
**DISCRIMINATION TOWARDS BLACK WOMEN IN HIDDEN
FIGURES FILM**

Oleh:

Leony Jessica Wijaya

Nurhayati Purba

Elita Sembiring

Universitas Methodist Indonesia

email: leonijessica01@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The research analyzes racial and gender discrimination that happens in Hidden Figures film. The purpose of this research is to interpret racial and gender discrimination that appears through the actors' dialog and scenes that support racial and gender discrimination. This research also analyses the actors' dialogue that contains racial stereotypes and prejudice that have been accepted voluntarily (hegemony) by some black women, including identifying the black women fight against discrimination. The researcher uses qualitative analysis to analyze the data. Based on the analysis, the researcher finds there are only race discrimination and gender discrimination. The analysis also shows that black women fight against discrimination through direct resistance (verbal) and indirect resistance (non-verbal) from the victims.

Keywords: Discrimination, Race, Gender, Hegemony, and Segregation.

INTRODUCTION

Research Background

Films do not only function as a means of entertainment or relaxation. But the live image show is also able to open up public discussion spaces on various topics, even sensitive ones. Film is one type or genre in literature other than drama, prose, and poetry that presents the form of fictional stories, in different dimensions. Literature includes works such as fiction that are fictitious and non-fiction (Unpris Yastanti, Sinta Isnia & Irwin Ananta Vidada 2021).

In addition to novels, poetry, short stories, and drama, literary work also includes films. Films are a form of mass communication in which message delivery is transferred from visual and audio elements to these two elements combined into a medium to convey entertainment, social, educational, and commercial information, and also film is an artistic creativity of the people who make the film itself. Because of this, films have creative abilities because films are able to depict existing realities with imaginary images that can provide entertainment, and reflection for the

audience or the people who witness them.

Among the many films that circulate in society, it can be found films that raise the story of humans who have experienced discrimination, or different treatment. Factors can be due to differences in opinion, way of thinking, and even physical appearance, which in the end gives birth to the seeds of discrimination. Discrimination is not part of the face of society. It's not new, but it's been a long time. It happens everywhere, in our country, even in developed countries like the United States.

Discrimination is a differentiating in treatment. Differentiating in treatment can be due to skin color, class, or ethnicity, and can also be due to differences in gender, economy, religion, and so on. According to Theodorson & Theodorson (in Danandjaja: 2013), discrimination is unequal treatment of individuals or groups based on something, usually categorical or distinctive attributes, such as based on race, ethnicity, religion, or social class membership. The term is usually used to describe an action of a group that feels more dominant (the majority) over a smaller group (the minority) so it can be said that their behavior is immoral and undemocratic. Discrimination is always done by people who are in power or majority and have a feeling that they are superior to other races in the country (in Catherine 2016).

One of the films with the theme of discrimination is "Hidden Figures". This film explicitly and implicitly shows various patterns of strong discrimination, raising conflicts that

occur due to racial and gender differences in American society. Hidden Figures is a biographical film based on a true story. Directed by Theodore Melfi, this film was first released in 2016. Set in the 1960s, "Hidden Figures" displays various acts of discrimination against black Americans in the US. But it doesn't stop there, this film also shows the struggle of black people in demanding equal rights that emerged strongly at that time with the character of Martin Luther King Jr. At that time America was known to be very strong, and at the same time America was in World War II. Where the two strongest countries at that time were the Soviet Union and the United States. The cold war caused America to desperately fight for victory, one of which was the holding of a civil defense competition in the form of a weapons manufacturing competition and a space race as depicted in the film Hidden Figures.

Until entering the 21st century, America cannot be separated from acts of discrimination against black people. If since the 20th century discrimination against blacks has peaked. Discrimination against women has also been experienced since the 17th and 18th centuries. The effect of discrimination against women is also influenced by race, class, sexual preference, age, religion, educational achievement, employment, marital status, health conditions, and so on (Tong in Mustika, 2016: 34). Since long ago, women have been discriminated against for various reasons. One of them is because of skin color, as reflected in the Hidden Figures film. Black women who are employed as "computers" do not get justice in their work because of their skin color and identity as women.

