in The Jackson Journal. It can be seen from picture 4.5 and picture 4.6 which is taken a medium shot with straight-on angle. Through the medium shot, the viewer can see about facial expressions and gestures of the figures. Skeeter is a beautiful young woman

that has a high spirit of spreading about racial discrimination. Skeeter is a very brave person, caring for each other because she wants to make a book that shows about point of view being a black maids for white people.



Picture 4.4
Skeeter's desire to be a writer
(00:06:07)



Picture 4.5
Skeeter works as a columnist
(00:06:53)



Picture 4.6
Skeeter feels happy that she got a job.
(00:07:12)

Unlikely the young white ladies of Jackson, Mississippi, Eugenia Pheelan does not care about her marriage life, but her family and her friends care about her marriage life. Picture 4.7 uses medium close up with straight-on angle to show the facial expression between Skeeter and Charlotte Pheelan. Meanwhile, picture 4.8 uses close up with straight-on angle to show the detail expression of the figure. In picture 4.7 and picture 4.8 below show that Skeeter's mother, Charlotte Pheelan concerning about her daughter's marriage life. On the other side, Skeeter still focusing on her job rather than her marriage's life.



Picture 4.7
Skeeter's mother complains about her marriage life. (00:20:16)



Picture 4.8
Skeeter asks to her mother. (00:20:20)

4.1.1.1.2 Aibileen Clark



Picture 4.9
Aibileen's Appearance (00:01:29)

Aibileen Clark is a maid and nanny who gracious and gentle woman in Jackson Mississippi from the picture above. In picture 4.9, through framing medium close up and straight-on angle, the viewers can see that Aibileen's appearance. Black women are usually begun to be a maids from his teenager; it can be seen from picture 4.10 that Minny's daughter becomes a maid when she was still teenager taken by an extreme long shot with straight-on angle. This shot shows that Minny's daughter appearance when she was a maid. As born a black woman, Aibileen also knows that when she will become a maid for the white

people because of the background of her family. Aibileen's mother is a maid while her grandmother is a house slave can be seen from picture 4.11 until picture 4.13, which is taken by medium close up and straight-on angle. The medium close up shot shows Aibileen's detail facial expression when she talks about her family.



Picture 4.10
Minnie's daughter become a maid when she is still teenager. (00:48:05)



Picture 4.11
Aibileen knows that when she grew up will be a maids. (00:01:29)



Picture 4.12
Aibileen answer the question from Skeeter. (00:01:34)



Picture 4.13
Aibileen tells about her family. (00:01:39)

There is the dialogue from the picture above shows Aibileen's story about her family and her feeling.

- Woman : Did you know as a girl, growing up, that one day *you'd* be a maid?
- Aibileen : Yes, ma'am. I did.
- Woman : And you knew that because?
- Aibileen : My momma was a maid. My grandmomma was a house slave.
- Woman : A...house...slave.
- Woman : Do you ever dream of being something else?

Woman : What does it feel like, to raise a white child when your own child's at home...being looked after by somebody else?

Aibileen : It feels...
(*The Help*, 00:01:30-00:02:03)



Picture 4.14
Aibileen's appearance when she goes to work. (00:03:15)



Picture 4.15
Aibileen with Mae Mobley.(00:02:43)

In picture 4.14 framing with extreme long shot and straight-on angle. Through this shot, the viewers can see characters clearly that Aibileen's skin is dark brown and she wears a white uniform when she works for white families as a black maid. Aibileen is a middle-aged African-American employed by Elizabeth Leefolt. Picture 4.15 is taken by medium close-up with straight on angle to show that she is a maid especially nanny for Mae Mobley Leefolt, Elizabeth Leefolt's child. Through medium close-up, the viewers can see the facial expression and interaction of the figures.

Aibileen works for the Leefolt family from 8 a.m until 4 p.m and six days a week. Her job is cooking, cleaning, washing, ironing, and grocery shopping but mostly is taking care of Mae Mobley. In picture 4.16 which is taken by close up and straight-on angle, shows about Aibileen's working hour as a black maid. Picture 4.17 is taken by a long shot with straight-on angle and picture 4.18 taken by medium close up and straight-on angle. Both of picture 4.17 and picture 4.18

shows about Aibileen’s job explanation. The picture 4.19 shows that Aibileen’s job salary as a maid is taken with a medium close up and straight-on angle.



Picture 4.16
Aibileen’s working hour as a maids
(00:03:09)



Picture 4.17
Aibileen’s job explanation
(00:03:27)



Picture 4.18
Aibileen’s job explanation. (00:03:28)



Picture 4.19
Aibileen’s job salary. (00:03:10)

Aibileen is a bridge between Eugenia “Skeeter” Pheelan with the other black maids to make the book. Aibileen is the first black maid who shares her story about racial discrimination that has happened for her life. Before her braveness to share her story about worked with white families, Aibileen feels worried that she will lose her job if she shares her story.

4.1.1.1.3 Minny Jackson

Minnie Jackson is the “sassy” maid because Minny’s mouth has gotten her into trouble one too many times. Picture 4.20 which is taken with medium long shot and straight-on angle shows Minny Jackson’s appearance and uses the same uniform like Aibileen for a maid.. Even Minny is the sassy maid, but she is known

as the best cook in Mississippi. It can be seen in picture 4.21 that Minny bring chocolate pie, which is taken by a long shot and straight-on angle.



Picture 4.20
Minny Jackson's Appearance
(00:07:48)



Picture 4.21
Minny is known as the best cook
in Mississippi (00:08:28)

Minny works as a maid who employed by Hilly Holbrook but got fired because of her work, and Minny is a very fearless person to say everything that she wants to Hilly, a character who is unable to keep employment because of her bossy demeanor and sharp tongue. Here is the dialogue that shows about Minny talking about Hilly to Aibileen.

