

The Effect of Social Class to Discriminations in *Burger's Daughter* by Nadine Gordimer

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Abstract:

This research explores the effect of social class to discrimination on Burger's daughter Novel by Nadine Gordimer. There are two objectives of this research; 1) to find out the forms of social class found in Burger's daughter Novel by Nadine Gordimer, 2) to describe the effect of social class affect discriminations in the novel. The theory used in this research is Marxist theory of social class and Discrimination theory; the methodology employed is qualitative research in which the researcher tried to present the issues descriptively. As for the data, the researcher collected from the quotation of the novel. The novel quotations were taken out as the primary data. The results of this research, the researcher found the form of social class in Burger's daughter novel is the bourgeoisie, the proletariat, the middle class, and the ruling class, the bourgeoisie being the most dominating class and the effect of social class that affects discrimination is the Restriction of Political Rights which is discrimination that dominates, then there are other discriminations such as Violence against black, White Privileges, Injustice of law, Labor Exploitation, Sexual Harassment, Separation of Settlement, and Education Inequality

Keywords: *social class, discrimination, Burger's Daughter*

INTRODUCTION

Social class and discrimination are social problems that continue to exist in people's lives to this day. In this study, the researcher is interested in analyzing the novel *Burger's Daughter* by Nadine Gordimer because there are still not many researcher who use this novel, therefore the researcher choses this novel as the object of the study that has social class and discrimination in it, Thus it can be seen that this research is essential because there are problems that must be investigated, This problem is relevant to the current situation where still encounter social class and discrimination in society, literature is a social institution that uses language as a means of communication in social life.

Literature also a social institution which is a convention and norm of imitating people's lives based on the social realities that occurred in their time, every community life in different times and places certainly has its own characteristics and uniqueness. The researcher explains Literature itself is a replica of social life based on what happens in social life.

Sociology of literature as a grand theory because it is used to explain a phenomenon as a whole as a basis before going deeper into research, scientific study of social society, through an objective process as stated by Swingewood (1972) "sociology is essentially the scientific, objective study of man in society, the study of social institutions and of social process; it seeks to answer the question of how society is possible, how it works, why it persists" (p.10) Based on this quotation, sociology answers the question of how and what happens in the social life of society by using scientific studies of humans who have social institutions.

Social class is a social phenomenon that refers to structured inequalities between different social groups. It occurs due to this inequality generated and devoted to want more than controlling other groups, which creates friction between groups that creates social problems. According to Marx (1955)

"Of all the classes that stand face to face with the bourgeoisie today, the proletariat alone is a really revolutionary class. The other classes decay and finally disappear in the face of modern industry; the proletariat is its special an essential product." (p.20)

Based on the explanation, social class is clearly seen in two main classes, namely the bourgeoisie and the proletariat then the bourgeoisie starting from the means of production or industry to spread to the government or politics where discriminatory disputes occur against other groups, the bourgeoisie are mostly businessmen who have domination and control over money and business monopoly, in contrast to the bourgeoisie class, The proletariat is dominated by workers who work in industries owned by the bourgeoisie class, based on the novel, *Burger's Daughter* by Nadine Gordimer, it is known that the bourgeoisie is mostly represented by white people, while black people dominate the

proletariat, In this study, other main point besides social class is discrimination, and this social class was originally about differences that eventually led to discrimination contained in this novel, According to Theodorson (1969)

"Discrimination is unequal treatment against individuals or groups, based on categorical, unique attributes, such as race, ethnicity, religion or membership of social classes" (p.115).

The quote shows the term of discrimination usually describes an act of the majority of the more dominant than the minority act arbitrarily unfair treatment of the upper class towards the lower class based on the differences they have, The researcher explains that this social class distinction occurs because social beings naturally want to associate with people who are similar to physically and thoughtfully. Prejudice is often based on ignorance, indifference to other groups or fear of differences. Discrimination also occurs because of an imbalance in socio-economic, political and basic human rights, which occurs between the upper classes such as the bourgeoisie and the ruling class with the middle and lower classes such as the proletariat.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The main theory used on this research is Marxism and discrimination theory with sociology of literature as grand theory. This theory can be used to study sociology within literary works. The theory can be used to identify the effect of social class to discriminations in the novel *Burger's daughter* by Nadine Gordimer

