

**RACIAL PREJUDICE TOWARDS ASIAN AMERICANS AS
REFLECTED IN JAMIE FORD'S *HOTEL ON THE CORNER
OF BITTER AND SWEET***

THESIS

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM
MALANG
2020**

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IN JAMIE FORD'S *HOTEL ON THE CORNER OF BITTER AND SWEET***

THESIS

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In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.)

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MALANG
2020**

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled “**Racial Prejudice towards Asian Americans as Reflected on Jamie Ford’s *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet***” is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography.

Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

Malang, 8 December 2020

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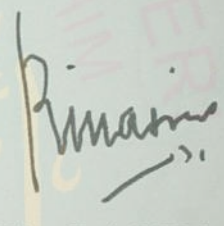
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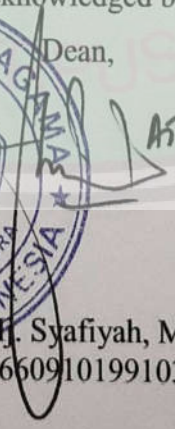

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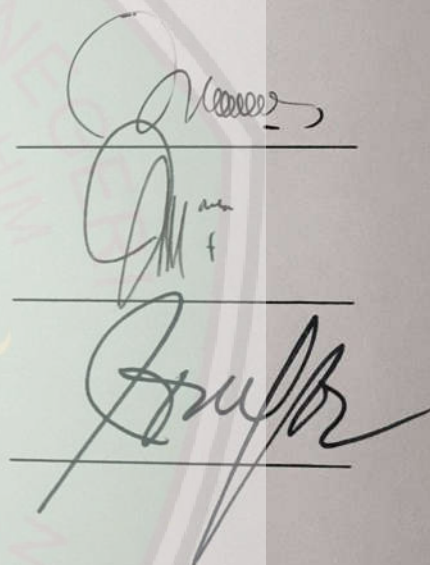
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MOTTO

“Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threaten the future, and renders the present inaccessible”

(Maya Angelou)



DEDICATION

This thesis is wholeheartedly dedicated to my supportive parents. All of your love and encouragement means the world for me.

This thesis is also dedicated to everyone who values my growth process in life and encourages me to never lose hope.



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All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds, the Destroyer of all oppression and the Hope of all oppressed. *Shalawat* and *salam* are always delivered to Muhammad SAW, the prophet of *ummah* who has inherited Islam as a peace and blessings to the entire universe. Due to the mercy He gives through his Prophet, *Alhamdulillah Rabbil Aalamin*, I am able to accomplish my thesis.

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4. My two dearest sisters, Ardel and Apisa, for all time love, support, and laughter.
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8. Myself.

Finally, I, as ordinary human being, do realize the imperfections and weaknesses in the thesis I write. Therefore, any feedback, criticism, and suggestion are always welcome. Hopefully, this thesis is useful for all the readers who want to conduct similar study.

Malang, 8 December 2020

The Researcher

Herny Listya Purwitasari

ABSTRACT

Purwitasari, Herny Listya. 2020. Racial Prejudice towards Asian Americans as Reflected in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. Minor Thesis (Skripsi). English Literature Departement. Faculty of Humanities. Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University, Malang.

Advisor : Ahmad Khozi, S.S., M.A.

Keywords : Racism, Prejudice, Asian Americans

Discussing about racism should not only focused on Black, in fact, other communities of color including Asian Americans is also suffered racism. This study aims to examine racism issue which is racial prejudice that is reflected in Jamie Ford's novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. Racial prejudice towards Asian Americans happened in United States including the area of Seattle in 1940s due to the high tension of World War II. This issue raised due to white people as the dominant group think that their racial group is way better than Asian Americans, in many aspects of social life. The fear and suspicion feeling towards Asian Americans as the labor threat and spies of the war are also well portrayed in the novel. Thus, the present study occupies literary criticism focusing on white people character behavior regarding their racial prejudice toward Asian Americans described in the novel.

The objectives of the study are to identify the social aspects in which racial prejudice occurs in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* and to identify how the novel reflects racial prejudice of 1940s in Seattle. It employs sociological approach of Alan Swingewood and theory of racial prejudice proposed by Herbert Blumer (1958).

This study reveals that racial prejudice that occurs in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* happened in the aspect of social structure including economic life, political and legal process, and in educational aspects. Besides, the novel also reflects the racial prejudice in its aspects of social structure in social life in Seattle in 1940s during the World War II.

ABSTRAK

Purwitasari, Herny Listya. 2020. Racial Prejudice towards Asian Americans as Reflected in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. Minor Thesis (Skripsi). Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Humaniora. Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim, Malang.

Pembimbing : Ahmad Khozi, S.S., M.A.

Kaat Kunci : Rasisme, Prasangka, Asia Amerika

Membahas tentang rasisme seharusnya tidak hanya terfokus pada kulit hitam saja, pada kenyataannya komunitas kulit berwarna lain termasuk Asia-Amerika juga mengalami rasisme. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji isu rasisme yaitu prasangka rasial yang tercermin dalam novel Jamie Ford *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. Prasangka rasial terhadap warga Asia-Amerika terjadi di Amerika Serikat termasuk wilayah Seattle pada tahun 1940-an akibat tingginya ketegangan Perang Dunia II. Isu ini muncul karena warga kulit putih sebagai kelompok dominan menganggap kelompok ras mereka jauh lebih baik daripada warga Amerika keturunan Asia, dalam banyak aspek kehidupan sosial. Rasa takut dan curiga terhadap orang Asia-Amerika sebagai ancaman tenaga kerja dan mata-mata perang juga tergambar dengan jelas dalam novel ini. Dengan demikian, penelitian ini merupakan kritik sastra yang berfokus pada perilaku tokoh-tokoh kulit putih terkait prasangka rasial mereka terhadap warga Amerika keturunan Asia yang dijelaskan dalam novel.

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi aspek sosial di mana prasangka rasial terjadi dalam novel *Hotel on Corner of Bitter and Sweet* karya Jamie Ford dan untuk mengidentifikasi bagaimana novel tersebut mencerminkan prasangka rasial tahun 1940-an di Seattle. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan sosiologis Alan Swingewood dan teori prasangka rasial yang dikemukakan oleh Herbert Blumer (1958).

Penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa prasangka rasial yang terjadi dalam novel *Hotel on Corner of Bitter and Sweet* terjadi pada aspek struktur sosial yang meliputi kehidupan ekonomi, proses politik dan hukum, serta dalam aspek pendidikan. Selain itu, novel tersebut juga mencerminkan prasangka rasial dalam aspek struktur sosialnya dalam kehidupan sosial di Seattle tahun 1940-an saat Perang Dunia II.

مستخلص البحث

بورتاساري ، هبرني ليستيا 2020. التحيز العنصري تجاه الأمريكيين الآسيويين كما يتجلى في فندق جيمي فورد في ركن المر والحلو. أطروحة ثانوية) سكريبسي. (قسم الأدب الإنجليزي. كلية العلوم الإنسانية. جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية ، مالانج.

المستشار: احمد غوزي

الكلمات المفتاحية: العنصرية ، التحيز ، الأمريكيون الآسيويون

لا ينبغي أن تركز المناقشة حول العنصرية على سوداء الجلد فقط ، بل في الواقع ، عانت مجتمعات أخرى من اللون بما في ذلك الأمريكيون الآسيويون من العنصرية. تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى فحص قضية العنصرية المتمثلة في التحيز العنصري الذي ينعكس في رواية جيمي فورد "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet". حدث التحيز العنصري تجاه الأمريكيين و الآسيويين في الولايات المتحدة بما في ذلك منطقة وقع في سنة 1940, بسبب التوتر الشديد في الحرب العالمية الثانية. نمو اخبار هذه القضية بسبب الأشخاص جلد أبيض حيث تعتقد المجموعة المهيمنة أن مجموعتهم العرقية أفضل بكثير على سلسلة الأمريكيين الآسيويين ، عند كثير من جوانب الحياة الاجتماعية. شعور الأشخاص بالخوف والريبة تجاه الأمريكيين الآسيويين كتهديد عمالي وجواسيس للحرب تم إبرازه جيداً في الرواية. وهكذا ، هذه الدراسة هي النقد الأدبي الذي يركز على سلوك الشخصيات فيما يتعلق بتحيزهم العنصري تجاه الأمريكيين الآسيويين الذي قد شرح في الرواية.

أهدف البحث في تحديد الجوانب الاجتماعية التي يحدث فيها التحيز العنصري في فندق جيمي فورد في ركن المر والحلو وتحديد كيف تعكس الرواية التحيز العنصري في الأربعينيات في سيائل. وهي تستخدم النهج الاجتماعي لأن سوينجوود ونظرية التحيز العنصري التي اقترحها هربرت بلومر (1958).

تكشف هذا البحث أن التعبير العنصري الذي وقع في الفندق جيمي فورد في ركن المر وحلو حدث في جانب البنية الاجتماعية بما في ذلك الحياة الاقتصادية والعملية السياسية والقانونية ، وفي الجوانب التعليمية. إلى جانب ذلك ، تعكس الرواية أيضاً التحيز العنصري في جوانبها من البنية الاجتماعية في الحياة الاجتماعية في السنة 1940 عند خلال الحرب العالمية الثانية.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THESIS COVER.....	i
STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP	ii
APPROVAL SHEET	iii
LEGITIMATION SHEET	iv
MOTTO	v
DEDICATION.....	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	vii
ABSTRACT	ix
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	xii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	1
A. Background of the Study.....	1
B. Research Question.....	6
C. Research Objectives	6
D. Scope and Limitation	7
E. Significance of the Study	7
F. Definition of Key Terms	8
G. Previous Studies	9
H. Research Method.....	11
1. Research Design	11
2. Data Source	12
3. Data Collection.....	13
4. Data Analysis	13
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW	15

A. Sociology of Literature Approach.....	15
B. Definition of Race	18
C. Race Relation	19
D. Racism.....	20
E. Racial Prejudice	21
F. Racial Prejudice in Social Structure.....	24
1. Racial Prejudice in Economic Life.....	24
2. Racial Prejudice in Political and Legal Processes.....	25
3. Racial Prejudice in Family Patterns and Intermariage	26
4. Racial Prejudice in Education	27
G. Racial Prejudice Towards Asian Americans in 1940s' Seattle.....	27
1. Prejudice in the Economic Life	28
2. Prejudice in Political and Legal Processes	30
3. Prejudice in Education.....	32
CHAPTER III FINDING AND DISCUSSION	34
A. Racial Prejudice in the Novel of Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet 34	
1. Racial Prejudice in Economic Life.....	35
2. Racial Prejudice in Political and Legal Process	41
3. Racial Prejudice in Education	46
B. Racial Prejudice in the Real Social Life of 1940's Seattle	49
1. Prejudice in the Economic Life	49
2. Prejudice in Political and Legal Process	50
3. Prejudice in Education.....	52
CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	56
A. Conclusion	56

B. Suggestion	59
BIBLIOGRAPHY	61
CURRICULUM VITAE.....	64
APPENDICES	65



CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter covers on overview of the research background and the rationale for choosing the topic of racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in novel of Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* as well as the research question and the objective of this study. Significance of the study is provided to show the benefits of this study and several key terms have been defined to ease the readers in understading this study. This chapter also provides some previous studies which influence the researcher in conducting this study. It is also followed by the explanation of the research method which discusses the research design, data source, data collection, and data analysis by the end of this chapter.

