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Frames of Racism in Novel “*Dear Martin*” by Nic Stone 2017

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Abstract

The aim of the research is to know how the central frames of color-blind racism are experienced by minorities in Nic Stone’s novel Dear Martin. This research used a descriptive qualitative method. In collecting the data, the researcher analyzed the object by using the theory of color-blind racism by Bonilla Silva. The results of the research are in the form of several findings about racist acts in ideology of color-blind racism by the majority (white people) against the minority (black people) especially the teenager of African-American. There are four central frames of color-blind racism as the problem of this research, namely; Abstract Liberalism, Naturalization Racism, Cultural Racism, and Minimization Racism. The researcher found that racist acts still occur in African-American life based on the four central frames color-blind racism system applied to racial equality in the novel.

Keywords: *Dear Martin, Racism, Color-Blind Racism, Sociological.*

1. Introduction

Racism is an inseparable part of Africa-America history and culture, based on a single principle, the white majority’s conviction that they are superior to all people of color, racism also defined as the hate of one person by another because of customs, language, skin color, or any factor (Reid, 2019). Where the racism related between concept discrimination of ethnic, religion, race, custom, or physical characteristics of a person. The attitude of racism gives an action that feels a higher degree compared to people who lower identity. Another definition of racism according to Alana, she explains that racism is such a pervasive concept that it’s easy to mistake it for something that simply exists; a fact of existence. Racism is therefore linked to the fear and even hate that people are generally supposed to have for one another (Lentin, 2011).

Racism is an ideology which states that racial differences can cause problems in societies that will never end until now. Racism also arises because of the differences in terms of psychology, ideology, and economics. There are many racist acts that occur around us that can describe that racist in human life is a serious problem and difficult to avoid. Racism in the United States and several other countries is still expanding and creates an intractable conflict throughout the civilization of the world community and becomes a dark history for all nations in this world.

The phenomenon and cases of racism are a form of hostility towards black people, resulting in their group being attacked often for no reason and simply assumed inferiority complex. Racism is also something that is irrational and often toxic. In many racist cases,

the death of George Floyd is seen as a reflection of the various phenomena of racism that aroused the anger of the black people in the United States. The phenomenon of racism in Indonesia also often occurs openly, especially the racist treatment experienced by Papuans and other countries. This explains that racism is a problem of the world that often occurs and is difficult to stop.

A novel *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone published in 2017, this book appeared on The New York Time Best Seller and got some accolades. *Dear Martin* described the reality in people's lives. Nic Stone in his novel tells of a teenager who experiences racist acts by white people. This of course has to do with the real life of a part of American society who oppressed minorities. As we know that racist action was born from the thinking of American society, which says that black people are not the same as white people, even considering that minorities are very lowly people. So that this thought is raised in a novel with a background about the condition of African people receiving unfair treatment from Americans.

Literature refers to the creative and imaginative writing that aims to emotionally and intellectually engage readers through major literary genres including drama, poetry, and novels, as well as sub genres like fable, parable, and short stories (Emmanuel, 2018). Of the many literary works that were born from their creators, one form of literary work that was born in the form of writing, one example is the novel. Novel is also one of the greatest forms of work in a literary work, where the author gives beautiful things in their writing, so that people reading them can feel the beauty that is in the writing. Jamie said, the novel is a substantial story with several characters and a plot that spans a long time period and may have many settings (Jamie, 2015).

The novel *Dear Martin* obviously describes a phenomenon that is familiar to African-American people, that racism is a view against understanding held by society and denies a certain group of people based on race, degree, religion, and another. According to Paul, racism is founded on the idea from white people which is a powerful fiction imposed by power and violence. Racism has long been a feature of many human cultures for justifying inequality and violence towards those who are inferior or different (Kivel, 2011).

One of the racist actions that appear in this novel is very different from the racist in previous years, where the majority emphasized torture on the minority. "*Dear Martin*" has a very different racism conflict and it can be said that the racism that appears in this novel is a new type of racism issue. The type of racism in question is color-blind racism with the term "*racism without racists*," this form of racism is hidden, invisible, and does not seem racist. This form of racist ideology is very dangerous.

