ABSTRACT

Dealing with African American study, especially on literary works involving white and black characters, discussing “who writes about whom” is always interesting. As people’s point of view on black today, especially in America, is different from the way it used to be, this study is trying to find how white authors today write on black and white characters.

*The New City* by Stephen Amidon is chosen for this purpose. This study will start the analysis on the ideology of the text through representation of the characters: black versus white. In this novel, black significant characters are presented as good: civilized, educated, and manly, while the bad images—less-civilized, childish, and villain—mostly goes to the white main characters. It seems that this work is trying to reverse the stereotype of the black characters and, even, exchanges the addressee of the binary opposition proposed for white and black. As the author writes a comment on the novel, it will be appropriate to insert it to offer an alternative meaning of such representation. According to Amidon’s point of view on equality between the two races, these strategies are used to show the possibility for white and black, of being good and bad regardless the race they belong to. The study on strategies used in such representation by a contemporary white author is expected to initiate further research on other contemporary white authors’ literary works with similar topic that becomes African American studies concern.