

THESIS

**RACIAL PROFILING AS PORTRAYED IN JASON REYNOLDS
AND BRENDAN KIELY'S *ALL AMERICAN BOYS* NOVEL**



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ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES FACULTY
FAJAR UNIVERISTY
MAKASSAR
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Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Bachelor
Degree of English Literature in English Literature Department of
Economics and Social Sciences Faculty at Universitas Fajar Makassar

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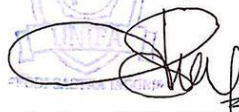
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THESIS

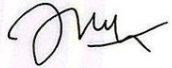

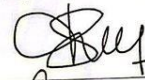
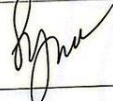
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Has been maintained in the thesis examination
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PERNYATAAN KEASLIAN

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Dengan ini menyatakan dengan sebenar-benarnya bahwa skripsi yang berjudul **Racial Profiling as Portrayed in Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely's *All American Boys* Novel** adalah karya ilmiah saya sendiri dan sepanjang pengetahuan saya di dalam naskah skripsi ini, tidak terdapat karya ilmiah yang pernah diajukan oleh orang lain untuk memperoleh gelar akademik ini di suatu perguruan tinggi, dan tidak terdapat karya atau pendapat yang pernah ditulis atau diterbitkan oleh orang lain, kecuali secara tertulis dikutip dalam naskah dan disebutkan dalam sumber kutipan dan daftar pustaka.

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Yang Membuat Pernyataan,



Alessandro Victor Linnong

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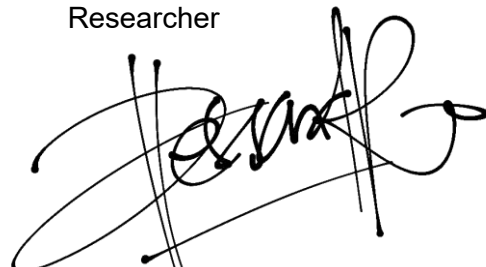
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The researcher realizes that this research is far from perfection. Therefore, constructive criticism and suggestions are highly anticipated to complement any weaknesses and limitations in this thesis. However, apart from its flaws, may this thesis provide benefits for the advancement of knowledge. Thank you.

Makassar, September 26th, 2023

Researcher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alessandro Victor Linnong', written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

Alessandro Victor Linnong

ABSTRACT

RACIAL PROFILING AS PORTRAYED IN JASON REYNOLDS AND BRENDAN KIELY'S *ALL AMERICAN BOYS* NOVEL

Alessandro Victor Linnong

Andi Febriana Tamrin

This research aims to analyze and find out the actions of racial profiling in the *All American Boys* novel. The novel was published in 2015 and written by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely. In discussing the issue, the researcher used racial profiling theory by Jim Cleary. Racial profiling by the theory consists of four actions which are stopping, questioning, searching, and/or arresting. The qualitative descriptive method was applied to answer research question by finding relevant quotations about the issue which only focuses on the actions, as well as the stereotypes and perceptions. The researcher uses note-taking technique as the way to store information in a form that can be remembered and used later. The result of this research shows that racial profiling actions such as stopping, questioning, searching, and arresting are portrayed in the novel and experienced by Rashad Butler, Randolph Butler or Spoony, English Jones, Carlos Greene, and Shannon Pushcart as members of minority. Moreover, the four actions are interconnected and driven by stereotypes and perceptions towards particular race or ethnicity because they play important part in the law enforcement officer's decision to conduct racial profiling. In conclusion, the most racial profiling action occurred in the novel is arresting which is portrayed 6 times.

Keywords: Racial Profiling, Actions, *All American Boys* Novel

ABSTRAK

PROFILISASI RASIAL YANG TERGAMBAR DALAM NOVEL *ALL AMERICAN BOYS* KARYA JASON REYNOLDS DAN BRENDAN KIELY

Alessandro Victor Linnong

Andi Febriana Tamrin

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis dan mencari tahu tindakan-tindakan profilisasi rasial dalam novel *All American Boys*. Novel tersebut dipublikasikan pada tahun 2015 dan ditulis oleh Jason Reynolds dan Brendan Kiely. Dalam mendiskusikan masalah ini, peneliti menggunakan teori profilisasi rasial oleh Jim Cleary. Profilisasi rasial berdasarkan teori tersebut terdiri dari empat tindakan, yaitu menghentikan, menanyakan, memeriksa, dan/atau menahan. Metode deskriptif kualitatif diaplikasikan untuk menjawab pertanyaan penelitian dengan mencari kutipan-kutipan yang relevan terkait isu tersebut yang hanya berfokus pada tindakan-tindakan, serta stereotip dan persepsi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa tindakan-tindakan profilisasi rasial seperti memberhentikan, menanyakan, mengeledah, dan menahan tergambar dalam novel dan dialami oleh Rashad Butler, Randolph Butler atau Spoony, English Jones, Carlos Greene, dan Shannon Pushcart sebagai bagian dari minoritas. Selain itu, keempat tindakan tersebut saling terkait dan dipengaruhi oleh stereotip dan persepsi terhadap ras atau etnis tertentu karena keduanya memainkan peran penting dalam keputusan petugas penegak hukum untuk melakukan profilisasi rasial. Sebagai kesimpulan, tindakan profilisasi rasial yang paling banyak muncul dalam novel adalah tindakan menahan yang tergambar sebanyak 6 kali.

Kata kunci: Profilisasi Rasial, Tindakan, Novel *All American Boys*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains the research background, research questions, research objectives, research significance, and research scope. The explanation of those subchapters will be discussed deeply below.

1.1 Research Background

Racial profiling refers to the practice of using race, religion, ethnicity, or national origin as a basis for targeting or treating people differently in law enforcement, security, or other contexts, without any objective evidence of their involvement in illegal activity or wrongdoing (Bachelet, 2019). This can involve using stereotypes and assumptions about certain groups of people to identify individuals who are considered suspicious or likely to commit a crime. Racial profiling is often seen as a form of discrimination, as it can lead to unjust treatment of individuals based on their race or ethnicity.

The urgency of combating racial profiling lies in the fact that it has a profoundly negative impact on both individuals and society as a whole. It can undermine trust among law enforcement agencies. Racial profiling also undermines the principles of equality and justice on which our society is built. It is not an effective way to anticipate crime or keep public safety. This practice can really hinder law enforcement efforts by redirecting assets absent from legitimate suspects and perpetuating harmful stereotypes (Ramirez et al., 2000).

The impacts of racial profiling can vary and are influenced by individual factors and the situations faced by each victim. Experiencing racial profiling can lead to high levels of anxiety and psychological stress for the victims. They may feel insecure, concerned about their personal safety, or anxious about how others will treat them based on their race. It also deeply impacts the victim's classmates,

neighbors, friends, and family. Furthermore, racial profiling undermines the trust and confidence the public has in law enforcement agencies and other institutions.

According to a countrywide survey conducted by Department of Justice in 2002, young, male minorities were more than twice as likely to undergo police search once stopped than whites. The result of the survey showed that compared to 17% of Latinos and 8% of white people, 22% of young African-American males had their vehicle or person examined after being stopped by police (Department of Justice, 2002).

An example of this discriminatory practice is the case of George Floyd, a 46-year-old African-American man who was killed by a police officer where his neck was crushed for almost 9 minutes. The reason for his arrest was because of suspected forgery which involves the production and utilization of fake money. His death indicates a reflection of the American police racism phenomenon, where the tension between the police and the black people is nothing new (Fahmi, 2022).

George Floyd's death has created a powerful impact to the world as it sparked the largest racial injustice protest. The Black Lives Matter movement advanced globally since his death became the symbols of injustice and intolerance. Later on, protesters from other countries such as Canada, France, Colombia, etc. have arisen to fight racial profiling and police brutality that happened in their societies (Silverstone, 2021).

