

**THE SOCIAL ACTION OF STARR CARTEN IN *THE HATE U  
GIVE* BY ANGIE THOMAS**

**THESIS**

By:

**Khafidaturrafi'ah**

NIM 19320062



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG  
2023**

**THE SOCIAL ACTION OF STARR CARTEN IN *THE HATE U***

***GIVE BY ANGIE THOMAS***

**THESIS**

Presented to  
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the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.)

By:  
Khafidaturrafi'ah  
NIM 19320062

Advisor:  
**Dr. Hj. Istiadah, M.A.**  
NIP 196703131992032002



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG  
2023**

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I state that the thesis entitled "The Social Action of Starr Carten in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas" is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person except those cited as references and registered in the bibliography. As a result, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person responsible for that.

Malang, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The researcher



Khafidaturrafi'ah

NIM 19320062

## APPROVAL SHEET

It is to certify that Khafidaturrafi'ah's thesis entitled **The Social Action of Starr Carten in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas** has been approved for thesis examination at the Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, as one of the requirements for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.).

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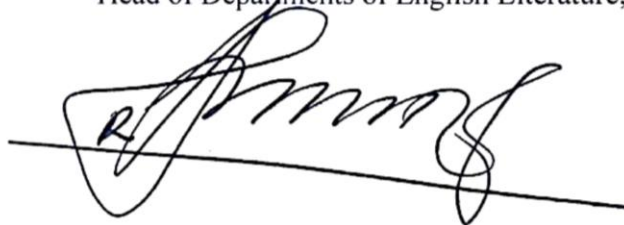
Approved by

Advisor,

Head of Departments of English Literature,



Dr. Hj. Istiadah, M.A.  
NIP 196703131992032002



Ribut Wahyudi, M.Ed., Ph.D.  
NIP 198112052011011007

Acknowledged by,  
Dean,



Dr. M. Faisol, M.Ag.  
NIP 197411012003121004

## LEGITIMATION SHEET

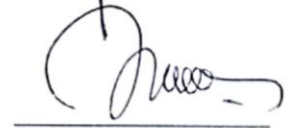
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Malang, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Board of Examiners

1. Dr. Syamsudin, M. Hum.  
NIP 196911222006041001 (Chair)
2. Dr. Hj. Istiadah, M.A.  
NIP 196703131992032002 (First Examiner)
3. Dr. Mundi Rahayu, M. Hum.  
NIP 196802262006042001 (Second Examiner)

Signatures



Approved by

Dean of Faculty of Humanities



## MOTTO

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): مَنْ أَرْضَى وَالِدَيْهِ فَقَدْ أَرْضَى اللَّهَ وَ مَنْ أَسَخَطَ وَالِدَيْهِ فَقَدْ أَسَخَطَ اللَّهَ

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him and his family) said: “One who pleases his parents has verily pleased Allah, and one who has angered his parents has verily angered Allah.”

(Kanzul `Ummal, Volume 16, Page 470)

## **DEDICATION**

I am glad to dedicate this simple research to:

Myself,

The love of my life, Ibu Siti Nurrahmah and Bapak Faisal,

And my happiness, Yasser, Bayu, Nazar, and Naira.

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without a doubt. Furthermore, to the entire family and all my friends whom I cannot mention one by one, thank you for your support and advice while I am working on my thesis.

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Finally, with great unpretentious, the researcher conveys that this thesis might still have many shortcomings even though it has been maximally made. Therefore, the researcher always expects suggestions and feedback for future development. Prayers of the researcher; hopefully, this thesis can be helpful in the development of literary science, Aamiin.

The Researcher,

Khafidaturrafi'ah

## ABSTRACT

**Khafidaturrafi'ah** (2023) *The Social Action of Starr Carten in The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas*. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor Dr. Hj. Istiadah, MA.

*Keywords: Sociology of Max Weber, Social Actions*

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Taking action is crucial to achieving our goals. A number of actions can be taken to achieve that. There will be rational or even irrational actions. The purpose of this study is to describe the social action form of the main character, Starr Carten in the novel *The Hate U Give* according to Max Weber's Social Action Theory and how she achieves her purposes based on the social action theory. Also, the impacts of her social actions on her surroundings. This study uses a sociological approach with the theory of social action by Max Weber using data sources from a novel entitled *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. The methodology used is the literary criticism method. Then, the data is collected by reading and noting the relevant data with the theory and research problems. The results obtained from this study are (1) the four types of social action found in Starr Carten's character, which are instrumentally rational actions, value-rational actions, affectual actions, and traditional actions. (2) Starr Carten used social action to achieve her purposes, which are by using her instrumentally rational action that becomes her traditional action for being accepted by her friends and by using her instrumentally rational action and affectual action to help herself and Khalil, and (3) The impact of Starr Carten's social action is when everyone uses their voice to defend themselves and change their neighborhood.

## مختلص البحث

**خفيدة الرفاعة. (2023). العمل الاجتماعي لستار كارتن في رواية "الكراهية التي تعطيها" لأنجي توماس.**  
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إن اتخاذ الإجراءات أمر ضروري لتحقيق أهدافنا. لذلك، يمكن القيام بإجراءات مختلفة. ستكون هناك إجراءات عقلانية أو حتى غير عقلانية. الغرض من هذه الدراسة هو وصف شكل الفعل الاجتماعي لرواية ستار كارتن "الكراهية التي تعطيها" وفقا لنظرية العمل الاجتماعي لماكس فيبر وكيف حقق أهدافه بناء على نظرية الفعل الاجتماعي. أيضا، تأثير الإجراءات الاجتماعية لستار كارتن. تستخدم هذه الدراسة منهجا اجتماعيا مع نظرية الفعل الاجتماعي لماكس فيبر باستخدام مصادر بيانات من رواية بعنوان "الكراهية التي تعبر عنها" لأنجي توماس. الطريقة المستخدمة هي النقد الأدبي. بعد ذلك، يتم جمع البيانات عن طريق قراءة وتسجيل البيانات ذات الصلة بالمشكلة النظرية والبحثية. النتائج التي تم الحصول عليها من هذه الدراسة هي (1) الأنواع الأربعة من العمل الاجتماعي الموجودة في شخصية ستار كارتن ، وهي الإجراءات العقلانية الفعالة ، والإجراءات العقلانية القيمة ، والإجراءات العاطفية ، والإجراءات التقليدية. (2) استخدمت ستار كارتن الفعل الاجتماعي لتحقيق أغراضها ، وهي باستخدام عملها العقلاني الذرائعي الذي يصبح عملها التقليدي لقبولها من قبل أصدقائها واستخدام عملها العقلاني الأداةي وعملها العاطفي لمساعدة نفسها وخلق ، و (3) تأثير العمل الاجتماعي لستار كارتن هو عندما يستخدم الجميع صوتهم للدفاع عن أنفسهم وتغيير حياتهم.

## ABSTRAK

**Khafidaturrafi'ah** (2023). *Aksi Sosial Starr Carten dalam The Hate U Give oleh Angie Thomas*. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor Dr. Hj. Istiadah, MA.

*Kata Kunci: Sosiologi Max Weber, Tindakan Sosial*

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Mengambil tindakan sangat penting untuk mencapai tujuan kita. Untuk itu, berbagai tindakan bisa dilakukan. Akan ada tindakan rasional atau bahkan irasional. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan bentuk aksi sosial tokoh Starr Carten novel *The Hate U Give* menurut teori Aksi Sosial Max Weber dan bagaimana dia mencapai tujuannya berdasarkan teori aksi sosial. Juga, dampak dari aksi sosial Starr Carten. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan sosiologi dengan teori tindakan sosial oleh Max Weber dengan menggunakan sumber data dari novel berjudul *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. Metode yang digunakan ialah kritik sastra. Kemudian, data dikumpulkan dengan membaca dan mencatat data yang relevan dengan teori dan masalah penelitian. Hasil yang diperoleh dari penelitian ini adalah (1) empat jenis tindakan sosial yang terdapat dalam karakter Starr Carten, yaitu tindakan rasional instrumental, tindakan rasional nilai, tindakan afektif, dan tindakan tradisional, (2) Starr Carten menggunakan tindakan sosial untuk mencapai tujuannya, antara lain dengan menggunakan tindakan rasional intrumental yang menjadi tindakan tradisional yang bertujuan agar diterima oleh teman-temannya dan dengan menggunakan tindakan rasional intrumental dan tindakan afektif untuk menolong dirinya dan Khalil, dan (3) Dampak aksi sosial Starr Carten adalah ketika semua orang menggunakan suaranya untuk membela diri mereka dan mengubah lingkungan mereka.

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter will discuss the background of the study, problems of the study, the significant of the study, scope and limitations, and definition of the key terms.

#### **A. Background of The Study**

Being social creatures, humans need to develop relationships with others constantly. This connection makes it extremely simple for others to influence one's actions. It comes from our close circle of family, friends, and community (Durkheim, 1984). Moreover, humans take everything into account when acting to fulfill their purposes. In taking action, humans could think rationally or even irrationally. Every human action also has a specific motive and set of purposes that should be achieved (Alvarez, 2017). Moreover, humans will take all kinds of actions to achieve it. Therefore, humans take everything into account when acting to fulfill their purposes.

