

**THE RESPONSES OF THE BLACK AMERICANS AND THE WHITE AMERICANS  
TOWARD RACISM IN SOUTHERN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS DEPICTED IN  
JOHN GRISHAM'S *A TIME TO KILL*  
(TANGGAPAN ORANG KULIT HITAM DAN ORANG KULIT PUTIH TERHADAP  
RASISME DI AMERIKA SERIKAT BAGIAN SELATAN SEPERTI YANG TERGAMBAR  
DALAM NOVEL *A TIME TO KILL* KARYA JOHN GRISHAM)**

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**Abstract**

*A Time to Kill* represents racial problems between the blacks and the whites in the United States of America especially in the South during 1960s until 1970s. Set in Ford County, Mississippi, where racism exists more strongly, the novel tells about the white racists who treat the blacks and the white sympathizers badly such as racial prejudice, segregation, discrimination, intimidation, and extermination. In this study, the problems are to describe the kinds of racism, and to know the responses of the blacks and the whites toward racism. The problems are analyzed by using Critical Race Theory proposed by Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic. This theory is applicable to the topic discussion because it is a theory about human behavior and social process that is relevant to racial group categorization and racial stratification. The result of this study shows that the white racists practice racism against the blacks and the white sympathizers. In responding racism, most of the blacks reject racism through demonstration to demand justice and equality. However, a few of them are apathetic because they feel that they have no power and chance to erase racism since the whites still dominate all aspects of life. Furthermore, the white racists agree to racism. Some of them join Ku Klux Klan to restore white supremacy. They feel afraid of the blacks taking over their domination. On the other hand, some of the white reject racism. They are known as the white sympathizers. They assimilate with the blacks and join civil rights movements to help the blacks to get their rights and freedom, and to make the blacks and the whites live in harmony. Moreover, this study is conducted to encourage the readers to appreciate people's rights and freedom in order to gain a harmonious life.

**Keywords:** Blacks, Racism, Responses, United States of America, Whites.

**Abstrak**

*A Time to Kill* menggambarkan masalah-masalah rasial antara orang kulit hitam dan kulit putih di Amerika Serikat terutama di bagian selatan selama tahun 1960-an sampai 1970-an. Bertempat di Ford County, Mississippi, dimana rasisme terasa sangat kuat, novel ini menceritakan tentang orang kulit putih rasis yang memperlakukan orang kulit hitam dan orang kulit putih simpatisan secara tidak adil seperti prasangka, segregasi, diskriminasi, intimidasi, dan eksterminasi. Permasalahan di dalam penelitian ini diharapkan dapat menjelaskan jenis-jenis rasisme dan juga untuk mengetahui tanggapan orang kulit hitam dan kulit putih terhadap rasisme. Permasalahan tersebut akan diurai menggunakan Critical Race Theory yang dikemukakan oleh Richard Delgado dan Jean Stefancic. Teori tersebut layak digunakan dalam topik diskusi ini karena teori tersebut merupakan teori tentang perilaku manusia dan proses sosial yang berkaitan dengan ras kategorisasi kelompok dan stratifikasi rasial. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa orang kulit putih rasis melakukan tindak rasisme terhadap orang kulit hitam dan kulit putih simpatisan. Dalam menanggapi hal tersebut, sebagian besar orang kulit hitam menentang adanya rasisme dengan berdemonstrasi untuk menuntut keadilan dan kesetaraan. Namun, beberapa dari mereka cenderung bersikap apatis karena mereka merasa tidak memiliki kekuatan dan kesempatan untuk menghentikan rasisme selama orang kulit putih masih mendominasi semua aspek kehidupan. Selain itu, orang kulit putih rasis menyetujui adanya rasisme. Beberapa dari mereka bergabung dengan Ku Klux Klan untuk mengembalikan supremasi orang kulit putih karena mereka takut dengan orang kulit hitam yang kemungkinan besar dapat mengambil alih dominasi mereka. Di sisi lain, beberapa orang kulit putih simpatisan menentang adanya tindak rasisme. Mereka berbaur dengan orang kulit hitam dan bergabung dengan gerakan hak-hak sipil untuk membantu orang kulit hitam agar memperoleh hak dan kebebasan mereka, dan untuk membuat orang kulit hitam dan kulit putih hidup dalam kerharmonisan. Selain itu, penelitian ini dibuat untuk mendorong para pembaca agar menghargai hak-hak dan kebebasan setiap orang dalam mewujudkan kehidupan yang harmonis.