Aibileen : Hold on! Those are Miss Hilly's.
 Minny : She looks like the winning horse at the Kentucky Derby.
 All them flowers and bows.
 Minny : Oh, forgive me, Lord, but I'm gonna kill that woman,
 Aibileen. Now she has gone to puttin' pencil marks on the
 toilet paper.
 (*The Help*, 00:10:01 – 00:10:17)

Minny is Aibileen's friend, Aibileen feels grateful and lucky that she can have a friend like Minny because when Aibileen loses his son, she can through the problem cause of minny. It can see from picture below picture 4.22, which is taken by a medium long shot with straight-on angle, and picture 4.23 is taken by a medium shot with straight-on angle. Both picture 4.22 and picture 4.23 show about Aibileen's story grateful to have friend like Minny. Minny is the second

maid that wants to share her story to Skeeter about what they got while working to white families.



Picture 4.22
Minny is Aibileen's friend.
(00:08:38)



Picture 4.23
Aibileen feel grateful to have a friend like Minny. (00:08:41)

4.1.1.1.4 Hilly Holbrook

Hilly Holbrook is a childhood friend of Skeeter and Elizabeth, the president of the Junior League in Jackson, Mississippi. It can be seen in picture 4.24 taken by medium shot and straight-on angle. Through the medium shot, the viewers can see the interaction between Hilly and her friends and also the facial expression too. She is a mean-spirited racist and high society southern woman. It can be seen on picture 4.25 is taken by medium shot and straight-on angle shows about Hilly appearance.



Picture 4.24
Hilly with her friends .(00:11:13)



Picture 4.25
Hilly's Appearance. (00:07:22)



Picture 4.26
Hilly is the first of the babies to have a baby (00:07:26)



Picture 4.27
Hilly's characteristics (00:07:31)

Hilly is the first of Skeeter's friends who has a baby, and her character is like a commander for her group that can be seen on the picture above picture 4.26 and picture 4.27, which is taken by medium shot and straight-on angle. Hilly is a person who enjoys controlling others, Hilly is trying to make an eye-contact with Elizabeth and striking fear into those who dare oppose her even she takes care of Skeeter's relationship too. It can be seen in picture below, both picture 4.28 and picture 4.29 are taken by medium close up and straight-on angle. Through the medium close up in picture 4.28 shows about the facial expression from Hilly Holbrook that trying to make control to Elizabeth. Meanwhile, medium close up in picture 4.29 shows about facial expression and gestures between Hilly Holbrook and Eugenia Pheelan when they are talking.



Picture 4.28
Hilly is trying to control Elizabeth (00:12:58)



Picture 4.29
Hilly is trying makes Skeeter have a relationship with Stuart (00:11:51)

4.1.1.1.5 Elizabeth Leefolt

Elizabeth Leefolt is best friends with Hilly and Skeeter, who employer of Aibileen Clark. She is also unable to be an affectionate mother to her daughter Mae Mobley, and so Aibileen becomes the child's primary care taker, teacher, and surrogate mother. It can be seen from the picture below picture 4.30 that Mae Mobley feels comfort with Aibileen is taken by medium shot with a straight-on angle. Through medium shot, the viewers can see the facial expression clearly of the figures. Elizabeth Leefolt is harsh, icy and frequently ignores her daughter. Elizabeth's appearance can be seen on picture 4.31, which is taken by a medium long shot with straight-on angle. Here the dialogue shows Elizabeth Leefolt ignoring her daughter.

Aibileen : Miss Leefolt still don't pick Baby Girl up but once a day. The birthin' blues had got holt a Miss Leefolt pretty hard. I done seen it happen plenty a times...once babies start havin' they own babies.

(*The Help*, 00:03:58 – 00:04:06)



Picture 4.30
Elizabeth's character (00:03:58)



Picture 4.31
Elizabeth Leefolt's Appearance
(00:03:53)

4.1.1.1.6 Celia Foote

Celia Foote is the newest resident of Jackson, Mississippi, wants to hire a maid because she cannot cook and initially tries to look for by asking Aibileen when she called Elizabeth's house. Picture 4.32 framing medium long shot with straight-on angle shows about Celia Foote's appearance in a detail. Picture 4.33 shows that Celia is asking to Aibileen about look for a maids that are taken by medium long shot with straight-on angle. Celia is a blond, beautiful and dresses provocatively, but she is a sweet and kind.



Picture 4.32
Celia Foote's Appearance
(00:13:31)



Picture 4.33
Celia is looking the maid for her house
(00:13:32)

Finally, Celia Foote has a maid which is Minny Jackson. After Minny got fired by Hilly, she decided to work for Miss Celia. Not also sweet and kind person but also she is a type person who is caring for someone else. She is fine to eat with the black maids, who is Minny Jackson. Here the dialogue between Celia and Minny.

Celia : There you are. I'm starved. It looks so good!

Minny : We done been over this, Miss Celia. You supposed to eat in the dinin' room. That how it work.

Minny : Here, let me take your plate back--

Celia : No! I'm fine right here, Minny.

(*The Help*, 01:06:06 – 01:06:23)

4.1.1.1.7 Charlotte Pheelan

Charlotte Pheelan is Eugenia Pheelan's mother, which is concerned with Skeeter being the proper lady, while Skeeter tends to be herself. Picture 4.34 is taken by a medium shot with a straight-on angle to show Charlotte Pheelan's appearance. Being the proper lady means that she should wearing a dress like a picture 4.35 show that Charlotte wants Skeeter to wear her dress while she said that her mother is sick. Picture 4.35 framing medium close up with a straight-on angle to show the gesture of figures.



