

# CHAPTER I

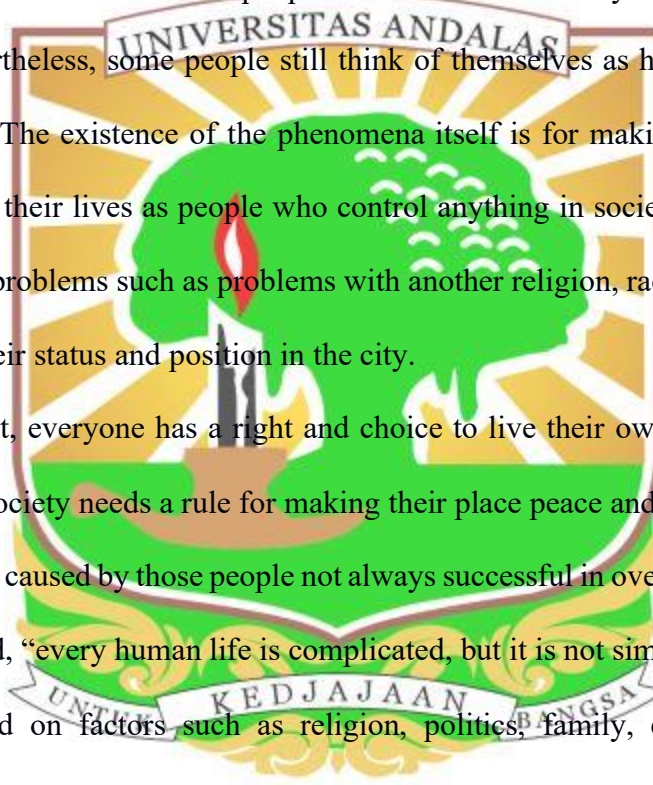
## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. The Background of the Study

Some people might consider themselves as human beings who cannot separate from one another. They need each other to survive and continue their life in society. Understanding is one of the essential things in society. On the other hand, all of us should be aware of the needs of people around our community.

Nevertheless, some people still think of themselves as higher or smarter than anyone else. The existence of the phenomena itself is for making authorization, and they can live their lives as people who control anything in society. They are creating many social problems such as problems with another religion, race, and language. It is causing to their status and position in the city.

In fact, everyone has a right and choice to live their own life. So that people who live in society needs a rule for making their place peace and safety. However, the state which is caused by those people not always successful in overcoming the problem. As Faruk said, “every human life is complicated, but it is not simple. Human life itself is built based on factors such as religion, politics, family, economy, and social structure” (1994). Scott claims that the existing relationship between literature and society is intertwined with each other (2009, p. 126). The aim of literature is not only to influence social factors but also to be the reason behind social influence itself. So, literary works and society have a strong relationship with each other because people’s lives in society are widely presented in literary works. There is a powerful relationship between society and literature.



Furthermore, there are many types in literary work such as drama, poetry, novel, short story, and others, the writer chooses to analyze a novel because it is worth being a subject in research.

The writer chooses the novel entitled *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas to be analyzed in this research. Angie Thomas is a black American writer whose young adult novel became the number one on the New York Times bestseller list book in 2017. As an author, Angie Thomas through her novel has written various real reflections on how black people face their problems as part of American society. Angie Thomas' novel is able to increase readers' awareness of issues related to these black people's problems.

*The Hate U Give* is a novel that depicts the battle that Starr Carter experiences, as the main character, to get justice for the oppressions that occur around her. Starr Carter continues to run into trouble related to the issue of black people's oppression. Not only delightful and entertaining, this novel has a story line that can attract the attention of readers so that the readers can draw lessons that are appropriate to life. This phenomenon happens because of the unbalancing social status or position in society. The problem is namely oppression.

According to Webster's Third Dictionary, oppression is unfair treatment in a community or group that exists in our social life. The community is taking action to threaten someone who will be their target. They can make some lousy response to them because they have power in that place. Then, they can control other people under their command. Oppression is one of the actions of disturbing

other individuals or even other groups in the social life which is caused by variation of race, status, and religion.

From the statement above, the writer concluded that oppression treatment happens in many ways. The issues about the abuse of black people are one phenomenon that it found in real life. Many literary works, such as short stories, drama, film, poetry, and novel, reflect the oppression issue. Regarding the oppression issue which appears in society until today, *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas is the one literary work that has a relationship with the social issue above.

A novel entitled *The Hate U Give* (2017) by Angie Thomas reflects the oppression issue. The story of novel tells about Starr Carter, a teenager who stays and lives in a small neighbourhood. Starr described as a black teenager covered by the powerlessness and harshness that make her life dangerous. Angie Thomas has a high power to encourage black people against society. Secondly, the novel has an exciting story, and the way Angie Thomas tells the story is excellent and easy to understand. Last but not least is Angie Thomas is also a witness for the current situation of the United States, especially in Jackson, Mississippi, which she reflects in the novel.

*The Hate U Give* describes how oppression happens in America, even a teenager also experiences those kinds of oppression. The social condition forced the major character to do the horrible life but she having and felling an affection from other people even her parents. The harshness of life makes her stronger. So, based on the statement above the writer has some reasons why the writer is interested to analyze this novel. Firstly, this novel explains the struggle of a teenager who lived in a workhouse in society by passing oppression. Secondly, the unbalancing condition that makes a young girl has never gotten her right as a teenager or even feeling happiness. *The Hate U Give* novel guides the writer to know deeper about the kind of oppression which is coming up in



America in the twentieth century. In conclusion, the writer would like to analyze this kind of oppression at Angie Thomas' *The Hate U Give* novel by using the Sociological Approach entitled *The Oppression Among Black People in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century as Portrayed in Angie Thomas' Novel The Hate U Give*.