The majorities of white people stated that "*I do not see color, but only people*," there is no such thing as discrimination and equal opportunity is available to everyone, whether white, black or Latin, they all believe that America has achieved racial equality. Color-blind racism is a racial ideology that to try emphasizes the most effective way to end discrimination against minorities by treat them as equally as possible, regardless of ethnic, race, or culture. Color-blind racism is part of the past so that this ideology is to restrict human understanding of the concept of race and racism in the community. However, this is not enough to heal racial wounds that experience acts of racism, so this ideology is considered another form of racism.

However, the concept of color-blind racism is inseparable from being racist, even though racial equality already exists in the life between white people and black people, but black people feel that they will not be separated from being racist. Psychology researchers,

specifically Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, coined the term “color-blind racism” to describe the “new” racist ideology that white people used in post-Civil Rights America (Silva, 2014). Colorblindness, or the inability to see color (race), is universal argument that white use to justify racial discrimination in today’s culture (Silva, Forman, & Embrick, 2000-2014).

The purpose of the researcher chose a novel *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone as the object of research, first because the researcher is interested in analysis literature. This novel also is a very interesting story because it really depicts the life of society, not only in America there, but also indirectly in Indonesian society. This novel provides many moral values that can be seen from the characters and plot in the story. Then the racist action in this novel is a new case as a conflict of racism. The purpose of this research is to analyze the issue of racism in the novel *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone using the theory of Eduardo Bonilla Silva, namely color-blind racism, then this study aims to provide the description of racism that occurs in the novel. Give readers a broad understanding of the new racism that occurs in the novel and in the life of African-American society.

Anjasmara (2020) in his thesis *Racism Reflected in Nic Stone’s Dear Martin 2017; A Critical Race Theory*. This thesis used as a reference is critical racial theory in the novel “*Dear Martin*” by Stone as an object. The method used by researchers in this thesis was library research by collecting data from objects suitable with the issues to be analyzed. There are three racism issues in this thesis, namely; institutional is the distinction in punishment between black and white in criminal cases, interpersonal is that the two races look badly off each other, and internal is a case of racism against themselves or their own people.

Abielah (2016) in the research title *Racial Prejudice in Harper Lee’s “Go Set a Watchman.”* Her research identified racial prejudice in Harper’s novel, *Go Set a Watchman*. The data was collected by interpreting and analyzing the words, sentences and dialogues from the novel. So the results show that the racial prejudice that happens in the novel *Go Set a Watchman* has four aspects: social structure, they are; economic life aspect, legal processes and politics, inter-racial marriage and family patterns, and the educational aspect.

Robiah (2018) in her thesis *Racism Reflected in Color Blind Novel (1968) by Cookson; Critical Race Theory*. This research analyzed the racism reflected in the novel “*Color Blind*” by Cookson as an object by using critical race theory. Data collection is done by analyzing and interpreting descriptively as the method in this research. The racism issue illustrated in this research is the existence of unfair treatment by the majority group of minorities which leads to community racism.

The similarity between this research and the four previous studies are that they all raise the issue of racism of the majority against minorities that occurs in American society and from the four previous studies they all analyzed the novel about racism as an object. The previous findings are that Suryani showed the same analysis as this research, where in her thesis analysis the central frames of color-blind racism in the novel *Dear Martin* used Bonilla Silva theory. Other similarities are seen from the research method and the research concept that is about literature.

The differences are research focuses on analyzing the action of racism which is a new racism about color-blind racism. This racism is based on frames of color-blind racism, a new theory suggestion by Eduardo Bonilla Silva. For the thesis from Suryani also analyzed color-blind racism using the theory from Eduardo Bonilla Silva and also used the novel “*Dear Martin*” by Nic Stone as an object, but this research just only analyzed three

of the central frames of color-blind racism and analyzed color-blind racism reflected in the novel. This research analyzed four types of frames of color-blind racism in the novel *Dear Martin* using Bonilla Silva theory. The conclusions of the four research above focus on analyzing racism received by black people from the issue of racism, racial prejudice, to unfair treatment in the majority group.

