

## ANTI-RACISM: A STUDY OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN *THE HELP* (2009) NOVEL BY KATHRYN STOCKETT

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### ABSTRACT

*The Help* is a novel written by Kathryn Stockett and published in 2009. This novel tells about the lives of black maids who were discriminated by the white master around 1960s in Jackson, Mississippi. This research focused on analyzing the anti-racism of the main characters who are Skeeter, Aibileen and Minny. The purpose of this research was to analyze how the main characters' anti-racism attitude in *The Help* novel and to analyze why the main characters become anti-racist people. This research is a qualitative research. This research used two theories, the first is Gordon Allport's prejudice and discrimination theory and the second is social psychology theory. The result of this research showed that the main characters' anti-racism attitude such as: verbal antagonism, avoidance and segregation. Meanwhile the factors in social psychology that influence the main characters become anti-racist people are identification factors in social psychology, motive, and social characteristic.

**Keywords:** *The Help*, racism, anti-racism, social psychology, black people

### ABSTRAK

Novel *The Help* adalah novel yang di tulis oleh Kathryn Stockett dan terbit pada tahun 2009. Novel ini bercerita tentang kehidupan para wanita pembantu rumah tangga kulit hitam yang didiskriminasi oleh majikan kulit putih sekitar tahun 1960-an di kota Jackson, Mississippi. Penelitian ini fokus pada menganalisa anti-rasisme dari para tokoh utama yaitu Skeeter, Aibileen dan Minny. Tujuan dari penelitian adalah untuk menganalisa bagaimana sikap anti-rasisme dari para tokoh utama dalam novel *The Help* dan menganalisa mengapa para tokoh utama menjadi seorang yang anti-rasis. Penelitian ini adalah sebuah penelitian kualitatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan dua teori, teori pertama yaitu teori prasangka dan diskriminasi dari Gordon Allport dan yang kedua yaitu teori psikologi sosial. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan sikap anti-rasisme dari para tokoh utama yang melawan sikap rasis yaitu: lisan antagonisme, penghindaran dan pemisahan. Sementara factor-faktor dalam psikologi sosial yang mempengaruhi para tokoh utama menjadi seorang yang anti-rasis yaitu faktor identifikasi dalam psikologi sosial, motif, dan karakteristik sosial.

**Kata kunci:** *The Help*, rasisme, anti-rasisme, psikologi sosial, orang kulit hitam

## A. INTRODUCTION

Human's life is interesting to be depicted into many forms, one of them can be in a written text like novel. Novel is one of literary works besides short story and poetry. According to Wellek and Warren a novel is "a picture of real life and manners and of the time in which it was written" (282). Novel is a repository to show image of social life, it tells us the reality of the society of a time and we can see how human behavior in each character responses to the realities that happen at that time.

One of the well-known novels that tell about social life is *The Help* (2009) by Kathryn Stockett. The story sets in the town of Jackson, Mississippi, America in the early 1960s where racism or racial discrimination is really powerful and takes control in every daily life. This novel talks about the housemaids which are black women who were discriminated by their white bosses. *The Help* is an extraordinary story about three women from different background named Aibileen Clark and Minny Jackson who are black maids rebelling with a 22 years old white woman, Eugenia 'Skeeter' Phelan to write a book in secret about what it feels like to work as a black maid in the white homes of the South.

Moreover, this novel is interesting because this novel presents good stories of racism issues in American society and social insensitivity toward Black people that rise to act of harassment, humiliation, and race discrimination. In this novel, some characters which are American society are pro to racism yet some are anti to racism.

Two research questions formulated in this study are *How do the main characters (Skeeter, Aibileen, and Minny) present anti-racism attitude in The Help novel* and *Why do the main characters become anti-racist person in The Help novel*. There are three main focuses of this study. First, this study is focused on three woman main characters, Skeeter who is a white woman, Aibileen and Minny who are black people. Skeeter, Aibileen and Minny are chosen because the novel is narrated by three of them who are most prominent characters and have friendship between white and black people. Second, this study is focused on *The Help* novel written by Kathryn Stockett because it represents complete material that the researcher wants to explore. Third, this study is focused on Gordon Allport's Prejudice and Discrimination's theory to analyze the main characters' anti-racism attitude and theories of social psychology because it mainly discusses about someone's response toward her/his social condition.