**Kata Kunci:** Amerika Serikat, Orang Kulit Hitam, Orang Kulit Putih, Racisme, Tanggapan.

### Introduction

*A Time to Kill* was published firstly in 1989. It is the first novel by John Grisham, a white lawyer who began to focus in his hobby-writing a novel. *A Time to Kill* is a story about an ambitious young white lawyer who defends a black man life. Set in Ford County, Mississippi, where racism exists more strongly, the novel tells about racial problems between the blacks and the whites such as racial prejudice, segregation, discrimination, intimidation, and even extermination.

The novel is interesting to study because it presents racial problems between the blacks and the whites in the United States of America especially in the South during 1960s until 1970s.

In the 1960s until 1970s, racism existed more strongly in the South. The white racists practiced racism against the blacks such as racial prejudice, segregation, and discrimination. Some of them joined Ku Klux Klan in order to restore white supremacy. As a white extreme group, Ku Klux Klan always intimidated and exterminated the blacks and the white sympathizers by death calling, burning cross, planting bomb, shooting, and even whipping. Moreover, in responding racism, the blacks practiced demonstration to demand the justice. But a few of them responded apathetic. Alike the blacks, the white sympathizers rejected racism and assimilated with the blacks. Some of them joined civil rights movements to help the blacks to get their rights and freedom.

This study is conducted to describe the kinds of racism seen in the novel, and to know the responses of the blacks and the whites toward racism seen in the novel. The problems are analyzed by using critical race theory proposed by Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic. This theory is applicable to the topic of discussion because it is a theory about human behavior and social processes relevant to racial group categorization and racial stratification. Therefore, this study analyzes the racial problems between the blacks and the whites which is reflected in the novel. Moreover, racial problems are important to discuss in order to know how the blacks respond racism and how the whites respond racism in the United States of America especially in the South.

### Research Methodology

This thesis uses library research and qualitative method is applied to collect the data. Denscombe (2007:248) states that qualitative method is disposed to be associated with words or images as the unit of analysis. The data are taken from several resources concerning to racism especially racial problems between the blacks and the whites. *A Time to Kill* novel is the primary object and Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic's *Critical Race Theory: An Introduction* is the source that concerns to the theory of race and racism under African-American criticism. All data are categorized in forms of narrations and statements. The study begins from the classification of narrations and dialogues about the kinds of racial practice; and the responses of the blacks and the whites toward racism. Then, all the data are processed by using critical race theory. The theory is used to analyze and identify the kinds of racial practices and the responses of the blacks and the whites toward racism seen in the novel.

### Result

Based on the data which have been analyzed in this research, it is found that the white racists practice racism against the blacks such as racial prejudice, segregation, discrimination, intimidation, and extermination toward the blacks and the white sympathizers. In responding racism, most of the blacks reject racism through demonstration to demand the equality and justice. However, a few of them are apathetic because they feel that they have no power to stop and to erase racism as long as the whites still control all aspects of life in United States of America especially in the South.

Furthermore, the whites also respond racism. The responses of the whites toward racism emerge two kinds. Those are pro-racism and contra-racism. The first, pro-racism refers to the white racists who agree to racism and practice racism to the blacks and the white sympathizers. Some of them join Ku Klux Klan as their response. The second, contra-racism refers to the white anti-racists or the white sympathizers who reject racism by assimilating with the blacks and joining civil rights movements. Moreover, it shows that not all the whites are racist.

