

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

The Protagonist's Moves against Racism in Lee's *Go Set a Watchman*

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Approval Sheet

The thesis entitled “The Protagonist’s Moves against Racism in *Go Set a Watchman*” submitted to the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara by Mr. Jun Ghale has been approved by the undersigned members of the Evaluation Committee:

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Jun Ghale

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Abstract

The thesis is an attempt to analyze the novel *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee through racism. The protagonist, Jean Louise, who once found her father, Atticus to be her real guard and a speaker against racism, now goes against him because she finds him being a racist having prejudice towards the black people. The issue why and how this man changed from anti-racist to racist, or whether he was a disguised person is the problem to be solved in the thesis. Atticus who is a lawyer by profession had done justice to a black man who was accused of raping a white girl, but now he thinks that the black people are backwards and if they are given freedom with rights, they will misuse it. The solution to this problem is that Jean's father has been manipulated by power and goes against his initial stand, regarding racism. Therefore, Jean goes against him even if she regards him not only as her father but also her mentor. The lady who was dependent upon him in the past, has now developed her own conscience, and stands on her own feet supporting the truth.

Chapter 1

Introduction

The Writer and the Text

The present thesis is an attempt to explore the reasons behind racism and its consequences that are noticeable in the family and society. The study mainly focuses on the issue of racism as reflected in the novel *Go Set a Watchman* written by Harper Lee, an American novelist who is known for exploring racism in the American society. In *Go Set a Watchman*, the writer presents the serious issues of racial discrimination in the society, which badly affects lifestyle of the people living in that society.

Jean Louise, the protagonist, who has been taught racism as an evil by her father (Atticus), ironically finds that he himself is latently acting as a racist. This double role of the father badly displeases her and she is determined to fight racism. The main thesis of the study is that racial discrimination is a social evil as it not only causes social dissonance but it also affects the inter-personal relationship like the one between the protagonist and her father.

Lee has been famous literary figure with her *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Go Set a Watchman*. The former is a masterpiece that has become a classic of American literature and she won the Pulitzer Prize for it in 1961. She was also awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in contributing to literature in 2007, and she has also received honorary degrees.

To Kill a Mockingbird seems to be a semi-auto biography as the plot and characters in it are based on Lee's real-life events along with her family and neighbors in her hometown. The story is narrated by a child named Jean Louise (Scout), who observes various events, especially related to the adults' attitudes towards race in the

South of America. Because of this racism functioning in her birthplace, the writer is inspired to write such novel. *Go Set a Watchman* is a sequel to *To Kill a Mockingbird*, in which the narrator or the protagonist is a grown-up woman named Jean Louise and the subject matter is related to racism and racial discrimination along with the history of the Finch.

The two novels *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Go Set a Watchman* are comparable in the sense that the story and the characters are related to each other. Atticus is the moral compass in *To Kill a Mockingbird* whereas Jean Louise acts that role in *Go Set a Watchman* as they both stand up for justice that is related to racism and racial discrimination.

The novel *Go Set a Watchman* mainly revolves round Jean Louise, who returns from New York to Maycomb. She finds various changes like houses, lifestyle, rules and regulation in her birthplace. But the main change that she finds is in her father, Atticus. The person who once was thought to be treating everyone equally not caring about race has now changed into a racist. The events in the story revolve around this reality.

Atticus, being a lawyer by profession, once helped a black person from being accused of raping a white girl. At that time, when a black person was accused of doing anything against the white with or without any evidence is punished even if they are innocent. Even though Atticus knew that he was fighting a losing game, it is due to his moral and his way of teaching his children through action that every man is equally born.

People change in course of time which is clearly shown in *Go Set a Watchman*. Maycomb, which is the hometown of the protagonist Jean Louise, also changes moving towards modernization. Jean who was a tomboy in her childhood has

changed into a young woman with knowledge and experience. She is the moral compass in the novel. She comes to find that her own people whom she thought to be good at justice and to treat everyone equally have now turned into actually biased and racist in nature. Especially, her father Atticus, who is a lawyer and member of the council, attends the meeting with Henry and other seniors of Maycomb in maintaining the continuation of the white supremacy over the black people through law in the South.

Jean is surprised to see such change in her people. She knows that Atticus is doing wrong, and, in order to stop him, she argues with him, pointing out his office. Atticus, the same person who taught her the doctrine equal rights for all, privilege for none is now calling the blacks backward, who would bring imbalance in the law if they are allowed to vote as their population is increasing rapidly and their candidates having chance to win. Atticus himself admits that he is an old-fashioned man who does not like changes.

Jean finds herself in dilemma not being able to decide what is right, and what is wrong; whom to support: family or justice. Till now she has been dependent on her father, Atticus because she thought that he was always right and he would never make a mistake. But when she finds out the truth about Atticus hating the Blacks, then she doubts him for the first time in her life and she does not know what to do. Then, she develops her own conscience and becomes an independent woman by making her own decisions without trusting anyone.

The odd fact of the novel's story is that Atticus is a racist while Jean Louise is a colorblind who does not find any difference among the people on the basis of their race or skin color. Due to this difference, Atticus and Jean have different visions and follow their own path, regarding the issue related to racism and racial discrimination,

and this is the focal point of the study.

Literature Review

The novel, *Go Set a Watchman*, has been reviewed by various writers, readers, reviewers and critics, using their own views and theories. This study includes some of the literatures related to the novel, and more particularly connected to the issue of racism. One of the critics on the novel, James B. Kelley, gives his opinion on the novel *Go Set a Watchman*. Quoting Maureen Corrigan, he writes:

"*Go Set a Watchman* is a troubling confusion of a novel, politically and artistically, beginning with its fishy origin story. Allegedly, it is a recently discovered first draft of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, but I'm suspicious: It reads much more like a failed equal." (qtd. in Kelley 236)

Kelley does not find the novel much interesting; rather, on the contrary, he labels it as the confusing and troubling since it does not show much difference from *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Kelley also states that the readers and various evaluators have found out the shocking turning point of the event when Jean Louise finds out that her father Atticus is a racist and his grace was stained and degraded. Allen Mendenhall has reviewed the novel in his own way:

Harper Lee's second novel *Go Set a Watchman* has caused a ruckus in the world of Horary journalism and has sent professional critics into a tizzy from which they haven't recovered. It has been called a "weird book" that represents a "sharp departure from the original narratives are." (6)

The text does not sound positive regarding the narrative of the poem and critics' reactions to it. Though it has come out as a strange work, the word "weird" gives a bit negative touch. Therefore, the critic's attitude is not positive to it.

