

## SOCIOLINGUISTICS ANALYSIS OF RACISM AND HUMANITY IN THE GREEN BOOK MOVIE

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### ABSTRACT

Racism is usually associated with race, ethnicity and discrimination. According to Peterson & Seligman the data were taken from an English movie entitled Green Book by Peter Farrelly in America (2018). humanity is defined as a positive trait related to interpersonal relationships with concern for others. The data were collected through note-taking technique. The analysis was done by classifying the data, analysing the data, and concluding the data. The result of this study showed that there are five kinds of racism: individual racism, interpersonal racism, institutional racism, structural racism, and cultural racism. There are also three kinds of humanity: love, kindness, and social intelligence. Those kinds of racism and humanity reflected through the fragments of words in a character's dialogue.

Keywords: Sociolinguistics, Racism Analysis, Humanity Analysis.

### ABSTRAK

*Rasisme biasanya dikaitkan dengan ras, etnis, dan diskriminasi. Menurut Peterson & Seligman Data diambil dari film berbahasa Inggris berjudul Green Book karya Peter Farrelly di Amerika (2018). kemanusiaan didefinisikan sebagai sifat positif yang terkait dengan hubungan interpersonal dengan kepedulian terhadap orang lain. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan teknik mencatat. Analisis dilakukan dengan mengklasifikasikan data, menganalisis data, dan menyimpulkan data. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa ada lima jenis rasisme: rasisme individu, rasisme interpersonal, rasisme institusional, rasisme struktural, dan rasisme budaya. Ada juga tiga jenis kemanusiaan: cinta, kebaikan, dan kecerdasan sosial. Rasisme dan kemanusiaan semacam itu tercermin melalui penggalan kata-kata dalam dialog seorang tokoh.*

*Kata kunci: Sosiolinguistik, Analisis Rasisme, Analisis Kemanusiaan.*

### I. INTRODUCTION

Racism is usually associated with race, ethnicity and discrimination. Race is a grouping of people based on characteristics, traditions and culture inherited from their ancestors. According to Peterson & Seligman (2004) humanity is defined as a positive trait related to interpersonal relationships with concern for others. because humanity emphasizes the behavior of good friends. Humanity

implies moral strength in each individual and how things can limit the inhumanity that always involves acts of armed violence that are not clear (Coupland, 2001). Based on the explanation above, the authors take the understanding from Peterson & Seligman (2004), namely humanity is a positive trait related to interpersonal relationships towards caring for others. And humanity emphasizes more on the behavior of good friends, because this theory is the latest

theory from the theory of character strength and is often used in previous research. Humanism is human nature in accordance with human nature, namely how every human being has experiences and lessons learned from an event, a person's experience, or from a film that can provide life lessons for the audience. Behavior based on humanism is how to view humans as no different, namely humans as social beings who cannot be separated. Humanism does not look at nation, ethnicity, skin color, and so on. The difference between the superior race and the lower class race is an increasingly complicated factor in the issue of racism and humanity. . One example of a country that has racial and humanitarian problems is the United States. This study analyzes the extrinsic elements of how racism in America and what humanity is reflected in the story of the film "Green Book". It is important to analyze extrinsic elements to better understand the story by trying to find external factors that influence the writer in making a film entitled "Green Book ". Furthermore, the analysis of racism in films is carried out to prove that a literary work can reflect real world conditions, and to show that humans are black. Americans still experience injustice because of their race.

## II. RESEARCH METHOD

The duration of this film is 130 minutes. The analysis is focused on sentences and words taken from the film's narrative and dialogue that show the influence of extrinsic elements and the film's dialogue that indicates. Humanity in the Green Book film was chosen because behind the topic of this film's story, which tells about racism, there are humanity behaviors and feelings that are told in the film. In analyzing the data, this study used Individual racism is the most common type racism found. This type of racism deals with stereotype, prejudice against

qualitative methods because the data of this study were non-numerical data. The first step is to read and reread the script and film thoroughly to get a better understanding of the dialogue in the Green Book film storyline and the issues in the film. Second, writing and recording data that has been obtained from watching films and reading film dialogue scripts so as to produce data. The data of this study was collected using a documentation method. The first step was to watch the film carefully then continued by highlighting the sentences and words taken from the narrative and film dialogue that showed the influence of extrinsic elements and indicated racism and humanity. The next step is to record sentences and words that show the influence of extrinsic elements and sentences and words that indicate racism and the final step is to identify data in order to find out.