The film “Hidden Figures”, portrays the faces of black women at that time, as well as their struggle against discrimination. In this film, audiences will see how African-American women, namely Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn, and Mary Jackson are portrayed as genius women who work as human computers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Tells that America didn’t want to lose to the Soviet Union, which had already launched a rocket, NASA was made as one of America’s weapons. Under the pressure of social differences, the characterization of the three women was able to erase the low view of Americans about the black race. With abilities in mathematics, mechanics, and engineering they contributed to the success of sending America’s first orbiting rocket to earth.

This film is based on a novel. The film’s climax is when the three women are assigned to different divisions. Here they put all their might. Katherine can be said to be the key to the successful delivery of America’s first orbiting rocket to earth. She calculated numbers that even his supervisor couldn’t solve. Thanks to that the rocket and the pilot in it can orbit the earth. In this thesis, the writer focuses on discrimination race, gender, hegemony and black women fight against discrimination. A previous research title as “Representation of Black Feminism in Hidden Figures” by Andre Ikhsano and Jakarudi, the thesis writer uses Patricia Hill Collins’ theory of black feminism and to integrate it with Stella Ting-Toomey’s theory of face-negotiation. they found three main characters experience discrimination in the form of racism, sexism, and classism.

This study chooses the film “Hidden Figures” as the object of this research because this film not only shows patterns of discrimination, and cultural hegemony that has been accepted voluntarily by black women over the superiority of white culture but also shows the struggles of the three black women in fighting the race discrimination that they experience. As it is known that acts of discrimination against black women have existed for a long time and are recorded in history, and stories about historical images can be known through the Hidden Figures film. A message is that acts of discrimination must be resisted, and should not be left alone. To show the patterns of discrimination in the film “Hidden Figures”, the writer wants to analyzed through several scenes in the film, and analyze the dialogue between the players.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Literature

There are many definitions of literature. Mursal Esten (Esten, 1978: 9) argues that literature is the expression of artistic and imaginative facts as a manifestation of human life and society in general, through language as a medium, and has a positive effect on human life. Terry Eagleton defines Literature as beautifully written works (belle letters) that recording something in the form of language that is condensed, deepened, twisted, shortened, made odd, or other aesthetic ways of composing methods through language tools (Eagleton, 2010, p.4).

According to Bennet and Royle (2015), literature has been understood to mean

a subject of study in schools and universities involving certain types of imaginative or creative writing, such as fiction, poetry, and drama, since the late nineteenth century. Literature includes works such as fiction, poetry, and drama that are fictitious and non-fictitious. Besides fiction, poetry, and drama, literature has various forms for readers to enjoy, that are novels, films, poems, and others (Unpris Yastanti, Sinta Isnia & Irwin Ananta Vidada 2021). The literature contains several combinations of values in life such as cultural values and social relations between people.

Literature is the imaginative work that pictures human life in a society that can be enjoyed, understandable, and used by society also. According to Pradopo (1994:26), the literary work is 'truth', or everything that wants to be pictured by the author. In addition, According to Roberts and Jacobs (2006:2) "Literature is a composition that tells the story, dramatizes a situation, expresses emotions, analyzes and advocates ideas".

Film

Yapi Tambayong or Remi Sylado says that films as "moving art", a translation of "motion picture", are the talents of people: actors, directors, scenarios, music, decorations, and so on. Thus, the film is a collective work of actions performed by actors, artistic expression of filmmakers (directors, cameramen), musicians, make-up artists, scriptwriters, etc.

According to Yapi Tambayong, the historical context of the birth of film art and the growth of cinematography quality cannot be separated from the political-economic situation in Europe at the end of the 19th century which

was characterized by social anxieties as a result of the modern era with various demands in life. From this was born the urge to find and discover a new culture that is mass, popular, and used. This is what came to be known as the film. (Yapi Tambayong, 2013: 14).

Louis Lumiere (1864-1948) was the one who introduced "cinematography to an audience of 35 people at the Grand Café in Paris in 1895, and the following year at a larger event at Empire Music Hall in Leicester Square, London. One of the films shown is Paris Express, the other is Boating in the Mediterranean. Lumiere was one of two brothers who made films that were later called documentaries. (Asa Briggs & Peter Burke 2006: 205).

