

**PREJUDICE, RACISM, AND VIOLENCE REFLECTED
IN MARY FLANNERY O'CONNOR'S SHORT STORIES
COLLECTIONS
PUBLICATION ARTICLE**



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APPROVAL

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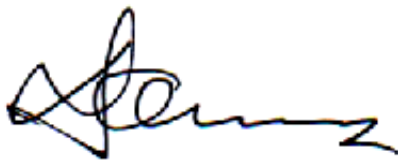
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PREJUDICE, RACISM, AND VIOLENCE REFLECTED IN MARY FLANNERY O'CONNOR'S SHORT STORIES COLLECTIONS

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Abstract

This study investigates how Prejudice, Racism and Violence Reflected in Mary O'Connor's Short Story collections. This study also unveils the human right abuse happened within the stories. The data the writer got were from the short stories themselves and from other resources on O'Connor's short stories analysis. Besides that, the researcher also used several theories on Prejudice, Racism and Violence as the major themes to be analyzed. The result showed that from the eighteen short stories of O'Connor, mostly illustrated racism as the effect of prejudice feeling toward others, especially the black people. She also portrayed violence toward other characters, especially those who were disabled as the result of disrespect or under estimation feeling. Violence here acted as the development of prejudice and Racism within the characters behaviors.

Key words: Prejudice, Racism, Violence, Human Right Abuse, Major Characters

A. Introduction

Understanding literary work is always interesting for the researcher, since observing the characteristics of human being which are vary and attracts conflicts to analyze are amazing things. There are so many ways to do in order to have a better understanding in reading a short story. Here the researcher takes Mary Flannery O'Connor collections of short stories. There are two collections, which will be analyzed, the first one is the collection in "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (1955), and the second is the collection in "Everything that Rises must Converge" (1965).

This research unveils the meaning of prejudice, racism and violence, reflected in the collection of short stories of “A Good Man is Hard to Find” (1955) written by Mary Flannery O’Connor where there are ten stories in it, namely; “A Good Man is Hard to find”, “The River”, “The Life You Save May be Your Own”, “A Stroke of Good Fortune”, “A Temple of the Holy Ghost”, “The Artificial Nigger”, “A Circle in the Fire”, “A Late Encounter with the Enemy”, “Good Country People”, and “The Displaced Person” and the second collection consists of eight stories under the title of collection “Everything that Rises Must Converge” including “Greenleaf”, “A View of the Woods”, “The Enduring Chill”, “The Comforts of Home”, “The Lame Shall Enter First”, “Revelation” and “Parker Back”. They are Mary’s great works, where she pours her typical writing within this short story. The writer of the story wants to reveal the prejudice, racism, violence in such a way that the readers will be deeply involved with the style and way of depicting the characters in line with the religious teaching she always inserted inside.

The study investigates prejudice, racism, and violence for the following reasons; **firstly**, the researcher observes that the author of the short stories illustrated the major characters behaviors mostly reflect those features. For example; in the short story “A Good Man is Hard to Find”, the prejudice feeling is clearly portrayed by the Grandmother as the major character, **next**, the racism is fully shown in the short story "Everything That Rises Must Converge” where Julian’s mother is clearly racist. She thinks that the black people should be better as slave not more. It also covers the feeling of prejudice, like the character of Grandmother (A Good Man is Hard to Find). The next is **violence** where the author of the story put it as the way to attract the readers’ attention. This character can be seen from the character The Misfit in the story A Good Man is Hard to Find. He is undoubtedly killing the whole family of Grandmother, for he thinks that he doesn’t belong to the family of the good one. He believes that it is difficult to find a good one. He prefers to his own. **Secondly**; the researcher is fully interested in interpreting literary work. It is challenging to interpret the characteristics of human being in different situation and condition. The collection of Mary

Flannery O'Connor attracts the researcher's attention since the prejudice; racism and violence are the typical of her writing.

B. Underlying Theories

This part investigates the meaning of prejudice, racism and violence from the theorists' points of view. This chapter will be divided into three parts (Prejudice, racism, and Violence, and the last part is the application of the theories) as follows:

1. Prejudice

Prejudice has been defined by Gordon Allport in Fishbein D Harold in his book **Peer Prejudice and Discrimination the Origin of Prejudice (2002)** that prejudice as unreasonable attitude or the negative characteristics which can't be accepted or considered as the truth toward a certain group and individual members. Prejudice is the negative behavior which tends to lead a convinced group to be individualistic based on the limited or false information about that group. Prejudice can be defined as something emotionally triggered to make a social explosion burst out.