Another case is the death of a 20-year-old Black man, Daunte Wright, who was fatally shot by a Brooklyn Center police officer during a traffic stop in Minnesota, USA, on April 11, 2021. The incident occurred when Wright was pulled over for a traffic violation, and officers attempted to arrest him on an outstanding warrant. According to police, a struggle ensued, and the officer who shot Wright allegedly mistook her handgun for her taser (Alfonseca, 2021). The

shooting sparked protests and unrest in Brooklyn Center and surrounding areas, with demonstrators calling for justice for Wright and an end to police violence against Black people. The incident also came amid the trial of former Minneapolis police officer, Derek Chauvin, who was convicted of murder in the killing of George Floyd.

All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely is a novel that deals with the issue of racial profiling in the context of police brutality against Black people in America. The reason behind the creation of this novel was the unbearable rage of these two authors after perceiving a shot undertaken by a police officer in Ferguson, Missouri. A life of an 18-year-old, Michael Brown, was the target when the incident occurred (npr, 2016).

The novel follows two high school students, one Black and one White, as they navigate the aftermath of an incident in which the Black student, Rashad, is beaten by a White police officer. Throughout the novel, Rashad's experience of racial profiling is vividly depicted, as he is unfairly targeted by the police officer simply because of his race. One day, he is falsely accused of shoplifting at a local convenience store by a white police officer. The officer assumes that Rashad must have been up to no good simply because he is a young Black man, and his assumptions lead him to use excessive force against Rashad (Reynolds & Kiely, 2015).

The novel also explores the impact of racial profiling on communities and individuals. It shows how Rashad's friends and family are affected by his experience, and how the incident sparks wider protests and conversations about racism and police brutality in the community (Kerkhoff, 2017). Overall, *All American Boys* is a powerful portrayal of the impact of racial profiling on individuals and communities and highlights the urgent need to address systemic racism in America.

Racial profiling reflected in the *All American Boys* novel seems interesting to be discussed by the researcher as this practice is inevitable for everyone not just the black people. Studying racial profiling is important for several reasons. First, it helps to raise awareness and understanding of the issue and highlights its negative impact on individuals and society as a whole. Second, by knowing more information about it, we can better understand its causes, effects, and consequences, and work to challenge and address it through education, policy, and advocacy. We are also able to create a more just and equitable society that respects and values diversity and promotes equality for all.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background above, the research question that the researcher would like to analyze is what are the actions of racial profiling found in the *All American Boys* novel?

1.3 Research Objective

In organizing this research, there is one objective to achieve. The objective of the research is intended to answer research question. The main objective in this research is to reveal the actions of racial profiling in the *All American Boys* novel.

1.4 Research Significance

In this research, the researcher has found some significance that is related to the topic. This is divided into two. They are:

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this research is expected to give contribution in applying literary works and to identify the actions of racial profiling in the *All American Boys* novel.

2. Practical Significance

Practically, this research can be a reference for other students, specifically for prospective graduate students from further literature and become new knowledge about racial profiling, specifically in the *All American Boys* novel.

1.5 Research Scope

The researcher focused on the portrayal of racial profiling in the *All American Boys* novel. Also, the limitation of the research is only on how the actions of racial profiling portrayed in the novel through the characters that are subjected to this discriminatory practice based on their race.

CHAPTER II

LITERARY REVIEW

This chapter presents the review of related literature and studies after the exhaustive and conscientious search conducted by the researchers. The discussion on the review consists of previous studies, theoretical background, character, and *All American Boys* novel.

2.1 Previous Studies

A study needs to have a literature review. A literature review gives an explanation of previous researches and analyses. Therefore, before researcher conducts research on the racial profiling portrayed in the *All American Boys* novel, the researcher has searched and analyzed some previous studies about racial profiling in a novel that will be compared with the researcher's and there are several previous studies that researcher has found and chose as references related to this research.

The first research entitled "*Racial Profiling in Angie Thomas' The Hate U Give*". It was conducted by Clarisa (2020) from Prayoga Higher School of Foreign Languages. In working on this research, the researcher applied Orientalism theory in order to analyze the causes of racial profiling and the efforts to oppose it, purposing to identify and perceive what it feels to be a part of negative-prejudice group. This research used qualitative method and collected words, sentences, and dialogues from the novel entitled *The Hate U Give* as the data source. The research found that there were three causes of racial profiling such as prejudice, stereotype, and racial discrimination. As for the efforts to oppose racial profiling, two ways were found. They are racial socialization and Black Lives Matter movement (Clarisa, 2020).

The second research entitled "*Racial Discrimination in All American Boys Novel by Jason Reynolds & Brendan Kiely*". It was conducted by Risliyanti (2020), a student from Pamulang University. In analyzing racial discrimination, the researcher used Critical Race Theory (CRT) by Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic (2017). The application of the theory has a purpose to support the conceptual explanations related to the issue of racial discrimination. The researcher believed that *All American Boys* novel greatly reflects the discriminatory conditions in United State of America's society. This research's result shows the depiction of racial discrimination such as stereotype, prejudice, and unequal treatments. It also shows forms of racial discrimination faced by Rashad Butler, a character in the novel as a part of minority race, are micro-aggression, unconscious discrimination, and structural discrimination (Risliyanti, 2020).

The third research entitled "*An Analysis of Racial Profiling in Dear Martin Novel by Nic Stone*" was conducted by Amelia (2022), an English department student from Technocrat University of Indonesia. The analysis of this research used racial profiling theory by Jim Cleary. The purpose of this study is to find the actions of racial profiling that are faced by the main character in the novel. This study focuses on the experience or the act of the main character named Justyce McAllister as portrayed in the *Dear Martin* novel. By knowing the acts of the other characters that are shown, the researcher reveals out the act of racial profiling within the novel. The research found three actions of racial profiling which are Racial Profiling Action by Stopping Black People, Racial Profiling Action by Searching and Questioning Black People, and Racial Profiling Action by Arresting Black People. Therefore, to collect the data, the researcher used qualitative method because it helped the researcher to find the acts of the main character (Amelia, 2022).

After reading the previous studies, the researcher observes several similarities and differences. The similarity of the two researches conducted by Clarisa (2020) and Amelia (2022) are same discussion which is talking about racial profiling. However, the focus of racial profiling and the object on both researches are different. Clarisa (2020) focused on causes of racial profiling and efforts to oppose it in the *The Hate U Give* novel while Amelia (2022) focused on the actions of racial profiling in the *Dear Martin* novel. As for Risliyanti (2020), the research differs from the researcher's problem of the research because it discusses about racial discrimination yet the object of this research is similar with the researcher's object which is the *All American Boys* novel. Another similarity is the researcher uses racial profiling theory by Jim Cleary (2000) which is as well used by Amelia (2022) in order to figure out and comprehend the actions of racial profiling and their further explanations.

2.2 Theoretical Background

Theoretical background contains components and theories that are used in conducting this research. The sections in this sub-chapter are racism, racial discrimination, and racial profiling theory.

2.2.1 Racism

Objectively, racism is diverse from racial discrimination and racial inequality because racial discrimination means treating races unfairly, while racial inequality means different races experiencing unequal outcomes (Clair & Denis, 2015). Racism originates from the notion that humans can be categorized into distinct races, and further includes the belief that these races possess unequal inherent value. Racism is a set of beliefs that says certain individuals or groups being superior or inferior based on their perceived racial or ethnic traits. It encompasses the mistreatment, bias, or unfair treatment of people due to their race (Alleyne, 2006).

The sociological understanding of racism itself is divided into three aspects: attitudes, cultures, and structures. Racism defined by attitudes aspect refers to individuals' mental states. Those mental states are capable of influencing and demonstrating ones' actions, encompassing a variety of factors, ranging from their subconscious tendencies to their conscious assessments of something, as well as their personal beliefs (Shiao & Woody, 2021).

