

## CHAPTER IV

### RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, we will discuss and describe matters related to the results and discussion of research results using a sociological perspective and the theory of color-blind racism according to Eduardo Bonilla Silva. The results of this study were obtained from the process of color-blind racism analysis in Nic Stone's novel *Dear Martin* and then describe in the form of a systematic analysis. This chapter also refers to the research questions that were previously formulated in chapter I regarding what color-blind racism in *Dear Martin* looks like as the core of the research. Sociological analysis method as part of data analysis method in conducting qualitative research. Therefore, the researcher focuses on the things related above that are contained in the novel *Dear Martin*, which is related to the color-blind racism in the novel. Researchers used the theory of Eduardo Bonilla Silva as a reference and support in analyzing color-blind racism.

#### A. Research Finding

##### 1. Results of the analysis in the frame color-blind racism in the work

Bonilla-Silva (2003) argues that there are four central frameworks for color-blind racism, namely, Cultural Racism Frame, Minimization Racism Frame, Abstract Liberalism Frame, and Naturalization Frame. After analyzing the *Dear Martin* novel, the researcher found that there are three central frameworks contained in the *Dear Martin* novel:

##### a. Cultural Racism Frame

In *Dear Martin*, this color-blind form is reflected in the attitudes and statements of Jared, a white teenager who is also Justyce's school friend. Her attitude of showing a color-blind type of cultural racism frame began when Doc, as the supervisor of Justyce's debate team and his friends, gave them a topic about equality. Jared was involved in a difference between Sarah Jane, or SJ as she was called. Jared who argued that his country had implemented equality, SJ then denied this and argued that there were still racial inequalities in America. Jared's opinion can be called a color-blind cultural racism frame.

*Doc: "If so, let me mention, have we implemented full equality in racial issues?"*

*All the students fell silent....*

*Doc: "Come on, all of this is a closed room and it's safe everything you say here won't leak."*

*Jared: "All right, I'll try to answer. I think yes of course we have implemented equality in terms of race."*

*Doc: "Give an explanation"*

*Jared: "Everyone born in this country is a citizen who has full rights. Some people say that there is still racial injustice, but I think this is just a divisive way. Now America is out of color."*

*SJ: "Of course you can say that. Sorry, but you (white people) have never been the least bit aware of the hardships outside your group."*

*Jared: "Whatever you say!"*

*SJ: "Hey, I'm serious! How about the existing economic inequality? What about the comparative fact that other races live in poverty more than whites? Have you ever thought?"*

*Jared: "Manny drove Rang Rover to school, SJ!"*  
(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin/ Chapter 3 page 23-24*

After that debate between them still took place, Jared refuted SJ's statement by saying that Manny's parents were richer than his parents, he argued that black people have the same opportunities as white people provided they are willing to work hard. Jared said that black people cannot escape poverty because of their laziness. He also compared his two black friends Manny and Justyce. According to him, Manny and Justyce are both black teenagers but their lives are different. Many come from families that can be said to be rich, their parents who are black or minority can prove that they are not poor. From this, it can be assumed that Manny's parents were not lazy so they could have a better life. But unconsciously this offends Justyce because indirectly Justyce's mother is considered a lazy single parent because of their lives in poverty. In this case, Jared blames the poverty of black people as an assumption or culture that affects their position in society. Eduardo Bonilla Silva also explained about this, according to him this model of racism is labeled as a "culture of poverty". In public life, some white people like Jared tend to think that black people are a lazy group and don't want to work hard so that they remain a minority group who live in various economic constraints. This is why Jared's actions

are said to be a cultural racism frame because at the beginning he claimed equality already existed but unconsciously some of his actions and words could be said to be racist and still looked down on some black people.

Jared continues to think that equality is already there by only looking at one example of Manny's family who is also black but his life has not suffered. Indirectly he looked down on Justyce's mother who was of black descent but not from a wealthy family. Jared didn't realize that what he was saying was offending Justyce.

Jared has continually voiced equality by setting the example of the Manny family of wealthy black descent. But Jared forgot that his friend Justyce came from black skin who was not as rich as the Manny family, so Jared only saw equality from one point of view. In social and social life, people who have wealth and high positions are more respected and whatever they do is considered right regardless of their body shape or skin color. Still, in today's social life the rich are more respected than those who are poor and do not have high positions. In this case, Jared does not see how the lives of other blacks like Justyce may not be as lucky as rich Manny, so he always believes that with Manny's rich family, equality has been obtained by all blacks.

