



**DISCRIMINATION TOWARDS AFRICAN AMERICAN
IN *THE BUTLER* FILM BY LEE DANIELS**

A THESIS

**In Partial Fulfillment of The Requirement for
the Sarjana Degree Majoring American Studies in English Department
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University**

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PRONOUNCEMENT

The writer states truthfully that this thesis is compiled by her without taking any results from other researchers in S-1, S-2, S-3 and in diploma degree of any universities. In addition, the writer also ascertains that she does not take the material from other publications or someone's work except for the references mentioned.

Semarang, July 2014

Herdiana Indah Cahyani

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“Real success is determined by two factors. First is faith, and second is action.”

(Reza M. Syarief, PSK.)

“Hiduplah seolah-olah setiap hari adalah hari terakhirmu. Maka kau akan menghargai setiap waktu yang tersisa dalam hidup”

(49 Days)

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness. Only light can do that”

(Martin Luther King, JR.)

*This thesis is dedicated to
My beloved family and
to everyone who helped me accomplished this paper*

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The writer realizes that this thesis is still far from being perfect. She, therefore, will be glad to receive any constructive criticisms and recommendations to make this thesis better.

Finally, the writer expects that this thesis will be useful to the reader who wishes to learn something about Discrimination and Prejudice.

Semarang, July 2014

Herdiana Indah Cahyani

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE.....	i
PRONOUNCEMENT	ii
MOTTO AND DEDICATION	iii
APPROVAL.....	iv
VALIDATION.....	v
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ix
LIST OF PICTURE.....	xi
ABSTRACT	xiv
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of Study.....	1
1.2 Purpose of the Study.....	2
1.3 Scope of the Study.....	3
1.4 Method of the Study	3
1.4.1 Method of Research.....	3
1.4.2 Method of Approach.....	4
1.5 Organization of the Study.....	4
CHAPTER 2 SUMMARY OF THE FILM	6
CHAPTER 3 LITERARY REVIEW	10
3.1 Intrinsic Aspects.....	10
3.1.1 Narrative Elements	10
3.1.1.1 Theme.....	10
3.1.1.2 Character.....	11
3.1.1.3 Setting.....	12
3.1.1.4 Conflict	13
3.1.2 Cinematic Elements.....	13
3.1.2.1 Cinematography.....	13
3.1.2.2 Sound.....	18

3.1.2.3 <i>Mise-en-Scene</i>	20
3.2 Extrinsic Aspects.....	21
3.2.1 Prejudice.....	21
3.2.2 Discrimination.....	25
CHAPTER 4 DISCUSSION.....	27
4.1 Intrinsic Aspects.....	27
4.1.1 Narrative Elements.....	27
4.1.1.1 Theme.....	27
4.1.1.2 Character.....	28
4.1.1.2.1 Major Character.....	28
4.1.1.2.2 Minor Character.....	32
4.1.1.3 Setting.....	33
4.1.1.3.1 Setting of Places.....	33
4.1.1.3.2 Setting of Time.....	35
4.1.1.4 Conflict.....	39
4.1.1.4.1 Cecil's Conflict with His Family.....	39
4.1.1.4.2 Discrimination Towards African-American.....	43
CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION.....	52
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	54

LIST OF PICTURE

Picture 1 The Straight-on Angle	14
Picture 2 The High Angle	14
Picture 3 The Low Angle.....	15
Picture 4 Extreme Long Shot.....	16
Picture 5 Long Shot.....	16
Picture 6 Medium Long Shot.....	16
Picture 7 Medium Shot.....	17
Picture 8 Middle Close Up.....	17
Picture 9 Close Up	18
Picture 10 Extreme Close Up.....	18
Picture 11 Cecil Family Taking Picture at Plantation.....	28
Picture 12 Plantation Owner Rapes Cecil’s Mother.....	28
Picture 13 Plantation Owner Shoot Cecil’s Father.....	28
Picture 14 Cecil’s Father Died.....	28
Picture 15 The Example of The Real Slavery Look.....	29
Picture 16 Picture of Gloria When Enjoying Party.....	30
Picture 17 Picture of Gloria When Drinking with Her Friends.....	30
Picture 18 Picture of Gloria in another Party.....	30
Picture 19 Picture of Louis in Lawson Workshop.....	31
Picture 20 Picture of Louis in a Nonviolent sit-in at Segregated Diner.....	31
Picture 21 Picture of Louis in March for Free The Black People of South Africa.....	31
Picture 22 Picture of Plantation Where Cecil live.....	33
Picture 23 Picture of Cotton Plantation.....	33
Picture 24 Picture of Cecil and His Dad in Plantation.....	33
Picture 25 Setting in 1926, Cecil Childhood.....	35
Picture 26 Setting in 1926, Cecil live with his Parents in Plantation.....	35
Picture 27 Setting in 1926, Cecil live with his Parents in Plantation.....	35
Picture 28 Setting in 1957, at Washington DC.....	36

Picture 29 Hotel Excelsior	36
Picture 30 Cecil Serving in Hotel Excelsior.....	36
Picture 31 Setting in 1957, Eisenhower Administration.....	36
Picture 32 Setting in 1957, Eisenhower Administration.....	36
Picture 33 Picture of Eisenhower.....	36
Picture 34 Setting in 1961 Kennedy Administration.....	37
Picture 35 Picture of Kennedy and Family.....	37
Picture 36 Picture of Kennedy.....	37
Picture 37 Setting in 1964 Lyndon Johnson Administration.....	37
Picture 38 The Picture of Lyndon Johnson.....	37
Picture 39 Cecil and Lyndon Johnson.....	37
Picture 40 Setting in 1969 Nixon Administration.....	38
Picture 41 Setting in 1974 Nixon’s Second Term.....	38
Picture 42 Picture of Nixon	38
Picture 43 Setting in 1986 Ronald Reagan Administration.....	38
Picture 44 Picture of Cecil and Reagan.....	38
Picture 45 Picture of Cecil and Reagan.....	38
Picture 46 Setting in 2008, The 44 Presidential Election in US	39
Picture 47 Picture of Cecil and His Neighbor’s support for Obama.....	39
Picture 48 Picture of Obama Victory Speech.....	39
Picture 49 Picture which show Gloria drinking Alcohol	41
Picture 50 Picture of Gloria have an affair with Howard.....	41
Picture 51 Picture of Gloria have an affair with Howard.....	41
Picture 52 African American which sitting in the right.....	42
Picture 53 Louis and his Friends sitting in The White seat.....	42
Picture 54 Cecil waiting in The White House	46
Picture 55 Picture of Admiral Rochon, The Chief Usher	46
Picture 56 Cecil and Rochon leave and meet Obama	46
Picture 57 Picture of sign which says “colored”	46
Picture 58 Picture of sign which says “colored”	46
Picture 59 Picture of African American which sitting in White seat.....	46

Picture 60 Picture of Toilet at a Prison.....	F47
Picture 61 The sign which says White and Colored in Toilet.....	47
Picture 62 Picture when Gloria at Bus Station.....	48
Picture 63 The sign at The Bus Station.....	48
Picture 64 Setting 1960, Fisk University.....	50
Picture 65 African-American student in Fisk University.....	50
Picture 66 Louis first meeting with Carol.....	50
Picture 67 Two African-American People in The Hang Punishment.....	51

ABSTRAK

Amerika terkenal dengan sebutan negara Imigran, karena sebagian besar rakyat Amerika adalah Imigran. Mereka datang dari berbagai negara dengan berbagai macam budaya dan perbedaan. Terkadang perbedaan tersebut menimbulkan konflik. Konflik tersebut menimbulkan berbagai macam prasangka buruk dan juga diskriminasi. Isu tersebut adalah alasan mengapa penulis membuat skripsi ini. Skripsi ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis diskriminasi yang dihadapi orang-orang kulit hitam atau yang disebut orang Afrika di dalam film *The Butler* menggunakan pendekatan eksponensial, yang menganalisis tema, karakter, setting dan konflik. Selain itu penulis menggunakan *cinematic theory* karena skripsi ini menggunakan media film sebagai bahan kajiannya. Penulis disini menggunakan teori diskriminasi untuk menganalisis film tersebut.

