

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

A film is a medium of communication to describe a condition in life. A film is a part of literary work that uses moving visuals or live audio. Stated in Ramadhani & Setiawan (2021) movie is the way of retelling or representing a picture in real life, it identified as an audio visual platform to see the condition in real life in a literary work. The depiction of the movie looks more real because it shows how the story happened, so the audience will get the feeling that the story depicted is real (Habibah & Nurmaily, 2020). Like the definition, a movie is a part of communication media which is often used as a medium to describe social life in society (Nababan, & Nurmaily, 2021). In this study, the writer uses the movie as the object of analysis. The writer uses the movie as a media analysis because it is believed that a movie can describe clearer how the formulation of the problem occurs.

To specify the object of analysis, the writer used a specific movie. The movie used in this study is a movie by the famous author, J.K. Rowling. Specifically, the writer used the movie entitled *Fantastic Beast the Crime of Grindelwald*. That movie is used considering the popularity of that movie and the author who made the story, which is J.K. Rowling. The writer believes the popularity of both can attract a greater amount of audiences. The movie *Fantastic Beast the Crime of Grindelwald* is an American movie that was released in 2018. The movie is made based on the character and story of J.K. Rowling and directed by David Yates.

David Yates is known as an English film director who has directed films, short films, and television productions. Moreover, he is also best known for directing the later four films in the Harry Potter Series. As the movie *Fantastic Beast the Crime of Grindelwald* is included in the Harry Potter universe, David Yates took part to direct that movie as well.

From the movie, the writer assumed that the movie contains the material of social issues, especially social class discrimination. The first reason for the writer's assumption is the writer, J.K. Rowling, is famous as one of the authors who raise the issue of social class and discrimination. According to the book that was published by Pollack & Belviso (2012) the inspiration of the issues she brought is from some magical stories of children's literature and social phenomenon that happen around her. Most of her work is rediscovered social problems, especially social discrimination. One of the examples of her famous work that raised social issues is Harry Potter. In Harry Potter, J.K. Rowling does not only depict the imagination story of the magic world and great witches, but she also portrays the social discrimination that arises from the blood status that determines the social caste to which the society belongs. As *Fantastic Beasts the Crime of Grindelwald* came from the same universe as Harry Potter, that movie also portrays social caste. In *the Fantastic Beasts the Crime of Grindelwald* movie, there are 5 social classes in the wizarding world there are Pure Blood, Half-Blood, Mudblood, Squib, and Muggle.

Pure blood<sup>1</sup> are magicians born into a 'pure' magic family, whose all families have natural magic. Some of them believe that pure-blood wizards should be the only type of witch, like in *Fantastic Beast The Crime Of Grindelwald* Movie, the character namely Grindelwald is a witch who has a Pure blood. Pure blood is portrayed as the upper class. Most of the upper classes in the magic community clearly viewed themselves as superior to those who did not come from pure-blood families. Then, half-blood<sup>2</sup> was given to those with only one witch parent. Even most mixed-blood wizards were still disliked by many purebloods because they stained the wizarding world with Muggle blood. Mud blood<sup>3</sup> meaning dirty blood where their parents don't have magician power. The act of hunting down and eliminating muggle-born witches and wizards out of society and believing that pure-blood wizards were superior to others. The next is squib, which is a term applied to children born to magical parents, but who do not develop magical abilities. Although muggle-born witches and wizards were placed in lower societies, they actually had the right to exist and be part of the community and were large without problems. Squibs are not even given a fair chance to coexist in a society in which they are born witches. Muggles, ordinary humans who do not have the slightest ability to magic. Usually, they would be looked down upon by purebloods. So briefly, since it is the wizarding world and the movie is about the magic world, those who are included as the upper class must be those who come

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<sup>1</sup> The term refers to upper class for pure magic family in the movie *Fantastic Beast the Crime of Grindelwald* (Harry Potter Wiki, 2021)

<sup>2</sup> The term refers to middle class for mixed-blood in the movie *Fantastic Beast the Crime of Grindelwald* (Harry Potter Wiki, 2021)

<sup>3</sup> The term refers to lower class for family with no magic in the movie *Fantastic Beast the Crime of Grindelwald* (Harry Potter Wiki, 2021)

from the “pure” magic family. The social caste in the movie has the same concept as social class.

The social class itself can be defined as a group of people that has a different status, social, and culture. In other words, the difference of class refers to the definition of social class, which is a group of people who have different wealth, beliefs, and social statuses. Generally, social classes in most of the countries, are classified into three. The first, which is the highest class, is the nobleman who economically is very special. The second one, the middle-class society. Middle-class life tends to be stable and orderly. They can fulfill their daily needs and expenses. While the lowest class society is occupied by poor people who are economically oppressed. The concept of social class that has existed since a long time ago makes society normalize this issue. The cases that keep happens to affect the occurrence of another issue, which is discrimination.