As the novel has characters who are very different from the previous one, critics label it as a strange one. It has not included the fairy fiction story present in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and has replaced it by the bitter reality. In the previous novel, the whites were shown as the people who fought for the equality especially in the south but in the present novel, the characters have been shown as racist. J Mark Baggett writes about the legacy of Harper Lee:

On July 14, 2015, Harper Lee published her novel *Go Set a Watchman*, the prequel to *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Overnight, Southerners suffered disillusionment on this passage through modernity: Scout becomes Jean Louise; Atticus becomes a frail, 72-year-old segregationist who plots to undermine the Brown B. Board of Education . . . (3)

Baggett writes about the confusion created after the publication of *Go Set a Watchman*. Readers did not find remarkable points different from what they had expected, so the novel could not find readers admiring it.

As Harper Lee passed away leaving her masterpiece *To Kill a Mockingbird* that brightened American literature. All her readers paid respect to her but at the same time they were shocked when another sibling novel got published and stained her legacy. The polarized characterization of Atticus in two books has caused the stir because it has affected the readers to consider otherwise. The iconic character of Atticus, a lawyer by profession should have strong moral courage has been described as an unhappy person.

Erica Wagner focusing her review on the latest relationship between Scout and Atticus, which she finds not cordial. She observes:

We always know that Scout would speak her mind. We just never expected she would say these words. "You're a coward as well as a snob and a tyrant,

Atticus, she rails at him. You're a nice, sweet, old gentleman, and I'll never believe a word you say to me again. I despise you and everything you stand for". (1)

Wagner writes about the conflict between Jean Louise and Atticus. The conflict is created by the creeping thought of racial discrimination in Atticus. Jean openly says she would hate him and would never believe him. The confrontation is to some extent unexpected. It reflects her boldness.

Atticus Finch's daughter is shocked and angry at him as the readers are. She was a Scout for the readers who acted like a tomboy but now has turned into a sophisticated young woman, Jean Louise. Her return to Maycomb County becomes a challenging and unhappy event, which was once hoped to be happily called home because she finds out the true nature of Atticus that breaks her illusion of taking him as a godlike figure but instead, he has come out to be a tyrant as he has been a strong racist.

Ariela J Gross points out the incongruent aspects of the novel regarding its characters and the plot:

I agree with most public commentators that, as a literary work, *Watchman* does not rise to the level of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The characters speechify and the plot never takes off. I also agree completely that it makes no sense to ask whether Atticus Finch is a coherent character from *Mockingbird* to *Watchman*- the book is not a sequel, and Atticus is not a real person... (57)

Gross writes about comparing the two novels written by the same writer, Harper Lee. In the comparison, *Go set a Watchman* is par below its prequel, especially, in matters of subject, characters and the plot.

Go Set a Watchman holds an important political and historical lesson for the

readers. It does not matter whether it is a book in demand by the people, particularly, the Americans but what matters is that the Americans, especially, the whites need this book in order to correct the myth of the white savior of black civil rights. As *Mockingbird* portrays Atticus as the white leader supporting the black victim taking a stand against racism, but in reality, the event does not happen like this because in real life the whites are pictured like Atticus who is presented in the *Watchman* that is racist.

Sayed Mohammed Youssef writes about the book on the concept of the triumph of pragmatism:

For any polished reader of Harper Lee, the release of her latest novel *Go Set a Watchman* in July 2015 has thoroughly been a shock to both readership and critics as well, especially when it comes to the virtues of equality, love and racial justice maintained in Lee's first and still most cherished classic novel ever, *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1960), Which are epitomized more particularly through attorney Atticus Finch. (409)

Youssef comments on the novel *Go Set a Watchman* about the virtue of equality, love and racial justice. The novel has been viewed as a failure as it has not been able to do what it has purported to expose.

Even though *Go Set a Watchman* being the sequel to *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the characters and incidents are different, especially, regarding the portrayal of Atticus, who has been shown as a moral exemplar of simplicity and idealist, who even supported the black man accused of rape by a white girl. But in *Watchman*, Atticus is a racist and white supremacist who takes the side of the whites who are superior over the blacks for granted.

The text is observed and analyzed from various other perspectives as it carries

various themes and meanings. But this study makes the observation of racism and racial discrimination as its analytical tool which seems to fulfill a research gap on the study.

Organization of the Study

The thesis has been divided into three chapters. The first chapter is the introductory part of the study, and it includes introduction, which provides the general background of the study. With brief elaboration of the topic of the thesis, the chapter comprises the problem with research questions that form the foundation of the study. The chapter has also incorporated the objectives of the study, that is, to find out the causes behind racism and its possible consequences. Methodology is also included in this chapter. Some reviews of the related literatures have also been added to the chapter.

The second chapter is about the theory applied to analyze the text, and the textual analysis. The text *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee has been analyzed through racism. Examples of racist behavior and the protagonist's objection to it have been cited from the text in this part of the study.

The last chapter is the conclusion of the study. Conclusion has been drawn after the analysis of the text through racist point of view.

Chapter 2

Racism and Racial Discrimination in *Go Set a Watchman*

General Background

The story in the novel *Go Set a Watchman* is based on the conflict created by racial discrimination in American society. We find the conflict between the two major characters regarding this - one supporting discrimination and another opposing it. It is important to discuss the features of racism, the situations that gave rise to the confrontation due to racial setting, and the consequences of racial conflict to really understand the characteristics of a society. As the present study on the novel *Go Set a Watchman* is based on racism, the following discussion is focused on the nature of racism and its consequences.

Theoretical Background

The word racism is the derivation of the word race, which refers to a group of people categorized based on their physical differences. Racism can be defined as unjust or prejudicial treatment to one race by another, assuming that one of them is inferior in certain aspects like skin colour: white is supposed to be superior and black inferior. Two terms, that is, racism and racialism are in use to refer to the same social practice. The race that is discriminated against is always marginalized and placed in the lower status whereas the other that dominates is taken to be higher in social status. Racism or racialism is a socio-political outcome that is much usual in the society where there is racial stratification.