In terms of culture, sociologists use the term "schema" to describe racism in various ways in which humans understand and interpret the world, including their own identities. These schemas have an impact on how group membership is socially perceived. They can range from basic opposing differences that shape a society's thinking to cultural resources, such as established patterns of thought, narratives, and social boundaries that individuals utilize in different social situations. There are even larger interconnected networks or systems of these schemas at play (Shiao & Woody, 2021).

In structure aspect, there are two interconnected aspects which are the immediate situations individuals find themselves in, and the larger social context in which people understand and navigate their lives (Shiao & Woody, 2021). It means the relationships they have with others and how those relationships shape their opportunities and daily experiences, even when those outcomes may go against the individuals' own intentions. These factors contribute to differences in life opportunities and personal experiences.

2.2.2 Racial Discrimination

Racial discrimination is a differential treatment to the particular racial groups and usually happens to disadvantaged racial minorities (National

Research Council, 2004). Racial discrimination includes individual behaviors and organizational/institutional practices. According to the book entitled *Measuring Racial Discrimination* published by National Research Council (NRC), there are four types of discrimination which are intentional discrimination, subtle discrimination, statistical profiling, and organizational processes.

1. Intentional Discrimination

The first type, intentional discrimination, is also known as explicit treatment where it involves the conscious and purposeful act of treating individuals less favorably or denying them opportunities solely because of their race or ethnicity. Various forms of this type of discrimination include verbal antagonism, avoidance, segregation, physical attack, and extermination (National Research Council, 2004). These forms are commonly being conducted step by step.

Verbal antagonism encompasses offensive expressions and comments aimed at individuals based on their race or ethnicity, whether spoken directly or indirectly. Such offensive comments may not be considered illegal on their own due to considerations of freedom of speech, but they show a clear form of hostility. Avoidance refers to the tendency of individuals to prefer being surrounded by people of their own racial group or in-group rather than interacting with individuals from different racial groups or out-group.

Segregation happens when people start excluding members of disadvantaged out-group from the resources and from access to institutions. This action involves unfair treatment in several aspects such as education, housing, employment, and healthcare based on their race. Physical attacks on the other hand have been frequently

committed by the proponents of segregation. Lastly, there are instances of extermination or mass killing that are driven by hatred towards specific racial or ethnic groups. These are complicated events that involve more than just individual hostility and prejudice.

2. Subtle Discrimination

Second type is subtle discrimination which refers to forms of prejudice. While holding prejudicial attitudes does not always lead to discriminatory behavior and negative outcomes, the consistency of such attitudes can give rise to unconscious and subtle forms of racial discrimination instead of overt and direct hostility. It is frequently facilitated by differential media portrayals of non-white individuals and white individuals, as well as the unintentional separation of races in housing, education, and job opportunities.

According to the psychological literature on subtle prejudice, this phenomenon is characterized as a set of ideas and connections that influence the attitudes and actions of people from the in-group towards people from the out-group (disadvantaged racial group) (National Research Council, 2004). Subtle forms of racism are indirect, automatic, ambiguous, and contradictory. This leads the in-group people to blame the out-group for their disadvantages. It means that the people from the out-group should work twice harder or put more effort yet they also have to be mindful not to put themselves into situations where they may not be welcome.

3. Statistical Profiling

Another process that can lead to negative discriminatory outcomes for people from disadvantaged racial groups is referred to as statistical profiling. Statistical profiling indicates when someone or

a company makes decisions about an individual based on their beliefs about a whole group. For example, if an employer believes that people with criminal records would not be good employees and at the same time believes that, on average, black people are more likely to have criminal records compared to white people, the employer might judge a black job applicant based on the basis of the group rather than solely considering the qualifications of that individual.

4. Organizational Rules

Organizational rules can change over time based on their past, which might include a history of racism. These rules may seem fair at first glance, but if they contribute to unequal treatment or outcomes based on race, they can be discriminatory. This type of ingrained system within institutions, whether official or unofficial, is often called structural discrimination or organizational processes.

2.2.3 Structuralism

Structuralism is an approach or method in various fields, including linguistics, anthropology, and literary theory, that emphasizes the analysis of underlying structures and systems in human culture, language, and thought. In structuralism, intrinsic elements of a text or work of art are important components of analysis. Structuralism seeks to understand the underlying structures and relationships between elements within a system, and this can apply to literary works as well. In literary structuralism, for example, intrinsic elements such as plot, character, and setting are often analyzed in terms of their relationships and roles within the overall structure of the literary work.

1. Plot

Plot in a story is how the author arranges events to make the tale, basically the foundation of the story. All stories have a logical order, like how they start, what happens in the middle, and how they finish. But there's more to a story than just that (Muniz, 2019). In most stories, every plot has these five elements in this order; exposition/introduction, rising action, climax/turning point, falling action, and resolution/denouement.

A story starts with the exposition, where characters, setting, and the initial situation are introduced. Then, the rising action builds up which brings conflicts and challenges to the story. The climax marks the story's turning point, where the central conflict reaches its peak. Afterward, in the falling action, any remaining issues are resolved and leading to the resolution or denouement, which concludes the story by revealing its final outcome and the fate of the characters (Muniz, 2019). This sequence of plot elements creates a structured narrative that guides readers through the story's development and resolution.

2. Setting

In a story, the setting refers to the specific time and place where the narrative unfolds. A story can have many different settings, but it is essential for every story to have one (Heckman, 2021). This is why setting is considered as a fundamental element of storytelling. Setting can be explicitly conveyed or subtly hinted at. It can be suggested through various elements such as weather conditions, clothing choices, cultural references, and architectural details.

The setting of the story can make things tricky or offer chances for the characters, which affects their choices and decisions. The writer should share enough details about the world in the story so readers are able to imagine it, but not so much that it makes the story slow (Heckman, 2021). In addition to physical setting, the author should also tell us about the society and culture in the story, like how people act, what they believe in, what they wear, and how they talk. These things help shape the characters and their choices.

3. Character

Character simply is what they do. Characters are the basic aspect to storytelling, as they drive the plot, portray feelings, and engage readers (Card, 1990). They possess unique personalities, qualities, and motivations that shape their thoughts, actions, and interactions with other characters and the story's events. They can be based on real-life figures or completely fictional created by the author from their imaginations.

For example, the well-known author, Jane Austen, created characters based on the people she had met and known. Sometimes, she created them based on her observation on the society she lived in. However, it is through characterization that characters become realistic, complex, and relatable to the readers. It is the means by which a writer can create believable and interesting characters that the reader or audience can relate to and empathize with (Heckman, 2023).

Throughout the story, the characters will have to face some form of conflict. It can be the external conflict between characters or with the society or internal conflict between the character and its

own struggle. As the story draws to its conclusion, they need to find the way to resolve the problems. Each character in a story experiences variety of path and has different role as they are commonly divided into five roles which are protagonist, antagonist, deuteragonist, foil characters, tertiary characters.

Characters can be categorized based on their development throughout the story. This classification includes character types such as dynamic characters, round characters, static characters, flat characters, and symbolic characters. This approach allows us to understand and analyze how characters evolve or remain consistent over the course of a narrative.

2.2.4 Racial Profiling Theory

Cleary (2000) stated that the action of racial profiling happens when the law enforcement officers starting to suspect and target people based on their races, ethnicities, and religions in the form of stopping, questioning, arresting, and searching. However, in the broader definition conveys that race and ethnicity usage as the basis of stopping, questioning, arresting, and searching someone is just one of several factors. The others following factors are age, the way someone dresses, time of the day, and the environment or neighborhood they live in (Cleary, 2000).

