

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of Research

Literature is a complete work of art that combines form, emotion, and expression and uses language as the medium to portray innovative ideas. Wellek as well as Warren (1993). Literature is one of the most inventive and inclusive ways to transmit human emotion, spirituality, and intellectual concern, as is well known.

Literature may criticize and reflect racial ideas in society, as shown by the relationship between racism and racism in literature. Literature frequently reflects the values, beliefs, and culture of a society at a certain period. Racial prejudice, which is a derogatory or prejudiced opinion of a particular racial group, can therefore be seen in literary works.

According to Frantz Fanon, a philosopher and writer from Martinique, raised issues of racism and colonialism in his works such as "Black Skin, White Masks" and "The Wretched of the Earth". He argued that literature can be a means of liberation for groups that were colonized and looked down upon by colonial society. Literature can be used to revolutionize mindsets and stimulate social change.

Racism has become an important issue in race relations and has been widely discussed both in biological and sociological aspects. In biological aspects, racism begins from how society different the physical characteristics of human beings.

Race-based societies perceive racial groups as biologically discrete and exclusive groups with certain physical characteristics. “They consider race as a type of humans as seen in their appearance such as skin color, hair color, shape of nose, and eyes” (Smedley & Smedley, 2005: 20).

Racial prejudice refers to the negative attitudes, beliefs, or stereotypes held by individuals or groups about people from different racial or ethnic backgrounds. It involves preconceived judgments and biases based on a person's race or ethnicity, rather than on individual qualities or merits.

Social conditioning, cultural influences, media portrayals, and personal experiences can all contribute to racial prejudice. It is critical to acknowledge that racial prejudice is negative and can perpetuate discrimination and injustice, resulting in social divisions and the marginalization of some groups.

Racial bias can be combated by raising awareness, empathy, and knowledge about various racial and cultural backgrounds. In order to reduce racial prejudice and promote a more harmonious and equitable society, it is critical to promote intercultural contacts, challenge preconceptions, and develop inclusive surroundings. Recognizing and correcting systemic racism and institutional prejudices are also critical steps toward achieving a more just and equal society for all people, regardless of color or ethnicity.

In this research, the researcher tries to use sociological approach on Herbert Blumer (1958) racial prejudice theory, because racism involves social conflict

which can be seen through sociological point of view. The researcher also analyze the representation of the movie to the real condition using Alan Swingewood's (1972) theory in sociological approach to focus on social aspect which occurs in The Witcher and its reflection to the racial prejudice in real life.

A common theme in "The Witcher" series is racial prejudice, which reflects real-world problems with prejudice, xenophobia, and societal unrest. The stories frequently examine the difficulties of inter-racial interactions, the effects of prejudice, and the fight for acceptance and equality.

"The Witcher" uses its fantastic setting to address contemporary issues and offer comments on the human condition in its various guises. It delves into the complexities of prejudice, presenting those who reject or uphold racial preconceptions as well as those who try to bridge racial divides.

Some characters experience personal growth as the plot develops, learning to get over their biases and prejudices. This element of the story gives The Witcher's world more depth and authenticity while commenting on the applicability of these themes in contemporary culture.

One of the most crucial forms of media for information transmission is the movie. An emerging idea is that movies paint a picture of the society about which they are produced. Irwanto claimed in Sobur (2013:127) that movies always capture the reality as it changes and grows in society and then project it onto the screen.

Now that everyone enjoys equal rights and is free to follow their own interests, racism-related issues are the second-most significant global problem after feminism-related concerns. The individuals in the group discriminate against people of color. Racism continues to exist in some countries even after the international government enacted human rights standards. This occurrence spurs the author to analyze *The Witcher*, a movie with human rights-related societal topics.

### **1.2 Limitation of the Problem**

To achieve the finest outcome, the writer must restrict the analysis to focus on the particular topic that has been selected. This study is limited to studying the Racial Prejudice part of the topic and is only concerned with one season of the series *The Witcher* episode 1-8, which has a connection to racism.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

1. What are the triggering effects of racism in the movie?
2. How does racial prejudice manifest in people' attitudes and beliefs towards different racial or ethnic groups?

### **1.4 Objective of the Research**

Based on the previous statement, the research objectives are as follows:

1. To portray the triggering effects of racism in the movie.

2. To explain about people's attitudes and beliefs towards different racial and ethnic groups.