A. Background of the Study

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2001) state that the most of studies on racism have generally focused on African Americans with less attention being focused on the experiences of other communities of color (Alvarez et al., 2006: 478). In fact, racism is also suffered by other people of color, including Asian. Racism towards Asian Americans has relied on several ideologies and steriotypes; economic, competitor organized criminal, “illegal alien”, unwelcomed immigrant, military enemy (“yellow peril”) (Kia, 2007: 132).

While regarding with Asian Americans racial issues nowadays, law and political efforts within the United States are attempting to reduce the racism itself, however, racism remains prevalent in our society today in many different cultures

and geographic regions over time. Racism itself takes many forms, and one of them is racial prejudice. The term racism itself is often used synonymously with the definition of prejudice (biased or affected feelings), stereotyping (biased thoughts and beliefs, flawed generalizations), discrimination (differential treatment or lack of equal treatment), and bigotry (hatred) (Salter et al., 2018). In accordance to Allport (1954) the term prejudice itself is always characterized by irrationality (a wrong generalization) and emotional judgment (antipathy).

This is in contrast with Blumer (1958) who argues that racial prejudice comes from different group relationships other than an individual set of feelings. People from a particular group come together because their way of life is similar and it is easy to get along and live together. This case leads to the rise of a group that feels it is more superior, who also known as the dominant group, and every other group that is deemed less superior becomes known as the subordinate group. Blumer in Cain (2018) also argues that the dominant racial group believes that the subordinate racial group is fundamentally different and estranged. Believing this is the case, they feel more entitled to some rights, resources and certain standing in society. Moreover, racial prejudices are the result of a feeling by the dominant group that subordinate racial groups threaten their prerogatives. Prejudice is, therefore, represents a response to perceived threat (Quillian, 1995: 591).

In addition, the issue in society up to this period is that individuals classify themselves in one particular racial group, and from that racial group, people will consider their racial group to have a certain image, and other racial groups have a different image of that group which may lead a racial prejudice to isolate the

group. This collective process of characterization provides the basis of race prejudice and forms a sense of social position (Blumer, 1958).

The issues of racial prejudice towards Asian has emerged since the early 19th century in United States, where white people claiming that Chinese were unclean, which later led to the signing of Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 that prohibited the migration of Chinese laborers to United States for decades (Rifaat, 2020). Besides, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 plunged United States into war and planted the notion of Japanese treachery in West Coast. This war hysteria was peaked, combined with long standing of anti-Asian prejudice. Eventually, this issues brought to the Executive Order 9006, which authorized the military to exclude around 120.000 Japanese and Japanese Americans from any area of the country that is considered threatened by national security (Marger, 2014).

As a response to the racial prejudice phenomenon in society, literature also has its role in depicting and representing such issues. Damono (1989) states that the particular literary genre, such as novel can present the issue which is also discussed by sociology, namely human being in society and all the activities around them. Basically, literature discusses the relationship between literary works and social phenomena in society which not only refers to the elements of the literary text itself but also emphasizes the social phenomena reflected in the literary work (Wahyudi, 2013: 60).

Furthermore, Swingewood in Endraswara (2008) states that there are three major perspectives related to the sociology of literature, (1) study looking at

literary works as social documentation in which is a reflection of the situation and conditions in certain place and period, (2) study looking at literary works revealing the author's social situation, and (3) study looking at literary works as manifestation of historical events and socio-cultural conditions.

Several literary works discuss the issue of racism, one of them is the novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. A novel by an Chinese American author, Jamie Ford discusses about a friendship between two main protagonists characters named Henry Lee and Keiko Okabe, as a Chinese American and Japanese American characters. Both of them are Americans whose the ethnic and cultural backgrounds not only affect their relationship, but also the privilege of being Americans in the midst of World War II. Being Asian-Americans is accompanied by myriad challenges for Henry and Keiko. The two constantly endure unequal treatment from their white people and the government. The novel covers two paralel times which are 1941 and 1986 which reflects the social conditions in Seattle and how white people treated Asian-Americans at that time.

As a novel that adapts historical events, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* shows racial prejudice against Asians - one of which is is the forced evacuation of Japanese Americans to interment camp with Executive Order 9066 based on the prejudice. So in this study, the researcher examines a novel underlying the approach of sociology of literature by Alan Swingewood, focusing on the social aspects and on the literature is a documentation reflectiong to the social phenomena in certain place and period (Damono, 1989). Thus, racism is not simply about psychology or pathology of individuals, but rather consists of

cultural representation patterns that are deeply integrated into the practices, discourses, and subjectivities of Western societies (Barker, 2004: 266). Furthermore, this study will analyze the issue of racial prejudice in the novel using the related theory of racial prejudice.

Several studies that employ this theory has been conducted in some novels. The first is conducted by Sisca Fitri Agustin (2014) that explores racial prejudice and racial discrimination toward Barbarians in South Africa in J.M Coetzee's *Waiting for Barbarians* occupying sociological approach and using the Critical Race Theory by Delgado and Stefancic. The second study is Mayza Nisrin Abielah (2016) who discussed racial prejudice in Harper Lee's *Go Set a Watchman*. Her study examines the social aspect in which racial prejudice happens and how the novel itself reflects the racial prejudice in Southern America in 1950s. The study reveals that the novel depicts racial prejudice which happened in four aspect of social structure and reflect the racial prejudice condition of 1950s of Southern America.

The third study conducted by Usmawati Anggita (2016). She discusses forms of racial discrimination experienced by Asian American, particularly Chinese and Japanese American in the United Stated during 1940s seen in Jamie Ford's *Hotel in the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. She also discover the effects of the discriminations to two main protagonist characters.

The last is article related to this novel is also conducted on LitCharts. *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* is analyzed through the lens of identity

which examines how rigid ideas about identity can cause harm, particularly to children from immigrant families.

As those topics of previous studies mentioned above, this study appears to discuss the novel by Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* focusing on the racial prejudice which occur in the novel and its reflection to racial prejudice of Seattle in 1940s. The difference between the study mentioned above is the object of this study itself has not been explored in the issue of racial prejudice which is occupying Swingewood's sociological approach and Blumer's racial prejudice theory. Moreover, revealing racial prejudice to the real social condition is interesting to be researched.

B. Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulates the problems of study as follows:

1. In what social aspect does racial prejudice towards Asian Americans occur in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*?
2. How does *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* reflect the racial prejudice in 1940s' Seattle?

C. Research Objectives

In accordance with the statement of problems above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To identify the social aspect in which the racial prejudices towards Asian Americans occur in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*.

2. To identify how the novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* reflects the racial prejudice in 1940s' Seattle.

D. Scope and Limitation

The focus of the study is on text and the characters' conversations and attitudes in *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* which shows racial prejudice and the condition in the novel which reflects the real racial prejudice in Seattle in 1940s.

Racial prejudice can be analyzed using several perspective, such psychological perspective. However, this study is conducted by using sociological perspective and as the theory chosen by the researcher that racial prejudice as Blumer (1958) proposed is racial prejudice is fundamentally a matter of relationship between racial group. In the process of finding the data, the researcher involves the theory related to racial prejudice which is from Herbert Blumer and sociology approach by Alan Swingewood. Additionally, this study also analyses racial prejudice in the social structure such the aspect of economic, politic and legal process, family patterns and intermarriage, religious institutions, and education.

E. Significance of the Study

This study which is concern about racial prejudice in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, is expected to give a comprehensive understanding and is intended to contribute in providing information, especially for other researchers who are searching and doing the study in the same field,

topic, or object. It is also expected that this study may enrich the reader's knowledge of racial prejudice in the novel.

Besides, the researcher herself is expected to pay more attention to the social and moral values in the novel. In addition, in conducting the research on racial issues may be useful for the researcher in undergoing the next process of analyzing literary works.

F. Definition of Key Terms

1. Sociology of literature: an approach to examine literary work which focuses its attention upon the relation between a literary work and the social aspects in which it is created (Jabrohim, 2003).
2. Racism: consists of ideologies and practices of racial domination that justify or cause different treatment towards certain racial groups based on a set of feelings which exist on the part of a dominant racial groups who believe that subordinate racial group are naturally inferior (Blumer, 1958). Racism in this study context refers to unequal treatment based on the race towards Asian Americans done by white people that occurred in the novel of Jamie Fords's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*.
3. Prejudice: refers to set of judgments, opinions, or attitudes which directed towards certain people based on their membership in a particular group (Rouse et al, 2011). Prejudice is the prejudgment of the white people characters towards Asian Americans characters in the novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*.

4. Asian Americans: Americans of Asian ancestry. According to Karen (2013), this term refers to a panethnic group of diverse populations, which originating in East Asia, South Asia, or Southeast Asia. In this research, Asian Americans refers to Chinese American and Japanese American characters in the novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*.

G. Previous Studies

Studies on sociology of literature and racism issues have much been conducted by many researchers. The first study of Robiah al Adawiyah (2015) entitled *Racism Against African American Slave in Solomon Northup's Twelve Years as Slave*. She employs sociology of literature and theory related to racism issue in Solomon Northup's *Twelve Years of a Slave*. Based on her analysis, she found out the forms of racism against African American slaves. There are four racism forms regarding to racism against African Americans slaves, such discrimination, prejudice, segregation, and violence. Furthermore, the novel also represents the real condition of racism against African American slave in 19th century (Adawiyah, 2015).

Mayza Nisrin Abielah (2016) entitled *Racial Prejudice in Harper Lee's Go Set a Watchman*. The study examines the racial prejudice in the novel. Therefore the results of this study indicates that racial prejudice occurs in the four aspects of social structure, including the aspect of economic, political and legal process, family patterns and intermarriage, and education. Moreover, the study also reveals that the novel depicts the racial prejudice in its aspect of social structure in social life of Southern America in 1950s. In her study, she applies the

theory of racial prejudice by Herbert Blumer to the sociology of literature (Abielah, 2016).

Next, Usmawati Anggita (2016) explores the forms of racial discriminations experienced by Asian Americans and its effects of the discriminations. In her thesis entitled *Racial Discrimination and the Effect as Seen in Jamie Ford's Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet: A comparative literature*. The study applies comparative literature proposed by Zepetnek. The analysis is done by reflecting Fred L Pincus's theory about type of racial discrimination to the novel. Based on the analysis, the result shows that there are two types of racial discrimination seen in the novel; individual and institutional discrimination. The effects of racial discrimination towards Chinese and Japanese's lives are the occurring of insecurity feeling and desirable feeling to prove their loyalty to the United States (Anggita, 2016).

