

**RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND POWER
RELATIONS PORTRAYED IN *HIDDEN FIGURES*
FILM (2016)**

THESIS



**UIN SUNAN AMPEL
S U R A B A Y A**

BY:

ALIFATUR ROCHMI KHOIRUNNISA

REG. NUMBER 03040320090

**ENGLISH LITERATURE DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF ADAB AND HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL
SURABAYA**

2024

DECLARATION

I am the undersigned below:

Name : Alifatur Rochmi Khoirunnisa
NIM : 03040320090
Department : English Literature
Faculty : Adab and Humanities
University : UIN Sunan Ampel

declare that the thesis entitled:

**Racial Discrimination and Power Relations Portrayed in Hidden Figures
Film (2016)**

is my own work, and not a plagiarism/fabrication in part or in whole.

If in the future it is proven that this thesis results from plagiarism/fabrication, either in part or whole, then I am willing to accept sanctions for such actions in accordance with the applicable provisions.

Surabaya, 5 June 2024

Who makes the statement



Alifatur Rochmi Khoirunnisa

Reg. Number. 03040320090

APPROVAL SHEET

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND POWER RELATIONS PORTRAYED IN
HIDDEN FIGURES FILM (2016)

by
Alifatur Rochmi Khoirunnisa
Reg. Number 03040320090

approved to be examined by the board of examiners of English Literature
Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya


Surabaya, 5 June 2024

Advisor 1



Tristy Kartika Fi'aunillah, M.A.
NIP. 199303182020122018

Advisor 2



Endratno Pilih Swasono, M.Pd.
NIP. 19710672003121001

Acknowledged by
The Head of the English Literature Department



Endratno Pilih Swasono, M.Pd.
NIP. 19710672003121001

EXAMINER SHEET

This is to certify that the *Sarjana* thesis of Alifatur Rochmi Khoirunnisa (Reg. Number 03040320090) entitled **Racial Discrimination and Power Relations Portrayed in Hidden Figures Film (2016)** has been approved and accepted by the board of examiners for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)*, English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

Surabaya, 25 June 2024

Board of Examiners:

Examiner 1



Tristy Kartika Fi'aunillah, M.A.
NIP. 199303182020122018

Examiner 2



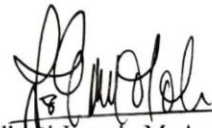
Endratno Pili Swasono, M.Pd.
NIP. 19710672003121001

Examiner 3



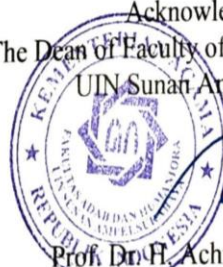
Murni Fidiyanti, M.A.
NIP. 198305302011012011

Examiner 4



Raudlotul Jannah, M. App. Ling.
NIP. 197810062005012004

Acknowledged by:
The Dean of Faculty of Adab and Humanities
UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya



Prof. Dr. H. Achmad Zaini, M.A.
NIP. 197005121995031002



KEMENTERIAN AGAMA
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA
PERPUSTAKAAN

Jl. Jend. A. Yani 117 Surabaya 60237 Telp. 031-8431972 Fax.031-8413300
E-Mail: perpus@uinsby.ac.id

LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI
KARYA ILMIAH UNTUK KEPENTINGAN AKADEMIS

Sebagai sivitas akademika UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini, saya:

Nama : Alifatur Rochmi Khoirunnisa
NIM : 03040320090
Fakultas/Jurusan : Adab dan Humaniora
E-mail address : iruchoi88@gmail.com

Demi pengembangan ilmu pengetahuan, menyetujui untuk memberikan kepada Perpustakaan UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, Hak Bebas Royalti Non-Eksklusif atas karya ilmiah :

Sekripsi Tesis Desertasi Lain-lain (.....)
yang berjudul :

"Racial Discrimination and Power Relations Portrayed in Hidden Figures Film (2016)"

beserta perangkat yang diperlukan (bila ada). Dengan Hak Bebas Royalti Non-Eksklusif ini Perpustakaan UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya berhak menyimpan, mengalih-media/format-kan, mengelolanya dalam bentuk pangkalan data (database), mendistribusikannya, dan menampilkan/mempublikasikannya di Internet atau media lain secara *fulltext* untuk kepentingan akademis tanpa perlu meminta ijin dari saya selama tetap mencantumkan nama saya sebagai penulis/pencipta dan atau penerbit yang bersangkutan.