In addition to chapter 3, the action in *Dear Martin's* novel shows the action of color-blind racism in the type of cultural racism frame in chapter 5. This chapter, tells of when Justyce and her friends (Manny, Jared, Tyler, and Kyle) were wearing various kinds of costumes in Halloween celebrations. The costumes they use are very diverse. Manny uses costumes that symbolize high-class black people. Jared wears a costume that represents a politician, Tyler becomes a surfer and Kyle becomes a bumpkin. The problem is Blake's costume, he wears a Klansman costume (a member of the extremist movement that supports racist ideologies). The point of the costume that Blake wears may only be seen as a costume joke that depicts stereotypes but precisely to offend other black people. This can be found when they are already ready to go to the Halloween event and on the way to meet a

gang of black people. They block Blake and get angry seeing the costume used by Blake.

*When they were ready Jared took a few photos with his friends and said "Equality Brigade, go".*

*..... While on the way they met a black alley who was annoyed to see Blake's costume. One of them said*

*Trey: "What are you doing with these silly kids? Why are you letting them insult our people? " (says to Justyce and Manny while pointing at Blake's costume)*

*Jared: "We didn't mean to insult you"*

*Manny: "Shut up, Jared"*

*Trey: "Yeah, Jared, I'd better shut your mouth. Your friend has made me and my friends disappointed by coming to wear clothes like that.*

*Justyce: "Trey, he doesn't have any bad intentions. We just wanted to make a satire about stereotypes but it looks like liberation. We won't do this again".*

*(Stone, 2017) Dear Martin / Chapter 5 page 33-35*

Through Blake's behavior, wearing the Klansman costume, he unconsciously commits racist acts that are deemed insulting to black people. This is inversely proportional to the words he made with Jared and his other friends that he voiced "equality". Even though they only wear costumes, black people like Trey feel insulted so that Blake unconsciously insults black people through his costumes. Even when Trey rebuked him he still continued to defend himself that what he was using was just to symbolize satire about stereotypes.

#### b. Minimization of Racism Frame

Racism with this model can be said to be almost similar to the cultural racism that has been previously mentioned. Some white people think racism in the United States is not a serious problem. They tend to simplify the various forms of discrimination that exist around them. When they knowingly or unintentionally talk or make racist jokes in front of black people they just perceive it as a joke. In this frame, black people are considered too sensitive when they feel offended by racist jokes that white people make. Black people are considered to always associate whatever happens with racial problems, this can be said to be

a form of neglect and indifference to the dark history that has become an influence in the lives of black people today. In *Dear Martin*, the actions that reflect this type of color-blind racism are some of the acts of Jared and his friends that they sometimes jokingly offend about race. The most notable act of this kind comes in chapter 10 when Manny invites Jared to go to Blake's party. Blake jokes by asking Justyce and Manny to get acquainted with the Negro girl from Decatur Prep. He thinks she has a sexy body and he intends to take her to the room. Hearing that Justyce could no longer hold back her anger, she thought that Blake's actions were outrageous by using a black girl. They argue with each other and feel right with each other and Blake makes a statement about why black people always fuss about race.

*Manny: "Happy birthday friend"*

*Justyce: "Happy birthday"*

*Blake: "Hey, I'm so glad you guys came, hear that this party has a beautiful black girl from Decatur Prep, her body is hot and if she wants to meet my nigger best friend I have a chance to take her to the room". (Laughs)*

*Justyce: "Are you serious, you idiot??"*

*Manny: "Jus, calm down"*

*Justyce: "Oh no, I won't calm down. This friend of yours has displayed a racist dwarf and a picture of a white person with black makeup on the wall and he is talking like that."*

*Blake: "Hey, that's not mine. My mom put up some of the posters because my grandfather's uncle was a singer in a band like that."*

*Justyce: "And you're asking our help so you can take advantage of black girls. That's a big problem, Blake!"*

*.....Manny tried to stop their fight*

*Justyce: "Bad things have happened, Manny. Your best friend is a racist!"*

*Blake: Hey, why are your people always fussing over race??" (Minimization of racism)*

*Justyce: "What? Our people? Did you realize that Manny was one of those too?"*

*Blake: "The difference is, Manny has the common sense he doesn't mind race, why can't you just relax?"*

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin*/ Chapter 10 page 70-71

Their debate continues and makes Jared also interfere. When Justyce starts to get fed up and annoyed, Jared adds to his annoyance by saying that he and his friends must be careful because Justyce can attack at any time. This can be seen in Jared's sentence

*"Be careful Blake, you know that Justyce grew up in a hood. He will definitely call his gangster friends and they will beat you up and finish you off."* Said Jared with a laugh. (Stone, 2017)*Dear Martin/ Chapter 10 page 71*

Jared's words with a laugh it can be concluded that he thought what Blake had done was funny. Jared did not think that what Blake said hurt him because Blake had indirectly insulted black women. Instead of breaking up the argument between his two friends, Jared defended Blake and it only irritated Justyce. Justyce could no longer hold back her anger until she finally threw a punch to Jared's jaw.