Based on the background above, the researchers aimed at identifying how the central frames of color-blind racism are experienced by minorities in Nic Stone's novel "Dear Martin."

1.1. Literature Review

1.1.1. Color-Blind Racism

Over time, there is a new racism which is better known as *Color-Blind Racism* which is part of the racism issue. This ideology has a role in the life experience of a society to forget the racism issue in the past. Color-blind racism is a form of racism that is hidden, invisible, and seems very dangerous. According to Silva in her book "*Racism without Racists: Color-Blind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequality in the United States*," color-blind racism has arisen as a new powerful ideology to defend the current racial order. Color-blind racism on the other hand, is a strange racial ideology, while it specializes in "*blaming the victim*," as all ideologies do, it does so in a somewhat indirect, "*now you see it, now you do not*" manner that is consistent with the current racism (Silva, 2014).

This form of racism also shows that Africa-America society has achieved racial equality. Racial equality which means that there is no longer any act of discrimination or enslavement in society by the majority to minority, but this form of racism is known to be more dangerous because the views of the majority do not care about racial issues experienced by black people that clearly still occur around them, and they already knew their position as white people.

According to Shannon, the line of reasoning contributes to the anti-racist tactic of color-blindness which is to "not see," this term to not include race in any of one's judgment of others (Shannon, 2014). Color blind-racism provides an opportunity to place all people. The minority assumes that racial equality makes them free from racist actions, but racial equality itself makes the minority still accept racist treatment by the majority. Although white people no longer see color (*color blindness*), racism is still born from their thinking, and accidentally still plays the race between the both.

Color-blind racism hides the fact that the black people still face systematic discrimination and left behind white in many important areas or aspects of life. Their chances of pursuing up to whites are very narrow. As a result, dominant racial frames serve as a road map for rulers as they walk the often rough road to dominance (Silva, 2014). Some arguments from experts and communities believe that the color-blind racism was indeed there and it is a good thing. However, the color-blind racism was not desirable and may cause more harm in inter-racial interactions. The perspective of color-blind racism was viewed as an ideology that provides a framework in which to ignore racism.

1.1.2. Central Frames of Color-Blind racism

The central frames are a component of the ideology of color-blind racism that is assigned to interpret the racial issues. The central frames of color-blind racism are determined based on analysis of the interviews with DAS respondents and college students revealed color-blind racism contains central frames, these frames are employed by the vast majority (white people) respondents.

The four central frames are *abstract liberalism*, *naturalization*, *cultural racism*, and *minimization of racism*. Among the four central frames of color-blind racism, abstract liberalism is the most important in the issue of racism, because it is the basis of the new racism ideology and is also difficult to understand. The following is the definition the four central frames of color-blind racism by Bonilla Silva, as follows:

1.1.2.1. Abstract Liberalism

According to Silva in his book, the frames of abstract liberalism involves abstracting concept from political liberalism (e.g., “fair opportunity,” the thought that compulsion should not be used to achieve social policy) and economic liberalism (e.g., option, individualism) to justify racial issue (Silva, 2014). As explained, this form of racism is related to politics and economics.

Abstract liberalism emphasizes the ideas of liberalism and the existence of equal opportunity, both of which believe that politics and economics only create divisions toward race groups. There are principles in abstract liberalism, such as: **Equal opportunity**; the existence of a racial equality system in the ideology of color-blind racism provided by minorities to forget about racist issues, so that one of the principles of this ideology is equal opportunity which explained the treatment between individuals or groups in accepting fair conditions and opportunities. **Meritocracy**; Meritocracy is more to the principle of white people, where the view of white people in this form of racism is based on their principle “*Where a people are appreciated and selected based on their hard work, not from the privileges they have,*” so that the majority think that minority are not seen from work hard or achievement but a special place given by the minority. Finally, the white people feel that this also deserved to be given by the majority and is more special in anything.

Abstract liberalism allows white people to express concern for race, social inequality, and at once oppose race-specific policies directly to resolve racial inequality. Abstract liberalism believes that no group should be selected to get “special treatment” and “individual freedom” which is something that must be protected above all else.