Racial profiling can take many different forms, from traffic stops to airport security checks, and can have a significant impact on the lives of those who are targeted. It can lead to feelings of fear, anxiety, and mistrust of law enforcement, particularly among communities of color who are most frequently subjected to these practices (Katz-bannister & Carter, 2014). While racial profiling is often discussed in the context of law enforcement, it

is important to recognize that it can occur in many different settings, including education, employment, housing, and healthcare.

The discussion about racial profiling typically revolves around instances of traffic stops conducted by local or state police officers. However, based on available literature, it seems that the concept of racial profiling is increasingly being expanded to encompass other types of stop or check carried out by any federal, state, or local law enforcement official or other authority. According to the guide for designing studies, it is widely agreed upon that two additional principles result from embracing this definition of racial profiling. First, law enforcement officers may not use stereotypical factor of a particular race or ethnic in in order to select whom to search and stop. Second, law enforcement officers may use race or ethnicity to see and decide whether there is compatibility in the suspect based on the certain description (Cleary, 2000).

As stated, according to Cleary (2000), the actions of racial profiling are mentioned as follows:

1. Racial Profiling Action: Stopping

The initial scenario that can be categorized as racial profiling occurs when law enforcement officials stop an individual not because they have evidence of their guilt but solely because of their race, ethnicity, religion, and/or national origin (ACLU, 2005). This can occur during routine traffic stops, where drivers are pulled over solely based on their race. This action can also occur in public spaces such as streets or parks, where individuals are stopped and questioned by law enforcement officials for no apparent reason. Prejudice and stereotypes of a particular race or ethnicity are factors that become the basis of police stops (Glaser, 2014).

The action of racial profiling by stopping people of color happened to a person in Ferguson, Missouri. At that time, the person was stopped by the police officers without probable cause and reasonable suspicion. After that, this case went widespread and the officers who did the stop were questioned. However, they dishonestly denied their involvement and faced minimal consequences (Halt Law Directory, 2022).

It is worth noting that the police departments should not make traffic stop based on their assumptions when seeing the physical appearance from a specific race or ethnicity of the driver. According to Cleary (2000), based on San Diego Police Department, causes for stopping people are moving violation, equipment violation, radio call/citizen complaint, personal observation/knowledge, suspect information, and municipal/county code violation. Furthermore, North Carolina Highway Patrol requires police officers to several information in every traffic stop they made such as initial reason for the stop, identifying characteristics of the driver (race/ethnicity, sex, and approximate age), and type of enforcement action taken, if any, as a result of the stop, whether any physical resistance was encountered, and whether a search was conducted.

2. Racial Profiling Action: Questioning

Another action conducted by the law enforcement officers under the terms of racial profiling is questioning people based on their race or ethnicity. The action often lies when such stop was conducted. After the police officers stop people by looking at their race or ethnicity, whether the stop is in the context of traffic stop or pedestrian, those people then get asked.

For example, when an African-American man is seen to be riding a fancy car, the officers might have stopped him. After the stop, he will get asked. The questions can be vary but then lead to knowing if the car belongs to that person or not, which means the officers suspect him stealing the car. Another example is when a robbery happens with one of the criteria is having dark skin and the officers find an African-American man walking around where the robbery takes place. The officers will stop him and ask him several questions to know if that man is the robber or not.

3. Racial Profiling Action: Searching

Searching is a common practice associated with racial profiling. They refer to the act of law enforcement officers targeting individuals for inspection on the basis of their perceived race or ethnicity. Specifically, officers are selecting individuals based on their racial or ethnic identity and subjecting them, regardless of whether there is any evidence or reason to suspect them of wrongdoing. This can be seen as a form of discrimination by the individuals who are targeted, as it is based on preconceived notions about individuals' characteristics rather than on objective evidence. Racial profiling has been a subject of considerable debate and concern, as it can contribute to negative stereotypes, undermine trust in law enforcement, and violate the civil rights of individuals who are profiled.

Basis for the search are visible contraband, odor of contraband, canine alert, inventory search prior to impound, consent search, fourth [amendment] waiver search (this term is also undefined), search incident to arrest, inventory search, observed evidence

related to criminal activity. Furthermore, North Carolina Highway Patrol requires police officers to several information in every search they made, such as type of search, basis for the search, whether search was of vehicle, driver, and/or passengers, race/ethnicity and gender of each person searched, and description of any contraband found and whether any property was seized (Cleary, 2000).

4. Racial Profiling Action: Arresting

Cleary (2000) stated that law enforcement officers may use an individual's perceived race or ethnicity as a basis for suspicion, leading to the person being arrested without any evidence of criminal activity. Basically, people who are being arrested are suspected individuals who commit criminal actions. Additionally, officers typically inform the person being arrested of the reason for their arrest. However, if the authorities arrest people from the way they dress or their look, means judging from their race or ethnicity, then it will be taken into consideration as racial profiling.

This arresting scene conducted by the law enforcement officers has happened several times as the action of racial profiling. One is Rachelle Jackson who experienced false arrest by the Chicago police officers. This happened when Rachelle pulled an officer in a burning car after a car crash and then she was being accused from stealing a firearm (Halt Law Directory, 2022).

Moreover, a video of the arrest of two African-American men went viral and sparked protest at a Philadelphia Starbuck. It was reported that these two black men went to Starbucks without making any purchase and were refused to use the bathroom by that reason. The officers came and arrested these two black men after one of the

store employees called police department. However, a witness stated there was a woman who also did not buy anything yet she was allowed to use the bathroom (Gayle, 2018).

5. Stereotypes and Perceptions

Stereotypes refer to a generalized beliefs or ideas about a particular group of people, often based on their race, ethnicity, gender, or other characteristics. Stereotypes can be either positive or negative, but they are typically harmful when they lead to biases and unfair treatment of individuals based on these traits (Steele, 2010). To give an example, in a positive way, African-Americans are good at sports because they are more athletic than the white people. As for the negative stereotypes, African-American styles of dress are commonly subjected with criminality. It seems like they are more likely to be involved in illegal activities with how they dress.

Meanwhile, perceptions refer to how individuals see and understand everything around them. In terms of race or ethnicity, these perceptions can be influenced by societal attitudes, media portrayals, personal experiences, and cultural norms (Tatum, 1997). Stereotypes and perceptions are widely shared and they often influence judgments and behaviors of law enforcement officers (Glaser, 2014).

In terms of racial profiling, if police officers hold stereotypes and perceptions that connect African-Americans with bad actions, normal things those people do might be seen as suspicious or dangerous. This could make them stop, check, and arrest more of those people, even if they are not involved in criminality. On the other hand, this

will create negative interactions especially in trust between African-Americans and the police officers.

To sum up, racial profiling occurs when law enforcement officers suspect and target individuals based on their races, ethnicities, and religions. In order to understand what the officers take in response of their assumptions, the researcher use theory of racial profiling by Cleary (2000). Racial profiling is seen through actions such as stopping, questioning, arresting, and searching. Nevertheless, it is important to note that in a broader definition, race and ethnicity are just one of several factors considered. Other factors, such as age, appearance, time of day, and the environment or neighborhood someone lives in, may also influence the decision to engage in racial profiling.

2.3 *All American Boys* Novel

All American Boys is a young adult novel written by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely. The book was published in 2015 by the Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division. The novel won Coretta Scott King Book Awards in 2016 as Author Award category and in the same year the book also won Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children's Literature (Young Adult).

All American Boys novel addresses themes of racial profiling, police brutality, and social justice. Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely were inspired to write the novel as a response to real-life incidents of police violence against young Black individuals, which sparked widespread protests and create conversations about systemic racism and the need for change.