## III. DISCUSSION

The scope of this research discussion is to achieve the expected research objectives, the authors focus on the analysis of racism and humanity in the film "Green Book". Therefore, the discussion is limited to the factors that cause racism and humanity in America which are in the film "Green Book".

### 3.1 Analysis of Racism found in the Green Book movie

The analysis of racism found in the movie was due to the racism theory proposed by Jones (2000). Based on the analysis, four out of five types of racism found in the film, namely individual racism, interpersonal racism, institutional racism, and cultural racism.

#### 3.1.1 Analysis Individual Racial

other races and biases. Based on the analysis of Green Book Movie, it can be found several individual racisms

addressed by the characters in the film. The followings are data to show individual racism by Johnny.

**Data 1**



[00:07:30] Tony : What the hell all you guys doing here?

[00:07:33] Johnny: *We came over to keep Dolores company.*

Data 1 shows that Johnny has done an individual racism. It can be seen on the utterance of “*we came over to keep Dolores company*”. Johnny makes an individual racism towards the plumbers whom are African-American persons. This utterance indicates that the plumbers are dangerous for Dolores. According to Jones (2000), the indication of individual racism is the prejudice; the prejudice could be clearly seen on the Johnny’s utterance informing to protect Dolores. The prejudice has been made that American-African can be dangerous or criminal.

**3.1.2 Analysis Interpersonal Racism**

Interpersonal racism is a type of racism occurred between individuals. It has been indicated by the use of racial slur and physical violence. Individual racism is far more open than individual racism; it relates physical violence to a certain people from different race/ skin colour.

**Data 1:**



[00:07:37] Dolores’ father : Tony! *Don’t be sleeping when my daughter is here alone with two sacks of coal.* Do you understand what I’m saying?

[00:07:46] Johnny: I didn’t know who they’re going to send.

Based on Data 1, It can be seen the whole family there to watch TV and keep Dolores. Dolores’ father was very concerned on his daughter being alone with coloured plumbers. He worried on his daughter. He employed a slur to the plumbers which could indicate that he did interpersonal racism. This racism is direct to a certain person; he employed certain slur, by naming the plumbers as “*sacks of coal*”. According to Jones (2000), this type of racism has been indicated by actively using certain personal racism on different skin colour. The slur is strong indication for the implementation of interpersonal racism.

**3.1.3 Analysis Institutional Racism**

Institutional racism is occurred in an organization. This type of racism is hard to fight with. According to Jones (2000), institutional racism refers to the institution that make choices that deliberately choose and endanger of colour.

**Data 1**



[01:25:47] Officer 1 : And why are you driving him?

[01:25:49] Tony : He’s my boss.

[01:25:59] Officer 1 : He can’t be out here at night. *This is a sundown town.*

In the Data 1, it can be seen from the conversation that the town is considered as *sundown town*. It is also

known as sunset-towns, gray-towns, or sundowner towns, is all-white municipalities or neighbourhoods in the United States that practice a form of racial segregation by excluding non-whites via some combination of discriminatory local laws, intimidation or violence. The rule is product of institutional racism applied to African-American then. Jones (2000) gives brief indication of institutional racism; the institution made certain choice about certain race.

### 3.1.4 Analysis Cultural Racism

Cultural racism deals with the culture existed in society to give the standard of doing something considered as culturally right. The authority creates and defines the culture in a society. It causes the culture will reflect dominant group of people and devalue the contribution of colour people. Based on the analysis the film, cultural racisms can be identified in certain parts.

#### Data 1:



[00:24:42] Johnny: So, what'd my sister have to say about you being gone for three weeks?

[00:24:45] Tony : Eight weeks.

[00:24:48] Johnny: Ten to one, *you slap this moolie out*. You come home in under a month.

Based on Data 1, it can be seen Tony and Johnny made a conversation about Tony's habit. Johnny thought that he would not be resist to be with African-American more than a month. It can be found the cultural racism on his utterance; slapping American-African guys are acceptable in their culture. Moreover, it could be interpreted as common sense for white to act certain

things. As what stated by Jones (2000), the cultural racism deals with standard of culture which is accepted in certain society. In Tony, slapping coloured man is acceptable for his people since it relates to cultural norm. The racism could be seen on the use of "*moolie*" to name the African-American.

