CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Analysis

Literature is an imaginative kind of writing with reflects life. This kind of life is reflected through true experience of life. Such as Sadness, happiness, war, and even racial discrimination. The novel “The Secret life of bees” as the main idea about the differences of black and white. That is why this thesis analysis discussing about racial discrimination.

According to Leo Kuper in his book, *Race, Science and Society*. States that:

Racial Discrimination is the conviction that the members of one race are inherently superior to the members of other races. This conviction is often manifested by discriminatory or abusive behavior and practices towards the members of the supposed inferior races. Often the expectations and characterizations of one race concerning another are based on these prejudicial beliefs. Hence, racist individuals believe that members of certain races are prone to criminal or dishonest behavior; other races are prone to greed and aggression; still other races are prone to immoral activities and promiscuous conduct. Racial Discrimination may also be characterized by other broad generalities such as the expectation that members of certain races are better athletes, more intelligent, have better voices or are more artistic. While these characterizations are not necessarily negative, they still hold to a narrow view of certain populations. Racism is a limiting, narrow-minded mentality that does not allow one to judge another through
knowledge and personal interaction. Instead, one is judged solely by the racial or ethnic group to which they belong. In actuality, racist individuals are virtually incapable of any fair or correct evaluation of another person; racial prejudice builds a wall. It is impossible to see past the preconceived ideas. Racism has birthed many of society’s ills. Discrimination, separation, and segregation are products of a racist mentality. Forced slavery and genocide are capital crimes directly resulting from racism. When one race acts out its superior beliefs in a society, there is no room for harmony or community. In order to remain superior in their own eyes, members of one race have enslaved and/or destroyed their “neighbors.”

In the Encyclopedia Americans (1991: 454), we can find another of discrimination:

Race is a concept that “Significant and Symbolizes conflict and interest by referring to different types of human bodies.” It is a “Sociohistorical process by which racial categories are created, inhabited, transformed, and destroy.”

From the statement above it can be said that race discrimination basically is caused by different types of human bodies. White people feel that they are better than black people physically since the growth of Darwinism concept which finally cause the social conflict between them.

While people may interchange or confused the concept of race, the different are important. Race has always existed as cultures of people living in demarcated areas, developing lifestyle and language feature that distinguish them from other. It means that besides the different race discrimination such as occupation, beliefs, education, etc.
From explanation above it is found out that racial discrimination is related to power the more dominance will have the more power over the weak which created the gap as social discrimination. This is the reason as well as the background why main is chosen.

1.2 The Problem of the Analysis

The problem of this thesis analysis can be cited as follows:

-What makes prejudice as the main concern of racial discrimination in the novel “the secret life of bees”?

-What are cultural differences that result racial discrimination?

-Is skin-colour as characteristic of racial discrimination as expressed in the novel?

-Why segregation happening for the weak only because of the power of the strong?

1.3 The Objective of the Analysis

The objective of analysis are:

-To explain prejudice as the main concerns of racial discrimination in the novel “The Secret Life of Bees”.

-To describe segregation that happened for the weak only because of the power of the strong.

-To find out cultured differences that result racial discrimination.
To describe whether skin-color as characteristic of racial discrimination as it is expressed in the novel.

1.4 The Scope of Analysis

This thesis analysis only the four aspects dealt with the racial discrimination. They are segregation, culture differences, skin-color, and prejudice. The four aspects are very dominant throughout the novel. Actually the story of the novel is about the racial discrimination, but it closely related to the four aspects above.

1.5 The significances of the Analysis

The significances the analysis is to add literary study especially novel. in this point, the focus of analysis is to add the vocabulary in study literary in term of racial discrimination to the novel the secret life of bees. Thus, this literary study may become references for further study about literature in term of novel. Another of significance analysis is to in courage student of literature analyses literature work in order to get knowledge about life to literature.

1.6 The Method of the Analysis

Most of the used to support the thesis writing are collected from the writer from quoted from the novel. By reading is carefully, paragraph by paragraph, the main data able to obtain. This kind of getting the data is called the intrinsic approach, for the data are obtained from the text.
Besides that, the data is also obtained from some books which have the relationship to the subject matter of the analysis. It can be said that these are two kinds of sources of the data— the primary data and the secondary one (intrinsic and extrinsic). All the data are arranged so systematically in the references that the reader can see well which data has been collected and studied.

In this study library research is applied; this kind of research makes writer visit the library in order to find the related data for this thesis writing and data is also gotten from the related site in the internet for download all supported data for the thesis. The method used in this analysis is the sociological the people.

In collecting the data, first of all, the contents of the novel is read and studied until it is fully understood. Then the topic which deals with the novel is chosen. After that the proposal is proposed to the head of the English Department. Of course, the method of the analysis should be chosen.

In order to get all data in completing this thesis, the library research is made. The internet café is visited in Medan and all information related to the subject matter is discriminated. Some books are also read and sorted the important quotation and put them down into the raw material. After having revised several times, the thesis is retypes, and finally it is ready to test.
1.7 Review of Related Literature

In order support the subject matter of the thesis, I have some references.

Louis Filler in his book, *The Crusade against Slavery* (1960), help the writer understand the fighting of some good people who have decide to abolish the slavery. In this case, the writer can get some information about racial discrimination, especially in African at the beginning of the twentieth century.

R.H Abrams in his *A Glossary of literary Term* (1981), explain Laboratory some literary terms which are needed to be depicted. The writer get some information about the literary worked which tell about racial discrimination.

Norman Sherry in his *The life of Graham Greene* (1989), help the writer understand Greene’s ideas life. From this book I can find out that he opposes bitterly the racial discrimination. Furthermore, he takes side black people although he himself is a European.

William Kenney in his book, *How to Analysis Fiction* (1966) talk a lot about some aspects of the novel or the prose writing, such as plot, characters, setting, point of viewed. By reading his book, the novel, The Secret Life of Bees can be analyzed.