2.3.1 The Book

The novel tells the story of two high school students, Rashad Butler and Quinn Collins. One of them is black and another one is white. Both of

them are affected by police brutality and racial profiling. The novel takes place in the United States, primarily in a fictional town called Springfield which is intended to represent a typical American town. It follows the perspectives of Rashad Butler, the main protagonist of the novel. Rashad is the black high school student who is brutality beaten by a white police officer in a case of mistaken identity. Rashad's conflict revolves around his struggle to come to terms with the trauma of the assault, and to navigate the aftermath of the incident as a symbol of the ongoing struggle against racism and police brutality (Kerkhoff, 2017).

Throughout the novel, Rashad is forced to confront the reality of racial injustice and the ways in which his identity as a black man makes him a target for discrimination and violence. He also faces pressure from his community and peers to use his experience of racial profiling to speak out against the systemic racism; even he grapples with the emotional and psychological tolls of the assault. His conflict is also intertwined with the experiences of other characters in the novel, including Quinn Collins, the white student who witnesses the assault and must grapple with his own beliefs and biases. Quinn must confront the realities of his own privilege and the ways in which he has benefited for system that oppresses others (Zwillenberg & Gioia, 2017).

As Rashad and Quinn's stories intersect, the novel offers a nuanced and complex exploration of race, justice, and identity in America. Throughout the novel, the authors use powerful and evocative language to explore themes of racial justice, identity, and the complex relationships between individuals and institutions. The characters are complex and multifaceted, and the authors do an excellent job of portraying the emotional

and psychological tolls of racial profiling and police brutality on both the victims and the witnesses.

There are plentiful reviews about the *All American Boys* novel since its theme is something that relates to the American society, especially the people of color. *All American Boys* is not only a regular novel but also a call to action. Its purpose extends beyond the pages as it encourages readers, especially young adults, to critically examine their beliefs, to challenge systemic racism, and to actively work towards social change (Zwillenberg & Gioia, 2017). The story serves as a reminder that the fight against injustice which is reflected in racial profiling requires collective efforts, empathy, and a commitment to amplifying marginalized voices.

2.3.2 The Authors

Jason Reynolds is a critically acclaimed American author known for his work in young adult literature. He was born on December 6, 1983; in Washington, D.C. Reynolds primarily writes novels and poetry aimed at young readers, addressing themes such as race, identity, social justice, and urban life (McCollum, 2021).

Reynolds started his writing career as a poet. He published his poetry collection entitled *For Every One* in 2018. However, he gained widespread recognition and success for his young adult novels. Reynolds' writing is praised for its authentic portrayal of contemporary urban life, relatable characters, and engaging storytelling. Jason Reynolds continues to be a prominent voice in young adult literature, inspiring and connecting with readers of all ages.

As for Brendan Kiely, he is an American author known for his work in young adult literature. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and currently resides in New York City. Kiely often addresses social justice issues and

explores themes of identity, privilege, and activism in his novels (Allen, 2022).

Another well-known novel by Brendan Kiely other than *All American Boys* is *The Gospel of Winter* which was published in 2014. This book follows the story of Aidan, a young boy grappling with his family's dysfunction and the abuse he experiences from a trusted adult. Aidan finds solace and strength in a community of friends who support him during this difficult time (Jensen, 2014). Kiely's writing often incorporates elements of social commentary and explores complex ethical questions. He aims to encourage readers to critically examine the world around them and engage in conversations about important issues.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter consists of five sub-chapters which present all aspect of the research method. The descriptions in the research method include research design, data resource, data collection instrument, data collection procedure, and data analysis. All these sub-chapters will be discussed in-depth below.

3.1 Research Design

Research method refers to the systematic approach, techniques, and procedures used by researchers to collect and analyze data that appear in the object of the study. The research requires data in a form of words and sentences from the novel. Therefore, the method of this research will be conducted by using qualitative descriptive method.

Qualitative descriptive methods utilize images and words for data, have unique data analysis procedures, and incorporate a range of diverse research designs (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). The researcher will first read each chapter of the novel in order to have deep understanding on what the story is about. Later on, the researcher will write down and observe all the information related to the formulation of the problem.

3.2 Data Resource

The main data observed by the researcher is collected from a novel by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely entitled *All American Boys*. The novel consists of 320 pages and was published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division in September 29, 2015. The data in this research comes from the novel.

3.3 Data Collection Instrument

In the process of collecting data, the researcher uses note-taking technique as the way to store information in a form that can be remembered and used later. Note-taking is the act of recording information captured from another source. By taking notes, the writer records the core content of the information to remember every detail (Friedman, 2014). In using this technique, the researcher provides notes, pen, and the novel to do analysis. Then, the researcher reads the novel in-depth to gain a complex understanding of the problem in the research questions. Furthermore, by applying note-taking technique, the researcher takes note from the dialogues and monologues in the novel. This technique is used to record and collect all data from the *All American Boys* novel.

3.4 Data Collection Procedure

After collecting the data by reading and taking notes carefully, the researcher sorts and identifies the dialogues and monologues that indicate the actions of racial profiling shown in the novel. Furthermore, the researcher classifies them into their respective places. In data collection, several strategies are conducted by the researcher as follow:

1. Reading carefully and understanding the *All American Boys* novel,
2. Highlighting the dialogues and monologues from the novel,
3. Making notes or quotations out of the novel which might be needed and related to the analysis, and
4. Sorting the found data into their categorizations.

3.5 Data Analysis Technique

Theory used in this research is theory of racial profiling by Jim Cleary (2000). The data that has been collected from the *All American Boys* novel is then reviewed and classified into three categories of racial profiling actions. Following that, the researcher analyzes the data with three steps, as follows:

1. Data Condensation

Data condensation involves the act of selecting and focusing on specific data that emerges in the written-up field notes, documents, and any other empirical materials (Miles et al., 2020). Data condensation is a helpful technique that allows you to extract the most important information from a novel. It makes analyzing and understanding the novel much easier and helps you gain meaningful insights. Moreover, the researcher selects and focuses on the dialogues between the characters and the monologues in the novel, specifically the use of language, as well as the use of words or communication interactions that refer to action of racial profiling.

2. Data Display

Later on, after condensing the data, the researcher then displays them in the form of descriptions. As displaying data is a clear and organized way of presenting information that helps us think and take action effectively (Miles et al., 2020). The data display consists of quotations and descriptive explanations in each selected and focused dialogues and monologues that refer to three categories of racial profiling.

3. Drawing and Verifying Conclusions

Concluding is the final stage of data collection, which should come after condensing and displaying the data (Miles et al., 2020). The researcher concludes the data according to the research question. Moreover, the researcher draws conclusions based on the answers or results of the analysis.

CHAPTER IV

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this chapter, there are two sub-chapters which consist of research findings and research discussions. These two sub-chapters will be explained and elaborated with deeper insight as follows:

4.1. Research Findings

According to research objective, the researcher analyzes the actions of racial profiling reflected in the *All American Boys* novel. Therefore, in conducting the problem, qualitative descriptive method is used. The theory used in this research is racial profiling theory by Jim Cleary. Here, Cleary (2000) describes that racial profiling occurs when the law enforcement officers decide to stop, question, arrest, and search by looking at their race or ethnicity (Cleary, 2000).

4.1.1. Racial Profiling Action: Arresting

According to Jim Cleary (2000), the arresting action is a critical aspect influenced by this discriminatory practice within law enforcement. In cases of racial profiling, individuals from specific racial or ethnic backgrounds may be more likely to experience unjustified arrests based solely on their appearance or the officers' assumption rather than concrete evidence of criminal behavior.

Quote 1:

*"I said shut up!" he roared, now rushing me, **grabbing me by the arm**. "Did you not hear me? You deaf or something?" He led me toward the door while walkie-talkie-ing that he needed backup. Backup? For what? For who?"*

The researcher identifies the quotation of Paul's dialogue and Rashad's as a distressing moment of an aggressive police officer targeting someone based on their race or ethnicity. It is the scene where Paul, the officer, grabs Rashad. This causes him feels confused and frightened by the

situation. The quotation is identified as arresting action because the officer has a suspicion on Rashad. He decides to take action by assuming Rashad has done criminal activity although he has no proof.