This study is expected to give benefits to the readers. The result of this study is expected to enrich the knowledge and give enough insight about how anti-racism in America society in 1960s, especially which presented through the main characters in *The Help* novel. This study can become as additional reference for the next researchers who want to conduct the similar research and also this study will increase the number of research especially related with anti-racism issues and human responses about their social condition.

## B. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

### 1. Definition of the Novel

Abrams defines novel is "distinguished from the short story, its magnitude permits a greater variety of characters, a greater complication of plot (or plots), ampler development of milieu, and more sustained exploration of character and motives than do the shorter, more concentrated modes" (2). Elements of novel are very important to get more understanding about the novel. There are six elements of novel, for examples: theme, plot, character and characterization, setting, tone and point of view (Connolly 13).

- a. Theme is the whole of the story line or the main idea of the whole story. According to Kennedy, theme is the center, the moving force, the principle of unity (104). It means that theme is the central idea of the story.
- b. Plot means all fiction is based on conflict and this conflict is presented in a structured format (Abrams 296). Plot divided into five parts; exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and denouement.
- c. Character and Characterization are related to each other. Character is the creative individual or personal that represent in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, emotional qualities by inferences from what the person say and from they do in the story (Abrams 33). In the connection with the character, Hallet defines that the characterization is “the process by which fictional characters are presented or developed” (7). Characterization gives more description about the quality of character that makes one character to one another looks different.
- d. Setting is the general locale, historical time, and social circumstances in which its action occurs (Abrams 284). Setting in literature is a time and place of the action. Setting is an element in the story that gives information to support the idea of the story.
- e. Tone is state that tone is the author’s expression of attitude. It implies the feeling of the authors toward his life (Kennedy 75). In conclusion, tone is the way author expresses his attitude in a literary work toward his/her subject, character and reader.
- f. Point of view is the angle from which a story told, the intelligence through whose authority we view the characters and the action ( Perrine 44). It is a story teller that brings the story. Perrine divides four kinds of point of view which are omniscient, limited omniscient, first person and objective.

## 2. Psychoanalysis

A development in the history of psychology was pioneered by Sigmund Freud, an Austrian psychiatrist (1856-1939), who is a founder of psychoanalysis theory, which systematically and empirically have shown that the upheaval of human soul and human behavior not only involve from consciousness, but also involves under unconscious and preconscious of human (Tyson 12).

In psychoanalysis, each person also possesses a certain amount of psychological energy that forms the three basic structure of personality: *the id*, *the ego*, and *the superego*. There are three structures have different roles and operate at different levels of the mind. Beside that, unconscious concept divided into: *defense*, *anxiety*, or *core issue* (Tyson 15).

## 3. Social Psychology

Social psychology has provided insight how the functions of human mind and has enriched the soul of our society. Through a variety of laboratory and field studies carried out in a systematic, the social psychologists have shown that in order to understand human behavior, we have to recognize how the role of problem situation and culture (Walgito 1). According to Hartley and Hartley, social psychology is a branch social science which seeks to understand individual behavior in the context of social interaction (qtd. in Walgito 1). Myers also gives opinion that social psychology is the scientific study of how people think about, influence, and relate to one another (1).

From those explanations, social psychology focuses on the individual behavior that is inextricably connected to social situations. Thus, social psychology focuses mainly on individual behavior, social behavior, social stimulus or social interaction.

a. Identification Factor in Social Psychology

Freud explains that the term of identification is the way a child learns social norms of their parents, which began when he/she was about 5 years old (qtd. in Gerungan 71). In broad outline the child starts to realize that in life there are norms and laws that should be followed. Initially, the child identifies himself with his parents, but after he progressed in school and became an adult, the identification factor changes from parents to other people who are respected or have high social status as one of a teacher, a leader of a social group, or community leaders.