2. Racism

According to the *American Heritage College Dictionary*, racism has two meanings. **Firstly**, racism is, "The belief that race accounts for differences in human character or ability and that a particular race is superior to others." **Secondly**, racism is, "Discrimination or prejudice based on race." Examples of the first definition abound. When slavery was practiced in the United States, blacks were not only considered inferior to whites but regarded as property instead of human beings. During the 1787 Philadelphia Convention, it was agreed that slaves were to be considered three-fifths people for purposes of taxation and representation. Generally during slavery, blacks were deemed intellectually inferior to whites. This notion persists in modern-day America.

According to Jones (1972), the term "racism" can be defined broadly as follows; "Racism results from the transformation of race prejudice and/or ethnocentrism through the exercise of power against a racial group defined as inferior, by individuals and institutions with the intentional or unintentional support of the entire culture" (p. 117).

3. Violence

Violence is physical attack of another person. Activities that may legally involve violence include hunting, law enforcement, sports, and war. Crime includes many illegal forms of violence. According to Erich Fromm (1969) in his essay for the Collier's Year Book, Fromm presents various explanations for human violence. He argues that violence cannot be controlled by imposing stronger legal penalties, but rather by creating a more just society in which people connect with each other as humans and are able to control their own lives.

According to Eric Fromm (1969), human is inherently aggressive animal. This assumption was made by Freud in his concept of the life instinct and the death instinct and by Freudian psychoanalysts who did not follow Freud in this assumption but postulated the existence of a destructive instinct in man. Lorenz shares the concept of an aggressive instinct and combines it with assumptions about inherited aggressiveness rooted in the evolution of men from animals. According to the psychoanalysts and Lorenz, aggressiveness is spontaneously produced within the nervous system. It grows and accumulates and must be expressed if it is not to explode against or without a person's intention. Aggressiveness in this view does not need a special stimulus or provocation. It arises by itself and seeks and finds those stimuli which give it a chance to express itself. As Lorenz puts it in his book *On Aggression*, we don't have aggression because we have different political parties, but we have different political parties because we carry aggression within ourselves.

According to Theodore W. Adorno, in Karsten Fischer (2007) article *entitle "In the Beginning was the Murder: Destruction of Nature and Inter Human Violence in Adorno's Critique of Culture"*, she argued that according to Adorno, the domination of man's natural environment made possible by controlling man's inner nature leads to a limitation of the human horizon to self-preservation and power. In addition, the justifying idea of a divine commandment to subdue the earth and to have dominion over all creatures reduces the sensitivity of civilized humans for the conditions of their violent domination of nature organized in and by society. Finally, the internalized violent domination of nature also

facilitates the use of force in social life. Adorno's hypothesis with regard to a psychology of civilization means that man's brute force against nature encourages him to use violence against other human beings as well. This radical thesis defended by Adorno must be differentiated from the traditional critique of culture, particularly from its German version.

C. Research Methodology

1. Subjects

Since the study is about the analysis of a literary work, the subject is the characters of the stories themselves. There are several characters from Flannery O'Connor collection of short story. Among others are The Grandmother and the Misfit from the short story "A Good Man is Hard to Find", next "Mrs. Hopewell" from the story Good Country People, next, "Hulga" from the short story Good Country People and there are several more, since the researcher analyzes Mary O'Connor Collection of short stories.

2. Research Design

The researcher uses the theories of prejudice, racism, and violence to investigate the short story collection of Flannery O'Connor "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (1955), and the second collection "Everything Rises Must Converge" (1965). The prejudice refers to the character of Grandmother (A Good Man is Hard to Find), and several other characters, while the violence tends to go to the character of the Misfit (A Good Man is Hard to Find) as one of the examples. Meanwhile the racism can be seen from the story "The Artificial Nigger", and "The Displaced Person" and factors influence them.

The research design used here is library research by using descriptive study. The researcher is going to disclose the underlying factors influence the characters by applying the theory of prejudice, racism, and violence. Besides those approaches, the researcher investigates the prejudice feeling that the Grandmother has and the characteristics of violence where the Misfit owns. Both characters have different characteristics where the author of the stories really has them. The whole story illustrated how difference is the grandmother and the Misfit background of life and family. This study deeply investigates

how the major characters acquire such kind of those feelings and how do they reflect in the major characters behavior.

The next, the researcher studies how the human right abuse takes place in Flannery O'Connor collection of short stories. As the writer notices, there are several events, which include the human abuse to the characters. The researcher is curious why Flannery inserted it within her stories.