Taking action to fulfill its purposes carried out by humans is reflected in literary works. Literary works frequently reflect a social reality that takes place in society. Through imagination, emotion, and intuition, literary works frequently depict human challenges in predicting their destiny (Suaka, 2014). One of the numerous literary works that depict social reality is a novel. The novel describes the tale of a wide diversity of human life depicted in a narrative where the character should deal with a wide range of issues. The characters in the narrative will engage in various acts (Triani, Zuldahita & Jamelda, 2019).

One novel that describes how the characters take various actions to achieve purposes is *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. *The Hate U Give* was published in 2017 by Angie Thomas. *The Hate U Give* is set in the fictional city Garden Heights, a neighborhood in the southern United States, and set in the 2010s. Starr Carten is a sixteen-year-old black girl who lives between two different societies. Starr has a friend named Khalil. The problem in this novel begins with Khalil being shot by the police, which Starr saw firsthand. Khalil did not get justice for his death just because Khalil was black. Starr took various actions to ensure that her fight for her and Khalil was successful. Starr's actions are classified as social actions since Starr's actions are classified as social actions since Starr's actions have motives based on her interpretation of her society's situation and all of Starr's actions are directed at other people, being accepted by her school friends, helping her, and getting justice for Khalil. In some of the actions taken by Starr, it was the resistance she did for what she got. Starr uses her social action as resistance, to get justice for Khalil, since oppressed people often use resistance to reclaim their rights. And using her social action Starr performs resistance in many creative ways, because of the consequence of her acts is having to consider (Rahayu, Mediyansyah, Zuhro, 2020).

Social action is a social reality that exists in society and literary works. Max Weber defined social action as an individual action usually conducted toward others that consider everything with its meaning to achieve a specific goal or purpose. Social action can be seen in the behavior of characters in literary works by taking actions that are able to influence other characters to achieve a



final goal (Pancari & Renggani, 2021). This can be seen in the novel *The Hate U Give*, where Starr, the main character, does various actions to fulfill her purposes.

Several literary works have been analyzed using Max Weber's Social Action. This theory's application is predicated on the idea that every literary work has characters. First, Pratama (2022) examines the social action of the main characters in *A Man of the People* by Chinua Achebe, second Kusumohastuti (2020) also examines the characters' social action in Jessica Shattuck's *The Women in The Castle*. Next, article journals examine social action in different literary works, such as Sardehi (2021), who examines social action in Akbar Radi's "Staircase" play. And Widodo & Sudikan (2019) examine social action in *Alkudus* by Asef Saeful Anwar. Significant differences can be seen between the objects used in the previous studies that have been mentioned, also the second problem of the studies. Previous studies used the same theory and research analysis to identify the types of social actions the main character did. The last journal is by Winata, Florentinus & Utomo (2019), which analyzed the social action from music performance, *Tongkling*. The research shows an additional aspect of social action through performing art.

Next, as an object in this research, *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas has been studied by several researchers with various results. First, researched by Yunitri, Rajeg, and Maharani (2019) with the results obtained, Wellek and Warren's five extrinsic components—biography, psychology, society, ideas, and other types of art—were confirmed. The author acknowledged that the extrinsic components influenced the novel's creation. Second, Ananda and Al-Hafizh

(2020) analyze structural racism in the novel, and structural racism can be found in the media and institutions. Dewi, Swetasurya, and Natawiria (2021) also researched racism in this novel and found that the racism in this novel is modern racialism and anti-black issues. Next is a journal article by Lubis and Satria (2021) in their research showing the impacts of the hierarchy of needs on the characters in *The Hate U Give*, namely physiological, safety, love/belonging, esteem, and self-actualization. Furthermore, the last article journal is by Naji and Abbas (2022); according to their research, lexicalization and polarization occur most frequently in this novel, although metaphor does not, pointing to a process of self-society conflict.

The research above found that none of the researchers analyzed how Angie Thomas' *The Hate U Give* applies Max Weber's social action theory. Therefore, this research will analyze the main character's social action, Starr Carten. Concerning the analysis of Angie Thomas's, *The Hate U Give*, this research will fill the knowledge gap and give new knowledge to literary criticism. The focus of this research is to analyze the social action done by Starr Carten. Continue by discussing how Starr Carten uses her social actions to further her purposes and the impact of those acts. Due to this, research is conducted to determine how social actions are used and their impact on someone's life. Therefore, this research uses Max Weber's social action theory to analyze Starr Carten's actions.

## **B. Research Question**

From the background of the research described above, the researcher formulates several problems with the research, including:

1. What does Starr Carter perform in forms of social action in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas?
2. How does Starr Carten use her social actions to achieve her purposes in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas?
3. What is the impact of Starr Carter's social action in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas?

### **C. Significance of The Study**

This research is expected to be useful for readers in both theoretical and practical aspects. Theoretically, this research is expected to increase our understanding of literary criticism, mainly how Max Weber's theory of social action is used to analyze literary works. For individuals who conduct research using the same theory, this study is intended to provide a thorough knowledge of social action theory in the sociology of literature. Moreover, this study will add to and inform the public about the research of Angie Thomas's *The Hate U Give*.

### **D. Scope and Limitations**

To maintain on topic, the researcher is required to have a scope and limitations. Therefore, this research focuses only on analyzing the social action of Starr Carten as a main character in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas.

### **E. Definitions of Key Terms**

Social Action : Meaningful behavior are motivated based on their interpretations of social situations and the meanings they attach to those

situations and that is directed toward others (Drew, 2023; Weber, 1949).

**Instrumentally Rational Action** : Using assumptions about how individuals and other environmental elements would behave as "conditions" or "means" to further the actor's own rationally pursued and calculated goals (Weber, 1968).

**Value-Rational Action** : Action based on a consciously held conviction that a particular ethnic, artistic, religious, or behavior is worthwhile for one's own sake, regardless of the likelihood that it will be successful (Weber, 1968).

**Affectual Action** : Particularly emotional action is influenced by the actor's specific affects and emotional states (Weber, 1968).

**Traditional Action** : Behavior based on ingrained habit (Weber, 1968).

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

This chapter will discuss the literature related to sociological approaches and social action. The definition of the sociology of literature is explained first—next, the explanation of Max Weber's social action theory, which is categorized into four types.

#### **A. Sociology of Literature**

Literature is a cultural system representing the human mind that represents its collectivity in the social life of society. Literature is a cultural artifact that often reflects human emotions and thoughts in written form to represent social beings. Literature is a cultural product expressing the emotions and thoughts humans experience in response to the influence of fantasy and imagination. Literature, therefore, is a cultural product that describes the community's social activities represented by the characters in a specific setting and time. Literature has a unique relationship with social and cultural systems in society and society as a sociological study.

Sociology is a discipline about people's lives whose objects of study include social facts, social definitions, and social behavior that show the relationship of social interactions in a society (Kurniawan, 2012). The sociological approach concerns the individual and their interactions with society more than cultural, economic, or political factors. The sociological approach is a type of sociological criticism that examines literature about the political, social, and cultural contexts in which it is created or acquired. Sociology and literature

cannot be separated because, in literary works, various social issues and even human nature are portrayed.

Sociology has a place in literature since social reality consists of most of reality. Numerous literary works that address the theme of life include those that represent both nature and the subjective experience of humans, demonstrating how sociology is a part of literature. According to Wellek and Warren (2014), literature is a social institution founded on language in which traditional literary characteristics like symbolism are social. This is so because literature is a custom and a standard in society. This could be used to understand how literature and sociology relate to traditions, symbols, myths, literary genres, and social norms. Sociology appears as a literary criticism. The sociology of literature is a literary approach that considers people and society, academic institutions, and social processes objectively and scientifically (Faruk, 2017).

Sociology of literature can be defined as (1) understanding literary works where the social aspect becomes the center point in the study; (2) understanding everything in literary works, including the characters portrayed in them; (3) understanding the literary works and the relationship between the literary works and the society that gave rise to the works of literature; and (4) the dialectical relationship between literary works and society (Kurniawan, 2012).

According to the sociology of literature approach, literature should function similarly to other aspects of culture. Since literature is a part of society and cannot be separated from it, it must be returned directly to the community

owner. Additionally, according to Ma'ruf and Nugani (2017), literary works are seen in the sociology of literature as socio-cultural documents that reflect the socio-cultural realities of a society at a specific time. Sociology literature focuses on the relationship between humans and society by considering social aspects (Suaka, 2014). Wellek and Warren (1989) said that, in general, literary studies with sociology are divided into three: the sociology of the author, the sociology of literary works, and the sociology of the reader.

1. Sociology of the author is a sociological study of literature that focuses on the author as the source of the emergence of literary works—the sociology of the author concerning the author's profession and social background.
2. Sociology of literary works refers to objectives, themes, and other components of literary works related to the literary work connected to social issues.
3. Sociology of the reader focuses on the connection between readers and literary works is the sociology of the reader.

As one approach to analyzing literary works, sociology can refer to ways of understanding literature by considering social aspects. This model approach understands literature through a cross between literature and sociology. Therefore, a researcher needs to be an expert in sociology and social data to apply the sociology of literature approach.