Didalam analisis si penulis menemukan bahwa orang-orang Afrika Amerika mengalami berbagai macam diskriminasi. Dimana diskriminasi-diskriminasi tersebut memberikan efek terhadap kehidupan orang Afrika Amerika.

Kata kunci: Orang Afrika-Amerika, Orang Amerika, Diskriminasi

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

“The United State of America frequently has been described as a nation of nations, a mixture of immigrants from all over the world” (Racial and Ethnic relation in America: par.1, page1) they came to America in order to get a better life. The immigrants came from various places, classes, races, and religions. Diversity in the United States often causes strife, prejudice and discrimination that frequently occurred because of character differences among them.

One of the immigrants who come to America is African American. African American first came to America as slaves, they were sold in America. Based on Utah Education Network the slavery or we can call it Black Africa first arrived in The United State at Virginia in 1619. Then it however still existed until 250 years. About 11 million African Americans had been shipped and sold as slaves in this country.

The first slaves arrived in Virginia around 1619, and slavery existed in America for the next 250 years. African Americans made up the largest number of migrants to the New World during the colonial era, especially during the eighteenth century. During the four centuries of the Atlantic slave trade, an estimated 11 million African Americans were transported to North and South America. (2013)

They were taken by Whites to America, most of them were kidnapped and taken forcibly, not only adults were taken, but also children were brought and

traded too. Slaves did not have rights, they were hired and treated as horses or cows. That treatments are that lead people to gain prejudice and discrimination against African American American (UEN: 2013). There are a lot of Hollywood films which have theme of African American American experience in the United State. Not only positive experience, but also bad experience like slavery.

One of the films with the theme of prejudice and discrimination against African American American in America is *The Butler* (full title Lee Daniels 'The Butler) directed by Lee Daniels and written by Danny Strong. Loosely inspired by the real-life of Eugene Allen, the film stars Forest Whitaker as Cecil Gaines, an African American-American who eyewitnesses notable events of the 20th century during his 34-year tenure serving as a White House butler. The film was theatrically released by The Weinstein Company. The writer thinks that the film is quite interesting, because in that film can be seen various forms of discriminatory treatment against African American American, on the other hand we can also see how they struggle to eliminate all forms of discrimination they suffered and how they fight for equal rights. Existence of these conflicts attracted the writer to study the film.

1.2 Purpose of The Study

The main goal of the study is to analyze prejudice and discrimination towards African American American based on *The Butler* film. Moreover, the purpose of the study is to analyze African American American resistance toward white people after they suffered discrimination and also to explain the different

struggles between Cecil Gaines and Louis Gaines in fighting for equal rights for African American American.

1.3 Scope of The Study

In this paper, the writer will make several limits of studies. Those limits are made in order to make clear in the direction of the research. In other words, the writer needs certain border so that the study will not go beyond its area.

The writer will analyze the intrinsic and extrinsic elements of the film. The intrinsic covers the aspect of narrative which includes theme, plot, character, setting, conflict, and cinematography aspect of the film like camera, sound and *mise-en-scene*. Moreover, for its extrinsic aspect, the writer will focus on discriminations and prejudices which appeared in slavery era in the United States based on *The Butler* film.

1.4 Method of The Study

1.4.1 Method of Research

According to *Metode Penelitian Sastra* by Attar Semi research method is a way that used to test, find and develop the truth of knowledge using facts and data (Semi, 1993: 7). The writer uses library research in collecting the data. Library Research means reading some supporting books, and searching in the internet and DVD as references (Semi, 1993:8). By this method the writer collect the data and puts all into a research document and cites them as references for the

research. The writer also uses the theory of prejudice and discrimination to analyze the film.

1.4.2 Method of Approach

According to *Metode Penelitian Sastra* by Attar Semi method of approach is a basic assumption as the key to see through an object (Semi, 1993:63) The writer uses exponential approach focusing on narrative aspects of the film, the exponential approach will be used to analyze the intrinsic aspects of the film such as theme, character, setting, conflict “we designate this method as the exponential approach because the inclusiveness of the term suggests at once the several meaning of motive, image, symbol, and archetype” (Gverin, 1992:197) and also cinematic elements, especially about camera, sound, and *mise-en-scene*.

Afterward, the sociological theory is applied in analyzing the extrinsic aspects of the film. Here the writer uses literary sociological approach, in which the literary work is an interest in community life (Semi, 1993:73)

1.5 The Organization of The Study

To obtain a complete and systematic discussion, the writer writes this thesis with the following systematic writing.

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

This chapters contains Background of The Study, Purpose of The Study, Scope of The Study, Methods of The Study, and The Organization of The Study

CHAPTER 2 THE SUMMARY OF THE MOVIE

This chapter contains the summary of *The Butler* movie by Lee Daniels

CHAPTER 3 LITERARY REVIEW

This chapter consists of theoretical reviews that can support the analysis of intrinsic and extrinsic aspects.

CHAPTER 4 DISCUSSION

This chapter contains the data on the intrinsic aspects which include theme, characters, setting (place, time), conflict (internal and external), and cinematography. This chapter will also discuss about prejudice and discrimination experienced by the main character.

CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION

This chapter contains a summary of the research that has been done by the writer

CHAPTER 2

SUMMARY OF THE FILM

The film begins by setting the year of 2008, where elderly Cecil Gaines recounts his life story while waiting in the White House. Gaines lived and raised in a cotton plantation in the 1920s Macon, Georgia, with his parents who worked there for living. One day, when Cecil's family was taking a picture in the plantation, the farm's temperamental owner, Thomas Westfall saw it then suddenly asked Cecil's mother, Hattie Pearl, to accompany him. Thomas Westfall was then aggressively raped her at the plantation. Hearing her wife's screaming, Earl, Cecil's father, confronts Westfall, but unfortunately he shot to dead. Soon after, Cecil was then taken by Annabeth Westfall, the estate's caretaker, Westfall's mother, who reassigned Cecil to be a house servant instead. In his teens, he left the Westfall plantation and his mother, who became lunatic after the accident, because he did not want to get shot by Westfall like his father.

One night, he ran from the plantation. He did not have a job, because white people did not want to give him job nor food, as he was really hungry. Cecil decided to break a window of a pastry shop to get food and unexpectedly seen and warned by the owner. The owner of the pastry somehow gave him a job after he heard Cecil's story. While working in the shop, he acquired skills from the master servant, Maynard. After several years, Maynard recommended Cecil for a position in Washington D.C. hotel. While working at the hotel, Cecil met Gloria, then they married and have two children, Louis and Charlie.

In 1957, Cecil is hired by the White House during Dwight D. Eisenhower's administration, where White House maître d' Freddie Fallows showed Cecil arounds and introduced him to the head butler Carter Wilson and co-worker James Holloway. Working in the White House, Cecil witnessed first hand Eisenhower's reluctance to use troops to enforce school desegregation in the South, then the President's resolve to uphold the law by ordering to racially integrate a high school in Little Rock. The Gaines family celebrated Cecil's new occupation with their close friends and neighbors, Howard and Gina. Louis, the eldest son, became the first generation to be a university student at Fisk University in Tennessee. Cecil was hesitant about this because he thought that the South is too volatile and encouraged Louis to enroll at Howard University. In Tennessee Louis joined a student program led by James Lawson, which led to a non violent sit-in at a segregated diner, where he was arrested. Furious, Cecil confronted Louis for disobeying him. Gloria, suffering from her husband's long working hours, descended into alcoholism and became close to having an affair with the Gaines's neighbor, Howard.

