

## An Analysis Racial Discrimination Depicted In This Is The Fire Novel

Yani Octafia

Universitas Pamulang, Tangerang Selatan, Banten, Indonesia

[dosen01153@unpam.ac.id](mailto:dosen01153@unpam.ac.id)

### Abstrak

Objek penelitian ini adalah novel berjudul *This is The Fire* (2021) karya Don Lemon. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif Creswell yang menyajikan analisis dalam bentuk dialog dan teks. Untuk memandu penelitian ini, perspektif Fred L Pincus (1996) Jenis-jenis diskriminasi rasial. Hasil analisis menunjukkan dengan jelas bahwa tindakan diskriminasi rasial terhadap orang kulit hitam dialami oleh siapa pun, di mana pun, dan dalam bidang apa pun, mulai dari anak kecil hingga orang dewasa, baik di sekolah, tempat perbelanjaan, lingkungan rumah, dan juga di lingkungan sosial. bidang ekonomi dan politik. Tindakan rasial berjenis diskriminasi institusional yang mayoritas menimbulkan kematian yaitu dilakukan oleh polisi kulit putih terhadap orang kulit hitam. Banyak kejadian diskriminasi yang mendapatkan keadilan karena peran media sosial dalam menampilkan kebenaran. Selain itu, tindakan kebaikan seperti menjunjung tinggi kemanusiaan dan menyebarkan cinta kasih menjadi kunci mengatasi tindakan diskriminasi rasial dan menciptakan perdamaian.

**Kata kunci: Diskriminasi Rasial, Orang Berkulit Hitam, Keadilan, Kemanusiaan, Perdamaian**

### Abstract

The aim of this study is to analyze the issue of racial discrimination in the novel. The object of this research is the novel entitled *This is The Fire* (2021) by Don Lemon. This research uses a qualitative method by Creswell which presents analysis in dialogue and texts. In order to guide this research, the perspective of Fred L Pincus (1996) The types of racial discrimination. The analysis results in a clear that acts of racial discrimination against black people are experienced by anyone, anywhere, and in any field, from small children to adults, both in schools, shopping places, and the home environment, and also in the socio-economic and political fields. Racial acts of institutional discrimination type are the majority that cause deaths, namely carried out by white police against black people. Many incidents of discrimination have received justice because of the role of social media in showing the truth. Apart from that, acts of kindness such as upholding humanity and spreading love are the keys to overcoming acts of racial discrimination and creating peace

**Keyword: Racial Discrimination; Black Peopole, Justice, Social Media; Humanity; Peace**

## INTRODUCTION

Racial discrimination, also known as racism, is social problem that often find in this era. Racial discrimination is one part of racism that occurs when the dominant gives negative behavior to the minority. (Williams, Neighbors, & Jackson, 2003). Racial discrimination has left many deep wounds and caused people with different races to end in hostility, destruction, bullying, violence, murder and other negative impact. Racial discrimination that often occurs between whites and blacks' people in America, because of this, *Black Lives Matter* (BLM) was created. BLM is an online association founded to fight for human rights against the black race. The problem of racial discrimination has emerged almost as old as human civilization and has not improved with the passage of time. According to Hoggard (2015) The dominant spirit in the majority has a negative effect on daily life as evidenced by the interpersonal effect among African-American students. The media has recorded racist events that took place in the western lands hundreds of years ago when black people were enslaved by white people, where all



leaders were white people. When people think that the problem of racism has been reduced in modern times like today, the eyes of the world are opened by the number of victims who have fallen, so it is only realized that the problem of racism has not been solved, even today when we have entered a new millennium.

The destruction of a race or the existence of discrimination shows that humans are distinguished because of their outer appearance. Humans are less valued as humans, but more in view and value only from physical appearance. Black youth are at increased risk of depressive symptoms because of public day-to-day discrimination. These findings highlight the need for further research to identify factors that exacerbate and/or underpin the experience of racial discrimination, given that the majority of black youth believe that racism will be a lasting trait in their lives (Jones, 2016). Differences in the color of black or white have caused many divisions, enmity and even war. It is difficult to accept discrimination based on skin color. Human skin color cannot be a single measure.