Semi (1993) mentions several concepts and criteria for the sociology of literature approach.

1. The sociological approach initially viewed literature as a mirror of history, economic development and technology, and history and class.
2. They analyze the character of the main character of the story's intrinsic elements (protagonist). Characters forged by the community and created out of conflict within the community are highly prized.
3. Literary works are the most effective media to motivate people to struggle to win the interests of the minority group, the bourgeoisie, and the rulers.
4. A literary analysis should aim broadly at the analysis of authorship. It also analyzes the society described in the literary work and the public's response to the literary work.

The concepts of the sociology of literature have provided the possibility to understand literary works as one of the symptoms of life well. Literary works, in the end, are not only the result of empty reflection; more than that, literary works show the social situation of an era. The sociology of literature concentrates on issues that affect humans. As a result, literature can be viewed as a mirror of the life of its reader or society. However, this does not imply that all social structures and conditions can be accurately reflected in literary works; on the contrary, literature could show or reflect a picture of the issues that exist in society from the perspective of a specific setting. Since it is simpler to locate the necessary sources as a reference to determine the relationship between the issues of literary works and the problems in society, the sociology of literature plays a more significant part in literary studies.



## **B. Social Action Theory by Max Weber**

Social action theory is a theory that attempts to examine people's actions and the underlying reason for those actions. Max Weber (1881–1961) is the most well-known sociologist linked with social action theory. Weber argued that people are not passive actors moving through this life. Weber defined action as meaningful behavior and social action as action, that is, behavior that is directed toward others (Weber, 1949). To Weber, it is imperative that we understand the motivations behind a person's actions. It was his belief that individuals are motivated to act based on their interpretations of social situations and the meanings they attach to those situations. The subjective reality of individuals is significantly more important to social action theory than the influence of social institutions on an individual's identity (Ekstrom, 1992). This viewpoint is micro-sociological as opposed to macro-sociological. Nevertheless, Weber was still cognizant that everyone's interpretations and the meanings they ascribe to things are influenced by the social norms, values, and cultural beliefs of the society in which they live (Drew, 2023).

Weber further explained that social action, which encompasses both failure and passive acquisition, may be oriented to the past, present, or expected future behavior of others. The social action behavior's subjective attitude must focus on how others behave. Max Weber found that individuals act in non-rational behavior in various contexts and that not all social action has a rational dimension. An individual's action toward an inanimate object is not considered social action. Only some actions a person takes can be categorized as social actions. Only when

an action is carried out with consideration for and orientation behavior of others (Weber, 1968).

As crucial as Durkheim's solidarity, Marx's class conflict, Comte's intellectual stage, and Sorokin's cultural mentality, Weber chose rationality as his central focus (Johnson, 1986). According to Max Weber, rationality is the fundamental idea behind the four types of social action. The construction of a rational action has the advantages of being easily understandable and devoid of ambiguity (Weber, 1968). Every action will return to the central point of social action (always with specific goals and reasons) and take appropriate action with tools or techniques considering the likely outcomes. According to Johnson (1986), Weber's classification among the several categories of social action is based on the fundamental idea of rationality. The difference between rational and irrational actions is the major one made. Max Weber (1968) identified four different categories of social action. These are as follows:

### **1. Instrumentally Rational Action**

According to Max Weber's (1968) theory, when the purpose, the methods, and the secondary results are all rationally considered and weighed., the action is instrumentally rational. This involves rationally considering alternative strategies for achieving the goal, the relationships between the goal and its secondary consequences, and the relative importance of different possible ends. Instrumental rational action is the term used to describe additional strategies or strategies that are more effective at accomplishing goals. Other strategies or strategies that are more effective at achieving the goals are referred to as rational instrumental

action. (Weber, 2009). Therefore, this is a social action that a person engages in based on conscious considerations and decisions relating to the action's goal and the available resources required to achieve it. An example of this social action is when a public figure assists underprivileged individuals in obtaining votes in general elections. Also, a businessman enters the world of politics to develop his business.

## **2. Value-Rational Action**

Value-rational orientation is an action that results from a conscious belief in a specific value, whether religious, aesthetic, ethical, or another type of value (Weber, 1968). Pure value-rational orientation is exemplified by a person acting under their convictions about what they perceive to be required by duty, honor, a religious call, personal loyalty, or another value they believe in. Furthermore, according to Max Weber, value-oriented conduct is any behavior based on considering values. (Raho, 2021). Therefore, value rational action has the nature that the existing tools are only conscious considerations and calculations, while the goals have something to do with absolute individual values. An example of value rational action is when an activist supports a person subjected to discrimination based on moral principles. Also, when a soldier gives his life to defend the nation, his actions are not intended to achieve any material goal, like wealth. It is done for the sake of honor and patriotism.

## **3. Affectual Action**

According to Max Weber (1968), this action results from the actor's emotional state and specific effects. Consist of an uncontrollable response to a

specific stimulus. Effectively motivating action that manifests as the conscious release of emotional tension is a case of sublimation. This indicates that one, the other, or both forms of rationalization are well-advanced. These feelings or emotions include frustration, anger, fear, joy, and even love. Raho (2021) elaborated on this activity and classified it as non-rational since it is driven mainly by sentiments without giving it any thought. Therefore, this action is characterized by reflection by the predominance of unconscious feelings, emotions, or conscious planning. Their emotional state of mind influences the kind of action an actor takes. For example, a girl being teased on a bus can become so upset that she slaps the teaser. She reacted violently because she was so severely provoked. Instead, then being motivated by a goal or set of values, the action, in this case, is determined by the actor's emotional reaction to a particular set of circumstances.

#### **4. Traditional Action**

Traditional action results from ingrained habits. Because behavior is frequently guided by an almost instinctive response to habitual stimuli that leads to a course that has been followed repeatedly (Weber, 1968). Individual decisions based on habits or traditions passed down from generation to generation are considered acts of traditional rationality (Damsar, 2010). The process and goals are no longer considered; a condition or tradition passed down from generation to generation is considered. These actions are carried out without consent. When someone has to follow the existing tradition, even though it is considered unreasonable, some still believe and do it. Also, when someone brings gifts when visiting someone's house because tradition tells him to do so.

According to Weber, all the types of social action within a society cannot be separated from the social structure. If the community creates a national institution and the society functions rationally, the community is said to be rational (Weber, 2009). Social actions are all human actions connected to the extent to which an individual acts in a way that upholds his moral principles and influences the behavior of others. Social action is divided into actions focused on the now, the past, and the future. It could be either an individual or a group, depending on the aims of the social action.

The application of social action theory by Max Weber can be found in various aspects, especially in literature. In its application, Max Weber's social action theory has been used to analyze various literary works, such as novels, plays, films, drama scripts, and others. Literature has been interpreted in a variety of ways, including as a type of social action, a consequence or reflection of social action, an ideal model of the ideal kind of social action, and a genuine opposition to or means of transcending any merely social action (Winter, 1980). Researchers typically concentrate on the main characters in literary works while conducting analysis. In order to demonstrate thought activity and decision-making, the research linked activities in the form of actions, words, and figures with social actions. In this case, all kinds of social actions are used to analyze the characters' character and how the characters' actions in literary works affect other characters and impact the people and society in literary works to achieve something. Therefore, literary works could be analyzed using Max Weber's social action theory.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODS**

This chapter contains information about the research design, data sources, data collection, and data analysis used in the study.

#### **A. Research Design**

The design of this research is literary criticism. Literary criticism analyzes, interprets, and evaluates a literary work (Peck & Coyle, 1984). Literary criticism applies to any work identified as a text, that is because literary criticism interrelated between the writer, the text, and the reader (Quilligan, 1992). Literary criticism focuses its analysis by reading and interpreting a literary work and elaborating it with the concept of sociology of literature (Damono, 1979). This research uses a sociology of literature approach to examine Starr Carten's social action in Angie Thomas' novel *The Hate U Give* using Max Weber's theory of social action.

#### **B. Data Source**

Angie Thomas' novel *The Hate U Give*, released on February 28, 2017, by the HarperCollins imprint Balzer + Bray, served as the research's data source. It is 444 pages long and divided into 26 chapters. The researcher will use the data indicating the four social action categories in Starr Carten's character. About the research problem, the researcher analyzes this novel using sentences, words, and dialogues.

### **C. Data Collection**

This study's researchers used several steps to collect the data. The first step is to read *The Hate U Give* and understand its story. The researchers then reread the novel and classified the types of social actions it contained, underlining any data related to the theory being used. Then quote selected sentences from the novel.

### **D. Data Analysis**

The researcher uses the sociology of literature method in the data analysis technique to analyze Starr Charter. The researcher categorized the data using Max Weber's Social Action Theory. The researcher first classified Starr Carten's social action into four categories by Max Weber's theory of social action: instrumentally rational, value-rational orientation, affectual action, and traditional action. Then, the researcher interprets the data that has been obtained, also the researcher analysed the impact of Starr Carten's social action. Furthermore, at the last step, the researcher concluded.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter, the researcher describes the result of the research and discussion of the novel *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas by using social action theory by Max Weber. The researcher divided this chapter into three parts according to the research questions. The first section describes the types of social action Starr Carten does in *The Hate U Give*, the second section describes how Starr Carten uses her social actions to achieve her purpose, and the last section determines the impact of Starr Carten's social actions.

