

### ABSTRACT

This study deals with the portrayal of institutionalized racism toward African American people in *When They Call You a Terrorist* memoir by Patrisse Khan Cullors and Asha Bandele. *When They Call You a Terrorist* is a kind of memoir that tells about the struggle of African Americans who have been treated unfairly and even lost their lives in the United States. Patrisse Khan Cullors, as the writer of the memoir, also tells his experiences about the oppression she got until she finally decided to form the Black Lives Matter movement. By using a theory of oppression from Joe R. Feagin, this study aims to examine institutionalized racism through African American characters and how they fought against the oppression. The method used in this study is the qualitative method. As the result, institutionalized racism still happens today because white people have more power to regulate an institution that ends up with racism in the United States. African Americans are often suspected, treated harshly, and also treated arbitrarily in institutional arenas.

**Keywords:** *African American; Black Lives Matter Movement; Institutionalized Racism; Police Brutality; Racism*