### Discussion

The racial differences between two members of different races are able to lead conflicts. The conflicts between the blacks and the whites causes racism. Racism is any program or practice discrimination, segregation, persecution, or mistreatment to membership in a race or ethnic group (Delgado & Stefancic, 2001:154). Racial problems between the blacks and the whites is shown in the novel "*A Time to Kill*" by John Grisham. He tries to portray the racial problems between the blacks and the whites in the United States of America especially in the South during 1960s until 1970s, where the white racists treated the blacks badly. They practiced racism such as discrimination, segregation, racial prejudice, intimidation, and even extermination. They not only practiced racism to the blacks, but also to the white sympathizers who appreciated the blacks. Alike the blacks, the white sympathizers also got bad treatments from the white racists.

In the United States of America, discrimination toward the blacks existed strongly in the South since the black ancestors came to work in the South's plantation. Trotter states that the blacks still strived for political, social, and economical equality (2001:265). During 1960s until 1970s, The blacks still got bad facilities and then the whites got better facilities. Most of the blacks were arrested and the blacks' cases were on trial because they were blacks. In contrast, generally, the whites were not arrested and the whites' case were not on trial because they were whites.

Discrimination is a form of everyday racism, because the whites usually discriminate the blacks in the United States of America especially in the South. It is seen in the novel, which the prison population in Ford County, Mississippi are dominated with the blacks. It is shown in the following.

Cobb and Willard awoke with throbbing heads and red, swollen eyes. Ozzie was yelling at them.

They were in a small cell by themselves. Through the bars to the right was a cell where the state prisoners were held awaiting the trip to Parchman. A dozen blacks leaned through the bars and glared at the two white boys as they struggled to clear their eyes. To the left was a smaller cell, also full of blacks.

(Grisham, 2009:42)

The quotation above proves that discrimination in Ford County exists strongly. The prison in Ford County are dominated with the black prisoners than the white ones. It shows that the justice system in Ford County works unfairly to the blacks.

Carl Lee Hailey is a black man who gets discrimination in justice system. His case goes on trial, because he is a black and shoot two white men who rape his daughter, Tonya. He shoots them because the court will make them free without any trial if they pay a bail. He knows that the court gives them a bail and makes them free because they are whites and wealthy. In contrast, Hailey cannot get a bail and he gets all white juries chosen for him when Mr. Pate brings the courtroom to order as Judge and the lawyers take their places. He calls the names of the twelve juries who slowly walk to the jury box. They consists of ten women, two men, all white. It makes the blacks in the courtroom mumble and eye each other in disbelief (Grisham, 2009:500).

The whites also discriminate the blacks economically. Lester Hailey go to the bank to get a loan. He needs money to pay Jake Brigance and to fulfil Carl Lee Hailey's family. He go to the bank where Stan Atcavage works as a banker. In few minutes, Stan calls Jake that he cannot loan money to Lester, although Lester brings Hailey's house certificate as a guarantee. Stan thinks that Hailey and Lester cannot pay back the loan because they are blacks and poor. He cannot loan money to Lester although Jake pursue him to loan money for Lester.

Another day, Jake meets Stan in Claude's cafe. He asks Stan to loan money for him without guarantee. He promises to repay the money. He wants to know why Stan cannot loan money to Lester. Then, Stan says that he prefers to loan it to Jake (Grisham, 2009:323-324). Stan loan the money to Jake because Jake is a white man. It proves that Stan discriminates Lester financially since Lester is a black man and poor. It is a form of interest convergence or material determinism. Interest convergence is the strategy to repress the blacks in economic and social system that affects to the whites as superior and the blacks as inferior (Tyson, 2006:371). It can be concluded as racial practice to advance the whites financially. Moreover, discrimination toward the blacks by the whites is motivated by racial prejudice (Feagin, 2006:125). The whites discriminate the blacks because the whites think that the blacks are criminal, liar, and poverty.