#### **A. Starr Carten's Forms of Social Action**

Social action has a subjective meaning and is oriented to how other people behave (Weber, 1968). Weber bases his classification of different types of social action on the fundamental idea of rationality (Weber, 2006). Four categories of social action are instrumentally rational action, value-rational orientation action, affectual action, and traditional action.

##### **1. Instrumentally Rational Action**

Instrumentally rational action is based on conscious considerations and decisions connected to the action's goal and the accessibility of the tools needed to complete it. This action is rational, effective, and efficient (Webber, 1968).

The first instrumentally rational action is when Starr wants to show Kenya that she can attend Big D's spring break party; that is the first action that serves a purpose. It shows in following datum.



**Datum 1:**

*Kenya begged me to come to this party for weeks. I knew I'd be uncomfortable as hell, but every time I told Kenya no, she said I act like I'm "too good for a Garden party." I got tired of hearing that shit and decided to prove her wrong. (p.17)*

In the datum above, it is explained that Starr wanted to prove that she could attend Big D's spring break party, even though she knew she would not feel comfortable at the party. Starr simply wanted to show Kenya that she was not too good for a Garden Party.

In datum 1 is explain that Starr has a clear goal or purpose, as Weber argues that instrumentally rational action is based on conscious considerations and decisions connected to the action's goal (Weber, 1968), in datum 1 it is very clear that Starr has a goal to attend Big D's spring break party, to prove to Kenya that Kenya that she was not too good for a Garden Party. And to go to Big D's spring break party Starr had to persuade her parents to allow her to join Kenya at Big D's spring break party, it can be seen in datum 2:

**Datum 2:**

*The problem is it would've taken Black Jesus to convince my parents to let me come. (p.17)*

In datum 2 shows that Starr uses Black Jesus as an excuse so she can go to Big D's spring break party. Starr uses Black Jesus because by carrying the name Black Jesus, her parent will give her permission to go to Big D's spring break party. Using Black Jesus as an excuse for Starr's action is an instrumentally rational action where there is the accessibility of the tool needed to complete the goals (Weber, 1968). Starr uses Black Jesus as a tool or an instrument to achieve her goal, which is go to the party.

Starr's action that she did to go to the party was rational, in asking her parents for permission because she had considered a strategy to join Kenya to the party. Starr used "Black Jesus" to get her parents' permission to leave. Since Starr's actions were taken logically and she took use of her parents' belief in Black Jesus to get permission, it can be said to be an instrumentally rational action, because Starr's action was rational, effective, and efficient (Webber, 1968). Starr's actions were taken logically, how Starr used her parents' trust in Black Jesus so that she would get permission. And Starr's actions serve as a method of achieving her purpose or goal, which is going to the Big D's spring break party. Therefore, Starr's action was categorized as an instrumentally rational action because it aimed to get to the Party and have a rational action to achieve it.

The second instrumentally rational action is reflected when Starr created a new blog for Khalil on her Tumblr. After receiving a verbal slap from Kenya, Starr took this action. Kenya claimed that Starr did nothing for Khalil, but she thought that the Khalil she knows would have come on TV right away to explain what had happened that evening if it meant standing up for the people he cares about. As a result, Starr created a blog to help Khalil get justice. It can be seen through the following datum:

**Datum 3:**

*I started a new blog—The Khalil I Know. It doesn't have my name on it, just pictures of Khalil. (p.221)*

According to the quotation above, Starr created a blog to post pictures about Khalil. On her blog, Starr not only posted pictures but also captioned the pictures. Starr did this to convince people that Khalil was a thung and stuff they

are saying about him on the news. And in just two hours, hundreds of people have liked and reblogged the pictures about Khalil in Starr's blog. Starr knows it's not the same as getting on the news like Kenya said, but Starr hopes it helps. At least it helped her with what she felt about Khalil.

This shows that in the datum 3 Starr's action is instrumentally rational action. Starr used the blog as an instrument to achieve her goal, as stated by Weber that instrumentally rational action is based on conscious considerations and decisions connected to the action's goal and the accessibility of the tools needed to complete it (Weber, 1968). Starr created the blog with the consideration that this blog could help her to change people's bad opinions about Khalil. And using blog as an instrument is an effective strategy to achieve goals owned by Starr, this proves again that Starr's action that created a blog is instrumentally rational action, because an effective strategy to achieve goals is referred to as rational instrumental action. (Weber, 2009). Therefore, this action includes in instrumentally rational action because Starr creates a bog with a consideration there used it as a tool to achieve her goal, which is change people's opinion about Khalil.

The third instrumentally rational action is described by Starr's action to take an opportunity from the interview Miss O'frah offered her. Starr will interview one of the national news programs on Diane Carey's Friday Night Special with Mrs. Carey as an interviewer. For this interview Starr prepared, as in the following datum.

**Datum 4:**

*It's true. Ms. Ofrah prepared me for this interview every day after school. Some days we finished early, and I helped out around Just Us for Justice. (p.301)*

In the quotation above shows that Starr prepared diligently and thoroughly to prepare for her interview with Mrs. Carey. Every time she came home from school, Starr would meet Mrs. Ofrah to prepare herself for the interview. Of course, this is done so that Starr can carry out the interview without difficulty and achieve the goal she wants to achieve, which is to get justice for Khalil.

Therefore, datum 4 is an instrumentally rational action for Starr to get justice for Khalil. Because of the rationally considered method (Weber, 1968), how Starr had prepared for the interview she was about to do. The preparations carried out indicate that Starr has a strategy prepared for achieving her purposes. This proves that Starr has considered what she will do later at the interview, therefore Starr's action includes instrumentally rational action.

In addition to the preparation for the interview during the interview, Starr also used her instrumentally rational action. When she tells Mrs. Carey about the reason why Khalil is selling drugs, it can be seen in the following datum.

**Datum 5:**

*I glance at Ms. Ofrah, and she shakes her head. During all our prep meetings, she advised me not to go into details about Khalil selling drugs. She said the public doesn't have to know about that.*

*But then I look at the camera, suddenly aware that millions of people will watch this in a few days. King may be one of them. Although his threat is loud in my head, it's not nearly as loud as what Kenya said that day in the store.*

*Khalil would defend me. I should defend him.*

*So I gear up to throw a punch.*

*"Khalil's mom is a drug addict," I tell Mrs. Carey. "Anybody who knew him knew how much that bothered him and how much he hated drugs. He only sold them to help her out of a situation with the biggest drug dealer and gang leader in the neighborhood. (p.306)*

In datum 5 shows that Starr told Mrs. Carey that Khalil was selling drugs because his mother's life was in danger. While explaining the reason why Khalil sold drugs, Starr also mentioned "the biggest drug dealer and gang leader in the neighborhood". This was Starr's way of proving that Khalil was not as reported in the media.

Starr's action in datum 5 includes in instrumentally rational action. As Weber argues, instrumentally rational action is based on conscious considerations and decisions connected to the action's goal (Weber, 1968). Starr has rationally considered her statement when explaining about Khalil's reasons for selling drugs, here Starr focuses on the goals she wants to achieve, she wants millions of people who will watch this interview in a few days to know the truth about Khalil. And with the mention "the biggest drug dealer and gang leader in the neighborhood" Starr had thought about the consequences about what King would do about it, which is the consequences has already rationally considered (Weber, 1968) by Starr, but she did as a strategy to achieve her goals. These actions include instrumentally rational actions because Starr used the interview as a condition and means for the attainment of her own rationally pursued and calculated ends.

The fourth instrumentally rational action can be found when Starr does not tell all her friends at Williamson School that she is a witness to Khalil's death. This can be seen in the following datum 6.

**Datum 6:**

*The drug dealer. That's how they see him. It doesn't matter that he's suspected of doing it. "Drug dealer" is louder than "suspected" ever will be. If it's revealed that I was in the car, what will that make me? The thug ghetto girl with the drug dealer? What will my teachers think about me? My friends? The whole fucking world, possibly?*

“I—”

*I close my eyes. Khalil stares at the sky.*

*“Mind your business, Starr,” he says.*

*I swallow and whisper, “I don’t know that Khalil.” (p.124)*

In the quotation above, Starr chose to lie to Hailey and Maya. Because they see Khalil as a "drug dealer". Starr thought about how they would react when they found out that she was in the car with Khalil. The thung ghetto girl with the drug dealer is a bad combination for Starr. Therefore, she chose to lie, this shows that considered about secondary consequences (Weber, 1968) about what will happened if she told Hailey and Maya about the truth. Starr thought about the purpose, method and the secondary result all think rationally considered and weighed (Weber 1968). How did Starr choose to lie so that she would not be associated with Khalil, and they would not call her a ghetto girl. Starr’s action is oriented in her purpose or goal that is being accepted by her friends. Starr also did this to Christ, as the following datum shows.

