

**BLACK WOMEN'S OPPRESSION
AND RESISTANCE IN KATHRYN STOCKETT'S
"THE HELP" NOVEL: FEMINIST APPROACH**

THESIS



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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY
2021**

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Sastra (S1)**



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2021**

DECLARATION OF THE THESIS ORIGINALITY

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Is a pure form of research that I did myself and has never been researched or submitted for an academic degree (whether undergraduate or not) at the University of Putera Batam or any other institution.

Batam, 28th July 2021

Declarer,



Mutia Rafael

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The thesis has been approved to be examined on the date as indicated below

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa bentuk opresi dan perlawanan Perempuan Kulit Hitam dalam melawan tekanan yang mereka dapat dalam novel "The Help" karya Kathryn Stockett. Dalam penelitian ini, Black Feminist Thought oleh Patricia Hill Collins menjadi teori yang digunakan karena teori yang digunakan berhubungan dengan fokus yang dibahas dalam penelitian ini. Novel yang di publis pada tahun 2009 ini mengangkat contoh sederhana dari isu-isu diskriminasi ras yang dilakukan oleh ibu-ibu rumah tangga yang berlatarkan tahun 1960an di kota Jackson (ibukota Negara bagian Mississippi) terhadap pembantu-pembantu mereka yang merupakan orang-orang kulit hitam. Black Feminist thought merupakan konsep yang mengkoreksi teori Feminis yang umumnya berlaku bagi mereka yang merupakan kaum Mayoritas dan tidak untuk Wanita Kulit hitam yang merupakan Minoritas. Penelitian berfokus pada Opresi yang mendorong Wanita Kulit Hitam untuk melakukan Perlawanan dalam menghadapi diskriminasi ras. Opresi tersebut didasari oleh status atau kedudukan dan Image Negative dari Wanita Kulit Hitam yang dilabeli oleh masyarakat sekitar tahun 1960an di Amerika Serikat. Dalam mengumpulkan data, peneliti menggunakan metode Qualitative dalam proses analisis data. Kumpulan Data berupa narasi, tindakan, atau kalimat yang merujuk kepada tindakan opresi dan upaya perlawanan Wanita Kulit Hitam dari Novel The Help. Dari penelitian terdapat dua puluh data dari novel yang menunjukkan adanya indikasi dari tindakan baik opresi juga bentuk perlawanan. Terdapat sembilan data yang mengungkapkan bentuk dari opresi dominasi dan mengontrol, dan sebelas data yang menunjukan bentuk dari perlawanan yang mengisyaratkan kesadaran dan bentuk pembelaan dari karakter dalam novel.

Keywords: *feminis kulit hitam, opresi, perlawanan*

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the forms of oppression and resistance of Black Women in resisting the pressure they get in the novel "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett. In this study, Black Feminist Thought by Patricia Hill Collins became the theory used because this theory is related to the focus discussed in this study. The novel, published in 2009, raised a simple example of issues of racial discrimination carried out by housewives set in the 1960s in the city of Jackson (the capital of the State of Mississippi) against their black servants. Black Feminist Thought is a concept that corrects feminist theories that generally apply to those who are the majority and not to black women who are a minority. Research focuses on Oppressions that encourage Black Women to take up Resistance in the face of racial discrimination. The oppression was based on status or position and the Negative Image of Black Women labeled by the community around the 1960s in the United States. In collecting data, researchers used Qualitative methods in the process of data analysis. Data Collection in the form of narration, action, or sentence refers to the act of oppression and resistance efforts of Black Women from The Help novel. From the research, there are twenty data taken from the novel show indications of both oppression and resistance. There are nine data that reveal the form of oppression which domination and controlling, and eleven data that show the form of resistance that indicates consciousness and standpoint of the characters in the novel.

Keywords: *black feminist, oppression, resistance*

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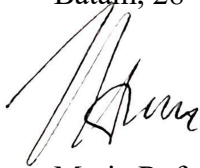
The First and Foremost Praise that the researcher would address is to ALLAH, the Almighty, and the greatest of all for giving the opportunity, determination and strength to complete this proposal entitled "Black Women's Oppressions and Resistances in Kathryn Stockett's "The Help" Novel : Feminist Approach" well and complete it at the right time. The purpose of preparing this proposal is to fulfill one of the tasks and become one of the requirements for submitting a thesis from the Department of English Literature at Putera Batam University.

This proposal is still far from perfection, therefore researchers expect all suggestions and constructive criticism from all parties for further improvement. The researcher hopes that this proposal can be useful in the future, especially for English literature students.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Research

Discrimination is not a new thing in society. This action is shaped by some negative actions like intolerance, labeling, and discrimination against certain groups conducted by other groups of people. Said (1979) stated this attitude is caused by a sense of "superior", they assume that their race is the finest race than the existing minority races. Even though this problem isn't as big as what happened during the colonial era, it cannot be said that discrimination cannot be found nowadays. We still can find this action happens all over the world, but the practice of it is often found and discussed in America, especially during the 90s. At that time many "Negroes" or also called Black People brought to America to be slaves.