Picture 4.34
Charlotte Pheelan's Appearance
(00:18:44)



Picture 4.35
Charlotte tells to Skeeter about she is sick (00:19:24)



Picture 4.36
Charlotte talks about her daughter's marriage life
(00:19:42)



Picture 4.37
Talking about Skeeter's marriage life
(00:20:18)

She is deeply concerned about the marriage's life of her daughter. She tries many different strategies to find a man for her daughter even she is asking whether "go on a date makes kill you" from picture 4.36. Picture 4.36 is taken by medium close up with a straight-on angle to show facial expression and gesture of

figures clearly. Charlotte also has cancer, but tells Skeeter she “refused to die.” Charlotte wants Skeeter married before she is dead that can be seen in picture 4.37, which is taken by medium close up with a straight-on angle. Here the dialogue that shows Charlotte Pheelan caring about her daughter’s marriage life.

Charlotte : Skeeter, your mother is sick, and she wants to see you in this dress.
 Charlotte : Unzip me.
 Charlotte : Come on.
 Charlotte : Did I tell you Fanny Peatrow got engaged? After she got that teller job, her mother said she was just swimming in proposals.
 Skeeter : Well, good for "Fat Fanny Peatrow."
 Charlotte : Eugenia, your eggs are dying. Would it kill you to go on a date? Just show a little gumption.
 Charlotte : This dress looks precious on you! If we just take it in a little here, little there. Get your hair fixed.
 Skeeter : I got a job today.
 Charlotte : Where?
 Skeeter : Writing. For *The Jackson Journal*.
 Charlotte : Great. You can write my obituary. "Charlotte Phelan dead. Her daughter still single."
 Skeeter : Mother, would it really be so terrible if I never met a husband?

(*The Help*, 00:19:24 – 00:20:20)

4.1.1.2 Setting

Setting explains as a background of the story, such as time, place, and background.

4.1.1.2.1 Setting of Time

Picture 4.38 is taken by an extreme long shot shows the environment clearly. Meanwhile, the setting of time is morning time because after the scene is Skeeter goes to The Jackson Journal for working. The picture 4.39 shows that the bus that will go to the center of Jackson. The bus is one of the public transportation in

Jackson, Mississippi. The setting of time is morning because the black maid is ready to go to work. It means that the black maids start the activity since the morning. The picture of the scene is taken by a medium long shot.



Picture 4.38
Skeeter goes to her working place
(00:04:20)



Picture 4.39
The bus goes to the center of Jackson
(00:03:22)



Picture 4.40
Skeeter arrives at her home
(00:18:03)



Picture 4.41
Skeeter talking with Minny and
Aibileen (00:59:54)

Picture 4.40 shows that Skeeter goes down from her car shows that behind the Skeeter, there are flower blooms means that spring season or summer season of that movie and the sun is shining brightly in the Jackson. The picture is taken by a long shot camera shot to see the environment. Picture 4.41 shows that Skeeter writes the draft of her book, meanwhile Aibileen cooks something for dinner, and Minny makes a cup of tea. The setting of time is around the afternoon into midnight because of the sunset. From all the pictures above, *The Help*, movie shows the setting of the story. The setting of time is the summer season. Mostly the scene of *The Help* movie is around morning and afternoon.

4.1.1.2.2 Setting of Place



Picture 4.42
The Jackson Journal (00:04:52)



Picture 4.43
Aibileen's house (00:03:15)

The setting of this movie takes place in several areas of Jackson, Mississippi. There are several places which used such as Elizabeth Leefolt's house, Hilly Holbrook's house, Eugenia Pheelan's house, Celia Foote's house, Aibileen's house, and The Jackson Journal.

Picture 4.42 using medium close up and straight-on angle show the first location of this movie is The Jackson Journal. The Jackson Journal is Eugenia Pheelan's working place. Eugenia starts her career as a columnist for "guidance for housewives" columns in local newspaper. The picture 4.43 shows that Aibileen's house is the second location of *The Help* movie. In this place, Aibileen share her story as a perspective to be a maid, not only Aibileen but also Minny Jackson and other black maids who join to share her story. Picture 4.43 uses an extreme long shot and straight-on angle to show the whole of Aibileen's house.

The picture 4.44 shows Hilly Holbrook's house that Minny's working place before she got fired. Minny is quite long enough works in Hilly's family but got some discrimination from Hilly because hilly hates black people. Picture 4.44

uses medium close up to show the big house of Hilly Holbrook's house. The picture 4.45 uses an extreme long shot to show Elizabeth's house which is the Aibileen's work place. Beside the Aibileen's workplace is also the place for gathering with Hilly, Skeeter.



Picture 4.44
Hilly Holbrook's house (00:33:04)



Picture 4.45
Elizabeth Leefolt's house (01:31:44)

The picture 4.46 below uses long shot shows that the next location as the fourth place is Eugenia Pheelan's house. In this place, Skeeter writes her book and also thinks about ideas and how she can make the black maid speak up about what happened with the black maid when worked. The picture 4.47 uses medium close up shows that the last location is Celia Foote's house and Minny's working place after getting fired by Hilly. On this place, Minny feels happy because Celia does not differentiate between white and black.



Picture 4.46
Skeeter's house (00:17:59)



Picture 4.47
Celia Foote's house (00:49:24)

4.1.1.2.3 Setting of Social Background



Picture 4.48

The maid's job description (00:03:17)

Aibileen works as a maid who usually does cooking, cleaning, washing, ironing, and also groceries. They are such daily works as a maid and the leading working is as a nanny who she must take care of white people's children. Mostly the black women works as a maid since a teenager with white people like pictured from *The Help* movie and spent her life raising white children. It can be seen in the picture 4.48 is taken by extreme long shot.