In 1961, after John F. Kennedy's election, Louis and his friends were attacked by the Ku Klux Klan while traveling on a bus in Alabama. The Ku Klux Klan burnt and destroyed their bus. Louis was participating in the 1963 Birmingham Children's Crusade, where dogs and water cannons were used to stop the marchers, one of the movement's actions which inspired Kennedy to deliver a national address proposing the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Several months after the speech, Kennedy was assassinated. His successor, Lyndon B. Johnson, enacted

the transformative legislation into law. As a goodwill gesture, Jackie Kennedy gave Cecil one of the former president's neckties before he left the White House.

Louis was later seen while participating in the 1965 Selma Voting Rights Movement, which inspired President Johnson to demand that Congress enact the landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In the late 1960s, after civil rights activist Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination, Louis returned home and told his family that he and a few others have founded a chapter of the radical organization called the Black Panthers. Aware of Richard Nixon's plans to suppress the movement and being upset at his son's actions, Cecil ordered Louis and his girlfriend, Carol, to leave his house. Louis was soon arrested and was bailed out by Carter Wilson.

At that time The Gaineses' other son, Charlie, confided to Louis that he plans to join American forces in the war in Vietnam because Charlie thinks that he is fighting to defend his country that is America, unlike Louis who actually fought against his own country. Louis admitted that he wouldn't attend his funeral if he were killed. Indeed, a few months later, the Gaines family hold a funeral for Charlie, which Louis did not attend, much to the dismay of his enraged father. However, when the Black Panthers began to exercise violence in response to racial confrontations, Louis left the organization and returned to college, earning his master's degree in political science and eventually winning a seat in Congress.

Meanwhile, Cecil's professional reputation has grown to the point that in the 1980s, he was invited by Ronald and Nancy Reagan as a guest to a state dinner. Cecil realized that the invitation was just for show, as Reagan plans to veto any Congressional sanctions against South Africa. Cecil announced his resignation to the President, but not before gaining Reagan's support in his long years effort to have the African-American White House staff receive the same rate of salary and opportunity for career advancement as their white counterparts.

Gloria, wanting Cecil to repair his estranged relationship with Louis, revealed that Louis once told her that he loved and respected them both. Realizing his son's actions to be heroic rather than antagonistic, Cecil joined Louis in a protest against South African American apartheid. Then they were jailed only after running a protest.

In Barack Obama's 2008 presidential campaign, where blacks and whites united together to support Barack Obama to be the President of America, an elderly Gloria dies, Cecil really sad. Shortly before Obama is elected as the American President, that a milestone which makes Cecil and Louis proud, because Obama is first African American-American president. Then the film ended when Cecil get a chance to meet Obama in the White House.

CHAPTER 3

LITERARY REVIEW

3.1 INTRINSIC ASPECTS

Intrinsic aspects are the elements that build a work of literature inside the literary work itself. The intrinsic elements in this study consists of narrative elements which includes theme, characters, setting, conflict, and cinematic elements which includes cinematography, sound, and *Mise-en-Scene*.

3.1.1 Narrative Elements

“Narrative elements are the basic elements to help us on understanding every aspects of life”(2008: 33). By analyzing narrative element it will be easier to understand what the film maker want to convey to the audience and to make the audience understand the content of the film that is the intent and purpose of the film.

3.1.1.1 Theme

Theme is the basic idea of a story in the film, this is all that has been presented in accordance with Kennedy “The theme of a story is whatever general idea or insight the entire story reveals” (1978:90). Theme in a story can be expressed in two ways, namely explicit and

implicit. The explicit theme is usually known by the title of the literary work, while the implicit is that can be known through the intrinsic elements. As a reader, we perceive the meaning after reading or seeing a literature work that then be generalized into a theme, although it would give a different meaning to each individual who reads or see the literature work.

3.1.1.2 Characters

Based on *Memahami Film* by Himawan Pratista, character is a person who is becomes an important part of the story. The character is important because it takes what the writer wants to convey to the reader. Besides, character also affects another narrative element such as theme, setting and plot.

The plot would not flow by the absence of actor or character which motivating the act. The character always does the act by a purpose. In order to reach the purpose, the characters must be facing problem that is able to motivate the purpose. If there is no problem, the plot would not able to develop''(2008: 43)

Based on *Literary Analysis: Using Elements of Literature*, there are 3 kinds of characters:

- a. Protagonist is the character the story revolves around. The character is usually always appear in the story and is the main character

- b. Antagonist is a character or force that opposes the protagonist. Usually in the story, has trait evil, and also against the main character
- c. Minor character is often provide support and illuminates the protagonist.

The ways characters are portrayed are as static character and dynamic character. Static character is a character that remains the same, while dynamic character is on a character that changes in some important ways. In analyzing the character, it cannot be separated from the characterization. Characterization is how the author creates the characters, so that the reader convinced that the character is evident in the literature, “Characterization - The choices an author makes to reveal a character’s personality, such as appearance, actions, dialogue, and motivations” (Using Elements of Literature).

3.1.1.3 Setting

According to *Memahami Film* by Himawan Pratista setting is the scene of the events in the story, or the place where the character does something. Setting also helps the reader to understand what the situation is and what is happening in the literary work. Setting is not just about the place but it also includes time, scene situation, and character from the scene.

“Setting is the entire background and its properties. The properties are unmovable things such as utilities, door, window, chair, bulb, tree, etc... Setting is one kind of important aspects supporting the narrative of the film. There will be no story of the film by the absence of setting. Setting is purposely uses to express the place and time in order to give bold information supporting the story.”(2008:62)

3.1.1.4 Conflict

In addition to the character and setting analysis, we will also find a conflict in the story. Based on *Memahami Film* by Himawan Pratista, conflict can be a clash of ideas, actions or desires experienced by the characters. The main character can be in conflict with another person or group, with the environment, and can also with itself.

“Problem can be described as the obstacles faced by the protagonist on the way to gain the purpose. The problem is often caused by the act of antagonist having the same or opposite purpose with the protagonist. Problem can be inside the main character which causing inner conflict”. (2008:44)

3.1.2 Cinematic Elements

“Cinematic aspects are the technical aspects on creating film. (Pratista 2008:1). Cinematic elements consists of cinematography, sound, *Mise-en-Scene*.

3.1.2.1 Cinematography is about part of audiovisual record elements into celluloid film or video (Bordwell 2008:162). There are some terms commonly used in cinematography, namely:

3.1.2.1.1 Shot Angle:

According to *Film Art an Introduction Eighth Edition* by David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson, angle is the position of the camera in taking pictures (2008:190). There are three general categories:

3.1.2.1.1.1 The Straight-On Angle



Picture 1

(source : <http://www.elvis.com/media/photos-videos.aspx>)

It is the most common angle. The camera is at eye-level of subject so the viewer feels equal with the subject.

3.1.2.1.1.2 The High Angle



Picture 2

Source :

<http://www.elementsofcinema.com/cinematography/camera-angles.html>

T

This shot looks down on the action from a superior position. The observer is impress dominates, power, higher status.

3.1.2.1.1.3 The Low Angle



Picture 3

(source:http://crazygem22.blogspot.com/2012_08_01_archive.html)

This shot looks up at the action from below, an inferior position. The subject impresses vulnerable, weak and lower in status.