In its development, in 1914 when the United States built Hollywood in California while making its first film. At that time Hollywood was still a village with rows of peppercorns with orchards that had not long ago (1903) integrated into the Los Angeles Metropolitan area (Asa Briggs & Peter Burke 2006: p 206). Since then the United States has had a golden age in the history of world film until now.

As cinema developed, more and more films were produced with different styles. Broadly speaking, films can be classified based on the story, orientation, and genre. Based on the story, films can be distinguished between Fiction and Non-Fiction films. Fiction is a film made based on human imagination, in other words, this film is not based on real events.

Non-Fiction Films are inspired by events that happened. However, as a performance medium, it still requires cinematographic elements with the

addition of certain effects such as sound effects, music, light, computerization, captivating scenarios or scripts and so on to support the appeal of the Non-Fiction Film.

Film as a form of media in mass communication, According to Effendy (1993: 209) not only has the function of entertainment but also information and education. Furthermore, Fred Widowo (2016) even said that film is a medium to convey various messages to the audience through story media. From the perspective of those involved in filmmaking, (director, actress, scriptwriter, art director, etc.), the film is a medium of expression. In essence and substance, this film has a power that will have implications for public communication.

Discrimination

In plural or multicultural societies, such as in the United States, there are always prejudices, stereotypes, and discrimination that affect the quality of social interaction with different population groups. Prejudice is defined as an opinion about something, a person, or a group that is formed too early, without good reason or sufficient knowledge or observation. While the stereotype is a generalized image created because prejudice against a particular group is too simplified that one view of all members of the group is too simplified so that one view all members of the group as having a certain nature, usually negative (Simon Fisher et al: 2000). Thus, in a stereotypical view, a group is seen and considered the same or homogeneous (Agus Sudibyo et al: 2001). Stereotypes thus contain little truth, the rest is prejudice, even envy, and hatred.

When a person's behavior is identified with the behavior of ethnic groups,

According to Suwarsih Warnaen, ethnic stereotypes have occurred. Stereotypes are the social energy for discrimination. When prejudice and stereotypes are deeply rooted in society, discrimination can be reflected in laws and institutions and also in the behavior of individuals on each side (Simon Fisher et al: 2000: 98). Thus, discrimination is more of a social and individual practice triggered due to prejudice and stereotypes.

According to Uli Parulian Sihombing in Understanding Discrimination (2009), discrimination is differentiating treatment. The difference in treatment can be due to skin color, class, or ethnicity, and can also be due to differences in gender, economy, religion, and so on. The meaning discrimination is the unfavorable treatment of anyone based on sex, race, and so on. According to Doob in Liliweri (2005:218), Discrimination is a behavior that is intended or limits other groups in trying to own or have the resources.

Kinds of Discrimination

According to (Fulthoni et al., 2009) Memahami Diskriminasi, are divided into 5 kinds of discrimination that occur, such:

1. Discrimination based on race ethics, and religion.
2. Discrimination based on gender (social role).
3. Discrimination against persons with disabilities
4. Discrimination against persons suffering from HIV/AIDS.
5. Discrimination because of social caste.
6. In this thesis, the writer focuses on discrimination race, and discrimination gender which is reflected in Hidden Figures film.
7. Types of Discrimination

According to Pettigrew in Liliweri's book (2005:221), there are two types of discrimination, namely:

Direct Discrimination

Direct discrimination is the act of restricting a particular area, such as settlement, occupation, and public facilities, and also occurs when taking decisions guided by prejudice against certain groups.

Indirect Discrimination

Indirect discrimination is carried out through the creation of policies that deter racial or ethnic-specific to independently associating with racial or ethnic, others in which the rules and procedures which they live can not contain any discrimination and causes systematic losses for the community or particular group of people.