Based on the picture below in picture 4.49 and picture 4.50, there is another social background from Hilly Holbrook, as she is trying to hold herself not to go to the bathroom. Both of the picture 4.49 and picture 4.50 is taken by medium close up to show facial expression of figures. From that scene, Hilly's mother said that Hilly feels upset because black people use the same bathroom with white people. It means that in Hilly's life, she does not like black people. She feels that black people may bring some disease if they are using the same bathroom with white people.



Picture 4.49
Hilly's mother said that hilly does not want to go the same bath with the black maid (00:15:05)



Picture 4.50
Hilly feels worried when she used the same bathroom with the black maids. (00:15:40)



Picture 4.51
Skeeter's mother talks about her daughter's marriage life.(00:19:44)

Another social background from this movie is when a young woman lady has to ready a married when she is grown. Picture 4.51 framing medium close up to show Skeeter's mother said that she was sick so she want to see Skeeter wear her dress and look like a beautiful young woman. Skeeter's mother hopes that Eugenia Pheelan can meet someone special for her daughter's life. Her mother feels worried about Eugenia because she seems not interested in her married life. Skeeter wants to reach a dream first as a writer before thinking about her marriage life.

Picture 4.52 below shows that Hilly and her husband are reading a newspaper, but when Yule May said that she would like to ask something, they stopped their activity and trying to listen to Yule May. It is one example of ethical

manners from the white representatives. Picture 4.52 framing medium shot with straight-on angle showing them talking seriously. Another social background shown from the picture above is when Yule May, a new black maids in Hilly's house is trying to lent some money from Hilly and his husband to pay Yule May's children's school debt. On this scene, Hilly's response is just saying to her that she just be trying to get money with herself. It can be seen on picture 4.53, which is taken by medium close up with straight-on angle to show Yule May's facial expression.



Picture 4.52
A pleasant manner from the white people. (00:46:25)



Picture 4.53
The black maid trying to lend some money (00:47:10)

4.1.1.3 Conflict

Conflict can be explained about struggled when against someone or something and somehow motivation for achieving it. The first conflict comes from Aibileen Clark. As born in the black families makes Aibileen never dream of being someone else. Even her mother is the maids, and her grandmother is house slave like Aibileen nowadays as a maid for the white people. It can be seen in the picture below picture 4.54 is taken by medium close-up. Through the medium close-up shows Aibileen's facial expression. As a maid, you cannot raise your children by yourself and on the other hand raise the white children all your life.

It can be seen on picture 4.55, which is taken by a medium long shot show about when she got the question about his son, and she cannot say anything. Through the medium long shot shows sad facial expression of Aibileen.



Picture 4.54
Aibileen talks about her family
(00:01:40)



Picture 4.55
Aibileen cannot say anything
(00:02:05)



Picture 4.56
Aibileen said that she did not want to live any more (00:08:35)



Picture 4.57
The reason why Aibileen continue her life (00:08:38)

Aibileen feels she cannot continue her life again when she loses his son, but she can continue her life because she has Minny as her bestfriend and the God that always makes Aibileen keep in sane. It can be seen in the picture 4.56 and 4.57, which is taken by a medium long shot. Another conflict from Aibileen is when Skeeter was asking her to help. Nevertheless, it is not an easy thing that Aibileen can help Skeeter because Aibileen has to share her perspective being maid when she worked for white families. In the 1960s in Jackson, Mississippi still differentiate between the colored ones and the white people.

Not only still exist about the differences but also, Aibileen feels afraid that she can be fired from her job. It can be seen in the picture 4.58 and picture 4.59, which are taken by medium close up. Through the medium close up to shows the facial expression between Aibileen and Skeeter.



Picture 4.58
Aibileen scared to share her story
(00:36:50)



Picture 4.59
Skeeter gives her phone number
(00:36:57)

The second conflict comes from Eugenia “Skeeter” Pheelan. The first one is when a black maid who raises Skeeter, she quit her job suddenly. Picture 4.60 shows that Skeeter feels sad when she comes back from her college but knows about Constantine that has already quit from her job. Even Skeeter’s mother did not tell anything to Skeeter about the reason why Constantine quit.



Picture 4.60
Skeeter wants to talk about
Constantine (01:48:47)



Picture 4.61
Charlotte seems angry with Skeeter
(00:20:17)

When a young woman lady turns out adult, it must be married as soon as possible. It can be seen from picture 4.61 by her mother and Skeeter’s friend that cares

about her marriage life. Even Charlotte Pheelan, Skeeter's mother, feels worried about her daughter.

At the beginning of her writing she feels difficult to make the help to share their stories, Skeeter also has pressure. The pressure is about publishing her book; it could never be published if just two black participated in her book. It can be seen in picture 4.62. Another conflict comes from the black maid who is they brave to share their perspective because there is news about the black people was murdered and they want to be listened. It can be seen on picture 4.63 which is taken by a medium long shot to show the figures of black maids that comes into Aibileen's house.



Picture 4.62
Minny and Aibileen was done asked the maids. (01:08:21)



Picture 4.63
The black maid comes into Aibileen's house (01:29:34)

4.2 Extrinsic Aspects

The writer will analyze the extrinsic aspect of the movie, which concerning discrimination against black maids in *The Help* movie.

4.2.1 Factors That Support Discrimination in *The Help* Movie

There are two factors that support discrimination against black maids in *The Help* movie, such as social class and race.

