

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

**“GOING BACK TO MOVE FORWARD”: INSTITUTIONALIZED
RACISM IN *SEE YOU YESTERDAY* (2019)**



By

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
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**Submitted as Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the *Sarjana* degree
of English Department Faculty of Humanities Airlangga University**

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SURABAYA
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DECLARATION

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Surabaya, 20 Januari 2022


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I dedicate this thesis to myself, my friends, and my family.

APPROVAL SHEET

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RACISM IN *SEE YOU YESTERDAY* (2019)

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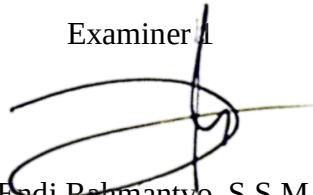


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“Don’t try to surpass your limits. Work to push those limits higher.”

Haruichi Furudate

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ABSTRACT

Racial issues have been surfacing for an extended period, but even in the present, African Americans still encounter racism in the United States which mainly comes from institutions. This treatment is depicted in the movie *See You Yesterday* (2019), a story of two African American teenagers, CJ and Sebastian, who travel back in time to rescue CJ's brother from being falsely accused and allegedly shot by White police officer. This study attempts to analyze institutionalized racism experienced by African Americans within the film *See You Yesterday* (2019) by applying A. J. Greimas' *Narrative Structure* and Joe R. Feagin's *Theory of Oppression*. To better understand human behavior and social-cultural phenomena, this study use a qualitative approach that includes narrative and non-narrative elements. The findings of the study reveal that African Americans are treated wrongfully by the Whites due to racial framing. The study also discloses that demonstrating opposition to racial injustice through protests and hard work to attain equality does not guarantee that African Americans will achieve racial equality. These findings thus suggest how institutionalized racism is a still a prominent issue in the United States. This movie becomes the medium to address the issue of institutionalized racism occurring in the present.

Keywords: African Americans, narrative structure, institutionalized racism, racial injustice, police brutality

ABSTRAK

Masalah rasial telah muncul untuk waktu yang lama, tetapi bahkan saat ini, orang Afrika-Amerika masih menghadapi rasisme di Amerika Serikat yang sebagian besar berasal dari institusi. Perlakuan ini digambarkan dalam film *See You Yesterday* (2019), sebuah film tentang dua remaja Afrika-Amerika, CJ dan Sebastian, yang melakukan perjalanan kembali ke masa lalu untuk menyelamatkan saudara laki-laki CJ, Calvin, dari tuduhan palsu dan diduga ditembak oleh petugas polisi berkulit putih. Penelitian ini mencoba menganalisis rasisme terlembaga yang dialami oleh orang Afrika-Amerika dalam film *See You Yesterday* (2019) dengan menerapkan *Narrative Structure* dari A. J. Greimas dan *Theory of Oppression* dari Joe R. Feagin. Untuk lebih memahami perilaku manusia dan fenomena sosial budaya, penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif yang mencakup unsur naratif dan non-naratif. Temuan penelitian mengungkapkan bahwa orang Afrika-Amerika diperlakukan secara salah oleh orang kulit putih karena *framing* rasial. Studi ini juga mengungkapkan bahwa menunjukkan penentangan terhadap ketidakadilan rasial melalui protes dan kerja keras untuk mencapai kesetaraan tidak menjamin bahwa orang Afrika-Amerika akan mencapai kesetaraan ras. Kedua temuan ini dengan demikian menunjukkan bagaimana rasisme terlembaga masih menjadi masalah yang menonjol di Amerika Serikat. Film ini menjadi sarana untuk menyampaikan isu rasisme terlembaga yang terjadi pada saat ini.

Kata kunci: Afrika-Amerika, struktur naratif, rasisme terlembaga, ketidakadilan rasial, kebrutalan polisi