3. Data Collection

The researcher does the interpretation of some resources and the short stories themselves in collecting the data for the analysis. Since it is the study of investigating a literary work, more reading and interpretation on literature are needed and explored. Besides, the previous study on the analysis toward Flannery O'Connor short story collection, "A Good Man is Hard to Find" and "Everything Rises Must Converge" are really helpful and needed to make comparative study on it. The sources of data for the sake of the analysis come from several resources, like the following;

a) Primary data

The sources are taken from the short story itself, including dialogues, events, the language, and narrative expressions. The dialogues consist of the ones of the main characters become useful source to be considered by the writer. The events are the number of facts, happening within the story, while the languages are very useful in giving better understanding of Flannery's style. These may be taken from the behaviors and the acts or the experiences undergone by the characters. Narration is what the author has said about the characters or just the situation described by the author.

b) Secondary data

These data cover several criticisms and some other articles about Mary Flannery O'Connor and her works. The writer also takes many ideas about racism, since most of Flannery stories include racism within them. Besides that, the theory of prejudice and violence are also applied here, since both themes are also parts of Flannery stories.

D. The Discussion

1. Racism in America (USA)

Since this study investigate the racism, prejudice ad violence reflected within the collections of Flannery's short stories, the writer presents the background of racism in USA as one of the themes illustrated in most of her stories and how racism in USA today. Does racism still exist in America today? The writer also presents several impacts of racism in human's life.

Racism in America was started in 1518 when the demand for slaves was so great that King Charles I of Spain sanctioned the direct transport of slaves from Africa to the American colonies. The slave trade was controlled by the Crown, which sold the right to import slaves (*asiento*) to entrepreneurs.

By the 1530s, the Portuguese were also using African slaves in Brazil. From then until the abolition of the slave trade in 1870, at least 10 million Africans were forcibly brought to the Americas: about 47 percent of them to the Caribbean islands and the Guianas; 38 percent to Brazil; and 6 percent to mainland Spanish America. About 4.5 percent went to North America, roughly the same proportion that went to Europe.

The greatest proportion of these slaves worked on plantations producing sugar, coffee, cotton, tobacco, and rice in the tropical lowlands of northeastern Brazil and in the Caribbean islands. Most of them came from the sub-Saharan states of West and Central Africa, but by the late 18th century the supply zone extended to southern and East Africa as well.

. Slavery in the Americas was generally harsh, but it varied from time to time and place to place. The Caribbean and Brazilian sugar plantations required a consistently high supply of labor for centuries. In other areas—the frontiers of southern Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, and Colombia—slavery was relatively unimportant to the economy.

In Latin America society was, in general, a three-tiered structure of castes, subdivided into classes. At the top were the Europeans; in the middle were the free nonwhites; and at the bottom were slaves and Native Americans. Each caste had its own set of legal rights and

social privileges, which varied from place to place. That was the beginning of the discrimination grew more and more obvious because of the difference status they owned.

According to M. Jones, a psychologist at the University of Delaware, a world authority on the study of race and racism, he quoted race as:

Race – this four- letter word has wreaked more havoc on people in the world than all the four-letter banned by censors of the U.S. airwaves. Race divides human beings into categories that loom in our psyches. Racial differences create enormous divides in our psychological understandings of whom we are and who should be. (Jones, 1997 p. 339).

Flannery O'Connor wrote her two collections of short stories in 1955 and 1965. During which America was in the condition of unstable and uncertain economically. The race and racism played important role in the economic flows. Racism directed against African-Americans and other people of color has been a central and continuing feature of U.S. society. Talking about racism is unable to separate from prejudice feeling that human being have. In America racial attitudes not improved in the four years since the United States elected its first black president, an Associated Press poll finds, as a slight majority of Americans now express prejudice toward blacks whether they recognize those feelings or not.

Those views could cost President Obama votes as he tries for re-election, diminish the survey found, though the effects are diminished by some Americans' more favorable views of blacks. Racial prejudice has increased slightly since 2008 whether those feelings were measured using questions that explicitly asked respondents about racist attitudes, or through experimental test that measured implicit views toward race without asking questions about that topic directly.

Overall, the survey found that by virtue of racial prejudice, Obama could lose 5 percentage points off his share of the popular vote in his November 6, contest against Republican challenger Mitt Romney. However, Obama also stands to benefits from a three-percentage point gain due to pro-black sentiment, researcher said. In short, the survey showed that the racial prejudice still happened in America, even according to Raymond

Choiniere as stated in AP (Associated Press) 2012 gave several examples of racism in American life.