Gender Discrimination

To understand the problem of injustice experienced by women, According to Mansour Fakih, one must understand the difference between sex and gender. The definition of sex is the characterization or division of two biologically determined human sexes attached to a particular gender. For example, men are human beings who have areas listed below: men are humans who have penises, have jackals (Kuala menjing), and produce sperm. While women have reproductive organs such as the uterus and canals for giving birth, producing eggs, having a vagina, and having tools to breastfeed. These tools are biologically attached to human types of women, and men forever. While gender is an inherent trait in men and women that are socially and culturally constructed. For example, the woman is known to be gentle, beautiful,

emotional, or motherly. While men are considered strong, rational, manly, and mighty. Whereas in reality there are also men who are emotional, gentle, and motherly, while there are also women who are strong, rational, and mighty (Mansour Fakih: 8).

However, According to Kamla Bashin, society is quite difficult to determine what is natural (gender) and what is socially and culturally constructed. As soon as a child is born, family and society begin the process of gendering: the birth of a son is celebrated, while the birth of a daughter is mourned, and the son is given love, respect, food, and better health care. Boys are encouraged to be strong and get out of the house, while girls are encouraged to be polite and stay within the confines of the house (Kamla Bashin: 5).

Due to the wrong perspective on sex and gender as a social and cultural construction, women experience a lot of discrimination. For example, in the workplace women experience discrimination in wages, women's salaries are generally lower than men's for the same position. Women are also less likely to get job promotions than men.

Race Discrimination

Discrimination based on ethnic differences is called racism. Racism is usually triggered by claims that one race is superior to another. That is called old racism, which in some western countries is legitimized by racist ideologies that claim the biological and "natural" superiority of white people. Manifestations of typical old racism can be seen in the apartheid movement in South Africa and the Civil

Rights Movement of the 1960s in the United States.

In terms of Swim (in Baron & Byrne, 1997), discrimination is a negative action against people who are the object of prejudice such as race, ethnicity, and religion. It can be said that discrimination is prejudice in action.

Hidden Figures

Hidden figures is a biographical drama film directed by Theodore Melfi. Theodore Melfi is an American writer, director, and producer. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, the USA in 1970. Hidden Figures had a limited release in 2016 by 20th Century Fox, before being widely released in the United States on January 6, 2017. The National Board of Review named this film one of the best 10 films of 2016, and it has won numerous accolades, including three Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture. Hidden Figures is a film about three black women who were a minority in the United States at the time (US). Mary Jackson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Katharine Goble are the three actresses. Mary Jackson was an engineer who had been turned down for a job at NASA unless she completed a higher education program that was only open to white people. Then, Dorothy, who works as an acting manager or supervisor in the Western region, is unable to secure a permanent position due to her skin color. Katherine Goble, on the other hand, is the key character in the film Hidden Figures. NASA discovers the hidden talent of three African-American mathematicians as the US competes with Russia to put a man in space. They were the brains behind one of the most massive enterprises in American history. Hidden Figures follows Mary, Dorothy, and

Katherine as they quickly rise through the ranks at NASA alongside some of history's greatest minds, based on the incredible true stories of these three women known as "computer people". The trio is tasked with calculating astronaut John Glenn's (Glen Powell) critical launch into orbit and guaranteeing his safe return. Dorothy, Mary, and Katherine Goble Johnson defied gender, race, and professional barriers with their wits and ambition. Dorothy, Mary, and Katherine Goble Johnson transcended gender, race, and professional boundaries as their brains and desire brought their goals to life in ways that humankind had never seen before. These three have been firmly established in US history as great American heroes as a result of their effort and dedication.

METHOD

According to Kirk and Miller (1986:9), there are two methods in analysis, namely quantitative and qualitative. Quantitative methods are research steps that are based on calculations, quantities, or numbers. Meanwhile, the qualitative method is any type of research that is not based on calculations. Bogdan and Taylor (1975:5) said that the qualitative method is a research step based on descriptive data such as written words or verbal expressions of people and their observed behavior. In this analysis, the writer uses a descriptive qualitative method in doing this research. The writer uses a film as a source in this thesis and analyzes which is related to the topic of this study about discrimination towards black women portrayed in the Hidden Figures film. The research design of this research is formed as a study of film. In this thesis

the writer uses methods such as qualitative analysis to analyze the data.