In this era the media is very influential on life, we know the events of a media. The most people maybe think that the media is a place for theatrics, but that cannot be denied. In fact, in the west there are still many cases of racial discrimination against black people being covered up, from bullying to murder. All the majority there covers their ears. In contrast to this, the only black reporter names Don Lemon spoke up. He wants to bring round people for raise the right to justice black people racial discrimination experiences. Don Lemon often faced struggles of black people who always get discrimination against wherever they are, even when he experiences it himself when he reports in public, he is always bully and ostracized by others. he tells all his stories in the book this is the fire. This book contains all the true stories in his life and in the world of his career as a reporter at a television station and some hidden stories from the cases he reports on. the media also assists for him to speak out with opposite freedom of speech to eradicate racial discrimination.

The reason for choose this work is because every story in this work can have a positive impact on building a sense of power for justice to fight discrimination. According to Sousa (2017) Positive effects can be felt in a story in terms of emotional and thinking and have the potential to reduce racial differences, unify then create peace within racial differences, and reduce prejudice and misinformation because of racial differences.

Based on the background of the study above, the writer formulates the statements of the problem as follows:

1. How is racial discrimination portrayed in *This is The Fire* Novel?
2. How does Don Lemon deal with racial discrimination in *This is The Fire* Novel?

This study is limited to the analysis of racial discrimination experienced by Don Lemon and other black people that causes prejudice and violence in the novel *This is The Fire* (2021) by Don Lemon. The writer focuses on finding acts of racial discrimination committed against black people.

Based on the statements of the problem above, the goals of analyzing the act of Racial Discrimination in *This is The Fire*:

1. To describe how the issue of racial discrimination depicts in *This is The Fire* Novel.
2. To explain how Don Lemon deal with racial discrimination in *This is The Fire* Novel.

This study is expected to provide additional understanding of the novel *This is The Fire* by Don Lemon through the perspective of racism, especially about racial discrimination against black people. For academic readers, this study provides further information on the definitions of racial discrimination. This study can also be used as material, reference, and evaluation for other writers who are interested in exploring related topics. For the general reader, this study is presented to introduce the meaning of racial discrimination in general, to increase the reader's awareness about the issue of racial discrimination against black people. The writer hopes this



study can help readers to recognize acts of racial discrimination against black people in everyday life and decisively to fight for human rights regardless of race.

### **Related studies**

There are many previous studies related to racial discrimination based on the particular object of the study. Several related studies have been read to support the data analysis.

The first study was written by Ritma (2021) from Faculty of Languages and Arts, The University of Negeri Padang entitled *Racial Discrimination In Novel We Cast a Shadow (2019) By Maurice Carlos RU*. The writer analyzes that African-American characters receive racial discrimination by white in many aspects of their life with the impact. This analysis is related to the postcolonial theory proposed by Pieterse and Powell (2016). The result of the study shows that the racial discrimination of African-American character can be seen through violence to African-American and arbitrary Policy on Economic Aspect. In conclusion, in this post-civil rights movement era, African-Americans still faced racial discrimination.

The second study was written by Risma Kartika Dewi (2019) from The University of Gresik entitled *Analysis of Racial Discrimination Towards Uncle Tom in Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The writer focuses on acts of racial discrimination against black people America-Africa during slavery. She used the method research and method of approach. The data were taken from some books, journal articles. The result of the research is that the factors of racial discrimination are slavery and human identity. The human identity refers to the identity of race. In addition, the effects of racial discrimination are human trafficking, family separation, physically abused and rebellion.

The third study was written by Farida (2021) from The University of Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim entitled *Racial Discrimination Portrayed in Nic Stone's Dear Martin*. The writer discussed the conflict issue from different tone skin in this era, the intrinsic elements such as plot, character, setting, theme in novel. The study result shows the types of racial discrimination in the novel are first, individual discrimination that occurs in the presence of prejudice, stereotype, and violence, second, institutional discrimination that occurs with the separation contains in three domains, namely law, environment, and work.