#### **Datum 7:**

*I still don’t know if I’m betraying who I am by dating Chris, but I’ve missed him so much it hurts. Momma thinks coming to Uncle Carlos’s house is normal, but Chris is the kind of normal I really want. The normal where I don’t have to choose which Starr to be. The normal where nobody tells you how sorry they are or talks about “Khalil the drug dealer.” Just . . . normal.*

*That’s why I can’t tell Chris I’m the witness. (p.178)*

In the quotation above explains that Starr did not tell Christ that she is the witness because she can only feel normal when she is with Christ. She does not have to choose which Starr to be. And when with Christ no one says how sorry they are or talks about Khalil. That's why Starr chose not to tell Khalil the truth. Starr's decision to lie to Christ occurs because of rational decision-making (Drew, 2023). How did Starr think about what consequences she would receive when she was honest with Christ. This shows that Starr's action is instrumentally rational

action because this action that Starr takes in order to pursue her own goals (Weber, 1968) which is still accepted by Christ, and she can still feel the normal feeling of underarms with Christ.

Therefore, Starr's action that she lied to Hailey, Maya and Christ is include in instrumentally rational action. Because the decision that Starr made was again considering what she would receive, so she thought about it rationally, she chose to lie as an effective strategy for achieving her purpose. The instrumentally rational action taken by Starr because Starr did it based on conscious considerations and decisions directed at Hailey, Maya, and Christ as her friends at Williamson. Moreover, it aims to keep her accepted by them.

And the last instrumentally rational action was when Starr was at Williamson School. When she was at Williamson School Starr needed to switch into Williamson Starr. It is reflected in datum 8:

**Datum 8:**

*I just have to be normal Starr at normal Williamson and have a normal day. That means flipping the switch in my brain so I'm Williamson Starr. Williamson Starr doesn't use slang—if a rapper would say it, she doesn't say it, even if her white friends do. Slang makes them cool. Slang makes her "hood." Williamson Starr holds her tongue when people piss her off so nobody will think she's the "angry black girl." Williamson Starr is approachable. No stank-eyes, side-eyes, none of that. Williamson Starr is nonconfrontational. Basically, Williamson Starr doesn't give anyone a reason to call her ghetto (p.80)*

In the quotation above shows that Starr did several specific acts when she was in Williamson School. All this action was taken by Starr to have a normal day in Williamson, so she became Williamson Starr. All these actions were taken to prevent her from being referred to as a ghetto simply because she was black. The actions were taken by Starr when interacting with her friends at Williamson School were carried out based on the purposes, she wants to achieve, which is

anyone does not have a reason to call her ghetto and get accepted by her friends in Williamson School.

All the action that is done by Starr is based on her conscious considerations and decisions. This is included in instrumentally rational action as argued by Weber that the actions are rationally considered, and decisions connected to the action's goal (Weber, 1968). How Starr thinks about the actions she should take when interacting with her friends in Williamson School, she performs her actions by considering the response that her friends will give. So, she chose not to do what black girls usually do or ghetto do. It is an efficient strategy that Starr has done to achieve her purpose that having a normal day in Williamson, and anyone has reason to call her ghetto. All the actions taken by Starr are oriented toward the behavior of others (Weber, 1968) because Starr focuses on her friend's response to her action. All her actions are oriented to the absolute goals since she acts for a certain purpose, which is to be accepted by people as black people, and everyone does not think that she is a ghetto. As a result, Starr's action is instrumentally rational since she considers all the actions and has a purpose of avoiding being called a ghetto also was accepted by others.

## **2. Value-Rational Action**

Value-rational orientation action is when human action is motivated by fulfilling unconditional demands. In this action, the tools are only conscious objects of consideration and calculation; the goals already exist about absolute individual values (Weber, 1968).



First value-rational action is when Starr is questioned about what happened the night Khalil was killed by Detective Gomez during the interview at the police station. As the following quotation shows, Starr's mother, told her to look at Gomez's eyes as she spoke, as can be seen in datum 1:

**Datum 1:**

*Momma rubs my back. "Look up, Starr."*

*My parents have this thing where they never want me or my brothers to talk to somebody without looking them in their eyes. They claim that a person's eyes say more than their mouth, and that it goes both ways—if we look someone in their eyes and mean what we say, they should have little reason to doubt us.*

*I look at Gomez.*

*"Khalil pulled over to the side of the road and turned the ignition off," I say.*

*"One-Fifteen put his brights on. He approached the window and asked Khalil for his license and registration." (p.108)*

According to the quotation above, Starr's mother told her to look Detective Gomez in the eye. And Starr did, by looking Gomez in the eye, Starr tries to demonstrate that her statement is credible, and that Gomez has no cause to question it. Starr did so because she remembered what her parents had taught her about looking into someone's eyes when speaking because they claimed that a person's eyes say more than their mouth, and that it goes both ways.

This action includes in value rational action because this action is a result from a conscious belief in a specific value, whether religious, aesthetic, ethical, or another type of value (Weber, 1968). This act represents the values that her parents taught her, she acts on what she has learned. The actions taken by Starr are motivated by the values that she believes, about what her parents taught her. This action also shows that Starr action is motivated by fulfilling unconditional demands (Weber, 1968). How Starr followed what her mother told her to look Detective Gomez in the eye. Because, in her opinion what her parents taught her are "demands" to her and she has to follow it. This shows that the action taken by

Starr was carried out by its clearly self-conscious formulation of the ultimate value governing her action, that's why it is included in value rational action.

Another value rational action is when Starr and her mom get off the freeway; a police roadblock meets them. Starr prayed to the god she believed in, Black Jesus, because of the fear that she was feeling at the time. It can be seen in datum 2:

**Datum 2:**

*The seconds drag by like hours. The officer asks Momma for her ID and proof of insurance, and I beg Black Jesus to get us home, hoping there won't be a gunshot as she searches through her purse. (p.179)*

The quote above shows that when the officer asked Starr's mother about her ID and proof of insurance, Starr begged Black Jesus for her protection for Starr and her mother. Starr didn't want what happened to Khalil to happen to them again. Starr believes Black Jesus is a protector of her and her mother against harmful things like what Starr imagines.

Therefore, in datum 2 shows that Starr represents the religion value that she believed. How Starr begs Black Jesus who is the god believed by black people in the novel *The Hate U Give*, black people regard Black Jesus as their god. So, this shows that Starr's actions are the result of a conscious belief in a specific value, which is religious value (Weber, 1968). Starr begs to Black Jesus to protect her and her mother. Therefore, this action shows that Starr's action includes in value rational action because this action implies based on considering the value which she applied and believed, which is her religion.

### 3. Affectual Action

Affectual action is a human's spontaneous, less rational, and emotional expression. The dominance of human feelings or emotions during this behavior is defined by the absence of any conscious logical thought or planning (Weber, 1968). The lack of logical reasoning, ideology, or other rationality standards renders the act completely irrational (Johnson, 1986).

The first affectual action is when Starr wants to discover Khalil's condition after seeing Officer One-Fifteen shoot him. This can be seen in datum 1:

#### **Datum 1:**

*Instinct says don't move, but everything else says check on Khalil. I jump out the Impala and rush around to the other side. Khalil stares at the sky as if he hopes to see God. His mouth is open like he wants to scream. I scream loud enough for the both of us. (p.31)*

In the quotation above, Starr examines the condition of Khalil, who has fallen because he was shot by the police. Starr kept checking on him when her instincts told her not to. After seeing Khalil's bad condition, and like he wants to scream. She screamed loud enough for both of them.

The action taken by Starr is clearly an affectual action. Weber defines affectual action as the dominance of human feelings or emotions during this behavior is defined by the absence of any conscious logical thought or planning (Weber, 1968). Starr's move to check on Khalil's condition was made impulsively, without any thought, and under the influence of her emotions. Her emotion is fear of what will happen to Khalil. Starr's response to what happened to Khalil was an uncontrollable response to a specific stimulus (Weber, 1968). Since Starr and Khalil are great friends, Starr hopes that Khalil will be fine, as, in this quote, Starr says, "No, no, no," (p. 31). She rejected the worst-case scenario

after police shot Khalil. This is an uncontrollable response made by Starr to a specific stimulus, which is her fear. Therefore, the act is included in affectual action.

The second affectual action was seen when Starr dropped the ball and left the basketball game going on in the gym. This basketball game is where some of the girls challenged some of the boys to a game of basketball to pass the time before class started. Starr and Hailey played together on the same team in that game. And during the game, Starr is shocked about what Hailey said to her. It can be seen in the following quotation shows Starr's effectual action:

**Datum 2:**

*“Dammit, Starr!” Hailey yells, recovering the ball. She passes it to me. “Hustle! Pretend the ball is some fried chicken. Bet you’ll stay on it then.”*

*What.*

*The.*

*Actual.*

*Fuck?*

*The world surges forward without me. I hold the ball and stare at Hailey as she jogs away, blue streaked hair bouncing behind her.*

*I can’t believe she said . . . She couldn’t have. No way.*

*The ball falls out my hands. I walk off the court. I’m breathing hard, and my eyes burn. (p.122)*

Based on the quotation above, Starr was shocked by what Hailey said. She could not believe that Hailey would say that to her. So, she leaves the game and wants to cry, marked by the fact that she is breathing hard, and her eyes burning. Starr's action was influenced by her emotions. Starr believes that Hailey is being racist against her by referring to the ball as some fried chicken. Starr acted impulsively by quitting the game because she felt Hailey had insulted her.