ANALYSIS

Discrimination Towards Black Women in Hidden Figures Film

Race Discrimination

Racial discrimination in Hidden Figures emphasizes the racial experience of black women. Where Mrs. Mitchel, a white female employee, accompanied by another white female employee, enters the Colored West Computing Group. Mrs. Mitchel tells Dorothy that the Space Task Group, the core team for the United States' first spaceflight mission, urgently needs a computer expert who is good at calculations or geometric analytics. Mrs. Mitchel asks Dorothy if there are any employees in the West Group with such competence. Before answering yes or no, Dorothy asks if the position of geometry analytics at the Space Task Group is permanent or temporary.

“Everything’s temporary, Dorothy. You have someone?”

This answer makes it clear that whatever positions black employees hold at NASA, including those who will be hired in the Space Task Group, are temporary, not permanent. This means that all black employees at NASA are contract employees with different rights and facilities than permanent employees. This dialogue excerpt shows the discrimination against black employees at NASA offices. Dorothy then recommends Katherine who is very good at calculating things related to numbers. Because Mrs. Mitchel has found the employee she needs, she hurriedly leaves the room and says that as next:



(Picture 1)

(At West Computer Group 00:11:29)

Mrs. Mitchel : “Space Task Group needs a computer, ASAP. Someone with a handle on analytic geometry. We can’t fill that position out of the East group.”

Dorothy : “Permanent or temporary?”

Mrs. Mitchel : “Everything’s temporary, Dorothy : “You have someone?”

Dorothy : “Yes, ma’am. Katherine’s the gal for that. She can handle any numbers you put in front of her.”

Mrs. Mitchel : “I’ll check her credentials. Didn’t think I’d come all the way down here.”

The word “Didn’t think” that comes out of Mrs. Mitchel shows that Mrs. Mitchel’s subconscious shows that she feels humiliated when she has to go down from her office on the top floor of the East Group, a building exclusively for white employees, to the West Group building, on the lower floor to meet her subordinates, black employees. In the discriminatory social structure, where the white race is position as superior to the black race, the initiative of a white person, especially her status as a superior, to meet subordinates a “defeat” or deconstructs the racial superiority she has enjoyed so far.

Therefore the phrase “I’d come all down here” can also be interpreted

metaphorically that Mrs. Mitchel not only physically goes down from the upstairs room to the bottom floor, from the East Group to the West Group but also drops her self-esteem as a white woman because she has to go to a black woman who is at odds with NASA's work culture values. That's why Mrs. Mitchel didn't want to stay in a black employee's room. The longer she is in the West Group, the more her pride is "wounded" due to her sense of superiority as a white race over the colored race.

In the next scene, when Katherine is desperate to go to the bathroom. Katherine feels as though she is in her new office. This can be seen from the close-up scene that shows Katherine's shoes wobbling, a sign that she can't stand to pee. This might have happened because Katherine's old office uses a fan, while her new office use air conditioning. As a new employee in the room, she doesn't know the location of the bathrooms for female employees. Katherine took the initiative to ask Secretary Mr. Harrison. Where she says that next:



(Picture 2)

(At Space Task Group 00:21:22)

Katherine : "May I ask where the ladies' room is?"

Secretary : "Sorry. I have no idea where your bathroom is."

Katherine's question is actually about the women's bathrooms, there is no identity whether it is a bathroom for black women or a bathroom for white women. Katherine probably thinks that since she is in the same room as the white employees, where there are also white female employees, then she thinks she would use the women's restroom in the Space Task Group.

But Secretary Mr. Harrison's response is unexpected. She says that she doesn't know the bathrooms for black women in the Space Task Group. The answer made Katherine realize that she is still a black female employee. She is still being discriminated against even though she is a member of the Space Task Group, which has a bathroom for black employees. The distance between the Space Task Group and the West Computing Group is 1 mile or 6.9 kilometers. She has to run around to save time even though she wears high-heels shoes. Katherine is not allowed to use vehicle facilities such as bicycles to go to the West Computer Group. Simply because she is black. The dialogue excerpts and scenes in this film illustrate that NASA as an institution racially discriminates against its employees.