But, ironically, this allowed white people to protect their status and their own group interests at the expense of the special group interests of minorities. This form of justification for white people who have the privileges they have and do not care about the negative consequences that blacks receive.

Here we can still see racial inequality, therefore the ideology underlying abstract liberalism serves to show and inform us that we all have equal opportunities. However, the racial divide is shown where white people blame the rights of minorities which are obtained from working hard to achieve what they want and here whites are trying to show the privileges they have and do not want these privileges to be lost and blacks have to accept that.

The frame of abstract liberalism explains that the majority sees minorities as having equal access to education, accommodations, and jobs. They assume that discrimination is only an individual act. The majority use abstract liberalism to emphasize the bootstrap concept (act on its own) of how black people have to work hard to achieve these goals without special support. So that the existence of affirmative action, which is a form of claim, requires that minorities ignore various institutional practices and are given by the state and do not care about negative consequences. This emphasizes and provides many reasons that minorities should ignore history.

Abstract liberalism proves that black people do not deserve recognition that must be equal to white people. The existence of racial equality in this case is only a form of effort

to forget the racist history that has been experienced by black people. Although there is racial equality applied in the United States, the majority have more status and they are the first to deserve privileges in any case.

1.1.2.2. Naturalization Racism

Naturalization is a frame that encourages white people to rationalize racism or racial expression by claiming they are natural occurrences (Silva, 2014). This frame of racism is the existence of racial groups which is a natural event, this frame also was said to be natural because it was born of the incident and believed to come from groups or communities. The frame of naturalization strengthens them that racism is not a racist thing.

This form of color-blind racism is a phenomenon where the separation between the two groups is considered normal because of their backgrounds. Naturalization is a form that allows white people to justify/manage racial inequality as if it were an unavoidable/natural occurrence.

1.1.2.3. Cultural Racism

According to Silva, cultural racism is a frame that uses direct reasoning of culture to justify minority status in society, such as “Mexicans do not place a high value on education” or “Black people have too many babies” (Silva, 2014). Cultural racism supports the existence of racial and cultural differences to explain the position of minorities in society.

In this case, an argument or a view from the white people assumes that the black people are living in poverty. So that the model of this racism explained by Eduardo as a “culture of poverty.” Where the majorities see the minorities as dangler because they are poor.

Cultural racism is the third form of the central frames of color-blind racism which explains the social economic status of minorities. Majorities often denounce black people for failure because they do not make remaining choices in adapting to normal culture. This form criticizes minorities for their dysfunctional cultural and family values. This is a criticism that is closely connected with the two previous forms which explain the concept of bootstrap and are rationalized by the majority.

1.1.3. Minimization Racism

Minimization of racism is a frame that assumes that discrimination is no longer a major factor impacting minorities’ chances of life, “It’s better now than it was before” or “Discrimination exists, but there are plenty of work opportunities” (Silva, 2014). This form of racism to minimize the issue of racism in the social sphere, model of this racism shows that there is no longer a discrimination which influenced the life opportunity of minorities, the opinion of white people that racism is something that is usually done by the majority and does not care about the racism in around them.

Minimization racism is another form of the majority to show racism. This form was considered particularly dangerous because it allowed white people to ignore claims of racial inequality experienced by individuals or minorities. Minimization is known as “playing the race card” or accusation and “reverse discrimination” or accuse minorities of being over sensitive and using race as an excuse.

Minimization also allows white people to act racist through the rhetoric of color-blind racism, by silencing the voices of the oppressed, to tell those experiencing racism that black people are “hypersensitive” people, and allowing for oppression that black people accept.

1.1.4. Sociological Literature Approach

Sociological is one approach of literary studies to understand and assess literary works based on community and social aspects. In sociological literature to understand literary phenomena in relation to the social aspect of humans in society. According to Michele, sociological is the collection of concepts and conceptual frameworks used to make sense of society's multidimensional, empirical patterns and underlying processes (Michele, 2014).

Sociological is a science that studies social relationships and gets data from a variety of source literature. Human relationships and their environment are represented in literature and sociology. One of the ways to interact with the environment is real life. Sociological can be taught as a collection of literary facts and their implications for the social context. According to Jonathan, sociological theory is a theory that describes the social universe related to human actions in life, environment conditions, and social processes that are important for understanding reality at the time and place in particular (Jonathan, 2014).