Racism or racialism is the term that is connected with the human biological traits. In practice, racism is more common. Lois Tyson defines it as follows:

Racialism, a word we don't often hear in everyday speech, refers to the belief in racial superiority, inferiority, and purity based on the conviction that moral

and intellectual characteristics, just like physical characteristics, are biological properties that differentiate the races. Racism refers to the unequal power relations that grow from the sociopolitical domination of one race by another and that results in systematic discriminatory practices. (360)

In the above extract, Tyson defines racialism, relating it to certain human intellectual, moral and biological differences. To become a racist or racialist one has to be in a dominant position or in general a white person. He even writes that racism has direct and indirect effect in the day to day life of the coloured people. He adds that the racial discrimination occurs systematically through the means of racism after institutionalizing it. Tyson clearly points out the effectiveness of institutionalized racism, and writes:

One area in which institutionalized racism has been very effective in discriminating against African Americans is the American literary canon. As many of you probably know, the Western literary canon has been dominated by a Eurocentric definition of universalism... (361)

Tyson writes about how American literature is being affected by the Western literature of the white, who ignore the African American literary works which are thought to be inferior in various things like attractiveness and worthwhile.

The African Americans undergo the experience of multiple racism, which Tyson talks about with special emphasis.

Given the multiple forms of racism with which African Americans have had to contend, it should come as no surprise that many African Americans experience what W.E.B. DuBois first described in *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903) as double consciousness or double vision, the awareness of belonging to two conflicting cultures.... (362)

These coloured people feel down have to think in two different ways, one being themselves as black and the other white people think about them. They are always in dilemma whether to use their own style or follow the pattern created by the white people.

The practice of racial discrimination is a matter of illegality, which Tyson points out:

In addition, racial discrimination against African Americans is now illegal: according to the law, people of color may live, work, shop, dine out, and so forth where they please. Therefore, many Americans---at least many white Americans---believe that racism, with the exception of white supremacist groups like the Ku Klux Klan, is a thing in the past. (367)

Even though there is no open racial discrimination in the public like in the past, it has not yet disappeared. Tyson thinks that racial discrimination is still in practice through various means like in privacy, job, salary, punishment, etc.

In reality, we often relate racism to biology, but in many societies, it is something more than just the biological differences. Tyson points out this matter: A look at the racial categories used by the U.S. Census Bureau between 1790 and 1920 should show us rather clearly that racial categorization doesn't reflect biological reality but rather the current beliefs about race at different times (372). It is clear that racism is not defined by the biological features of a person but it is defined by the thoughts and beliefs of the people developed in certain period. The white people once thought that they were superior to the black people because they were the rulers. This belief made them formulate the rules based on what they believed.

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva writes about racism by defining it this way: "What is racism? For most people, the answer to this question is very simple. Racism is

prejudice, ignorance, or a disease that affects some individuals and causes them to discriminate against others just because of the way they look" (13). So, racism is based on the stratification of races, and is not based on any scientific reason or evidence but just a means or the tool of discriminating the others based on a person's individual outlook.

The term of racism as defined by the social scientists is similar to what the common people think. Some anthropologists have defined race as the dogma that one ethnic group is destined to congenital superiority. Others define it as beliefs which are genetically transmitted and make differences among human groups, which are associated with the presence or absence of social abilities or characteristics which create distinctions. Hence, it is proved that both analyst and common people consider racism as a phenomenon functionally set as ideas in our mind. Racism is defined as a set of ideas or beliefs, which have the potential to lead individuals in developing prejudice towards others in a society. Such prejudice leads to discrimination against minor races.

A lot of social scientists associate racism with prejudice, and hatred directed towards so called minorities. Phia S. Salter gives her own definition:

"The term racism is often used synonymously with prejudice (biased feeling or affect), stereotyping (biased thoughts and beliefs, flawed generalizations), and discrimination (differential treatment or the absence of equal treatment), and bigotry (intolerance or hatred)." (150)

Salter uses various synonyms to define and clarify the meaning of racism. She means that scholars may use any of these terms but the essence is the same, that is, hatred.

Similarly, Michael A. Zarate, writing about racism in 21st century, states:

"Many of the world's problems are human made, including racism. It suffices

to say that racism is a long-standing problem despite the tremendous scholarly investigation for at least the last 60 years. With so much attention, why have the researchers been unable to cure this problem?" (387)

Zarate tries to open the eyes of the readers by showing the problems raised by racism. Zarate points out those researchers have been raising the questions about discrimination, but they have not been able to find out the remedies to it.

Racism is a serious social problem. The cause of it is an individual's thought for unwillingness to change. The beliefs or ideas of the person or people are deeply rooted, which makes it hard to accept change on such habit even if one desires to. Addition of biological construct to the definition of racism has provided some space for its expansion even though geneticist and anthropologists do disagree race is constructed truly based on biology only.

Social psychologists have understood racism based on reality. Race and racism is both product of social and political construct. The way people live and understand race occupies certain area of reality that goes beyond biology which cannot be just classified into smaller topics like genes, chromosomes or phenotypes and as it covers a vast scope of subject matter that cannot be just sufficient to be defined in few words or given few meanings.

Judy H. Katz and Allen Ivey write about racism as a problem created by the Whites who always think superior to the coloured people:

Racism is a white problem. The purpose of our comprehend for most white people. The purpose of our article is two-fold: to make white professional helpers aware of how racism undermines the goals of the helping field to the detriment of white and Third World helpers: and to demonstrate how racism affects white people. (485)

Racism is not only the problem of the blacks but it is also the problem of the whites. It is the whites who have sowed the seed of racism and now the same issue has caused inconvenience to them, especially moral issues are in question globally.

There are social scientists who associate racism not with biological differences, but with attitudes, culture and structure. Bobo and Charles clearly speak out about the issue:

We identify three meanings of racism to which sociologists often refer: attitudes, culture, and structure. By attitudes, sociologists mean the mental states of individuals, which affect and reflect their behaviors, including deliberate inaction. These mental states range from individuals' unconscious dispositions, to their conscious evaluations of some object, to their personal beliefs. (qtd. in Shiao and Woody 496)

The practice is said to affect not only the physical activities but also the way of thinking about others and oneself. Those who are discriminated against feel down themselves; on the other hand the discriminators feel they are always superior to the others. This attitude of the people towards each other makes racism even worse.

Attitude is not the only factor that affects human life and social behavior, culture and structure are equally responsible. Sewell elaborates more on the culture and structure that strengthen the practice of racism:

By culture, sociologists refer to the many kinds of schema with which humans make sense of the world, including themselves, all of which affect the social connotations of group membership. These schemas range from... "the binary oppositions that make up a given society's fundamental tools of thought". By structure, sociologists refer to both (1) the immediate circumstances of individuals and (2) the broader world that humans make sense of, that is, the

social relations to which they are oriented and that are oriented toward them, particularly those that reproduce themselves even against the desires of the actors involved, both of which differentiate life chances and lived experiences.