In the 1960s until 1970s, the stereotype of the blacks as inferior grew more strongly in the South, because the whites felt that they were superior to the blacks. They thought that the blacks were criminal and menace. Their prejudgement toward the blacks happened since the black ancestors came to United States of America for working in the South's plantation.

The prejudice toward the blacks is shown in the novel, when Will Tierce assume Carl Lee Hailey as a criminal and a menace because they hear that Hailey will be free. Tierce says to Joe Frank.

You better believe it. Andif Hailey gets off, none of us will be safe. Ever nigger in this country'll carry a gun and just look for trouble (Grisham, 2009:410).

Tierce and Frank feel afraid of it. They prejudice Hailey as criminal and menace because Hailey is a black man. According to Delgado and Stefancic, whiteness is often associated with innocence and goodness, while darkness and blakcness often carry connotation of evil and menace (2001:75). Therefore, they assume Hailey as criminal and menace based on his skin color in order to make the white people in Ford County hate Hailey.

Besides Tierce and Frank, Rufus Buckley also prejudice the blacks. He assumes Ozzie Walls as a liar, because he is a black man. He whispers to Musgrove while he sees Ozzie defends Hailey in Hailey's first trial. Grisham (2009:312) states "it was not his job to help the defense. Proves you can't trust a nigger, thought Buckley. They take up for each other when they know they're guilty". It proves that Buckley prejudice the blacks as liars based on his hatred to Ozzie, since Ozzie helps Hailey. According to Allport, prejudice refers to an attitude of aversion and hostility toward the members of a group (Zanden, 1984:417).

Prejudgement is not only directed to the blacks, but also to the white sympathizers. The white sympathizers are the white people who sympathize the blacks. Jake Brigance is a white lawyer who defends a black man, Carl Lee Hailey. He receives many strange callers in his office. One of them said that Jake is a shame for the white race because he agrees to be Hailey's lawyer. Then, when he enjoys his breakfast in Dell's Coffee Shop, he realizes that many resentment among the whites in Ford County, because he agrees to help Hailey. It is shown in the quotation below.

"At least I'm here." He had missed a few mornings since the amputation. Looney was popular, and there was resentment at the Coffee Shop and around the town for Hailey's lawyer. He was aware of it and tried to ignore it.

There was resentment among many for any lawyer who would defend a nigger for killing two white man.

(Grisham, 2009:193-194)

The quotation above proves that the white people in Ford County hate Jake because he agrees to be Hailey's lawyer. Their prejudgement toward Jake is a form of differential racialization. They assume Jake as a traitor because Jake agrees to defend Hailey and think that Jake's appreciation toward Hailey is an immoral behavior that makes shame to the white race. They do not assume Jake as superior, although he is from the white race. Therefore, the white sympathizers are viewed differently by the white racists. They assume them as traitors rather than superior ones.

In this case, prejudice is a form of everyday racism because the white racists always think the blacks or the white sympathizers as inferior based on their attitude of aversion and hostility toward the blacks and the white sympathizers.

Furthermore, their hostility toward the blacks make the white racists segregate their public facilities from the blacks.

In the United States of America during 1960s until 1970s, where the remains of the Jim Crow Law still existed in the South. Through Jim Crow Law, the whites segregated their public facility such as schools, restaurants, and churches. The whites wanted to create the living area for the whites and kept a distance with the blacks. It made the blacks and the whites had their own public facility.

Segregation is a form of everyday racism because it is a common activity of the white racists in the United States of America especially in the South. The whites separate their public facility to create an area for the whites only and to keep a distance from the blacks. Moreover, Tyson (2006:369-370) states that the other common examples of everyday racist behavior exhibit by white people such as contact avoidance or keeping a physical distance from person of color or avoiding touch. It is seen in the novel, where the blacks and the whites have their own coffee shop in Ford County, Mississippi. They segregate their coffee shops into three coffee shops. Grisham (2009:28) states that Clanton had three coffee shops-two for the whites and one for the blacks, and all three were on the square. It makes the blacks hardly to get an access in every public facility. It is hard for Ozzie Walls to enter the restaurant to arrest Cobb and Willard because he is a black.