1.1.5 Synopsis of Novel "*Dear Martin*"

After reading some reviews and analyzing the novel *Dear Martin* on the internet and getting information from www.amazon.com, the researcher was given a synopsis about this novel. Justyce McAllister is an African-American teenager, he is 17th years old. Justyce is a child who has a good personality, is an exemplary student, and always helps his friends. Because of traits and characteristics like that, he was awarded a scholarship to attend a prestigious high school in Atlanta.

Justyce's life must be faced with racist behavior by white policemen who judge Justyce as a criminal offender based on the skin color of Justyce. At first he got the racist behavior when he was accused of stealing a car when he tried to drive home his drunk ex-girlfriend. Justyce collects a letter from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and sees how the teaching of these letters may apply to modern American life.

The reality is that Justyce still faced daily discrimination by his classmates who claim to be "color blind." He also felt that he was not accepted wherever he was. This made Justyce forced to live in depression and feel that this was the worst. Justyce was also traumatized by police brutality which resulted in gunshot wounds to his body and death of his friend. Novel *Dear Martin* itself was written based on the true story of the shooting African-American teenager.

2. Method

Another method used by researchers is the descriptive qualitative method. According to Steven, a descriptive qualitative method is written or spoken words from the people and observable behavior to make a conclusion from the data (Steven, Robert, & Marjorie, 2016). This method will focus on analyzing the central frames of racism in the novel "*Dear Martin*."

In collecting data, the researcher used note taking as an instrument of the research. Note taking is a technique for taking notes when out in the field, reminding people that they will always have permanent observation and they will be sent to the place or things that researcher is interested in (Steven, Robert, & Marjorie, 2016). After reading the novel *Dear Martin*, summarizing every chapter of the novel and other supporting references, the researcher was made notes to classify the important points or sentences that are related to the problems and objectives of the research.

3. Results

3.1 Findings

3.1.1 Abstract Liberalism

Abstract liberalism of racism entails explaining racial issues using abstract principles when white people explain racists concerns, they use this frame to describe their abstract behavior. This frames is based on two supporting principles or ideologies, they are:

3.1.1.1 *Equal opportunity*

Equal opportunity explains that everyone will receive all rights, both white people and black people, but in reality this is often used to resist affirmative action to black people. In the novel *Dear Martin*, this action is shown by white people including Jared and his friends. Jared who did not receive justice when Justyce was able to get into Yale University.

From the quotation above when Doc as the leader of the school's debate team into the Class Evolution opens the discussion and Jared wants to discuss how affirmative action discriminates against members of the majority and compares his excess with Justyce.

Jared: I wanna discuss how affirmative action discriminates against members of the majority.

Justyce: (*Eyebrows rise*).

SJ: You're not even serious.

Jared: Oh, I certainly am. Let's observe, shall we? I'm ranked number two in our class, I'm captain of the baseball team, I do community service on weekends, **and I got higher test scores than Justyce...yet he got into Yale early action, and I didn't. I know for a fact it's because I'm white and he's black.** (P.64/D.1)

The argument shown by Jared is one of the frames of abstract liberalism, namely *Equal Opportunity* where it is often used as an affirmative action against black people. Jared's actions reflect that he rejects the justice that Justyce received in getting into Yale University, whereas he does not. He thinks that minorities are often given special opportunities to the inflicted of the majority.

3.1.1.2. *Meritocracy*

In this principle, white people believed that someone would be chosen and rewarded based on their hard work, not on their features. In this novel Jared's actions show that he has everything but justice. So this blames affirmative action on minorities who are selected into Yale University based on the rights of equality they receive, and When Quan Banks explain the legal system in life of African-American. The quotation of the action in question is as follows:

From the quotation above when the debate is going on and discusses affirmative action. **Jared: Yeah it does. He took a spot I didn't get because Yale has to fill a quota...Sarah Jane: Justyce got in because he deserved to.... Jared: I deserved to get in too! Affirmative action is bullshit.** (P.66-67/D.2)

Jared argues that the minorities accepted at Yale University are not what he expected, because Yale provides places and prioritizes minorities so that the quota of places provided is limited. This makes Jared think that equality only belongs to black people like Justyce's friends.