Another relevant study is carried out by LitChart.com, a theme analysis entitled *Belonging, Biogotry, and Identity*. From the analysis, it can be seen that that novel argues that identity shouldn't be viewed as an either/or proposition, because such a rigid view of identity harms both individuals and society as a whole. Through the experiences of Henry and Keiko as Asian Americans that grow up on Seattle during Second Word War, their identity can cause harm. Both Henry and Keiko are plagued by the perception that they're neither truly American nor truly members of their families' cultures of origin. But in reality these two main characters are genuinely American and Chinese, American and

Japanese. Thus, from the analysis it is found this kind of bigotry through the two main characters experiences of not being enough to merit certain identity labels.

The similarity of the first study with the present study lies on sociological approach used; however the first study employ different racism theory to analyze the literary works. Meanwhile, the second study uses the same approach and theory with this study. The difference is on the object of study which is Abielah (2016) uses Lee's *Go Set a Watchman*. Besides, the rest of studies use the same object as the researchere, which is *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford. The third study discusses different topic, which is the forms of discrimination and the effects to Asian Americans. Meanwhile, the fourth study explores the identity of the two main characters in the novel. However, this study discusses about the racial prejudice, as well as the feelings that to be always present on racial prejudice. The researcher also wants to reveal the reflection to the real condition of racial prejudice of Seattle in 1940s which is occured in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*.

H. Research Method

Reseach method covers research design, data source, data collection, and data analysis.

1. Research Design

The design of this study is literary criticism. According to as in Pradopo (2002:18), literary criticism concerned in defining, classifying, analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating literary works. In analyzing the novel, this study

occupies sociological of literature approach. This approach examines the content of a literary work and looks at its views about society. This approach understands literature in relation to reality and its social aspects. Besides, this approach is motivated by the fact that the existence of literary works cannot be separated from the social reality that occurs in a society (Damono, 1979).

Furthermore, this study uses Alan Swingewood's theory that applies three perspective related to literature and sociology to reveal to what extend *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* reflects racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in Seattle in 1940s. One of three perspectives of Alan Swingewood that will be used is looking at literary works as social documentation reflecting to the situation in certain place and period (Wahyudi, 2013).

The researcher also uses the relevant theories regarding racial prejudice in relation to social culture. Following the Blumer's theory that four basic types of feeling that seem to be always present in race prejudice in the dominant group. They are (1) a feeling of superiority, (2) a feeling that the subordinate race is instrically different and alien, (3) a feeling of proprietary claim to certain areas of privilege and advantage, and (4) a fear and suspicion that the subordinate race harbors designs on the prerogatives of the dominant race (Blumer, 1958).

2. Data Source

The primary data of the study are words, sentences, and dialogues of the novel by Jamie Ford entitled *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, which shows racial prejudice in social aspects in the novel and in 1940s' Seattle. This

novel is originally published in 2009. It contains of 290 pages. The data needed are supported by information that is collected from books, journal articles, and other references in relation with the chosen topic of the study.

3. Data Collection

There are some processes to collect the data. The researcher collected the data by reading the novel comprehensively. The reading is intended to get better understanding and highlighting on the conversation and the attitudes of the characters which show racial prejudice in social aspects in the novel and racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in Seattle in 1940s. After highlighting, the researcher reduces the unnecessary information. Finally the researcher classifies all the data based on the social aspect of racial prejudice in social structure and applies four basic feelings of racial prejudice that always attributed on the part of dominant racial group. The theory is racial prejudice as sense of group position proposed by Herbert Blumer (1958).

4. Data Analysis

The researcher starts analyzing the data which have been collected and classified. The first, identifying the racism data related to racial prejudice in social aspects. Then the researcher starts analyzing the reflection of the novel to the racial prejudice in 1940s' Seattle using Alan Swingewood's sociology of literature. The researcher focus on the literary works as the social documentation of certain place and period. Finally the researcher analyzing the data and making the conclusions that answers the statements of problem of this study. The

conclusion must answer the problem of the study in order to accomplish the purpose of this study.



CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter covers the explanation and elaboration of the relevant literature related to racial prejudice and sociological approach. It commenced by sociological approach in literary criticism that explain Alan Swingewood's theory. The discussion goes on the definition of race, race relations, racism, racial prejudice, racial prejudice in social structure, and racial prejudice in Seattle in 1940s.

A. **Sociology of Literature Approach**

As interdisciplinary approach, sociology of literature often used to evaluate and understand literary works related to the social aspect of the story. Through the book called *The Sociology of Literature*, Swingewood (1972) explaining that sociology is essentially scientific and objective study of human beings in society, the study of institutions and social processes; it seeks to answer the question of how society is possible, how it works, and why it persists (Laurenson & Swingewood, 1972: 11).

Further, Swingewood (1972) also argues that literature is no longer considered as something autonomous from the perspective of sociology of literature. The existence of literary works, thus always to be understood in relation to the aspects beyond the literary work itself. As the result, literature is considered as one of the representation of the real social life, which refers to the sociology of

literature is regarded as the development of Plato's mimetic concept which deals with the idea that literature as the imitation of the society (Wiyatmi, 2013).

As the social product, literature also reflects human beings, the human relation, and the world in which they live, interact, and move. Moreover, Damono in Wiyatmi (2013) adds that the literary work is always related with author, literature, and society.

The concept of sociology of literature itself gets more obvious when it comes to the ideas of Laurensen and Swingewood (1972). In relating with literature and society, Swingewood (1972) proposed three major perspectives in approaching literary works. The first perspective that Laurensen and Swingewood (1972) suggest is looking at the literary works as social documentation, a portrait of society and many aspect of social life in a certain period. The second perspective is related to the social background and life story of the author. The third is revealing that a literary work is a manifestation of history and condition of social and culture (Laurensen & Swingewood, 1972 :13-22).

As Swingewood (1972) said literature is social documentation that can be used to understand social phenomenon in society in certain period. This definition refers to a literary work as a reflection/mirror of the society to an age. For society is an ensemble of the social institutions, that constructs the social structure; it includes norms, the standards of individual behavior values in order to be accepted by other human beings, and values which are formulated and realized socially. Then, Swingewood's second perspectives is moved from focusing on the

works of literature itself to the background of literary works are produced, especially concerns in social situation of the author and how the author reacts and responses to the system that is constructed by the society. The last perspective, dealing with the condition of society in a certain times in accepting and understanding a literary works.

Swingewood (1972) also has set of perspectives that literary work is not kind of artifacts, contrary it is the result of a dialectical process of thought. The author also has their space to express emotional feelings and experiences through their works. Thus, in this case, literary works is not merely pure reflection of the real condition of society as a whole. It is okay that author decided to give a different touch or play with his imagination, but still considering the truth (Wahyudi, 2013). Therefore, the conception of literary works is “*a reflection of society*” draws the understanding of literature as imagination and reality that are integrated.

As the need of this study, sociology of literature is applied in this study. I, in this study will focus merely on the Swingewood’s first perspectives that literary works is considered as a representation of social condition in certain period. It is supported by (Milton, 1954) that literature has been recognize as the reflection of economics, family relationship, climate and landscape, attitudes, moral, social classes, political events , wars, religion, and other aspects of social life.

B. Definition of Race

Racial classifications appeared as a form of social deviation in many areas of the world based on what were thought to be natural differences among human groups. In a line with that, Cheney et al. (2006) define race as social construct which is used to categorize people into distinct groups through characteristics such as physical appearance (particularly color), ancestral heritage, cultural affiliation, cultural history, ethnic classification, and the social, economic, political needs of a society in a given period of time.

However, race has many meanings. The modern meaning of the term race with reference to humans started to emerge in the 17th century. Since then the languages of the Western world have had a number of meanings. The most common definition was an attempt to categorize people mainly by their physical differences. Some philosophers and scholars in the 20th century argued that as a social construct, race and ethnicity continue to be used as criteria for prejudices, discrimination, exclusion, and stereotypes (Clair, 2015). Thus, until today there is no clear definition of race itself.

Further, Barnshaw (2008) propose four concepts of race. First, race is constructed by society. Second, the race is characterized in part by physical differences such as skin color, facial characteristics, or hair texture. Third, the race is distinguished in part by general social similarities, such as common heritage, patterns of speech, or tradition. The last, race is characterized by the formation of different racial groups in self-identifying societies (Schaefer, 2008: 1091).

C. Race Relation

Geography interacts with demography to magnify diversity (Hochschild, 2000). Cities and regions across countries have increasingly different racial and ethnic profiles. Hence, countries including Europe, United States, and Canada whose societies comprising numerous racial, religious, and cultural groups can be described as multi-ethnic society (Marger, 2014).

Humans may be unequal in many ways. They differ in physical characteristics and mental capacities, talent, strength, and so on. Relating to this, Marger (2014) states that human inequalities are the product of both social learning and genetic inheritance, although the significance of each of these two factors remains unclear. However, there is more important thing to note, the access of people to social benefits—several forms of wealth, power, and prestige, is also unequal to them. These inequalities are from social origin, which are the greatest consequence in determining who we are and who we can eventually be as members of society.

Further, in multi-ethnic societies, this unequal distribution of resources creates what is society called as the dominant and subordinate groups. Most sociologists refer to majority group as the dominant group, and refer to minority groups as subordinate group (Marger, 2014).

Marger (2014) further defined dominant group is at the top race hierarchy.

The dominant group is a group which is at the top of race hierarchy, which receives a disproportionate share of wealth, exercises predominant political authority, dominates the society's cultural system, and has inordinate influence on the future race makeup of the society (Marger, 2014).

On the other hand, the minority groups describes groups who in society, regardless of skin colour, country of origin, language, religion, and cultural traditions, are subordinate or powerless.

In relating to the idea that the majority group is one with the greatest power in a particular society to shape the nature of race relation. Being a numerical minority is not one of the characteristics of being a minority group; larger groups can sometimes be considered as minority groups because of their lack of power (Hariss et al., 1958). It is also in a line with Marger (2014):

Dominant-minority relations are relations of power. On the basis of their physical and cultural characteristics, ethnic minorities are distinguished from others and given differential treatment. The dominant group holds disproportionate control of the society's political and economic resources and the ability to shape the society's major norms and value (Marger, 2014).

In addition, two groups exist alongside each other in the same society for long periods will move toward some form of unification or even the minority is aligned. On the other hand, the treatment towards minority group will always vary. Prejudice and discrimination towards minority group may be quite strong in certain areas of life. Moreover, the responses toward minority group lead to rejection.

D. Racism

Social science literature has come up with many different definitions of racism. Wilson (1973) offers a particularly cogent definition of racism as an ideology of racial domination or exploitation that incorporates beliefs on the cultural or biological inferiority of particular race and employs those beliefs as a justification and prescription of inferior or unequal treatment for that group.

Merger (2014) states that racism has three basic ideas as a belief system. First, humans are divided naturally into different physical types. Second, physical characteristics such as the displays of people are inherently associated with their culture, personality, and intelligence. The last, the differences between groups are innate, not subject to change, and in some groups, their genetic inheritance is innately superior to others (Marger, 2014: 17).