3.1.2.1.2 Camera Distance

According to *Film Art an Introduction Eighth Edition* by David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson the measurement procedures for framing the images (2008:190), can be catagorized in 7 shots; they are:

3.1.2.1.2.1 Extreme Long Shot



Picture 4

(Source: ashannahdixon.wordpress.com)

The human figure is barely visible. This is the framing for landscape, bird's eye views of cities, and other vistas

3.1.2.1.2.2 Long Shot



Picture 5

(Source : agoriniaqegs.wordpress.com)

Figure is more prominent, but the background still dominates

3.1.2.1.2.3 Medium Long Shot



Picture 6 (Source : somethinginteresting23.blogspot.com)

The human figure is framed from about knees up.

3.1.2.1.2.4 Medium Shot



Picture 7

(source : www.myfilmstories.com)

The human figure is framed from the waist up, gesture and facial expression is began to appear, so people began to dominant in the frame.

3.1.2.1.2.5 Middle Close Up



Picture 8

(source: <http://www.mediacollege.com/video/shots/medium-closeup.html>)

The human figure is framed from the chest up, and the background is no longer dominant, so people began to dominate the frame.

3.1.2.1.2.6 Close Up



Picture 9

(source : www.purehdwallpaper.com)

The shot is showing just the head, hands, feet or a small object. It emphasizes facial expression, the details of a gesture, or a significant object.

3.1.2.1.2.7 Extreme Close Up



Picture 10

(source: bhsfpcharlottebanister.blogspot.com)

This shot is just showing singles out a portion of the face (often eyes or lips) or isolates and magnifies object.

3.1.2.2 Sound

Type of sound which is used to analyze *The Butler* movie is dialogue. “Dialogue is the language of verbal communication uses by

whole character inside and outside the story’’. (Pratista, 2008:149). There are several variations and techniques of dialogue according to Pratista are Monologue, Overlapping Dialogue, Transition Language, and Dubbing, but variation and technique is used in this film only monologue, and overlapping dialogue

3.1.2.2.1 Monologue

Monolog is not a conversation dialog; it is the words spoken by the character (or the non-character to itself or to us – the audience) (2008:152)

3.1.2.2.2 Overlapping Dialogue

Overlapping dialog is a technique to overlap a dialog on other dialog by the same volume of saying (2008:152). The technique is usually used when a fight scene or the actors are in crowded public area like in a airport, etc. For example in *The Pacifier* movie Overlapping dialogue techniques used in the house scene when the Plummer’s kids clash opinions each other to prepare their mother’s homecoming.

3.1.2.3 *Mise-en-scene*

According to David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson *mise-en-scene* is all the elements placed in front of the camera to be photographed are parts of the cinematic process that takes place on the set. It includes the

settings and props, lighting, costumes and make-up, and figure behavior (2008:112). According to David Brodwell and Kristin Thompson there are four Aspects of *Mise-en-scene*:

3.1.2.3.1 Setting

This is the physical structure on which the 'action' is shot and played out. The position of the actors or objects in the set often indicate their level or importance or status.

3.1.2.3.2 Costumes and makeup

This is what the actors wear to show their status or character. Costuming is a key indicator in the action movie. Action heroes will often wear a 'costume' to suggest their roles, intentions and how they will react to the situations they find themselves in.

3.1.2.3.3 Lighting

This is how light is used by the film to create a certain mood or atmosphere, low lighting is often considered unsettling and threatening. Action movies tend towards a more brash and visceral use of lighting and color.

3.1.2.3.4 Staging

The director may also control the behavior of various figures in the *mise-en-scene*. *Mise-en-scene* allows such figures to express feeling and thoughts. It can also dynamize them to create various kinetic patterns.

3.2 Extrinsic Aspects

Extrinsic aspect is the outside elements of literature work, extrinsic elements also connect literature to real life. In the extrinsic elements the writer will explain the theory of discrimination and prejudice.

3.2.1 Prejudice

According to Allport in *Understanding Race and Racism* prejudice is attitudes toward group members that can be positive or negative, prejudice including negative feelings, stereotyped beliefs, and a tendency to discriminate against members of the group.

According to Allport (1979), prejudice can be defined using a unipolar (negative) component, as in “thinking ill of others without sufficient warrant,” or incorporating a bipolar (negative and positive) component, as in “a feeling, favorable or unfavorable, toward a person or thing, prior to, or not based on actual experience” (p. 6) Both of these definitions include an “attitude” component and a “belief” component. The attitude is either negative or positive and is tied to an overgeneralized or erroneous “belief.” (2006:11)

Although prejudice can be positive as well as negative, but most prejudice towards racial and ethnic that happened in America tends to be negative. Based on

Processes of Prejudice: Theory, Evidence and Intervention by Dominic Abrams

there are 4 nature of prejudice:

a. The intergroup context

This refers to the ways that people in different social group see members of other groups. Their views may relate to power differences, the precise nature of differences, and whether group members feel threatened by others. These intergroup perceptions provide the context within which people develop their attitudes and prejudices.

b. The psychological bases for prejudice

These include: people's key values; the ways they see themselves and others; their sense of social identity, and social norms that define who is included in or excluded from social groups.

Prejudice is more likely to develop and persist where:

- groups have different or conflicting key values
- others are seen as different
- people see their identity in terms of belonging to particular groups, and
- Their groups discriminate against others.

c. Manifestations of prejudice

There are many ways in which prejudice can be expressed. Stereotypes can be positive or negative, and may be linked to a fear that other groups may pose a threat. Some apparently positive stereotypes (as sometimes expressed towards older people or women, for instance) may nonetheless be patronizing and

devalue those groups. Different stereotypes evoke different emotional responses. These include derogatory attitudes or overt hostility. People's use of language, behavior, emotional reactions and media images can all reflect prejudice too.

d. The effect of experience

This has several dimensions. First, people's experiences do not always match others' views about the extent of prejudice. For instance, few people express negative prejudice towards older people, yet older people report high levels of prejudice towards them. Secondly, contact between groups is likely to increase mutual understanding, though it needs to be close and meaningful contact. The third factor is the extent to which people wish to avoid being prejudiced. This is based on personal values, a wish to avoid disapproval, and wider social norms. Each of these offers a means for potentially preventing the expression of prejudice and discriminatory behavior.

Based on *Racial and Ethnic Relations in America* by S.Dale McLemore
theories of prejudice:

a) The Cultural-Transmission Theory of Prejudice

Childhood is a particularly vulnerable time for studying prejudice, because they can learn it easily as learning to speak, so that the prejudice can

grow since their childhood, it is strongly influenced by the surrounding environment, such as family and community.

One important theory holds that children learn prejudice in much the same way they learn to speak a particular language, dress in given manner, or use certain eating utensils. From this viewpoint, the building blocks of prejudice are contained within the society's tradition or culture and are transmitted to children in a natural way as they are exposed to those traditions in the home and community. (1983:110)

According to S.Dale McLemore in his book *Racial and Ethnic Relations in America*, there are two aspects that can grow the prejudice attitudes towards other groups.