3.1.2. Naturalization Racism

Allows white people to rationalize racial issues by claiming they are natural occurrences. The act of color blindness in the novel *Dear Martin* is shown to the majority who think that racism is a natural phenomenon. Related things to racism are reasonable. Jared and his friends claim that color-blind racism in the United States has been implemented and even that racial equality already exists, so they think that the mistakes made by white people have become a reality that just happened. Following the quotes from frames of naturalization racism:

The quotation above is when the debate is going on in the class, and their discussion switches from other topics to talk about the current legal system. **SJ: I know you'd prefer to ignore this stuff because you benefit from it, but walking around pretending inequality doesn't exist won't make it disappear, Jared.** You and Manny, who are equal in pretty much every way apart from race, could commit the same crime, but it's almost guaranteed that he would receive a harsher punishment than you.

Manny: Why do I keep getting pulled into this?

Jared: Obviously because you're black, bro.

SJ's argument shows that the issue of racism that occurs around the majority will never go away so that American society ignores these issues related to racism, racial inequality shows color blindness by nature. There is even an injustice received by black people when it comes to receiving punishment for committing crimes. Then Jared says to Manny confirm the fact that blacks including Manny and his friends are the fount of every fault or incident because they are black.

From the quotation above when Jared and his friend invited Justyce to Halloween. They wear costumes that describe some stereotypes. Trey looks back and forth between Jus and Manny. **"Don't get it twisted, my dawgs. These white boys might be standing here next to y'll, but y'll stiil ain't nothin' but niggas to them, ya heard me?" he says. "Ain't no amount of money nor intelligence can change that shit."**

Then a gang called Black Jihad. This gang led by Martel Montgomery, was annoyed with Blake's Klansman costume. One of the gang members, Trey, punches Blake in the face. And Trey argues about the white people view of black people to Justyce and Manny that they still see black people as a Negro and that won't change.

3.1.3. Cultural Racism

Cultural racism to explain the status of minorities in society, it relies on cultural reasons. In the novel *Dear Martin*, frames of color-blind are reflected in the attitude of Jared, a white teenager, who is also Justyce's school friend. His attitude showed frames of cultural racism when conducting a debate on equality led by Doc as the supervisor of the debate team. The quotes that show these actions are as follows:

The quotation above when discussion in the class, they talk about equality. Jared: Okay, I'll bite. In my opinion, yes, we have reached full equality when it comes to race...Doc: Expound, please...**Jared: Well, anyone born here is a citizen with full rights. There are people who claim certain "injustices" are race-related, but if you ask me, they're just being divisive.** (P.29/D.5)

Jared explains about equality and offends the people who are against the injustice that only can divide. This is related to the social background and culture of the American community who live in their respective rights and equality, so it creates a color blind system.

From the quotation above When the Doc opens the class Social Evolution and starts from discussion about the "Declaration of Independent" and Jared offended by injustices. Jared: Well, anyone born here is a citizen with full rights. There are people who claim certain

“injustices” are race-related, but if you ask me, they’re just being divisive.....**Jared: America’s pretty color-blind place now.** (P.29/D.5)

Jared explains that American citizens have full rights from birth and injustice related to race according to him is only divitiated, this shows how the lives of the majority and minorities in America, and also some of American society always to offend related about the race, because America is one of places that look at race and color blindness are things the majority can do today.

3.1.4. Minimization Racism

Indicates that prejudice is no longer a major influence on minorities’ life choices. This form of color-blind racism is almost similar to the form of cultural racism. Where people think that racism in the United States is a common thing. When they accidentally talk or throw a joke in front of black people, white people think it’s just a joke. In the novel *Dear Martin*, Jared and his white friends often make jokes or insults about race. Here are some quotes related to minimization racism:

From the quotation above on Blake’s birthday. Blake accidentally throws a joke to friends of Justyce who are both blacks. Blake said **“There’s this *fine-ass* black girl here from Decatur Prep, and I was thinking you guys could wingman it up for me and shit. Home girl’s got the fattest ass I’ve ever seen, and I think if she meets my niggas, I’ll have a good chance of getting’ her upstairs.** You feel me, dogs?” He nudges Jus and grins. (P.96-97/D.6)

The jokes from Blake on Justyce’s black female friends make them angry and offended by racist jokes made by whites, this shows Jared’s friends always mention race which makes blacks feel sensitive.