(qtd. in Shiao and Woody 496)

The definition of racism relating it with attitudes, culture and structure is much more relevant in today's world as the social construct today is often based on how the members of a society think about others, connect their knowledge, convention and artefacts with their lifestyle and the way they structure their behavior in the present environment.

Training programs have been conducted for white people who hide the truth about racism, pretending to be fair about it, and this human nature disturbs the possible change related to race. In the United States, racism has caused mental health problem. All the people belonging to the Third World or minority race are harmed as racism affects the growth and development of this class.

From various types of research, it has been found out that racism is the main cause responsible for psychological, sociological and physical genocide of these races, which are inferior to the whites. Racism does not only affect the Third World people but also affects the white people directly or indirectly. The white people will be deprived of experience to interact with the other race and understand their culture due to the barrier caused by racism and ethnocentric attitudes. They will be unable to face their true selves as an individual or in the group. It will not be helpful or useful just by helping the minorities in other ways if racism continues.

Few programs against racism have been successful only among the white people. The people in the formal places like academy and various institutions are few in number and the causes and effects of racism are ignored along with the behavior

change due to which people lack understanding of racism. The problem is that people ignore the fact the white people need help in understanding about racism more than the minority race people who need help, and the program is only focusing on the thoughts of the minority people and help they need.

Next, Lena E. Winestone writes about racism as a mechanism, "...racism is rarely named as a potential mechanism. Increasing attention is being paid to racism within our hematology community as well as within our society at large" (2098).

Winestone comments about racism as a mechanism, dividing humans based on race, connecting it to blood and society.

The life style of the minorities always undergoes different complexities. These minor races move to industrial cities hoping to achieve success through better job opportunities that improve their lives. However, their condition does not change substantially, as the whites still have codified not changing their opinions about racism and are continuing discrimination practice in different sectors. For example, the banks are under the white's control and they do no grant loans to the black people and thus limiting ability to purchase house, resulting in poor residential situation continuing till this day.

Due to such activities, the majority of Black group that lives together lacks the opportunities as they lack investment funds and loans. Lacking funds leads them to stop the continuation of study and get better job opportunity or even be unemployed while competing in the white neighborhood.

The connection between socioeconomic status and race is a sociopolitical construct that causes contemporary structural injustices, which continue to reinforce racism. Because of differences in socioeconomic status, the group in lower social status has received an unfair treatment similar to racial unfairness, and it is structural

racism. Structural racism is difficult to measure as these social factors are complex, closely related to each other, and interact with one another.

Racism has opened the door for asking many questions, the major questions being what it is and how it is functioning in the certain area or the group of people. The questions have not yet received reasonable answers though a lot of social philosophers have tried to answer them, but many solutions can be found in the future through research. We have to find as many answers as we can in order to make it authentic with evidence using various methods related to structural racism. We also need to find out how increasing exposure to racism affects an individual's transcriptional and epigenetic paths and disease appearance.

With the help of the world watching health can determine the outcome of social health like an individual who is experiencing the racial discrimination. It will be the plus point in opening the study of the people who have been exposed to being deprived being the victim of racism and raise the question to the white people or those who are of superior majority group and address the impact of social determinants of health on the outcome of study on hematology. It is difficult and intimidating in order to prioritize efforts in addressing race-based inequities. The researchers should be able to understand impact of racism on health, change in cultural norms and including both of the community-based and institutional-level efforts.

As far as we can know now through these study that structural racism is the root cause of inequities and obviously the solutions for the problems also related to it. Thus, we can point out that the root cause of hematology health disparities by taking our first step by introducing structural racism in discourse. Benjamin Bowser writes about racism and anti-racism: "Whatever racism means in popular thought, it is not a social construct that describes a very real human phenomenon and cannot be

dismissed as delusion, nor can it always be determined directly and concretely" (6).

Racism is not a natural phenomenon, but a social construct and is the product of unreasonable thoughts.

Racism in reality as evidence plays on perception and experience in day-to-day life of the people. In the past laws were made in order to eradicate racial discrimination formally and legally especially in the South which includes the outcomes of racial discrimination in education, housing and employment in the whole country.

With the help of law enforcement agencies, a social reform has taken place its shape by eliminating whatever barriers were on the way caused by racism which gave the impression that all problems and rights of racial inequalities were being addressed. But still this is not the end of racial discrimination as African Americans and other people of color that are included in minority race still experience racial prejudice and discrimination in a subtle and indirect ways.

Institutional racism is perfect example where there is an indirect indication of social class barriers that show that racism is still in practice. It shows that all the social reforms made by the laws in order to eradicate racism have failed legally. Instead, the institutions have the platform to bring racial inequalities into practice by giving various names and meanings to racism, confusing the people by differing perception. One side says racial inequality has been addressed whereas the other side says that is not enough.

Racism affecting realities is dependent and not just that active process in a life in social phenomena. But still racism is defined as it exists, transforms continues, increase and decrease according to the perception of the people and their dead as it is a dynamic but not a static phenomenon. The realities of racism are more like a target

that is seen in motion or hidden, not just like an object placed in an open place easily to be found whatever achievements that have been gained from the past till now against racism is not totally victories or absolute gains but still the defeats are absolute losses. But still through these struggles against racism we can make some conditional advancements and strategic retreat through experience from the past for the future success.

Racism is known by the social change by the cause of human action and in action. It is not due to some miracle or fate when there is progress and regression happening related to race relations. People create outcome. So, in order to gain knowledge and spread it, information related to dynamic and human created realities of racism in this contemporary world is necessary. Faeze Rezazade and Esmaciel Zohdi writes about discrimination:

Racial prejudice, injustice and discrimination against people of colored skin, especially African Americans, has become a global issue since the twenty countries, Blacks are deprived of their rights regardless of their human natures and are disenfranchised from White's societies (15)

Racism is all about racial prejudice, injustice and discrimination against the blacks.

The Blacks are unfairly regarded as inferior race and are deprived of their rights because of dark skin color. There is still the dominance of the whites though various anti- racist efforts are being in action to solve racism issues and eliminate racism, however, the efforts have not been able to provide results and the Blacks are still the victims of this unfair treatment. Even if some white people say that they are anti-racist by no judging someone based on colored skin, however, prejudice and racial discrimination is present in their actions and the blacks are not considered to be of their level or standard.

Such racist concept has taken place as the whites have been raised, instilling in them the idea of racism from the childhood. As a result, this cause is deeply rooted as their habit which cannot be changed easily even if they know about it and want to change. One of the remedies to solve the problem is to train the children of new generations with anti-racism movement from the beginning. Likewise, aggressive anti-racism programmes are necessary to get rid of this social evil.