Based on those previous studies, there are differences and similarities between this study and other related studies mention above. The similarities can be found in the same topic which is about racial discrimination. The differences are about concerns of the study First, Ritma (2021) concerns about the causes of African-American to policy and economic. Second, Risma Kartika Dewi (2019) concerns about the factors of racial discrimination are slavery and human identity. Third, Farida (2021) concerns about the type of racial discrimination in this era.

### **Review of Literature**

In this chapter, some theories will be added which are relevant to this study. Thus are the elements of the novel, racial discrimination, and types of discrimination will be explained below.

#### **2.2.1 Novel and its intrinsic elements**

Novel is a long essay in the form of prose contains a story. According to Aliev (2021) a novel has the following characteristic features being a verbal object, being written, for the most part, in prose, having at least m words, where is a number in the 30,000-word range, being intended by its author to tell a fictional story, and realizing this intention at least to some extent. It is proven that the novel contains full of knowledge.



The intrinsic element of novel first is the plot, the plot is the important element because it always has connection with the story. Plot is a sequence of events that are connected in a story based on cause and effect (Ibid, 2010.) plot is the definition of the storyline.

The second is character, character is the figure life in the story. According to Ibid (2010) Character is people that featured in a narrative work, or drama, which the reader interprets as having certain moral qualities and tendencies as expressed in speech and what is done in action.

The third is setting, setting is place or time in the story. According to (Ibid, 2010) setting is a place, time, and the social environment in which events occur told. When reading a novel, you will definitely find a certain location such as the name of a city, village, street, hotel and other places where events occur. In addition, readers will also deal with time relationships such as year, date, morning, afternoon, time of the full moon, or events that refer to a certain time.

The next point of view, point of view is the positioning of characters or readers in the story. According to Ibid (2010) point of view is the way or view used by the author as a means to present the characters, actions, settings, and various events that make up the story in a work of fiction to the reader.

The last theme, theme as a vibe in the story. Theme is the basic idea that supports a literary work and is contained in the text as a semantic structure and which involves similarities or differences. The theme in a story is binding because it is the theme that will determine the presence of certain events, conflicts and situations. Themes are the basis for developing the whole story, so the theme is also to live the whole part of the story (Ibid, 2010).

#### 2.2.2 Racial Discrimination

Racial discrimination occurs because of racial differences. According to Pincus (1996) Racial discrimination is the behaviour of a majority race have power in society, while the minority refers to a group that is not considered in any respect. From the data that from the past there were still many incidents of violence or injustice because of the different races of white people as majority and black people as minority in western countries.

Racial discrimination has a negative impact on black people as a minority in western countries. According to Pincus (1996) Racial discrimination is a system of beliefs, policies, and practices designed to maintain the superiority of the majority that is white people. When white people attack black people, it is considered natural because of their self-defense, whereas if it is reversed, black people who attack white people will be considered a crime. If in debate it becomes very unfair from any point of view.

Racial discrimination acts bad attitudes of white's people by black people exist in all conditions. Racial discrimination occurs where people are prejudiced and they do not care to hurt people because of different races. Differences in behavior that occur where the black race is always ostracized and looked down upon while the white race is treated preferentially at all times (Pincus, 1996). People are only selfish thinking about their race until they don't realize that they are very detrimental to the minority race, namely black people.

Racial discrimination difficult to deal with especially regarding differences in power or placement of positions. According to Pincus (1996) Equality is very important in all respects for the balance as well as for the beneficial impact of both the majority and the minority. This shows an illegal but normalized act. Facing it requires human values and basic principles in establishing an organization. Although members of minority groups can also act negatively towards members of the majority group as well, this rarely happens because of very strong control by the majority in all social aspects, for example in the work environment and the society environment.

#### 2.2.3 Types of Discrimination

Discrimination is the treatment of the majority group that marginalizes the minority group because of differences. According to Pincus (1996) racial and gender discrimination still



permeates America institutions and structures even though most white people perceive discrimination as relatively insignificant. the rise of discrimination in America causes this to be underestimated. there are three types of discrimination namely individual, institutional, and structural (Pincus, 1996).