People may ask question whether racism still happens in America or not today. Raymond starts his ideas about racism by defining what is racist actually for him. In his opinion, “Racist is a person who dislikes for whatever reason, someone of a different race. It does not matter what race, just one that is not the same with them. Further Raymond also stated that he himself actually does not really care about the color or whatever race the people come from. The most important thing is how good the man plays his role within the society. He considers the action not the performance from the physical appearance solely. He believes that racist and racism continue to grow in America as long as the people do not change their mind about the basic perception on race.

E. Prejudice in Flannery’s works

Since the researcher has the purpose to disclose the prejudice, racism and violence within O’Connor’s works, within this section she presents her analysis about those three themes. The first one is prejudice.

Characters	Prejudice in action or language
1. The Grandmother (A Good Man is Hard to Find)	Little niggers in the country don't have things like we do." (Grandmother’s speaking)
2. Mrs. Conin (The River)	Came to the river to be healed by the preacher or the priest as she believed that the preacher could do.
3. Hulga (Good Country People)	The Bible Man Manley was uneducated and easy to seduce
4. Mrs Lucynell (The Life You Save May be Your Own)	Tom Shiflet a man with one hand as good man to marry her daughter
5. Ruby (A Stroke of Good Fortune)	Her brother’s coming will be additional problem towards the

	family.
6. The two cousins (A Temple of the Holy Ghosts)	The hermaphrodite must be bad by saying that they were freak
7. Mr. Head and Nelson (The artificial Nigger)	Avoiding to get involved with the black to produce problem
8. Mrs. Cope (A Circle in the Fire)	The three boys coming was suspected to disturb her land
9. The Shortleys (The Displaced Person)	Mr. Shortley thought the Ginzac's arrival as the problem for him that he was fired by the land owner
10. Sally Poker Sash (A Late Encounter with the Enemy)	Her nephew(John Wesley) was not good enough to take care of her grandfather
11. Julian's mother (Everything that Rises Must Converge)	The black should not have the same properties with the white.
12. Mrs. May (Greenleaf)	Mrs. Greenleaf was more successful in raising her children than her.
13. Grandfather Fortune (A View of the Woods)	Mary Fortune was considered rebellious against him, since she preferred her husband to her grandfather's advice
14. Asbury (The Enduring Chill)	His mother was considered as the follower of the priest regardless his pain to be cured.
15. Thomas (the Comforts of	His mother was considered as

Home)	bad person for protecting Sarah a drunken and bad girl.
16. Rufus Johnson (The Lame Shall Enter first)	He thought that Shepperd interfered him too far for making him to follow him to stay at his house
17. Ruby Turpin (Revelation)	She thought she was better from others by giving them disposition to be good
18. Parker (Parker's Back)	He thought his wife would accept him as he acknowledge the God on his tattoos.

In summary, prejudice theme in Flannery O'Connor stories cover the prejudice as Jones stated in his theory. Prejudice refers to the negative judgement toward other, whether the memers of a race or religion or the occupants of any other significant social role, held in disregard of the facts that contradict it. What prejudice feeling which the characters of the stories have depict the prejudice of Jones (1972). Furthermore, prejudice feeling later on develop into racism in which Flannery O'Connor also took it as one of the themes she put in her writings. The readers can easily understand that prejudice feeling of the characters in the stories develop into the feeling of racism and even increase into violence. The researcher dicloses those three themes successively.

F. Racism in O'Connor's stories

Flannery O'Connor is a great woman writer in America. Her writing is acknowledged as great works which are rich in religious theme, and also religious teachings. In this section, the researcher unveil racism which are often used in her stories. If prejudice can be seen from all characters, racism is not the same. Racism only covers several characters of the

stories. However, the researcher was interested in disclosing the theme racism, since it attracts more attention to the events happened to the characters. Here is the table of racism happened within the stories.

