

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter elaborates and explains the conclusion of the present study's findings and its discussion. This study also includes suggestions and recommendations for further studies.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

Racial discrimination is the behavior when a person or a specific group is treated unequally due to the differences in their race and ethnic origin (Dayal, 2018). These types of behavior usually violate and harm the minority groups and favor the dominating group only. *When They See Us* is a series created by Ava DuVernay based on an actual event in New York in 1989. It describes the story of five Black teenagers who experienced racial discrimination by the authorities. Hence, this study aims to explore the types of racial discrimination experienced by the main characters of the series by using the theory of racial discrimination by Pincus (1996), and it is used to uncover the portrayal of racial discrimination in the series using the theory of films by Heintz and Stracey (2006).

There are three types of racial discrimination proposed by Pincus (1996): individual discrimination, institutional discrimination, and structural discrimination. The findings show that all three types of discrimination are found in the series. Individual discrimination appears when the main character faces one-on-one with authority, experiencing the personal and direct discrimination that harms the main character. Institutional discrimination is the type which is most appeared in the episode of this series due to the series is about the fight between the minority group (the Black teenagers) and the authority (the police officers and detectives). It suggests how the social institution can harm the minority by doing this type of discrimination. From the overall findings, it is found that the discrimination experienced by the main characters is a systemic practice, and the three types of discrimination are seen to be interrelated. The data is also analyzed using the film elements: mise en scene and cinematography,

to see how those aspects portray the discrimination in the series. It is found that the use of dim lighting, dark colors, the contrasting make-up and costume, the different use of angle, types of shot, and movement can depict the racial discrimination and give meaning not only based on the dialogue but also the film aspects.

As a final remark, it can be concluded that the portrayal of acts of racial discrimination in the series is essential to provide information and knowledge about how the minority group experiences the discrimination. People may learn and educate themselves about what to do to make an equal decision and avoid actions that can harm the other group. Thus, this study promotes essential awareness of racial discrimination portrayed by the series to create a better chance for minority groups to seek justice.

## **5.2 Suggestion**

There are a few suggestions that can be used for further studies. During the process of exploring and working on the study, the researcher stumbled upon a few difficulties in analyzing the data. While collecting previous studies related to the present study, it was hard to find the matching studies with the same topic and works on the film elements of the data. The present study is admittedly still lacking in related previous studies to support the data in this research. In addition, the phenomena of racial discrimination between the races of Black and white people are not something that the researcher encountered on a daily basis. There is a significant gap between the background culture. Even though the supporting data for the discrimination issues between the races in the U.S. can be easily found, as the researcher is not part of the community itself, the results from this study may not be as genuine as what the actual community feels towards the discrimination issues. As a suggestion, it is recommended that future researchers seek more previous studies related to the selected topic to see more references and in-depth insight into the topic itself. It is also suggested that further studies explore a lot more cultural references if there is a cultural gap between the researcher and the data.

Racial discrimination is an issue that is still happening until the current time. On the other hand, films are the ideal type to commemorate the issue because it is easier

for people to understand the discrimination through the dialogue and the visuals from the scenes. Although there might be some difficulties in exploring the topic, hopefully, further studies will be interested in looking for the solution to create a better future.