Individual discrimination is the attitude of someone from one racial group that is different and even harmful to other racial groups. According to Pincus (1996) Individual discrimination allows a focus on how members of dominant and minority groups can act in bad ways towards one another. Examples such as a single employer who refused all black job applicants, a police officer who beat up a suspected black race, a salesperson who was unfriendly to black buyers are examples of individuals who acted against other individuals because of their group membership.

Institutional discrimination is the institutional policies of the dominant race and the attitude of someone who controls and implements policies that are detrimental to racial minorities. Institutional discrimination continues to be enjoyed by white people despite the fact that very few white people are actually hurt by consent to acts of institutional discrimination. According to Pincus (1996) an example of how intentional discrimination still exists in the private sector Shoney's Inc., with more than 1,800 restaurants in 36 states, has an unspoken policy against hiring black people in any position. Shoney's, however, felt that this was a good business because he believed that white people did not want to eat in restaurants where they had to interact with black people.

Structural discrimination has a negative effect on minority groups. According to Pincus (1996) Structural discrimination is the policies of the majority racial institutions and the behavior of someone who implements these policies and controls these institutions, to influence differentiating the position of minority racial groups. One can conclude from Consider bank lending practices, for example. There is ample evidence that black people are less likely than white people to get a home loan or mortgage. There are several explanations for this finding, some of which suggest intentional institutional discrimination. The America Department of Justice has kicked out two banks for refusing loans to black people.

### **Theoretical Framework**

The writer aims to identify racial discrimination used The theory of Fred L Pincus (1996) *The Types of Racial Discrimination* in this study. He classified racial discrimination into three types namely, individual, institutional and structural discrimination. This theory became the base into an analyzed by explained of how racial discrimination portrayed in the novel *This is The Fire* (2021) by Don Lemon.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Approach of the Study**

A qualitative approach is applied in this study because dialogues and texts will be analyzed to find racial discrimination issue in the novel *This is The Fire*. A deep examination of the text is required by reading a recurring novel, the focus of the text is not a number, consequently, the most widely used approach is qualitative. According to Creswell (2012), Qualitative research is a mean to explore to understand the meaning of an individual or group originating from a problem, by researching using questions and analyzing valid data. the writer uses this research to find out in detail the racial discrimination that occurs in the novel.

### **3.2 Data Source**

The data were obtained from the text of dialogue of *This is The Fire* Novel. The novel was written by Don Lemon. The work is published by Little, Brown, and Company. It first was published in the Avenue of the America, New York, a member of book group, Inc.



### 3.3 Data Collection

To get appropriate data, the writer did some steps.

1. Reading the novel as the object of the study.
2. Identifying the important data through dialogues and narrative texts in the novel that related to racial discrimination issue.
3. Making Highlight and analyze the important data in the novel related to racial discrimination issue.
4. Listing the quotes or data that point out racial discrimination issue.

### 3.4 Data Analysis

The data collection were analyzed by using the theory of Fred L.Pincus (1996) regarding the types of discrimination used to analyze acts of racial discrimination in this study. The results of this study indicate that there are all types of discrimination contained in the novel, namely individual discrimination, institutional discrimination, and structural discrimination. The act of racial discrimination in the novel reflects the social conditions in the 21th century in America.

## RESEARCH FINDING

This chapter examines the issue of racial discrimination depicted in *This is The Fire* by Don Lemon. This problem was revealed by examining narrative elements with a strategy of looking for the type of discrimination experienced by the black main character. The story describes a situation where discrimination is rampant in the current era experienced by all black people, whether women, men and children. This made Don's mind open to write a letter to his nephew containing cases of discrimination, some of which succeeded in fighting for their rights. Don hoped that the explanation of these cases could make his nephew and other black people a strengthen in living a life full of discrimination.