Characters	Racism in action or language
1. Shortley and Guinzac (The Displaced Person)	Shortley tried to exile the Guinzac by intervening Mrs. McIntyre to fired him. Guinzac was afraid to the balck farmhands in the field. Both Shortley and Guinzac suspected each other and tried to dismiss each other to take the position in the farm. Shortley finally let the Guinzac died tragically on the tractor rolling down on him.
2. Mr. Head (The Artificial Nigger)	Mr. Head suspected that the black people he met in the black village were not good. He asked his grandson to make them annoyed by knocking the black woman down and let it go. He was too reluctant to have a conversation with them
3. Asbury (The Enduring Chill)	Asbury felt suspected the Negros when he wanted to write a play on them.
4. Julian’s mother (Everything That)	She was afraid of the black people as

Rises must Converge)	if they were possessing bad intention. She was afraid every time she met the black people every where.
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Racism, as Jones (1972) defined in his theory, it has a relation with the three things; namely ethnicity, culture and minority. What happen to the character in the stories above mostly refers to the third thing, that is minority. The black people within the stories refers to the minority where they live at. O'Connor often illustrates her characters of black people as the farmhands where they work to the white landowners. They are minority and they are less in numbers. They are also lack of education so they become left behind from the culture. Most black people in the stories live in the less-convenient place or in urban area out of the center of the city. Flannery O'Connor took her background of place in her stories in Georgia, a village in which she was born. Besides that, she also used the setting of farms, mountainous area and cities to give comparison of different life style among those places.

G. Violence

Besides prejudice and racism, the researcher also takes violence into the analysis since the researcher finds several signs of violent appear within Flannery O'Connor's short stories. Violence can be seen from the language she uses and from the way she illustrates the death of the characters. Much of O'Connor's fiction contains violence, which she claimed was necessary to get the readers' attention. Her violence has a purpose; therefore, she claimed that the world in general would not notice God's presence unless something monumental happened. That is what O'Connor did to her stories. Here, the researcher investigates violence from several stories in the two collections of Flannery's short stories.

Flannery's short stories.

Characters	Violence in the action or language
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<p>1. The Misfit (A Good Man is Hard to Find)</p>	<p>He was an escaped-recidivists' whose coming was a threatening to people. He killed the whole family of Bailey without any mercy and compromise. He shot the grandmother three times on her chest even though she tried to persuade him to go back to the God.</p>
<p>2. Mrs. May (Greenleaf)</p>	<p>She was stabbed by the bull in her stomach to her death. The bull belonged to Mrs. Greenleaf's boy.</p>
<p>3. Mary Fortune and Her Grandfather (A View of the Woods)</p>	<p>Mari had a fight with her grandfather because of the land that she would sell for the sake of her husband's will. Grandfather fortune insisted her to cancel it since the land was very strategic and view the good scenery of the woods. Both of them got involved in quarreling which ended up to Mary's death on the big stone and her grandfather's death of the heart attack when he saw a bulldozer was developing into his land.</p>
<p>4. Manley Pointer (Good Country People)</p>	<p>He took out Hulga's prosthetic leg and let her alone in the bar after treating her badly.</p>
<p>5. Thomas (The Comforts of)</p>	<p>Thomas got fighting with his</p>

Home)	mother because of Sarah. Thomas rejected to have Sarah at his house. In the end Thomas shot his own mother unconsciously because of Sarah.
6. Parker (Parker's Back)	He got bruised and bleed on his body from his wife's beating and throwing the broom on him for not believing that he had changed his mind on the existence of God. The way his wife treat him was rough and violent.

According to Glasser 1999, (p. 887), he talked about violence as “Violence involves the bodies of both perpetrator and victim and it may thus be defined as a bodily response with the intended infliction of bodily harm on another person”. In O’Connor stories, violent done by the characters cause severe harm and bodily injuries. It can be seen clearly from the actions and the way she illustrates what is happening to the characters. Since O’Connor describes everything in her stories in detail, therefore, the readers are able to imagine and get involved within the stories easily. O’Connor also used the symbol of nature and animals within her stories to create better imagination and views toward the readers.

In line with the theory of “Cycle of Violence” (1992) by R. Emerson & Russel P. Dobash in which it gains its popularity in the United States, violence is believed that men did not express their frustration and anger because they had been taught not to show their feelings. The man’s tension built until he exploded and became violent. This really matches with the illustration within O’Connor’s stories. Most of the violent doers are men, and the victims are women. Furthermore, the victims of the violent scenes are people with disabilities, such as, unable to speak, having undulant illness, lack of body organs like hand,

or leg. It is very common to find in most of her stories. In “Good Country People”, the victim is Joy or Hulga who loses one of her legs in the accident, and in the story of “The Life You Save May be Your Own”, the victim is Lucynell Crater who is mute and unable to speak well. There are still more to see from other stories about the disabilities of the figures.

H. How the Human Right Abuse Happened in O’Connor Stories

As the title of this study, the researcher investigates prejudice, racism and violence within the two short stories collection of O’Connor. Those three terms are closely related each other. The next point that the researcher wants to unveil is the emergence of human right abuse within Mary Flannery O’Connor stories. The writer is interested to disclose this term since she finds out there are several actions which refer to human right abuse within the stories.