The discussion of discrimination will never end because there will always be people who judge the value of a person or a group based on some aspects like gender, race, or religion. There are many examples of discrimination happen around. Don't need to go too far, it even happened in Indonesia, the discrimination came from unscrupulous officials at Malang and Surabaya against Papuan students. They are accused of something they did not do, so they can be judged. They are considered inferior because they have a darker skin color, Lukas

Enembe the Governor of Papua spoke up and expressed his sadness by saying "we are not a monkey, we are humans." (Widhana, 2019). Another example came from a well-known figure Oprah Winfrey, the queen of the country's talk show. In the cast press conference for "Lee Daniels' The Butler" Oprah shared a bit of her childhood journey related to discrimination. She mentioned how difficult it was for her family to get a job because they came from Black Community. "I am the daughter of a maid and my grandmother was a maid and her mother was a maid and her mother was a slave." Winfrey said (2013). In other words their greatest opportunity was just to become a helper in white family who were willing to accept and employ them.

Discourse on discrimination will certainly be related to the concept of post colonialism. According to Gayatri Spivak (1999), Post-colonial is a study that concentrates on the representation of colonized or colonial problems and sometimes refers to the production of colonialism or imperialism in the past or by suggesting it in the future. Postcolonialism is related to many aspects, but one of postcolonialism theories that can be used to discuss issues related to discrimination towards Black Women is by using the concept from Patricia Hill Collins theory. Collins wrote a book called *Black Feminist Thought* in 1990. In her book, in his book, Collins examines the injustices and various forms of oppression experienced by Black Women they have encountered throughout history. According to Collins (1991) Black feminist thought is a critical social

theory that includes a collection of knowledge and a series of institutional practices that actively address central questions faced by black women in the U.S.

Just like Oprah, as a woman of color, she tried to voice her thought too by discussing how and why this black feminism happened and got ended like this. She explained about the oppressions that black women faced in the US, and then she gathered some true stories and experiences experienced by Black Women, she also did not forget to include her own experience. How is the reality of "Black woman's" life, a form of oppression they got because of the difference between Black and White Women, and how is the history of colored women, especially in the United States. Patricia Hill Collins brought those kinds of phenomena to be discussed in her book "Black Feminist Thought". She put a big hope through this book so that this book can help more people to understand oppression toward those colored communities that they face even until now.

In the book *Black Feminist Thought*, Collins explains two main concepts at the Black Feminist level. The first concept is known as Woman Oppression. Women oppression discusses the forms of oppression which are divided into several parts, they are Matrix of domination and Controlling images. The Matrix of Domination refers to how intersections of oppression are structurally organized, which explains the way structural, disciplinary, hegemonic, and interpersonal domains of power reappear across quite different forms of oppression (Collins, 1991). Meanwhile, Controlling Images according to Collins

(1991) focuses on negative stereotypical representations and images of black women.

Besides getting oppressed, black women have the potential to do resistance. When there is oppression, there'll be a form of resistance too. Collins also explained the concepts that triggered black feminists to do resistance that against various oppressions. The concepts of resistance include Self-definition. Collins (1991) describes the process of Self-definition as a "journey from internalized expression to the 'free mind'" in order to emphasize its significance in the formation of the collective consciousness of black women.

Although colonialism has ended, slavery has been abolished, and the recognition of black and white rights has been declared, the dichotomy between blacks and whites continues and is an endless issue in America. This is reflected in a novel written by Kathryn Stockett entitled "The Help". Inspired by various forms of oppression and injustice experienced by blacks, Kathryn Stockett packed them into the form of a novel. She voiced the story of what colored helper had been deal with daily that not many people know about so that this novel could spread awareness to many people to act fairly without differentiated anything. In an interview after the publication of the novel "The Help", Kathryn Stockett (2010) shared that "The Help" novel had been rejected by publishers around 60 times. Previously, Stockett had never published a book. Since this was her first novel, she didn't want to give up, she kept on trying until finally a year after the interview, in August 2011 the novel The Help has sold five million copies and

lasted for more than 100 weeks on the bestseller list in The New York Times. It is not stopped there, two years after it was published, this novel was then packaged and filmed by Tate Taylor to make it easier to enjoy and reach out to many people. The film won many 80 kinds of awards from 120 nominations, such as "Best Adapted Screenplay-Black Film Critics Circle" (2011), "Best Movie about Women-Women Film Critics Circle" (2011), and "Ensemble of the Year - Hollywood Film Festival" (2011).