Don is a black journalist from an American national TV station. He wrote this novel as a letter to his nephew, Trushaad, so that Trushaad would become a strong person in living his life because Don knew that acts of discrimination would definitely occur in his life. Don wrote down cases of racism that he knew about during his life, starting from personal experiences, those of his family members, and other black people. Overall non-racial discrimination covers almost everything from work, the economy, education, politics, as well as in entertainment media. Even though there are still many cases of deaths due to acts of discrimination that are forgotten, there is also some justice that can be fought for thanks to social media.

Don realized that his work could help victims who experienced acts of discrimination, he also helped several cases by covering them and then broadcasting them so that the public knew, this method was successful in providing justice for black victims. From the cases and interviews that Don conducted made him look at racist acts differently, he began to be able to make peace with the events that occurred, he gave positive advice on how to respond to racist acts that occurred in his life, starting from himself as a black person to continue to do good, teach and show good things to the younger generation with self-honesty and shared humanity. The following is an explanation of the racial discrimination faced by Don in the novel, which is explained in three types of discrimination, namely individual, institutional and structural discrimination.

## RESEARCH ANALYSIS

Racial discrimination at the institute also exists in a country's marriage laws. Don and his fiancée team want to get married but are prevented by a culture that does not allow blacks and whites to be together. "Interracial marriage exogamy miscegenation was explicitly



criminalized in Apartheid South Africa Nazi Germany and the United States" (Don, p. 8) it turns out that racist acts that occur can be triggered by the people of a country itself, a country that still adheres to the understanding that other races do not deserve to be part of it, humanity and love are not important, the main thing is just the same race and ethnicity.

White police are also among the institutional discrimination against black people. "George Floyd, a 46-year-old black man, was held face down on the sidewalk by four Minneapolis police officers. one of the officers pressed his knee against George Floyd's neck, groaning out of breath." (Don, 2021, p. 10) the case went viral after the video of the incident circulated widely on social media. The police in the incident were also criticized by black people who felt their actions What George did was a crime, George should not have been judged until his last breath. As for the impact that occurred when George defended himself, such as the shops around the police station being damaged, the existing property being burned, and even the windows of the police station being smashed. In the end, the police involved were officially fired from the police due to the murder they committed.

Western government itself is one of the institutions that causes and supports acts of racist discrimination that occur. Like the election of Trump as president, it caused people to debate a little because when we asked them to obey the rules properly, they responded with displeasure. " Who are you to tell us what to do? When firmly reminded that they themselves made the route for what we call the civilized, those who create chaos are also the ones who rebuke him in low tones to the point of disdain for peace. " (Don, 2021, p. 17) there is nothing that can be trusted to create peace in government as a society, indeed each person who experiences it must continue to fight, not remain silent, continue to speak out for truth and justice, then peace will follow, don't let anyone and any group oppress you just because of existing racial differences.

There are many cases of murder of black people based on racism are carried out by government institutions, especially by the police. "Even though the majority of police officers work with sincerity in wanting to create peace in the country, some officers only intend to earn income without following existing law enforcement." (Don, 2021, p. 52). As a result, chaos and insecurity are rampant in a country. This is also largely influenced by the culture of violence and history that exists in America, so that the absence of adequate tools and training actually creates bad individuals in the institute, they ignore the main ideals and goals of unity in the formation of the police force. Overcoming the chaos that occurs lies within oneself by keeping promises to protect society, upholding justice to everyone by humanizing other people.

The ideology currently used seems to pressure us to realize that all police are the same, eliminating acts of racism is impossible. "According to Chenjerai, it's historically accurate to say that policing was created to protect and serve the majority of White middle- and working-class people, but for Black folks, policing meant the opposite of public safety." (Don, 2021, p. 53) From the data above, we know that the majority of whites are guarded and served by the police union because that is the purpose of the police being formed to protect the public from harassment by black people. They only serve people of the same race, namely whites. Even though social order is the main task of the police, they think that black people always create chaos. This is supported by the government's belief that it still adheres to Jim Crow laws where white people have the right to trample on black people because they are seen as having a lower class. That is what makes it difficult to get justice for black people in America until now. As long as Jim Crow laws are still implemented, acts of discrimination will continue to occur.