Quote 2:

*“But before I could even get my fingers on the money, **the cop had me knotted up in a submission hold, my arms twisted behind me, pain searing up to my shoulders. He shoved me through the door and slammed me to the ground.**”*

The quotation describes that Rashad is trying to reach for money but is abruptly and violently restrained by the police officer. The officer then immediately puts him in a submission hold, twisting his arms behind his back and causing excruciating pain that shoots up to his shoulders. Without any chance to explain, Rashad is forcefully shoved through a door and thrown to the ground. The physical aggression employed by the officer is a stark example of excessive force and abuse of power.

Quote 3:

*“Face-first. Hurt so bad the pain was a color–white, a crunching sound in my ear’s bones in my nose cracked. **After he slapped the cuffs on me, the metal cuffing into my wrist, he yanked at my shirt and pants, searching me.**”*

Quote 3 shows what the officer does next after grabbing Rashad by his hand. Then, once the police officer handcuffs him, Rashad’s suffering continues as the metal cuffs dig into his wrists. This clearly describes the act of arresting as a form of racial profiling where law enforcement officers judge and suspect people based on their race.

Quote 4:

*“**Oh, you wanna resist? You wanna resist? The cop kept saying, pounding me. He asked as if he expected me to answer. But I couldn’t. And if I could’ve, I would’ve told him that I didn’t want to resist. Plus, I was already in cuffs. I was already...stuck.** The people on the street watching, their faint murmurs of “Leave him alone” becoming white noise–they knew I didn’t want to resist. I really didn’t.”*

Quote 4 shows a clear example of racial profiling. It is a quotation of Paul's, the police officer, dialogue. Here, the situation becomes very serious as Rashad experiences injustice from a police officer. Paul keeps saying "You wanna resist?" again and again. It shows how angry and assuming Paul is. The officer's strong words are like a cold reminder of how they have more power in this situation.

Quote 5:

"Well, they said you resisted arrest," he continued in another direction. "If you didn't do anything wrong, why would you resist arrest?" His voice began to rise. "And how many times have I told you and Spoony, I mean, since y'all were young we've been going over this. Never fight back. Never talk back. Keep your hands up. Keep your mouth shut. Just do what they ask you to do, and you'll be fine."

The conversation touches upon racial profiling when Rashad's father, David, mentions that the reason for the arrest was the claim of resistance. This implies that Rashad's actions were interpreted differently by the officer due to his racial or ethnic background, leading to an misunderstanding of the situation. David's advice to Rashad, "Never fight back. Never talk back. Keep your hands up. Keep your mouth shut. Just do what they ask you to do, and you'll be fine," highlights the sad reality that parents from marginalized people often feel compelled to teach their children survival strategies to navigate interactions with law enforcement. This advice is to support their safety, as they are aware of the potential risks and consequences when dealing with the officers.

Quote 6:

"My partner and I jumped out of the car and approached them, and before we could even give them a chance to stop fighting, I ran over and jacked the black boy up because I knew he was in the wrong. I just knew it. I mean, you should've seen how he was pummeling this kid. And he fought me back, telling me that I had it wrong. He slipped right from my grip and ran for the backpack. I pulled my gun. Told him to leave it. He kept yelling, 'I didn't do

*anything! I didn't do anything! He's the criminal!' But now he's wheezing, like he was having a hard time speaking. Then he grabbed the backpack. **By now, my partner's got the white kid. I tell the black dude to leave the bag and put his hands up.** But he doesn't, and instead opens it. Put his hand inside. And before he could pull it out, I pulled the trigger".*

Quote 6 shows the unfair judgment is made on an African-American boy based on his race. The story starts with David and his partner who were police officers back then going to two boys. David thinks the black boy is doing something wrong just because of his skin color. This is an example of how racial profiling happens.

At that moment, the black boy tries to leave and get his bag but David reacts with a gun. This is a very serious action and can result in someone getting hurt or killed. This kind of reaction is very dangerous and is a result of racial profiling. However, the reason behind the black boy's action of grabbing his backpack is that he searches for the inhaler. Since David misunderstands it, he pulls the trigger.

4.1.2. Racial Profiling Action: Questioning

By the definition of racial profiling, the law enforcement officers will question someone when they find that person looks suspicious. Other than their race or ethnicity, sometimes the officers question them by judging from the way they dress or the way they present themselves. The act of questioning is usually conducted after stopping action. Therefore, below are several evidences of quotations that indicate questioning action in the novel.

Quote 7:

*"And before she could finish her sentence, the sentence that would've explained that she had tripped and fell over me, the cop cut her off **"Did he do something to you?"**. Again, "Me?" What the hell he was talking about? I zipped my duffel bag halfway because I knew that I would have to leave the store very soon.*

“No, no, I—“ The lady was now standing, clearly perplexed by the question.

“Yeah he was trying to steal those chips” the clerk interrupted, shouting over the cop’s shoulder.”

The quotation indicates that racial profiling questioning action is depicted as the woman attempts to explain the circumstances that led to her tripping and falling over Rashad. However, before she can complete her sentence, a police officer interrupts her abruptly, showing a lack of patience and readiness to listen to her side of the story. The interruption shows that the officer is quick to suspect Rashad without detailed explanation of the situation. The clerk's accusation that Rashad was attempting to steal chips worsens the racial profiling scenario, as it adds an element of collaboration with the officer's biased assumptions. This causes the unfair perception of Rashad and may lead to more negative outcomes.

Quote 8:

*“Spoony had been dealing with this kind of crap for years. He’d never been beaten up, but he’d been stopped on the street several times, **questioned by cops**, asked to turn his pockets out and lift his shirt up, for no reason.”*

As stated in the monologue above, after Spoony is being stopped by the police, he then gets questioned or interrogated with no valid reason. This portrays the unjust targeting of Spoony because of his racial background. The fact that it happens not only once but several times shows injustice to the society, especially people from the marginalized community.

Quote 9:

*“At least yours were only pat-downs. One time they had me facedown on the sidewalk on Overlook Street. **Said they got word that there was a robbery and said the description of the person was five-foot-nine, dark skin, with a black T-shirt and black sneakers on.**” Shannon explained. “That could’ve been anybody.”*

After getting stopped by the officers, Shannon explains that he also gets questioned. The quotation tells that a robbery happens and there is

description of the person who does it. Shannon gets questioned he matches the description, especially for having dark skin. Instead of asking whether he finds any suspicious person with the appearance similar to the description, they ask with the reason of suspecting him as the robber.

4.1.3. Racial Profiling Action: Searching

Another racial profiling action by Cleary (2000) is when police officers start searching the suspected person based on their race or ethnicity. In cases of racial profiling, the act of the suspected person itself may not necessarily be the primary reason for the police officer to start searching them. Below are a few evidences from the novel, showcasing instances of police conducting discriminatory actions such as searching.

Quote 10:

*“Spoony had been dealing with this kind of crap for years. He’d never been beaten up, but he’d been stopped on the street several times, questioned by cops, **asked to turn his pockets out and lift his shirt up, for no reason.**”*

Quote 10 describes that not only is Spoony stopped by the police and gets questioned, but he is also searched without valid reason. This shows that the police are suspicious of Spoony because of his black skin, even though he has not committed any criminal actions. The mention of being "stopped on the street several times" emphasizes the frequency of these incidents, indicating that Spoony is targeted consistently due to his race. The fact that he has never been physically assaulted but is still subjected to such treatment underscores the insidiousness of racial profiling, where individuals may suffer emotional and psychological harm despite avoiding physical violence.

Quote 11:

“After he slapped the cuffs on me, the metal cuffing into my wrist, he yanked at my shirt and pants, searching me.”

