

**THE PORTRAYAL OF SOCIAL OPPRESSION AS SEEN IN
JORDAN PEEL'S *US* MOVIE**

(A thesis)



By

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DECLARATION OF FREE PLAGIARISM

This is to certify that to the best of my knowledge, the content of this thesis is my own work. This thesis has not been submitted for any degree of other purposes.

I certify that the intellectual content of this thesis is the product of my own work and that all the assistance received in preparing this thesis and sources have been acknowledged.

Bandarlampung, February 8th 2022



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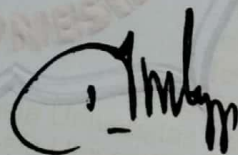
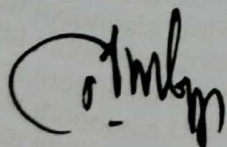
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MOTTO

"Whatever you are, be a good one.

(Abraham)

DEDICATION

First of All, I would like to express my gratitude to Almighty God, Allah SWT, who gave me strength and knowledge for my everyday life.

From the bottom of my heart, I dedicate this thesis to my parents (Bapak Agus Mulyanto and Ibu Yeni Novita) who always become the greatest supporters in my life.

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ABSTRACT

The Portrayal of Social Oppression as Seen in Jordan Peele's *Us* Movie

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Social Oppression is formerly known as the activity when one group is being dehumanized by another group or a group which more dominant. In general we can say that oppression is when a group in a position of power controls in cruel and unfair ways. Therefore, this research aims to analyze the portrayal of social oppression in *Us* movie 2019 by Jordan Peele using the theory of oppression and *mise en scene*. This research used a qualitative descriptive method which enclosed library research with written word from dialogue and picture from capture scene in the movie. This research used sociology of literature as the approach. The result of this analysis shows that Red's family, the characters in Jordan Peele's *Us* movie experiences oppression from the superior group. Based on the theory used, Red's family experiences three level of oppression which are the ideological level, the interpersonal level, and the institutional level. In arranging this study, the writer also applies cinematographic aspects such as camerawork, lighting, additional technique in analyzing data presented in movie to determine oppression faced by the characters.

Keywords: Mise en Scene, Social Oppression, Us Movie.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

It is undeniable that the differences in social status are becoming the concern over time and it is more problematic. The differences of social status become the concern and it can cause the conflict among those classes. Since in the beginning of history, there are some significant issues related to science, religion, knowledge, and upon universe, (Samanik & Lianasari, 2016). The problem also occurred in society. All societies arrange their members in terms of superiority, inferiority and equality. In society, humans have a basis in interdependence within sociology in term of the relations on interpersonal and social and cultural levels, (Setiawan & Setri, 2020). It is difficult to understand the behavior of people without knowing the social stratification because those who are in the same position or classes will think in a similar way, they have the same lifestyle and finally create a pattern of social class.

Social class describes how people group themselves according to prestige and the influence they have in the society (Gilbert, 2002). The focus of Gilbert is income where people are classified according to the economic system. When a person gets quality education, the occupation is better and the level of class rises. The status in the society can be inherited if someone is born in a family of wealthy individuals. According to Gilbert (2002), some households earn more income than others can if they increase number of those who are capable of earning income. The size of household is very important because if they combine their income, it becomes

higher. The one who is higher will unjustly takes advantage of, and exercises power over, another group using dominance and subordination that we called as social oppression that finally create social issues.

Problems and social issues in literature can also be manifested through a movie as a media. Film or movie defined as “a series of moving picture that is recorded with sound, it can tell a story, shown at cinema or movie. Movie is produced by recording image from the world with cameras, or by creating images using animation techniques or special effect” (Hornby, 2006, p. 950) However, generally a film can include various messages, knowledge, entertainment and moral value. The message in the film is to use the mechanism of symbols that exist in the human mind in the form of message content, sound, speech, conversation and language. Language is an important aspect of communication (Amelia, 2016). Basically, films can be categorized into two parts, namely the category of story films and non-story films. Therefore, films are not only a means of entertainment but by watching films we can also increase knowledge and see the portrayal of social life.

Literature was used to portray a realistic life and to guide society in ideal way of life (Kardiansyah, 2017). The significant of the social phenomenon and globalization in a particular society has inspired some writers or even director to create a new fiction work that has a social element with the aim of capturing certain phenomena and creating a reflection of the community itself in the form of literature that comes from their ideas. Ideas can be described as a content, messages and the purpose that is informed by text, (Afrianto, 2018). One of the directors Jordan Haworth Peele has shocked the public with his new movie, in which world and reality affects the work that someone’s expressed, (Samanik, 2018). The movie

captured the social life of American society in his horror movie that published on March 8, 2019 entitled *Us*. The movie tells the story about two groups of people live in America. Each of the groups is representing two different classes in the social structure of society. They are the American people who live above where they have a freedom and wealth and make them free to do anything for their interests. Instead, the American people who live below or in the film called as "tethered" are describe as the lower classes who do not have anything and ignored from the government's attention. In this movie the "tethered" are the result of the experiment made by the government, in which the government is trying to make the doppelganger of people who live above because they want to take benefit from it. But they experiment is failed, so that the "tethered" are being abandoned. They live in abandoned tunnel and being ignored by the government. And it is become the literary work that contains sarcasm.

Further, this movie also gives insight and support to the audience to stop this conflict and feel free to appreciate the others whoever they are, whether it is from upper class or lower class of society to stop doing the oppression to them. They can achieve the better live if they can trust themselves and having strong intention to get what they want. The issues that reached all the way from the activities of everyday life to broader arenas of ideology and societal institutions is important to being discussed, (Setiawan & Lina, 2017). The important thing why the writer chooses *Us* movie to be analyzed, because there is social conflict appear in the movie and becoming the sarcasm to the audience who watch it and make us think twice about the ending of the story. It can be seen from the characters inside the movie. In addition, this movie has values that we need to be aware of the situation

in our surroundings, because we often did not see it when oppression happened around us. "Us" is a reflection of our society, which frequently puts people in harsh, brutal, and unconquerable circumstances and then dehumanizes the kind of "monsters" these systems frequently develop. Therefore, we must be aware of the systems of injustice that influence individuals.

1.2 Research Question

Concerning to the focus of the research, the question of this research is how is social oppression portrayed in Jordan Peele's *Us* movie (2019)?

1.3 Research Objective

Considering the research question above, the objective of this research is to identify the social oppression portrayed in Jordan Peele's *Us* movie (2019).

1.4 Uses of Study

Theoretically, this research discusses the social oppression as represent is Jordan Peele's *Us* movie 2019. The researcher tried to find a new perspective after analyzing this research and provide some benefits to the reader. Two kinds of benefits can be gained from this research, which are theoretical and practical benefits.

1.4.1 Theoretical Use

This study is expected to make the reader who interest in movie can be understand about the real message convey in the movie. This study also expected to give the knowledge to the reader in order to know about the social oppression and how to

analyze it. This study is expected to give guidance for the readers to read certain literary work and understand the theory used and can implement it in different study.