The first of these has to do with the shared beliefs that the member of one group have about the members of the other groups in the society. The second has to do with culture's prescriptions concerning the degrees of intimacy or "nearness" that one group's member should permit or desire from any group members. (1983:110-111)

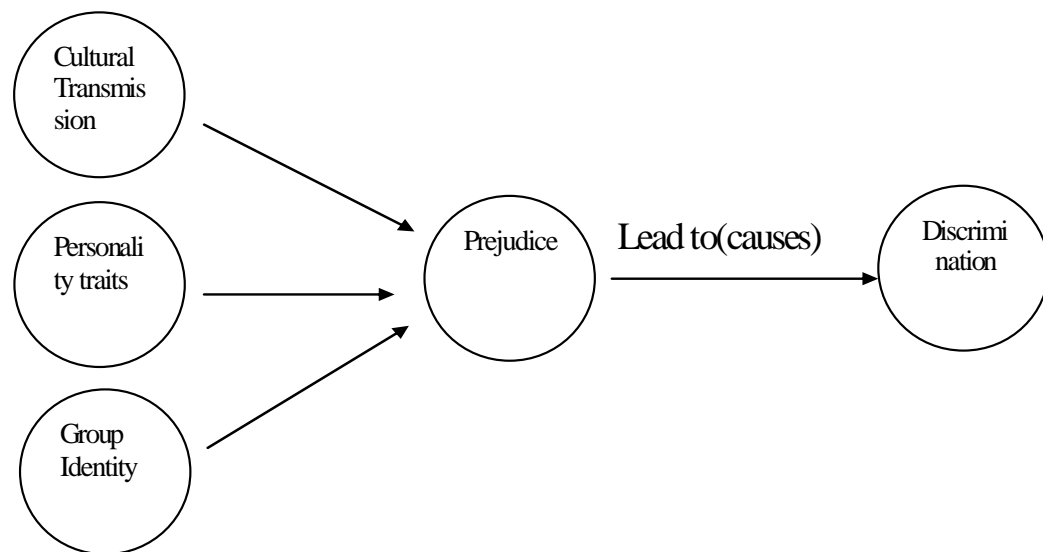
b) Personality Theories of Prejudice

This is a narrow view of what a person learn during the process of growing up. It is possible that the kind of person an individual learns to be – the kind of personality he or she develops – is of greater importance in understanding prejudice than the kinds of information that the person "picks up" along the way. (1983:115)

The effort to manage the personal frustration and problem of life: people frequently exhibit an exaggerated, seemingly "irrational" hostility toward the member of out-groups. Such prejudice appear to have more to do with people 's inner tensions and conflicts than with the characteristics of the member of the hated group(s). (1983:156)

c) The Group-Identification Theory of Prejudice

The sense of group identity, belongingness, and loyalty that people ordinarily develop toward their own group's member and culture pride in one's own group may easily shade into or stimulate prejudice toward the groups of others. (1983:156)



3.2.2 Discrimination

Based on *Collins Co build Advanced Dictionary of English*, Discrimination is the practice of treating one person or group of people less fairly or less well than other people or groups. According to the definition of discrimination, discrimination can happen to everyone, especially minorities people or group. There are eleven type of discrimination, that are age, caste, disability, employment, language, nationality, racial or ethnic, regional, religion, reverse, sex, gender, and gender-identity

Based on *Racial and Ethnic Relations in America* by S.DaleMclemore, discrimination can also be easily transmitted to their children, the children learn what their parents, families, and neighbors do against the minorities group or people such as discrimination, and they followed them. It can be continuous because they are not understand what they are doing, and maybe

when they are young they do not know that they are learning the wrong things, but because they feel it is right and his parents were doing it so they do it anyway.

Discrimination may occur because they get prejudice first, but some people said that discrimination may not occur because the prejudice. Discrimination may not occur when prejudice is present, and it may occur when prejudice is absent. In either case, a serious objection is raised to the presumption that prejudice is the cause of discrimination. (1983:127)

CHAPTER 4

DISCUSSION

4.1 INTRINSIC ASPECTS

4.1.1 Narrative Elements

4.1.1.1 Theme

Theme is the basic idea that is poured in the story. Theme guides the reader or viewer to understand or give suggestion on the early course of the story. The Butler movie lifts racism as its theme, in which that the film tells the story of a Black butler in White House.

The Butler movie tells the story of a Cecil Gaines, White House butler who serves seven American presidents over three decades. This movie is loosely based on the true story of Eugene Allen, who worked as a White House butler. In this film Cecil Gaines faced many of discrimination which experiences by African American-American including himself who is the African American American.

Various kinds of discrimination experienced by Cecil and African American American, such as discrimination in salary issue, opportunity to get a job and discrimination in public area.

4.1.1.2 Characters

4.1.1.2.1 Major Characters

4.1.1.2.1.1 Cecil Gaines

Cecil Gaines is an African American-American, and was raised on a cotton plantation in the 1920s Macon, Georgia, by his sharecropping parents. Cecil is taken in by Annabeth Westfall, the estate's caretaker, who trains Cecil as a house servant after plantation owners rapes his mother and shoot his father to death. The scenes that claim the lives of Cecil's parents and change Cecil's life, can be seen from minute 00:02:04 until to minute 00:04:16



Picture 11
00:02:04
Cecil Family
Taking Picture at
Plantation



Picture 12
00:02:21
Plantation Owner
rapes Cecil's
Mother



Picture 13
00:03:46
Plantation Owner
shoot Cecil's
Father



Picture 14
00:04:16
Cecil's Father
Died

In the pieces of the scene, it shows that Cecil and his parents at that time want to take photograph together in the plantation. It is shown in Picture 11, which uses straight-on angle and medium long shot, clothes and makeup they use also shows their status as

slaves who work on the plantation, this is proven in the picture 15, which shows the image slavery at that time



Picture 15

The Example of The Real Slavery Look

<http://www.findingdulcinea.com/guides/Education/US-History/Slavery-in-America.html>

After that, the cruel plantation-owner comes and asks Cecil's mother to help him in the warehouse. It is shown in Picture 12, which uses straight-on angle and medium shot. Picture 13 and 14, where the Cecil's father looks angry with the plantation owner, because he knows something has happened to his wife and eventually he is shot to death, for daring to fight.

When he is a teenager, he leaves the plantation and his mother becomes quiet after the rape incident. Cecil plans to seek a better job and finally he gets a job at a pastry shop, and then he gets a recommendation for working in a five star hotel. After showing a reasonably good job, Cecil also gets a job at the White House as a

Butler. Cecil is a person who really loves his family and also his job because he works hard to support his families, and for the love of the job he works nearly 34 years to serve the presidents in the White House.

4.1.1.2.1.2 Gloria Gaines

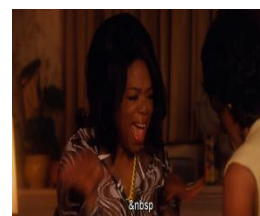
Gloria Gaines is Cecil Gaines wife, they met when Cecil working at the Hotel in Washington DC, they married and had two son named Louis and Charlie Gaines. Gloria is really love Cecil and her family, they live happily. Gloria is a people who really like partying and drinking with her friends when celebrating something, it showed in the picture 16, 17, and 18.



Picture 16
00:20:06
Picture of Gloria when enjoying Party



Picture 17
00:46:02
Picture of Gloria when drinking with her Friends



Picture 18
01:07:56
Picture of Gloria in another Party

However she was disappointed with Cecil, because he was too busy with his job at the White House, and less thought of her, so she decides to having an affair with his friend, Howard, then she became an alcoholic. Although in the end she realized and returned to Cecil. She also the person who firmly to her children, she was to have

the heart to evict her son when her son act brash and mocking his father's work.

4.1.1.2.1.3 Louis Gaines

Louis Gaines is the first child of Cecil Gaines, he is smart, he proved it by entered at Fisk University in Tennessee. When in the University Louis joins a student program led by Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) activist James Lawson, which leads to a nonviolent sit-in at a segregated diner it showed in the picture 19 and 20. His actions against whites strongly is opposed by his parents because it is extremely dangerous. However he still continue his action because he feels compelled to fight for the rights of African-Americans, it is showed in picture 21.