4.2.1.1 Social Class

The first factor is a social class that can supports discrimination against black maids. For example, when someone has power, wealth, and influence, they can easily do discrimination to minorities, which are black people. Talking about social class, according to Kerbo (2009), there are four classes, such as the upper class, the middle class, the working class, and the lower class. In *The Help* movie, there is one social class that show do some discrimination to black maids which is the upper class. The upper-class is characterized that has much wealth, influence, and power.

Here is the evidence that is showed discrimination against black maids in *The Help* movie. When someone has a higher class from the other classes, it makes them more has power and influence. The higher class is also one of the factors that support discrimination against minorities, experienced by the black maids in *The Help* movie. They have to face discrimination from someone who has a certain class and state regulation. A regulation regulated by the government also has a considerable influence on supporting discrimination. The regulations

that come from the government will be followed and implemented by citizens for both whites and blacks.

Here is the evidence of regulation between whites and blacks in Jackson, Mississippi, in *The Help* movie. The regulating bill is about the differences between the white people and the colored. It comes from the upper class, especially from the government with a high hierarchy and must be followed by the environment. The book for the school shall not be interchangeable between the white and the colored school. The white people must be using the books first and then that books can be used by the colored.

All the main regulating points tell that no colored people have more interaction with white people. There is no news that is brave to show acceptance or social equality between white and Negroes subject to imprisonment. It categorizes into institutional racism because it refers to institutional policies that restrict particular groups of people. The condition leads to discrimination begins in the environment because the government support differentiates black and white people.

Here is the voice-over from Aibileen that shows the regulating bill.

- Aibileen (V.O.) : "No person shall require any white female to nurse in ward or rooms....
- Aibileen (V.O.) : ...in which Negro men are placed.
- Aibileen (V.O.) : Books shall not be interchangeable between the white and colored schools but shall continue to be used by the race first using them...
- Aibileen (V.O.) : No colored barber shall serve as a barber to white women or girls.

Aibileen (V.O.) : Any person printin', publishin' or circulating written matter urgin' for public acceptance of social equality between whites and negroes is subject to imprisonment.

(*The Help*, 00:37:17 – 00:37:57)



Picture 4.64
Charlotte Phelan's appearance
(00:22:19)



Picture 4.65
Phelan family's house
(01:35:40)

The next example is when someone who has a higher class has power and influences that to affect somebody's lower class to follow what they want. *The Help* movie show that Charlotte Pheelan is the upper class, but she must follow what the Esteemed President said. In picture 4.64, through medium close-up with straight-on angle the viewers can see Charlotte Phelan's appearance that shows how the upper class woman appearance in that era. Then, picture 4.65 framing extreme long shot shows big house and the plantation of Phelan family's. Through the appearance of Charlotte and how she lives in that big house can see that Charlotte comes from the upper class.

The Esteemed President has a higher class than Charlotte. Here the evidence that shows in *The Help* movie. Charlotte Pheelan fires Constantine, a black maid who works for a long time for the Pheelan family and takes care of Skeeter too. Charlotte explains to Skeeter that Constantine is getting old and slow. It can be seen in picture 4.66 and picture 4.67.



Picture 4.66

An esteemed president came (01:49:20)



Picture 4.67

Charlotte tells to Skeeter (01:49:38)

Rachel, the daughter of Constantine, suddenly arrives without notice, and at that time, there is an event at Charlotte's house where the esteemed president comes to her house from Washington DC. Charlotte also requests to Rachel to come from the kitchen and wait for Constantine there. It can be seen in picture 4.68. Rachel feels angry because she cannot see her mother first, and suddenly she comes in entered through the front door. Rachel wants to meet her mother and makes the guests shock, even the Esteemed President angry with Charlotte. It can be seen in picture 4.69.



Picture 4.68

Charlotte asks Rachel to go around back (01:50:20)



Picture 4.69

The Esteemed President angry to Charlotte (01:50:54)

Picture 4.69 shows that the Esteemed President very angry and disappointed over the incident. It can be seen from the dialogue below.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Grace | : You may put up with this kind of nonsense, but I do not. |
| Charlotte | : Get out of this house, Rachel. |
| Grace | : You heard her. Go on, girl. |
| Constantine | : Miss Charlotte, let me just take her to the kitchen. |

Constantine : Come on, baby, let's go.
 Grace : Charlotte?
 Charlotte : Both of you. Leave now.
 (*The Help*, 01:50:54 – 01:51:29)

Charlotte fires Constantine because of under pressure from the Esteemed President, it can be seen on the dialogue above tells Rachel to leave with Constantine. Constantine feels sad and does not believe that Charlotte fires her; it can be seen in picture 4.71. Charlotte comes from the upper class, but when there is someone higher and has more power, they should be following. For example, the Esteemed President has more power and effects to make someone follow her decision because she has a higher level than Charlotte Phelan.



Picture 4.70
 Charlotte fired Constantine (01:51:29)



Picture 4.71
 Constantine feels sad (01:51:42)

4.2.1.2 Racial Identity

The second factor is a race that can support discrimination against black people, especially black maids. The race is generally understood as a social construct and characterized by perceived common physical characteristics. *The Help* movie shows two social races, such as black people and white people. Black people as a maid and the white people is the employer. There are two examples of discrimination that shows in *The Help* movie. It is a separated bathroom and

injustice judgment. Here is the evidence that is showed discrimination against black maids in *The Help* movie.

4.2.1.2.1 Separated Bathroom

The first discrimination that is showed in *The Help* movie is a separated bathroom for black maids. The separated bathroom is the first discrimination is showed by Hilly Holbrook. Beginning with Hilly Holbrook does not want to use the same bathroom with black people because she thinks that black people carry on something different disease. It can be seen in picture 4.72 and picture 4.73. Even Hilly's mother, Mrs. Walters, said that her daughter does not want to use the same bathroom with the black maid. This discrimination categorizes individual racism because it comes from the individual and relates to personal stereotypes.