Affectual action results from the actor's emotional state, the dominance of human feelings or emotions during this behavior is defined by the absence of any conscious logical thought or planning (Weber, 1968). Starr's actions in datum 2

are dominated by the anger she feels towards Hailey. The feeling of anger that Starr feels is included in affectual action. Starr's action is non-rational since it is driven mainly by sentiments without giving it any thought (Raho, 2021). Hence this action is done by the predominance of her anger towards Hailey, so this action falls under the category of emotional action because it.

The third affectual action is when Starr and her mom get off the freeway; a police roadblock meets them. She figured the police would act the same way they had with Khalil. This can be seen in datum 3:

**Datum 3:**

*I grab my door handle. They can easily grab their guns and leave us like Khalil. All the blood in our bodies pooling on the street for everybody to see. Our mouths wide open. Our eyes staring at the sky, searching for God. "Hey." Momma cups my cheek. "Hey, look at me." I try to, but my eyes are filled with tears. I'm so sick of being this damn weak. Khalil may have lost his life, but I lost something too, and it pisses me off. (p.179)*

The quotation above shows that Starr grabs her door handle because she and her mother meet a police roadblock. When she saw the police, Starr had imagined bad things that would happen to her and her mother. Starr feared that the police would shoot her and her mother, just like they had done to Khalil the night he was killed by the police.

In datum 3 her emotions dictated her actions. This action was done by Starr because of her fear, her emotions were controlling her, this shows that this action is an affectual action. Human feelings dominate actions (Weber, 1968). Starr's actions are based on her feelings without intellectual reflection or conscious planning (Damsar, 2010). Starr felt she was too weak to be afraid of the police, but she could not help it. Starr's emotional state affected the actions that

she took. Therefore, the action is included in affectual action because her emotions take control of her actions.

The fourth affectual action occurs when Starr's feelings of sadness take control. It happened when Mrs. Carey interviewed her. It shows in datum 4:

**Datum 4:**

*I'm ugly crying, describing the moment when the shots rang out and Khalil looked at me for the last time; how I held him in the street and saw his eyes glisten over. I tell her One-Fifteen pointed his gun at me. (p.307)*

The quotation above shows how Starr cried while she is describing the moment Khalil was being shot. Starr recounted what happened the night of the Khalil shooting to Mrs. Carey. When explaining it, feelings of sadness start to dominate. She remembers every detail that happened that night, and it makes her cry.

Starr's action is dominated by the emotion of sadness that she felt. This action is an affectual action because it occurs spontaneously because of the sad feelings felt by the actor (Weber, 1968), which is Starr. Starr cried only because she told her what happened to Khalil that night. Her emotional state of mind influences the action that she takes, that is why she cried.

The fifth affectual action is when Starr hears of the jury's verdict in Khalil's case. Moreover, the jury's verdict was not fair to Starr. Consequently, Starr decided to join the chaos that was going on. It can be seen in the datum 5 below:

**Datum 5:**

*Anything. Everything. Scream. Cry. Puke. Hit somebody. Burn something. Throw something.  
They gave me the hate, and now I wanna fuck everybody, even if I'm not sure how.*

*"I wanna do something," I say. "Protest, riot, I don't care—" (p. 411)*

The quote above shows Starr's reaction to the disappointment of the jury's decision against Khalil. The jury ruled that the policeman who shot Khalil was innocent, leaving Starr with an irregular emotional turmoil. Starr felt an uncontrollable response to the consequences of the injustice experienced by Khalil. This uncontrollable response is in the form of Starr wanting to do anything to vent the hatred and anger she feels.

This action is an affectual action filled with the emotions felt by Starr. Affectual action is a human's spontaneous, less rational, and emotional expression. The dominance of human feelings or emotions during this behavior is defined by the absence of any conscious logical thought or planning (Weber, 1968). The lack of logical reasoning, ideology, or other rationality standards renders the act completely irrational (Johnson, 1968). How Starr wanted to vent the disappointment and anger she felt for what happened to Khalil. Starr was unable to think rationally due to the emotions she felt. Her emotion takes control of her action. As a result of the emotions that overcame her, Starr joined the crowd with other black people in action. Protest the injustice they perceive. In her protest action, Starr tells everyone about what really happened to Khalil. This can be seen in datum 6:

**Datum 6:**

*"My name is Starr. I'm the one who saw what happened to Khalil," I say into the bullhorn. "And it wasn't right." (p. 435)*

In the quotation above, Starr introduces herself to the crowd and says that she was a witness who was with Khalil at the time Khalil was shot by police,

killing him. Starr also said that what has been reported by people or the media so far is not true. Starr did this all because of the disappointment and anger she felt.

This action is characterized by reflection by the predominance of unconscious feelings and there is not the absence of any conscious logical thought or planning (Weber, 1968). How emotions Starr felt controlled her action. And Starr initially has no idea what to say in carrying out her speech act. Starr had not planned the speaking act at all. She did so due to the anger and disappointment she felt, as well as the encouragement of the people in the crowd. Starr's action was an emotional action since she considered this action non-rationally considered by Starr. This action is under the control of her emotions. Starr's emotional state of mind influences all her actions she takes. Starr just wanted to let everyone know what happened, without thinking about the consequences of her actions.

Therefore, as it was previously stated, Starr's anger was a result of the unfairness she perceived. Starr's anger makes it abundantly evident that her action was affectual action. Starr's action is based on the emotions of anger that she has and uses to communicate the unfairness she perceived, especially disappointment in the jury's verdicts.

#### **4. Traditional Action**

Traditional actions indicate irrational actions since they depend on habit rather than conscious thought or planning. When habitual stimulation triggers an almost automatic reaction, behavior tends to follow a pattern that has been followed repeatedly (Webber, 1968).



The traditional action Starr is when one of Starr's best friends, Hailey, is frequently permitted to do anything she pleases to Starr. This can be seen in datum 1:

**Datum 1:**

*I let her have her way a lot. Still do. That is part of being Williamson Starr, I guess. (p.85)*

The quotation above shows that following Hailey's words and commands has become part of Williamson Starr. Whatever Hailey tells her to do will still be done by Starr. What Hailey did to Starr was included in symbolic violence where she did everything she wanted to Starr, where Hailey's attitude was often considered an unconscious or 'implicit' action, she does it repeatedly to Starr (Mundi, 2021). But Starr still did it. And Starr consistently repeats this action. She did what Hailey told her to do. This is done to keep Hailey as her friend. She gave Hailey complete freedom. And this action is part of Williamson Starr.

This action is included in traditional action because it is frequently guided by an almost instinctive response to habitual stimuli that leads to a course that has been followed repeatedly (Weber, 1968). Starr's habit of following what Hailey says has become an ingrained habit because Starr did not realize she was doing it because she was accustomed to doing all the action that parts of Williamson Starr, even though it is symbolic violence. All those actions have already become Starr's everyday actions that are habitually repeated. And this is done in the absence of conscious thought or planning (Weber, 1968), this action depends on Starr's habit, that is why is included in traditional action. And this is irrational action since it depends on habit rather than conscious thought or planning. When habitual

stimulation triggers an almost automatic reaction, behavior tends to follow a pattern that has been followed repeatedly (Webber, 1968). The pattern carried out by Starr is done repeatedly.

Another traditional action that Starr does is when she changes her voice while speaking to other people. It can be seen in the following datum:

**Datum 2:**

*“Hello.” My voice is changing already. It always happens around “other” people, whether I’m at Williamson or not. I don’t talk like me or sound like me. I choose every word carefully and make sure I pronounce them well. I can never, ever let anyone think I’m ghetto. (p.105)*

From the quotation above, it is undoubtedly clear that Starr purposely changed her voice or way of interaction to avoid giving the impression that she is a ghetto. This always happened, like when she interacted with her white friends at the Williamson School, therefore, changes in the voice or way of interaction possessed by Starr automatically change when she interacts with other people.

Traditional action is very often a matter of almost automatic reaction to habitual stimuli which guide behaviour in a course which has been repeatedly followed (Weber, 1968). Starr always uses it while interacting with white people and those actions are an automatic response taken by Starr. Habitual stimuli perceived by Starr leads to a course that has been followed repeatedly, which is changing her voice even choose every word carefully and make sure she pronounces them well. Starr has mastered those actions; it can be seen in the following datum.

**Datum 3:**

*God. Being two different people is so exhausting. I’ve taught myself to speak with two different voices and only say certain things around certain people. I’ve mastered it. (p.320)*

According to the quote above, Starr was very used to changing her voice and only saying certain things around certain people and she is becoming an expert. This action is also part of Williamson Starr. It has been an automatic respond to Starr. Since habitual stimulation triggers an almost automatic reaction, behavior tends to follow a pattern that has been followed repeatedly (Webber, 1968). Starr used to do it and it has become an ingrained habit that Starr had. Because she did it repeatedly according to the pattern she used to do.

Therefore, all those actions have become an ingrained habit that will automatically appear when interacting with others, predominantly white people. This can prove that all of Starr's actions which are automatic reactions are included in the traditional action category because Starr's conduct is frequently dictated by almost automatic responses to habitual stimuli that lead in directions that have been repeatedly followed.

