



**EXAMINING THE PHENOMENON OF
REVERSE DISCRIMINATION
IN AMERICAN SOCIETY THROUGH
THE LENS OF HIP-HOP RAP MUSIC REFLECTED IN
EMINEM'S *WHITE AMERICA* (2002) &
TOM MACDONALD'S *WHITE BOY* (2018)**

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for S-1 Degree Majoring American Studies in the English Department,
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University

Submitted by:

**Adrian Rafitama Bayuaji
NIM 13020121140129**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG**

2025

PRONOUNCEMENT

I truthfully declare that this thesis is entirely my own work. It has not been submitted, either in whole or in part, for any degree at any university or institution of higher education, whether diploma, undergraduate (S-1), master's (S-2), or doctoral (S-3) level. I also confirm that no material from other sources has been used without proper citation and acknowledgment, except for those clearly referenced in the bibliography.

Semarang, November 29th, 2025

Adrian Rafitama Bayuaji

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

The many miles we walked

The many things we learned.

The building of a shrine

Only just to burn.

- **Daniel Lanois (2019)**

*This thesis is dedicated to me, My
family, and my friends*

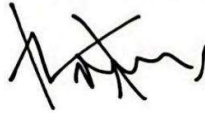
APPROVAL

**Examining the Phenomenon of Reverse Discrimination in American Society
through the Lens of Hip-Hop Rap Music Reflected in Eminem's *White America*
(2002) & Tom Macdonald's *White Boy* (2018)**

Written by:
Adrian Rafitama Bayuaji
NIM: 13020121140129

Is approved by the thesis advisor 18th June 2025

Thesis Advisor



Arido Laksono S.S., M.Hum
197507111999031002

The Head of English Department



Dr. Drs. Oktiva Herry Candra M.Hum.
196710041993031003

VALIDATION

EXAMINING THE PHENOMENON OF REVERSE DISCRIMINATION IN AMERICAN SOCIETY THROUGH THE LENS OF HIP-HOP RAP MUSIC REFLECTED IN EMINEM'S *WHITE AMERICA* (2002) & TOM MACDONALD'S *WHITE BOY* (2018)

Submitted by:

Adrian Rafitama Bayuaji
130201211400129

Approved by
Strata I Thesis Examination Committee
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University
On

Chairman,
Dr. Retno Wulandari, S.S., M.A
NIP. 197505252005012002



Member,
Sindhy Sintya Mianani, S.S., M.Hum
NIP. 199405182024062003



Member,
Arido Laksono, S.S., M.Hum
NIP. 197507111999031002



The Dean of Faculty Humanities



Prof. Dr. Alamsyah, S.S., M.Hum.

NIP. 197211191998021002

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRONOUNCEMENT	i
MOTTO AND DEDICATION.....	ii
APPROVAL	iii
VALIDATION.....	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	vii
ABSTRACT	ix
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background of Study	1
1.2 Research Question	3
1.3 Scope of Study	3
1.4 Aims of Study	4
1.5 Previous Studies.....	4
1.6 Research Method	8
1.6.1 Method of Collecting Data	8
1.6.2 Method of Research	8
1.6.3 Method of Approach	9
1.7 Organization of Writing.....	9
CHAPTER II INTRINSIC THEORITECAL FRAMEWORK	11
2.1 Figurative Language	11
2.1.1 Hyperbole	11
2.1.2 Symbolism.....	12
2.1.3 Imagery.....	13
2.1.4 Antithesis (paradox)	13
2.1.5 Metaphor	14
2.1.6 Personification.....	14
2.1.7 Metonymy	15
2.1.8 Synecdoche.....	16
2.1.9 Simile	17

CHAPTER 3 EXTRINSIC THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	17
3.1 Reverse Discrimination Phenomenon.....	18
3.2 Racial Conflict between Caucasian & African-American Community in America during the 2000s.....	19
3.3 Racial Discrimination towards White American Rappers	21
3.4 Eminem and Tom MacDonald’s Biography	22
CHAPTER 4 DISCUSSION.....	26
4.1 Figurative Language Found in Eminem’s <i>White America</i> & Tom MacDonald’s <i>White Boy</i>	26
4.1.1 Eminem’s <i>White America</i>	26
4.1.2 Tom MacDonald’s <i>White Boy</i>	35
4.2 Reverse Discrimination Reflected in Eminem’s <i>White America</i> & Tom MacDonald’s <i>White Boy</i>	43
CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION	48
REFERENCES.....	49
APPENDIX	54

ABSTRACT

White America (2002) by Eminem and *White Boy* (2018) by Tom MacDonald are songs which explored the experience from white artists in Hip-hop industry. Both songs represented different eras of hip-hop and the influence of white people inside the industry. These songs brought the messages of reverse discrimination which they experienced inside an industry that heavily influence by African-American community. This study explores Eminem and Tom MacDonald experiences by utilizes the theory from Hess (2005). This study applies the phenomenological approach stated by Poole (1971) in order to breakdown Eminem and Tom MacDonald's experience of reverse discrimination from their songs. The result found that although that the causes of reverse discrimination that the artists are similar which are affect by their physical traits but the manifestation of the reverse discrimination experiences from both rappers were different, their songs provide that discrimination toward white artists existed in the Hip-hop industry and the community. The manifestation of discrimination Eminem experienced was caused due to his physical appearance, while Tom experienced it due to the accusation as a culture appropriator. Even though Hip-hop already has changed and people awareness about discrimination has increased significantly, reverse discrimination targeted to white artists still persist.

Keywords: reverse discrimination, hip-hop rap music