Until she sends a draft about the Home Health Sanitation initiative, which is every white house must have a separate bathroom for the colored help. Even when her maids, Minny is trying to go to the bathroom, but the outside is heavy rain and makes Minny go to the inside bathroom, and Hilly knows it, suddenly Minny gets fire from her job.



Picture 4.72
Hilly look hold up herself for not to go to the bathroom (00:14:59)



Picture 4.73
Hilly's mother said that her daughter does not want to use the same bathroom with the black maid (00:15:05)

Here the dialogue between Hilly and Skeeter talks about the Home Health Sanitation Initiative, which is sent by Hilly to the government. It is categorized into two different racisms. There are individual racism and institutional racism. Individual racism comes from personal stereotypes, and institutional racism is endorsed by the White Citizen's Council and becomes institutional policies.

Hilly : Tell Raleigh every penny he spends on a colored's bathroom, he'll get back in spades when y'all sell. It's just plain dangerous. They carry different diseases than we do.
 Elizabeth : (re: her cards) Pass.
 Hilly : That's why I've drafted *The Home Health Sanitation Initiative*.
 Skeeter : The what?
 Hilly : A disease preventative bill that requires every white home to have a separate bathroom for the colored help. It's been endorsed by the White Citizen's Council.

(*The Help*, 00:15:33 – 00:15:59)

A Separate bathroom is not only in the Hilly Holbrook's house but also in the Elizabeth house. There is a separate bathroom for Aibileen. It can be seen in picture 4.74 and picture 4.75. It means that The Initiative Bill about separate bathrooms has been agreed by the government. As the black maids Aibileen feels not happy about the separate bathroom, she is just answered with a flat tone and sad expression. It can be seen in the picture below, picture 4.76 and picture 4.77. However, Aibileen cannot refuse to Elizabeth about the separate bathroom. It is categorized into institutional racism because the government has agreed the initiative bill about the separate bathroom.



Picture 4.74
Aibileen's different bathroom
(00:33:55)



Picture 4.75
Aibileen's bathroom from the outside
(00:34:11)



Picture 4.76
Elizabeth ask to Aibileen about her
separate bathroom (00:34:23)



Picture 4.77
Aibileen answer with the sad
expression (00:34:26)

4.2.1.2.2 Injustice Judgement

Injustice judgment is one of the examples of discrimination. Injustice judgment can be happen between white people and black people because the white feels different from blacks. Here the evidence of injustice judgment from a white representative *in The Help* movie.

First, Charlotte Pheelan is the white representatives that show discrimination. The discrimination can be seen from picture 4.78 and 4.79 when Skeeter and black maids watch the news. The news is about the blacks that speak up about discrimination happens to them. Charlotte Pheelan dislikes watching the news from the television about black people who speak for equality which encouraging them. Here is the dialogue between Charlotte and Skeeter.

Skeeter : Momma!
 Charlotte : Don't encourage them like that.
 Skeeter : This is national news!
 Charlotte : I won't have it! Do you understand?
 (*The Help*, 01:20:22 – 01:20:33)



Picture 4.78
 Skeeter watches the news with the black maids (01:20:00)



Picture 4.79
 Charlotte comes and turns off the TV (01:20:21)

Second, Elizabeth Leefolt does discrimination into black maids by injustice judgment. It is beginning with the missing silver. Here the evidence that shows about injustice judgment in *The Help* movie. The dialogue below shows that Hilly asks Aibileen about the silver, which is missing when Aibileen returned. It can be seen in picture 4.80 when Hilly angry with Aibileen. Elizabeth is just quiet while seeing Hilly angry and suspicious of Aibileen. When Aibileen says that she does not take the silver, Elizabeth believes in Aibileen, but Hilly still does not believe and alleged that Aibileen takes the silver. It is one of the examples of injustice judgment that show in *The Help* movie.

However, Aibileen said that she does not take the silver, but it is susceptible for minorities to get accused. The white people could not believe the black maids easily. Picture 4.81 shows that Elizabeth believes in Aibileen that she does not has the silver, but Hilly still does not believe with Aibileen.

Hilly : Aibileen, the silver I lent Elizabeth last week.

Aibileen : It not polished good? Humidity been fighting me on polishing day.
 Hilly : When you returned it, three pieces were missing from the felt wrapper. A fork and two spoons.
 Aibileen : Lemme...lemme go check in the kitchen. Maybe I left some behind.
 Hilly : You know as well as I do that silver's not in the kitchen.
 Aibileen : You check in Mae Mobley's bed? Since Lil' Man was born, she been putting things-
 Hilly : Do you hear her, Elizabeth? She's trying to blame it on a toddler.
 Aibileen : I ain't got no silver.
 Elizabeth : She says she doesn't have them.
 (*The Help*, 02:13:05 – 02:13:46)



Picture 4.80
 Hilly seems angry with Aibileen
 (02:13:05)



Picture 4.81
 Elizabeth seems believe with Aibileen
 (02:13:49)

The dialogue below shows that Hilly fires Aibileen and Elizabeth accepts what the decision that Hilly makes.

Hilly : Then it behooves me to inform you that you are fired, Aibileen. And I'll be calling the police.
 (*The Help*, 02:13:52 – 02:13:56)

However, Elizabeth fires Aibileen because Hilly even Aibileen is the black maids taking care of Mae Mobley. Picture 4.82 and picture 4.83 show that Elizabeth asks Aibileen to go from her house, it means that Elizabeth fire Aibileen. Unfortunately, at the end of the story, Elizabeth is crying and feeling

regretful with her decision, which is she fire Aibileen because of Hilly's order. Discrimination from Elizabeth's side is because of injustice judgment and from her friends' effect. Hilly Holbrook makes Elizabeth does discrimination even she cares about Aibileen.