Picture 19
00:38:03
Louis in Lawson
Workshop



Picture 20
00:39:52
Louis in a nonviolent
sit-in at a segregated
diner



Picture 21
01:54:27
Louis in March for
Free The People of
South Africa

4.1.1.2.1.3 Charlie Gaines

Charlie Gaines was the second child of Cecil, he is very attractive, he loves his parents, and so according to the words of his parents. Besides, he also loves his country, America, unlike her brother who fought against the America. Because of his love to

America, he decided to fight for America in the Vietnam war, and in the end he was killed in the battle. It is showed in the following conversation between Charlie and Louis at 01:26:43-01:26:58

Charlie : I'm going to Vietnam.

Louis : Charlie, don't do this. Don't do this. This country treats us like dogs! And do what? Don't do this?

Charlie: You fight your country. I want to fight for my country. (*The Butler* 01:26:43 until 01:26:58)

4.1.1.2.2 Minor Character

4.1.1.2.2.1 Howard

He is the Gaineses' neighbor who has an affair with Gloria. He always come to Cecil's home to make out with Gloria and always persuade Gloria to leave Cecil. It is showed in the following conversation between Gloria and Howard at 00:58:02-00:58:22

Gloria : This is what's wrong with me. This is wrong. This is wrong. We ain't been wrong yet. I can't do this to Cecil.

Howard : We ain't doing it to Cecil. I'm doing it to you.

Gloria : I want you out of my house.

Howard : Why do you think God brought us next to each other each day? God ain't got nothing to do with this. He put you right next door to me. You always talking about how lonely you are without Cecil. (*The Butler*, 00:58:02 until 00:58:22)

4.1.1.2.2.2 Carol Hammie

She is Louis girlfriend, she is a student at Fisk University in Tennessee and also joins a student program led by Southern Christian

Leadership Conference (SCLC) activist James Lawson who fights against white people like Louis.

4.1.1.3 Setting

4.1.1.3.1 Setting of places

Setting of place in *the Butler* movie. Gaines was raised on a cotton plantation in the 1920s Macon, Georgia. Name of the places shown in picture 22 at the lower left corner.



After he learns advanced skills from the master servant, Maynard, and after several years Maynard recommends Cecil for a position in a Washington D.C. hotel. It is showed in the conversation between Maynard and Cecil, at minute 00:11:13 until 00:12:19

Maynard : The manager of Excelsior, in DC, he came by yesterday. He offered me a job as a butler.

Cecil : He must be paying you, top dollar, huh, boss?

Maynard : Yeah. I was thinking about taking it, but I don't know. I'm too old to be leaving North Carolina. I'm just fine right here. I told him to hire you.

Cecil : I'm just now finding my way around this hotel. Ain't ready for all them, highfalutin white people, all their fancy words.

Maynard : Cecil, we got two faces: ours, and the ones that we got to show the white folks. Now, to get up in the world, you have to make them feel nonthreatened. Use that, them fancy words that I've taught you. White folks up north, they like some uppity coloreds.

Cecil : Yeah.

Then Cecil said: I took that job up in Washington, DC. (*The Butler*, 00:11:13 until 00:12:19)

Cecil then got a job in the White House in a to be *The Butler*, as it is showed in the following conversation.

Freddie Fallows : Mr. Warner and myself make note of potential staff around town. Butler positions rarely open, as most stay on for 30 years or more.

Cecil : I know I was quite surprised when I got the call.

Freddie Fallows: It was a surprise for me, as well. As the White House maître d', I normally hire the butlers.

Cecil : Forgive me for saying this, Mr. Fallows. I certainly wouldn't want to be hired under circumstances that would make you feel uncomfortable.

Freddie Fallows: Oh, really?

Cecil : You need butlers that you've handpicked, men to your liking that will fulfill your vision of a proper White House staff.

Freddie Fallows: Hmm.

Cecil : Is that... Louis XIII? These decanters are replicas of metal flasks that were found n the battlefield in Jarnac. Correct? The Italians, they know their wines, and the Irish, they certainly know how to make a great whiskey. But I believe the French have a distinct advantage when it comes to Cognac. C'est vrai?

Freddie Fallows: Yeah, you'll make a good house nigger. (*The Butler*, 00:17:23-00:19:00)

There are still many places that exist in the background in the film *The Butler* such as The Fisk University in Tennessee, where Louis study and Alabama where Louis attacked by Ku Kluk Klan.

4.1.1.3.2 Setting of Time

Setting of time in *The Butler* movie is in the range between 1920s to 2008's. It is based on Cecil Gaines childhood who live at the Plantation in the 1920's until the time Cecil Gaines met President of America Barack Obama in 2008.

1920's is the year when Cecil Gaines was experiencing childhood with his parents at the plantation in Macon, Georgia. At that time his father was shot by the owner of the plantation and his mother became lunatic as she was raped by the plantation owner. The picture shows the year, when Gaines living on the plantation. Year when Cecil live at plantation shown in picture 25 at the lower left corner



Picture 25
00:01:21
Setting in 1926, Cecil Childhood

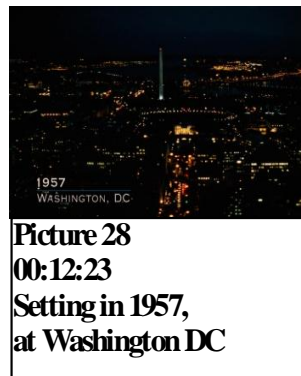


Picture 26
00:01:58
Setting in 1926, Cecil live with his parents in plantation



Picture 27
00:02:04
Setting in 1926, Cecil live with his parents in plantation

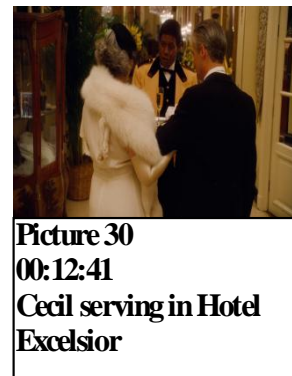
In 1957 Cecil first worked in hotel in Washington DC. When he was serving one of the visitors, one of the White House staff observing his work, and later recruited him to be the butler in the White House.



Picture 28
00:12:23
Setting in 1957,
at Washington DC



Picture 29
00:12:25
Hotel Excelsior



Picture 30
00:12:41
Cecil serving in Hotel
Excelsior

In picture taken at 00:12:23 until 00:12:25, in 28 picture shows the year in which Cecil come to Washington at the lower left corner, and the picture 29-30 shows the hotel where the Cecil work.

When working at the White House as the butler, Cecil Gaines has served seven U.S. presidents, starting from Dwight Eisenhower until Ronald Reagan, the following pictures show the year and the president served by Cecil Gaines



Picture 31
00:25:56
1957, Eisenhower
Administration



Picture 32
00:26:01
1957, Eisenhower
Administration



Picture 33
00:26:07
Picture of Eisenhower

The picture 31-33 shows the leadership of Dwight Eisenhower and first time Cecil serving a President, he was nervous when his first serving the President



Picture 34
00:47:41
1961, Kennedy Administration



Picture 35
00:48:46
The Picture of Kennedy and Family



Picture 36
00:48:32
The Picture of Kennedy

The picture 34-36 is the year when John Kennedy was to be a president, before John Kennedy getting shot and died in 1963 when he is on his way from the airport in Dallas to the downtown of Dallas, Texas.



Picture 37
01:07:05
1964 Lyndon Johnson Administration



Picture 38
01:07:17
The Picture of Lyndon Johnson



Picture 39
01:07:27
Cecil and Lyndon Johnson

After Kennedy's leadership, the President position was occupied by Lyndon Johnson. He is President who very precise and thrifty, especially in terms of facility issues at the White House. He is very unhappy if lights are on in the empty room.



Picture 40
01:27:39
1969, The Nixon Administration



Picture 41
01:36:19
1974, Nixon's Second Term



Picture 42
01:36:33
Picture of Nixon

Picture 40-42 showed Richard Milhous Nixon's term, but he eventually resigned as president, due to a series of political scandals called Watergate scandal, and he was replaced by Gerald Ford.