c. Abstract Liberalism Frame

This framed model can also be called abstract racism. This frame refers more to the abstract behavior of white people when they explain racist issues. There are two supporting principles or ideologies of this frame, namely:

a. Equality of opportunity belongs to everyone

This principle is explained in more detail with the phrase "*everyone*" which is definitely often pronounced which applies to all people, both white and black skin, but in fact, these sentences are often used to carry out affirmative actions on blacks. In the novel *Dear Martin*, the action that reflects this principle is found in Jared's action of not accepting Justyce being able to enter Yale University while he has not been accepted (chapter 7). Jared thought it was unfair because he felt that his test scores were the best in class and he was the basketball captain. Jared thought that Justyce was accepted at Yale because of the differences in skin between them, he thought that it was a form of discrimination or affirmative action against a majority like himself. He thinks that minorities like Justyce are often given special opportunities which are detrimental to the majority. In fact, Justyce was accepted at Yale because she was indeed smart and had tried hard to get accepted at Yale. Jared's view of the reasons why Justyce is more accepted at Yale than him is certainly at odds with his claim that

equality of opportunity belongs to everyone (chapter 3). If the sentence was true and came from within itself then there would be no problem if Justyce was more welcome at Yale than Jared. Let's look at the quote below:

..... when Jared's Social Evolution class immediately raises his hand.

Jared: *I have something to discuss today, sir*

Doc: *"Yes, please talk"*

Jared: *"What I want to discuss is how affirmative action actually discriminates against the majority"*.

SJ: *"Are you kidding?"*

Jared: *"Of course not. Let's look, I'm second in class, I'm captain of the baseball team, active in the end-of-week ministry, and my test scores are higher than Justyce's but she got accepted early at Yale and I didn't. It must be because I'm white and he's Negro"*.

Doc: *"That's a serious assumption, Jared"*

*(Dear Martin / Chapter 7 page 47)*

*Jared's statement created a debate in the class. Justyce did not accept Jared's statement. They then compared the scores they got until there was one where Justyce was superior and Jared did not accept it.*

Justyce: *"Wait, what makes you believe that your grades are higher than mine?"*

Jared: *"Hey, my SAT score was fifteen hundred and eighty"*

Manny: *"What's your mark, Jus?"*

Justyce: *"I got fifteen hundred and sixty" (replied Justyce)*

Jared: *"Really?"*

SJ: *"How much did you score on your ACT exam?"*

Jared: *"Thirty-three"*

SJ: *"Juice?"*

Justyce: *"Thirty-four"*

Jared: *"Big lie!"*

*(Stone, 2017) Dear Martin / Chapter 7 page 47-48*

Manny and SJ immediately argued and argued that Jared did not accept the fact that there were some Justyce values that were superior. Jared still didn't accept that he and Justyce had the same intelligence. Manny even repeatedly asked Jared if he did not accept that Justyce was also a smart kid because Jared kept dodging the words he uttered indicating that he felt he was superior to Justyce. Until SJ gave a statement:

*"You said affirmative action discriminated against the majority and as proof of your claim, you said that Justyce was hired by Yale and you weren't. Regardless of how racist you are*

*because you have assumed that your test score is higher than justice, it turns out that there is evidence to the contrary, namely that you and Justyce both meet the requirements to enter Yale and that evidence has invalidated your statement.”(Stone, 2017) Dear Martin / Chapter 7 page 49*

Here SJ explains that Jared's statement which he thinks is unfair if Justyce is more accepted at Yale is wrong. If Jared thinks it is an affirmative act then it is wrong because both Jared and Justyce both have the same opportunity and qualify to be admitted to Yale. This did not make Jared think any better. He continued to be confident in his argument that there were affirmative actions against the majority so that he could not be accepted at Yale. On second thought, maybe Jared hasn't been accepted into Yale because some of his grades are lower than Justyce's, or maybe Justyce is more qualified than Jared. Therefore, Jared's actions did not realize that he was racist and remained steadfast in his stance that it would be unfair for Justyce to be accepted at Yale rather than himself. Therefore based on some of the quotes above is an example of abstract action.

b. Meritocracy

On this principle, white people believe that someone will be chosen and rewarded based on their hard work, not from the privileges they have. This principle-related action was reflected in Jared's feeling that he was more than anything but Justyce. He assumed that Justyce was accepted at Yale not because of his hard work and intelligence but because of quotas for minority groups and blamed the affirmative action he always mentioned. Let's take a more detailed look at the excerpt below on the chapter 7 page 49 :

*Jared: “I'm not going to be quiet. You must know what kind of anger my father was because of my suspended acceptance” (he said to Manny who told him to calm down)*

