

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I am going to draw a conclusion from the analysis that I have done in the previous chapter. The theme of “As I Grew Older” is “discrimination makes it difficult for black people to reach their dream”. In my opinion, this poem shows how difficult it is for black people to reach their dreams. They cannot reach their dreams because there is an obstacle, in form of discrimination, and they need to struggle and need a lot of effort to reach their dreams.

The theme of “The Negro Mother” is “black people should not give up in order to stop discrimination”. Although black people are treated as a slave in the past and got refusal from white people in present time but they never stop striving for equality. They never stop hoping, praying for their freedom from discrimination, although their life is filled with sorrow, tears, and pain. They also believe that God will help them to survive the situation.

The theme of “Theme For English B” is “discrimination is disadvantageous both for black and white people because it prevents them from sharing new life experiences, knowledge, happiness and sorrow with each other”. This poem shows that black and white people seem to dislike and discriminate each other, and I think this is disadvantageous for them, because actually they can learn from each other. If they discriminate each other, they cannot get new life experiences from each other, because basically human beings are social creatures, who need and help each other.

The theme of the poem “Dream Variations” is “life free from discrimination is the dream of all black people”. In my opinion, this poem shows how black people really want to be free from discrimination. They want to get a better future and they want to live somewhere without being discriminated. Black people also want to be treated gently and tenderly, so that they can face their life with happiness.

The similarity that I have found from these four poems is the subject matter, which is about discrimination. Yet, the speakers in these four poems show the difference of the poems. There is a possibility that the speakers in “As I Grew Older” & “Dream Variations” are black people, but the speakers in “The Negro Mother” and “Theme For English B” are definitely black people. The speaker in “The Negro Mother” is an old black mother and the speaker in “Theme For English B” is a black university student. Although the speakers are different, I believe all of them address the issue of discrimination.

Having done the analysis, in my opinion Langston Hughes would like to show in his poem how much he cares about black people, as most of his poems tell about

the life of black people. In my opinion, Hughes would like to emphasize black people's feeling in his poems.

I also think that although discrimination still exists in America, it is less severe. We can see that in the past, it is difficult for black people to get job opportunities and also opportunities in getting good education and freedom to give their opinions. But, now black and white people can get the same opportunity to get a good job, good education and freedom of expression. Barack Obama is a good example of successful black people.

Thus, black people can get the same opportunity as white people to reach their dreams. In my opinion, Hughes is successful in striving for equality in his poems. Nowadays, many black people are successful in various fields. They become politicians, actresses, entrepreneurs, and even a president. In my opinion, that fact may erase a stigma that black people usually work as slaves, laborers or farmers.

Having analyzed Hughes' four poems, I learn that one needs to work hard. People cannot reach their dreams instantly, because it is a process. People may have hopes to reach their dreams and to get a better future, but they must find out how they can reach their dreams and they have to do their best. I believe the poems show the efforts of black people to be free from discrimination. Although their daily life is always filled with sadness, they are still optimistic that they can survive.