Racism in *Go Set a Watchman*

Go Set a Watchman is an example of racial segregation. Though the issue is not explicitly expressed, there are many references to racism in the novel. One of the examples of racial discrimination that we see in the text is Henry's narration about the privilege of driving cars. When Jean and Henry are in their evening drive, black people drive used cars at high speed, which startles her, and she questions:

“What was that?”

“Carload of Negros.”

“Mercy, what do they think they're doing?”

“That's the way they assert themselves these days,” Henry said. “They've got enough money to buy used cars, and they get out on the highway like ninety-to –nothing. They're a public menace.”

“Driver's licenses?”

“Not many. No insurance, either.”

“Golly, what if something happens?”

“It's just too sad.” (80)

The conversation clearly shows how black people are not easily allowed to drive cars. Driving licenses are rarely given to them. The words “public menace” and “It's just too sad” indicating great danger and public sadness about the blacks' driving clearly

suggest hatred towards black activities, thus racism.

Because of this issue in *Go Set a Watchman*, there is a conflict between Atticus, the father, and Jean Louise, the daughter regarding racism. The major character in the novel Jean has been brought up by her father, by teaching her that discrimination against black people is bad, but now she finds her father supporting racism, so she feels unpleasant to her father and expresses her indignation:

“You’re queering the pitch on me, Atticus, so let’s keep the sociology out of it for a second. Of course, I know that, but I heard something once. I heard a slogan and it stuck in my head. I heard ‘Equal rights for all; special privileges for none,’ and to me it didn’t mean anything but what it said. It didn’t mean one card off the top of the stake for the white man and one off the bottom for the negro, it-” (242)

Louise indirectly reminds her father how he used to teach her about the value of human lives regardless of races. It has had strong grip on her mind and now it is very difficult to acknowledge that blacks are inferior to the whites. Accordingly, she has been fully convinced that the coloured people should not be discriminated against. But later she finds that her father is not what he told her about racism; he has become a racist.

Go Set a Watchman is an example to show that children training can help in a great deal for the elimination of the social and racial discrimination. Michelle Smith writing in his review of *Go Set a Watchman* remarks:

"*Go Set a Watchman's* Atticus Finch, now aged 72, keeps a lurid pamphlet - The Black Plague-- among his reading material and once attended a Ku Klux Khan meeting, he welcomes racist, pro-segregation speaker at the Maycomb Country Citizens' Council meetings." (1)

Two things related to the pamphlet are of special note: one is the adjective with it that is, “lurid” suggesting that it is highly sensitive, and the issue that should not be brought forth. The other is the name of the pamphlet, that is, “Black plague” that strongly suggests the presence of racism in *Go Set a Watchman*. Plague is a deadly disease, and the adjective “black” connotes to the coloured people, so bad a label indicating those minorities.

Further, Atticus goes on pointing out the negative labels about the blacks. He does not hold back to call coloured people backward:

“Let’s look at it this way,” said her father. “You realize that our Negro population is backward, don’t you? You will concede that? You realize the full implications of the word ‘backward,’ don’t you?”

“Yes Sir.”

“You realize that the vast majority of them here in the south are unable to share fully in the responsibilities of citizenship, and why?”

“Yes, sir.”

“But you want them to have all its privileges?”

“God damn it, you’re twisting it up!” (242)

The conversation between the father and the daughter shows that they are involved in a discussion with some antagonistic views of each other. Whatever view Atticus had in the past, his present view is totally against the blacks, which Louise openly opposes.

Atticus, once a man with moral stand and with no discriminatory views has now been a man with a strong bias against the coloured people. He fears that the coloured people would easily outnumber the whites if they are granted rights and privileges:

“There’s no point in being profane. Think this over: Abbott County, across the river, is in a bad trouble. The population is almost three-fourths Negro. The voting population is almost half –and –half now, because of that big Normal School over there. If the scales were tipped over, what would you have? The county won’t keep a full board of registrars, because if the Negro vote edged out the white, you’d have Negroes in every county office --”

“What makes you so sure?”

“Honey,” he said. “Use your head. When they vote, they vote in blocs.”

(242-43)

If Atticus were not a racist, he would not fear the black community. The way he has expressed his views and attitudes towards the blacks clearly shows firmness against the black community.

A type of creeping antagonism takes place between the two major characters, Atticus and his daughter, Jean Louise, when she learns about the pamphlet “The Black Plague”. Then they start talking about the black people and racism. Atticus expresses his fears that along with growth rate of the blacks in the future, they might occupy every place like school, churches, theaters and even take-over the court, and the Southern White people would be outnumbered in conducting civil rights and getting involved in politics. A person who was always on the side of justice and fairness to all has now changed into a nigger-hater and tainted his saintly status.

Even though there is no logical resolution done to solve the problem of racial inequality yet, at least the readers can encounter to see the adult Jean Louise trying to prove it in the story. In the novel *Go Set a Watchman*, Atticus loses his distinctive identity to be a man of heart and action. Jean Louise points out her father’s racist behavior and says it is wrong.

Jean Louise finds a pamphlet 'The Black Plague' while arranging the books of Atticus. It is related to racism about the black people. She reads and throws it into the dustbin. She goes to Maycomb council's meeting and finds Atticus among various people like William Willoughby and his right-hand, Grady O'Hanlon who are racist. They talk about the black people being backwards and they are planning to deprive them from having privilege as the citizens. She remembers a slogan Atticus says during the hearing of a case in the court that is "equal rights for all, special privileges for none" (108). She also remembers when Atticus helped the black man, Tom who is accused of raping the white girl.

Perhaps Jean has failed to understand her father in matters of racism. When she was a child, her father was a straightforward man without any influence of the power upon him, so he talked to her about rights and equality for all. Later, when he was pressed upon by some white authority, he must have changed his views.

Henry tells Jean Louise that Atticus had once attended the meeting of KKK organization, an organization to protect the rights of the blacks. He attended it not to help the race but in order to discover who is behind the mask that leads the organization. It was famous at his time and later he found the Methodist preacher to be the leader. This and other of his activities expose his real intention to promote racism that is prevailing in the United States. He says that Atticus's racist turn can be depicted when he says that the black Negroes are still in childhood state even though they are adult physically:

"Honey, you do not seem to understand that the Negroes down here are still in their childhood as a people. You should know it; you've seen it all your life. They've made terrific progress in adopting themselves to white ways, but they're far from it yet. They were coming along fine, travelling at a rate they

could absorb, more of 'em voting than ever before.” (246-47)

Atticus does not like the blacks to progress. Now, he fears any progress of these minorities. His expression “they’re still in their childhood” suggests that they are not intelligent enough to supply the skilled hands that the nation needs.