*Manny: “But that has nothing to do with Justyce.”*

*Jared: “There is. He took the place Yale didn't give me. That's because Yale University has to meet quotas”.*

*Justyce: “Did I hear that right?”*

*Jared: “I'm just setting out the facts”*



*SJ: "That's not a fact, idiot. Justyce was accepted because she was worthy*

*Justyce: Thank you"*

*Jared: "I also deserve to be accepted! Affirmative action is just nonsense! In essence, affirmative action only benefits minorities excessively. Maybe I and Justyce are equal, but what about the other minority members who will be accepted before me but they don't qualify, that's not fair"*

*SJ: "Is that fair? You have a further means than him. Is it fair if the college only considers GPA and test scores in determining who is eligible for admission? "*

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin* / Chapter 7 page 49

With his abstract behavior, Jared attacks Justyce using Meritocracy principles to attack affirmative action and also protect the privileges he has. No matter how hard Justyce proves that he is accepted at Yale because of his achievements, Jared will continue to think that he deserves to be at Yale more than Justyce. Until SJ continues to emphasize on Jared if Yale accepts Justyce not only because of GPA and test scores. Hence, it can be said that Jared still sees colors and thinks he is superior to Justyce, this is because he comes from white skin while Justyce is from black.

## **2. The way color-blind racism reflected in the novel**

A novel is a literary work that has a realistic nature and contains psychological values so that this allows the novel to develop from history, non-fiction forms, or documents (Nurgiyantoro, 2005). A novel must be built based on several elements or elements. Elements or elements in the novel include intrinsic elements (relating to the novel story) and extrinsic elements (relating to the author). If the elements in a novel are packaged properly, the readers can feel and be immersed in the story.

In analyzing this problem, namely how to color-blind racism related to researchers' work using elements contained in the intrinsic elements of the novel. The intrinsic element is the element contained in the story so that it builds the literary work itself Nurgiyantoro (2005). Nurgiyantoro (2005) also says that a literary work contains intrinsic elements which include themes, characters, settings, and points of view. The intrinsic elements will then be analyzed and searched for data in the *Dear Martin* novel, which is related to racism and color-blind racism. The following are the intrinsic elements in the *Dear Martin* novel, which are related to color-blind racism:

a. Theme

Staton in (Nurgiyantoro, 2005) defines a theme as meaning in a story that specifically explains most of the elements of the story in a simple way. According to him, the theme can be synonymous with the main idea and main goal. In a literary work, the theme is always related to the meaning of life in society. According to Andari (2019), a theme can also be interpreted as an idea that becomes the basis of a story so that it can act as a basis for authors to present works of fiction that have been created. According to him, readers will understand the theme of a story after knowing and understanding the significant elements that become the media for the explanation. The novel *Dear Martin* tells about some racist actions experienced by the main character, Justyce. Not only does it describe how old racism is still developing in America with various forms of stereotypes, but in this novel, several actions reflect color-blind racism. Chapter 1 of this novel tells about racist actions experienced by black people in America, so it can be concluded that the theme of this novel is acts of racism. Racism has several types, namely personal racism and institutional racism. Overall the theme of racism in the *Dear Martin* novel is included in the personal racism category, this can be seen from the actions of a policeman against Justyce as the main character in this novel, which at the beginning of the story has experienced acts of racism:

*“I know what kind of people you are a delinquent like you around looking for prey in a safe area right? You can't stand to see a beautiful white girl whose car keys are left inside”* (Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin* / Chapter 1 page 1

The police statement is inversely proportional to the fact that Justyce accepts that he only helped his friend Melo, a drunk white man. Melo was drunk and approached Justyce, he could not bear to see Melo have to drive his car alone while drunk so that Justyce just wanted to help take Melo home. When Justyce put Melo into his car and was about to take him home, the police came who thought Justyce was going to steal Melo's car. Besides that, another proof that this novel has the theme of racism is Justyce's statement when he wrote a letter to Dr.

Martin Luther King, Jr., he is one of the figures who come from the outspoken people. Although Dr. Martin is dead he remains an inspiration to Justyce, he always writes about the problems in his life in the book he shows to Dr. Martin. On August 25th Justyce wrote a message that contained the sentence:

*“There was a black boy named Shemar Carson who was shot dead by a white policeman in Nevada. The details of the incident are not clear but there are many irregularities in the case based on the existing medical examination”*  
(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin* / Chapter 1 page 17

This sentence clearly illustrates how racism is experienced by black people. This includes personal racism because it attacks black people themselves and these actions are carried out by unscrupulous police.