Moreover, the whites also segregate their sitting spot in the courtroom to keep a distance with the blacks. Grisham states that just like in the old days before sixties, the courtroom is neatly segregated with the blacks and whites separated by the center aisle (2009:121). Another day, Prather opens the door of the courthouse. The blacks and whites walk slowly into the courtroom, where the blacks fill the left side and the whites are in the right (Grisham, 2009:524). It represents segregation in the United States of America especially in the South during 1960s until 1970s. Besides the whites segregate their restaurant and sitting spot in the courtroom, they also segregate their churches. There are twenty-three black churches in Ford County (Grisham, 2009:222). Although they are Christians, the blacks and whites have their own church to pray the same God. It is hard for the blacks to get their equality and justice in Ford County, Mississippi, where segregation is accompanied with the existence of the Ku Klux Klan as the White supremacy group.

In the United States of America, Ku Klux Klan was a White supremacy group that was known as a racist group in the United States of America. During 1960s until 1970s, this group spread up in the South, and was active to intimidate the blacks as their target. Infrequently, their target was the white sympathizers who were considered as traitors to the white race, because the white sympathizers sympathize the blacks. The Southern Poverty Law (2011:20) states that they intimidated the blacks and the white sympathizers by threatening call, mocking, or cross burning. Those were associated as a characteristics of Ku Klux Klan to frighten the blacks and the white sympathizers in the South.

In the novel, when the Ku Klux Klan do march in front of the courthouse, Stump Simpson, a leader of Ku Klux Klan intimidates the blacks by mocking the blacks as animals. He

screams into a microphone and points at the blacks around him:

“Shut up, you wild niggers!” Stump shrieked back. “Shut up, you animals!” His troops stood facing him, frozen, with their backs to the screaming crowd.

(Grisham, 2009:429-430)

Stump Simpson intimidates the blacks and calls them animals to frighten the blacks. They do march to demand Hailey go to the gas chamber because he is a black man and kill two white men. Afterwards, when the Ku Klux Klan knows that Jake Birgance is Hailey's lawyer, they begin to intimidate Jake by threatening calls and burning cross. They burn the cross in front yard of Jake's house. Grisham (2009:228) states that Jake stumbles through the front door and freeze, shocks, and stuns, next to the deputy. Jake and Deputy stand side by side on the porch, mesmerize not only by the burning cross, but by its purpose. Jake is not afraid of it. His ambition to win Hailey's case, makes him still defends Hailey.

Knowing that Jake still defends Hailey, the Ku Klux Klan intimidates Jake's secretary, Ethel Twitty. Ethel receives many threatening calls in her house and in the office. She tells Jake.

They weren't really obscene. They were threatening. They threatened me because I work for you. Said I'd be sorry because I worked for a nigger lover. The ones here threaten to harm you and your family. I'm just scared.

(Grisham, 2009:130)

The quotation above proves that the Ku Klux Klan intimidates Ethel Twitty because of her intersectionality. Intersectionality means overlapping identities. Therefore, they intimidate because she works for Jake and she is a white sympathizer. It is the Klan's purpose to make Jake not win Hailey's case.

Moreover, the Ku Klux Klan also intimidates the blacks and white sympathizers in Ford County who support Hailey to be free. They burn the cross in twenty targets, but one fails. Then, they call the nineteen targets to see the burning cross in their front yard. It means that the Ku Klux Klan still exists in Ford County, Mississippi.