As the effect of social class that classified people into three classifications, discrimination becomes a problem that often occurs in social life as social issues. The discrimination that most likely and generally happen is discrimination against certain social groups. Naturally, discrimination happens more often to people who have lower social status or minority communities. It is caused by the ambition and egoism of the upper class and the majority who think that they are better than everyone else. Even though in most cases discrimination happens with economical background or status as the reason for the occurrence of discrimination itself, it also can happen within other reasons or broader aspects of social life. For example, intelligence, physical appearance, culture, and other things can be used

by the majority of high-class society to insult other people that they believe are different or lower than them.

Discrimination can be defined as the unfair treatment of a group can be shown by verbal or action. In discrimination, there are usually many causes, from class differences to race. Social class can also be related to the discrimination or racism of certain races. In meaning, race can be defined as a group of people who are one unit because they have the same inherited physical and spiritual characteristics that distinguished them from other entities (Altman, 2011). The origin of the term race was known in 1600 when the French nationality raised about differences in society through skin color and face shape. Thus, social class and discrimination are often seen together, and the term social class discrimination appeared because both have a similar meaning. Both can play a role to commit an act that differentiates one group from another. From that, the term social class discrimination occurred. The normalization society does to social class discrimination make them play a role in the existence of social class discrimination issue without they realize it. For example, when society insulting other people by looking at the physical and religion, they do not aware that it is also called the act of discrimination. The act of racism is usually committed by discriminating against a group, for example discriminating against black people that is committed by white people. That act of racism is related to social class. It is in line with the fact from the European community who believes that white people have a higher class compared to black people, so they do the act of racism by discriminating against black people.

The unsettling cases of discrimination are happening all the time, the data from the Commission revealed that in 1 year, they received 13.989 inquiries about discrimination. There is 22% disability discrimination that is reported, 12% sex discrimination, 12% social class discrimination, and 9% racial discrimination (Australian Human Rights Commission, 2019). Moreover, another report revealed that there are 18% of 18+ teenagers experienced discrimination. The phenomenon of social class that affects the act of discrimination makes some of the authors or writers bring this issue to their literary works. In *Fantastic Beast the Crime of Grindelwald* movie, the status of a group of people that determine the class is also portrayed. The movie explains how the status of blood is a very crucial problem in the wizarding world. It becomes very crucial until it even ultimately causes wars between the society of the wizard. However, the portrayal of the construction of bloodlines that distinguish social castes by lineage got some critics from certain people because it shows where one community group has more dominance than other groups. Vollmer in his journal stated that discrimination is caused by the power and prejudice of the Pure-bloods as an ancient class of society. They committing that because they are trying to maintain the purity of their generation's blood by cleansing Muggle-borns who don't get magical powers by heritage (Vollmer, 2007)

Considering that, the writer assumes that the movie contains social class discrimination materials. The writer uses that movie because that film is considered a popular film by the best-selling author. With that fact, the writer believes that the film can reach and influence greater audiences. Thus, it is important to reveal how the film *Fantastic Beast the Crime of Grindelwald*

portrays certain issues inside it. Moreover, social class discrimination is chosen as the issue that will be discussed in this study because social class discrimination is considered an urgent social issue that has happened since a long time ago. The author believes that this research will be important to discuss the phenomenon of social class discrimination against race, culture, and religion which still occurs today.

## **1.2 Research Question**

By looking at the background of the study, the writer formulates a research question, into: How social class discrimination are represented in *Fantastic Beast The Crime Of Grindelwald* movie?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

Based on the research question above, this research aims to fulfill the research objective, which is to analyze the division of class groups that exist in the wizarding world, as well as how discrimination happened in society.

## **1.4 Uses of the study**

This research will be useful for society and future writers with the same problem topic. The main purpose of this research is to give knowledge and more information. The use of the study of this research is divided into two, there are theoretical uses and practical uses.

### **1.4.1 Theoretical Use**

The theory used in this study can be used by other future writers to conducting a deeper, analysis of social class discrimination written in this paper can provide a

reference for others regarding community behavior and how it impacts. It can also be used for writers who want to criticize social problems.

#### **1.4.2 Practical Use**

This research can increase public awareness about social class discrimination between social groups. This research can provide deeper insight and knowledge to the community, about social class and the types of discrimination that occur due to class differences and portrayed in the movie. The writer also believes that the impact of social class written in this study will make people no longer treat someone unfairly based on their social class. In addition, the movie attests to the fact that most likely, the film reflects reality. Information about how movies portrayed discrimination can make people recognize and make people behave in the right way. The information written in this study can also be used by future writers who want to analyze the same film, topic, or problem.

#### **1.5 Scope of the Study**

To limit the discussion, the author focuses on explaining social class discrimination portrayed through the characters and society in the movie *Fantastic Beasts The Crime Of Grindelwald* by JK Rowling. The author selects all characters as a representation of social class discrimination.