In addition, the theme of racism in the novel *Dear Martin* can not only be seen from the point of view of the types of racism in general. Apart from personal racism, there is also color-blind racism in the novel *Dear Martin*. Color-blind racism is a new racial ideology that was developed in the 20th century. Bonilla-Silva, (2003) says that this ideology is a strange ideology even though it is like other concepts of racism where victims of racism are always considered wrong, but in color-blind racism, the perpetrator does so in an indirect style such as using the word "now you see". This explains how white people use a new model of racism to justify inequality.

*“Indeed, there are no drinking water taps for people of color and discriminatory attitudes should be considered illegal, but if I am forced and handcuffed for what I don't do, there must be a mistake here. Equality does not yet exist even though many white people say otherwise”*(Stone, 2017)*Dear Martin* / Chapter 1 page 18

This is what is meant by color-blind racism where a person is not aware if he is committing racist acts. Only people who are victims of racism feel racist actions but the perpetrators are not aware that what they are doing is racist.

b. Character

Nurgiyantoro (2005) argues that story characters are people who are shown in a literary work either narrative or in a drama which is then interpreted by readers as having moral qualities and certain tendencies such as what is expressed in their words and actions taken. In a novel, characters greatly influence the description of a story or situation. Aminudin (2011) in a novel or character story is divided into two parts, namely the main character and additional or supporting characters. The main character is the character who is told the most often and appears the most in the story. Meanwhile, additional or supporting characters are characters who only appear once or several times in the story. Judging from its function, a character in a story in a novel has two parts. The first part is called the protagonist, a character who brings good values. The second part is an antagonist, a character who causes conflict in a story. Likewise, the characters contained in the *Dear Martin* novel certainly have characters who are antagonists and protagonists. Here are the characters in the *Dear Martin* novel who are related to the act of color-blind racism:

1. Jared

In the novel, *Dear Martin* Jared is one of Justyce's friends at school. Jared comes from a well-off white family. He always expressed equality but on the other hand, he was also not aware that he had committed racist acts. Like when in an evolutionary class that discusses racial equality, Jared argues that now everything is equal with the following statement:

*“Everyone born in this country is a citizen who has full rights. Some people say that there is still racial injustice, but I think this is just a divisive way. Now America is out of color.”*

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin*/ Chapter 3 Page 24

Even though Jared said that America was no longer different in color and racial equality existed, but on the other hand he did not realize that he was also doing color-blind racism. This occurred

when Jared was not accepted at Yale while Justyce was accepted as a Yale student. Jared unconsciously compared his grades with Justyce and concluded that he assumed that someone who was black didn't deserve the same opportunity to enter Yale University. The racist act that he was not aware of was finally brought up by his friend SJ who said:

*“You said affirmative action discriminated against the majority and as proof of your claim, you said that Justyce was hired by Yale and you weren't. **Regardless of how racist you are** because you have assumed that your test score is higher than justice, it turns out that there is evidence to the contrary, namely that you and Justyce both meet the requirements to enter Yale and that evidence has invalidated your statement.”* (Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin* / Chapter 7 page 49

Based on the quote from SJ's words above, it can be concluded that Jared has committed color-blind racism. When at the beginning of the evolution class, Jared said that in America there was racial equality but in the end, he did not accept that Justyce had passed Yale University so he thought that what happened to him was affirmative action. Jared did not realize that his words about affirmative action were racist acts where he thought that he should be accepted as a white person first at Yale than Justyce who came from black. Jared felt smarter as someone from the white race than Justyce who was from the black race, so he thought that people from the white race were smarter and more deserving of admission to Yale University, and people from the black race did not deserve to be admitted to Yale earlier than the white race. Therefore, the link between *Dear Martin* and Color-blind racism is that there are several characters in the novel who unconsciously commit racist acts even though they claim that equality already exists. This is what is called Color-blind racism, racist acts that are considered color-blind or invisible in person.

## 2. Blake

Blake is also one of Justyce's friends who also come from white skin. Blake has a stubborn nature and likes to belittle others. Just like Jared, he also loudly voiced the word "EQUALITY" but he also always joked about racist things that maybe Justyce didn't take offense to hear about it because he was used to it, but for other black races to hear Blake's joke will definitely be angry and offended. Blake's character who likes to joke about equality can be found in the sentence below:

*“Hey, I'm so glad you guys came, hear that this party has a beautiful black girl from Decatur Prep, her body is hot and if she wants to meet my nigger best friend I have a chance to take her to the room”.* (Laughs)

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin*/ Chapter 10 page 70-71

This is what Blake said when he asked his friend Justyce to introduce black women. Hearing Blake's words, Justyce was angry and thought Blake looked down on black women. But Blake did not feel that he was guilty, he felt that he was just kidding and instead considered black people always questioned about race by saying:

*Blake: “Hey, why are your people always fussing over race??”* (Minimization of racism)

*Justyce: “What? Our people? Did you realize that Manny was one of those too?”*

*Blake: “The difference is, Manny has the common sense he doesn't mind race, why can't you just relax?”*

