ABSTRACT

African Americans are minorities in America. They often receive unfair treatment and discrimination from the white people. One of the discrimination toward African Americans is stereotyping. The stereotype harms African American because it is used to catergorize a group of people into some classifications, since they do not know and do not understand African American really well. This kind of African American stereotype also exists in children literature titled *Sounder*. It was written by William H. Armstrong. He is a white author, but he wrote a story about African Americans. There would be some speculations suggested in the study about African American written by white author(s). As a note, the white people might not really understand how the life of African American actually is and how they face racism directly. There are some white authors who write about African Americans and have the tendency to portray African Americans as bad people. This study is conducted by using stereotype theory proposed by Stuart Hall to prove that African American characters are stereotyped in the novel. The stereotype theory is very useful as a tool to analyze the novel which is about how white author represents the African American characters whose race is different from him. The result of this study is that the novel titled *Sounder* contains the stereotype of African American characters.

Keywords: *African American; Children Literature; Stereotype; White Author*