The cases of murder due to discrimination carried out by the police and even having concrete evidence cannot provide full justice because the victim is black. "In the middle of the night, Breonna Taylor fell asleep in bed with her boyfriend, Kenneth Walker. startled because he felt an intruder had broken in, Kenneth tried to call 911 then he fired a warning shot, but the



officers shot Breonna eight times until Breonna died." (Don, 2021, p. 56). Residents are furious with incidents where negligence by the police is always justified, even though they commit murder without motive just because a woman has black skin. Justice was upheld with hundreds of people's voices supporting the victim Breonna to get her rights, even though there was a lot of evidence that her actions were criminal, the police were only sentenced to pay a fine without prosecution.

The most of people will focus on themselves at every opportunity. This is the big picture that happens in many cases where when they focus on the problem of racism and only focus on police brutality in dealing with it, this actually results in scary and dramatic media click-bait. "The government cover up facts that occurred such as the passing of bills by members of Congress that benefited voters at the provincial level." (Don, 2021, p. 58). Racism cases become bait to cover up other frauds. The narrative given is instead about Black-on-Black crimes. Laws that were enforced in a very unconscionable manner for the petty crimes of black men, women, and children were imprisoned. The saying "If it bleeds, it leads." No longer able to solve the problem. The current struggle must not only focus on prosecuting the police but on fighting for and cultivating justice for the human rights of fellow human beings.

The persistent problem of institutional racial discrimination can be prevented by trying to defend the police. "The mayor of Newark, New Jersey, Ras Baraka expressed that as a democracy we must fight for the police to actually carry out their duties, and not kill us in the process. "We need the police. But we want them to be different." (Don, 2021, p. 60) What is different is that when the police make black people feel uncomfortable because of the many cases of racism committed by the police, they already feel unfamiliar with what the police's job actually is. Apart from that, the characterization of black people as being known as crime-ridden and dangerous is due to the media efforts and money invested by white people to help the police. The idea emerged that if the presence of the police actually made black neighborhoods worse, then reducing the police presence would diminish the existing problem of racism and justice would be more easily served.

Racism even occurs in financial institutions, namely paying government taxes, where white people prefer not to have a swimming pool by building a building with concrete rather than having to share public pool facilities with black people. "White people fear of bringing disease and committing crimes by black people." (Don, 2021, p. 83). Meanwhile, rich white people make their swimming pools private and only allow white people to use the area, they can even use violence against black people so they don't use the area. This happened in the 60's which also had an impact on In today's era, 58 percent of African-American children do not know how to swim, according to a 2008 study conducted by USA Swimming. It needs to be realized that continuous acts of discrimination have a huge impact in losing the intelligence or potential of black people in all fields.

Discrimination even occurs in entertainment media institutions. "The Black person is almost always in the background, quickly passed over, and their lines have little substance beyond the service they're rendering to the White movie star." (Don, 2021, p. 69) the characters in films are played by white people, entertainment actors also have the understanding of white supremacy that only the majority are worthy of roles, only the majority are worthy of being famous, even though there are many people Black people are talented in acting but are not appreciated because they prioritize racialism so that only racial discrimination is realized.

The incident above occurred when Don was still a child, but now the entertainment media has become more open in terms of racial differences, many black people have played the main roles in big films. Many people are also opening their hearts, thereby reducing existing acts of discrimination, society is starting to understand that everyone has the same rights, both in the realm of entertainment and in other media. For example, the 2022 film *Ariel*, although





usually played by white people, Disney decided to play it by black people with the aim of reducing acts of discrimination. Many people are enthusiastic about watching the film, showing that racial differences are no longer a barrier until there is unity.

The acts of discrimination occurred in the field of employment. "The architects of racism stripped away opportunities for education and then mocked Black ignorance." (Don, 2021, p. 89) They permeated the healthcare system with prejudice and then imprisoned Black people for self-medicating. This carried out by architects' union companies which treated black workers unfairly, by not providing education and not caring about their safety in carrying out development projects, even architects employed them harshly. Using violence is also still called slavery.