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin*/ Chapter 10 page 70-71

He was just as stubborn as Jared felt that equality existed and that what he was doing was not racist. From the sentence above, he actually compared Justyce with Manny where according to him Manny was a relaxed person and never made a problem about race. From Blake's sentences above, it is related to color-blind racism, the type of Minimization of racism, meaning that some white people think racism in the United States is not a serious problem. Even many people like

Blake who unconsciously act racist just think that it is just a joke and black people are too sensitive to respond to it.

c. Setting

The background is a depiction of place, time, situation, and atmosphere in the occurrence of an event (Nur, 2005). The background can also be said to be a foundation that has the meaning of the place, the relationship of time, and the social environment where the events in the story occur. A setting is not only physical so that the story becomes logical but also has a psychological function so that certain situations in the story can move the reader (Nur, 2005). Andari (2019) distinguishes the setting into three elements, namely time, place, and social. In *Dear Martin*, of course, there is a setting in the storyline, along with the explanation:

a. Setting of Place

Andari (2019) explains that the setting is the location where an event occurs which is in a story. If a setting is a typical setting then the name of the place will be mentioned, for example, Jakarta, America, or England. In *Dear Martin*, several chapters mention where the incident took place, especially the place where the color-blind racism took place. In chapter 3, when there was a debate about racial equality where Jared said that equality already existed, the debate was said to occur in class, this is based on the sentence:

*"The other students came to the class when the bell rang. Doc closed the door and closed both hands as a sign of the start of the lesson"*  
(Stone, 2017)*Dear Martin*/ Chapter 3 page 26

In addition, this novel also mentions where the storyline takes place. This novel mentions a typical place setting that is clearly stated by the name of the place, as in the sentence pronounced by Jared:

*"Today, America is a colorless place"*  
(Stone, 2017)*Dear Martin*/ Chapter 3 Page 29)

From the sentence above, the reader will know that the *Dear Martin* novel contains a story about racism in America which is described by several white and black figures. When Justyce was accused by a policeman of wanting to take his friend Melo's car even though he was only helping because the woman was drunk, it was also clearly written where the incident took place. This is based on the sentence:

*"Justyce can see the girl, Melo Taylor is sitting limply beside his Benz car which is on the damp concrete floor of the FarmFresh parking lot"*(Stone, 2017)*Dear Martin / Chapter 1 page 9*

So, when Justyce intends to help her friend Melo is in the parking lot of FarmFresh (one of the names of entertainment venues in America). But in that place Justyce was actually accused by a white policeman of wanting to take Melo's car, even Justyce had to be hit by the policeman's lower jaw. Color-blind racism also occurs when Justyce visits Blake's birthday party when Blake says that black people always take equality seriously. The incident occurred at a party Blake held at his house, it is identified in the sentence:

*"Maybe, if Justyce didn't drink half the drink from the bottle of Manny that was just filled on the way to Blake's house she wouldn't be upset by the statues depicted as black and thick-lipped"*.

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin/ Chapter 10 Page 70*

From the sentence above, it can be seen that Blake's party is held at Blake's own house. That's where Justyce and Blake fought because Justyce felt Blake had committed racist acts by demeaning black women. But Blake did not realize his mistake and instead considered that black people like Justyce were too sensitive and always questioned equality. This is also called color-blind racism, a type of minimization of racism



b. Setting of Time

Andari (2019) argues that the time setting has a relationship with when the events contained in the novel story occur. Time setting can also be related to past or historical issues that the writer uses in the storyline. In *Dear Martin*, there are several explanations that explain the setting of time, such as in the sentence:

*"The events of last night have now changed me"*  
(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin* / Chapter 1 Page 18

This phrase was uttered by Justyce when she wrote Dr. Martin, he wrote the letter after he was arrested by a police officer for allegedly wanting to steal his friend Melo's car when Justyce wanted to help him. Justyce there told me that what happened when her hands were handcuffed because she intended to help Melo was at night. In addition, the setting of time in this novel is also described in the sentence:

*"Justyce was having a lot of thoughts when she stepped into Social evolution class on a Tuesday."*  
*And when Doc, teacher Justyce greeted his students "Good morning, everyone"*  
(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin* / Chapter 3 Page 24-26

Based on the word Tuesday and good morning it can be seen that when Jared's story, Justyce, and SJ were arguing about racial equality they were in Evolution class on Tuesday morning. Jared's class said that in America everything is equal to setting the example of successful Manny parents. When comparing Manny and Justyce's parents, Jared didn't think that what he said offended Justyce.

In addition, when Jared mentioned an affirmative action where Justyce was more accepted at Yale than himself, the incident also happened in Social Evolution class in the morning. This is known from the sentence.