Gender Discrimination

The scene in this film describes when the car that Katherine, Dorothy, and Mary usually ride to their office, NASA, broke down in the middle of the road. The distance is about 25 kilometers from the NASA office. Dorothy is the owner of the old ford car. In addition, she is also the only technician among the three. After checking it turned out that the car broke down due to a starter problem. Mary, who is known for her outspokenness and is smearing her lips with lipstick, immediately comments

that the starter problem will make them late for work and the three of them could become unemployed because they go to the office every day in a dilapidated car. Mary says that she wouldn't walk, nor she take the public bus, she will look for a car. But when she stretched out her fingers, from afar she sees a police patrol car coming towards them as next:



(Picture 3)
(At Street 00:04:31)

- Police : "Not a great place to for the three of y'all to be havin car trouble."
- Marry : "We didn't pick the place officer. It picked us."
- Police : "You being disrespectful?"
- Mary : "No, sir."
- Police : "You have identification on ya?"
- Mary, Katherine: "Yes sir."
- Katherine: "We just on our way to work at Langley. NASA sir."
- Dorothy : "We do a great deal of the calculating. Getting our rockets into space."
- Police : "All three of you?"
- Mary : "Yes, officer."
- Police : "NASA. Now that's something. I had no idea they hired..."

The policeman gets out of his car and says it is not the right place for the three of you to stop, Mary quickly

replied "We didn't pick the place officer. It picked us" When Mary answers like that, the policeman shows an annoyed tone toward Mary, he feels Mary is rude to him. The police immediately ask for their identities. Katherine and Dorothy try to tell the policeman that they work at NASA. When the policeman heard that they work at NASA, he is quite surprised and felt confused about how black women like them could work at NASA.

"I had no idea they hired," said the policeman. This text show gender discrimination as well as racial discrimination. The social construction that women are "stupid", and "uneducated", and only work in the kitchen (private), especially black women, is represented by the white policeman's attitude. The series of images in the scene where the highway patrol police caught their broken-down car is also full of symbolic signs that show the police's superiority over the three black women.

In the next scene, Katherine and Colonel Jim are seen walking and talking. Colonel Jim is a member of the US National Guard, the reserve component of the United States Air Force and Army. Every state, such as Washington DC and other US territories, has a National Guard that works double duty, both for the state and the federal (central) government. Colonel Jim asks Katherine what exactly Katherine's job was at NASA. Katherine explains that her job is to perform mathematical calculations to ensure the successful launch and landing of the space program. Colonel Jim immediately comments that it must be a dizzying job. Katherine confirmed Colonel Jim's opinion. But suddenly Colonel Jim said:



(Picture 4)

(At Church 00:36:11)

Colonel Jim : “Pastor mentioned you’re a computer at NASA.”

Katherine : “Yes”

Colonel Jim : “What’s that entail?”

Katherine : “Um... We calculate the mathematics necessary to enable launch and landing for the space program.”

Colonel Jim : “That’s pretty heady stuff.”

Katherine : “Yes, it is.”

Colonel Jim : “They let women handle that sort of...(Stammers) That’s not what I mean.

Katherine : “what do you mean?”

Colonel Jim : “well... I’m just surprised that something so taxing.”

Colonel Jim’s words in this sentence contain an element of disdain that such a heavy task is carried out by women. Colonel Jim’s view is a form of discrimination that considers women less rational than men. Women rely more on emotions, while men rely on ratios. Colonel Jim’s attitude is driven by his ego as a man who feels superior to women. The scene in the church where the pastor says that changes towards equality are beginning to be experienced by the skin of the people by mentioning Katherine, Dorothy, and Mary work at NASA and Colonel Jim as members of the National Guard, seems to make him unable to accept this fact.

Hegemony

In this scene, when the car in which Dorothy, Katherine, and Mary are finally able to walk again and the Police finally acted as bodyguards for the three black NASA employees. The incident is constructed by Mary as a miracle from God. The term miracle of God shows the fatalistic attitude of the victims of racial discrimination toward various acts of racism that are accepted.



(Picture 5)

(On The Way to NASA 00:06:36)

Dorothy : “Mary, slow down! You’re too close!”