From the quotation above Blake always offends the advantages of Justyce and is associated with race because Justyce is black people. Manny: All right, y’all, let’s calm down before this gets outta hand...Justyce: It’s already outta hand, Manny. Your boy Blake is a racist...**Blake: What is it with you people and the god damn race card, huh?** (P.97/D.7)

The frames of minimization are shown when Justyce feels fretful and angry, and Blake again says that black people are sensitive people and always play their race card. This is a joke that is often uttered by whites against blacks and describes the actions of color-blind racism in the form of minimization.

The quotation above when Justyce feels weird to Jared and his friends. Justyce went to his room and met with Manny, and Manny told about Jared being racist on a Saturday night at the festival. **“When we saw this black lady and with four kids, and this fool called her Shaniqua and make joke about baby daddies,** I couldn’t take anymore, Jus. I called him on it, and he rolled his eyes. **Told me to ‘stop being so fucking sensitive.’”** (P.114/D.8)

Jared with ease threw jokes at black people again and made Manny angry and annoyed. So Jared told him not to be a sensitive black person. This explains that Jared’s actions describe a frame of minimization racism because the racist attitude from Jared offends to black people.

3.2 Discussion

The act of racism that shows the nature of abstract liberalism by the majority to the minority is quite clear from the two ideological principles of *Equal Opportunity* and *Meritocracy*. Where this is shown that the majority oppose affirmative action to also get racial equality and privileges given to minorities.

The data from abstract liberalism is clear. The two data explain that the *Equal Opportunity* action is against affirmative action when Jared, who is a white teenager, opposes that Justyce a black teenager, was accepted at Yale earlier because they only saw Justyce's intelligence and talent. According to Jared, equality provided by the minorities can only harm the majorities.

From the ideology of *Meritocracy* based on the data taken in the novel where the act of color-blind racism is shown by the majority that privilege is only owned by white people. This is back against affirmative action in racial equality, when racial equality is only given to minorities. The data obtained explains that white people should also have any place opportunity, this is against affirmative action to protect privileges of white people. Jared blames the advantages and opportunities received by the majority group, and wants to justify equality in order to get the justice he deserves.

Then it is proven that there are abstract actions in the principle of meritocracy which explain that white people, especially the police, only defend and serve their own benefits. This includes where white people protect their privileges. From the four data obtained in the form of color-blind racism, it proves that there is an abstract act that occurs in the novel and creates an act of color-blind racism that is accepted by the African-American community.

The existence of racist acts in the frame of naturalization which means that racism is something that just happens based on natural and historical events that happened before. This makes the majority act racist and ignore racist issues that occur. This form illustrates that racism in the United States is an event that supports the existence of racial groups. From some of the data taken in this novel, the attitude of the majority sees racism just happening around them, they even commit racist acts.

From the two data it is clear that the majority ignored racist events that happened after Jared ignored the issues of inequality. Then where Trey assumes that white people still see black people as Negro people and Doc's experience of his life face racist acts because it cannot be separated from history.

In this frame it can be defined that even though there is racial equality, inequality will never disappear and will continue to occur. The color-blind racism action shown here is where the view of white people to black people is always wrong, because racism is a natural occurrence and present from birth.

Cultural racism is a frame of color-blind racism that supports racial differences in cultural practice that can be seen from the lives of racial groups. The act of racism shown in these frames is seen based on the social and cultural life of the minority. Poverty is the main thing that created racist actions that are accepted by minorities. The data obtained from the novel, it is clear that white people view to black people as a group who live in poverty because of their laziness.

Some data obtained from the novel show that color-blind racism is clearly visible, especially in this frame. Based on the six data in this frame it is clearly a color-blind event in the United States today, and every person born there has their own rights, especially in claiming injustice based on race.