Gerungan also states that as human being, she/ he was deprived of the norms, attitudes, ideals, or guidelines for behavior in various situations in life, so she/he will identify the people who are considered leaders in the field of life where she/he still cannot handle the underserved (80).

b. Formation and Change of behavior

Gerungan explains that the formation of behavior does not occur by itself carelessly. Formation always takes place in human interaction and with respect to a particular object. Social interaction within the group and outside of the group can change the behavior or establish new behavior (166). What is meant by out-group interaction is the interaction as the result of human culture through the means of communication such as newspapers, radio, television, books, treatises, etc. The other factors that also holds the role is the internal factors within the individual, which are his/her self "selectivity", her/his choice capability or his attention to receiving and processing the influences that come from outside aspect (169). Thus, in the formation and change of behavior there are factors internal and external who hold roles of an individual.

c. Motive

Gerungan states that motive is all the control drive, reasons or impulses in a person that causes he/she do something (142). Basically, all human behavior have a motive. To be able to know and understand human behavior more completely, we should understand what is the motive of the action. Motives of human are the impulse, the desire, passions and the other driving force that comes from inside or within himself/herself to do something. The motives give purpose and direction to our behavior. Our daily activities that we do also has its own motives. As example, we set our alarm early in the morning with a motive to do a job before we go to office.

d. Social Characteristic

According to Wuryo and Sjaifullah, social characteristic is "the characteristic described to other human personality" (36). This arises into two types of noble willingness, namely the willingness to always want to make contact with each other and a willingness to consider paying attention to other people, which can be increased to a willingness to sacrifice themselves for others. Social characteristic can build an attitude that can create desirable social reality such as unity, cooperation, social sacrifices and so on (37).

#### 4. Race Concept

The beginning of racial problem is derived from the human concept about race. The word *race* from French language and Italy *razza*, defined as : First, the differentiation of

human existence on the basis of : (1) physical appearance, such as hair, eyes, skin color, body shape; (2) the type or class of descent; (3) descent patterns; (4) all of behavior that is unique so it is distinguished by the natives (Liliweri 19). Second, the states of identity based on (1) temperament; (2) the quality of a particular temperament of the group population; (3) states that the presence of any particular group of people based on geography; (4) states sign the activity of a group of people based on customs, ideas and the ways of thinking; (5) a group of people who have a common ancestry, family, clan; (6) biological meaning indicating subspecies or varieties, birth or occurrence of a particular species (Liliweri 21). Moreover, According to Lauer and Lauer, race is a group of people who are distinguished from other groups on the basis certain biological characteristics (224).

From those explanation, it can be summarized that human race in the world is varying which can be classified differently into some classification based on the aspect of biology of physical appearance, geographical, historical, and also aspect of cultural. Mostly, it tends to be on physical characteristics that is based on biological concept like color of skin, hair and the shape of the face.

a. Racism

According to *The Oxford English Dictionary*, racism as “the belief that all members of each race possesses characteristics, abilities, or qualities specific to that race, especially to distinguish it as inferior or superior to another race or races and the expression of such prejudice”. In sum, racism as a belief where feelings of superiority of one’s own race which has better condition in many aspects, such as possesses characteristics, abilities, or qualities and has to do with prejudice.

According to Hooks, “the term racism is usually seen as synonymous with discrimination or prejudice against black people by white people” (qtd. in Back and Solomos 373). Racism and racial discrimination cannot be separated. Nevertheless, racism plays a major role in the social processes that give rise to and entrench racial discrimination (374). It can be concluded that racial discrimination is part of racism attitude. To measure racism attitude or racial discrimination, in 1954, Gordon Allport analyzes about prejudice and discrimination. Allport explains the sequential steps by which an individual behave negatively toward members of another racial group, which are: verbal antagonism, avoidance, segregation, physical attack, and extermination (qtd. in Blank, Dabady, and Citro 56-58).

1. Verbal Antagonism

Verbal antagonism includes casual racial slurs and disparaging racial comments, either in or out of the target’s presence. For example, an interviewer’s initial bias on the basis of race will likely be communicated nonverbally to the interviewee by such behaviors as cutting the interview short or sitting so far away from the interviewee as to communicate immediate dislike (57).