*"Justyce is still confused even though two hours of lessons have passed, the type she enters Social Evolution class" and the phrase "Doc closes the classroom door and passes but before she says good morning, Jared is already ..."*  
(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin*/ Chapter 7 Page 46

From that sentence, the debate about affirmative action took place in the Social Evolution class and in the morning. When the incident at Blake's birthday party it is also explained that the party took place at night. This can be seen from the sentence Justyce wrote when she poured out what was in her heart to Dr. Martin

*"I know, I made a mistake last night, but I don't regret it one bit." ...*" (Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin*/ Chapter Page 75

From the word last night, it can be seen that the quarrel between Justyce and Blake occurred at night.

#### d. Point of View

Point of view is a way of conveying events, stories, and actions in a story based on the author's position in the story (Nurgiyantoro, 2005). According to Nurgiyantoro (2005), the point of view can be divided into two, namely the point of view of the third person who uses the word "he" and the point of view of the first person who uses the word "I". The third-person perspective in the story puts the author as the narrator who mentions the names of the characters or mentions the pronouns he, she, or them. The third-person perspective is also still divided into two, namely the third person who is all-knowing and as an observer (Nurgiyantoro, 2005). Meanwhile, the first-person perspective places the author in the course of the story as an "I" character. From the point of view of the first person the character "I", his view is limited to knowing what he saw, heard, or felt based on the events in the course of the story Nurgiyantoro (2005). *Dear Martin* as a whole, the story has an all-knowing third-person perspective. This is because the author here acts as a narrator and tells about what happened to Justyce. It can be seen from the opening sentence at the beginning of the novel, namely:

*"From where he was standing across the street, Justyce could see the girl, his ex-girlfriend Melo Taylor sitting limply beside the Benz car on the damp floor of the FarmFresh parking lot."*

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin* / Chapter 1 page 10

From the words "he" and "Justyce", the point of view in the novel *Dear Martin* as a whole uses the perspective of a third person who fights as an all-knowing person.

### **3. The Reason the author specially addressed color-blind racism in his novel**

The author of the novel *Dear Martin* is Nic Stone, a black woman besides *Dear Martin*, she has also written several other novels such as *Dear Justyce*, *Clean Gateway*, and many more. *Dear Martin* is a novel that is all about racism and Racial Profiling. Here are the reasons why Nic Stone as the writer raised the issue of special color-blind racism.

- a. The author wants to better understand the issues of racism and economic inequality.

In a society of African-American descent, they are sometimes seen as lazy people, do not like to work hard so that their lives are not sufficient. When Nic Stone was interviewed by *writersdigest.com*, she said that through his writing he wanted to better understand the issues of racism and economic inequality. Written on the pages of *writermag.com* magazine, Nic also uses what she writes in his work as a medium to better understand the experiences of adolescence she has experienced. This novel tells a story based on the true story of the author where during his youth he also experienced discrimination and racism.

- b. The author wants to show that color-blind racism exists among people.

Through his work, Nic Stone wants readers to know if racism and racial profiling still exist and occur. This novel describes the old racism that has occurred frequently and illustrates that there is a new model of racism called color-blind racism in this modern era. This can be seen from the storyline of the novel where the character takes action color-blind against the main character, namely Justyce. The author wants the reader to also know that although many white people claim to be color blind, do not

see color, and equality exists, racism is still hidden or invisible. This can be seen from several parts in the *Dear Martin* novel, including in the sections:

*"Now the 21st century has been going on for a decade but I have experienced for myself that people like me are still being treated unfairly"*

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin*/ Chapter Page 42

The sentence above is an excerpt from Justyce's sentence when he wrote a letter to Dr. Martin. The storyline in the novel where the main character Justyce expresses what was felt by writing a letter to Dr. Martin shows that as the writer Nic Stone wants to describe what black people feel. Nic Stone wants to show the reader that in the 21st century there is still racial injustice. Even though the majority of people say that equality exists and there are no longer acts of racism, in fact, indirectly black people still feel racist acts. Like when Justyce said in the letter she wrote to Dr. Martin who tells the following:

*"It's true that Jared always said that everything is equal, but that doesn't mean he thinks I'm equal"*

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin* / Chapter 5 page 54)

Based on these sentences, Nic Stone as a novelist wants to give readers an idea if when someone considers everything to be equal but they sometimes don't think that the actions they take sometimes make minority people feel isolated. In addition, at the end of the novel *Dear Martin*, Stone also wrote that he wrote this novel based on a series of real events involving the deadly shooting of unarmed African-American teenagers.

- c. The author wants to convey how the response to incidents experienced by African-American teenagers and the emergence of a pro-justice movement.