Picture 43
01:42:17
1986, Ronald Reagan Administration



Picture 44
01:42:22
Picture of Reagan and Cecil



Picture 45
01:42:28
Picture of Reagan and Cecil

Picture 43-45 shows the term of office Ronald Reagan, but before the Reagan, presidential term was occupied by Jimmy Carter. Reagan is very concerned with his people, as evidenced when he ordered Cecil to provide financial assistance when there is someone writing to him because there is a financial problem it is showed in the following conversation.

Reagan : Cecil? Cecil?

Cecil : Yes, sir, Mr. President.

Reagan : You stay there, I'm coming to you. I... have...secret mission for you.

Cecil : Yes, sir.

Reagan : I like to send people money when they write me about their financial problem, but my staff has been trying to get me to stop. You think you could help me to keep this going?

Cecil : Absolutely, Mr. President.

Reagan : Well, I appreciate your help with this. And, please, don't tell Nancy.

Cecil : Of course not. (*The Butler* 01:42:10-01:42:49)

During Reagan's term, Cecil resigned from his job and at that moment Cecil has managed to make all the African-American workers get a raises and a promotions, because of that, Reagan and his wife invited Cecil and his wife as a guest in a dinner event.



Picture 46
01:56:26
2008, The 44
Presidential Election in
US



Picture 47
01:56:52
Picture of Cecil and his
Neighbor support for
Obama



Picture 48
02:01:30
Obama Victory Speech

Picture 46-47 shows when the 44 Presidential election period in the United States, and picture 48 showed Barack Obama was elected to be President. When Barack Obama was elected. Cecil Gaines get invited by Barack Obama to meet him at the White House, which is where the end of the story of *The Butler*.

4.1.1.4 Conflict

The Butler movie is rich with a variety of conflicts, especially conflicts experienced by Cecil Gaines. Conflicts that Cecil Gaines faced comes from his family as well as from the society.

4.1.1.4.1 Cecil's conflict with his family

Cecil experiencing conflict in the family with his wife Gloria Gaines, and also his son Louis Gaines.

4.1.1.4.1.1 Cecil's conflict with Gloria

Conflict between Cecil and his wife is because Cecil is too busy working, so she is missed him very much, it is showed in the following conversation at minute 00:14:18 to minute 00:14:25.

Charlie : Working late again? How was your shift?

Cecil : Beats working for a living.

Gloria : I miss you at night, honey.(*The Butler* 00:14:18-00:14:25)

Especially when Cecil gets a job at the White House, Gloria increasingly feel to get less and less attention from Cecil because he has serving the President and comes home when she is asleep. It causes Gloria to be an alcoholic and also she has an affair with her neighbor. Another thing that makes Gloria became an alcoholic is because her son joins the movement for equal right and must be repeatedly sent to jail. One scene that shows Gloria become an alcoholic

and having an affair it can be seen from minute 00:57:40 until to minute 00:59:20



Picture 49
00:57:40
The Picture which Show
Gloria drinking alcohol



Picture 50
00:57:52
Gloria have an affair
with Howard



Picture 51
00:59:20
Picture of Gloria and
Howard

Picture 49 using the straight-on angle and also Middle Close Up shows how Gloria is enjoying alcohol when she sees something happen to her son on TV. Picture 50 and 51 using the straight-on angle and also Medium Shot, shows Howard gestures who want to seduce Gloria, as well as low lighting, and also the arrangement of the scene confirm that they are having an affair when Cecil works.

4.1.1.4.1.2 Cecil's conflict with Louis

Conflict that happened to Cecil and his son Louis occurs because there is a different opinion and views between Cecil and Louis, which according to Cecil, Louis initially did not need to participate in a movement that is fighting for equal rights for African American-American, because Cecil thinks that it is very dangerous, but for Louis it is very necessary to be fought, because it is really important, because African American-American have received a lot

of discrimination from white people. Such as differences in salary, the use of public area like in the restaurant, security and get a job. Cecil's anger to Louis occur when Louis get jail, at that time Louis and his friends trying to get equal rights to eat at a place where there is a different seating between whites and African-Americans.



Picture 52
00:39:25
Black sitting in right seat



Picture53
00:41:08
Louis and friends sitting in the White seat

It is seen in picture 52, there is a sign stating that a special seat for African American People, or in other terms "colored", but in picture 53 showed they are sit in white people's seat, and it poses a huge rage, until they are imprisoned.

Cecil's anger Louis shown at minute 00:44:25 until 00:45:08

Louis : I'm trying to change the way Negroes...

Cecil : You're breaking the law. That judge just sentenced you to 30 days in the county workhouse. You fixing to get killed.

Louis : If I can't sit at any lunch counter I want, then I might as well be dead. We're fighting for our rights.

Cecil : Rights? What are you talking about?

Louis : We're trying to change the nation's consciousness toward the American Negro.

Cecil : Them postcards you've been sending me? You're a damn liar.

Louis : I have been in school.

Cecil : Who do you think you're talking to? I brought you into this world, I can take you out of it.(*The Butler* 00:44:25- 00:45:08)

4.1.1.4.2 Discrimination towards African-American

In *The Butler* movie African American faced many of discrimination. Many of discrimination in this film is the impact of segregation era. The segregation era is the era when African American have a same right but it still distinguished between African-American and white so that it rise the discrimination. Based L. Bennett and C. Woodward on Racial And Ethnic Groups book by Richard T. Scafer in page 213

Reconstruction was ended part of a political compromise in the election of 1876 and consequently segregation became entrenched in the South. Evidence of Jim Crow's reign was apparent by the close of the nineteenth century. The term **Jim Crow** appear to have its origin in a dance tune, but by the 1890s it was synonymous with segregation and referred to the statutes that kept African Americans in an inferior position. Segregation often preceded laws and in practice often went beyond their provision. The institutionalization of segregation gave White supremacy its ultimate authority. In 1896, the U.S Supreme Court ruled in *Plessy v. Ferguson* that state laws requiring "separate but equal" accommodations for Blacks were a "reasonable" use of state government power. (L. Bennet 1966 ; C. Woodward 1974)

The discriminations such as in salary issue, the use of public area, employment opportunities and education.

4.1.1.4.2.1 Salary

One of the discrimination that occurs to African American people is the salary issue. That discrimination is showed in the conversation between Cecil, his friends and Richard Nixon, in which they complain about the difference in salary allowances shown in minutes 00:35:22 to 00:35:50

Richard Nixon : as members of the Negro community, what are your biggest concerns? Now, come on now, boys. Don't be shy. Holloway, come on.

Holloway : Well, since you asked, sir...

Richard Nixon : I did.

Holloway : The colored help gets paid almost 40 percent less than the white help.

Richard Nixon : Is that right?

Holloway : Yes, sir. And it's very difficult for the colored staff to be promoted. (*The Butler* 00:35:22-00:35:50)

Different treatment which happens to African American people leads Cecil to trying to fight for equal rights of workers in the White House, where there are very significant different terms of salary and they can not be promoted. Cecil repeatedly questions the salary increase and promotion to the staff which hold the power to make a decision. It is showed in the following conversation between Cecil and Warner at minute 01:16:37- 01:18:08

Warner : Come in, Cecil.

Cecil : Afternoon, Mr. Warner. Thank you for seeing me. Since the colored... ..the black staff does just as much work as the white staff, I believe that our salaries should reflect our service, sir.

Warner : "Black" staff?

Cecil : I also feel that we should have...opportunities of advancement. No black houseman has ever been promoted to the engineer's office.

Warner : You're very well liked here, Cecil. But if you're unhappy with your salary or position, then I suggest you seek employment elsewhere.