2. Avoidance

Avoidance entails choosing the comfort of one’s own racial group (the “ingroup) over interaction with another racial group (the “outgroup”). In social situations, people may self-segregate along racial lines. As example, in work settings, discretionary contact may force outgroup members into lower-status occupations or undermine the careers of those excluded from informal networks. Avoidance may appear harmless in any given situation but, when cumulated across situations, can lead to long-term exclusion and segregation.

3. Segregation

Segregation occurs when people actively exclude members of a minority racial group from the allocation of resources and from access to institution. The most common examples include denial of equal education, housing, employment, and health care on the basis of race.

4. Physical Attack

Physical attack on racial outgroups have frequently been perpetrated by proponents of segregation and are correlated with other overt forms of discrimination. Physical attack is closely linked to hate crimes. The term is commonly used to refer to unlawful, violent, destructive, or threatening conduct in which the perpetrator is motivated by prejudice toward particular groups of people (Green 3). Moreover, the term refers not simply to acts of violence, but also to crimes involving destruction of property, assault, murder, harassment, or trespassing.

5. Extermination

Extermination is mass killings based on racial or ethnic animus. It typically encompasses histories of institutionalized prejudice and discrimination, difficult life conditions, strong leadership, social support for hostile acts and socialization that accepts explicit discrimination.

b. Anti-racism

Definition of anti-racism is derived from two word, anti and racism. The word *anti-* according to *Oxford learner's Pocket dictionary* means "opposed or to against". So, anti-racism means opposition to racism. Seldon defines anti-racism is "some form of sustained action the intent of which is to change a sytem or an institutional policy, practice, or procedure which has racist effect" (17). Moreover, according to Bonnett, anti-racism is "that it refers to those forms of thought or practice that seek to confront, eradicate and ameliorate racism". Someone who is anti-racism believes in equality of right because there is no hierarchy of superior and inferior race (3).

People who have high sense of humanity are in against to racism system. As people who against to racism, they believe that all people are created equal in social status and should be treated equally. These people are called egalitarians. Egalitarians are characterized by their belief in the equality of all people and each person can achieve prestige. Moreover, the belief in equal social and civil rights for all people is called egalitarianism ( Sear 2).

## 5. Previous Studies

There are some previous studies that use social psychology analysis in a literary work to analyze human psychological which are related to society. The first study is a thesis entitled *Anti Rasisme pada Tokoh Erin Gruwell dalam Film Freedom Writers karya Richard Lagravenese* that is written by Yulia Shinta K (2010). She analyzes Erin Gruwel's anti-racism, life and environment which made Erin become an anti-racist person and the effect of Erin's anti-racism through pictures and dialogs in *Freedom Writers* film. She uses exponential approach for analyzing intrinsic aspects which are character, setting, conflict and elements of cinematography in film. Meanwhile, social psychology and sociology approach are also used by Yulia to analyze Erin character become an anti-racist person and the impact of Erin's anti-racism to the students and society.

The second previous study is a thesis by Winda Febiana P. (2014) entitled *Anti-Racism on the Character of Herman Boone in Remember the Titans Directed by Boaz Yakin*. In her research, she analyzes anti-racism attitude of an African American character named Herman Boone and the impact of his anti-racism to the society in Alexandria. She uses the exponential and social psychology approach in her research. By using exponential approach, she analyzes the intrinsic elements such as characters, plot, conflict and the cinematographic elements. Furthermore, to explain the extrinsic elements, she uses theories from social psychology approach. Social psychology is used by Winda to determine the impact of anti-racism attitude of Herman Boone in the surrounding social environment. This previous research is quite helpful for the researcher by giving more insight about anti-racism and theory of psychology approach.