Picture 4.82
Elizabeth asks Aibileen to go
(02:15:30)



Picture 4.83
Aibileen cannot hide that she is sad
(02:15:42)

4.2.2 Black Maids' Decision

Being a minority is not an easy thing for blacks in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1960. Discrimination is very clear from the whites themselves, which the government supported with several regulations. Freedom of speech or expression is also limited or even made difficult. Black people want to get the same treatment as whites, but in reality, they do not. Black maids have tried to fight for equality, just like the hard decisions made by black maids in *The Help*, which they dare to tell about what things have been experienced or treated while working with white people. Of course, several reasons could encourage black maids to speak up. Before discussing why black maid are brave to share their story, discrimination happened to black people especially black maids in *The Help* movie.



Picture 4.84
The stairs for the colored (00:04:33)



Picture 4.85
Just the colored can go upstairs
(00:04:45)

In Jackson, Mississippi still exists about the difference between the colored ones and the white representatives. The colored sign on the leader wrote on the wall, which means that it is just colored or black people who can go up with the stairs. It can be seen in picture above, picture 4.84 and picture 4.85. It is categorized into individual racism because it relates to personal prejudices to create differentiation between different groups.



Picture 4.86
Skeeter talks with Aibileen while the other white people are looking with strong eye gazed (00:36:57)



Picture 4.87
Skeeter tries to pick up Aibileen with her car but got rejected (00:37:03)

In public places like the park, when the black people talks with white people, on the other hand, the other white people would like to see differently with the intense eye gaze. It can be seen in picture 4.86 and picture 4.87. Even when Skeeter tries to pick up Aibileen because she is already left behind from the bus. Aibileen rejects it, and she prefers to walk on foot. This kind of racial discrimination categorizes individual racism because it relates to personal

prejudice from the white representatives to the black people. The other white people are looking at them because they seem to talk seriously.

The differentiation also shows when Aibileen goes home by bus, but suddenly the police stop the bus. The colored ones sit behind the bus while the white representative in front of the bus. When the bus stop, the bus driver said that colored people off, it means that the black people drop off at the place at that moment while the white people will be take off to their destination. It categorizes into institutional racism that relates to the institutional policies. It can be seen in picture 4.88 and picture 4.89.



Picture 4.88
The bus driver said that the colored people off (01:21:12)



Picture 4. 89
The black people just wondering about the problem (01:21:10)

After Aibileen listens about the news that white people murdered the black people, it makes her runs as fast as she can to reach her home even she falls and makes her injured on her hand and leg. Aibileen is afraid because the incident can happen to her. It is better if she can reach her home safely as soon as she can be, Aibileen goes to the Minny's house. It can be seen in picture 4.90 and picture 4.91. Aibileen and Minny are afraid because they share their story being a black maid for the white families and are afraid that it could be a civil right. It means that the story about the black maid and the white representative is a break of the

rule, especially in Jackson, Mississippi. It can be seen in picture 4.92 and picture 4.93. It categorizes institutional racism because Minny and Aibileen are afraid that they are doing a civil right because they share their stories about working for white people.



Picture 4. 90
Aibileen seems running to get home as fast as she can be (01:21:54)



Picture 4. 91
Aibileen falls into the ground (01:22:12)



Picture 4. 92
Aibileen worried that she and Minny doing a civil right (01:23:45)



Picture 4. 93
Minny and Aibileen worried about their life (01:23:48)

Beginning with Skeeter has an idea to write a book about the black maid's point of view when they work for white people. Skeeter tells about the idea to Miss Stein, who is Harper and Row Publishing. It can be seen in picture 4.94. Here is also the dialogue between Skeeter and Miss Stein. From this book, the black maids have the big decision to speak up about racial discrimination when they worked with white people.



Picture 4.94

Skeeter tells the idea to Miss Stein

(00:26:13)

- Skeeter : I'd like to write something from the point of view of the help. These colored women raise white children, and then in twenty years those children become the boss. We love them and they love us, but they can't even use the toilets in our houses. Don't you find that ironic, Miss Stein?
- Miss Stein : I'm listening.
- Skeeter : Margaret Mitchell glorified the mammy figure who dedicates her whole life to a white family but no one...ever asked *Mammy* how she felt about it.
- Miss Stein : So, a side to this never before heard.
- Skeeter : Yes! Because nobody ever talks about it down here.
- Miss Stein : Look, no maid in her right mind is ever gonna tell you the truth. That's a hell of a risk to take in a place like Jackson, Mississippi.
- Skeeter : I already have a maid.
- Miss Stein : Really? A Negro maid has already agreed to speak with you?
- Skeeter : Yes, ma'am.
- Miss Stein : Well...I guess I can read what you come up with. The book biz could use a little rattling.
- Skeeter : Thank you, Miss Stein!
- (*The Help*, 00:26:81 – 00:27:31)

Skeeter tells Miss Stein, and she is trying to ask Aibileen to help her write that book. Skeeter is trying to explain the idea of the book. The book will explain the black maid's point of view, start from how white people treat them, and how their opinions work with whites. It can be seen in picture 4.95 and picture 4.96. Meanwhile, picture 4.97 and picture 4.98 shows that Skeeter is trying to pursue

Aibileen again about the book, but Aibileen still answers that it is too dangerous and not careful.



