

**BLACK WOMAN'S STRUGGLES IN ASSERTING  
RACE AND GENDER IN "THE HELP" NOVEL BY KATHRYN  
STOCKETT; FEMINIST APPROACH**

**THESIS**



**By:**

**Suci Islami Rahayu**

**171210069**

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

**BLACK WOMAN'S STRUGGLES IN ASSERTING  
RACE AND GENDER IN "THE HELP" NOVEL BY KATHRYN  
STOCKETT; FEMINIST APPROACH**

**THESIS**

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of  
Sarjana Sastra**



**By:  
Suci Islami Rahayu  
171210069**

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

## **SURAT PERNYATAAN ORIGINALITAS**

Yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini saya:

Nama : Suci Islami Rahayu  
NPM : 171210069  
Fakultas : Ilmu Sosial dan Humaniora  
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris

Menyatakan bahwa skripsi ini adalah asli yang saya buat dengan judul:

### **BLACK WOMAN'S STRUGGLES IN ASSERTING RACE AND GENDER IN "THE HELP" NOVEL BY KATHRYN STOCKETT; FEMINIST APPROACH**

Adalah hasil karya saya sendiri dan bukan "duplikasi" dari karya orang lain. Sepengetahuan saya, didalam naskah skripsi ini tidak terdapat karya ilmiah atau pendapat yang pernah ditulis atau diterbitkan oleh orang lain, kecuali yang secara tertulis di kutip di dalam naskah ini dan disebutkan sumber kutipan dan daftar pustaka. Apabila di dalam naskah skripsi ini dapat dibuktikan terdapat unsur-unsur PLAGIASI, saya bersedia naskah skripsi ini di gugurkan dan gelar yang saya peloreh di batalkan, serta diproses sesuai dengan peraturan perundang-undangan yang berlaku.

Demikian pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sebenarnya tanpa ada paksaan dari siapapun.

Batam, January 29<sup>th</sup> 2021

  
Suci Islami Rahayu  
171210069

**DECLARATION OF THE  
TERM PAPER  
ORIGINALITY**

I, Suci Islami Rahayu, NPM No. 171210069  
Hereby declare that the term paper entitled:

**BLACK WOMAN'S STRUGGLES IN ASSERTING RACE AND  
GENDER IN "THE HELP" NOVEL BY KATHRYN STOCKETT;  
FEMINIST APPROACH**

Is the real work of myself and I realize that thesis has never been published in other media before, partially or entirely, in the name of mine or others.

Batam, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021



**Suci Islami Rahayu  
171210069**

**BLACK WOMAN'S STRUGGLES IN ASSERTING RACE AND  
GENDER IN "THE HELP" NOVEL BY KATHRYN STOCKETT;  
FEMINIST APPROACH**

**THESIS**

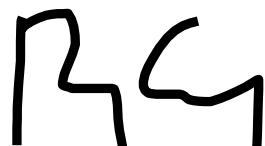
**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of  
Sarjana Sastra**

**By:**

**Suci Islami Rahayu  
171210069**

**The term paper has been approved examined on the date as indicated below**

**Batam, March 04<sup>th</sup> 2021**



**Robby Satria, S.S., M.Hum.  
Supervisor**

## ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis feminis yang terjadi dalam kehidupan wanita berkulit hitam yang di tampilkan dalam novel *The Help*, penulis dari *Kathryn Stockett* pada tahun 2009. Dalam cerita terdiri dari tiga karakter yaitu Aibileen Clark, Minny Jackson, dan Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan. Penulis menceritakan sangat jelas fenomena yang terjadi di novel tersebut sama persis apa yang terjadi pada masa itu. Dimana wanita yang berkulit hitam di perlakukan sangat tidak adil dan wanita kulit hitam tidak dapat kesempatan untuk mensejahterakan kehidupan mereka, karena mereka harus bekerja sebagai "pembantu" bagi orang berkulit putih. Pada masa itu mayoritas berkulit putih sangat membenci dan bahkan menyerang secara psikologis atau psikis kepada berkulit hitam. Objek dalam penelitian ini adalah tiga orang wanita berkulit hitam yang memiliki rasa kesamaan atas ras dan gender memberikan untuk mengungkapkan martabat mereka sebagai minoritas pada masa itu. Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Data yang telah dikumpulkan di analisis dengan menggunakan teori feminis dari Patricia Hill Collins dengan berfokuskan kepada pemberdayaan perempuan kulit hitam dan kondisi keadilan social. Penelitian terdahulu yang dikumpulkan memiliki persamaan yaitu menggunakan tema feminis, yang korban nya adalah wanita. Adapun perbedaan yang dari jurnal tersebut, menggunakan teori yang berbeda karena, setiap kasus memiliki sudut pandang berbeda.