Other previous studies are from W. Utami Ketuyahman who is a student of Indonesian University. In her thesis entitled *Analysis of Prejudice and Discrimination Against Blacks in the novel The Help by Kathryn Stockett*, she discusses about the relationship between prejudice and racism based on skin color. She focuses to analyze three characters namely, Hilly, Skeeter, and Celia as representative of American people in 1960's in Mississippi. She uses McLemore's prejudice and discrimination theory which prejudice consist three factors, they are: cultural transmission, personal traits, and group identity, meanwhile discrimination consist three factors, such as the situational-pressures, group gains and institutional. From her analysis, it shows that reciprocal relationship between prejudice and discrimination which strengthen racial structure between white people and blacks in society causes systemic and structuralized racism. The researcher found that this thesis is clear to explain about race discrimination and how the whites treats blacks. This previous study become the early insight for the researcher in understanding about racism issues in *The Help* novel and the social condition in the novel.

### C. RESEARCH METHOD

The design of this study is qualitative method which to find out the three main women characters' anti-racism attitude used Gordon Allport's theory and by using the theories of social psychology to describe and analyze how the main characters to become anti-racist person. The main data source of this study was taken from Kathryn Stockett's *The Help* novel, which was published by Penguin Group USA in 2009. The data was presented in the form of words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs and dialogues throughout the novel that are related to anti-racism attitude and psychological of the main characters. While previous studies and journal articles are used as supported data.

The researcher collected the data in some several steps. The first step is to read and understanding *The Help* (2009) novel by Kathryn Stockett. In this step, the researcher focused on the anti-racism issues which were presented by the main characters. The second step is the researcher find out some required data on the text in the novel through word, phrases, sentences, paragraphs and dialogues that dealing to the issues of how the main characters' anti-racism attitude is presented and how they become anti-racist. The last step, the researcher reads collected additional previous studies and journal articles to support arrangement of this study.

To find the answer of research questions, the researcher takes several steps in data analysis to analyze character use Miles and Hubberman flow diagram. The flow diagram consists of three parts which are data reduction, data display and conclusion drawing (Miles and Huberman 10). The first is data reduction that reduces the collected data into related topic. In reduction data, the researcher sorts and organizes the data that relates to the main characters' anti-racism attitude by using Gordon Allport's prejudice and discrimination

theory. The researcher also sorted the data that relates why they become anti-racist persons by using social psychology theory. Secondly, in the data display, the researcher arranged the reduce data into further analysis of the main character's anti-racism attitude and why they become anti-racist. The last step is drawing conclusion, the researcher draw conclusion based on the analysis.

The research instrument to observe and discuss the problem of this study is the researcher herself. It is on accordance with Bogdan and Biklen's explanation that the researcher is the key instrument to doing qualitative research (qtd. in Semi 24). In this study, the researcher used the data triangulation and theory triangulation. Data triangulation method is used to validate the data by collecting some data from previous studies and journal articles to get better result and increase the validity of this study. Moreover, theory triangulation method is used in this study because the researcher used more than one theory to gather data in analyzing the data.

## D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Anti-Racism Attitude of Main Characters in *The Help* Novel

The researcher uses Gordon Allport's prejudice and discrimination theory in analyzing anti-racism attitude of main characters who are Skeeter, Aibileen, and Minny. Allport's theory explains the sequential steps by which an individual behave negatively toward members of another racial group. To measure racism attitude or racial discrimination, he proposes five categories of racism attitude, namely verbal antagonism, avoidance, segregation, physical attack, and extermination. In the following explanation, the main characters who are anti-racist against the racism attitude.

#### a. Skeeter

Skeeter is a white woman who is open minded person and does not like to be influenced by other's perception. Although, the society or white people are racist, but not with Skeeter. She tries to help black people even fight for racial equality. That's mean she is an anti-racist person. Skeeter's anti-racism attitude present throughout in *The Help* novel and is explained by using Allport's theory.

##### 1. Verbal antagonism

Allport explains verbal antagonism includes casual racial slurs and disparaging racial comments, either in or out of the target's presence (qtd. in Blank, Dabady, and Citro 56). The anti-racism attitude of Skeeter is found in beginning of the story in the novel when Skeeter kindly greets Aibileen first when the door are opened and also ask Aibileen how is she. It is shown that Skeeter does not use *verbal antagonism* when she speaks to a black maid.