1.4.2 Practical Use

The study is hoped to enrich knowledge and experience of the researcher and the readers who have interest with literary study on the movie that mostly contain so many value. The study also expected to give additional information about the social oppression and the implicit message inside the movie as well as the guideline for the future researcher in conducting the same study in the future.

1.5 Scope of the Study

In order to limit the subject matter and to avoid complexity in this research, the researcher focuses the discussion of sociological approach which more focus on the live of the character inside Jordan Peele's *Us* movie 2019. It is important to limit the analysis in order to get a clear result. Therefore, the researcher will only focus on analyzing the social oppression depict in inside Jordan Peele's *Us* movie 2019 through the dialogue and the capture of scene of the movie.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter concerns previous studies and the theory that will be used by the researcher. In supporting this research and as the prove that this study is meaningful, the researcher found some previous studies as the guideline for the researcher to analyze this study. Those previous studies are related to the topic that will be analyzed by the researcher. There are five previous studies from different writer to help the researcher in doing the analysis.

2.1 Previous Study

As the prove that this problem becoming the important research, the researcher provides some prior researchers that have the correlation with the topic that is being discussed by the researcher.

2.1.1 Oppression and Racism toward Black American in “12 Years a Slave” Movie (2015)

The first prior is by Simanjuntak (2015) from university of Medan entitled *Oppression and Racism Toward Black American in “12 Years a Slave” Movie*. This study analyzed the oppression faced by the two main characters inside the movie which are Platt and Patsey. The writer focused only in the oppression faced by two main characters. The finding of this study is five kinds of oppression faced by black American in this movie. Those five oppressions were powerlessness, exploitation, marginalization, culture imperialism and violence. The first previous study gives

contribution for the researcher to know about the way of analyzing the data and the way of how to implementing the theory in this study through a dialogue inside the movie. The similarity of the first prior previous study and the study that conducted by the researcher are the object that will be analyze which is the oppression. While the differences of the study was the movie that has been chosen by the researcher is *Us* movie 2019 by Jordan Peele.

2.1.2 Discrimination Portrayed in Movie Entitled “Pompei” by Paul W.S Anderson (2018)

The next previous study come from Raseta (2018) in his study entitled *Social Discrimination Portrayed in Movie Entitled Pompeii by Paul W.S Anderson* result of the study revealed there is some ways of how Milo character and the slaves are discriminated by the nobles. The objective of the study is to reveal how discrimination happened to Milo character and the slaves during they stay in Pompeii. In order to answer the problem statement, the writer used the same theory which is Mise En Scene that capture the whole things appear in the frame. The result of this study shows the first slaves faces discrimination during their lives in Pompeii city. The second discrimination of social class differences between the slave and noble that they treated unfair. This previous study give contribution towards the researcher study on the implementation of theory that has been chosen which is mise en scene by Benyahia.

2.1.3 Proletariat's Reaction toward Class Oppression in Andres Nichole's in Time: a Marxist Study (2018)

The third previous by Nelly (2018) entitled *Proletariat's Reaction toward Class Oppression in Andres Niccol's in Time: A Marxist Study* from Universitas Sanata Dharma Yogyakarta analyzes the capitalist oppression experienced by the proletariat especially the main character and to find out the main character's reaction toward the capitalist oppression. The researcher used theory of character and characterization, theory of film making technique and other theory. The result shows that the main character is portrayed as someone who is strong and hardworking. The society is divided into two areas based on their social class status. And from this study, the researcher used it as a guideline to elaborate the data analysis. The similarity of the researcher's analysis and the third previous study is in the object of the study, which is the oppression, while the differences of the study is in subject of the analysis. In which, the researcher will analyze the social oppression inside *Us* movie by Jordan Peele.

2.1.4 Women's Oppression as Seen in Musical Epic Movie: Less Miserables (2014)

The next previous study written by Wati (2014) from UIN Sunan Kalijaga entitled *Women's Oppression as Seen in Musical Epic Movie: Les Miserables*. She tries to find out the oppression in gender problem cause she conclude that women are more oppressed in the family. As the result, the study shows that the gender oppression was caused by men's misconduct. This previous study gives contribution for the researcher to know more about the oppression itself, that appear in society. Thus,

this study also give contribution about the way of analyzing the data. The differences of the study is the movie that has been chosen by the researcher is *Us* movie 2019 by Jordan Pelee.

2.1.5 An Analysis of Oppression Faced by Solomon Northup as a Black Slave Mcqueen's Film "12 Years a Slave" (2014)

The last previous study by Astuti (2014) from University of Muhammadiyah Malang entitled *An Analysis of Oppressions Faced by Solomon Northup as a Black Slave in Steve Mcqueen's Film "12 Years a Slave"*. This study focuses the analysis of the oppression experienced by the main character, Solomon Northup. The purpose of the study is to describe the forms of oppression, the cause of oppression and the efforts done by the main character, Solomon Northup to be liberated from oppression forms. The result shows that there are four kinds of oppression forms that found in the movie, namely exploitation, powerlessness, cultural imperialism and violence. Thus, this study can help the researcher to understand more about oppression and how to implement the theory into the study.

This research is different from other research because the main focus of this research is to examine how the aspects that show the social oppression in Jordan Pelee's *Us* movie in 2019 are represented in a film by using a theory by Benyahia, *Mise En Scene*. To elaborate those aspects that are full of social conflicts and need serious attention in the field of literature. This movie quite new that is publish on 2019 and not many researcher doing research in this movie yet. So, the researcher trying to give new perspective to not only see watch the movie as the entertainment

but also as a form of analysis to find out the implied messages conveyed in the form of satire in social conflicts that is represent in the movie.

2.2 Sociological approach

Regarding to the discussion that focus on the social oppression on certain social class, thus, the researcher believe that sociological approach is needed in order to analyze this study and get the satisfactory result. Laurensen and Swingewood (1971) defined sociological as the scientific and objective study of man in the society, that focus on the social institutions and social processes, the sociological approach seeks to answer the question of how society is possible, how it works, and why it persists. Based on the statement convey by Laurensen and Swingewood (1971), we can define sociology deals with the process between one society to others. This process includes the way they communicate, the way they live, and other aspects of live. In addition, sociology sets how someone adapts to the environment and accepts the social rules that exist in the society. The sociological aspects is cannot be separated from the concept of social stability, continuity between social groups and how one recognizes the social institution of both the benefits and right because sociology is study about the society. Thus, the sociological approach is a specialized area of study in which focuses to the relation between a literary work and the social structure in which it created. It reveals that the existence of a literary creation has the determined social situations.