According to Jean Lau Chin in his book “The Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination” Volume 4 (2004), he presented a table related to the terms of prejudice, discrimination, disabilities and so forth. Here are the definitions of those terms;

1. Prejudice

It is a negative attitude toward members of some group, based solely on their membership in that group.

2. Discrimination

A negative action toward a group that is target of prejudice (Baron & Byrne, 2003).

3. Disability

The condition of a person (1) having a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits him or her in some major life activity, and (2) having experienced discrimination resulting from this physical or mental impairment (*The Americans with Disabilities Act*, PL 504).

4. Prejudiced person

It is a person who adopts negative belief or attitude about another person or group. That attitude refers to a general evaluation that a person holds of himself or herself, other people, objects, and issues (Petty, 1995). The prejudiced individual negatively evaluates and dislikes members of a group just because they belong to that particular group. The disliked

individuals' personal characteristics, beliefs, or contributions to society are not considered by the prejudiced person; those factors have little or nothing to do with the prejudiced person's evaluation.

5. Human rights

It is the rights that are considered by most societies to belong automatically to everyone for example the rights for freedom, justice and equality.

6. Abuse,

According to Encarta Dictionary (2009), it is to hurt or injure by maltreatment, or to misuse the power accompanying an office or position. Abuse does not necessarily involve mistreatment of others. Drug dependence, alcoholism, and misuse of anabolic steroids are examples of self-abuse.

several data about human right abuses within the stories. Here is the list:

Characters	Actions
1. Tom Shiftlet (The Life You save May be Your Own)	He left his newly-married wife in the hot spot or the restaurant, since he only wanted the car not the woman. Moreover Lucynell was a mute girl and uneducated one. She did not understand the dirty mind of her husband by taking her for honey-moon. It was all a lie. It was a violation toward Lucynell's right to gain happiness after the marriage.
2. Manley Pointer (Good Country People)	He left Hulga(Joy) a lady with a prosthetic leg. Since he understood that she got her degree in

	<p>philosophy but she was atheistic, he planned to make her regretful by leaving her in the barn without her leg and glasses. Moreover, he did not listen to her begging and requesting to give her prosthetic leg back. He left her without any mercy at all.</p>
<p>3. The Misfit (A Good Man is Hard to Find)</p>	<p>He took the whole lives of Bailey family. He shot them all without thinking clearly that he had taken the rights to live of them. It was really violation toward human rights. No mercy and no pity were given to the old woman and even to the children.</p>

Based on those definitions above, the human right abuse which is done by the character can be caused by prejudice feeling, which is improved by the discrimination and racism, and because the doer has the power to do the abuse and he/she misuses it, therefore, the next step it happens violence. In the researcher’s point of view, violence here refers to a human right abuse. The researcher observes that the human right abuses within O’Connor’s stories are mostly happened to the characters that have disabilities.

I. Conclusion

Understanding Mary Flannery O’Connor’s short stories collections is always interesting for the researcher since O’Connor was a great writer of her time. Firstly, many readers find out that it is too difficult to understand her stories and the way she writes,

however, time by time and the seriousness of reading and understanding them come to one conclusion that the stories are great to read.

Next, after having understood the eighteen short stories of O'Connor, the researcher concludes that the prejudice, racism and violence are typical themes of O'Connor stories.

PREJUDICE	RACISM	VIOLENCE
1. Considering others as worse than the speakers. 2. The white or the people with higher status are better than the black or the workers.	1. Avoiding to get involved with the black people. 2. The idea that the black are not suitable to have the same properties with the white. 3. Different treatment to the black in several departments	1. Treating the disabled person violently. 2. Easily taking away the disabled rights or properties. 3. Easily hurting others even cause other to the death without any mercy or taking a pity.

Racism happened in the United States as the result of slavery recruitment by the government from the African brought to the country to work in the plantation. Since most of the workers were black people, their position was minority and caused the difference treatment with the white. The black often got bad treatment from the white who considered themselves as higher level.

The theme violence, racism and prejudice reflected clearly within the stories from the characters' actions and speaking. Mary Flannery O'Connor presented clearly in her stories. She even put the setting and the lay out of the stories very clearly to make the readers easily involved within the stories.

The last thing the researcher found out that the human right abuse happened as the result of violent treatment toward the other characters who owned disabilities. Here O'Connor portrayed within her stories clearly toward several characters

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