The novel "The Help" talked about how the Whites behave towards their colored helper during the early 1960s. Black helpers experienced inhuman oppression through words and label made by the housewife that the researcher can relate from this novel with the theory that Patricia Hill Collins has mentioned on her book. During that time, the White show their superiority over the minority which they saw as inferior. The White see themselves and consider that their culture is way higher than others which quite make sense from them because the minority (especially the blacks) back then can only end up work as a helper. The White feels that they're superior and categorize The Black as a race that is uncivilized and disgusting.

The issue regarding the treatment of oppression that Aibileen and Minny who are two of the many black helpers in the novel "The Help" can be seen from the treatment of housewives who are their employers. They are many he gets discriminatory treatment through bad words and actions. This is not only their

first experience but quite often. Here some examples of quotes where some White say where Black women get inappropriate treatment is:

“All these houses they’re building without maid’s quarters? It’s just plain dangerous. Everybody knows they carry different kinds of diseases than we do. I double.” –Hilly, (2009)

“A bill that requires every white home to have a separate bathroom for the colored help. I’ve even notified the surgeon general of Mississippi to see if he’ll endorse the idea. I pass.” –Hilly, (2009)

From the statement above, it showed that the whites take that as a usual opinion to be discussed, and as the bosses of those colored helper it is normal for them to concern about that kind of stuff. So, not only considered to be inferior because the helpers are from the poorer community, they are even considered to carry a different and more dangerous disease just because of their different skin color. Those are related in line with Collin's theory about the concept of the Matrix of Domination. The statements "carry different kinds of diseases" and "A bill that requires every white home to have a separate bathroom for the colored help" that stated by Hilly as white Americans are indicate the existence of a matrix of domination.

Not only discussing oppression experienced by the Black Women, the help novel also represents a resistance effort made by the characters Aibileen and Minny in the novel *The Help* by Stockett. Resistance occurred after they finally realized that they had to get justice. This is reflected in the quotes:

“I don’t care about eating at a counter with white people. What I care about is, if in ten years, a white lady will call my girls dirty and accuse them of stealing the silver.” –Minny, (2009)

“Time to write to ever person in Jackson the truth about you. Plenty a time and the paper is free.” –Aibileen, (2009)

The statement shows that Minny and Aibileen finally gained awareness and dared to fight even though they had to end up in prison. Because for them, the freedom of their children would be a major contribution they could make for the change of their community. This form of resistance is also mentioned in Collins Theory called Self-defining in Resistance. Statements that Minny and Aibileen said refer to the point where they won't care with what it'll take as long as they got justice. This shows their Form of Resistance as discussed in Black Feminist thought.

Research on black feminism has become focus that discussed more. The development of the concept of black feminist theory also continues to be a discourse in various scientific papers in the form of journals and dissertations. Scopus indexed journal that discusses the issue of black feminists in the novel written by Trace (Trace, 1991) with the title *Dark Goddesses: Black Feminist Theology in Morrison's "Beloved"*. Trace uses the concept of Black Feminist Theology by describing data from the novel "Beloved" and connecting with the theory. The results of Trace's research say the focus of the theory he uses refers to the feminist and black unconscious branches. This journal really inspired researchers because they both wrote about the issue of black feminists in the novel. The difference in this research lies in the experts of the theory and the data source used.

The second journal was written by Dan (2006) who analyzes the use of language that violates feminism in Modern Malay Novels that use Feminism and Linguistic Theory by Deborah Cameron. The results of the research show that Feminist criticisms of the language of modern Malay novels are found in the article, and this relates to verbal practices expressing political indifference to how women and sex and their sexuality can be represented. This journal is a reference for researchers because they both discuss the Feminist issue. The difference in this research lies in the focus of feminist theory which refers to all women and the data source used.

From the various identification problems that have been described in the previous paragraph, the researcher takes the focus of the theme in this study. The research theme in this study is about oppression and resistance towards black women in the help novel by Kathryn Stockett: feminist approach. This study uses the concept of post-colonialist feminist Black theory introduced by Collins in his book, *Black Feminist Thought*. There are two specific limitations chosen by researchers in this study; the first relates to the forms of oppressions toward black women, the second relates to the forms of resistance that Black Women have taken against the oppression that they can. This research proposal uses a qualitative method as a basis so that the study is conducted in the form of literature studies based online and offline that support the theme of this research study.

1.2. Identification of the Research

Based on the background of the research described above, the researcher found several problems, they are:

1. The phenomenon of racism toward the black women in the 19 century.
2. Black women get some oppression and injustice behavior by the Whites people.
3. The issue of oppression reflected in the assumptions made by The White such as low-rate society, uneducated, and can't have the same level as the White.
4. Black women have the potential to put up a fight against the oppression they get by publicizing all their experiences being Maid.