2.3 Social Classes

2.3.1 The Upper Class

To know the struggle that exists in society, it is better to know the class profile in order to classify each character in the Thio (1986) argue that this type of class has two segments, which are upper-upper class and lower-upper class. The family which is considered as the upper-upper class is the family that have been wealthy for several generations. It can be said that they are born with wealth. Different with previous statement which being called as the “old rich”, the lower-upper class is the “new rich” including Jack Ma. From that statement, it can be concluded that lower-upper class is the class of someone who got their wealth not because they born with it, but because they work for it. Thus, it can be implied that in the upper class of society purposed by Thio (1986), there are two categories of the upper class, which are upper-upper class and lower-upper class. The upper-upper class is a class of society for someone who is rich since they were born, means the wealth that they have is come from the generation. The second category of upper class is the lower-upper class; it is the class of someone who got their wealthy because they struggle for it. For example Jack Ma, in his childhood, he come from poor family, now, he become one of the most rich and wealthy person in the world because he work and struggle for it. It can be concluded that Jack Ma as the lower-upper class according social class by Thio (1986).

2.3.2 The Lower Class

The next type of social class is the lower class. Thio (1986) defined this class as the class where the people are poverty. It includes people who are joblessness and

suffer for living, such as stay in rundown houses, wearing old clothes, and lack of proper medical care and education, and very few of them who can finished their school. Based on the definition above, it can be concluded that the people from lower class are miserable life where everything is hard to find, since they have bad educational background that finally leads their live to hard to fine job and they can't afford the basic needs like clothes, foods, housing and medical care.

2.4 Oppression

Oppression exists when one group is being dehumanized by another group or a group which more dominant. In general, we can say that oppression is when a group in a position of power controls in cruel and unfair ways. Barker (2003) argues that oppression is the social act of placing severe restrictions on an individual group, or institution. Typically, a government or political organization in power places restrictions formally or covertly on oppressed groups so they may be exploited and less able to compete with other social groups. The oppressed individual or group is devalued, exploited, and deprived of privileges by the individual or group who has more power. This concept may imply injustice and it relates to the discrimination, exclusion, degradation, exploitation and dehumanization of the oppressed group. Discrimination is reflected in the culture of our society, (Efrilia & Seiawan, 2020) The examples of the minority group or oppressed group are people of different color like African American, females with different sex orientation such as bisexual, gay, and lesbian, immigrants from a different ethnicity or national origin and people from the lower class. While the example of the dominant group or oppressor group is white people, people of European race, ethnicity, and national

origin; males with different sex orientation such as bisexual, gay, and lesbian middle and upper class.

2.4.1 Level of Oppression

Oppression occurs when people are repeatedly denied equitable access to freedom, opportunity, justice, or other elements of human experience based on their identity. According to Bell (2013) there are four level of oppression or the four Is of oppression which are ideological level, institutional level, interpersonal level, and internalized level.

1. Ideological Level

Ideological refers to one group is somehow better than another. This idea gets elaborated on in many ways—more intelligent, harder working, stronger, more capable, nobler, more deserving, more advanced, chosen, and superior. The dominant group holds this idea about itself. And think that members who come from the oppressed group are inferior and seems lower based on their psychological and physical.

2. Interpersonal Level

The interpersonal level means when there is the affects relation among individuals that becoming the discrimination. This level basically transforming prejudice becoming the discriminations.

3. The Institutional Level

The institutional level refers to the minority group being discriminate by the governmental agencies businesses, and educational, religious, and professional organizations.

4. The Internalized Level

Internalized oppression means the oppressor doesn't have to exert any more pressure, because the oppressed group now do it to themselves and each other. The fourth way oppression works is within the groups of people who suffer the most from the mistreatment. Oppressed people internalize the ideology of inferiority, they see it reflected in the institutions, they experience mistreatment interpersonally from members of the dominant group, and they eventually come to internalize the negative messages about themselves.

2.4.2 Effect of Oppression

Social, cultural, and economic structures impact the micro-level behavior of individuals, and mutually, individuals' behavior affects social structures, for example through sustaining the oppression (Ratner, 1994; Makki Alamdari & Bishop, 2020). Social oppression has an impact on one's perception, cognition, morals, emotions, sense of beauty, and logic. According to Akers (2011), The relationship between cognition, environment, and behavior is better understood in light of social learning theory. People acquire habits through cognitive processes and social situations. Action patterns can be discovered by observing behaviors or their results. Positive consequences foster positive behavior. In this instance, when members of the oppressive society see how the oppressor profit from the oppression, they learn and are encouraged to follow in the oppressors' footsteps in order to reap the same rewards or benefits. Obeying and supporting superiors, remaining loyal to superiors, and behaving in obedient behavior might be the results of the social learning (Ratner, 2011). People learn that there are inevitable inequality and power hierarchies in relationships. When someone occupies the

oppressor role, they continue their oppressive actions without hesitation. When people are under oppression, they may start by mistreating others who are weaker than them. Second, the oppressed individuals internalize and accept the oppression. People who support repressive social hierarchies hold severe ideological ideas and trust in fate. (Ratner, 2011). Another way that social institutions have an effect on people's micro-level behavior is through internalization of the oppression. It is crucial to consider how the oppressed contribute to their own oppression. Internalized oppression refers to the idea that the oppressed act and think in accordance with the stereotypes that have been constructed about them. This internalization results in self-hatred.

Lahey and Lahey (1998) argue that there are different ways that the oppressed groups are impacted by internalized oppression. Some of the traits that are impacting the oppressed as a result of internalized oppression include damaged self-respect, negative attacks on leaders, divisive behavior, fault-finding style, grumbling, backbiting, angry criticism, expecting win or loss scenarios, and pessimism. Additionally, psychological writings usually mention protective systems. Psychological defense is an internal mechanism which is employed by individuals to reduce the negative emotional effects. Defense mechanisms could be applied to address negative social-emotional effects happening in social interactions. When people feel threatened or unpleasant, they unconsciously use the mechanisms to feel better (Driskell & Salas, 2013). Muenster & Lotto (2013) explained how oppressed individuals develop strong negative feelings that motivate them to use violence to better humanity. When people or groups believe they are being ignored or treated differently than the others, a desire for justice develops

(Muenster & Lotto, 2013). According to Ratner (2011), working with limited resources at work is a form of revenge and one of the behavioral responses to oppression. This concept of the effect of oppression is give the writer the idea of how oppression which done by the oppressed or the dominant group affect the group who was being oppressed, which related to this research.

2.5 Movie Analysis

A film is a work of art that, like literature, delivers a message to society in an audiovisual media. Alviniyanti mentioned in her study (Alviniyanti, 2019) that movies are currently used as a kind of mass media and entertainment. Aside from that, movies can be used to learn and understand aspects about society, such as history and biography. Movies, according to Jowet in Alviniyanti (Alviniyanti, 2019), are an effective way of creating and sharing ideas and messages. It might have shown the actual landscape. A movie is a narrative that contains a series of photographic images that give the impression of motion and activity in real life, according to her research. A film typically includes human performers. According to her research, it might have shown the actual landscape. A movie is a narrative that contains a series of photographic images that give the impression of motion and activity in real life. A film with human performers usually draws and entertains the audience, causing them to reflect on the meaning of the film (Alviniyanti, 2019). As a result, it is now thought that movies will serve as both a source of information and a source of amusement in the future. It also becomes a tool for learning and comprehending historical events such as biographies, histories, and social issues. Simatupang in Alviniyanti (2019) is split into two categories: fiction and non-

fiction. Dramatic arts, which include drama, horror or thriller, comedy, action, mystery, animation, science fiction, musical theater, and historical drama, are all intimately tied to fiction. Meanwhile, documentary films are within the scope of non-fiction movies. These movies may also represent the director's interpretation of reality in connection to a certain subject.