Another of the instances of racism is seen when Zeebo’s boy, a black boy, is in the prison. Atticus receives calls asking him to help the boy. Henry suggests that he should not be helped, but Atticus thinks that if the case is ignored, it will be undertaken by some coloured lawyers, and if they are successful, their images might go up and surpass the white people. Thinking this way, Atticus considers to undertake the case of that Zoobo’s boy, and plead him guilty: ““Hank, I suspect when we know all the facts in the case the best that can be done for the boy is for him to plead guilty. Now, isn’t it better for us to stand up with him in the court than to have him fall into the wrong hands?”” (148). The words speak it clearly that Atticus is an open hater of the black people. He cannot even tolerate black people to help their people, let alone his help to them. Henry feels pleased to the ideas expressed by Atticus, but Jean opposes it:

“What wrong hands?”

Atticus turned to her. “Scout, you probably don’t know it, but the NAACP-paid lawyers are standing around like buzzards down here waiting for the things like this to happen-----”

“You mean coloured lawyers?” (148-49)

The negative attitude of Atticus towards the blacks is so strong that he does not want anybody to help the coloured people.

Go Set a Watchman shows it is quite unusual that a man with good education, committed to uphold the equal right for all races in the eyes of the law could be a

racist, which is taken to be a bad example in today's context. Atticus considers the people, who have the racist view just like him and who are involved in the meeting, to be good, responsible men of substance and character.

During the Maycomb Council Citizens' meeting, while observing Atticus and his fellows discussing about the racist topic, Jean remembers the black guy whom Atticus defended for a rape case. However, later, she is hit by the reality when Atticus along with the people present in the court using racist words. During her visits to Maycomb from New York, She finds that Atticus and his companion men she thought to be good people were all racist.

However, Uncle Finch helps her by telling the truth that her comparison of her father to God, not as a man with human heart and feelings is a mistaken idea and that he also makes mistakes like a normal man. She struggles to accept this new flawed Atticus.

At this point, the readers have reduced their respect and love towards this newly turned racist Atticus presented in the novel. His stance about resisting racism has eroded causing good people's hatred towards him. Jean stands as the character in the novel emphasizing the struggle of mid-twentieth century Southern identity, that is, search for security.

In the novel, *Go Set a Watchman*, the main character, Jean Louise, when returns to her hometown Maycomb from New York after her study, finds various changes in her birthplace and in the people residing there. However, the unexpected thing that she notices is the change in her father, Atticus's nature. He has come out to be a racist and he is supporting the racial segregation meeting held in the court in order to stop the blacks from having their rights. He does not want the blacks to have freedom by changing the law, so he along with other white people who are in power

work together to conserve their traditional method of law.

Jean Louise is against racial discrimination, so she struggles for her faith throughout the novel in order to materialize what her father had taught her even after finding the truth about him:

“Jean Louise, I'm only trying to tell you some plain truths. You must see things as they are, as well as they should be. ”

"Then why didn't you show me things as they as when I sat on your lap? Why didn't you show me, why weren't you careful when you read me history and the things that I thought meant something to you that there was a fence around everything marked 'White Only'?" (243)

When Atticus tries to convince Jean, by telling her whatever he is doing is good for the wellbeing of the whites. And Louise questions Atticus if the whites are superior to the blacks, then why did he not teach her exactly the same thing he thought was right during her childhood.

Jean's opposition to her father does not come down, but it goes up uncontrolled. She further expresses her indignation and says, ““Then what are you, a snob or something?”” (244). Her father now replies with some openness:

"Yes. I'll accept being called a snob when it comes to government. I'd like very much to be left alone to manage my own affairs in a live-and-let-live economy. I'd like for my state to be left alone to keep house without advice from the NAACP, which knows next to nothing about its business and cares less. That organization has stirred up more trouble in the past five years---" (244-45)

Atticus thinks that coloured people over there do not know anything about how the society should be led, so the affairs of Maycomb should be handled by the whites as

they are much experienced and intelligent in comparison to the coloured people.

Whatever Jean says to Atticus, he does not consent with her and does not hold back from his stance. His racist stance grows even firmer:

"Then let's put this on a practical basis right now. Do you want Negroes by the carload in our schools and churches and theaters? Do you want them in our world?" Jean reacts to his expression with strong opposition: "'They're people, aren't they? We were quite willing to import them when they made money for us.'" (245)

Forgetting what he taught to Jean during her childhood, he blindly goes on opposing the coloured people.

Atticus further focuses on the racism stressing that the ideas should be instilled even in children. His view is that if the white children are educated or socialized along with the blacks, the latter will hamper the development of the former. "'Do you want your children going to a school that's been dragged to accommodate Negro children?'" (245-46). The two characters go on defending their beliefs and opposing each other as if they are real rivals in matters of racial discrimination.

Jean is so much unpleasant to her father that she even equals him to Hitler regarding his cruelty towards the blacks. Comparing him with Hitler, she says,

"'You're no better. You're no damn better. You just try to kill their souls instead of their bodies. You just try to tell 'em, 'Look be good. Behave yourselves. If you're good and mind us, you can get a lot out of life, but if you don't mind us, we will give you nothing and take away what we've already given you'" (251-52).

Jean Louise sees Hitler in her father as he just uses the people as pawns. She even says that he is worse than Hitler as Hitler killed people physically but Atticus kills the

souls of those minorities.

There are a lot of examples of the white people hating blacks and discriminating them in the novel. During a tea-party with the girls of Maycomb, the guests make fun of the black people. They called Frank, manslaughter (172). They said that black people do not even know when the Christmas comes on the year (173). They talked about how the NAACP disguise themselves spending their time in church praying in order to get sympathy which is the oldest trick known to mankind.

The niggers are copying Communism approach and use any means they can to help their mission to success just like the Catholic that goes place to place and convert people. They are dedicated to overthrow the south. They mongrelize the race of red-necked trash that lives in forest with the blacks, as they always want to marry whiter people (176). When Jean Louise told them that when she is in New York, she sits and works with the black people and in shock the girls asked her if she is blind or something (174).