Mary : “Be quiet. He said to follow him”.

Dorothy : “He didn’t mean up his behind!”

Katherine : “Dear Lord, I don’t even know where to begin!”

Mary : “Oh, I’ll tell you where to begin. Three Negro women are chasing a white police officer down the highway in Hampton, Virginia, in 1961. Ladies, that there is a God-ordained miracle.”

In Mary’s words, the term miracle of God shows the fatalistic attitude of the victims of racial discrimination toward various acts of racism that are accepted. Endlessly experiencing discrimination,

finally makes them believe that in reality, it wouldn't happen that a white patrol police officer would escort a car trip containing three Negro women. Especially with the sound of sirens that roared breaking the silence in the morning. For black people in the US, what happened to Dorothy, Katherine and Mary only happen because of a miracle from God.

In the next scene, on the first day, Mary becomes a permanent employee at The Mercury 7 Prototype. There she met a German engineer named Mr. Zielinski. When discussing the damage to the rocket capsule during the trial, Mr. Zielinski asks about Mary's conclusion. Seeing the conclusions and solutions provided by Mary, Mr. Zielinski offers the training of engineers at NASA. However, Mary knows that she is a negro woman and she is not going to entertain the impossible, see the conversation below:



(Picture 6)
(At Mercury 7 00:15:18)

Mr.Zielinski : "There is another opening in the engineer training program."

Mary : "Flat head rivets would reduce wind drag."

Mr.Zielinski : "Mary, a person with an engineer's mind should be an engineer. You can't

be a computer the rest of your life."

Mary : "Mr.Zielinski, I'm a negro woman. I'm not gonna entertain the impossible."

The scene in this film describes Mary and Mr. Zielinski observing a rocket that is about to be launched. When they were observing Mr. Zilienski see that Mary is worthy of being an engineer. Because Mary has a mind of an engineer. That's why he tells Mary to join the engineering training program.Mary firmly rejects Mr. Zilienski's suggestion to join the training program. The reason is that she was a Negro woman who couldn't possibly be an engineer. Mary says that she didn't want to hope for something impossible. Mary's answer to Mr. Zilienski's suggestion shows that the subconscious "that it is impossible for a Negro woman to be an engineer, shows that Marry has become a victim of hegemony". Victims of hegemony generally no longer realize that they are victims of discrimination that is constantly propagated through various channels so that they are finally accepted as "truth" by the victims.

Black Women Fight Against the Discrimination

Direct Resistance (verbal)

The scene in this film describes Katherine still doing her work as usual. Katherine also still keeps going back and forth between the Space Task Group and West Computing Group rooms to use the bathroom while carrying her work. In this scene, Mr. Harrison realizes that Katherine is constantly absent from her desk. When he sees Katherine come into the room wet and carrying her work, Mr. Harrison then

scolds Katherine in front of all the Space Task Group employees. He couldn't accept the excuse that Katherine has just returned from the bathroom. Especially the reason that she spends 40 minutes every day going to the bathroom.



(Picture 7)

(At Space Task Group 1:01:21)

Harrison : "Everywhere I look, you're not where I need you to be. It's not my imagination. Now, where the hell do you go every day?"

Katherine : "To the bathroom, sir."

Harrison : "To the bathroom? To the damn bathroom. For 40 minutes a day? What do you do in there? We're T-minus zero here. I put a lot of faith in you."

Katherine : "There's no bathroom for me here."

Harrison : "What do you mean there's no bathroom for you here?"

Katherine : "There is no bathroom. There are no colored bathrooms in this building or any building outside the West

Campus, which is half a mile away. Did you know that? I have to walk to Timbuktu just to relieve myself. And I can't use one of the handy bikes. Picture that Mr. Harrison. My uniform skirt below my knees, my heels, and a simple string of pearls. Well, I don't own pearls. Lord knows you don't pay colored enough to afford pearls! And I work like a dog, day and night, living off of coffee from a pot none of you wanna touch! So, excuse me if I have to go to the restroom a few times a day."