### **B. How Starr Carten Achieves Her Purposes Based on Her Social Actions**

Social action, which includes both failure or act and passive acquiescence, may be oriented to the past, present, or expected future behavior of others. Thus, it may be motivated by revenge for a past attack, defense against the present, or measures of defense against future aggression. The "others" may be individual's persons and may be entirely unknown as individuals (Weber, 1968).

Thus, the social action carried out by Starr in *The Hate U Give* has two different motives which are also oriented to the different behavior of others. And the motives possessed by Starr are influenced by the results of her interpretation of the social situation that occurs in her society (Drew, 2023). The conflict that

occurs in her society also influences Starr's motives, the conflict could be a dispute of opinion or even violence, in this novel the conflict occurs due to different races, ethnicity and colors of skin (Dewi & Rahayu, 2020). Starr's motives include, first, how did Starr take actions that were oriented towards her friends at Williamson, even other people outside the Williamson School, and this was done by Starr as a defense against the present, where she wanted to be accepted by everyone and not be considered as a ghetto. And the second are actions motivated by revenge for a past attack, namely the Khalil shooting incident, where Khalil did not get justice. Starr felt guilty for what happened to Khalil, and she thought that she was responsible for the incident, which made her want to fight against those who caused Khalil not to get justice. And Starr's actions were also motivated by measures of defense against future aggression, she does not want anyone else to experience something like Khalil. Therefore, in the novel Starr has two purposes that she wants to achieve, namely being accepted by other people and justice for Khalil and herself. Therefore, Starr performs actions that are oriented towards others and set on her motives. And in this part, the research will discuss how the social actions that have been done by Starr Carten which have been explained in the previous analysis part were used to achieve her purposes.

### **1. By Using Her Instrumentally Rational Action That Becomes Her Traditional Action for Being Accepted**

Starr is a young black girl who comes from Garden Heights and attends Williamson School. Garden Heights is an area where black people live and is

well-known for being a drug- and gang-infested area. Moreover, Williamson School is a school for white students and is located 45 minutes away from Garden Heights. Williamson School and Garden Heights are significantly different. Living in a neighborhood like Garden Heights left Starr afraid to be seen as different at Williamson School, let alone being considered a ghetto. Starr wanted to be accepted by her friends at Williamson School. Therefore, Starr used her social actions as defense against the present (Weber, 1968), which is when she is in Williamson School.

The first social action used by Starr as a defense against the present is her instrumentally rational action. Starr did some specific acts when she was at Williamson School, these specific acts she addressed to her friends. This was done by Starr with the motive to be accepted and not considered a ghetto. All these acts performed by Starr were behavior-oriented with her friends at Williamson School. It is reflected in datum 1:

**Datum 1:**

*I just have to be normal Starr at normal Williamson and have a normal day. That means flipping the switch in my brain so I'm Williamson Starr. Williamson Starr doesn't use slang—if a rapper would say it, she doesn't say it, even if her white friends do. Slang makes them cool. Slang makes her "hood." Williamson Starr holds her tongue when people piss her off so nobody will think she's the "angry black girl." Williamson Starr is approachable. No stank-eyes, side-eyes, none of that. Williamson Starr is nonconfrontational. Basically, Williamson Starr doesn't give anyone a reason to call her ghetto (p.80)*

In the quotation above, it is explained what Starr as specific acts did when he was at Williamson School. All these actions are the most efficient way to be accepted by her friends and not be considered a ghetto. And all those acts include in instrumentally rational action, since it rational, effective, and efficient (Webber, 1968) to do by Starr. These actions are based on conscious considerations and

decisions connected to the action's goal (Weber, 1968) that to ensure that Starr could go about her normal day at Williamson, these actions were taken. The actions taken by Starr can be said to be acts of switching her personality, how Starr's personality changed when she was at Williamson School. Starr's motive is very clear that all of Starr's switching personality actions are oriented towards the actions of her friends at Williamson School.

Starr has established the habit of switching her personality with her friends at Williamson School. As Starr was used to doing it, it came so naturally to her. Like when she changed her voice when interacting with other people, especially her friends at Williamson School. It can be seen in datum 2:

**Datum 2:**

*God. Being two different people is so exhausting. I've taught myself to speak with two different voices and only say certain things around certain people. I've mastered it. (p.320)*

According to the quote above, Starr has mastered her different actions when interacting with other people, especially her Williamson School friends. And those different actions include in the act of switching personalities that Starr carried out had become accustomed to because it was done so often. What was originally the most effective and rational way of being accepted became the actions she had mastered. Because it has become an automatic reaction when interacting with friends at school. That is why its included in its traditional action. The act of switching personality that was carried out by Starr was a defense that she made and considered her friend's behavior, whether she was accepted by her friends at Williamson School.

Therefore, the switching personality action carried out by Starr is an instrumentally rational action that develops into a traditional action, with the aim of being accepted by her friends at Williamson. Starr did all of those actions to defend against present, defending when she was at Williamson School where there were many white children attending school. Social action that used by Starr is oriented to the behavior of others (Weber, 1968), since all actions performed by Starr are oriented towards the behavior or response she received or expected from her friends at Williamson School. And Starr succeeded in using her instrumentally rational action that became her traditional action to achieve her purpose.

## **2. By Using Her Instrumentally Rational Action and Affectual Action to Help Herself and Khalil**

In the novel *The Hate U Give*, Starr has a best friend named Khalil. Khalil has been Starr's best friend since she was a baby. Starr and Khalil spent their childhood together. It was nevertheless unfortunate that Starr had to see Khalil die when the police shot him, just as she had seen Natasha, another childhood friend, die after being shot. Starr feels obligated to tell the public about Khalil's death because she is closely related to him. Therefore, she used her instrumentally rational action and affectual action to help herself and Khalil.

Starr's first action to help herself and ensure Khalil receives justice is to change the public's opinion of Khalil. The opinion of Khalil in society is that he is a drug dealer, and because of a statement made by the One-Fifteen father who said that Khalil was dangerous, Khalil was speeding, Khalil cursing his son out, and that made Khalil's image got worse. Therefore, Starr took an instrumental action

in the form of creating a blog that contains memories about Khalil, which can be seen in datum 1:

**Datum 1:**

*I started a new blog—The Khalil I Know. It doesn't have my name on it, just pictures of Khalil. (p.221)*

In the quotation above shows that Starr created a blog and posted pictures of Khalil to the blog. Starr started this blog with the belief that it would assist people in altering their negative perceptions of Khalil. This action serves a specific purpose and considers other users' responses (Weber, 1968) to Starr's blog. Starr started the blog to change people's perceptions about Khalil. Along with trying to help Khalil, Starr also helps herself at least. Helping Starr from feeling guilty and considering herself a coward after seeing what the police did to Starr's father and Khalil. She used the blog as an instrument is an effective strategy to achieve the goals that are owned (Weber, 1968) by Starr. Along with pictures, Starr captioned each picture, which can be seen in datum 2:

**Datum 2:**

*On Tumblr, I captioned the picture: "The Khalil I know was afraid of animals." I tagged it with his name. One person liked it and reblogged it. Then another and another. (p.220)*

In the datum above explain that Starr captioned each picture of Khalil in the blog she created. The blog containing Starr's words about Khalil received positive feedback from hundreds of people. Starr used the blog as an instrument for talking about Khalil and spreading his story to the world. Other people also posted about Khalil, uploaded artwork, and posted pictures of him that they show on the news. Starr captioned each picture of Khalil with consideration and focused



on her goals (Weber, 1968). Therefore, her words in the blog are an instrument that Star used to help herself and Khalil.

Another instrumentally rational action Starr took after the blog she created was revealing the truth to the District Attorney and an interview in one of the national news programs on Diane Carey's Friday Night Special with Mrs. Carey as an interviewer, which can be seen in datum 3:

**Datum 3:**

*I can't go into a lot of details—Ms. O'frah told me not to—but I tell her we did everything OneFifteen asked and never once cussed at him like his father claims. (p.307)*

During the interview, Starr carefully considered the statements she would give in response to each question from Mrs. Carey. She used her voice to fight for herself and Khalil. Starr reveals everything she can about Khalil to refute what the father of One-Fifteen, the police who shot Khalil, said about Khalil. Starr irrevocably changed Khalil's perception by instrumentally rational action that she had. She conducts all interviews with full consideration and focuses on the purpose she wants to achieve (Weber, 1968), to help herself and Khalil by clearing Khalil's name and getting justice for Khalil.

Starr also used affectual action to further her purposes. Starr took this action because her prior actions to accomplish her purpose failed. When Starr took the affectual action, she was angry over the injustice done to Khalil. The emotion of anger controlled the actor's action (Weber, 1968), which is what Starr has done. She yelled and followed the crowd to protest any injustice she felt. The anger felt by Starr was not only fueled by the injustice and sense of failure but also because Starr felt she had already done everything right, and it did not make a

difference. Starr has gotten death threats, cops harassed her father, somebody shot into her house, and all the problems she got.