Picture 4.95
Skeeter asks to Aibileen (00:28:38)



Picture 4.96
Skeeter trying to explain about her book to Aibileen (00:28:42)



Picture 4.97
Skeeter persuade Aibileen again (00:36:30)



Picture 4.98
Aibileen's answer (00:36:40)

Here is also the dialogue between Aibileen and Skeeter.

| | |
|----------|--|
| Skeeter | : We never finished our conversation at Elizabeth's. About the book I want to write. |
| Aibileen | : Yes, ma'am. |
| Skeeter | : I'd really like to interview you, Aibileen. I know it's scary. |
| Aibileen | : They set my cousin Shinelle's car on fire just cause she went <i>down</i> to the voting station. |
| Skeeter | : A book like this has never been written before. |
| Aibileen | : 'Cause they's a reason. I do this with you, I might as well burn my own house down. |
| Skeeter | : I promise we'll be careful. |
| Aibileen | : This already ain't careful, Miss Skeeter! You not knowing that is what scare me the most. Scare me more than "Jim Crow". |
| Skeeter | : All right. Here's my phone number. |

(*The Help*, 00:35:56 - 00:36:57)

It is not easy to make this book because in writing the book, Skeeter needs to interview the black maid to tell their perspective. That is very dangerous considering that Jackson in the 1960s sees the differences between the colored and white people. Even Aibileen feels that this book is more scared than Jims Crow. State and local laws applied in the southern United States regulate the "separate but equal" situation for black people. In reality, the facilities reserved for Negroes are always worse than those for white people.



Picture 4.99
Aibileen thinking about
Skeeter's book idea (00:40:02)



Picture 4.100
This picture refers to Skeeter (00:42:04)

The black maids are afraid that if they talk about their stories, they could lose their jobs until Aibileen feels that something encourages her to share her story with Skeeter. Even Aibileen feels hesitant about her decision. Here is below the moments that encourage Aibileen to share their story to Skeeter. It can be seen in picture 4.99 that Aibileen thinks about Skeeter's favor about the point of view of black maids. Meanwhile, in picture 4.100, Aibileen already accepts helping Skeeter writes a book because the dialogue shows that Aibileen never has a white guest in her house. It means that the guest is Skeeter.

Preacher Green : Courage is daring to do what is right, in spite of the weakness of our flesh. And God tells us, commands us, compels us to love. Amen.
(*The Help*, 00:39:56 – 00:40:12)

The black maids are afraid that when they tell about their stories, they can lose their job, it more takes a risk. Even Aibileen and Minny have been asked to everybody black maid, but they are too afraid. Meanwhile, the book never gets publish if only two stories about the black maid. It can be seen in picture 4.101 and picture 4.102.



Picture 4.101
Skeeter tells that they need more black maid (01:08:19)



Picture 4.102
Aibileen and Minny have been asked for everybody (01:08:21)

Suddenly there is news that there is a nigger murdered when Aibileen goes home. Many black maids come to Aibileen's house after hearing about that news said that they want to help Skeeter by sharing their stories. It can be seen in picture 4.103 and picture 4.104. The news makes the black maids brave to share their stories about work with the white people. They feel that they must share their stories and speak up even it is dangerous.



Picture 4.103
The news about some black people get shot (01:21:19)



Picture 4.104
The more black maids come to Aibileen's house. (01:29:34)

They do not want more sacrifice again when black people are trying to speak up about equality. The black maids want to show to the white people how the white people treat them. They feel relatively safe because this book is anonymous. The book finally publishes and shows the black maids' point of view, and it can be seen in picture 4.105. Even the book gets a positive response because it is already printed a few thousand copies that can be seen from the statements below. The Black maids did take the difficult decision to tell about how they worked for whites. Even they can lose their jobs and can be accused of civil rights.

Aibileen (V.O.) : They printed a few thousand copies with the worst advance Miss Stein had ever seen.
(*The Help*, 01:55:25 – 01:55:27)



Picture 4.105
The book "*The Help*" finally released
(01:55:22)

However, the black maids strengthened their resolve as many things happened to them, and with Skeeter's encouragement that she does not like the discrimination that happened to Blacks. The black maids can finally tell their story, and they also felt moved when white people killed a black people. The murders came after a story ran about Medgar Evers speaking publicly about the real discrimination in Jackson, Mississippi.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

The movies tell how discrimination is shown for black maids; meanwhile, the white people treat them differently, especially in Jackson, Mississippi, in the 1960s. It is beginning with a different bathroom between black maids and white people. Discrimination that appears in this movie is classified as racial discrimination. As a minor who does not have the strength and courage to fight for equality, it makes them keep quiet and accept this unfair treatment. Eugenia “Skeeter” Phelan encourages black maids to speak up about their stories works for white families. Even black maids refuse to share their stories, but finally, they agree to help Skeeter because there is a black murdered by white people.

After there is news about murdered of black activist by white people for talking about discrimination that happen to him. This accident makes the black maids brave to speak up about how being worked with white family. Although, this is very risky for their work because if they found out, they can lose their job. However, the black maid feels pushed to do something after that accident. Fellow blacks, the black maids feel that they need to do something to be heard, even if only through writing in a Skeeter’s book. As Blacks who get unfair treatment from whites, of course they, black maids, hope that through writing can affect their lives so that at least discrimination is reduced.

The Help movie shows that the social class and racial identity can be a factor of discrimination for the black maids. There are four different social classes from the white representatives: the upper class, the middle class, the working class, and the lower class. Even every social class treats black maids differently. When someone feels have power and feels superior, they can treat minorities or the black according to what they want and even the environment support. But it still needs more research to prove whether there is a relationship between social class itself and discrimination.

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