**Kata kunci:** feminism, perempuan kulit hitam, resisten, pengendalian image

## ***ABSTRACT***

*This study aims to analyze the feminist life in black women featured in the novel The Help, author of Kathryn Stockett in 2009. The story consists of three characters: Aibileen Clark, Minny Jackson, and Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan. The author tells that the phenomena in the novel are precisely the same as what happened at that time. Where black women were mistreated, and black women do not get the opportunity to prosper their lives because they have to work as "helpers" for white people. At that time, the majority of white people hated and even attacked them psychologically or psychologically. This research's objects were three black women who had a sense of equality of race and gender who dared to express their dignity as a minority at that time. This research was conducted using a qualitative descriptive method. The data that has been collected is analyzed using feminist theory from Patricia Hill Collins with a focus on empowering black women and conditions of social justice. Previous studies collected have something in common, namely using a feminist theme, where the victims are women—as for the differences from the journal, using a different theory because each case has another point of view.*

***Key term:*** feminism, black women, resistance, controlling image

## **MOTTO AND DEDICATION**

### **MOTTO**

“It is only right that a person be optimistic, feeling happy about the good he sees (in things); and he should not look at the life lying ahead of him in this world as dark and dismal so that he becomes weary (of life) and loses hope.”

Shaykh ibn Utthaymeen

### **DEDICATION**

This thesis is proudly present to my beloved parents, siblings, all of my family, and  
all lecturers and staff of Putera Batam University

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Praise and thank God, the almighty, who has granted countless blessings, knowledge, and opportunity to the researcher, so that researcher have been finally able to accomplish the thesis entitled "Black Woman's Struggles In Asserting Race And Gender In "The Help" Novel By Kathryn Stockett; Feminist Approach" which is one of the requirements for completing the undergraduate study program (S1) in the English Literature Program at Putera University Batam. The researcher realizes that this thesis is far from perfect. Therefore, the researcher will always receive criticism and suggestions with pleasure. With all the limitations, do not realize that this thesis will not be realized without the help, guidance of various parties. For that, with all the humility of the day, the researcher would like to say thank you to

1. Both parents and all the researcher's siblings who always provide advice and support during the preparation of this thesis
2. Dr. Nur Elfi Husda, S.Kom., M.Si. as the rector of Putera Batam University.
3. Dr. Hendri Herman. S.E., M.Si. as the dean of Putera Batam University.
4. Nurma Dhona Handayani, S.Pd., M.Pd. as the head of English Department at Putera Batam University.
5. Robby Satria, S.S., M.Hum. as the thesis supervisor who always giving his knowledge, idea, critic, suggestion, and motivation during the process of this research.
6. Emil Eka Putra, S.S., M.Hum. as the researcher academic supervisor.
7. All the lecturers and staff at Putera Batam University who have provided knowledge and helps to the researcher during her studies at Putera Batam University.
8. The researcher's friends and partners during her study at Putera Batam University, Cheristine Aprilia, Rika Fiorensena, Kartika Yulianti, Trissa Shania Wulur, Yolanda Viviani and who was spent almost time together sharing ideas and motivation to help the researcher complete this thesis.
9. And all the parties that the researcher cannot mention one by one.

Batam, January 29<sup>th</sup> 2021



Sudij Islami Rahayu

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Pages
<b>SURAT PERNYATAAN ORIGINALITAS.....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>DECLARATION OF THE TERM PAPER ORIGINALITY.....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>APPROVAL PAGE .....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>ABSTRAK .....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>ABSTRACT .....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>MOTTO AND DEDICATION.....</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENT .....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>LIST OF PICTURE .....</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1. Background of the research. ....	1
1.2. Identification of the problem .....	5
1.3. Limitation of the problem .....	5
1.4. Formulation of the problem .....	6
1.5. Objectives of the Problem.....	6
1.6. Significance of the Research.....	6
1.7. Definition of Key Term .....	7
<b>CHAPTER II REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK .....</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1. Feminist Approach.....	8
2.1.1 Controlling Images .....	9
2.1.2 Self-Definition.....	12
2.2. Previous Study. ....	12
2.3. Theoritical Framework .....	15
<b>CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH.....</b>	<b>17</b>
3.1. Research Design .....	17
3.2. Object of the Research .....	18
3.3. Method of Collecting Data .....	18
3.4. Method of Analyzing Data .....	19
3.5. Method of Presenting the Research Result .....	19
<b>CHAPTER IV RESULT AND DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1 Preliminary Analysis.....	20
4.1.1 Plot.....	20
4.1.3 Settings .....	29
4.1.4 Theme .....	29
4.1.5 Point Of view.....	30
4.2. Feminist Approach.....	33

4.2.1 Ruining Black People's Image .....	34
4.2.2 Self-Proclaimed for Being Superior .....	35
<b>CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION .....</b>	<b>47</b>
5.1. Conclusion .....	47
5.2. Suggestion.....	48
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>APPENDIXES</b>	
<b>APPENDIXIES 1: DATA OF THE RESEARCH</b>	
<b>APPENDIXIES 2: BIOGRAPHY</b>	
<b>APPENDIXIES 3: RESEARCH LETTER</b>	
<b>APPENDIXIES 4: TURNITIN RESULT</b>	

## **LIST OF PICTURE**

**Figure 2.3** Theoretical Framework .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**