Structural discrimination occurs in don's lives. "I was aware of my own hands so it came as no surprise to me in high school when white parents fussed about me as black kid being elected class president." (Don, 2021, p. 28) even though it is only structural in class, but it actually shows that discrimination occurs at any age and group. White supremacy also occurs in educational media where white students and parents feel that they do not want to be led by a black person, they feel they are more worthy of being chairman or leader in an organization, they put aside their abilities or intelligence just because of the color of their skin. This racism can be seen from the incident where black students were called black boxes, which means openly committing racist acts and cultivating white supremacy in America.

Wilmington, North Carolina, 1898: Members of the Fusion Party, a political wave that brought together Black legislators and White progressives, ran for state and local offices and won. A White supremacist police force drove them into the woods along with neighbors, family members, and local business owners, then methodically hunted them down and slaughtered 60 to 150 people before installing their own White supremacist candidates in place of duly elected representatives. (Don, 2021, p. 90)

The quote above reveals that many black lives have died simply because of white people's selfish greed for white supremacy. The massacre carried out is proof that the majority will do whatever it takes to maintain their leadership in the country. What's worse is that the government supports this so that betrayals continue to occur and there is no justice for black people. Another piece of evidence is that the murder was fully supported by the police, those who executed them. It can be concluded that in fact black people can equal the abilities and intelligence of white people, but they have never been given the opportunity to receive the same human rights.

These anachronistic terms offend our ears now, but the old "brown paper bag test"-a sliding valuation of skin tone versus stature still whispers in the subconscious mind of the job interviewer and the job applicant, the loan officer and the loan applicant, the teacher and the student, the cop and the citizen. (Don, 2021, p. 105)

The quote above shows that racial discrimination occurs in everything, including in the work profession, the fact is that black people have fewer opportunities to get jobs because of the discrimination system in existing companies. I can imagine how difficult it is to find success working as a black person. There are still many who look down on someone's abilities and thoughts just because of racial differences. The law should be able to fight here, but considering that the country adheres to discrimination, the minorities can only be patient and give in. because they are aware that no matter how loud they try to raise their voice, it is still difficult to get justice, realizing that most of the job vacancies are minorities.

When I say we live in a system of White supremacy, I'm talking about entrenched a Socioeconomic system that statistically favors White consumers White businesses, White stories, White iconography. White male politicians and power brokers, and a widely accepted version of vigorously scrubbed White history. (Don, 2021, 16)



The quote above explains that racial discrimination is based on a system of white supremacy where white people feel they are superior and always look down on black people and normalize committing heinous acts against anyone who is black. All of these things happen because of a government system that causes great harm to minorities in any case, white people always provide opportunities for things to be proud of and success only for those of their own race. This similarity occurs also because it is his people who have authority over state life.

## CONCLUSION

The results of the analysis about the issue of racial discrimination are represented in the novel *This is The Fire* by Don Lemon. The discrimination in the novel is discrimination experienced by several people in cases that Don Lemon encountered during his life. Starting from individual, institutional and structural discrimination, including the cases of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor who experienced acts of discrimination by the police. The story of Don's family is explained in this novel, starting from his grandmother who was discriminated against by a shopkeeper and his father who was discriminated against when he became a lawyer. This novel also provides an illustration of the impacts of discrimination on a person's life, some cases of which received justice by voicing the truth by demonstrating or voting on social media. On the other hand, there are also cases where justice has not yet been found.

Don has done many ways to deal with racial discrimination around him. In the novel *This Is The Fire* Don shares information on how he can deal with existing discrimination, starting from loving himself and increasing self-value is how he deals with individual discrimination, voicing the truth selfishly in fighting for justice is how he deals with discriminatory institutions, loving the country, spreading goodness to people wherever they are, and educating the younger generation about humanity is a way to deal with structural discrimination. all efforts to fight for the equal rights of black people who experience acts of discrimination.

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