Racism is an ideology that exist in multicultural society and its belief is the one particular racial group is better or superior than others. Thus, Silva (2006) argues that racism means that the subordinate group is treated unequally by dominant group, so that human racial structures exist. Consequently, Little (2014) considers racism is also a type of prejudice that is used to justify the belief that one racial category is somehow superior or inferior to others.

E. Racial Prejudice

Prejudice derives from the word prejudgement, which implies that a person makes up his or her mind about something without any knowledge about it. Macionis (2011) defines prejudice as a rigid and unfair generalization about an entire category of people.

Contrary with Macionis, Blumer (1958) through his work *Racial Prejudice as Group Position*, criticized theories of racial prejudice that focused narrowly on set of individual feelings. Race prejudice is basically a matter of relationship between racial group. Blumer (1958) posited that racial prejudice primarily comes from a sense group position of an in-group and out-group rather

than in a set of feelings which individual or members of one racial group have toward the members of another racial group. Thus, racial prejudice is a matter of racial identification and it must be sought in the process of what so-called a collective process, which people who are necessarily identified themselves as a belonging to a racial group which racial groups form images of themselves and of others. Thus, the sense of group position comes from this collective processes which provides the basis of race prejudice (Blumer, 1958: 5).

Blumer (1958) suggests four basic types of feeling that seem to be always present in race prejudice in the dominant groups, which include of (1) a feeling of superiority, (2) a feeling that the subordinate race is intrinsically different and alien, (3) a feeling of proprietary claim to a certain areas of privilege and advantage, and (4) a fear and suspension that the subordinate race harbors designs on the prerogatives of the dominant race (Blumer, 1958: 4).

The first feeling that Blummer has proposed, is a feeling superiority. Due to self-assured feeling on the part of the dominant group of being naturally superior. This kind of superiority feelings commonly shown in disparagement of the qualities of the subordinate racial group, for example debasing traits, such as laziness, dishonesty, greediness, unreliability, stupidity, deceit, and immorality.

The second feeling is that the subordinate group is different and alien. It means that the subordinate groups are not of their kind. It is such a feeling that reflects, justifies, and promotes the social exclusion of the subordinate racial groups.

The third feeling involves the sense of proprietary claim to a certain areas of privilege and advantage, which is quite crucial. It is a feeling on the part of dominant group of being entitled to either exclusive or prior rights in many important areas of life. In these sense of groups positions, a wide range of claims could be recognized. Blumer notes such essential claims such as covering the ownership of property such as choice of lands and sites; the right of certain jobs, occupations or professions; the claim of certain kinds of industry or lines of business; the claim of certain position of control and decision-making as in government and law; the right to exclusive membership in given institutions such as schools, churches, and recreational institutions; the claim of position in social prestige and to the display of the symbol and accoutrements of these positions; and the claim to certain areas of intimacy and privacy. In Blumer's perspective, these feelings of proprietary claim is extremely strong in racial prejudice (Blumer, 1958: 4).

The fourth feeling of racial prejudice is a fear of apprehension that the subordinate racial group is threatening, or will threaten, the position of the dominant group. Thus, acts or suspected acts that are interpreted as an attack on the natural superiority of the dominant group, or an intrusion into their sphere of group exclusiveness, or an encroachment on their area of propriarity claim are crucial in arousing and fashioning race prejudice. These acts mean "getting out of place" (Blumer, 1958: 4).

People necessarily put themselves into one racial group. Moreover, this kind of identification involves the formation of an image or a conception of one's

own racial group and of other racial group. Some studies have shown that such individuals who recognize greater difference in beliefs between ingroup and outgroup are the most prejudiced (Lins et al., 2017).

F. Racial Prejudice in Social Structure

The relation between minority-majority based on the concept of *America on analysis of prejudice and discrimination* are divided into five aspects of social structure: (1) the economic life, (2) political and legal processes, (3) family patterns and intermarriage, (4) religious institutions, and (5) education (Simpson & Yinger, 1958).

1. Racial Prejudice in Economic Life

Racial prejudice towards Asian-Americans has emerged since the Chinese workers settled in the country in the middle of 19th century. Asian Americans, especially Chinese and Japanese were heavily recruited in the mining and railroad industries, but they soon are viewed by white workers as the source of economic and labor threat. In accordance to Guo (2016), Asian Americans were frequently portrayed as threatening, exotic, and degenerate.

Besides, Asian Americans as the subordinate racial group, were also seen as unskilled workers and severely restricted by legal measures used to limit their occupational movement. This is related to Blumer's perspective that the dominant racial group considers that subordinate racial groups are stupid, unskilled, lazy, and not reliable. Hence, there will be a feeling on the part of dominant racial group that subordinate racial group do not deserve the same jobs as white people.

Labor became another theme that characterizes the experiences of Asian in United States. Moreover, Asian immigrants often did menial jobs for little compensation in hazardous industries (Kling, 2000). Many of Asian Americans also had to work on low job level such as in agricultural laborers, in industrial laborers, and the service sector in low-status positions such as restaurant staffs, hospital attendants, and hotel workers (Marger, 2014). By limiting their occupational movement, it shows that white people have more power, occupational opportunities, and privilege than non-whites.

2. Racial Prejudice in Political and Legal Processes

In the middle to late of 19th century, something remarkable happened to Asian Americans in United States. The famous Chinese Exclusion Act in the late of 19th century in United States was the first immigration law merely based on race. Further, On February 19, 1942, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 to incarcerate people under suspicion as enemies to inland internment camps. This one is referred to Japanese and Japanese Americans.

Showing racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in this political and legal process that Asian Americans were powerless. By 1924, all immigration from Asia was totally prohibited. Asians were considered under the law “aliens ineligible for citizenship.” There were all these racial restrictions to citizenship under the law. This law didn’t fall until 1952. Moreover, there already had been a long tradition of portraying the “Orient” as unknowable and mysterious in the Western world. Their group were generally viewed by white people as alien and

different in a negative way, so that were not treated equally under the law in United States (Guo, 2016).

Moreover, there is always prior rights attributed in the feeling of the dominant group that promotes law decision making of the white government. As Blumer (1958) states this feeling on the part of dominant group of being entitled/exclusive to prior rights is strong in race prejudice.

3. Racial Prejudice in Family Patterns and Intermariage

According to Kwon (2011) through her work on interracial marriages among Asian Americans in the US argues that anti-Asian proponents justify anti-miscegenation acts because they believe that Asians cannot be assimilated and they should not be mixed with whites. The anti-miscegenation laws of Western nation have been designed to prevent and deny white women's and asian men's marriages despite the racial and gender language of legislation.

In the 1910s and 1920s, anti-Asian politicians opposed interracial marriages between whites and Asians based on the eugenicist belief that race mixing between members of two different races would lead to the degradation of the race of either parent (Kwon, 2011). It is very clear that there is a self-assured feeling on the part of dominant racial group which opposes interracial marriage between white people and Asians because they think that dominant racial group's qualities are better or superior.

4. Racial Prejudice in Education

Gouff (2016) argues that Asian Americans tended to be restricted to segregated neighborhoods and segregated schools. The example of the prejudice towards Asian Americans in education is that white children's parents did not send their children to desegregated schools where there were Asian children because they thought that the association with Mongolian race could affect their children's youthful impressions. Thus, Asian Americans and their US born children faced obstacles to social mobility. Laws and customs kept them within their segregated communities (Leonard, 1990).

G. Racial Prejudice Towards Asian Americans in 1940s' Seattle

The Asian experiences in the United States can be divided into two distinct waves; the first and the second wave. The first consists of the old Asian immigration in United States, occurring roughly from the middle of the nineteenth to the early years of the twentieth centuries. The first to arrive were Chinese, followed by the Japanese, and in smaller numbers of Koreans and Filipinos (Marger, 2014).

Asian Americans became targets of racial antagonisms and economic insecurities of white Americans. Asian Americans were legally restricted from intermarrying with whites, were prohibited from engaging in or living certain occupations, denied citizenship, and were not allowed to testify for or against whites in courts of law, and subject to fines and fees that not been levied against other immigrants or racial groups (Wong, 2005: 7).

1. Prejudice in the Economic Life

The first and greatest of the Asians to enter United States including Greater Seattle were Chinese and Japanese. When the United States entered the World War II in (1939-1945), Chinese immigrants have been in the country for almost a hundred years.

However, no matter how long Asian Americans have been in the United States or how they become part of a mainstream society, they still remain “foreigners”. The U.S. Exclusion and foreignness are at the core of the racial subordination of Asian Americans (Kia, 2007). This cases increase the racial prejudice towards Asian Americans, showing that Asian Americans are alien and different creatures. Besides, the prejudice towards Chinese Americans because of American Chinatowns had a thriving vice economy, so gambling, prostitution and drugs became widely associated with Asians (Guo, 2016). It makes white Americans were criticizing Asians were participating in these activities.

The first wave of Asian immigrants which occurred roughly from the middle nineteenth century to the early years of twentieth centuries were mostly seen as unskilled and passive laborers (Kling, 2000), recruited for construction or agricultural. Perceived by white workers as a labor threat, Chinese Americans were forced out of their jobs and commonly driven from one town to another (Marger, 2014). The white workers’s prejudice towards Chinese Americans were because they were perceived as labor thread. Thus, white workers resorted to rioting and force to make Chinese leave the area (Laurie & Cole, 1997).

In addition to the antagonism they encountered from hostile white workers, the Chinese were severely restricted by legal measures used to limit their occupational and residential movement. Eventually, the Chinese Exclusion Act passed by the U.S. Congress in 1882 designed to preclude Chinese immigration for a ten-year period (Marger, 2014: 246). But it was renewed in 1892 and made permanent in 1902. These laws attempted to stop all Chinese immigration to enter United States for ten years, except for diplomats, teachers, students, merchants, and travelers (Lee, 2003).

Then, the immigration of the Japanese into Seattle area brought from the 1880s to the 1900s. The initial catalyst for this immigration was the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 which, along with a spate of anti-Chinese violence (culminating in the Seattle riot of 1886), led to the departure of nearly all Chinese from the Seattle area (Neiwert, 2005). Then, Japanese immigrants were also able to establish a Nihonmachi or Japantown in International District of Seattle (Boswell, 1996).

In 1940s, the prejudice towards subordinate racial group was also suffered by the Japanese Americans. The majority of the first Japanese immigrants were males who were confined to lower-status occupational/job positions. According to Klinge (2000), Japanese migrants have to work on the railroads, first in construction work, later as porters and foremen. Like the Chinese, they soon are considered as a labor threat in the area of United States where most had settled (Marger, 2014).

2. Prejudice in Political and Legal Processes

Since the interment of Japanese Americans during World War II became one of the ultimate expression of racial fears against Japanese Americans in 19th century. Racial prejudice in United States especially Seattle is not only suffered by Japanese Americans. Other immigrant of Asians such Chinese were also suffering racism. Although not all Asians are alike, many Americans during the 19th century and early 20th century saw all Asian immigrants as being alike. Alike to Americans meant that all Asians presented a threat to the American standard of living and to the racial integrity of the nation (Daniels: 1985). In a line with that, Asian Americans are generally seen by white people as alien and different in a negative way, so that they have not been treated equally under the law in United States.