Cecil : With all due respect...

Warner : Don't let that Martin Luther King shit fill your britches out. Just remember where I found you.

Cecil : Yes, sir. Excuse me.(*The Butler* 01:16:37-01:18:08)

In that conversation, Warner refused Cecil demand on the salary raise and promotion. However, that rejection does not ommit Cecil's spirit to fight for the rights of African-American workers in the White House. Finally, in the Ronald Reagan reign, Cecil's claim is accepted, so the African American people can enjoy equality in terms of salaries and promotions. This can be seen from Mrs. Reagan's congratulations to Cecil at minute 01:44:48- 01:45:02

Mrs. Reagan : Cecil.

Cecil: Yes, Mrs. Reagan?

Mrs. Reagan : We will talk, Jim.

Jim: Yes.

Cecil: Yes, ma'am?

Mrs. Reagan : You're very popular around here. Everyone says you're the man that got them raises and promotions. I had no idea.

Cecil: I wish I could take credit for that.(*The Butler* 01:44:48- 01:45:02)

Also it is shown at the end of the story the African American man named Admiral Rochon became a chief usher, where it is seen already occurred equality between whites and blacks in the White House. It showed in picture 54-56 and the following conversation.



Picture 54
02:03:21
Cecil Waiting in White House



Picture 55
02:03:24
Picture of Admiral Rochon, The Chief Usher



Picture 56
02:03:41
Cecil and Rochon leave to meet Obama

Admiral Rochon: Mr. Gaines. I'm Admiral Rochon, the chief usher.

Cecil : Nice to meet you, admiral.

Admiral Rochon: Pleasure's all mine, sir. I just wanted to tell you what an honor it is to meet you, sir.(*The Butler* 02:03:24- 02:03:41).

4.1.1.4.2.2 The Use of Public Area

Public area is a place that is free to be used by everyone, but in the *The Butler* movie discrimination toward African American is clearly visible in public areas, such as in the restaurant, in a prison and also in the bus station.

Discrimination in the restaurant is shown in picture 57-59



Picture 57
00:39:25
Picture of The sign
which says “colored”



Picture 58
00:39:42
Picture of The sign
which says “colored”



Picture 59
00:41:09
Picture of Black which
sitting in White seat

Picture 57-59 it showed at the restaurant seating and services for blacks is differentiated, it can be seen next to a woman and behind of the man says "colored" which means it is a special place for African-American people. Also in the following conversation between the waitress for white people and Louis at minute 00:39:33-00:39:46

Waitress : You know y'all can't sit here.

Louis : We would like to be served,

Waitress : You can order food in the colored section, but I'm not gonna be serving you here. (*The Butler* 00:39:33-00:39:46)

At prison



Picture 60
00:44:14
Picture of Toilet at a Prison



Picture 61
The sign which says White
and Colored in Toilet

In the picture 60-61 it is showed the sink which says "white" indicating the white people can drink in that sink, and the sink which says "colored" means the African American people must drinking in that sink, that can be proved Cecil was drinking in the colored sink.

At Bus Station



Picture 62
00:33:53
Picture when Gloria at Bus Station



Picture 63
The Sign at Bus Station

At the bus station also showed the discrimination towards African-American. When Cecil's family accompany Louis to the bus station seen on the right side of Gloria there are a sign written "Colored Waiting Room" which means African-American should waiting in that room instead of the other room. That is a discrimination against African American, where they are be separated from white people.

4.1.1.4.2.3 Employment Opportunities

Work is very important and it is needed by all people to live out their life. But, getting a job for African American people was

not easy because there is discrimination against them, as in Cecil statement in minute 00:07:31-00:08:11

Cecil : Outside the cotton fields was even worse than I thought it would be. No one would give me a job nor food nor a place to sleep. Any white man could kill any of us at any time and not be punished for The law wasn't on our side. The law was against us. I was hungry all the time.
(*The Butler* 00:07:31-00:08:11)

In that statement, it is seen how hard the life which experienced by Cecil when he was young, but it is also proved how hard a African American people to get a job and to get a place to live.

4.1.1.4.2.4 Education

Based on *Racial And Ethnic Groups* by Richard T. Scafer the African American children is must attending school by race, so they cannot study in the white school.

For the majority of Black children, public school education meant attending segregated school. Southern school districts assigned children to school by race, rather than by neighborhood, a practice that constituted de jure segregation. **De jure segregation** refers to segregation that result from children being assigned to schools specifically to maintain racially separate schools. (2000:219-220)

The conversation between Cecil and The President of the United Stated Eishenhower at 00:29:31-00:29:38 prove that Cecil's children or African-American must attend special school for blacks or African-American.

Eishenhower : Do you have any children?

Cecil : Yes, sir, I have two sons.

Eishenhower : Do they go to an all-colored school?

Cecil : Yes, sir, they do. (*The Butler* 00:29:31-00:29:38).

This is made clear by the Louis's statement toward his dad at minute 00:31:02-00:31:10.

Louis : Dad, did you see...

Gloria : Don't start something in there.

Louis : Did you see one white kid in my school? (*The Butler* 00:31:02-00:31:10)

Picture 64-66 when Louis study at The Fisk University in Tennessee at minute 00:36:44-00:37:09 also proved the discrimination towards African-American.



Picture 64
00:36:44
1960, Fisk University



Picture 65
00:36:51
Black student in Fisk University



Picture 66
00:37:09
Louis first meeting with Carol

In that picture it seen all of Louis friends is African-American, there is no white people study in there. In other words there has been a separation of education among whites people and African Americans in the higher education.

4.1.1.4.2.5 Law

African-American are getting the discrimination in the legal field as well, this can be seen in the statement of Cecil in minute 00:07:50-00:08:02

Cecil : Any white man could kill any of us at any time and not be punished for it. The law wasn't on our side. The law was against us. (*The Butler* 00:07:50-00:08:02)

In the Cecil's statement it seen that the white people cannot be punished for their mistakes, such as the tempramental owner who raped his mother and killed his father. This is proven in the Racial And Ethnic Groups by Richard T. Scafer page 208.

An owner was virtually immune from prosecution for any physical abuse of slaves. Because slaves could not testify in court, a White's action toward enslaves African American were practically above the law. (2000:208).

The treatment it is very different from the African-American. It seen in picture 65 where the two African-American get hang punishment because their mistake.



Picture 67
00:08:01
Two African-American in The
Hang Punishment

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

The Butler movie is a journey of an African American-American life, where once in his life, he and his family suffered and saw various forms of white people discrimination towards African American people. Through this film we can see various kinds of conflicts experienced by Cecil Gaines who is an African American-American.

Conflicts experienced by Cecil Gaines are not only internal but also external. Internal conflict experienced by Cecil is experienced when Cecil was too busy with his job, so he is a bit forgotten his family, especially his wife, for which he received less attention from Cecil. Whereas, the conflict with his son of differences in their way of thinking, his son wanted fight against discrimination by breaking the existing rules while according to the Cecil that was unnecessary and dangerous.

Cecil external conflicts experienced are more against the injustice or discrimination experienced by African American workers in the White House. There was a gap in salary and promotion issues, during which the salary of African American workers is 40% under white people and that the African-American people were never got chance to be promoted. Fortunately, in the end they got a raise and promotion due to the efforts of Cecil Gaines.

In that film it can be seen various forms of injustice and discrimination experienced by African American. While, it also shows the efforts of the United States Presidents who has been working to eliminate discriminatory acts which occurred. That actions ultimately succeeded when the American led by African American-American President.

Overall, the film is very good, where we can see the struggle of African-American people in the fight for equal rights that they have not got before. When their struggle was successful, all African American can enjoy the sweet result.

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