SOCIOLOGY OF LITERATURE

the sociology of literature can be categorized as a literary science whose primary focus is studying social life, in which there is a social structure constantly changing, and nothing is stable due to various factors, problems that occur in society. This understanding is the beginning of sociology of literature for researcher in understanding society which is told in the novel as the object of research as the following quote:

"it would seem that literature and sociology are not wholly distinct disciplines but, on the contrary, complement each other in our understanding of society, historically they have tended to remain apart" (Swingewood, 1972,p.13)

This statement explains that the literature and sociology are separate but complementary to each other, sociology of literature is seen as something that can be analyzed and understand the broader realm of society

MARXISM

Marxist theory is a method of analysis of social class that focuses on the embodiment of social class forms taking place in society, and researcher identified the forms of social class that occur in the novel, they are the bourgeoisie dominates the economy, and the proletariat is the working class for profit, besides of course because of the class differences in society.

Bourgeoisie class has the same means of production as capitalists who seeks profit without giving them any rights and discriminating against the proletariat class this one indication of the problem in this research, The bourgeois class is mostly businessmen.

Proletariat class are the lowest social class. They are mostly factory workers, farmers, miners and construction workers who need to live from the upper class, The proletariat class is dominated by blacks, they are hired by the upper classes such as the bourgeoisie to work in factories owned by the bourgeoisie, The proletariat class is the object of discrimination by whites who feel superior to other classes.

DISCRIMINATION

The theory of discrimination is used in this research to analyze and answer the second research question related to discrimination that occurs based on the social class formed in society. This theory of discrimination this research as supporting theory can go to the main part looking for the effects of social class to discrimination in the novel Burger's daughter According to Theodorson (1969) states that: " discrimination is a treatment that is not balanced against an individual, or group, based on something, usually categorical, or unique attributes, such as those based on race, ethnicity, religion, or social classes of membership" (p.115)

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Qualitative research is primarily exploratory research. It used to gain an understanding of underlying reasons, opinions and motivation. It provides insight into a problem or helps to develop ideas or hypotheses for potential quantitative research. According to Denzin and Lincoln (as cited in White, 2011)

"Qualitative research involves the studied use and collection of a variety of empirical materials, case study, personal experience, introspective, life story, interview, observational, historical, interactional, and visual texts that describe routine and problematic moments and meanings in individuals' lives" (p.3)

Based on the statement, The researcher describes qualitative research methods that involve the use of qualitative data because researchers use data, text to analyze and discuss problems in research because this study using novels as the main data. The data obtained from this study are text data about social class and discrimination found in Burger's daughter novel, The description of the data is conveyed through the words or discussion

contained in the novel *Burger's Daughter* by Nadine Gordimer. In this research, the researcher uses primary and secondary data. The primary data is the main data used in this study. The primary data in the research is the novel *Burger's Daughter* by Nadine Gordimer. The research uses quotation in the novel as the data analysis in this research, Secondary data is the additional data in this study. Secondary data sources in the form of articles and quotes from theoretical books support this research. This data source is taken from several sources as reference related to topics and theories in this research. This study uses E-books, journals and articles from the internet. The primary data is collected from the data source the novel *Burger's Daughter* that the researcher had been read closely and repeatedly and understand the novel. Then, the researcher makes important points in each chapter. After reading the novel, the researcher determines an interesting and most dominant topic based on the situation and condition of events in the novel. Furthermore, the researcher determines the title of the research and collecting data. The researcher collects secondary data from other literary books related to the theory used as the research method. The researcher also takes the secondary data from the journal that related to this research. Furthermore, the researcher is collecting the data, classifying the data and interpreting the data within analyzing the data. In the last step, with the research questions, the researcher then finds the forms of social class and the effects of social class to discriminations in the object of research.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

THE FORM OF SOCIAL CLASS

Bourgeoisie

In the novel *Burger's Daughter* The Bourgeoisie class are the owners of capital, purchasing and exploiting labor-power, using the surplus value from the employment of this labor-power to accumulate or expand their wealth. As in the page 162 The fact surely that the African bourgeoisie is being discovered-invented-by whites much too late to play the classic role, never mind the one they think it will serve (p:162).