Then, as the tension grew between United States and Japan, on February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, bowing to public pressure on the West Coast, signed Executive Order 9066, calling for the removal of over 120,000 people of Japanese descent and locked them behind internment camp in the name of national security, their civil rights were denied as well. Two-thirds of these Japanese Americans are actually US citizen (Daniels, 1993: 3). Later they sent to ten permanent camps; two in Arizona, two in California, and one each in Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming (Hong, 2014).

In addition, the prejudices toward Japanese Americans were due to deterioration of United States and Japan diplomatic relation since 1930s. Then,

anti-Japanese sentiment throughout the United States grew after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and war hysteria escalated (national park service, 2018). Moreover, in the early 1940s, the allegations against the Japanese Americans grew increasingly significant that makes a confidential State Departemen communique give warns to the citizen of America:

The Imperial Japanese Government has agents in every large city in this country and on the West Coast. These people, who pass as civilians and laborers, are being drilled in military maneuvers...when war breaks out, the entire Japanese population on the West Coast will rise and commit sabotage. They will endeavor by every means to neutralize the West Coast and render her defenseless (Kumamoto 1979: 49).

Therefore, the prejudices toward Japanese Americans were because they were considered to be a national threat to security and because they were suspected of being spies.

Then, several aspects of the Japanese incarceration stand out. Firstly, those who sent into interment camp were born in the United States and were American citizens. Hence, people were denied their fundamental civil rights solely on the basis of their ethnicity. U.S army also consider the Japanese race is an enemy race and while many second and third generation Japanese born on United States soil, possessed of United States citizenship, have become Americanized and the racial strains are undiluted. Second, that the removal of the Japanese was racially motivated was demonstrated by the fact that Americans of neither German nor Italian ancestry were similarly treated despite the war against Germany and Italy. Moreover, after the war it was acknowledged that

the Japanese on the West Coast had never presented a military threat, and in fact their incarceration may actually have retarded the war effort. Lastly, there are the fear, suspicion, misperception, and envy bred by decades of negative stereotypes towards Japanese Americans (Marger, 2014).

3. Prejudice in Education

In the 1970s, Asian Americans were hailed as the "model minority" because of their academic achievement and gains in the workplace (Kling, 2000). But long before that, around mid 19th century, Asian Americans were thought of as "brown hordes" or as the "yellow peril" (Guo, 2016). Thus, the prejudice towards Asian Americans also increased in areas of Seattle. One of the prejudice forms is that white children's parents did not send their children to desegregated schools where there were Asian children because they worried that their children's youthful impressions may be affected by association with the Mongolian race (Leonard, 1990). The way white parents prefer not to send their in the same school with Asian Americans because they feel that Asian American have lower qualities and races.

Moreover, white student also seen Asia Americans can not speak English. Similar to many Latina/o and Black students, white people tend to mislabel Asian American students as "special needs" may arise when the issues are more related to language, poverty, racism, parent involvement, inappropriate support, and other factors (Chang, 2017). Thus, the prejudice towards Asian Americans was also influenced by the beliefs that Asian Americans have lower race qualities and

intelligence. Besides, “Asian Americans are not their kind” promotes some white parents to decide their children to not send their children in the same school with Asian Americans students.



CHAPTER III

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter discusses the analysis of racial prejudice in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* and its reflection to the racial prejudice in 1940s' Seattle based on the sociological of literature approach by Alan Swingewood. This chapter includes the racial prejudice in the novel of *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* in economic life, politic and legal process, and in education aspect, as well as its relation to racial prejudice in 1940s' Seattle.

A. Racial Prejudice in the Novel of *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*

The novel, which was written in 2009 by Jamie Ford, is a historical fiction which takes time during the end World War II. The novel focuses on the town of Seattle and its cultural, political, and social conflict at the height of World War II. It also tells about how the native society rejected the immigrants and Asian Americans, especially Japanese and Chinese Americans. The rejection of the society towards Asian Americans has led into racial prejudices among white people.

The researcher finds that there are kinds of racial prejudice in the social structure, which is accordance to the idea of Simpson and Yinger (1985). In this analysis, the researcher finds that racial prejudice in the novel commonly occurs on the aspect of economic life, political and legal process, and in education.

1. Racial Prejudice in Economic Life

Racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in economic life is based on the ideology believing that Asian Americans were seen as unskilled workers and severely restricted by legal measures used to limit their occupational movement. From this case, the superiority of white people often underestimate Asian Americans on how they think that Asian Americans only have low job level and still remain lower than white people in getting jobs or opportunities. In addition, Asian Americans were also seen threatening who were one of the sources of economic and labor threat.

It is correlate with the idea of Blumer (1958) who proposed four main feelings that always appear in racial prejudice of the dominant group, which include of the feeling of superiority, the feeling that the subordinate race is intrinsically different and alien, a feeling of proprietary claim to a certain areas of privilege and advantage, and a fear and suspencion that the subordinate race harbors designs on the prerogatives of the dominant race. In the aspect of economic life, fear and suspicion are the evident in the novel that mostly how white people feel that the subordinate groups, which is Asian American, do not deserve the same opportunities on having jobs or getting better treatment in economic aspect because they were viewed threatening. Besides, the dominant racial group often consider that Asian American way of life is way far from theirs. Further, the feeling of superiority and the feeling of proprietary claim to privileges and advantages are also seen in the novel as well.

a. Feeling of Superiority

According to Blumer (1958), superiority feeling is self-assured feeling on the part of the dominant racial group of being naturally superior or better than the subordinate racial group.

In economic aspect, the feeling of superiority is frequently shown in the way the dominant racial group sees lower economic quality and status of subordinate racial group. This kind of feeling provokes the existence of debasing traits such as laziness, dishonesty, greediness, unreliability, stupidity, deceit, immorality, etc.

The feeling of superiority in the economic life in this novel is clearly shown by the mail lady who has self assured feeling that Henry as Asian American could not afford the payment of his letter

“One letter—overland carriage, please,” Henry requested, handing over the small envelope with the letter to Keiko he'd written the night before.

The skinny girl who normally worked the counter looked to Henry to be about his age—maybe fourteen, with dark hair and rich olive skin. He assumed she was the daughter of the postmaster assigned to Chinatown, helping out her parents in Chinese fashion. “Another letter? This one carriage mail, you say? That's going to get expensive—twelve cents this time.” (Ford, 2009)

From the quotation above, the way the mail lady is being sarcastic to Henry by saying that *“Another letter? This one carriage mail, you say? That's going to get expensive—twelve cents this time.”* indicates that the dominant racial group consider Asian Americans as subordinate racial group could not afford the

expensive payment because of the assumption of white people that Asian Americans have low economic status.

b. Feeling that Asian Americans are Different and Alien

The feeling that the subordinate group race is intrinsically different and alien means that the dominant racial groups think that the subordinate group is not one of their kind. Thus, it promotes the social exclusion of the subordinate racial group.

In this novel, the clerk of a record store showed this kind of feeling towards Henry and Keiko when they brought the record to the checkout counter.

Henry and Keiko took the record to the checkout counter. A middle-aged woman with long blond hair pulled back under a clerk's hat kept busy counting change at the register, sorting it into a larger tray.

Keiko reached up and set the record on the counter, then opened a small purse and pulled out two dollars—the price of a new record. The blond clerk kept counting.

Patiently, Henry and Keiko waited for the clerk to finish counting what was in her till. She made detailed notations of the amounts, writing on a sheet of paper.

While he and Keiko waited, another woman came up behind them, holding a small windup wall clock. Henry watched in confusion as the clerk took the clock, over his and Keiko's heads, and rang it up. The clerk took the money and handed the change back, and the clock, in a large green Rhodes shopping bag. (Ford, 2009)

This kind of feeling often appears in dominant group when they think that Asian Americans are not the same as them and they feel as if it is okay to not give the right treat and even ignoring Keiko and Henry because they are different. This kind of treatment of dominant racial group is seen clearly as Keiko said to the clerk that she wanted to buy the record from her store.

*“Is the counter open? Keiko asked.
The clerk looked around for another customer.
“Excuse me, ma’am, I’d like to buy this record, please.”*

Henry becoming more annoyed than the clerk looked—her hip cocked, her jaw set. She leaned down and whispered to them, “Then why don’t you go back to your own neighborhood and buy it?”

.....
The clerk stood there, her first dug into her hip. “We don’t serve people like you—besides, my husband is off fighting...” “(Ford, 2009)

Besides, the clerk is ignoring them because Henry and Keiko are Asian Americans. The conversation between the clerk and Keiko and clerk’s attitude continued to show that the clerk seems very anti towards Japanese Americans by not wanting to serve them when they buy the record from her store just because America was on war with Japan at that time. The dominant racial group tend to exclude them from their life.

c. Feeling of Proprietary Claim to Privileges and Advantages

The feeling of proprietary claim to any privileges and advantages is the feeling when the dominant group feel like being entitled to exclusive or prior rights in many important areas of life. Then, in many aspect in life, the white people tend to refuse that subordinate groups have the same privileges. The range of exclusive or prior claims in the aspect of economic life covers the ownership of the right of certain jobs, occupation or proffesion; the claim of certain kinds of industry or lines of bussiness.

In this novel this feeling is shown by Mrs. Beatty who claims to certain decisions making as the school kitchen owner to assign and promote Henry and Keiko to work in the school kitchen and serve others students meals during the school break.

“Henry, this is Keiko—she just transferred to Rainier, but she’s from your part of town.” Mrs. Beatty, the lunch lady, seemed to regard this new girl as another

piece of kitchen machinery, tossing her an apron, shoving her next to Henry behind the serving counter. "Heck, I bet you two are related, aren't you?" How many times had he heard that one.

Mrs. Beatty wasted no time out a Zippo light, lit a cigarette one-handed, and wandered off with her lunch. "Call me when you're all dene," she said. (Ford, 2009)

From the expression of Mrs. Beatty above, it indicates that Mrs. Beatty as the owner of kitchen of a white school, only assigns and promotes Asian Americans students to help her work in the kitchen and serve meals during the school break, which in fact these two student have the same rights to go get their meals during the break just like the others students. In addition, her attitude also represents that she has a certain right to get advantages from these two Asian Americans student, Henry and Keiko.

The prejudices toward Asian Americans in this novel is also indicated by the white people has ownership of property such as choice of lands and site. This kind of feeling in this economic aspect shown in this novel by Chaz' father who came to Henry's house with his personal business motive.

He looked at Mr. Preston and Chaz, then at his father, and nodded. Go ahead, I'll translate. I'll do my best, he thought.