In the 1960s until 1970s, the Ku Klux Klan not only intimidated the blacks and the white sympathizers, but also exterminated the blacks and the white sympathizers to keep their domination and superiority because they felt afraid of the blacks taking over their domination by the establishment of civil rights movements. Moreover, the Southern Poverty Law (2011:20) states that shooting, lynching, bombing, and whipping were the methods employed by the Ku Klux Klan to oppose the civil rights movements. They

The Ku Klux Klan extermination is seen in the novel, when they plan to murder Jake by planting a dynamite in Jake's house. In the midnight, one of the Klan's member cross to the Jake's house and successfully puts the small suitcase under Jake's bedroom window. Their plan failed because Deputies know their plan from an anonymous caller who claim as Mickey Mouse. Afterward, Ozzie arrests a Kluxer when he is caught putting the small suitcase under Jake's bedroom window. He asks a Kluxer about the suitcase

that he puts. A Kluxer said "Dynamite!" (Grisham, 2009:351).

Knowing that the Ku Klux Klan's plan failed, they arrange the second plan. They plan to shot Jake when he go to the courthouse, but their plan fails. The shot does not exactly strike Jake, but it strikes an army who guides Jake and his mass. Most of mass media report the shot. From mass media, the Ku Klux Klan knows that Jake still alive and defends Hailey. They plan to burn Jake's house, and their plan works without any difficulties. However, when they burn Jake's house, Jake is not at home and he still alive.

The Ku Klux Klan knows that Jake Brigance is helped by Ethel Twitty and Ellen Roark. They try to exterminate Ethel Twitty and her husband. In the night, her husband, Bud Twitty sit on the porch and listens the radio. He hears a noises from the side of the house while turns the volume. Suddenly, he is grabbed by a huge figure who knocked him to the porch. His face is bloodied and he is unconscious. Then, Ethel hears the noises and scurries through the front door. She is grabbed by a member of the gang, who twists her arm tightly behind her. She cannot scream, talk, or move. She can see that the gang uses white robe with red garnishment, pointed headdress with a red and white mask that covers their face (Grisham, 2009:398-399).

Moreover, Ellen Roark also gets extermination from the Ku Klux Klan. She is freelance law clerk for three weeks as Jake's assistance who is very attracted in Hailey's case. One night, she drives to Oxford to go home. Suddenly, she is knocked to the ground by some members of the Ku Klux Klan. Her head is covered and her car is burned. She is brought to the Klavern where the Klan do ceremonial induction. Then, in the Klavern, a hooded figure approaches and calls "You nigger-loving bitch" to Ellen. It is shown in the following.

A hooded figure left the others and approached her. She could hear him walking and breathing. "You nigger-loving bitch," he said in crisp Midwestern voice. He grabbed the rear of her collar and ripped the white silk blouse until it hung in shreds around her neck and shoulders...He cocked bullwhip and aimed at the bare back...He walked to her and grabbed her head. With his knife, he cut her hair.

(Grisham, 2009:548-550)

The quotation above shows social construction of race, when a Kluxer delineates Ellen as a nigger-loving bitch. Delgado and Stefancic (2001:155) argue that social construction of race is process of endowing a group or concept with a delineation, name, or reality. In this case, "a nigger-loving bitch" is socially constructed by the sentiment of Ku Klux Klan toward Ellen Roark as a white sympathizer. Therefore, the Kluxer delineates Ellen as nigger loving bitch because she is a white sympathizer.

Besides Ellen Roark, the Ku Klux Klan also attacks Barry Acker, a jury for Hailey to make Hailey hold. Then, they kill one of their member, Tim Nunley, because they know that he leaks their murder plans to Deputy. Tim Nunley is a spy who always gives information to Deputy about the Klan's murder plans toward Jake Brigance. He is an anonymous caller who claims as Mickey Mouse.

The Ku Klux Klan's extermination and intimidation are a form of everyday racism because the Ku Klux Klan always practice intimidation and extermination to frighten the blacks and the white sympathizers such as threatening calls, burning cross, bombing, kidnaping, and even shooting. According to Tyson (2006:369), everyday racism is a visible forms of racism, for example physical and verbal attacks against people of color, and the activities of white supremacy group. As the activity of white supremacy group, the Ku Klux Klan's extermination and intimidation are form of everyday racism.

