

CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

Having analyzed the theme of the poems of both writers, I come to a conclusion that both writers are talking about black people and their interaction with other people with different race at their particular time. Both writers describe that the bad treatment and inequality are the major problems that the black people face. Both Angelou's and Zephaniah's purposes through their poems are more to encourage the black people and also criticizing the white people for doing such treatment towards the black people. Through their poems, both are also describing that the black people have the pride and power within themselves in order to fight the bad treatment.

However, there are still some differences that can be seen through their purposes in creating the poems. Angelou's focus is more to the pure discrimination towards black people while Zephaniah's is more to the attitude of the black people in interacting with the other races. Angelou was born in 1928, the period when Civil

Rights Movement was still going on. Based on it, I can say that Angelou was raised in the situation where black people were fighting for their freedom and rights. That mainly affects her works and through her four poems that I already analyzed, I find that the issue of discrimination is very strong. Through the diction she conveys the discrimination issue explicitly by addressing the narrators' identity with the words "painful history" and "shameful past" in the poem "Equality", "history's shame" and "past... in pain" in the poem "Still I Rise", and "slavery's chains" in the poem "Million Man March Poem" which draw back to the history of the black people as slaves. Yet, since she is a woman there is sense of feminism in some of her poems. Inspired by her and black people's experiences in the segregation era, all of her four poems describe about the pain and suffering the black people had in order to fight the segregation and to get their rights.

Her "Equality" and "Still I Rise" are about the black people's hope to get equality, "Million Man March Poem" is about the power they had to fight the discrimination, and "Touched by an Angel" is telling that the power of love which can do anything including to stop discrimination. Therefore, I can conclude that all of her four poems are the description of what had happened to the black people and what the black people had done to fight the discrimination at that time.

While Zephaniah is a British dub poet who once grew up in Jamaica but now lives in England and become well known in contemporary English literature. Different from Angelou's, Zephaniah's poems are rather vivid delivering the issue of discrimination, focusing more on the attitude of the black people and how they relate to other people of different race. However, the bad treatment towards the black people still can be found through Zephaniah's poems. Not merely in the form of

discrimination but in the form of social injustice. His “SOS (Save Our Sons)” is talking about the violent culture that has been considered as part of the black culture. “Neighbours” is talking about the pride and changing attitude of the black people in looking at themselves. “The Race Industry” is about the history of the black people a long time ago while “White Comedy” is about the power the black people have within themselves to face the bad stereotype of the blacks.

Angelou is from the United States of America and these poems are all about what happen in the segregation era a long time ago while Zephaniah is from England and his four poems are all about what happen to the black people in present time. Based on that and based on what I have analyzed, I can conclude that the bad treatment towards black people does still occur from a long time ago until now. It was in the form of discrimination in the United States of America but it is now in the form of social injustice in the daily life of the black people in England.

I personally prefer Zephaniah poems because they have so many issues about the black people nowadays. This is interesting because many people would also think the way I did, that there is no such thing as discrimination towards black people that occurs at present but the truth is, there is, and of course not in the form of mere discrimination. It can be in the form of social injustice or bad stereotypes addressed to them. Zephaniah is living in today's era but he still can bring back the old memories and history of the black people through one of his four poems and his other three poems are also really portraying the real life of the black people in England nowadays.