1.3. Limitation of the Research

After the problem can be identified, the researcher limited it to two main problems, which became:

1. The issue of oppression reflected in the assumptions made by The White such as low-rate society, uneducated, and can't have the same level as the White.
2. Black women have the potential to put up a fight against the oppression they get by publicizing all their experiences being Maid.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the identification and limitations of the above problems, it can be formulated as:

1. What kind of oppression toward black women reflected in the novel "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett?
2. What form of resistance to the oppression experienced by the black women appear in the novel "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett?

1.5. Objective of the Research

The benefits related to the formulation of this research are:

1. To find out the kind oppression toward black women that reflected in the novel "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett.
2. To find out the form of resistance to the oppression experienced by the black women that appears in the novel "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett.

1.6. Significance of the Research

This research consisted of two significances which are theoretical and practical significance.

1. Theoretical Significance

This study aims to make the readers able to know and understand the essence of the theory of oppression toward the black, especially black women brought by Patricia Hill Collins. It is also hoped that the reader will be able to find out whether oppression related to the theory described earlier is reflected in the novel "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett or not. This Research is expected to be more useful as a source of teaching and learning for feminist approaches, and be

an effective way of achieving social equality especially the oppression experienced and faced by black women as helpers.

2. Practical Significance

This research is intended to be useful for those who read it, especially for English students who have interest in analyzing the oppression on feminism which still consider the color of women skin. Hopefully this work would help the students as a guide for examining Patricia Hill Collins's theory of feminism which the topic is concentrated to oppression and inequality.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

Black Feminist: Encompasses bodies of knowledge and sets of institutional practices that actively grapple with the central questions facing U.S. (Collins, 1991)

Oppression : An injustice action, practiced by people or group toward other people. (Rahma et al., 2017)

Resistance : An action or a movement in opposition to something. (Finchett-Maddock, 2017)

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. Feminist Approach

Feminism upholds equality between two genders, and this it really against a contradictory, anti, and free form of oppression, domination, hegemony, injustice and violence (Collins, 1991). It was started by the group of women who wanted an equal right in expressing their thought and what they want. This gender equality term was firstly pioneered by white women who wanted freedom in choosing work, opinion, and others. So far, even now women are still considered as the second gender, grouped as weak and not so important. But unfortunately, Feminism which should include all women ends up by only representing the majority race.

Feminism comes from the word "femme" which means woman (Collins Dictionary, 2010). As mentioned before, the word "Woman" means to represent all women without exception. Black feminism is one of the branches of feminism. The term black feminism become a hope for the Colored Women in achieving a major change in social justice based on historical and struggle against race and gender oppression experienced by black African-American women. However, in the post-colonial era, the practice of feminism only represented the majority which back then this term only work and refer to the Whites, and this also can still be found even

today. As we know, the oppression they experienced not only came from home, it reaches a wider scope of the environment, such as the working place, their communities, even in the whole society. We can conclude that this movement has not been fully implemented well. This is what made Patricia Hill Collins issue a theory we know as "Black Feminist Thought". This theory encourages equality in women which should be even without differentiating any race and ethnicity.

2.1.1. Black Feminist Thought

The theory of black feminism was developed to revise a wrong concept and point of view in the previous feminism theory and movement. Collins (1991) argues that feminism has generally been interpreted as a movement for Whites and only applies to the Whites. The theory of feminism that we know should represent "All Women" does not apply to Black Women, they don't get the same privileges where they actually should. The previous Feminism Movement still carried racism and became a tool used by Whites Women to get rid of Black African-American Women from this change. This is why it is important for them to raise The Opinion of Feminism from the view of Black Women.

Black feminism is a movement for African-American women to be able to see and understand that their identity makes them vulnerable to various types of oppression. Black feminism argues that sexism, class oppression, and racism are the pressures they can get and that they get together. The White Women who dominated the Feminism movement did not realize the difference they and African-American women experienced. Indirectly, white women fail to make the feminist movement

that they pioneered in claiming that all women must get the same equality. In other words, what they claim is not properly applied because gender discrimination itself contains racial discrimination.

2.1.1.1. Black Women Oppression

Patricia Hill Collins developed her idea in *Black Feminist Thought* to spread the image of Black Women being victims of oppression. After being suppressed by white ideology, they were also ignored by Feminists who were initially pioneered by whites. The race became another problem for black women after getting pressured in terms of gender. All forms of oppression that occurred in the US mostly came from white people who consider themselves as upper-class people. They held the principle that some people from the upper classes had the right to oppress black people who were categorized as lower-class people. This white ideology places black people inferior, especially black women. Black women have experienced much manipulation, oppression, and deception by the dual power of patriarchy and racism. Inequality and disrespect are the pressures that black women have endured until now. This challenged Black Women to spread awareness to all people so that they can end the cycle that they always go through. It became a duty for every Black Woman that they need to build greater awareness in the hope that they can walk in the same path with men and also with other racial women.