After being arrested by the police officer, he proceeds to frisk Rashad’s body. According to the novel, Rashad is accused of stealing several bags of potato chips. Rashad experiences dehumanization and humiliation as the officer proceeds to conduct a thorough search of his body, yanking at his shirt and pants to ensure nothing is stolen.

Quote 12:

“But what about all the others?” Spooky said. “Matter fact, how many of y’all been messed with by the cops?”

“Man, what? I’ve been pulled over so many times,” Carlos said.

“Because you speed,” I jumped in.

“Yeah, true. But at least three times, they’ve made me get out the car while they tore it apart looking for drugs or guns or whatever they thought I had. Then when they didn’t find nothing, they let me go with a speeding ticket, but left my car a mess. Glove compartment emptied out. Trunk all dug through. Just trashed my ride for no reason.”

Quote 12 describes the conversation among Spooky and the other discussing their experiences dealing with the officers. Here, the quotation clearly describes that Carlos shares his experience when the police officers stop him and conduct a search after they stop a car that belongs to him. He explains that on the last three occasions, the officers pull him over and then proceed to subject him to invasive searches of his car under the assumption that Carlos might be involved in criminal activities. Then the car is left with a mess to clean up after the searches. Carlos himself is an African-American which makes the officers to put suspect towards him. The reason behind their action is because of Carlos’ race as an African-American. The line “just trashed my ride for no reason” strengthens the reason of their conduct.

Quote 13:

*“Yeah. More than once, too. **Cops wanting me to lift my shirt so they could see if I had weapons on me. Pat-downs and all that**”*

Quote 13 explains the situation where the police asked him to lift his shirt and checked if he had any weapons. He also mentioned that they patted him down. This shows how racial profiling happens when the police search people based on their race or ethnicity. English's experiences suggest that he was stopped and searched not because of anything he did wrong, but because of assumptions about his race.

4.1.4. Racial Profiling Action: Stopping

According to Jim Cleary's theory of racial profiling (2000), stopping as one of racial profiling actions happens when the police officers suspect the driver based on their race and ethnicity. Sometimes, the cars are stopped by the law enforcement officers when it feels suspicious for them and then followed by conducting a search or questioning the drivers. Below are several quotations that demonstrate the act of stopping as a form of racial profiling from the novel.

Quote 14:

*“Spoony had been dealing with this kind of crap for years. He'd never been beaten up, but **he'd been stopped on the street several times**, questioned by cops, asked to turn his pockets out and lift his shirt up, for no reason.”*

From the quotation of Rashad Butler's monologue above, it can be identified that Rashad's brother, Spoony, experiences racial profiling. Although the novel does not specifically mention detail explanation of the action, but it is clear that he is being stopped many times on the street without concrete evidence of criminal activity, especially when he is an African-American as stated there in the quotation “for no reason”.

Quote 15:

“But what about all the others?” Spoony said. “Matter fact, how many of y’all been messed with by the cops?”

*“Man, what? **I’ve been pulled over so many times**,” Carlos said.*

“Because you speed,” I jumped in.

*“Yeah, true. **But at least three times**, they’ve made me get out the car while they tore it apart looking for drugs or guns or whatever they thought I had. Then when they didn’t find nothing, they let me go with a speeding ticket, but left my car a mess. Glove compartment emptied out. Trunk all dug through. Just trashed my ride for no reason”*

The quotation shows a conversation of Rashad and the others discussing their experiences with law enforcement, specifically related to racial profiling during traffic stops. Spoony asks a question about how many of them have been subjected to unfair treatment by the police. Carlos too has been pulled over numerous times but acknowledges that some of those stops were due to his speeding.

However, the conversation takes a turn when Carlos shares three occasions where the police conducted searches on him. He expresses frustration at being targeted based on assumptions of carrying drugs or weapons due to racial stereotypes. The implication here is that Carlos as an African-American feels he was stopped not solely because of his speeding but also because of his racial background, leading to unfair suspicion and mistreatment.

Quote 16:

*“Man, **I’ve been stopped on the street**,” English said.*

“You have?” Berry sparked up.

*“Yeah. **More than once, too**. Cops wanting me to lift my shirt so they could see if I had weapons on me. Pat-downs and all that”*

The quote explains that English also shares his own experiences of being stopped by the police on the street. He reveals that he has been stopped on multiple occasions by law enforcement officers. This case underscores a disturbing pattern of racial profiling, as English, like Carlos, is

being targeted based on his appearance or racial background as an African-American rather than any specific evidence or valid reason.

Quote 17:

*“At least yours were only pat-downs. **One time they had me facedown on the sidewalk on Overlook Street.** Said they got word that there was a robbery and said the description of the person was five-foot-nine, dark skin, with a black T-shirt and black sneakers on.” Shannon explained. “That could’ve been anybody.”*

Police officers do not just stop people during traffic stops as they also do so when it comes to pedestrians. This means that their actions of stopping individuals are not only limited to situations involving vehicles but also apply to situations involving people who are walking. In addition to pulling over cars, police officers also interact with and stop people who are on foot (Cleary, 2000). This broader responsibility highlights their role in maintaining safety in various situations. This could be as routine as stopping a car for a check or addressing issues involving people walking, all of which play a part in keeping the community safe and maintaining the proper functioning of the law.

Quote 17 shows that the police officers in this situation stop Shannon based solely on his appearance. The description of the robbery suspect they received is vague and could have applied to numerous individuals, yet they target Shannon because he matches some descriptions, such as being dark-skinned and wearing a black T-shirt and black sneakers. With the matched description of the robbery, they presume him to be the suspect without any solid evidence.

4.1.5. Stereotypes and Perceptions

After analyzing the novel looking for the actions of racial profiling, the researcher found out that the reason behind their actions is the stereotypes and perceptions toward particular race or ethnicity. Stereotypes

refer to particular thoughts that some people have about others, usually linked to different groups in society. These thoughts can be either positive or negative. While perceptions are like how ones look at and understand everything around them. This includes people, things, and situations (Glaser, 2014). Furthermore, here are several evidences of quotes from the novel that illustrate stereotypes and perceptions.

Quote 18:

*"I just wanted to live. Each blow earthquaked my insides, crushing parts of me I had never seen, parts of me I never knew where there. **"Fuckin' thugs can't just do what you're told. Need to learn how to respect authority. And I'm gonna teach you," he taunted, almost whispering in my ear**".*

The quote clearly shows the situation that involves a confrontation between an officer and Rashad, with the officer expressing anger and frustration and how the police officer looks at Rashad Butler who is African-American as a thug, someone who is involved in a criminal activity. The officer uses offensive language, referring to Rashad and potentially others as thugs and implying that they don't follow orders or respect authority.

Quote 19:

*"My mother sat quietly and my father paced back and forth, from the door to the window. Ma was clearly horrified. But Dad, he had on that Son, you aren't telling me everything look. It was clear that to him, I had to have done something wrong to bring this on. **"Were your pants sagging?" Dad interrogated, now back over by the door. "Were my pants sagging?" I repeated, shocked by the question. "What does that have to do with anything?" "Oh, it matters. If it walks like a duck, and it talks like a duck..."*** My mother glared at him. "David! This is your son we're talking about. The boy's never even been suspended."
*"But they don't know that," Dad said. **"What they see is what he presents. And it sounds like he presented himself as just another--"***
"Another what?" Ma cut in again, this time her voice spiking to that Don't start level. Dad swallowed the rest of his statement.

Quote 19 shows a conversation between Rashad Butler, his father David, and his mother. David is being skeptic as he suggests that something troubling has occurred. He then brings up how Rashad was dressed, like if his pants were low. He's wondering if Rashad's clothes had anything to do with what happened. This is because sometimes people judge others based on how they look. David thinks maybe Rashad's appearance played a part, but the mother strongly believes their child is innocent. This difference in their opinions causes tension in their conversation.