2.6 Cinematic Techniques

Film as visualized art, has the same position of literature since similar with novel, film criticism also the core of communication act. According to Conti (2014), film critic's aims to understand the inner meaning of a particular filming product, surely, by careful analysis of the various elements put forth within and outside of the film production. The important thing that could be analyzed in film critics is through the cinematography or cinematic techniques, it is the whole way that director use in presenting the movie to audience. Cinematography as the technique used by director is created with a purpose (Hakanson, 2013). Analyzing meaning and the purpose of the film according to Golden (2007) must pay attention in several things such as framing, camera angle and movement, editing, sounding and *mis-en-Scene* that consist of several techniques inside it such as setting, costume, behavior of actors, and the lighting.

2.7 Mise-en-scene

Benyahia in her book entitled A Film Studies: The Essential Introduction states that Mise En Scene is the elements that can be seen in the movie frame including setting, performance and movement, costume and properties, color, sound, lighting and camerawork. Mise En Scene can help the researcher to understand more and get the

information about the movie being analyzed. Below is the explanation of each elements in Mise En Scene.

2.7.1 Setting

Setting is the part of Mise En Scene, it can include the place or time that used by the director in the movie. The setting in movie can also be the background of the movie, it means that the setting can help the audience or the viewers to imagine the situation and conditions which happen inside the movie by looking the surrounding, places and time where the actor played. The set and the way it is arranged play important role in creating mood, interpreting visual message and providing aesthetic values to the shots. Not all movie sets are located in a studio but also shot on real location which can be described as the set of the movie. Surely, both are used by the director to get audience feelings about the subjects and used to achieve their purpose.

2.7.2 Performance and Movement

Benyahia argue that the performance and movement can be described as the way how the audience can know the actors from their performance and movement inside the movie. It can conclude the expression, body language and gesture of the actor and actress in a movie.

2.7.3 Costume and Properties

Costume and properties also the part of elements in mise en scene, it is the object used by the actors in a movie, it can include clothes, shoes, and other accessories. Benyahia argue that the clothes used by the actors in movie can decides the position

and makes the movie more interesting and the plot of the movie is easier to be understood by the viewers. Costumes could reveal characters' personality, social status, and the era where they belong to. From the use of costume, audience may know the detail about characters feeling and emotions simply from the way characters dressed. Of course, costume as movie property will be nothing without essential present of characters performance. The nature of characters is to depict and perform their role in the story; they are important in conveying right mood and meaning. The reason is because every actor has goal to effectively and realistically capture the essence of the characters that they have chosen to portray.

2.7.4 Color

Color inside the movie can symbolize and describes something. Benyahia believes that the color can be used as the artificial ways for a specific purpose in movie. For example, black color can symbolize darkness, while the white is symbolized the holiness and other symbolism.

2.7.5 Lighting

Lighting is used as an object to strengthen the character movement or expression in a film. As Benyahia et al (2006, p.29) state that "lighting is referred to the light setting made for shooting or specific scenes." Lighting also helps the audiences to more focus on the actors or actress movement in the film. There two kinds of lighting technique:

- a. Low key lighting, a sharp contrast technique used to represent between light and dark. Usually used in mystery and suspense scene as the indicators things are hidden, or something unexpected could probably happen.

- b. High key lighting is usually characterized by brightness, openness, and light. It is commonly used in scene of family dramas where the characters motives are not hidden.
- c. Slide lighting is used by paying attention on one side of character's face is darker than the other. It is usually used to hint character's secrets or somehow between opposing forces.
- d. Front lighting, is the way to represent characters brightly without shadow appears anywhere. it is used to represent heroes to show pureness and honesty.

2.7.6 Sound

In the movie, sound functioned to give layered effect and adding energy and depth to visual of the story and creates emotional trigger in the story. There are three classifications of sound effect; the first is *diegetic*, *non-diegetic*, and *internal diegetic* sound.

1. *Diegetic* is the sound can be music, dialogue or sound effects which produced from movie environment for example character's footsteps sound.
2. *Non-diegetic* sound, which refers to sound that not come from the movie environment and impossible for the character to hear it, but audience can. For example romantic music in the romantic scene, the characters may not looking for where the sound coming from because they cannot hear that.
3. *Internal diegetic* sound; this can be said as the mix of previous sound types. In this type, the audience could hear characters' thought that may assumed

the characters could hear that sound, but the other characters in the same shot cannot.

Those types of sounds precisely could portray realistic effects in the movie such as people talk, paper shuffles, car backfires, police siren, etc., functioned as the key elements to invite powerful emotional trigger of the story.

2.7.7 Camerawork

The most important element of a film is camerawork. The camerawork is the audiences point of view when watching a film. According to Benyahia, et al (2006, p.31) states that “the filmmakers can put us into positions that are comfortable or uncomfortable, dominant or weak, simply by deciding on the positioning and movement of the camera.” The camera can be turned left or right to shot the object by a horizontal view and turned up or bottom to shot the object by vertical view depending on which angle is right for the scene being played. It means that camerawork has affected the process of making the film. It also helps the researcher to analyze this film more deeply. As Heiderich (2002, p.7) there are five types of camerawork:

A. Extreme Long Shot

Extreme long shot is the technique that exists in Mise En Scene. It generally shows the exterior view such as building or landscape. It also makes the audiences can observe the situation around the actor/actress. Extreme long shot usually used by the director in the war film or disaster movie.

B. Long Shot

Long shot is the technique that used by the director to make the audience can observe the large subject in the film. For example, the director wants to the audiences focus on a person in certain place, the director used long shot to take the action of the actor/actress.

C. Mid Shot

Mid shot is used by the director to show the audience if the actor/actress having a casual conversation with another person. For example, there are two persons have a conversation in the same scene. The director used mid shot to make the audience more focuses on these two persons.

D. Close Up

Close up is the technique that used to bring the audiences more focus on the actor or actress, it aims to show the expression of the actor/actress more detail. Close up used by the director when the actor and actress have an important conversation. It can make the audience more understand the talk done by the actor and actress.

E. Extreme Close Up

Extreme close up is the technique that used by the director to amplifying the emotional intensity of the actor or actresses. For example, camera shot leads on the eyes face of actor/actress. So, it can help the audience get the plot of the scene.

Meanwhile, in camera movement techniques there are several types, such as *pan*, *tilt*, *zoom* and *dolly shot* technique.

1. *Pan* technique shows camera's head move left to right or vice versa, it tends to show the reflection of people eyes typical movement.