Saya bersedia untuk menanggung secara pribadi, tanpa melibatkan pihak Perpustakaan UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, segala bentuk tuntutan hukum yang timbul atas pelanggaran Hak Cipta dalam karya ilmiah saya ini.

Demikian pernyataan ini yang saya buat dengan sebenarnya.

Surabaya, 2 Juli 2024

Penulis

(Alifatur Rochmi Khoirunnisa)

ABSTRACT

Khoirunnisa, A. R. (2024). *Racial Discrimination and Power Relations Portrayed in Hidden Figures (2016) Film*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Trusty Kartika Fi'aunillah, M.A., (II) Endratno Pilih Swasono, M.Pd.

This study aims to analyze the correlation between acts of racism and the concept of power relations in a film entitled *Hidden Figures* (2016). This is a film that takes the background of the situation in the United States around the 1960s when acts of racism against black African Americans were still commonplace in everyday life. Two problems were solved in this study, namely: (1) forms of racism contained in the utterances found in the *Hidden Figures* film (2016) (2) How do power relations influence acts of racism in the film.

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative, which clearly describes the phenomena in the object being analyzed. The researcher collected data by matching several excerpts of conversations in the film with the downloaded film transcript. The researcher then analyzed the data found using critical discourse analysis theory by Fairclough (2013), the level of racism theory by Jones (2000), and power relations theory by Foucault, taken from Mills (2003). The transcription was then analyzed by identifying the types of racism found in the film *Hidden Figures* and how each type is closely related to the concept of power relations.

The results of this study indicate that there are 12 data in the form of dialogue excerpts that contain and imply racist utterances. The 12 data are divided into 3 types of racism: 8 data are included in the first category, namely institutionalized racism; 2 data are included in the second category, namely personally mediated racism; and 2 other data are included in the third category, namely internalized racism. All data found are related to the concept of power relations, but 8 data on institutionalized racism and 2 data on personally mediated racism contain the concept of power relations that appear clearer because they directly involve conversations between white people and black people with different power levels. While in the 2 internalized racism data, the concept of power relations contained more implicitly shows how white people have full power in limiting the opportunities and achievements of black people. This historical film contains the element of racism as the main theme, where the concept of power relations occurs between black people and white people. However, if associated with the current situation, the phenomenon in this film is no longer relevant because the current situation is very different. This can be seen in the Black Lives Matter campaign and movement which fights for equality for black people.

Keywords: racial discrimination, power relations, *Hidden Figures* film (2016)

ABSTRAK

Khoirunnisa, A. R. 2024. *Diskriminasi Rasial dan Relasi Kekuasaan yang Tergambar dalam Film Hidden Figures (2016)*. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: (I) Tristy Kartika Fi'aunillah M.A., (II) Endratno Pili Swasono, M.Pd.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk meneliti korelasi antara tindak rasisme dengan konsep relasi kekuasaan dalam sebuah film berjudul *Hidden Figures* (2016). Film ini merupakan film yang mengambil latar belakang keadaan di Amerika Serikat sekitar tahun 1960an saat tindak rasisme terhadap warga kulit hitam Afrika Amerika masih dilumrahkan dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Terdapat dua masalah yang dipecahkan dalam penelitian ini, yaitu: (1) Bentuk-bentuk rasisme yang terkandung dalam tuturan yang terdapat dalam film *Hidden Figures* (2016) (2) Bagaimana relasi kuasa memengaruhi tindakan rasisme dalam film.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif untuk menjabarkan dengan jelas mengenai fenomena dalam objek yang dianalisa. Peneliti mengumpulkan data dengan mencocokkan kutipan percakapan dalam film dengan transkrip film yang sudah diunduh. Peneliti kemudian menganalisa data yang ditemukan menggunakan teori analisa wacana kritis oleh Fairclough (2013), teori tingkatan rasisme oleh Jones (2000), dan teori relasi kekuasaan oleh Foucaults, yang diambil dari Mills (2003). Transkripsi tersebut kemudian dianalisa dengan mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis rasisme yang terdapat di dalam film *Hidden Figures* dan bagaimana masing-masing jenis rasisme tersebut berkaitan erat dengan konsep relasi kuasa.