Proletariat

In the novel *Burger's Daughter*, the proletariat is the lowest strata of the social class who has limited access to politics, education, and business so that they inevitably have to work as laborers in industry, miners, and peasantry, and have no other resources than the ability to work with their hands, bodies, and minds. the proletariat is a class that is the object of discrimination from the upper classes such as the bourgeoisie. As in the page 92 Acceptance of Lenin's thesis on the national and colonial question and the consequent task of 'educating and organizing the peasantry and broad mass of the exploited' in addition to 'raising the class consciousness of the proletariat' had been compulsory for the party .The fact that the organized proletariat of the mines- the basic industry in the country (p: 92)

THE SOCIAL CLASS THAT AFFECTS DISCRIMINATIONS

Restriction of Political Right

Restriction of Political right is an act of discrimination to the upper class or the bourgeoisie which in this study, it is the proletariat class that often gets discriminated against by prohibiting freedom in politics, voting, assembly or organization which injures justice, freedom, and protection which are matters which is essential for all citizens, as in the page 111 “ the issue of political versus industrial action (those in favor of political action quoting Lenin’s denunciation of the “infantile disorder of anti-parliamentarism’, those against arguing that in South Africa four-fifths of the working class were black and had no vote anyway); “(p: 111) above showed that this right is closely related to the right to vote or to vote (right to vote), which is the fundamental right of every individual or citizen that the state must guarantee. This is because the right to vote and be elected is a right that is regulated in civil-political rights as rights owned by citizens who have sovereignty.

Injustice of Law

Injustice is the result of social and cultural construction that can occur through the process of socialization, structural and cultural strengthening. Forms of injustice can be mentioned, among others, marginalization, domination, all of which in essence has the potential to harm lower social classes such as the proletariat who do not have a comparative and competitive advantage, other forms of injustice between Another is the ongoing structural and systemic exploitation, violence and discrimination in various fields and scopes.as in the page 26 “ I saw the answer to the racialism that was destroying our country then and believe me! Believe me! Is destroying it even more surely and systematically now. I could not turn away from that tragedy. I cannot now. I took up then the pursuit of the end to racialism and injustice that I have continued and shall continue as long I live (p: 26) described racism in South Africa at that time was severe and worrying, the ruling class systematically formed legal injustice and this threatened the integrity of the country, racism destroys slowly but surely, if this situation continues to be allowed, this also indicates that at that time racism occurred so severe.

Labor Exploitation

The exploitation of labor in industry, especially in the mining industry in South Africa is described in the novel Burger's Daughter describing injustice, low wages, exploitation of labor, and discrimination against the proletariat and how miners with unfair working conditions.as in the page 91 “ The strike was 76,000 black miner’s genuine and justifiable protest against exploitation and contemptuous disregard of the needs, as workers and human beings, of the 400,000 black men in the industry” (p: 91) explained that 76,000 black miners out of 400,000 black workers in the mining industry mean that about 30% of black workers experience massive exploitation. they are members of the proletariat class by exploiting their power, employing them inhumanely, the rights of their needs are not given, which the company should provide equal rights to others.

CONCLUSION

The researcher concludes discrimination based on social class in *Burger's Daughter* novel occurs because of class differences between black and white races at first and then there are differences based on the economy of each individual, which determines where he is placed in a separate class. The social classes in society formed by the apartheid political system, with this political system creating inequality and injustice by discriminating against the weakest and lowest classes by the upper classes such as the ruling class which white people fill has great control over politics and this government plays a very important role because this is where the source comes from the rules that discriminate against the weak or powerless class. The result of this research is social class is the main cause of discrimination. The effect of each class gives different results, the proletariat class which is the lowest class becomes the object of a lot of discrimination committed by the upper class, based on this research, the Bourgeoisie class is the one who dominates all classes to discrimination, with economic power controlled and close relationship with the government, thus making the bourgeoisie class the most influential class based on the quotations found, furthermore the discrimination found is quite diverse based on the effects of social class, the most severe discrimination Dominating is the limitation of political rights, as discrimination against political rights by imposing restrictions is a way from the upper classes such as the ruling class to control the government, so blacks cannot replace that white power.

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