Jean Louise is in dilemma whether to accept or reject her father's efforts to preserve Southern culture by supporting racial discrimination. In a way, some critics find Jean Louise to have been accepting discrimination that still exists in her home town, Maycomb to preserve respect and honor of the family by following the traditional White Finch culture. She does not marry Henry, a white from low socioeconomic background, even though she loves him and wants him to be her life-partner. This can be taken as an example of her support for discrimination. But she rejects the blame and says she prefers not following the traditional Southern belief as he thinks it is better to remain single rather than be bound in marriage, being dependent on her husband rest of her life making him happy.

As for legal processes, she always follows the law and does not like the people

who break the law or do something against the law especially illegal things. She is always in dilemma not being able to decide what to do with the Southern traits because her own conscience is conflicting against her father, who follows the tradition regarding racial matter. She has fallen into this situation because she always followed her father's footsteps by fully trusting him, but now she finds out the bitter truth through the pamphlet supporting racism, strongly opposing the black people and it slaps on her face when the reality hits her hard. Her father being racist is further proved when she later finds Atticus among the people who are racists and they are trying to manipulate the law against the blacks.

Characters' Agony through Racism in *Go Set a Watchman*

On her returns to her hometown, Maycomb from New York; Jean finds various changes among the people and the place itself. She has a boyfriend, Henry Clinton (Hank), whom she wants to marry, but her aunt Alexandra (Zandra) does not consent with her. On Jean's remarks about her intention to marry Hank as she has been dating with him. Alexandra says that dating and marrying a boy are different things. "...dating a boy is one thing but marrying him is another" (34). Zandra thinks that he is not suitable for Jean because she is a Finch whereas he is a red necked white trash whose family has a drinking streak. Her aunt thinks that Henry does not act like others because Atticus has guided him since he was a boy and made a different person out of him. Alexandra insults Henry as he thinks he can replace Atticus and settle in Maycomb by taking things of Atticus for granted.

Later, she even comes to know from her aunt Alexandra that both Atticus and Henry are involved in Maycomb County Council meeting. When she goes to the meeting, she finds people like William Willoughby, Tom-Carl, Joyner, his right-hand man, Grady O' Hanlon, the entire racist whom her father Atticus used to despise. They

are discussing different matters about racism. They label the Blacks as a racial group as hammer headed essential inferiority, kinky woolly heads and topics like mongrelize the race.

Jean remembers her father, "She heard a father's voice, a tiny voice talking in the warm comfortable past. *Gentlemen, if there's one slogan in this world I believe, it is this: equal rights for all, special privileges for none*" (108). Jean Louise reminds Atticus what he told her in the past.

Atticus took the case of the black guy, which was never done before, nor will be done later in Maycomb. He helped Tom because Calpurnia (Cal), his housemaid, knew that he was a good boy and he was wrongly accused of raping a white girl. In the past, Atticus always followed a simple life with three words-integrity, humor and patience. He never lived his life with codes but a simple life as his private character was his public character. Jean Louise worshipped her father and always made her decisions on what Atticus would do in that situation. She never doubted him as he was the moral force in her life:

The one human being she had ever fully and whole hearted trusted had failed her; the only man she had ever known to whom she could pointed and say with expert knowledge, "He is a gentleman, in his heart he is a gentleman", had betrayed her publically, grossly, and shamelessly. (113)

Atticus betrays Jean Louise by showing the different attitudes towards the blacks.

When Jean Louise goes to meet Cal and tells her that Atticus will help her but Cal acts indifferently. She did not see Jean as the girl whom she raised but she saw in her the white folk. After returning home, when Alexandra found out that Jean Louise had gone to meet Cal, the former got angry as she thinks that the blacks have betrayed them and nobody visits them anymore. She said:

“Calm down, Miss.” Alexandra’s voice was cold. “Jean Louise, nobody in Maycomb goes to see Negroes anymore, not after what they’ve been doing to us. Besides being shiftless now they look at you sometimes with open insolence, and as far as depending on them goes, why that’s out.”

“That NAACP’s come down here and filled ‘em with poison till it runs out of their ears . . .”

The NAACP has brainwashed the black people and turned them against the white people who helped them to be civilized. Alexandra even added: "No ma'am, after the thanks they've given us for looking after' em, nobody in Maycomb feels much inclined to help 'em when they get in trouble now. All they do is bite the hands that feed 'em. No sir, not any more-they can shift for themselves, now'." (166)

Alexandra points out so many behaviours and activities of the blacks, which are not acceptable to the whites. The woman’s voice is mixed with her emotion. To sum up, Alexandra does not like Jean’s visit to Cal.

Jean Louise goes to meet Uncle Jack to know what turned Atticus into a nigger-hater. Uncle Jack does not and cannot give a straightforward answer. He says that Atticus is working as a guardian of Maycomb and the southern culture to preserve its philosophy by fighting as a rear guard in delaying the actions caused by the NAACP involving the blacks. Atticus and most of the people in power think that they are not ready for the change.

Jane Louise goes to her father's office and told him that she is disgusted by what he's doing in Maycomb citizens' Counseling, ““Yes sir, I’m upset about something. That citizens’ councilin’ you’re doing. I think it’s disgusting and I’ll tell you that right now”” (238). Atticus is favoring his people by twisting the law and by

depriving the blacks of their rights. He thinks they are not worthy of it as the backward people cannot live with the advanced people as they might hinder the development of civilization.

Jean reminds him of his own words 'Equal rights for all; special privileges for none' (108). But the man does not take any notice for those words. Atticus only fears that due to the growth rate of the black people, the whites might lose the position of government office and power over the law through voting as the blacks vote their own kind and then the system will not function properly in their hands as they know next to nothing. Jean Louise got angry with Atticus and said she never knew or wanted to know what was in his mind. She only heard what he said. He neglected to tell her that they are superior to the blacks. The blacks were only able to go that far because of their guidance.

Jean now remembers Atticus taking the case of a young black man named Tom who was accused of a rape by a white girl. She believed that he had taken the case in order to save the life of that young black boy and preserve justice. But in reality, now she realized that it was all not for that very purpose. He took the rape case because it was a compulsion for him. She looked at him as though she never looked up to anybody in her life and never will again. She said:

"If you had only given me some hint, if you had only broken your word with me a couple of times, if you had been bad-tempered or impatient with me if you had been a lesser man, maybe I could have taken what I saw you doing. If once or twice you'd let me catch you doing something vile, and then I would have understood yesterday. Then I'd have said that's just His way, that's my old Man, because I'd have been prepared for it somewhere along the line." (250)

Jean Louise would not have been that much shocked if she had known this flexibility

of his thoughts, and perhaps she might have accepted Atticus for being racist if he had been true to her from the beginning.