After being silent and ignoring all the unequal treatment at the beginning of her work in the Space Task Group, Katherine vents her anger to her boss, Mr. Harrison. She tells discrimination in the workplace which is hampered her work such as there is no colored bathroom in the Space Task Group building and she has to run to West Computing Group and takes 40 minutes to the bathroom every day. The only bathrooms for her are at West Computer, which was half a mile away.

She has to walk to West Computer, she is not allowed to use the bicycle facilities available for employees. She is also required to wear knee-length skirts and heels shoes. She also has to run every time she goes to the bathroom. She revealed that she has to work like a dog, day and night. Then, the segregated coffee pot for her in the workplace which no one will touch. After speaking up about all the

discrimination that she gets in the workplace, Katherine says sorry to Mr. Harrison then she asks Mr. Harrison's permission to get out from the workroom. What Katherine revealed shows that while working in the Space Task Group, Katherine experienced racial discrimination. However, in the end, Katherine didn't accept the various forms of racial discrimination. Her position as a geometry expert encouraged Katherine to fight back in the form of attacks through direct resistance to her superiors.

Indirect Resistance (Non-Verbal)

In this scene, Dorothy is trying to find a book for her that she can't find on the black side of the bookshelf. But when the librarian found that there are blacks in the white book area, the white librarian thinks that Dorothy wants to cause trouble there, the white librarian assumes that black people should be on black bookshelves. And white people are on bookshelves specifically for whites. Dorothy's presence turned out to be considered a nuisance and blacks should be in the black area. But the white librarian didn't care when Dorothy said she couldn't find the book she was looking for in the black book area. The white librarian instead called the local police to evict Dorothy and her children. In the next scene, Dorothy is seen taking out a book that was in her bag, so her son looks confused and asks her mother if she took the book secretly, following the conversation:



(Picture 20)
(At The Bus 00:50:40)

Kenneth Vaughn : “You took that book, Mama?”

Dorothy : “Son, I pay taxes. And taxes pay for everything in that library. Can't take something you already paid for.”

The scene in this film describes Dorothy getting unpleasant treatment when she and her sons go to the library. Because at the time Dorothy and her sons want to go to the library, in the city center there is a demonstration to fight for black people. Therefore, the librarian expelled them when Dorothy and his son are not in the colored section. Because of the unpleasant treatment Dorothy fights for her rights, she secretly takes the book she needed, and she felt her actions are right because she has paid taxes. Dorothy's actions show the existence of Indirect Resistance (Non-verbal), which is a defensive attitude that indirectly provides impactful changes.

If using James Scott's theory of Weapons of the Week, what Dorothy did is classified as silent resistance. Dorothy didn't put up a fight when she was kicked out of the library. But she secretly steals the book that she is looking for and hides it in her bag.

According to James Scott, the resistance of victims from weak people is not directly to overthrow or change a dominant system, but more focused on efforts to stay alive in that system. Or to minimize losses in the dominant system.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis, the discrimination towards black women portrayed in the Hidden Figures film, through the experience of the black women employees who work at NASA. This kinds of discrimination are manifested in the segregation of public facilities in the offices that separate office (buildings) for white and black employees, as well as in separate canteen, bathrooms, and positions for black women employees are temporary. Segregation between white and black citizens is also found in several public spaces such as public buses, libraries, drinking places, and courtrooms. The results also found gender discrimination such as the prohibition of female employees from attending meetings at NASA consisting of a male core team, as well as in the form of symbolic violence through dialogue which means degrading women's intelligence or showing the operation of the ideology of male superiority over women.

The stereotypes and racial prejudices that have been accepted voluntarily (hegemony) by some black women are victims of racial discrimination such as Mary voluntarily accepting the cultural construct that black women employees cannot be engineers at NASA. However, the hegemony in this film changes when other parties can provide counter-hegemony that black women can still become engineers at NASA because it's

not the nature of women but comes from discriminatory laws and it can be changed.

The black women fight against discrimination through Mary's resistance, who is enlightened, finally fight by legal resistance. Mary has proven this through her resistance by making a petition in the Virginia District Court and winning. In this film, there is also direct resistance by expressing and criticizing the racial and gender discrimination experienced by the victim against her superior. This resistance also results in success.

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