CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key term.

1.1 Background of the Study

According to Koesnosoebroto (1988:1), literature is kind of extension and application of certain properties of language. The relationship between literature and language on the basis of the very fact is that the literary work is a verbal work of art. It means that literature can be developed by language and human expression. People can express their ideas and imagination by language, both of written and spoken. In addition, according to Iwuchuku (2008:2) there are certain things that are common to the literature. They all recognize the fact that: 1) literature is imaginative, 2) literature expresses thoughts and feelings, 3) literature deals with life experiences, 4) literature uses words in a powerful, effective and yet captivating manner, 5) literature promotes recreation and revelation of hidden facts.

Literature represents people’s culture and tradition. With literature, people can get the information for truth and to asses people in order to get the real human life situation. According to Connolly (in Koesnosoebroto, 1988:1), “We read because of a hunger information, or amusement, or solace, because an appetite for truth that seem
to grow by what it feeds on.” At the same point, literature obtains the purpose for entertainment, enjoyment and also agitation.

Literature consists of stories, poem, drama, film, and other individual written works, whether they are fiction and nonfiction. Film has become one of the most popular media in literature nowadays. Film is a new form of literary work. It differs from other previous literary work, such as novel and drama. But, film has also the sameness with drama and novel because it uses actors as major means of expression and has elements contained in drama, short story, or novel. The film makers may also get inspirations from short story or novel to be film in order that the readers are easier to enjoy than enjoy novel or short story because it spends less time to see the description through its depictions. Klarer (in Widi, 2012) states:

Film is means of photography depiction far surpass the means of realistic portrayal in the theater. Film is categorized into performing art because it uses actors as its major means of expression. The visualization of the action is not left merely to the imagination of a viewer, but rather comes to life in the performance.

Film gives a new color for literary work because it is a new media to convey the message that the author has through its photographic depiction. Film has also the elements of literary works, such as: plot, theme, setting, and character and dialogue.

Since film includes literary work, it may represent the reflection of human life. Therefore, it can be one of media to teach social, culture, moral, or behavior including racism. Racism is attitudes and discriminatory behavior toward people of given race. Steward (in Widi, 2012) states that racism refers to heredity differences in such trait as skin color, eye color, or eye shape related to discrimination and unequal treatment of people. In certain society, one race may be considered superior or
inferior. This will influence the member of the race. Racism means giving
discriminative attitude and unequal treatment toward certain people because of race.
It may make certain race feel considered superior or inferior because of the
discrimination and unequal treatment.

“The Help” was the popular film. In February 2012, the film received four
Academy Award nominations including Best Picture, Best Actress for Davis, Best
Supporting Actress for Chastain, and a win for Best Supporting Actress for Spencer.
On January 29, 2012, the film won the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding
Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. That was published over thirty languages.
“The Help” film tells the discrimination between the black person and white person.
The black person or Negroes is considered lower than white person. So, white person
is more powerful and more honorable than black person. In our life the position of
servant is very important. The servant is needed many people. For example, the
parents who can’t care to do family needs include take care with their children need
the servant to finish the work of a household.

Analyzing “The Help” film is interesting because it has an interesting story
about racism between white person and black servant. In this film describes about the
phenomena attitudes toward certain people based on given race.

The previous research related to this research was about racism toward Negroes
in the “Men of Honor” film. That research was written by Widi Kurniawan. He was a
student in University of Muhammadiyah Malang. He analyzed of racism toward
Negroes in that film could be seen from the discriminative attitude or treatment
between white American and black American or Negroes. There were two kinds of
reaction done by Negroes toward discrimination in racism, namely they were only accepted the racism toward them, and sometimes the struggled against racism toward them. And the effects of discriminative attitude toward Negroes on white Americans were that some white Americans became to feel superior and some had pity on Negroes.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

1. What were racism faced by Aibileen as a black servant in “The Help” film?
2. How were racism described by Aibileen as a black servant in “The Help” film?
3. How did Aibileen solve the racism as a black servant in “The Help” film?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

1. To explain racism written by Aibileen as a black servant in “The Help” film
2. To describe racism written by Aibileen as a black servant in “The Help” film
3. To find out solution of racism faced by Aibileen as black servant “The Help” film

1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of the study has significance for several parties. The first is for English Department student. The students can take the lesson about racism, which can bear the conflict between human and enable them to underestimate other race outside their own race. Furthermore, it is expected to encourage students to study much more about film which is a reflection of society and behavior. The second is for lecturers. The lecturers can use this study as reference when they teach social and culture, especially about racism on film.
1.5  **Scope and limitation**

The scope of this study is focused on racism in film. And limitation on racism studied here is racism and the solution of racism faced Aibileen as a black servant on Kathryn Stocket’s ‘’The Help’’ film.

1.6  **Definition of Key Terms**

There are several key terms, which are clarified in this study. The researcher defines the key terms as follows:

1. An analysis is getting information to solve problems in the cooperation; going out and seeking opinions on optimal, actual, feeling, causers and solution. (Rossett, 1987:251).

2. Aibileen is a first person to share her stories after getting racism as a black servant.

3. Racism is a belief that human races have distinctive characteristics that determine their respective cultures, usually involving the idea that one’s own race is superior and has the right to rule others. (Katz 1978)

4. Film is means of photography depiction far surpass the means of realistic portrayal in the theater (Klarer Widi 2012)

5. The Help is an American drama film about racism adapted from the same (2009) novel by Kathryn Stockett.

(http://Wikipedia ,the free encyclopedia)