2. *Tilt* movement, when camera movements go up and down in vertical axis. The movements like when we would move our head and eyes when we stand in under the mountain and want to look upward to the top of mountain.
3. *Zoom* movement when director use this technique to reveal the key clue of mystery commonly through character's reaction.
4. *Dolly shot* is camera movement that refers anytime itself moves, such as on tracks, from helicopter, or someone's back. This technique keeps audience with the action and feeling like spectators.

CHAPTER THREE

METHOD OF RESEARCH

This chapter consists the research methodology, including the object of the research, the instrument of the research, data and data source, data collecting technique as well as the technique to analyzing the data that has been collected. This research used descriptive method of analysis. The method is an arranged way in the purpose to collect the data. It also a systematic step to find an easy way to do the research for having the purpose planned.

3.1 Research Design

Descriptive qualitative method will be used as it suits with this research since the type of the research in this study is a textual analysis which intended to analyze the social oppression in form of dialog and capture of the scene from the movie. Kardiansyah (2016) stated that the data in qualitative research are texts including dialogues and narration. Qualitative research uses a process to reveal the world as it is, as stated by Mohajan in Setri & Setiawan (2020). The data gathered for qualitative research is not numerical. The data will be examined using scenes, images, and language. (Istiani & Puspita, 2020). To locate and characterize the pattern and to identify crucial points, the data should be combined with the theory. (Samanik & Lianasari, 2016). This research focuses on the object of the analysis as the main source of data (Kuswoyo & Siregar, 2019).

The use of a qualitative method is important since the data taken are from certain issues inside the movie, (Aryangga & Nurmaily 2017) Descriptive qualitative research can be describes as a content of analysis that describes in detail a message or a particular text (Mahendra & Amelia, 2020). For further information, descriptive research also can be described as a technique collected in the form of written or spoken words, pictures (Cenita & Nurmaily, 2020). The data collected is not in the form of numbers, (Habibah & Nurmaily, 2020). It is can be concluded that the method that we will uses is to find out, define and describe the finding that are analyzed by the researcher.

3.2 Object of the Research

The object of this research is social oppression experienced by Red's family which consist of Red, Abraham, Umbrae, and Pluto as the oppressed group. Meanwhile the government is the dominant group who has done the oppression.

3.3 Research Instrument

In conducting this research, the researcher will collect the data by library research.

3.4 Data and Data Source

The data are information or facts used in discussing or deciding the answer of research question. The source of data in the study is the subjects from which the data can be collected for the purpose of research (Arikunto, 2010, p. 129). According to Pranoto & Afrilita (2018) the script can be used to facilitate the researcher in writing the sentence and dialogue of the character. In order to support

the analysis, the data were taken from the utterances, include scene, dialogue, and script, and some element from movie.

3.5 Data Collecting Technique

The method of data collection in this study is library research. The researcher will collect the data from the data sources. There are some ways to collect data which involves observing, collecting, and examining. But, since this study will analyze the movie, so the researcher will watch the movie, and rewatch the movie while taking the notes of the data that will be used to be analyzed. And the research will be focusing on Red's family consist of Red, Abraham, Umbrae, and Pluto as the oppressed group. This research will employ several steps relating to its data collecting technique as bellow:

1. The researcher watched the object of this study which is *Us* movie by Jordan Peele 2019. The researcher will take a note on all the importance aspects. It will help the researcher to find out the data that will be analyzed later on. While rewatch the movie, the researcher will also looking for the other data from some article, books and journal which correlated with this study.
2. The next step is the researcher will gather the data that will be analyzed later in the next chapter. The researcher analyzed the data by following the guideline that the researcher got from the previous studies.
3. The next step is the researcher will arrange the data that had been collected from the primary data source. The researcher will gather all the data and classify them into some discussions that correlate the object of the analysis.

3.6 Data Analyzing Technique

In this part, the researcher used the approach and the theory to help the researcher found the data properly. The researcher used several analyzing steps to gain the correlating data of the research, there are:

1. Classification Step

The researcher classified the relevant data based on the formulated research question, in which it refers to the topic about Oppression.

2. Interpreting Step

In this step, the researcher elaborated and revealed the findings based on writer's interpretation.

3. Analyzing Step

In the analyzing step the researcher used theory chosen to find the findings about the Oppression and cinematic technique used to represent Oppression. In this step, theory is useful to elaborate the correlating data of the research.

4. Evaluating Step

In evaluating step, the researcher ensured that all of the data analysis and supporting data have been structurally organized. In addition, the researcher also re-checked all of the data whether the findings already relevant with the theories or not.

CHAPTER FOUR

ANALYSIS

In this chapter the researcher will describes the portrayal of social oppression in *Us* movie into three sub discussion which are the level of social oppression and the effects of social oppression that found in the movie. The finding later will be in the form of dialogue from the script, and the researcher supported by the mise en scene theory by Benyahia that will focus more in setting, performance and, costume and properties, color, lighting and camerawork that later will be presented in the form of capture in the movie scene. Something that can represent can be part of an image, picture, sign, and sentence.

4.1 The Level of Social Oppression

There are three level of social oppression that found in this movie, there are the ideological level, the interpersonal level and the institutional level that will be explain further bellow.

4.1.1 The Ideological Level

(Figure 1)



(*Us* : 2019, 00.38.09)

This scene shows the situation when Adeline's family being attack with the tethered who wearing red jumpsuits, or here we can say Red's family. All of them are wearing red jumpsuits which are different from Gabe's family who wear normal clothes. The director use long shot to show the situation to the audience, where Red and her family were standing in the front of Adeline's family house in the middle of the night. They do not make a sound, only standing there in the darkness and wearing the same clothes which are red jumpsuits. Adeline and her family are so scared and confused who they are because they suddenly come to her family. And when Gabe asked who they are, Red answer that they are American.

Gabe:

What are you people?

(He finally gets Red's attention.)

Red:

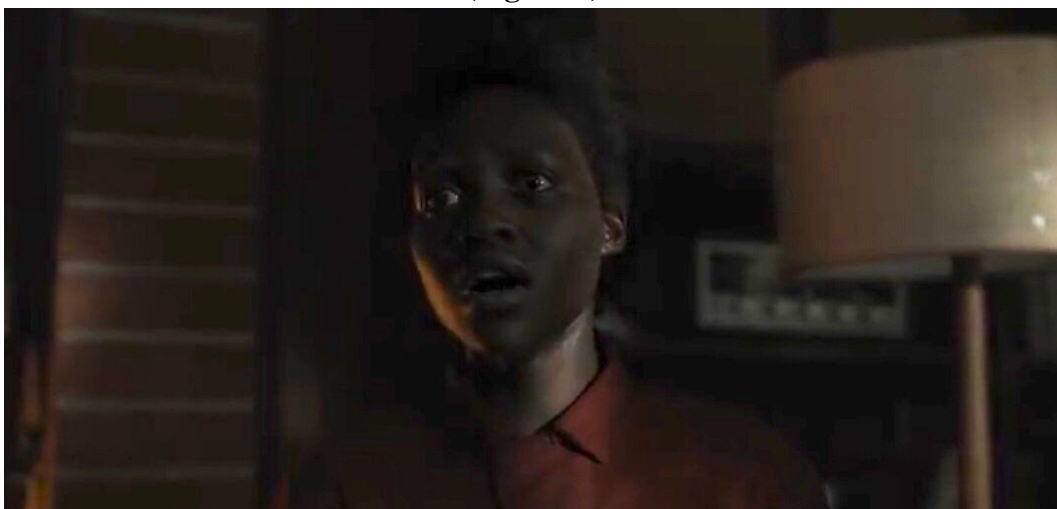
(Red turns her head, disappointed with the question.)