### 3.2 Analysis of Humanity found in the Green Book movie

The analysis of humanity found in the Green Book movie is based on humanity theory proposed by Peterson and Seligman (2004). In their theory, there are three basic humanities namely love, kindness, and social intelligence. The finding shows that all basic humanities are inserted in the film.

#### 3.2.1. Love

Love represents a cognitive, behavioural, and emotional stance toward others. It is considered as an ability to receive, express love, care to own and others by understanding their advantages and disadvantages. Love is in the individual to face the daily life problems.

#### Data 1



[00:24:58] Tony : You gonna be good boys? You'll listen to your mother? Yeah? *All right, give me a kiss.*

Data shows conversation where Tony told his sons to be a good son and he hugged and kissed his sons. The insertion of humanity, namely love can be identified. Tony was unwillingly to leave his family for eight weeks but it was necessary to gain the money to rise family. He expressed his love to his family especially to his children and wife. According Seligman and

Peterson (2004), love involves the desire to sexual, physical, and emotional attachment to individuals. This scene could show the highest love to his family. The physical and emotional attachment can be seen from hugging and kissing his sons.

### 3.2.2 Kindness

Kindness is a type humanity which has contained courage to be kind, generous, and help people in voluntary. This power has two main components, namely sympathy and empathy. This is closely related in terms of humanity, in the sense of everyone deserves attention and recognition without any particular reason, however just because they deserve it. Kindness is not influenced by the person is. Based on the analysis of humanity, there were found several kindnesses in the film.

#### Data 1



[00:08:03] Dolores : *I'll walk you out.*

[00:08:05] Plumbers : Sure.

Based on Data 1, it clearly shows that Dolores offered assistance to escort the plumbers; actually, she also gave drinks to them after finishing their job. Peterson and Seligman (2004) proposes the kindness has certain characteristics, namely sympathy and empathy. Dolores showed her sympathy to the plumbers.

### 3.2.3 Social Intelligence

Social intelligence is the ability to recognize and influence themselves and others for adapting well in their environment.

#### Data 1



[00:35:52] Shirley: We'll be attending many events before and after the concerts. Interacting with some of the wealthiest and most highly educated people in the country. *It is my feeling that your diction, however charming it may be in the tristate area, could use some... finessing.*

[00:35:47] Tony : Oh. Thanks. Shirley was sensitive; he had an ability to recognize the situation where Tony would face. Tony would meet important people that might be different on how he talked, thought, and behaved. He influenced Tony to be able to adapt into the situation. These indications are clearly showed social intelligence as a part of humanity. It involves an ability to recognize and influence others to adapt (Peterson & Seligman, 2004). The situation they faced would be different and Shirley wanted everything run smoothly.

## V.CONCLUSION

The film Green Book is a film depicting acts of racism in 1960. This film tells the story of the first black pianist in America in 1962 who employs white citizens who have abusive, talkative attitudes and hate blacks. Based on the research that has been carried out in the Green Book film, there is a dialogue of racism and humanity which was studied using the theory Christopher Peterson & Martine Seligman. "Sociolinguistics is a part of linguistics related to language as a social symptom and a cultural phenomenon". Each of the dialogues has

a different description or explanation of racism. In the film *Green Book* Actions of racism are dominated by racism between dialogues that reflect the separation of facilities and harsh words between white and black people. Many divides between blacks and whites include restaurants, clothing shops, besides that there are also daily acts of discrimination such as getting poor service in restaurants and clothing shops and The meaning of humanistic values in the film *Green Book*, is depicted through characters and scenes that display the value of human humanism, namely the attitude of helping to be done sincerely without being asked for and without expecting anything in return, an attitude of togetherness that is manifested in the

form of tolerance, brotherhood and mutual care each other was created with the capital to understand each other, a sense of need and need. Subtle values, namely the attitude of respecting and upholding a sense of inter-racial kinship are things that absolutely must be owned by everyone, but most importantly of all, the truth must take precedence which is most shown in every scene. Viewed from a positive perspective, the *Green Book* film shows the value of humanism that can be used as a role model for the people who watch it. Because of the importance of appreciating a difference, especially in racial differences in social life which is interpreted in the value of humanism.

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