"Henry, can you tell your father that I'm trying to buy the vacant lot behind the Nichibei publishing company? If we can force the Japanese newspaper out of business, will he approve us to buy that and as well?" (Ford, 2009)

From the quotation above, Chaz's father, Mr. Preston wanted Henry's father to help him buying a land behind Nichibei publishing company which is the land of Japanese families. Because Henry's father didn't speak English and Mr. Preston didn't understand Cantonese, thus Henry is needed to be translator between them. The things that Mr. Preston says to Henry and his father signify

that the white people has a feeling of exclusive prior to own and control a land for their own business without thinking of the subordinate groups.

d. Fear and Suspicion

A fear and suspicion feeling is about the fears or apprehension that subordinate group is threatening, or will threaten the position of dominant group (Blumer, 1958).

The feeling of fear and suspicion in the economic aspect in this novel is expressed by Chaz towards Henry and Japanese Americans when he was arguing with Henry.

“Go home, Chaz.” The anger in his voice surprised Henry. He felt the blood drain away from his fists where they clenched the broom handle until his knuckles turned pale.

Chaz spoke softly, a mock gentleness to his voice. “This is my home, this is the United States of America—not the United States of Tokyo. And my dad is probably going to end up owning this whole neighborhood anyway. What are you going to do, take us all on? You think you can beat us all up?” (Ford, 2009)

Chaz’ father was once did not succeed in taking the land of Japanese family for his own business. From the expression of Chaz who tried to drive Henry out from the place and being so sure that his father will own the whole neighborhood indicate that he fears that Asian Americans will take the position of the white people and threaten the business of his father.

In this novel, racial prejudice emerged in the aspect of economic life comes to how white people feel they have better quality in economic aspects. They also think that Asian Americans are not the kind of them who do not deserve the same jobs and treatments just like them. In addition, the presence of Asian

American is threatening so that white people fear if someday they would take away the business or jobs from white people.

2. Racial Prejudice in Political and Legal Process

Racial prejudice in the aspect of political and legal process concerns in how white people became anti to Asian especially people with Japanese decents. Further, the ultimate expression of racial prejudice against Asian Americans was the internment of Japanese and Japanese Americans during World War II. Besides, the racial prejudice in political and legal process is frequently shown that Asian Americans are not treated equally by the law.

The racial prejudice in political and legal process of this novel is shown in the feeling of superiority on the part of dominant racial group. Racial prejudice in political and legal process also merged in the feeling of Asian Americans are alien and the feeling of prior rights.

a. Feeling of Superiority

As Blumer (1958) posited that racial prejudice fundamentally comes from the sense of group position of a dominant racial group and subordinate racial group rather than the individual set of feelings, which includes feeling of superiority on the part of dominant racial group. The feeling of superiority often appear when the dominant racial group is debasing the traits in the matter of quality of the subordinate racial group. In political and legal process, it is shown

that dominant racial group consider the subordinate racial group are dishonest and greedy citizen.

In this novel, the feeling of superiority in legal aspect shown by the two soldiers towards Henry who is Chinese American when they met Henry in alley behind the vacant and boarded-up Togo Employment Agency where the place itself is full of garbage and stacks of old clothes and shoes. These two soldiers clearly give Henry a suspicious look with their assumptions that Asian Americans cannot be trusted and they looted stuff that was not belong to them.

Henry turned around and walked face-first into soldier, actually two soldier—with army MP on their arms. Their rifles were slung across their shoulders, and each had a long black baton dangling from a short leather strap attached to wrist. One of the soldiers looked down, poking Henry chest with his baton, tapping his button.

Henry dropped the broom handle, which made a wooden, clattering sound on the pavement. “No more looting, kid. I don’t care who you are—beat it.” (Ford, 2009)

The prejudice towards Asian Americans in this novel also includes that the white people consider them as a greedy citizen that cannot be trusted. From the expression and command of those two soldiers that Henry should leave the alley by poking Henry’s chest with their baton and consider them as greedy creature who loots stuffs without giving Henry time to explain the reason what Henry is doing at the alley.

b. Feeling that Asian Americans are Different and Alien

The feeling that subordinate racial group is intrinsically different and alien is quite similar with the feeling in dominant racial group which believing that

Asian American is not belong to their racial group and it promotes the social exclusion of Asian Americans.

This feeling that often emerge in the part of dominant racial group when they think that the subordinate racial group is not of their kind in any aspects of life and they feel as if it is no problem when the dominant racial group makes fun of the subordinate racial group or to suspect them. In this novel, FBI agent showed this kind of feeling towards Henry and Keiko when the FBI agents arrested Japanese Americans in the Black Elks Club.

The six Japanese patrons were handcuffed and taken to the door, the women sniffing, the men asking "Why?" in English. Henry heard "I'm an American" being shouted as the last one was arrested and taken outside.

"What the heck are we supposed to do with these two?" the agent next to them shouted to a portly man in a dark brown suit. He looked older than the rest.

"What ... do we have here?" The brown-suited man holstered his pistol and removed his hat, rubbing his balding forehead. "A little young for spies, I'd say."

Henry slowly opened his coat, showing his button. "I am Chinese."

"Jeezus, Ray, you collared a couple of Chinks by mistake. They were probably just working the kitchen. Nice job. Good thing you didn't have to rough 'em up, they might have got the best of you." (Ford, 2009)

The conversation between Ray, the FBI agent and his FBI chief shows that Ray as the FBI agent arrested Keiko and Henry because they are Asian American and accused them for being spying. Actually Keiko and Henry are also Americans, but just because they are Americans of Asian decents, the FBI agent can arrest and judge them whatever they want. They also make fun of them by calling the Chinks and assuming that Keiko and Henry are only kitchen helpers.

c. Feeling of Proprietary Claim to Privileges and Advantages

As Blumer (1958) ideas that sense of proprietary claim is a crucial and strong feeling attributed in dominant racial group. In political and legal process, this feeling covers the ownership and claim to certain intimate and private lands or areas. In this novel, this feeling is also shown by Chaz toward Henry.

“My father’s still going to own your girlfriend, Henry,” Chaz muttered as he walked past, just loud enough for Henry to hear.

“What did you say?” Henry grabbed Chaz by the arm and spun him around, a move that surprised both of them

“My father’s still buying up what’s left of Nip-ville, and when your girlfriend gets back from that concentration camp she’s holed up in, she’s not going to have anything to come home to.” He shrugged Henry off and backed away, more pathetic and annoying than menacing. “Then what are you going to do?” (Ford, 2009)

From what Chaz’ saying above to Henry, he indicates that Chaz does not want Japanese Americans come back to settle in their homeland in Japantown after their concentration camp is over. The way Chaz’ father is trying to buy and take over Japanese private place is a feeling on the part of white people who want to claim to a private place of subordinate racial group.

Racial prejudice also begin with the feeling of prior rights to political decision making as in government and law. In this novel, a political decision making is showed by American government, President Roosevelt by signing the Executive Order.

“President Roosevelt just signed Executive Order 9102—which creates the War Relocation Authority. This is in addition to Executive Order 9066—which gives the United States power to designate new military areas.” (Ford, 2009)

The quotation above showing that American government as the most powerful and dominant can make political decision that creates the War Authority which exclude Japanese Americans because they are the subordinate racial group who being accused as the spy of the war. Moreover, this Executive Order 9102 also gives United States power to designate the entire West Coast as a military area.

Further, this Executive Order actually forced Japanese Americans to leave their hometown in Japantown. As the President of the United States wrote in a flyer.

More trucks kept coming, one after another, unloading American soldiers and military police with rifles who began canvassing the neighborhood, nailing small posters to doors, storefronts, and telephone poles. Merchants and customers alike poured out to see the commotion. Henry and the Okabes stepped onto the sidewalk as soldiers walked past, handing out copies of the flyer—"Public Proclamation 1," which was written in English and Japanese. Henry looked at the paper in Keiko's hand. The bold type screamed: INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY. It was all about Japanese families being forced to evacuate, for their own safety. They had only a few days and could bring next to nothing—only what they could carry. At the bottom, it was signed by president of United States and the secretary of war. (Ford, 2009)

There is a feeling in the part of dominant racial group that views Japanese Americans as a different subordinate racial group and is suspected for being spies of war that makes them have to leave their own hometown in Japantown by government force with an argument wrote on the flyer for the own safety. Thus, the one who can make decison making is always the one who is the most powerful and dominant.

To sum up, racial prejudice in political and legal process in this novel appears in the feeling on the part of white people and government views that Asian Americans have lower quality. They also always view alien and intrinsic differences in subordinate racial group. They also think that Asian Americans especially Japanese Americans are the spies of the war. Moreover, the feeling of prior claim of white government eventually forces the Japanese Americans to leave Japantown by creating Executive Order 9102.

3. **Racial Prejudice in Education**

Racial prejudice in educational aspect can occur when the dominant racial group considers that the subordinate racial group have lower quality in education. In this novel, the racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in education aspect includes the feeling of superiority and the feeling that Asian Americans are different and alien.

a. **Feeling of Superiority**

Blumer (1958) argues that the feeling of superiority can be seen in the way dominant racial group frequently disrespect the traits quality of the subordinate racial group. In the aspect of education, racial prejudice is generally happened when the dominant racial group feels that their level of intelligence is way better than the subordinate racial group.

In this novel, the feeling of superiority is shown by the red-haired girl when Henry and Keiko were in the school canteen. White students tease Henry

and Keiko as Asian Americans who were studying in a white school, they consider Henry and Keiko can not speak English.

For thirty minutes they stood side by side, occasionally looking at each other, smirking as they served up extra-large helpings of Mrs. Beatty's rat-scrabble slop to the boys who teased them the most, or the red-haired girl who pulled at the corners of her eyes and made a hideous bucktoothed face.

"Look, they don't even speak English!" she squealed. He and Keiko smiled at each other until the last child was served and all the trays and pans were washed and put away. Then they ate their lunch, together, splitting a can of pears in the storage room. Henry thought the pears tasted especially good that day. (Ford, 2009)

From the expression of the red-haired girl above, when she says that "look, they don't even speak English!" indicates that white people sees Americans with Asian decents are not capable to speak English, which means the dominant racial group consider that Asian Americans are not as smart as them.

The debasing traits towards subordinate racial group, such as stupidity, is commonly shown by the part of dominant racial group of being naturally superior. In this novel is also represented by the teacher in Henry's mathematics class in the Rainer school. She considered Henry cannot speak English, so that she thought that Henry can not understand her subject in the class.

His teacher, Mrs. Walker, who rarely spoke to Henry, didn't stop the inappropriate and off-color remarks. And she never once called him to the blackboard to figure a math problem, thinking he didn't understand English—though his improving grades must have clued her in, a little bit at least. (Ford, 2009)

The quotation shown in this novel clearly shows that white people feel that Asian Americans have low quality intelligence and not capable to speak native language just like the white people.

b. The Feeling that Asian Americans are Different and Alien

In education aspect, racial prejudice emerges with the beliefs that the subordinate racial group are different and alien. Because of they are different and alien, the subordinate racial group usually do not get the same rights in the school, especially white school. Moreover, the dominant racial group prefer to separate their life from the subordinate racial group.