2.1.1.1.1. Matrix of Domination

The matrix of domination or matrix of oppression is a sociological concept that shows the problems of oppression which deal with race, class, and gender, that are

linked, even though it is classified as separate social classifications. The theory also refers to other forms of classification, like sexual identity, religion, or age (Collins, 1991). As stated before, it is possible for someone with different characteristics to experienced domination. The characteristic that can affect individuals mainly refers to race, age, and gender. The Matrix of Domination conceptualizes the truth that oppression is created by privilege and indirectly we are all classified into a number of privileged statuses, no matter if we are oppressed (Collins, 1991). The result of the privilege that refers to oppression makes us think more critically in examining the role played by individuals in creating oppression and taking advantage of it. One example we can take from slavery, economically the advantage of forced labor is certainly their master. Thus it is important for them to maintain the slavery system in order to benefit from it.

2.1.1.1.2. Controlling Images

Controlling images is negative stereotypical representation and image of black women (Collins, 1991). Patricia Hill Collins wanted to show how society portrays Black women with negative traits when others identify themselves to be superior. Black women are linked with certain stereotypes that make them always get any forms of oppression. These stereotypes form of Controlling Images make injustices in social relations look normal and natural, and cannot be avoided as a “part” of black women’s life. Black women are always positioned and categorized in something lower when it is being compared with the Privilege who consider themselves as Superior.

2.1.1.2. Black Women Resistance

Because of the many forms of oppression obtained by Black Women, it provoked them to put up a resistance. Various forms of pressure and negative stereotypes, of course make them tired of facing bad treatment during their lives. The form of resistance that they do is certainly based on the desire for change and the desire to obtain the same rights and equality in life. Not only that, this form of resistance is certainly a form of self-appreciation, which in other words is a form of knowing how valuable you are as a human being. This is also reflected in one of the concepts put forward by Collins known as Self-definition. Collins (1991) said that self-definition is "the power to name one's own reality". For her, the articulation of the resistance of Black Women to the bad stereotypes that portrayed Black Women is an important step in practicing self-definition. It's important for Black Women to know the value of themselves.

The rejection of the dominant definition of black women groups and the action of black women to impose their own self-definitions shows the "collective awareness of black women", it is quoted by Collins (1991) from Maria Stewart's 1831 speech. Expressions of awareness and the establishment of black women are an integral part of the development of Black Feminist Thought. Collins notes that a safe space for black women is one thing that is also important for them to have. Self-definition should not be hindered by silence or objectification. Another important part that Collins finds important to self-definition is Affirmation, and this can be found in the friendships and family relationships of black women. "The process of self-definition

as “a journey of internalized forms of expression to 'free mind'” said Collins (1991) in order to emphasize its significance in the formation of the collective consciousness of black women.

2.1.1.2.1. Women’s Consciousness

Awareness of change push people to change their living conditions (Collins, 1991). Resistance motivates Black Women to have the same rights and opportunities as White Women, especially to be seen as "Women" without differences because of their skin color. US Black Women experts have discussed and explored this in person, as some have experienced it for a long time. As mentioned by Collins (1991), The results of these ideas helped black women overcome many cases, transcending the limits of oppression that intersected between race, class, sex and sexuality. Many Black Women have full awareness to want change to voice what they are experiencing, this is not because they feel they are victims, but they feel they are strong, they are survivors. Their actions and thoughts show that it is not only important for their point of view and self-definition, but also it is important for the represent of them in society.

2.1.1.2.2. Standpoint

Resistance is not only influenced by the awakening of consciousness that they get, it is also based on the strength of their standpoint. The similarity of opinions and experiences experienced by the Black Women gave strength to be confident with their opinions and gave courage to them to take the fight. The importance of this Black Woman Standpoint is as a reference that will be used by agents of change for

Black Women to ensure their future. They are for sure wanted to be seen as a legitimate US citizen and also as someone who has a stronger position to be able to involve more in the country they are now living. In this regard, Collins (1991) agreed by saying that this approach emphasizes the importance of black women's ideas and actions in using this point of view to meet current political, economic and social challenges.

2.2. Previous Research

This proposal is not the first to discuss about Black Feminist Thought, oppression, and resistance. Before this, there were some studies that also discussed about the related feminism. The discussion of feminism comes from various sources which are not the same as the novels that researchers use, but the topics discussed are still the same and related. The purpose of this is to find out the differences between what the researcher will write with other research that has been done. There are several previous studies that are talked about different kinds of approaches related to the topic that the researchers discuss with different points of view. In essence, the researcher concludes the opinions of another researcher who observes Black Feminist Thought, oppression, and resistance in many different kinds of literature for comparison of this research.