Starr's affectual action also leads Starr to retell what happened the night of Khalil's death. Starr revealed the incident, which had been hidden from the public until this moment, in front of a crowd and even a line of police. It shows in datum 4:

**Datum 4:**

*"My name is Starr. I'm the one who saw what happened to Khalil," I say into the bullhorn. "And it wasn't right." (p.435)*

In the datum above shows that Starr told everyone the truth. Starr's emotions control this action, since this action is her affectual action, which is the action is a reflection by the predominance of unconscious feelings and there is not the absence of any conscious logical thought or planning (Weber, 1968). Starr says that everything she did was a form of defense for Khalil. Starr used her voice, to tell the truth. She even claimed that the real criminal, not Khalil, was Officer Cruise or One-Fifteen. She said without any planning, acting on her feelings. All this social action has a motive (Weber, 1968). This social action has been done by Starr is motivated by revenge for a past attack, where Khalil was shot by the police. Khalil didn't get justice at all. And this social action also Starr motivated by measures of defense against future aggression, she does not want anyone else to experience something like Khalil.

The social actions taken by Starr have a motive, since social action motivated by revenge for a past attack, defence against present, or measures of defence against future aggression (Weber, 1968). That is to help herself and

Khalil. Starr felt responsible for Khalil's death. Starr believes that only her voice can defend Khalil. Her voice is Khalil's voice. Starr fights for justice by using her words and voice. Starr made sure that all her actions were directed toward her purposes by considering the responses she received from others regarding Khalil's death case. Initially, Starr's purpose was solely to help herself and Khalil by letting everyone know that Khalil is innocent and that he is not as some people claim. However, this purpose evolved into upholding justice for black people and changing the existing system. Starr's purposes broaden due to her problems, mainly how black people are treated differently and how frequently they are denied justice. Complete freedom, justice, and equality for black people. Therefore, Starr's purposes make her oriented toward the success she will get by using her social actions.

### **C. The Impact of Starr Carten's Social Action**

According to Weber social action means action-oriented to the behavior of other individuals. In the social action theory, the actor is not just a passive part of a larger social structure. The actor is seen as an active member and shaper of society. Social action describes how human conduct behaves, how it affects other people's behavior, and how it might turn into a social movement where it is no longer an isolated behavior but a part of the whole community, relationship, or society (Ospinia, 2021). Social action theory acknowledges individual agency and motivations for change and impact on society. It allows for large-scale structural change. Social action theory is an individual action that is directed or has meaning

to another individual, or it can be said to be an individual action that has an impact on other individuals (Agevall & Swedberg, 2016, p. 313).

One of the actions that include social actions that change society is in his famous book *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, Weber highlighted the example of the Calvinist denomination within the Protestant religion. He noted that Calvinists used their work ethic and individualistic values which are included in social action to promote capitalism, and social change in Western Europe in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Therefore, in this part, the researcher discusses the impact of Starr's social action on social change in her society in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas.

Starr's social action has an impact on other individuals, and how she uses her voice to achieve her purposes. Starr's affectual action influences the actions of those around her to do the same as what Starr did, using their voices to change their lives. The impact of Starr's social action can be seen in the following quotation:

**Datum 1:**

*Mr. Lewis starts to charge at King, and an officer has to hold him back. "I ain't crazy! You did start it! Everybody know it!" (p.448)*

In the datum above, Mr. Lewis dared to tell everyone, especially the police, that the cause of the fire that broke out at the shops in Garden Heights was King's doing. No one dared to blame King for the fire incident. Mr. Lewis reported the fire to the police and claimed King was responsible for starting the fire, and Maverick confirmed it.

Datum 1 indicates that Starr's affectual action which is used her voice to help herself and Khalil influence others action. Social action theory is an individual action that has an impact on other individuals (Agevall & Swedberg, 2016, p. 313). Starr's affectual action had such an impact on Mr. Lewis that he dared to tell King to the police. This was done as a form of their resistance to King. Not only Mr. Lewis but Maverick did it too, it can be seen in datum 2:

**Datum 2:**

*"He ain't lying. King did start it, Officer." (p.449)*

In the quote above Maverick snitched about what King was doing. Maverick confirms that King set fire to the stores. This shows that Maverick got an impact from what Starr did, namely using her voice to get change. Starr mentions the neighborhood's biggest drug dealer and gang leader during an interview with Mrs. Carey on Diane Carey's Friday Night Special, one of the national news programs. So that makes Maverick do what Starr did. And for the actions taken by Maverick, making everyone admit it that King burned the shops, it can be seen in the datum 3:

**Datum 3:**

*"I saw him," Mr. Reuben says. "He did it."*

*"I saw him too," Tim says.*

*"So did I," Ms. Yvette adds.*

*And shit, now the crowd is echoing the same thing, pointing at King and his boys. I mean, everybody's snitching. The rules no fucking longer apply. (p.449)*

In the datum 3 shows that everyone in Garden Heights snitching about King. They told the police the truth. Snitching made by everyone made King finally respond to by the police. They no longer follow the rules in Garden Heights. Where no one can tell the police about King. Their snitch is a step

towards changing life at Garden Heights. Changing Garden Heights to be better than it was by getting rid of the drugs dealers and gangs.

In this case, Starr can be called an actor who changes society, an active member and shaper of society (Ospinia, 2021). Where Starr's affectual can make people change the situation in Garden Heights. So that Starr's social action which is uses her voice to defend herself affects other people's behavior, and the actions turn into a movement that is carried out by everyone in Garden Heights as a social movement to change their society.

Therefore, Starr's social actions that she did have impacted people in Garden Heights. They snitched about the crime committed by King so that the police ultimately caught King as a result. This change can also be seen from DeVante who wants to be a witness for King's crimes. It can be seen in datum 4:

**Datum 4:**

*DeVante nods for a moment. "Then I guess I will turn witness." (p.454)*

DeVante wants to give information concerning King's drug possession. As someone who had worked for King, DeVante wanted to betray King by revealing the location of King's drug stash. DeVante was inspired by what Starr had previously done and wanted to do it, too, to become a snitch. It is reflected in datum 5:

**Datum 5:**

*"Yeah. After seeing you face those cops like you did, I don't know, man. That did something to me," he says. "And that lady said our voices are weapons. I should use mine, right?" (p.456)*

From the quotation above, DeVante intends to use his voice as a weapon to fight against King, like Starr using her voice to get justice for Khalil. Starr's social action in the form of instrumentally rational action impacts those around

her. How Starr's actions caused everyone to fight against King and caused changes to her surroundings and how it impacted her environment changes, Garden Heights.

Social action describes how human conduct behaves, how it affects other people's behavior, and how it might turn into a social movement where it is no longer an isolated behavior but a part of the whole community, relationship, or society (Ospinia, 2021). Starr social action affects people in Garden Heights, and the impact of Starr's social action makes everyone in Garden Heights snitch about King, and it is a social movement, that changes Garden Heights. As an active part of society, Starr's social action motivates people in Garden Heights to change, and of course this has an impact on their lives.

Therefore, Starr's social action has already had an impact on her community, which is the people in Garden Heights. Starr is seen as an active member and shaper of society. Because Starr's social action affected the actions of the people in Garden Heights. Starr's social action changed people in Garden Heights, from the beginning they lived among drug dealers and gang members, and they wanted to change all that by snitching about the biggest drug dealer and gang leader in Garden Heights. The changes that occurred in Garden Heights cannot be characterized as a large-scale structural change, but it is still an impact from Starr's social action that social change in Garden Heights

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### A. Conclusion

The forms of social action performed by Starr Carten cover all four categories of Max Weber's theory of social action. First, is instrumentally rational action when Starr uses her rational thoughts to be considered when she acts. Second, the value rational action, when the action taken by conscious belief that Starr believed. Third, affectual action occurs when Starr's emotions dominate in acting. And the last traditional action, when the action is repeatedly according to the pattern she used to do. In the novel *The Hate U Give* Starr's affectual action dominates.

All of Starr's social actions are used to achieve her purposes. In the novel, *The Hate U Give* Starr to achieve her purpose Starr used her social action which is by switching her personality that includes her instrumentally rational action which developed into traditional action to get her friends' acceptance in Williamson School. And by using her words and voice that includes her instrumentally rational action and affectual action to help herself and Khalil.

Obviously, the social action Starr Carten used to achieve her purposes had impacts on her life, especially her surrounding. Starr's social action has an impact on the neighborhood. People in Garden Heights used their voice to defend themselves. Starr's social action has an impact on her social changes. Where everyone in Garden Heights dared to use their voice against King.



**B. Suggestion**

Based on the results and conclusions obtained from this study, the researcher suggests that research using the psychological approach for future research on the same object to analyze the main character's emotion, since the affectual action is the most action that the main character used. Briefly, the researcher suggests a future researcher to use a different approach and theory.

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## **CURRICULUM VITAE**



Khafidaturrafi'ah was born in Bima on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002. She graduated from MAN 2 Bima Town in 2019. She entered lectures in 2019 at Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University in the Department of English Literature and finished in 2023. During her study at the University, she joined regional student organizations called IMKOBI and HMB, to introduce Bima at the national level and joined State of Youth. During her semester break, she attended English courses in Pare. You can contact the author via email at [khafidaturrafiah18@gmail.com](mailto:khafidaturrafiah18@gmail.com).