

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This research concludes that Janae Marks, in her novel *From the Desk of Zoe Washington*, depicts the racial injustice faced by black Americans through the experiences of Zoe Washington and her family. The novel highlights how systemic racism is embedded in every aspect of their lives, such as in the criminal justice system and their daily lives. The results of this research were analyzed using Joe R. Feagin's theory, namely Systemic Racism: A Theory of Oppression, as a theoretical framework, focusing on the forms of racial injustice depicted in the novel *From the Desk of Zoe Washington* through the experiences of Zoe and her family.

In the novel, I found that black Americans experience several forms of racial injustice through systemic racism. The conclusions that can be drawn from this research are organized based on the research questions and the results of the analysis in Chapter 4, including these four following issues. Firstly, this novel illustrates the problem of systemic racism in institutions such as the criminal justice system, which can be seen from the Marcus case. The wrongful conviction of Marcus illustrates the bias in the criminal justice system, where black individuals are disproportionately targeted and treated unfairly. Through Marcus' experience, the depiction of institutional racism is in line with Feagin's theory of systemic racism, where bias in the criminal justice system can lead to the wrongful incarceration of black individuals. Marcus and Zoe's experience of struggling to get justice is an illustration of how the problem of racial dynamics continues to exist in the criminal justice system. Secondly, in my analysis, I found that issues of racial

stereotyping and discrimination that occur in every aspect of Zoe and her family's lives were also revealed. Thirdly, through this novel, Boston is portrayed as a city that has a complex, ongoing, and systemic problem of racism that is rooted in Boston's racial history. Lastly, another problem found is that some regulations that encourage racial injustice in Boston are also found in this novel, especially regulations in the criminal justice system that also relate to the problem of bias in criminal justice and also the discrimination in economic regulations.

In conclusion, through the experiences of Zoe and her family, readers gain insight into the historical and contemporary challenges faced by the black community in Boston regarding issues of racism that still exist today. This highlights the ongoing struggle to achieve equality and justice, especially for black Americans in Boston.