What are we...?

(Red leans in)

... We're Americans

(Figure 2)



(Us: 2019, 00.48.05)

Instead of asking *Who are you?* Gabe used another question which is *What are you* that makes Red disappointed with his action. Then the camera angle focus to Red's face to shows her expression in which she feels disappointed and sad at the same time. This data shows the ideological oppression done by Gabe to Adeline's family through his question to them. Gabe's family seems to see Red's family lower based on their psychological and physical appearance. Thus, this is one of the ideological level of oppression that found in this movie, when someone or a group being oppressed with someone or group who has a power and more exterior because of their psychological and physical appearance.

(Figure 3)



(Us : 2019, 01.36.34)

In minute 01.36.34 there is the scene in the room when Red explained her reason why she did this to her. It is because as the tethered they are created by the government so the government can use them to control the ones above like puppets. It contains the ideological level of oppression because it clearly shows that the government and people who live above underestimated them who live

underground. The government only want to take the advantages by creates the cloning of all people so they can control all people.

RED

“I believe they figured out how to make a copy of the body, but not the soul. The soul remains one, shared by two. They created the Tethered so they could use them to control the ones above. Like puppets.”

The ideological level of social oppression is when people who come from the oppressed group are interior and seems lower based on their psychological and physical. In this case, the people from up ground see the tethered or their doppelganger as the interior based on their physical, they can't speak and they only screaming like a crazy.

(Figure 4)



(Us:2019,01.36.18)

This scene shows the situation when Red explained to Adeline that they are human too, even though they are underestimated to them but they have the same eyes, hands and blood, it means that they deserve the equality like what they get from the government.

“We’re human too, you know. Eyes, teeth, hands, blood. Exactly like you.”

As we know, the ideological level of oppression is when people who come from the oppressed group are interior and seems lower based on their psychological and physical. In this case, the government and people who live up ground underestimated them based on their psychological aspects. They seem have no soul, they can’t think clearly so that’s why the government and all people underestimated them. It is proven by the dialogue from Red when she explains to Adeline that even though physically and psychologically they are not the same, but they are human too. The director used an extreme close up to Red’s face to focused on Red expression that seems so angry with what was happened to herself and her group underground.

*“There was another girl in there.
She looked like me... Exactly like me”*

FLASHBACK INTO VISION OF THE NIGHT

**(Adelaide stares, stunned by the back of what she thought was a reflection)
(The other girl begins turning towards Adelaide revealing an intense, hateful smile that pierces through the darkness. She’s shrouded in darkness, but from what we can make out looks just like Adelaide)**

4.1.2 The Interpersonal Level

(Figure 5)



(Us : 2019, 00.47.25)

In minute 00.47.25, there is a scene when Gabe try to protect his family by ask Red to take his wallet, his car and everything, as long as Red leave his family. Gabe has a prejudice that Red and her family is not a good person, they were a robber who wants to take everything from his house, so that is why Gabe wants to give his wallet and his car to Red's family. The camera angle and lighting focus to Gabe's face and it shows from his expression and his intonation when he speaks that he is belittling his interlocutor.

Excuse me, what do you want?

Take my wallet, take the car. Take whatever you want. Hell, you can take the boat, for all I care. How about this. Take me to the ATM.

I'll get all the cash I can take out, and you can go. We won't say... We won't say shit..

(Gabe, who has been in denial of the supernatural element at play, loses steam).

In real life, there is normal when someone who looks bad is being discriminated and prejudice that they are is a bad people, they have a bad attitude, even though we don't know exactly whether they are good or bad people, but we judge books by its cover, this is what we called as the interpersonal level of oppression in society. It's all about prejudice that finally becoming the discrimination among the society. Thus, this scene contains the interpersonal level of social oppression that found in this movie.

(Figure 6)



(Us : 2019, 01.49.07)

This scene shows when Adeline wide her eyes as she realized something that contains the plot twist. From her gesture, Adele looked very shocked when she discovered this as she looked very tense. Because in fact, the Red or the doppelganger is the real Adeline. And Adeline who lives above is the doppelganger itself. There is a scene shows that the Red change her place with Adeline when they were kid, so that's why Red or the real Adeline is the only doppelganger who can speak human language even though her voice is hoarse, it is because Red strangle her neck and damaged his vocal cords so that's why she can't speak clearly. The camera angel takes turns highlighting Adeline's face when she is flashback to her childhood.

Flashback. Vision at that night

(Young Red turns towards Young Adelaide at the threshold of darkness. She smiles. Young Red stands hiding half behind a mirrored wall inside. She's wickedly entranced by the sight of approaching Young Adeline. She backs up into the darkness. Before Adelaide can scream, the other girl grabs her by the throat with both hands)

The government and the society in this movie underestimated Red and her group because they come from underground, this contains the interpersonal level of social oppression that can be found in this movie, in which someone who looks bad is being discriminated and prejudice that they are bad people, they can't do anything and have a bad attitude, even though we don't know exactly whether they are good or bad people. But in fact, the one who being discriminated by the society is the one who can live together up ground with the society, live normal with her family, as long as they have a chance, Adeline or the real Red has already proves it. Thus, this scene contains the interpersonal level of social oppression that found in this movie.

4.1.3 The Institutional Level

(Figure 7)



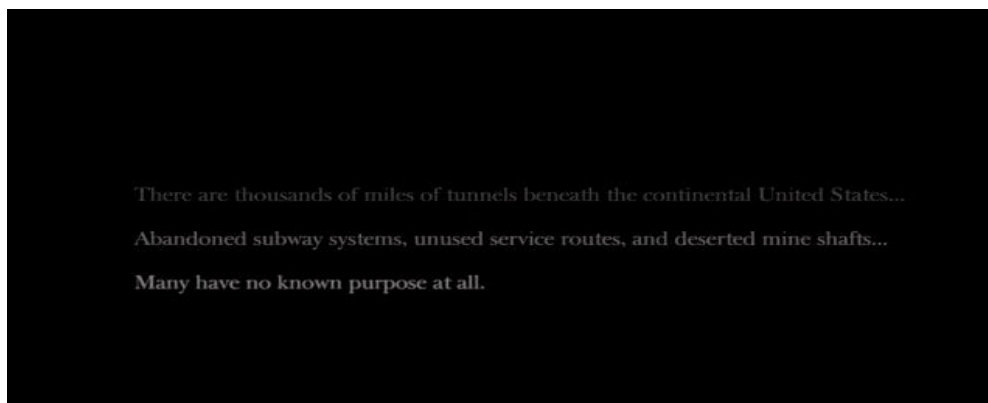
(*Us* : 2019, 00.20.24)

This scene shows the situation when Zora's family want to holiday in Santa Cruz beach. Zora starts the conversation about the government put the fluoride water to control their mind, but no one response her. The director used a close up shot on Zora's face. This is useful to depict the character emotion, and it is capture Zora's expression which shows that she is very upset when no one cares with her topic.