##### 2. Avoidance

Allport defines avoidance entails choosing the comfort of one's racial group over interaction with another racial group. Skeeter's anti-racism attitude can be seen from she eradicates the avoidance category in racism action when she feels comfort to spend time with her black maid, Constatine. Even more, she considers the time she spent with Constatine is worth it on according the quotation *but I think I knew, for the most part, how lucky I was to have her there*. This is the evidence Skeeter's anti-racism attitude that she does not do *avoidance* to the black people.

##### 3. Segregation

As Allport's explanation before, Segregation occurs when people actively exclude members of a minority racial group from the allocation of resources and from access to



institution. The most common examples include denial of equal education, housing, employment, and health care on the basis of race. Skeeter's anti-racism attitude can be seen from she eradicate the segregation category when she does not agree with Hilly's idea. Hilly Holbrook is the childhood friend of Skeeter and the president of the Junior League in Jackson, Mississippi. She is a racist person who truly believes that black people carry diseases that can harm white people, therefore she tries to push through a sanitation initiative so that all the white homeowners have a separate bathroom like an outdoor bathroom for their black employees. But Skeeter who is an anti-racist person, reveal that she does not agree with Hilly's idea. It is shown that she oppose *segregation*, eventhough, her friends and most white people agree with the idea of segregation.

#### **b. Aibileen**

Aibileen Clark is a black woman who works for a white family named the Leefolts. She is the first black maid that join Skeeter to write about what it feels like work as a black maid in the white home. Aibileen is a wise person and teaches the children she raises that the color of skin does not matter but love and kindness do. The anti-racism attitude of Aibileen that present throughout in *The Help* novel is explained by using Allport's theory.

##### **1. Verbal antagonism**

Aibileen's anti-racism attitude that eradicate verbal antagonism can be found when Aibileen compliment to a little white baby named Mae Mo. Mae Mobley Leefolt is two years old girl who is neglected by her mother, Elizabeth. When Mae Mobley starts to believe those things are her own fault, Aibileen feels compelled to change the little girl's mind. Aibileen even compliment her in order to lift up her self-esteem. It proves that Aibileen does not use verbal antagonism to different races with her.

##### **2. Avoidance**

Aibileen's anti-racism attitude can be seen from she eradicates the avoidance category in racism action when she helped a little white boy immediately and bring him go to colored hospital. She can just ignore and leave the injured boy because that boy is white people, but in fact, she does not try to avoid the white boy but help him as soon as possible. It is the evidence Aibileen's anti-racism attitude that she eradicate avoidance category.

##### **3. Segregation**

Aibileen's anti-racism attitude can be seen from she eradicate the segregation category when she wants no segregation in education between colored school and white school. Her statement *Not a school full a just white people. But where the colored and the white folks is together* make Hilly and Elisabeth Leefolt look disagree by looking at her, because they are racist people. It is not easy to her to declare her disagreement about separated school on basis of race with her with white employer, but it prove that the anti-racism attitude of Aibileen that she against about segregation category.

#### **c. Minny**

Minny Jackson is a 36 year old woman who works as a black maid for white family. She is known as Jackson's best chef but also she is known has a sassy mouth. Minny is significant character to the book they make because she is the best friend of Aibileen and later helps Miss Skeeter with her stories in order to write their book 'help'. The anti-racism attitude of Minny that present throughout in *The Help* novel is explained by using Allport's theory.

1. Verbal antagonism

Minnie's anti-racism attitude that eradicate verbal antagonism can be found when she gets angry because her daughter, Sugar, who affront and use verbal antagonism about Miss Celia. Minnie cannot accept other people say negative or use verbal antagonism about toward her present white employer, even she cannot resist but scold her own daughter. It shows that Minnie tries to be as a defecator for another person who has different race with her because of casual racial slurs. That is the evidence Minnie's anti-racism attitude that eradicate verbal antagonism category.