Jean tells Atticus that she will never forgive him for what he did to her:

She sneered. 'Not half through. I'll never forgive you for what you did to me. You cheated me, you've driven me out of my house and now I'm in a no-man's-land but good -- there's no place for me any more in Maycomb, and I'll never be entirely at home anywhere else.' (248)

Even though the blacks are backwards, illiterate they are humans and always hope good for their life. Atticus denies that they are humans even if they are born with hope in their heart. She says he has surpassed Hitler in crimes as Atticus tries to kill their souls instead of their bodies. She says that the blacks should also have respect as they have hope and feelings being human.

Jean is so much irritated by her father that she goes to the extremes of her expression, "...and I'll never believe a word you say to me again. I despise you and everything you stand for" (253). Atticus feels so much that he says, "Well, I love you". At his words she explodes with anger and expresses her agony in this way: "Don't you dare say that to me! Love me, huh! Atticus, I'm getting out of this place fast, I don't know where I'm going but I'm going. I never want to see another Finch or hear of one as long as I live" (253). Her words speak for themselves about how irritated and how unpleasant she is to her father. Her love for her belief is dearer than her father, her relatives and her birthplace.

Later, Uncle Jack stops her and has a conversation. He asks her if her all passion were spent to which she replied that she can't fight them anymore nor can join them, either. He reminds her that she is her own person now like every man's watchman is his conscience as there is nothing as a collective conscious, ". . . now you, Miss, born with your own conscience, somewhere along the line fastened it like a

barnacle onto your father's. As you grew up, when you were grown, totally unknown to yourself, you confused your father with God'" (265). Uncle Jack reminds Jean Louise that it is all the result of being dependent on her father, Atticus both physically and mentally.

Jean Louise always saw Atticus as a flawless man. But he makes mistakes. She was always depending upon him getting the answers to her questions, assuming that her answers would always be his answers. But when she found him doing something bad being antithesis of his conscience also her conscience, she couldn't tolerate it. She had to kill herself, or he had to kill her to get her functioning as a separate entity with her own identity.

On the other hand, Atticus and Uncle Jack are always worried about when Jean will come to consent with them as in the past. They wanted her to come in their way of thinking about racism. That is the reason why Atticus does not try to fight back or defending himself during their quarrel and he lets her reduce him to the human level. She gathered her courage to live which is a part of one's instinct for self-preservation of survival. But the only difference is that she is a bigot and he's not. When someone challenges her opinions, she remains rigid and does not listen but just lashes out. If she doesn't like the way people do then she has no time for them and thinks about leaving them.

Thus, we see that because of racial practices existing in the society, different characters have different types of agony. For example, Jean is not happy with the practice of discriminating the blacks; she says they should be incorporated in the main stream, but she cannot do that alone. It has caused her a type of pain. On the other hand, her father, Alexandra and even Henry are worried about how to dominate the blacks, and how to alienate them from the mainstream power. Jean's declaration of her alienation from them has also caused deep worry to them.

Chapter 3

Disintegration due to Racial Discrimination

The present thesis is focused on racism, an important topic that has become an issue for a long time and has remained unsolved. Most of the people of various countries have various experiences of racism regarding time and place. The issue is seriously given in Lee's *Go Set a Watchman* in a subtle way.

Jean Louise who is the main character or protagonist of the novel comes to face the reality by knowing that her father, Atticus who taught her from her childhood about not discriminating people based on race or skin color is later found out to be a racist. She clashes with Atticus thinking that what he is doing is absolutely wrong as he is manipulating the law of Maycomb in favor of the whites by depriving the blacks of their rights.

Racism can be perceived on various factors like race, caste, religion, culture, nation, skin color and so on. Racism presented in the novel *Go Set a Watchman* is especially based on race and nation as it is related to the white and black people of the South in America. Racism does affect our day-to-day life as it has impact on our daily activities directly or indirectly.

We can gain knowledge from the main character of the novel *Go Set a Watchman*, Jean Louise that we should never judge a person on the basis of race but to judge all the people equally. When it comes to racism, we should be color-blind just like Jean Louise and treat everyone with respect as everyone is born equally. A person should not be judged racially but he/she should be judged on the basis of his behavior, education, skill, deeds and various other factors.

As the reader, we can also assume through the incident related to racism in the novel that racism is an old and deep-rooted social evil. It has almost covered the

human evolution throughout the history. Racism has become a chronic disease that cannot be treated and cured immediately. It takes time to eradicate racism and to do so we, all the people should put efforts to remove racism from our side just like what the protagonist, Jean Louise did. Whether she succeeded or not is unknown but we should not give up our hope. Through this thesis the readers will be able to gain knowledge about the story presented in the novel *Go Set a Watchman*, how to write a thesis and gain some idea related to racism and racial discrimination.

Go Set a Watchman clearly shows that racial discrimination brings about serious problem of social disintegration that hampers not only the social life but also various mental problems in individuals. For example, in the novel, the white people do not like to be mixed up with the blacks and this automatically divides the unity. The white domination is an age-old social evil that has made those minorities feel that racial discrimination is natural and it should be obeyed. That is why, even the black people, except few, do not fight for their rights and freedom. They feel that they are destined to live such life. So, they feel down, and live miserable life.

As shown in the novel, the white people think they are superior by birth and by race, and appear in a mask pretending that these minorities should be treated like the whites, but this is only their outward show. In reality, their intention is to enslave the blacks, and to deprive them of all human rights and freedom. Further there are individuals who strongly advocate equal rights for all irrespective of race, caste and socio-economic status. These people become upset if they do not find equality in their society. In the novel, the novelist has presented Jean Louise as this type of character, who struggles throughout her life for the rights and freedom for the blacks. The novel has been able to prove it clearly.

The novel has been able to present the real picture of social disintegration

because of the practice of racism. The white people do not allow the black people to participate in various social activities. Not only that the whites do not even let them unite for their social integration. For example, Atticus takes the responsibility to deal with a court case of a black boy, not with the intention of helping him, but to weaken the power and skills of the black people. Atticus thought that if the case was successfully handled by some black lawyers, then they would get encouraged to do anything by their own, and they would not respect or follow the whites. This is a big trick to dominate the minorities.

In the novel we also see that because of the practice of racism, there are conflicts between individuals. For example, Atticus and Jean develop themselves as rivals in matters of race. The father follows the doctrines of racism but the daughter strongly opposes it. To sum up the discussions in the previous chapters, it is not difficult to conclude that *Go Set a Watchman* presents the protagonist's moves against racism resulting in social disintegration.

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