The racial practice toward the blacks and the white sympathizers shows that racism exists more strongly in Ford County, Mississippi. The whites still control all aspects of life. As the dominant group, the whites practice racism to put the blacks in the second-class, and to create a line of living area for the whites and the blacks. Furthermore, it makes the blacks respond racism through demonstration.

In the 1960s until 1970s, most of the blacks in the South did demonstration to demand the justice and equality because they were impatient with the slow progress of civil rights movements. Moreover, Henretta (1993:599) states that the southern blacks resisted the white's oppression by declaring boycott and demonstration against racism.

The black's demonstration is seen in the *A Time to Kill*. The blacks demonstrate in front of the courthouse of Ford County. They demand their rights and freedom. They also demand justice for Carl Lee Hailey, because the court discriminates him in his trial.

The crowd continued to grow. It was predominantly elderly, but there were many younger, militant, angry-looking blacks who had missed the great civil rights marches and demonstrations of the sixties and now realized that this might be a rare opportunity to shout and protest and sing "We Shall Overcome," and in general celebrate being black and oppressed in white world.

(Grisham, 2009:415)

They do sit-in demonstration to demand their rights and freedom without any violence. It is the blacks' method to erase the black's stereotype as criminal or menace. They brings some placards that inscribe with "Free Carl Lee."

Ollie Agee, a leader of the sit-in demonstration, directs the blacks to shout against racism. He and the blacks protest that the justice system unfit to deal with Carl Lee Hailey, because the system works unfairly to the blacks. Grisham (2009:292) states that he was a hard act to follow. But the national director do not hesitate. He delivers a thirty-minute oratorical condemnation of racism. He seizes the moment and spouted national statistics on crime and arrests and convictions and inmate population and sums it all up by declaring that criminal justice system is controlled by the white people who unfairly persecute black people. Then in bewildering flurry of rationale, he brings the national statistics to Ford County and pronounces the system unfit to deal with Carl Lee Hailey. It explains about voice of color, where the blacks voice their experiences of racism and their expectation to erase racism through demonstration. In this case, they are able to speak about racism because they are

victims of the White's oppression.

During 1960s until 1970s, a few of the blacks were apathetic in responding racism because they felt that they had no chance and power to erase racism as long as the whites controlled all aspects of life. Therefore, they were accustomed to racism.

The apathetic blacks are seen in the novel. Lester Hailey is a black man who responds racism by apathy. Grisham (2009:264-265) states that he thinks that Mississippi is too much ignorance and poverty among the blacks. He does not mind to racism, because he is accustomed to it. He thinks that racism will always be there as long as the whites still own and control everything, and it is not unbearable but it is hard to change. It means that Lester is an apathetic Black because he feels that he have no chance and power to erase racism in Mississippi. He thinks that racism is hard to change as long as the whites still own and control all aspects of life in Mississippi.

Besides the blacks' responses toward racism, the whites also respond racism. The white racists agree to racism. Some of them join the Ku Klux Klan, because they had ideology in common.

During 1960s until 1970s in the Southern United States of America, the white racists agreed with racism. Some of them joined the Ku Klux Klan in response the civil rights movements because they felt afraid of the blacks took their domination. Therefore, this group arranged to oppose the civil rights movements in order to create a living place for the whites only.

Joining the Ku Klux Klan as the whites' response to racism is seen in the novel, when Freddie Cobb enlists his friend who calls Stump to arrange the Klan's meeting. In the meeting, Freddie speaks about the blacks who have plenty of protection such as NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), ACLU (Americans Civil Liberties Union), a thousand other civil rights groups, plus the court and the government. In contrast, the white people do not get a chance, except for the Klan. He thinks that all laws favor the blacks, the liberal nigger-loving politicians keep making more against the white people. Therefore, he calls the Klan (Grisham, 2009:176-177).