In this novel, racial prejudice in education is also shown by the program of scholarship for Asian Americans. They are allowed to study in a white school by following the scholarship program that requires them to be the kitchen helper in the school cafeteria.

Scholarshipping in the cafeteria meant Henry never made it out to recess. After the last kid had finished, he'd eat some canned peaches in the storage room, alone, surrounded by towering stockpiles of tomato sauce and fruit cocktail. (Ford, 2009)

From the quotation above, Asian American students who wants to study in the white school must following the scholarshiping in cafeteria and there is nothing to do with the academic stuffs. White school gives a different treatments for Asian Americans who study there.

Racial prejudice in educational aspects shown in this novel occured when white people feel that Asian Americans have lower quality of education and intellegence and considers Asian American students can not speak English. In addition, they also think that Asian Americans are alien so that white people have different attitude and treatment towards Asian American students.

B. Racial Prejudice in the Real Social Life of 1940's Seattle

This study also identifies the reflection of the novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford that is occurred in the real social life in Seattle's 1940s using sociological approach of Alan Swingewood.

Alan Swingewood's sociology of literature is an approach that can be used to assess and understand a literary work related to many aspect of social life. In relating with literature and society, Swingewood also suggests three major perspective that the researcher have mentioned in the chapter of literature review above.

The researcher here using the first perspective proposed by Alan Swingewood which looking at literary works as the social reflection in a certain period and place. As Swingewood (1972) said, this perspective refers to literary works as social documentation of many aspect in society. Additionally, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford also depicts racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in Seattle's 1940s which was the height tension of World War II in United States including Greater Seattle.

1. Prejudice in the Economic Life

From the examination of set of data above, it is found that the story of the novel reflects prejudice in a some social structure that happened in Seattle. Racial prejudice in economic aspect which reflects the real condition in United States including areas of Seattle is regarding the jobs qualities and Asian Americans' traits and the opportunities. As seen in the novel, the white characters prejudice Asian Americans as unskilled and passive so that they only deserve low quality

jobs or occupations or status, such as many Asian American became laborer, fisherman, porters, etc. As mentioned in the novel about a Chinese man who worked as a laborer.

The entire city came alive in the morning. Men in fish-stained T-shirts hauled crates of rock cod, and buckets of geoduck clams, half-buried ice. (Ford, 2009)

Likewise, Japanese Americans were also unskilled laborers, recruited for construction or agricultural work (Marger, 2014). In this story, it can be seen that American Americans's jobs opportunities in the novel.

"What kind of work?" Henry wondered, remember all the activities outside.

"Just labor. Either harvesting sugar beets or doing constructio. Plenty of office work for the women too." She sighed as she said it, returning to the pile of papers in front of her. (Ford, 2009)

The expression above, also showing that Asian Americans only have limited jobs opportunities. They are seen as unskilled and passive people so that they end up working as laborer. This phenomenon reflects the condition of Asian Americans in Seattle in 1940s in which Chinese were severely restricted by legal measures used to limit their occupational and residential movement (Marger, 2014).

2. Prejudice in Political and Legal Process

Racial prejudice political and legal process became the highlight in Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. This novel mainly tells about the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Around 120.000 people of Japanese ancestry whom mostly lived on the Pacific/ West Coast were forced into a relocation camps.

This novel captures the conditions in Seattle in 1940s when there was deterioration in the diplomatic relations between the United States and Japan since 1930s. Then President Franklin D. Roosevelt, bowing to public pressure on the West Coast, signed Executive Order 9066, calling for the removal of over 120,000 people of Japanese descent and sent them to internment camps in the name of national security, their civil rights were denied as well. In this novel, Keiko as Japanese American character, experiencing racial prejudices because Japanese Americans were considered as spies. Later, Keiko and all Japanese Americans were forced to leave their hometown Nihonmachi/Japantown and were sent to internment camps.

“President Roosevelt just signed Executive Order 9102—which creates the War Relocation Authority. This is in addition to Executive Order 9066—which gives the United States power to designate new military areas.” (Ford, 2009)

The order for Japanese Americans to leave their hometown was also written in flyer below. They were forced to leave their hometown under the pretext of their own safety.

More trucks kept coming, one after another, unloading American soldiers and military police with rifles who began canvassing the neighborhood, nailing small posters to doors, storefronts, and telephone poles. Merchants and customers alike poured out to see the commotion. Henry and the Okabes stepped onto the sidewalk as soldiers walked past, handing out copies of the flyer—“Public Proclamation 1,” which was written in English and Japanese. Henry looked at the paper in Keiko's hand. The bold type screamed: INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY. It was all about Japanese families being forced to evacuate, for their own safety. They had only a few days and could bring next to nothing—only what they could carry. At the bottom, it was signed by president of United States and the secretary of war. (Ford, 2009)

The quotation above has convincingly proven that the novel reflects the situation in Seattle in 1940s. In this novel, the decision of white government to

give an instruction to all Japanese ancestry to be sent into internment camps indicates there was a white government's suspicion towards Asian Americans that they fears Asian Americans will become spies of the war, considering it was a deterioration in the diplomatic relations between the United States and Japan. Thus, the existence of Japanese Americans in Seattle during World War II become a threat to the white government, however this should not be a rushed act to suspect them of endangering the country.

3. Prejudice in Education

It is quite similar with racial prejudice towards Blacks. The racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in educational aspect in this novel is shown with the beliefs that Asian Americans had lower qualities and intelligences. Many of white parents decided to send their children to segregated school. They thought that their children's youthful impressions may be affected by association with Asian race if they sent their children to desegregated school (Leonard, 1990). In this novel is proven by only a few of Asian American students who attend Rainier Elementary school. Henry and Keiko were only Asian Americans student there, and they had to sholarshipping in the cafeteria if they want to study in this school. It is quite unfair for Asian American students such Henry and Keiko to have inequality treatment to get the same education like other white students. The scholarship program should not require Keiko and Henry to be required to work in the cafeteria but rather something related to education.

Besides, white people consider Asian American students can not speak English. As Chang (2017) said, white people tend to mislabel Asian American

students as “special needs” can occur when the issues are more related to language, poverty, racism, parent involvement, inappropriate support, and other factors. Assuming Asian Americans can’t speak English because it is not a language that they usually use often happen in the school where Henry and Keiko are studying. This common issue also happen in a society where Asian is seen as a minority.

For thirty minutes they stood side by side, occasionally looking at each other, smirking as they served up extra-large helpings of Mrs. Beatty's rat-scrabble slop to the boys who teased them the most, or the red-haired girl who pulled at the corners of her eyes and made a hideous bucktoothed face.

“Look, they don't even speak English!” she squealed. He and Keiko smiled at each other until the last child was served and all the trays and pans were washed and put away. Then they ate their lunch, together, splitting a can of pears in the storage room. Henry thought the pears tasted especially good that day. (Ford, 2009)

It is supported by quotation above that proven that white student in Rainier school considered Henry as Asian American student can not speak English. Henry’s teacher, Mrs. Walkers who always considered Henry as a student who was unable to follow his subjects because she thought he couldn’t speak English. Moreover, as a teacher, Mrs. Walkers did nothing to Henry, even asking if he needed a help.

His teacher, Mrs. Walker, who rarely spoke to Henry, didn't stop the inappropriate and off-color remarks. And she never once called him to the blackboard to figure a math problem, thinking he didn't understad English—though his improving grades must have clued her in, a little bit at least. (Ford, 2009)

The phenomenon above reflects the same issue in the Seattle where white people consider Asian Americans as stupid creatures who have lower intellegence so that they can not sepeak English.

To sum up, the above explanation has proven that white people in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* reject the idea of social equality and always have prejudices towards Asian Americans as subordinate racial group. This phenomena happened in the real society in United States including Seattle in 1940s during the Second World War. It leads to forced relocation and incarceration in interment camp of about 120.000 people of Japanese ancestry, most whom lived on Pasific Coast, including Seattle. Additionally, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized Executive Order 9066 issued on February 19, 1942. The order authorized the War Department to designate military zones where persons of enemy ancestry would be excluded. Also, the goverment's suspicion of Japanese people at that time was very strong that makes Japanese Americans were held in interment camps almost until the end of Second World War (Marger, 2014.)

Moreover, in the novel white people characters tend to prejudice Asian Americans as unskilled and passive that makes them think that Asian Americans deserve low quality jobs, occupations, or status. This shows that most of Japanese immigrants were males who confined to lower status occupational positions. Like the Chinese, they soon came to be seen as a labor threat. Japanese initially worked in many of the same jobs as the Chinese, a large percentage were as laborer and service sector in low-status positions such as restaurant workers, hospital attendants, and hotel workers (Marger, 2014). Thus, the novel of *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford represents the real the racial prejudice

towards Asian Americans in 1940s in area of Seattle in the aspect of economic life, politic and legal process, and education.



CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter sums up the result of the analysis of racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* and the reflection of racial prejudice toward Asian Americans in 1940s' Seattle. The study reveals that racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* happened in three social structure including economic life, politic and legal process, and educational aspect. This study also reveals that the novel reflects the racial prejudice in its social aspects of social structure in United States including Seattle areas in 1940s.

A. Conclusion

The discussion of prejudice in social structure is considered as the first result of racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in the novel can occur in the social structure, including the aspect of economic life, politic and legal process, and education. To achieve this result of the study, this study is supported by the racial prejudice theory by Herbert Blumer. He proposed four basic types of feelings that seem always involve in race prejudice in the part of dominant racial group. They are a feeling of superiority, a feeling that the subordinate race is intrinsically different and alien, a feeling of proprietary claim to certain areas of privilege and advantage, and a fear of suspicion that the subordinate race harbors designs on prerogatives of the dominant race (Blumer, 1958).

In the economic life, racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in this novel can be found on how white people feel and think that they are superior and better than Asian Americans regarding their lower economic quality status. Perceived as unskilled and passive laborers. Asian Americans' job opportunities are also limited. Besides, Asian Americans in this novel, especially Japanese Americans are also considered as aliens and the spies of the war so that white people tend to be anti-japanese and give them different and inequality treatment in the aspect of economic life. In addition, white people also tend to claim certain areas, including Asian American's areas for their own business.

In political and legal process, racial prejudice in Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* can be seen on how white souldiers think that Asian Americans are dishonest and greedy citizen that makes them always being suspected by white people of doing a crime and tend to treat them arbitrarily without respecting their rights as legal citizens. In legal proces aspect, white government also tends to make political decision such Executive Orders 9066 that creates the War Authority which exclude around 120.000 Japanese and Japanese Americans and bring them to internment camps because they are accused as the spy of the war. Moreover, the feeling of being entitled to exclusive rights that always seem to be attributed in white people makes them claim and access to the areas of intimacy of Asian Americans such as taking over the ownership of their land or even their home land.

The third, racial prejudice in educational aspect in this novel can be indicated in the expression of how white school give different treatment for Asian

Americans students, as in the novel Henry and Keiko to follow the cafeteria scholarship if they study in the white school. Henry and Keiko as the Asian Americans students have to be a kitchen helpers in the cafeteria in every school break. Moreover, Asian Americans students are often considered to have lower race qualities and intelligences and it makes them are considered unable to speak English and follow the lessons in the class.

