

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This research thesis has explored the topic of multiple oppressions faced by Black women as depicted through the character of Cherie in *Run Sweetheart Run* (2020), using Kimberlé Crenshaw's intersectionality theory as theory. The film serves as a powerful critique of how race and gender intersect to oppress Black women in American society. Through Cherie's character, the film captures how systemic forces of patriarchy, misogyny, and racial bias work together to oppress a Black woman. Her character becomes a voice for countless real-world women whose experiences are often erased or dismissed.

From an intrinsic perspective, the film's narrative structure and cinematic elements show that Cherie's transformation from victim to empowered survivor. The depiction of setting, conflict, and characterization reveals her inner strength and resilience. Her growing defiance and ability to outsmart Ethan, as a main male character, showcase his patriarchal or male domination. He serves as the embodiment of patriarchal power, charming on the surface but deeply violent and manipulative beneath. His character illustrates how male dominance operates under the guise of civility while enacting control and fear.

In the extrinsic discussion, the research exposes attention to broader societal patterns of oppression. Using Crenshaw's theory, the research thesis highlights how Cherie's intersecting identities, as a Black woman, a single mother, and a working-class individual, place her at greater risk of systemic neglect and violence. It also has impacts on Black women being ignored by society and the police. Cherie's

experience exposes the failings of social institutions that often protect abusers more than survivors. Her narrative mirrors the real-life experiences of many Black women in American society, whose struggles remain largely invisible in public discourse and authority.

The film also emphasizes the collective power of women's solidarity and resistance. In the climactic scene, Cherie is not alone because she is supported by a group of women from diverse racial backgrounds, reflecting the power of the solidarity of feminist struggle. Their solidarity action to expose Ethan to sunlight, his only weakness, becomes a symbol for how bravery and solidarity can destroy patriarchal violence. This act not only saves Cherie but symbolizes the dismantling of a larger system of control. It affirms that unity among women is essential to overcoming deeply rooted societal injustices.

In conclusion, this research thesis on *Run Sweetheart Run* (2020) presents poignant and important issues about the lived realities of Black women facing intersecting oppressions in American society. Cherie's journey is both personal and political, reflecting the need for intersectional understanding in confronting systemic abuse. Through both intrinsic and extrinsic representation, the film exposes the violence of male dominance embodied by Ethan and the resilience of women who fight back. Ultimately, the film reminds society that empowerment is not only possible but also necessary when survivors reclaim their voices and communities stand together against injustice system.