One day, at midnight, Freddie Cobb and his friends meet in the Klavern where the Klan do ceremonial induction for them. They close their eyes as the whites ceremoniously places into their heads while chant together. Then, when the chanting stopped, they embrace each other and walk proudly to the rustic cabin. It means that some of the white racists join the Ku Klux Klan to destroy civil rights movements because they do not want the blacks take their superiority. They believe that superiority only belongs to the whites.

On the other hand, a few of the white reject racism. They are known as the white sympathizers. Alike the blacks, they get bad treatment from the white racists, because they sympathize and appreciate the blacks in getting their rights and freedom.

In the 1960s until 1970s, a few of the whites rejected racism, because they thought that the blacks were human beings. As their sympathy toward the blacks, some of them assimilated with the blacks and joined the civil rights movements in order to help the blacks to get their rights and

freedom, and to make the blacks and the whites lived peacefully.

The whites' assimilation is seen in the novel. The white sympathizers in Ford County, Mississippi, can accept the blacks. Grisham (2009:11-12) states that they support Ozzie Walls to be a black sheriff in Mississippi. They vote and support Ozzie at the election time. Ozzie is the only black sheriff in Mississippi who is loved by the white kids and politicians.

Moreover, Lucien Willbanks is a white sympathizer who assimilates with the blacks and joins civil rights movements such as NAACP and ACLU. He thinks that most of the white racists in Ford County, Mississippi, have no feeling of humanity because they cannot appreciate civil rights and civil liberties. When Lucien, Jake, and Ellen discuss about Hailey's case, Lucien states that he is the white man who joins ACLU and the NAACP. Sometimes, he go to the package store in the blacks' section. Grisham (2009:619) states that he go to the Black's churches to pray with them, marches with the blacks to protest racism, sings with them, and arranges many race discrimination lawsuits to help the blacks get their justice and equality. Moreover, Grisham (2009:599) states that he often sits with the blacks in the courtroom.

Besides Lucien Willbank, Ellen Roark is a white woman who joins ACLU. When she and Jake enjoy the dinner, she clarify that she is a member of ACLU. Jake knows that she is an ACLU's member because she is attracted in Hailey's case. It is shown in the following.

What do you think of the ACLU? She asked crunching.

I suppose you've got a membership card in your purse.

I do.

(Grisham, 2009:384)

It means that the white sympathizers can assimilate with the blacks. Some of them join the civil rights movements to help the blacks to get their rights and freedom in Mississippi, and to make the blacks and the whites live peacefully without any racism.

## Conclusion

Based on the discussion, racial problems between the blacks and the whites in John Grisham's *A Time to Kill* represents the social condition in the United States of America especially in the South during 1960s until 1970s. The novel tells about the white racists who practice racism such as racial prejudice, segregation, discrimination, intimidation, and extermination toward the blacks and the white sympathizers. In responding racism, the blacks do demonstration to reject racism and to demand the justice and equality. However, a few of the blacks are apathetic in responding racism because they feel that they have no power to struggle and to stop the white's oppression as long as the whites still control all aspects of life. Furthermore, the whites also respond racism. The whites' responses toward racism emerge two kinds. Firstly, pro-racism refers to the white racists who agree to racism. Some of them join the Ku Klux Klan in order to destroy the black's civil rights movements, and to make the blacks cannot achieve their

rights and freedom. Secondly, contra-racism refers to the white sympathizers or the white anti-racists who reject racism. Some of them assimilate with the blacks and join the civil rights movements to help the blacks to achieve their rights and freedom.

Through the novel, John Grisham wants to show that not all the whites are racists because a few of them can appreciate the blacks, and join the civil rights movements in order to help the blacks to get their rights and freedom. Moreover, he wants to disclose that respect and appreciation to the others without seeing their race, status, and skin color is needed to make the life peaceful in diversity. Therefore, through the respect and sympathy to each other, the blacks and the whites can live in harmony without any racism.

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