Then explains about the social life of the American people who have implemented the color-blind system. The view that white people do not see the struggle of black people in achieving equality because they live in small groups. The data clearly show that where the majority blame the poverty culture of the minority in achieving racial equality and where Jared blames Justyce's life, which has a poor background and is associated with the nature of African-American descent who is quite harsh and sensitive.

From the explanation of the data above, it can be seen that the frame of cultural racism shown in the novel and how white people view to black people without looking at skin color but rather the background of life and culture.

The most visible racism shown in this novel is a frame of minimization racism. This frame really shows that the majority no longer see skin color but racial equality implemented in the United States makes racism happen, so they see only people not skin color. The racist jokes often played by black people intentionally make black people play their race card and mention the equality that each has. From the data found in the novel, it is clear that this act of racism seems to have occurred invisibly. Two data explain that the majority always offend race and relate it to the mistakes and actions of minorities, so they feel angry and not to accept the view of white people to them. It is clear that blacks always make jokes related to race and offend black people and think they always play the race card and are known as sensitive people.

Based on the data obtained, the existence of a system that is applied in African-American life is a matter of ignoring racist actions or issues. So that white people took it as normal, and made black people feel like they still accepted injustice.

From the four central frames of color-blind racism above, the frame of minimization racism is shown more in the novel, because minimization racism is a problem that most blacks experience in color-blind racism. After America implemented a system of racial equality, where now the minorities already have the same position as the majorities. They have been given a place, rights, and freedom in their lives, but the dark history that has been experienced by minorities (blacks) for racist acts will never be separated from their lives.

The frame of minimization racism shows that white people have never considered racism as a serious problem in their United States, so this tends to lead to a color-blind attitude towards racist issues. This frame is also an attempt by white people to simplify all forms of discrimination that occur around them, because color-blind racism is an ideology where white people no longer see color but only people, then the frame of minimization is also a racism problem for the form of indifference and also the ignorance of white people about how dark history affects a black people's life today.

After determining the problem of racist in the novel and related to real life, the frames of minimization racism is one of the most racist problems that often happen, because these frames make the white people act racist invisible and think it is a normal issue by throwing racist jokes at black people.

From the discussion above color-blind racism shows the sociological issue based on the problem of human life that are described in two groups, between the minority (*black people*) and the majority (*white people*). Both groups cause the problem in protecting their rights and equality that they have. The existence of racial equality as explained in color-blind racism ideology shows that racist still exists and the actions are different from the past racist. This is described in the four central frames of color-blind racism which explain how the minorities experience racist acts shown by the majority in defending their rights.

Based on the results of the data found in the novel, it has similarities with previous research, based on a thesis from Suryani, it is stated that the racist conflict that occurs with this research explains the same thing and uses the issue of color-blind racism. Then other studies provide a racist picture that occurs in America, especially against black people. The relationship of this research with previous research gives the same results on the issue of racism but with different conflicts.

4. Conclusion

In the problem of the research, the researcher concluded that there is an action of color-blind racism based on the found twenty-five quotations as data from the novel "Dear Martin" that are related with the four central frames of color-blind racism, such as; Abstract liberalism which have two principles ideologies; *Equal Opportunity* and *Meritocracy*, Naturalization racism, Cultural racism, and Minimization racism. Among the four central frames of color-blind racism, the researcher found a frame that is more dominant and as becomes matter in the issues of racism that occurs in the novel that is the minimization racism, because white people want to simplify all forms of racism with a color-blind racism system that is applied in African-American life. As an effort to ignore the racist actions that occur, these frames show that racist is an invisible thing in African-American life and various racist acts are no longer a serious problem.

In the case of racism that occurred in this research, as readers and the public, we must understand more about racism. It is indeed very difficult to let go of the racist culture that occurs in some countries, but as a human being who lives in society, you must be able to understand every situation that exists. Always respect other people despite different cultures, skin color, or race. Because actually racism is only created by humans and it can be changed slowly by ourselves. This research can provide a means of knowledge to understanding about racism and how to act in dealing with racists based on the data found in the novel.

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