2. Avoidance

Anti-racism attitude of Minnie can be seen from she eradicates the avoidance category in racism action she prefers to choose to attend Skeeter's meeting than Shirley Boon's meeting which is meeting among black people. Even though, Minnie look like irresponsive about Skeeter's project, but finally it reveals that she does not avoid Skeeter who is a white woman. As Allport defines avoidance entails choosing the comfort of one's racial group over interaction with another racial group, Minnie chooses Skeeter's meeting than her own racial group meeting.

## 2. Description of the Main Characters Become Anti-Racist

In this section, the researcher answers the second research question : Why do the main characters become anti-racist person in *The Help* novel. The researcher uses the theory of Social Psychology that consist identification factor in social psychology, formation and change of behavior, motive and social characteristic.

### a. Skeeter

Skeeter becomes an anti-racist would be explained through the factors from social psychology theory.

1. Identification factor in social psychology

Identification factor in social psychology refers to Freud's the term of identification which mean is the way a child learns social norms of their parents, which began when she/he was about five year old (qtd. in Gerungan 71). As the theory, identification factor in social psychology refers that as human being, she/he was deprived of the norms, attitudes, ideals, or guidelines for behavior in various situations in life, so she/he will identify the people who are considered leaders in the field of life where she/he still cannot handle the underserved (80). The anti-racist attitude of Skeeter is influenced by identification factor in social psychology can be shown in the emotional bond between Skeeter and Constatine, her childhood black maid which is very strong and have a big impact that continues throughout Skeeter's life. They have a very close relationship because Constantine is a black maid who works for Skeeter's family and also as Skeeter's caregivers since she is a baby. It shows that Constantine is like a guide and considered as a leader for her life. Therefore, this emotional bond relationship form Skeeter's belief about various situations in life that make her become an anti-racist person.

### b. Aibileen

The background of Aibileen's anti-racist attitude would be explained as following factor:

1. Motive

As Gerungan has defined in previous chapter before, motive is all the control, reasons or impulses in a person that causes she/he do something (142). Aibileen has

motive factor that influence her become an anti-racist person and do anti-racism attitude. In this research, the researcher finds that Aibleen's anti-racist attitude is influenced by her combinative motive when she finally decides to join with Miss Skeeter to write a book about what it's like to work as a black maid in white homes of the South. As combinative motive deals the example of someone become a member of a organization, her/his motives are usually combined. At first, Aibileen refuses to join with Skeeter because she is too scared if people know what they do, but finally Aibileen is agree to become a part of Skeeter's project. Her motive why she is agree to join Skeeter's dangerous project is because of Hilly Holbrook. She is too tired and wants to against Hilly's racist treatment to her and other maids.

### c. Minny

The background of anti-racist attitude of Minny Jackson character would be explained as following factor:

#### 1. Social Characteristic

The factor of social characteristic influence Minny's anti-racist attitude can be found when Minny is able to sacrifice her own safety and security to protect other black maids and Skeeter. As they start worrying about what will happen if the white people figure out that the book they make is about Jackson town, Minny decides to tell Skeeter and Aibileen about the pie so that they can put the story in for protection. That mean Hilly would know the truth about the book take place, but she would use her influence to steer people away from believing the book talk about Jackson, so no one would find out that she enjoyed two slice of Minny's excrement pie. By the quotation *that's risk I'm just gone have to take. I already made up my mind*, it indicates Minny's social characteristic that her willingness to sacrifice herself for others and also influence her attitude become anti-racist.

## E. CONCLUSION

The results of this study show the anti-racism attitude of main characters by using Allport's theory, the researcher concludes that the racism categories are against by Skeeter's anti-racism attitude is verbal antagonism, avoidance and segregation category. Moreover, from the finding and discussion, the factor that influence Skeeter's anti-racism attitude is the identification factor in social psychology. While the racism categories that is against by Aibileen's anti-racism attitude are verbal antagonism, avoidance and segregation category. Then the factor that influences the anti-racist attitude of Aibileen is her motive. Meanwhile, the racism categories that are against by Minny's anti-racist attitude are verbal antagonism and avoidance. Then factor that influence the anti-racist attitude of Minny is her social characteristic.

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