The first journal to use feminism approach was written by Laily Rosdiana, Imam Basuki, and Erna Cahyawati (2014). In their research, they discussed about the rebellion of black women against the patriarchal system, racism, and class conversion

as social norms of society. The researcher uses a qualitative method from which data from Sula's novels is written by Tony Morrison. The results from Rosdiana et al., (2014) showed that black women faced two oppressions such as the patriarchal system and racism. Therefore, it is hoped that this review of the journal will be useful for the struggle of black women who struggle against a system of patriarchy and racism.

The second journal was written by Tiara Amalia. In this study Amalia (2019) analyzed the Black Feminism Thought reflected on Maya Angelou's work in the poetry *Still I Rise*, *Phenomenal Woman*, and *Equality*. This study aims to find Black Feminist Thought which is also the theory from Collins in three poems by Maya Angelou through figurative language and imagery. Researchers use descriptive methods in analyzing data. This research focuses on analyzing figurative language, types of imagery, and black feminism in Maya Angelou's poetry. What the writer can conclude after analyzing is that the black woman in the poems is described as independent, strong, confident, brave, and outspoken (Amalia, 2019).

The third journal brought the Feminist approach as their focus of study on analyzing the struggle of an African-American woman in dealing with discriminatory treatment. This was written Tiara Febrianti, Agnes Setyowati H, and Ni Made Widisanti S (2012). The main character in the novel *Hidden Figures* is the subject of their research. Research uses qualitative methods to obtain data on matters that refer to feminism related to racial discrimination. The results of the discrimination encourage the main character to prove her quality that always considered underrate.

The fourth journal is taken from Jane Eyre's novel by Charlotte Brontë. The researcher of this journal is Tirza Patoding. The purpose of this journal itself is to investigate the emancipation of women in "Jane Eyre" novel by Charlotte Brontë. This research focuses on how the situation and action of women in a community in real life. The author uses the theory of feminism from Betty Friedan in *The Feminine Mystique* and uses descriptive methods. The results obtained by Patoding, (2013) reflected a women's emancipation through the female characters in the novel. Therefore, the woman in the novel called Jane Eyre gets her rights and known as an independent woman.

The fifth journal found using the Black Feminist Thought approach was written by Ratna Asmarani. Journal entitled "The Embodiment of The Black Feminist Spirit in Iola Leroy, The Female Mulatto Protagonist, in Frances Harper's Iola Leroy" aims to analyze the female protagonist character in the novel Iola Leroy. The novel reflects the spirit form of the characters associated with black feminism. In the study, researchers used criticism from feminist literature as an analytical framework related to Gynocriticism. As the result, Asmarani (2015) shows that the female mulatto protagonist who does not know that she has Black blood had to experience the oppression like slavery.

The sixth journal deals with the form of resistance. Researchers of this journal are La Bania and Milawaty (2019). The data were analyzed with Representation Theory by Stuart Hall and Social Class Theory by Karl Marx. The purpose of this study was to reveal the values built in the Kancil stories through the social class approach in

Indonesia. The researchers used descriptive-qualitative methods to process and obtain results from the data in this story. The results from La Bania & Milawaty (2019) showed that the Kancil story contains a representation of the class structure that occurs in social relations. These stories contain conflicts between social classes caused by inequality in ownership of power, where there are opposing parties acting as owners of power, while Kancil as class representation without power.

The seventh journal analyzes Balinese women in the field of Earth Dance. The study that led to this feminism approach was written by Luh Eka Margarita Setianingtyas, Rita Sutjiati Djohan, and Sugeng Trijanto. The method used by the author is a qualitative descriptive method, which is by reading and collecting the related information. This novel illustrates gender inequality experienced by Balinese women and the types of resistance of Balinese women against gender inequality with a feminist approach. The purpose of this study that the researchers (Eka Margarita Setianingtyas et al., 1983) wanted to describe the types of gender inequality faced by Balinese women and to describe the types of Balinese women's resistance to gender inequality in the novel Earth Dance by Oka Rusmini. The results of the research are finding forms of violence, infidelity, and bad stereotypes of Balinese women, and therefore they fight.

The eighth journal that uses Walters' feminist theory is analyzed by Tomi Arianto and Ambalegin. This research was conducted by connecting the concept of the scope of women developed by Barbara Welter with the data taken from "The Lowland" novel. Arianto & Ambalegin (2018) stated the concept from the theory refers to

women's space for movement tends to be limited by the existence of construction and indoctrination is one form of limiting women's movement without anyone realizing it. This study aims to reveal the form of indoctrination in the novel. As the results, there are reflected four forms of indoctrination contestation, (piety, purity, submission and household) in the novel "The Lowland" which is not only experienced by Gauri as a woman in the conventions of patriarchal society but also experienced by many women in India (Arianto & Ambalegin, 2018).