Besides wanting to show that there is a new model of racism that has developed in society, another reason Stone uses the issue of racism, especially color-blind racism, is that she wants to show how the response to incidents experienced by African-American teenagers and the emergence of a pro-justice movement. In the novel story that he wrote, Justyce always wrote down what he felt through a letter which was then

compiled into a journal for Dr. Martin. He even told how Manny's father said:

*“There are still many people in my office who don't want to look at me. They show me respect just to keep their job. But many of my subordinates do not like to have a boss who comes from black skin like me”*

(Stone, 2017) *Dear Martin*/ Chapter 12 Page 118

This is what will make the reader understand that when the main character Justyce wrote a letter which was then compiled in a journal of his notes for Dr. Martin aims so that he can express what he feels. Through a concise and easy-to-understand storyline, the writer wants readers to enter the novel's story so that they can find out what color-blind racism is like. Although it does not explain in detail, the authors hope that readers can find information and be able to understand the color-blind racism that still occurs against blacks as the stories they read.

## **B. Discussion**

*Dear Martin* is a novel that tells about racism. Not only is the old model of racism common to African-Americans, but it has also given rise to a new kind of racism. This new model of racism is usually called color-blind racism, which is a condition when white people say that they no longer perceive colors but unconsciously and immediately they commit racist acts. The results showed that there was an act of color-blind racism which has been analyzed through the theory of color-blind racism according to Eduardo Bonilla Silva. In addition to analyzing using the color-blind racism theory, this study also uses sociological analysis of literature. By using these theories, several research results can answer questions in the research method.

First, the researcher found that there are three types of color-blind racism described by Eduardo Bonilla Silva, namely cultural racism frame, minimization of racism frame, abstract liberalism frame. The cultural racism frame is reflected in the actions of Justyce and Blake. An example of cultural racism is when Jared said that America has implemented equality by giving an example of Manny's father, who is African-American, according to him being given the same opportunity to work to become a successful and rich person. From the example given by Jared, he unconsciously demeaned Justyce's

mother, who was a widow and poor, who never worked hard so that she did not become a rich person. The minimization of the racism frame is also reflected in the actions of Jared and Blake. Minimization of racism is a color-blind type that considers racist words to be just an ordinary joke and does not think about whether the victim of racism is hurt or not. Jared and Blake's actions that reflect the minimization of racism can be seen when a party is being held by Blake at his house. Blake jokes about black women and Unconsciously Justyce takes offense at it. Meanwhile, the abstract liberalism frame is reflected in the actions of Jared, who felt that he was experiencing affirmative action. In the abstract liberalism frame, there are two principles, namely the equality of opportunity belongs to everyone and meritocracy. An example of the action of this frame is when Jared did not accept Justyce's admission to Yale University before he did. Jared, who felt he was smarter and superior to Justyce, considered that Justyce's acceptance at Yale was due to his affirmative action. Jared felt that he should be accepted at Yale because he came of white descent, in his mind whites should take precedence over black descent.

Second, the researchers found how color-blind racism was reflected in *Dear Martin*. Through analysis using the sociological theory of literature, the researcher found novel elements including theme, setting, point of view, and character. The theme of *Dear Martin*, in general, is racism. From the beginning of the novel's story, Nic Tone as the author has told a plot that describes racism and stereotypes. Acts of racism in this novel are experienced by the main character, Justyce. The settings contained in the *Dear Martin* novel are divided into several places and times. The scene in the novel story takes place in America which is mentioned in the novel as well as other specific places such as: in evolution class, street alley, FarmFresh parking lot, and at Blake's house. In addition to the setting of the place, there is also a set of time which is indicated by the words night, noon, and morning, which means that the time of the action of color-blind racism is related to these three times. In a novel, of course, some characters are also influential in the course of a story. In *Dear Martin*, the characters who do color-blind racism are Jared and Blake. This can be seen based on the results of the analysis of each sentence they uttered in the *Dear Martin* novel. Furthermore, based on the

type of point of view in the *Dear Martin* novel, it can be categorized into a knowledgeable third-person point of view. This is because the author here acts as a narrator and tells about what happened to Justyce. It can be seen from the opening sentence at the beginning of the novel.

Third, based on the results of the analysis, it is also found that why the writer of the novel *Dear Martin* specifically discusses color-blind racism. Nic Stone, who wrote the novel *Dear Martin*, specifically wants her readers to know and recognize that there are still acts of racism around them, whether overt or invisible as color-blind racism. Nic Stone also wants to get deeper into the issues of racism that African-American teenagers still experience. She herself is also a woman who also comes of African-American descent so that she also has experiences regarding acts of racism and discrimination. In the prologue to *Dear Martin*, it can be seen how these racist acts still exist. Likewise in the epilogue of Nic Stone also conveyed the reasons and purposes why she wrote this novel.