“Did you know that there is a fluoride in the water that the government uses to control our mind?” “I forgot, nobody cares about the ending of the world”

Oppression exists when one group is being dehumanized by another group or a group which more dominant and the minority group will become the oppressed group that is underestimated. **In this situation, the government which becoming the dominant group try to take the advantages from the people by controlling their mind. And this is one of the examples of the institutional oppression found in this movie, when the government make experience by putting fluoride in the water in order to take advantage of the society.**

(Figure 8)



(Us : 2019, 00.01.13)

In the beginning of the movie, which is in minute 00.01.13 shows the narration of the movie, that tells the abandoned place in United States of America that no one care about the place, they don't even know there is a group of people which is they doppelganger create by the government to take control of the society.

Narrator

“There are thousands of miles of tunnels beneath the continental United States. Abandoned subway systems, unused service routes, and deserted mine shafts. Many have no known purpose at all.”

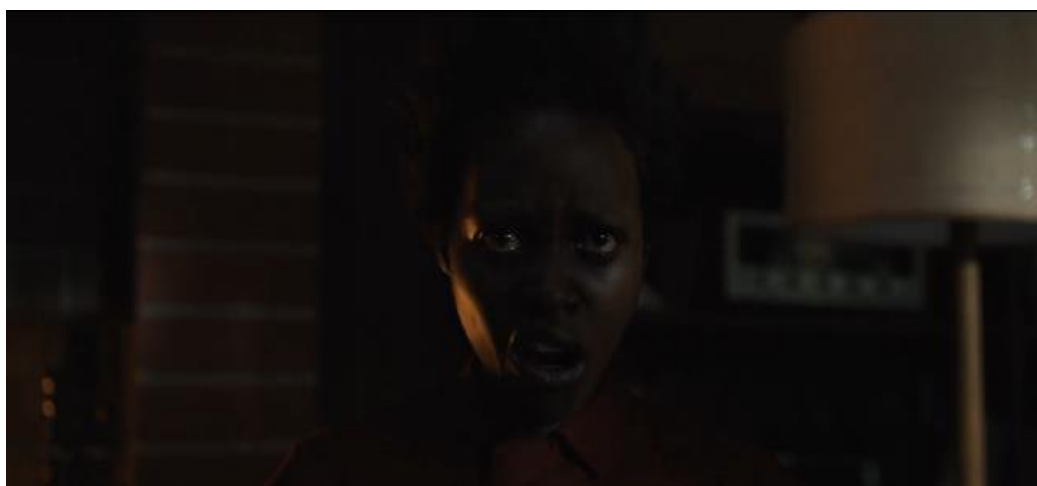
Supported by the explanation from Red bellow.

“They created the Tethered so they could use them to control the ones above. Like puppets.”

As we know that the oppression exists when one group is being dehumanized by another group or a group which more dominant. This concept may imply injustice and it relates to the discrimination, exclusion, degradation, exploitation and dehumanization of the oppressed group. In this situation, **government which**

becoming the dominant group try to take the advantages from the people by take the advantages of copying human body and they believe that they can control all people. Another example of institutional level of oppression appear in this movie is when the government try to take control of the society by create the doppelganger and copy human body, when the experiment is failed, the government leave them and make that place abandoned. This scene clearly shows the institutional level of oppression, in which the government as the dominant group do unjust treatment to the inferior group.

(Figure 9)



(Us : 2019, 00.46.45)

There is a scene that contains the institutional level of oppression in minute 00.46.45. Red, or the doppelganger of Adeline crying when she tells the truth that she and Adeline are connected to each other. When Adeline gives birth, Red as the doppelganger or the shadow is giving birth as well but in a different situation. When Adeline can give birth in hospital then get good health care, the shadow giving birth by cutting her own belly, it is proven by the dialogue by Red bellow.

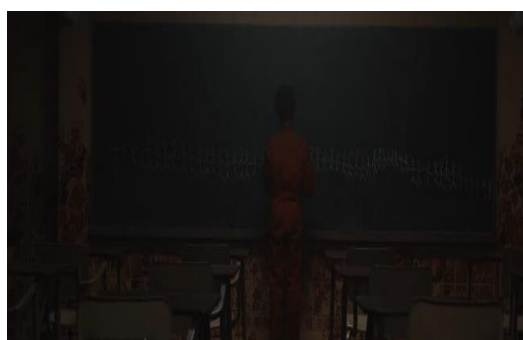
“The girl had a second child, a boy this time. They had to cut her open and take him from her belly. The shadow had to do it all herself.”

The director used a close up shot on Red’s face to focused on her expression which shows her emotion when she tells the story. Jordan Peele as the director delivered the message by the gesture and expression of the character who is crying. This scene clearly shows the institutional level of oppression, in which the minority group is being discriminate by the government, agencies business, educational, religion and professional organization. In Red case, because she lives underground and abandoned by the government, she can’t get the proper medical care when she giving birth like what Adeline got.

4.2 The Effect of Social Oppression

The researcher also found the effects of social oppression also found in this movie that will be explain further bellow.

(Figure 10)



(Us : 2019, 01.35.58)

(Figure 11)



(Us : 2019, 00.01.51)

As we know social oppression has effects on individuals in terms of perception, cognition, morals, emotions, aesthetics, and reasoning. According to Akers (2011)

Individuals learn behaviors through cognitive processes and in social context. Observation of behaviors or behaviors' consequences provides patterns for action. Rewards, punishments, and consequences reinforce the behavior. Thus, there is the data that shows the effect of social oppression in this this movie. In the scene 01.35.58 it is shows when Red draws human chain in chalkboard. This is the only thing that she remembers from her childhood when people want to make a resolution to help each other in America. She imitates this activity to her group in order to make a revolution and have the freedom., in which the people who is being oppressed can finally afford for their freedom, they are start to fight and lead to make a revolution to have the equality in society. This is shows that the oppression that has been experienced by Red has affect her cognition. In order to achieve change of role in society, she needs to do something based on what she has watched when she was young.

Narrator

“Hands Across America: a four thousand miles long chain of good people.”

“On May 25th, six million people including some of the world biggest rock and roll icons will join hand in hand to fight hunger in the United States, and MTV can help put you there.”

(Two hands emerge from either side of the screen over an image of an American heartland. They grip each other in the center of the screen.)

“Learn more about Hands Across America... ..and watch for further developments on M. T. V. It's 1986.”

