

RACISM ACTS IN SOLOMON NORTHUP’S “12 YEARS A SLAVE”

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for

***Sarjana Pendidikan* Degree**

in English Language Teaching



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FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	i
APPROVAL SHEET (I)	ii
APPROVAL SHEET (II)	iii
LEMBAR PERNYATAAN KEASLIAN SKRIPSI.....	iv
LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN SKRIPSI.....	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
ABSTRACT	x
Chapter I: Introduction	1
1.1. Background of the Study	1
1.2. Research Question	3
1.3. Objective of the Study	4
1.4. Significance of the Study	4
1.5. Theoretical Framework	4
1.6. Scope and Limitation	4
1.7. Definition of the Key Terms	5
1.8. Organization of the Study	5
Chapter II: Related Literature	7
2.1. Literary Theories	7
2.1.1. Critical Literature	8
2.1.2. Autobiography	9

2.2.Racism.....	10
2.2.1.Definition of Racism.....	10
2.2.2.Racism Acts.....	11
2.3.Related Studies	16
 Chapter III: Research Methodology	18
3.1.Research Design	18
3.2.Research Subject.....	19
3.3.Instrument	19
3.4.Data Analysis Technique	20
3.5.Data Analysis Procedure	21
3.6.Data Analysis Presentation	21
 Chapter IV: Findings and Discussions	22
Synopsis.....	22
4.1.Intrinsic Elements Analysis	22
4.1.1.Setting Analysis	22
4.1.2.Character Analysis	24
4.1.3.Plot Analysis	26
4.1.4.Theme Analysis.....	33
4.2.Characters' Act Leading to Racism.....	34
4.2.1.Calling a Name by Stereotype.....	35
4.2.2.Threatening Verbally	37
4.2.3.Threatening Physically	39

4.2.4.Showing Material which Offends Race	42
4.2.5.Encouraging People to Do Racism	43
 Chapter V: Conclusions and Suggestions	45
5.1.Conclusions.....	45
5.2.Suggestions	46
5.2.1.Suggestion for Students Learning English Literature through a Novel.....	46
5.2.2.Suggestion for Further Researchers	46
 Bibliography	47
Appendices	50

ABSTRACT

Pratama Mukti. 2020. **Racism Acts in Solomon Northup's "12 Years a Slave"**. S-1 Thesis,
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Keywords: Racism, Act, 12 Years a Slave

As racism happened recently, the writer is interested to write about this topic research. *12 Years a Slave* is an autobiography written by Solomon Northup after he was free from slavery. The autobiography is about Solomon Northup's life during his slavery for twelve years along with other African-Americans. Since this is autobiography, the writer reads frequently to find out the act of racism from racist characters. The writer uses intrinsic elements to find out the setting, character, plot, and theme analysis.

The results of the analysis show that the racist characters are mostly from Southern America. African-Americans are sometimes kidnapped from Northern America such as Solomon Northup and sold into slavery. The slaves get threatened verbally and physically to humiliate them by their masters. In this case, Solomon and other African-Americans are whipped, beaten, and stripped by white people. The other act is calling a name by stereotype. The African-Americans are sometimes called nigger because their skin is black. They are also called animal being like baboon as their appearance by the white's perception. The African-Americans are sometimes stereotyped by showing material which offends them. In this autobiography, Peter Tanner calls African-Americans as watermelon eaters, and Theophilus Freeman calls Solomon's other name, Platt, but he does not respond for several times. This shows African-Americans as uneducated people. The last is encouraging people to do racism. In this research, Edwin Epps' racial act is prohibited by his father who acts the same thing such as whipping, kicking, and beating African-Americans. Most of the racial characters are from Southern America which slavery is still practiced. They think that African-Americans are savage people and suitable work as labors especially in plantations. It concludes that racism has a great impact on society. The culture of Southerners can affect the people who live Southern America.