Furthermore, this study also aims to reveal that the novel also reflects the racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in those three social aspects of social structure in Seattle in 1940s. To achieve this, this study applies Blumer's racial prejudice theory and Swingewood's sociology of literature approach as well. As Swingewood (1972) argues, one of the three major perspectives he proposed, one of them refers to literary works as social documentation of many aspect in society. The result of discussion of this study indicates that this novel also reflects the racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in aspect of economic life which is marked by on how white characters prejudice Asian Americans as unskilled and passive laborers, so that they only deserve low quality jobs or occupations or status, such as many Asian American only became laborers, fishermen, porters, etc.

Besides, the novel also reflects racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in the aspect of political and legal process which is shown by the way the novel captures the conditions in Seattle in 1940s when there was deterioration in the diplomatic relations between the United States and Japan since 1930s. Then President Franklin D. Roosevelt, bowing to public pressure on the West Coast,

signed Executive Order 9066, calling for the removal of over 120.000 people of Japanese descent and sent them to internment camps in the name of national security, but their civil rights were denied as well. The last racial prejudice in educational aspect. Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* also depicts the same issue in the Seattle where white people consider Asian Americans as stupid creatures who have lower intelligence and education.

B. Suggestion

Since this study concerns on the discussion of racial prejudice towards Asian Americans, the researcher realizes that discussing about racism issue doesn't just have to be about racism that related to Black. However, racism is also suffered by other people of color. There are several novels out there that highlight racism issues which are experienced by other people of color, such as Asian.

Adittionally, considering that the discussion of racial prejudice towards Asian Americans in this novel is about the matter of group relationship which is quite general, it is suggested to the those who are interested in studying about racism to analyse another notable issues occurred in the society on behalf of racism. Besides, this study concerns on the racial prejudice, further study can be done in analyzing the discrimination or segregation in this novel.

The last to note, it is also important to not ignore any other approaches and theories related to racism or beyond racism issues that can also be applied to this study. For example, this study can be supported by other analysis applying other approaches such as psychological or other criticisms beyond sociological

approaches, or even genetic structuralism as well. Therefore, the analysis using other perspectives of psychological and other studies discussing about human behavior is also interesting.



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CURRICULUM VITAE



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APPENDIX

Research Questions	Aspect	Feeling of Racial Prejudice	Quotation
Aspects of Racial Prejudice	Economic Aspect	Feeling of superiority	<p><i>“One letter—overland carriage, please,” Henry requested, handing over the small envelope with the letter to Keiko he'd written the night before. The skinny girl who normally worked the counter looked to Henry to be about his age—maybe fourteen, with dark hair and rich olive skin. He assumed she was the daughter of the postmaster assigned to Chinatown, helping out her parents in Chinese fashion. “Another letter? This one carriage mail, you say? That's going to get expensive—twelve cents this time.” (Ford, 2009)</i></p>
		Feeling that Asian Americans are Different and Alien	<p><i>Henry and Keiko took the record to the checkout counter. A middle-aged woman with long blond hair pulled back under a clerk's hat kept busy counting change at the register, sorting it into a larger tray. Keiko reached up and set the record on the counter, then opened a small purse and pulled out two dollars—the price of a new record. The blond clerk kept counting. Patiently, Henry and Keiko waited for the clerk to finish counting what was in her till. She made detailed notations of the amounts, writing on a sheet of paper. While he and Keiko waited, another woman came up behind them, holding a small windup wall clock. Henry watched in confusion as the clerk took the clock, over his and Keiko's heads, and rang it up. The clerk took the money and handed the change back,</i></p>

		<p>and the clock, in a large green Rhodes shopping bag. (Ford, 2009)</p> <p>“Is the counter open? Keiko asked. The clerk looked around for another costumer. “Excuse me, ma’am, I’d like to buy this record, please.” Henry becoming more annoyed than the clerk looked—her hip cocked, her jaw set. She leaned down and whispered to them, “Then why don’t you go back to your own neighborhood and buy it?”</p> <p>.....</p> <p>The clerk stood there, her first dug into her hip. “We don’t serve people like you—besides, my husband is off fighting...” “(Ford, 2009)</p>
	Feeling of Proprietary Claim to Privileges and Advantages	<p>“Henry, this is Keiko—she just transferred to Rainier, but she’s from your part of town.” Mrs. Beatty, the lunch lady, seemed to regard this new girl as another piece of kitchen machinery, tossing her an apron, shoving her next to Henry behind the serving counter. “Heck, I bet you two are related, aren’t you?” How many times had he heard that one.</p> <p>Mrs. Beatty wasted no time out a Zippo light, lit a cigeratte one-handed, and wandered off with her lunch. “Call me when you’re all dene,” she said. (Ford, 2009)</p> <p>He looked at Mr. Preston and Chaz, then at his father, and nodded. Go ahead, I’ll translate. I’ll do my best, he thought.</p> <p>“Henry, can you tell your father that I’m trying to buy the vacant lot behind the Nichibei publishing</p>

			<i>company? If we can force the Japanese newspaper out of business, will he approve us to buy that and as well?”(Ford, 2009)</i>
		Fear and Suspicion	<p><i>“Go home, Chaz.” The anger in his voice surprised Henry. He felt the blood drain away from his fists where they clenched the broom handle until his knuckles turned pale.</i></p> <p><i>Chaz spoke softly, a mock gentleness to his voice. “This is my home, this is the United States of America—not the United States of Tokyo. And my dad is probably going to end up owning this whole neighborhood anyway. What are you going to do, take us all on? You think you can beat us all up?”(Ford, 2009)</i></p>
	Political and Legal Process	Feeling of Superiority	<p><i>Henry turned around and walked face-first into soldier, actually two soldier—with army MP on their arms. Their rifles were slung across their shoulders, and each had a long black baton dangling from a short leather strap attached to wrist. One of the soldiers looked down, poking Henry chest with his baton, tapping his button.</i></p> <p><i>Henry dropped the broom handle, which made a wooden, clattering sound on the pavement. “No more looting, kid. I don’t care who you are—beat it.” (Ford, 2009)</i></p>
		Feeling that Asian Americans are Different and Alien	<i>The six Japanese patrons were handcuffed and taken to the door, the women sniffing, the men asking “Why?” in English. Henry heard “I’m an American” being shouted as the last one was arrested and taken</i>

		<p>outside.</p> <p><i>“What the heck are we supposed to do with these two?” the agent next to them shouted to a portly man in a dark brown suit. He looked older than the rest.</i></p> <p><i>“What ... do we have here?” The brown-suited man holstered his pistol and removed his hat, rubbing his balding forehead. “A little young for spies, I’d say.” Henry slowly opened his coat, showing his button. “I am Chinese.”</i></p> <p><i>“Jeezus, Ray, you collared a couple of Chinks by mistake. They were probably just working the kitchen. Nice job. Good thing you didn’t have to rough ‘em up, they might have got the best of you.” (Ford, 2009)</i></p>
	Feeling of Proprietary Claim to Privileges and Advantages	<p><i>“My father’s still going to own your girlfriend, Henry,” Chaz muttered as he walked past, just loud enough for Henry to hear.</i></p> <p><i>“What did you say?” Henry grabbed Chaz by the arm and spun him around, a move that surprised both of them.</i></p> <p><i>“My father’s still buying up what’s left of Nip-ville, and when your girlfriend gets back from that concentration camp she’s holed up in, she’s not going to have anything to come home to.” He shrugged Henry off and backed away, more pathetic and annoying than menacing. “Then what are you going to do?” (Ford, 2009)</i></p> <p><i>“President Roosevelt just signed Executive Order 9102—which creates the War Relocation Authority. This is in addition to Executive Order 9066—which gives the United States power to designate new</i></p>

		<p><i>military areas.” (Ford, 2009)</i></p> <p><i>More trucks kept coming, one after another, unloading American soldiers and military police with rifles who began canvassing the neighborhood, nailing small posters to doors, storefronts, and telephone poles. Merchants and customers alike poured out to see the commotion. Henry and the Okabes stepped onto the sidewalk as soldiers walked past, handing out copies of the flyer—”Public Proclamation 1,” which was written in English and Japanese.</i></p> <p><i>Henry looked at the paper in Keiko’s hand. The bold type</i></p> <p><i>screamed: INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY. It was all about Japanese families being forced to evacuate, for their own safety. They had only a few days and could bring next to nothing—only what they could carry. At the bottom, it was signed by president of United States and the secretary of war. (Ford, 2009)</i></p>
	Education	<p>Feeling of Superiority</p> <p><i>For thirty minutes they stood side by side, occasionally looking at each other, smirking as they served up extra-large helpings of Mrs. Beatty’s rat-scrabble slop to the boys who teased them the most, or the red-haired girl who pulled at the corners of her eyes and made a hideous bucktoothed face.</i></p> <p><i>“Look, they don’t even speak English!” she squealed. He and Keiko smiled at each other until the last child was served and all the trays and pans were washed and put away. Then they ate their lunch, together, splitting a can of pears in the storage room. Henry thought the pears tasted especially good that day.</i></p>

			<p>(Ford, 2009)</p> <p><i>His teacher, Mrs. Walker, who rarely spoke to Henry, didn't stop the inappropriate and off-color remarks. And she never once called him to the blackboard to figure a math problem, thinking he didn't understand English—though his improving grades must have clued her in, a little bit at least. (Ford, 2009)</i></p>
		The Feeling that Asian Americans are Different and Alien	<p><i>Scholarshipping in the cafeteria meant Henry never made it out to recess. After the last kid had finished, he'd eat some canned peaches in the storage room, alone, surrounded by towering stockpiles of tomato sauce and fruit cocktail. (Ford, 2009)</i></p>
The reflection to the racial prejudice of 1940s' Seattle	Racial Prejudice in economic Life		<p><i>Racial prejudice in economic aspect which reflects the real condition in United States including areas of Seattle is regarding the jobs qualities and Asian Americans' traits and the opportunities. As seen in the novel, the white characters prejudice Asian Americans as unskilled and passive so that they only deserve low quality jobs or occupations or status, such as many Asian American became laborer, fisherman, porters, etc</i></p>
	In Political and Legal Process		<p><i>When white government is calling for the removal of over 120,000 people of Japanese descent and sent them to internment camps in the name of national security, their civil rights were denied as well. The Executive Order 9066 were forced Japanese including Keiko and her family to leave their hometown Nihonmachi/Japantown and were sent to internment camps. This reflects the condition in Seattle in 1940s</i></p>

		<i>when there was deterioration in the diplomatic relations between the United States and Japan since 1930s.</i>
	In Educational Aspect	<i>When the white people prejudice towards Asian Americans that they have lower intelligence and can not speak English. It reflects the real condition that white people tend to mislabel Asian American students as “special needs” can occur when the issues are more related to language, poverty, racism, parent involvement, inappropriate support, and other factors (Chang, 2017).</i>