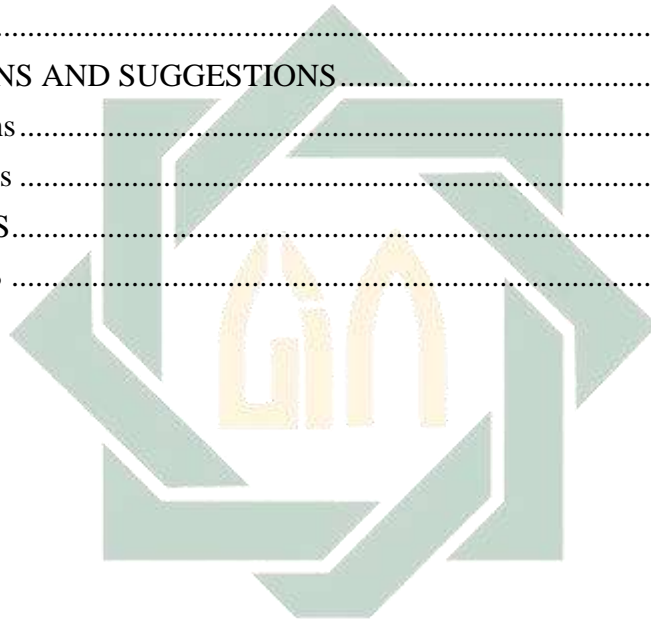
Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 12 data berupa petikan dialog yang memuat dan menyiratkan makna rasisme. Ke-12 data tersebut terbagi menjadi 3 jenis rasisme: 8 data masuk dalam kategori pertama yaitu rasisme yang dilembagakan; 2 data masuk dalam kategori kedua yaitu rasisme yang dimediasi secara pribadi; dan 2 data lainnya masuk dalam kategori ketiga yaitu rasisme yang diinternalisasi. Semua data yang ditemukan terkait dengan konsep relasi kuasa, namun 8 data rasisme yang dilembagakan dan 2 data rasisme yang dimediasi secara pribadi memuat konsep relasi kuasa yang tampak lebih jelas karena melibatkan percakapan langsung antara orang kulit putih dan orang kulit hitam dengan tingkat kekuasaan yang berbeda. Sedangkan pada 2 data rasisme yang diinternalisasi, konsep relasi kuasa yang dimuat lebih tersirat dalam menunjukkan bagaimana orang kulit putih memiliki kekuasaan penuh dalam membatasi kesempatan dan pencapaian orang kulit hitam. Film berlatar belakang sejarah ini mengandung unsur rasisme sebagai tema utamanya di mana konsep relasi kuasa terjadi antara masyarakat kulit hitam dengan masyarakat kulit putih. Namun jika dikaitkan dengan situasi saat ini, fenomena dalam film ini sudah tidak relevan lagi karena situasi saat ini sudah sangat berbeda. Hal tersebut dapat dilihat pada kampanye dan gerakan *Black Lives Matter* yang memperjuangkan kesetaraan masyarakat kulit hitam.

Kata Kunci: diskriminasi rasial, relasi kekuasaan, film *Hidden Figures* (2016)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER PAGE.....	i
DECLARATION	i
APPROVAL SHEET	ii
EXAMINER SHEET	iii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT.....	iv
ABSTRACT.....	v
ABSTRAK.....	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF APPENDICES	x
CHAPTER I.....	1
INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Problems of the Study	6
1.3 Objective of the Study.....	7
1.4 Significances of the Study.....	7
1.5 Scope and Delimitations	8
1.6 Definition of Key Terms	8
CHAPTER II.....	9
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	9
2.1 Critical Discourse Analysis.....	9
2.2 Race and Level of Racism.....	10
2.2.1 Institutionalized Racism.....	12
2.2.2 Personally Mediated Racism.....	14
2.2.3 Internalized Racism.....	14
2.3 Power Relations	16
CHAPTER III	20
RESEARCH METHOD.....	20
3.1 Research Design.....	20
3.2 Data Collection.....	21
3.2.1 Research Data.....	21
3.2.2 Data Source	21
3.2.3 Instruments.....	22