The ninth journal entitled "Women's Oppression on Characters of Women in Mars Need Mom Movie" was clearly using the feminism approach. In the study, the researchers Azizatur Rahma, Surya Sili, and Erna Wati analyzed the expressions from women characters. Researchers limited the characters in to two women characters to be analyzed, they are Milo's mom and Gribble's mom, who got oppressed by Supervisor who is also woman. The researchers (Rahma et al., 2017) wanted to show that oppression, can also occur from woman to woman. The aim that the researchers wanted to show from this journal is to show the forms of oppression that occur in female characters in the film "Mars Need Mom". The results of this study are, Mrs. Milo and Mrs. Gribble get several forms of oppression from the Supervisor, namely marginalization, powerlessness, exploitation and violence.

The tenth journal written by Taufik & Hasniar (2016) was using the racism approach. This journal discussed about racial injustice reflected in the movie "12 Years a Slave". This study aims to find out the type and impact of the 12 year racial injustice of being a slave toward the slaves. In doing the research, researchers used

descriptive qualitative to analyze the types of racial injustice and the effects of racial injustice. In this study, the researchers (Taufik & Hasniar, 2016) found that racial injustice violence can be found in this film. From the findings, the authors conclude that racial injustice by The Whites threatens physical and mental well-being is related to acts of oppression.

2.3. Theoretical Framework

In conducting this research, the researcher used the theory of Black Feminist Thought by Patricia Hill Collins as a guide in analyzing this study. This theory was developed by Collins as a representative for all Black Women who were oppressed, in terms of gender, race, sexuality, and others. In this analysis, the researchers find that the research can be linked to the theory put forward by Collins. The researcher draws the conclusion where the concept of Black Feminist Thought theory related to the research can be described like this.