This dialogue is when the movie start and the narrator explain the campaign of Hand Across America. There is young Adeline or Red that watching a movie and see the campaign Hands Across America or human chain in America to have an equality and fight hunger like people who live up ground. It is supported by the dialogue

from the narrator in television who explain about Hand Across America, at that time, young Adeline watching the about that and inspire her to do the same action.

(Figure 12)



(Us : 2019, 01.06.00)

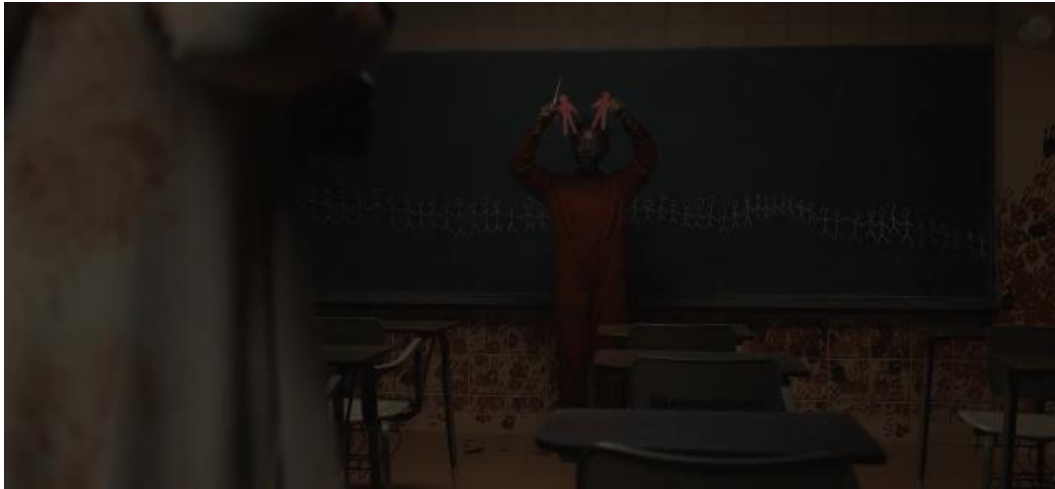
(Figure 13)



(Us : 2019, 01.06.22)

The researcher also found other effect of social oppression in *Us* movie. **People from underground try to fight for their right and to have the equality in society. The result of the oppression is the destruction happened everywhere. It could be understood that the destruction is the effect of social oppression that happened to the oppressed group. As according to Akers (2011) Observation of behaviors or behaviors' consequences provides patterns for action. Rewards, punishments, and consequences reinforce the behavior. Red learned by what the government has done to them, in which Red as their leader encourage them to have their right to live in equality, and it is affected their behavior where they are become violent to other people in order to replace their lives and take what they have. The director used a long shot by *mise-en-scene* to show the situation when the doppelganger kills their tethered and the situation is become chaos. Also to capture the contrast between their costume. The shadow wearing red costume, while the people who live up ground wear normal nice clothes.**

(Figure 14)



(Us : 2019, 01.41.34)

This scene shows the situation when Red cut the paper by scissors, the paper like two people who is tethered each other. This action shows the symbol that Red want to untethering her life with Adeline. Red and her group who lives underground believe that they tethered each other with people who live up ground, it is proven by the dialogue from Red.

“Once upon a time, there was a girl, and the girl had a shadow. The two were connected; tethered together. So whatever happened to the girl happened to the shadow. When the girl ate, her food was given to her, warm and tasty, but when the shadow was hungry, she had to eat rabbits, raw and bloody. On Christmas the girl received wonderful toys, soft and cushy, but the shadow’s toys were so sharp and cold they’d slice through her fingers when she played with them.

“Time passed. They both got older, and one day the girl met a handsome prince and fell in love. At that same time, the shadow met Abraham. It didn’t matter if she loved him or not, he was tethered to the girl’s prince after all. Then the girl had her first child; a beautiful baby girl... but the shadow, she gave birth to a little monster. Umbrae was born laughing. The girl had a second child, a boy this time. They had to cut her open and take him from her belly. The shadow had to do it all herself. She named him Pluto. He was born to love fire”

This condition makes them can't choose what they want and can't determine their own way to live because everything done by people up ground, they have to do that like it or not. It is proved by the dialogue of Red below.

“Years ago I had a vision. In this vision I saw a line of blood on the soil that stretched as far as I could see.”

(Red stands. She slowly walks to Adeline's side).

“During this vision God spoke to me. He said “the only way for a soul to truly be free is to sever the tie”. And his voice. It was the most beautiful sound I've ever heard.”

“I call it The Untethering.”

From the dialogue above, we know that the only way for them to free from the oppression is by cut the tethering from people who live up ground by kill them. This action she called as untethering or killed their other body. **This data shows that the oppression has affected their behavior. They develop the desire for justice and it motivates them to use violence to achieve better humanity. They repeating the behavior of the government, in order to gain some benefits from the oppression itself. The After people from up ground die, they can choose what they want. And they will not live in abandoned tunnel anymore without have the chance to decide what they want to do with their life. Finally they can have freedom to do whatever they want to do and get the facility that they never had. Because of this, people from oppressed group doing such a mess up action for their life.**

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION

From the discussion above based on data obtained, the researcher draw conclusion that the characters in Jordan Peele's Us movie experienced three level of oppression which are ideological level, interpersonal level, and the institutional level of oppression. For the ideological level, the researcher found the scene when Gabe seems underestimated to Red and her family because of their physical appearance. The next personal level of oppression is when Red explained her reason why she did this to Adeline. It is because as the tethered they create by the government so the government can use them to control the ones above like puppets. It contains the personal level of oppression because it clearly shows that the government and people who live above underestimated them who live underground based on their psychological appearance. The next is interpersonal level, the researcher found there is a scene when Gabe try to protect his family by ask Red to take his wallet, his car and everything, as long as Red leave his family. Gabe has a prejudice that Red and her family is not a good person, they were a robber who wants to take everything from his house. For the Institutional level of oppression, it is done by the government who try8ng to make an experiment to the people by putting fluoride in the water which has purpose to control their mind and take advantage by them, also happened when government make an experiment by making doppelganger from their people to gain benefit from it. But the experiment is failed and they are being abandoned, this clearly shows the institutional level of oppression, in which the minority group is being discriminate by the government, agencies business,

educational, religion and professional organization. The second finding is the effects of social oppression contain in the movie. The researcher found there are several effects of social oppression done by the government as the dominant group in this movie. It is shows when the people who is being oppressed can finally afford for their freedom, they are start to fight and lead to make a revolution to have the equality in society. The other effects of social oppression that contains in this movie is there are destruction happened everywhere. Hence, from the explanation above, it could be concluded that theory is important to analyze the object of the research and answer the research question. Meanwhile, for the future researchers who are interested to conduct the discussion of oppression, the researcher suggested to relate it with another topic to broader the knowledge regarding to sociological issue in literary work.

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