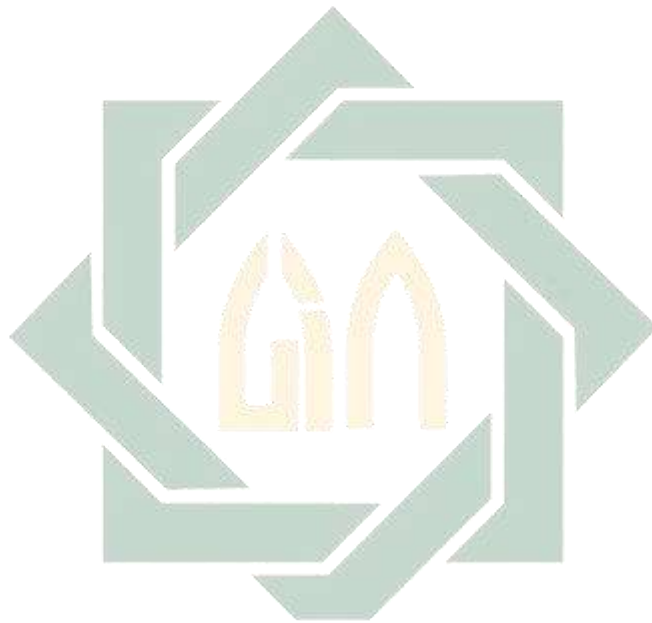
3.2.4 Data Collection Technique.....	22
3.3 Data Analysis Technique	23
CHAPTER IV	25
FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION	25
4.1 Findings.....	26
4.1.1 Forms of racism found in <i>Hidden Figures</i> film (2016).....	26
4.1.2 Power relations concept that influences acts of racism in <i>Hidden Figures</i> film (2016)	46
4.2 Discussion	65
CHAPTER V.....	73
CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.....	73
5.1 Conclusions.....	73
5.2 Suggestions	74
REFERENCES.....	76
APPENDICES	78



UIN SUNAN AMPEL
S U R A B A Y A

LIST OF TABLES

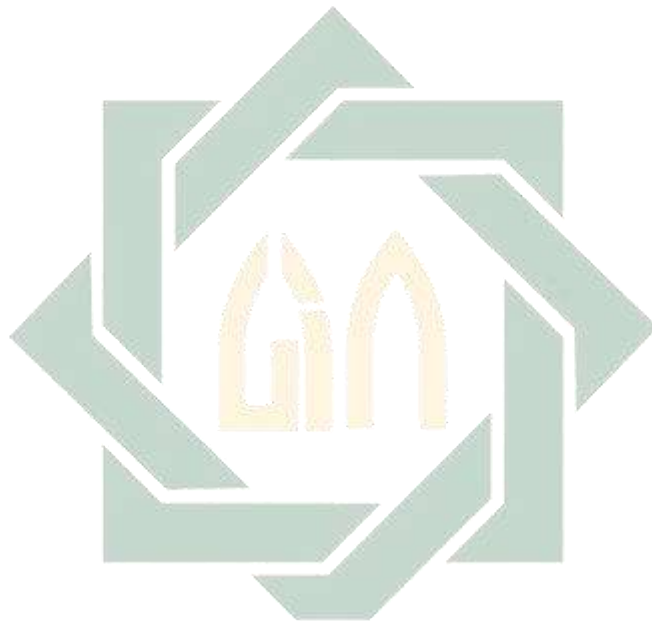
Table 3.1: *Codes of level of racism types* 23



UIN SUNAN AMPEL
S U R A B A Y A

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Conversation excerpts including utterances containing types of racism found in the Hidden Figures film (2016)..... 78