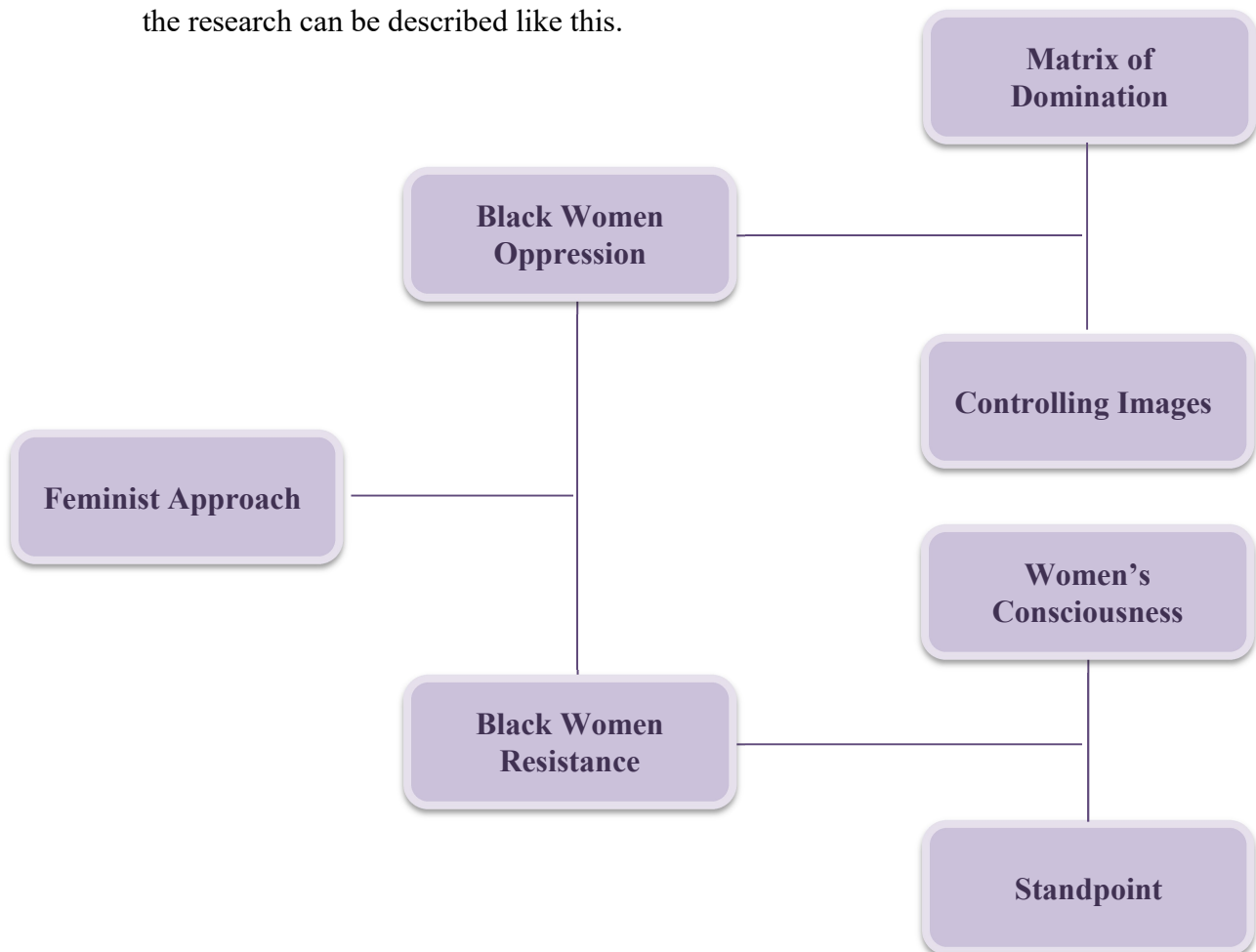


Figure 2.1 Theoretical Framework

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

As a researcher, it is important to specify the method of research in a research that the researcher discusses. In this chapter, the researcher would like to discuss about all the method that the researcher use to done this research. There are five things that will be explained in this chapter. All the important things that are explained are related to the method that the researcher use. The researcher is going to discuss about the type of the research design and the followed such as the object of the research, the method of collecting data, the method of analyzing data, and the method of research result.

3.1. Research Design

The number of feminist movement is now increasing, especially for the Black Feminist. This phenomenon becoming more serious and it's drawing an attention of the world to see. This phenomenon can easily found not only in our social life but also in literary works. The researcher has read a lot of journals, articles, literary works, and even news that are related before doing this research. By read and watch a lot of things that related, the researcher then become interested to dig more information about Feminism and look for its relation to others literary works. The researcher has made the formulation of the problem which will be used as an

objective of this research. The researcher also specified the object and method that will support the analysis and conclusion from this research.

Based on what has been explained, the researcher chose to examine this research as descriptive qualitative research. This method is used by researchers to describe words or sentences that reflect the form of oppression and also the form of resistance from the novel "The Help". In conducting descriptive qualitative research, the data analyzed are in the form of words, sentences, and paragraphs collected from literary works. According to Creswell (2014), qualitative research is a type of research in which researchers rely on the information from objects or participants on a broad scope, general questions, and data collection consisting mainly of words or texts from participants, explaining and analyzing words and conduct research subjectively. From the explanation before, it can be concluded that qualitative research is an analysis of data that explains events using words or sentences in the text as examples that can be understood to gain insight into certain interesting phenomena.

3.2. Object of the Research

The object of the research in this study is related to oppression and resistance to black women. To answer this object the researcher used the Black Feminist Thought theory by Patricia Hill Collins. In this research, the researcher takes the data from a novel called "The Help" which was written by Kathryn Stockett. The researcher focuses on two main points, which are Oppressions and Resistance Black Women do that reflected on "The Help" novel as the main source of the research data.

3.3. Method of Collecting Data

Method of Collecting Data is an action of what the researcher did to get the data needed in the research. According to Ratna (2007), collecting data techniques focus on the perspective of literary texts that reflect people's lives and social realities. The researcher pays more attention to the important point to get the data. Here are the steps that the researcher uses in order to collect the data that needed:

1. Reading. The researcher read the whole story of the novel for several times, felt what projected by the story to get the deeper meaning and to understand the implicit meaning.
2. Highlighting the important part of the data that shows oppression and resistance toward black women and then arrange it.
3. Taking notes. The researcher note any quote that has feminist content and who utter it while doing the reading. By using this technique, the researcher knew about the context well and better.

3.4. Method of Analyzing Data.

Qualitative data analysis according to Creswell (2014) involves efforts to interpret data in the form of text or images. Basically, the data analysis process begins by examining all data related to what will be analyzed from various sources.

1. Data Reduction

Reduction data means summarizing. In reducing data, the researcher choosing the essential data and focusing on the two main problems mentioned before by searching the themes or patterns related and removing the unnecessary data. In other words, the researcher looks for the data related to feminism that focus on oppression and resistance toward black women in “The Help” novel. After the related data found, the data is collected and selected to get the most suitable data that can be related with the phenomenon of feminism.

2. Data Display

The researcher displays the data so it can be easily to analyze and understand.

3. Conclusion Drawing/Verification

In this final step of analyzing data, the researcher expresses the conclusion of data that have been obtained.

3.5. Method of Presenting Research Result

In presenting the results, the method used by the researcher is an informal method. According to Ratna (2007), there are two kinds of ways to present results, namely by formal and informal methods. The formal method is known to present the results in the form of a formula or diagram, while the informal method is to describe it verbally. Considering that the researcher presents the results of the analyzed data with verbal descriptions or explains in words, it can be ascertained that the data presentation carried out by the researchers is an informal method. Data is collected and checked carefully.