UIN SUNAN AMPEL
S U R A B A Y A

REFERENCES

- Adam, M. R. (2018). *Racism in "The Help" movie by Tate Taylor (A sociological approach)*. *British: Jurnal Bahasa Dan Sastra Inggris*, 7(2), 120–129.
- Aisyia, V. S. (2021). *The portrayal of racial discrimination and its negative effect portrayed in The Butler (2013)* (Issue 2013). Sultan Agung Islamic University.
- Baker, L. D. (1986). *Racism in profesional settings: forms of address as clues to power relation*. *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 503(1), 122–136.
- Beamon, K. (2014). *Racism and stereotyping on campus: experiences of African American male student-athletes*. *The Journal of Negro Education*, 83(2), 121–134.
- Bobo, L. D., & Fox, C. (2003). *Race, racism, and discrimination: bridging problems, methods, and theory in social psychological research*. *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 66(4 SPEC. ISS.), 319–332.
<https://doi.org/10.2307/1519832>
- Christensen, G. (2023). *Three concepts of power: Foucault, Bourdieu, and Habermas*. *Power and Education*, 0(0), 1–14.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/17577438231187129>
- De Trigueros, R., & Sandoval, J. F. H. (2017). *Qualitative and Quantitative Research tools*. Research Gate, March 2017, 2.
- Dovidio, J. F., Gaertner, S. L., Kawakami, K., & Hodson, G. (2002). *Why can't we just get along? Interpersonal biases and interracial distrust*. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, 8(2), 88–102.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/1099-9809.8.2.88>
- Elias, A., Mansouri, F., & Paradies, Y. (2021). *The causes of racism* (Issue June).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-2137-6>
- Fairclough, N. (2013). *Language and power* (Second). Routledge.
- Fibbi, R., & Simon, P. (2021). *Migration and discrimination* (First, Issue April). Springer International Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-67281-2>
- Holmes, J. (2022). *An introduction to sociolinguistics* (sixth). Routledge.
- Jannah, I. (2022). *Power relation in the best of me by nicholas sparks's thesis*. Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim.

- Jones, C. P. (2000). *Levels of racism: a theoretic framework and a gardener's tale*. *American Journal of Public Health*, 90(8), 1212–1215.
<https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.90.8.1212>
- Lopez, A. (2019). *Systemic racism as power relation*. *Revista Doctrinal DOCRIM*, 1.
- Mills, S. (2003). *Michel Foucault*. In *The Cambridge History of French Thought*.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781316681572.051>
- Needham, B. L., Ali, T., Allgood, K. L., Ro, A., Hirschtick, J. L., & Fleischer, N. L. (2023). *Institutional racism and Health: a framework for conceptualization, measurement, and analysis*. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, 10(4), 1997–2019. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40615-022-01381-9>
- Pahleviannur, M. R., Grave, A. De, & Saputra, D. N. (2022). *Analisis data penelitian kualitatif* (1st edition). CV. Pradina Pustaka.
- Paradies, Y., & Williams, D. R. (2008). *Racism and health*. *British Journal of General Practice*, 70(697), 381. <https://doi.org/10.3399/bjgp20X711845>
- Rahmatillah, Y., Kuncara, S. D., & Nasrullah. (2020). *Racism toward African American in Selma Movie*. *Ilmu Budaya: Jurnal Bahasa, Sastra, Seni, Dan Budaya*, 4(1), 158–172.
- Saputri, N. K. A. A. A. (2023). *Sociolinguistics analysis of racism and humanity in The Green Book movie*. *LITERA: Jurnal Litera Bahasa Dan Sastra*, 9(1), 1–6.
- Shiao, J., & Woody, A. (2021). *The meaning of "racism ."* *Sage Journals*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0731121420964239>
- Subandi. (2011). *Deskripsi kualitatif sebagai salah satu metode dalam penelitian*. *Harmonia*, 19, 173–179.
- Thariq, M. H. A. (2022). *Racist expressions used by characters in the Master movie (2022)* (Issue 2022) [Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim]. <http://etheses.uin-malang.ac.id/54717/%0Ahttp://etheses.uin-malang.ac.id/54717/1/19320198.pdf>