Quote 20:

"But he could've been! For a bag of chips that he was gonna pay for! For having brown skin and wearing his jeans a certain way. And guess what, Dad, that ROTC uniform was right there in that bag. The bag was open so that cop probably saw it. But did it matter?" Spooky's voice fanned, the anger breaking him down.

The quotation indicates Spooky, Rashad's older brother, is explaining the troubling incident that befell Rashad to their father, David. Spooky is clearly upset and angry about the incident that has happened. As he mentions that the incident must be related to Rashad's appearance, particularly the way he wears his jeans. This suggests that Spooky believes Rashad was judged or treated unfairly because of how he looked, which is linked to racial stereotypes.

Quote 21:

*"We don't know what happened in that store, so I'm not gonna sit here and just say this kid is innocent. He might not be. I'm a cabdriver, and I work nights, and the truth is, if that kid was trying to hail me down, and it was dark outside, I would keep on going."
"And why is that? Because of the way he looks?"
"I mean, listen, I've been robbed before. Right around here. And I just... I don't ever want to be robbed again, And he looks like the guy who robbed me. He was dressed just like him. These kids are crazy these days, and whatever it's gonna take to make the people who live around here feel safe, I'm all for it."*

The quote describes a news interview between the interviewer and the cabdriver as the interviewee. They are discussing a recent incident that occurred in a store that involves Rashad and his innocence is being questioned. Here, the cabdriver clearly explains that he has been robbed before by someone who looks like Rashad. Since Rashad is an African-American, he believes that all individuals who have physical appearance such as dark skin and dress in a certain way are also involved in criminal actions.

4.2. Research Discussions

This research is about actions of racial profiling reflected in *All American Boys*, a novel written by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely. This sub-chapter has the intention to analyze the result of the research findings based on the related theory. All the found data will be discussed elaborately.

4.2.1. Racial Profiling Actions Reflected in *All American Boys* Novel

Racial profiling in broader definition is a discriminatory action where the law enforcement officers decide whether to stop, search, question, and/or arrest people based on their assumption of a particular race or ethnicity. The term “profiling” itself in the context of the police refers to the practice of looking at specific traits as signs of possible criminal actions. Therefore, the law enforcements use racial traits on someone as one factor to suspect (Cleary, 2000). Under the broader definition of racial profiling according to Cleary (2000), other following factors the law enforcement officers use to do actions such as stopping, searching, questioning, and arresting are; the age of the suspected, the way they dress, the time of the incident when the police sees the suspicious person, and the location where the suspicious person is present.

In the *All American Boys* novel, the idea of racial profiling is portrayed as an unfair practice where African-American people are treated differently by the police because of their race or ethnic background. This means that someone might be unfairly targeted or looked at suspiciously just because of how they look, even if there's no real evidence that they've done something wrong. This happens when law enforcement officers stop, question, search, or arrest certain individuals more often just because of their appearance, assuming they might be involved in something bad.

The characters in the novel experience the effects of racial profiling firsthand, and this sheds light on the bigger problem of racial biases in society. Rashad and his relatives are treated unfairly and unequally because of their race, which can lead to misunderstandings, conflicts, and a feeling of injustice. The novel shows how these biases can create tensions between different groups of people, how it affects their relationships with each other, and how it can ruin their trusts to and change their perceptions of police officers in a negative way.

Cleary (2000) informs about the same issue but in real-life situations. Cleary examines how police officers make decisions about stopping, questioning, searching, and/or arresting people. Sometimes, officers rely on their personal assumptions about someone's race or appearance to decide if they might be involved in criminal activities. This can lead to unfair treatment and discrimination against certain racial or ethnic groups. Cleary's study raises important questions about whether these practices are effective and fair. It is concerned that when officers rely on their own judgments instead of concrete evidence, innocent people might be unfairly targeted. Cleary suggests that it's crucial for police to use

fair and objective criteria when making decisions, so that everyone is treated equally and justly.

Both the novel and Cleary's study highlight how racial profiling is a serious issue that affects real people's lives. They show how assumptions based on appearance can lead to unfair treatment and negative consequences, not just for individuals but for society as a whole. By exploring these issues, both the novel and the study aim to encourage discussions about the need for fairness, equality, and understanding among all people, regardless of their race or ethnicity.

A. Racial Profiling Action: Arresting

The action of arresting typically refers to taking legal or law enforcement action to arrest someone based on evidence or suspicion of a crime. However, under the definition of racial profiling, it is the practice of targeting individuals by taking them for suspicion or enforcement actions based on their race or ethnicity rather than evidence of criminal behavior.

As displayed in the research findings, quote 1 and quote 2 describe the police officer's aggressive behavior, shouting, and physically grabbing Rashad Butler without clear justification. Then, Rashad is physically restrained and taken down. Although the police officer believes that Rashad is involved in wrongdoing such as stealing chips and doing something harmful to the woman, his assumption based on Rashad's physical appearance as an African-American.

Before Rashad is able to reach the money that will be used to afford the chips, he gets stopped and held down physically. This suggests that he's singled out and caught fast, even though there is

not clear proof that he did something wrong. This situation raises concerns about unfair guesses and quick decisions that are made because of how he looks. It shows that the officer is assuming things about him without really knowing the truth. This part of the story shows how appearances can lead to unfair treatment and actions taken without enough information.

In quote 3, following the previous incident, it describes a distressing incident where Rashad experiences physical pain and humiliation. Following this forceful action, Rashad is immediately handcuffed, which further intensifies his discomfort. This treatment suggests that Rashad is being subjected to unnecessary aggression, which is a result of racial profiling. The officer does the action because he believes that Rashad is involved in a criminal activity based on Rashad's appearance such as having dark skin and wearing particular outfit.

After that, quote 4 highlights the officer's aggressive behavior and unjust accusations toward Rashad. The repeated questioning about resistance, even when Rashad is restrained, suggests a biased assumption about his intentions based on the physical appearance. The fact that the officer persists with the questioning despite the person's inability to resist indicates a potential disregard for someone's rights. This aggressive response by the officer towards Rashad Butler indicates that he as an African-American is being treated with suspicion or hostility based on his appearance. The situation aligns with the concept of racial profiling.

Moreover, quote 5 shows a conversation between Rashad Butler and his father, David. It highlights viewpoint that connects to

racial profiling. The way David questioning Rashad implies that if he did not do anything wrong, he should not resist arrest. This implies that the only reason for resisting arrest would be wrongdoing. This kind of thinking is problematic because it assumes that resisting arrest is always a sign of guilt. It indicates the possibility that someone might resist due to fear, confusion, or mistrust, especially if they feel targeted due to their race or appearance.

Furthermore, quote 6 shows David as a police officer dealing with a past incident involving two teenagers, one black and one white. David tries to grab and arrest the black boy as he is assuming guilt based on the appearance. This initial action could be influenced by racial bias, as the officer makes a snap judgment about who is at fault without proper evidence. Despite the boy's pleas and apparent difficulty in speaking, the officer's suspicion persists. The boy's attempt to retrieve something from the backpack triggers a fatal response from the officer, resulting in the officer pulling the trigger.

This quotation illustrates racial profiling through a sequence of actions and assumptions made by the officer. The officer's immediate decision that the black boy is the wrong one, the use of physical force, and the quick escalation to pulling out a gun suggest a predisposition to treat the black boy as a threat. The officer's belief that the black boy is guilty before obtaining valid evidence reflects a biased perspective that assumes wrongdoing based on race.

Racial profiling occurs when law enforcement officers disproportionately target individuals based on their racial or ethnic background (Cleary, 2000). Therefore, David's immediate assumption of guilt and the use of physical force to arrest against

the black boy without proper evidence indicate the action of racial profiling.

B. Racial Profiling Action: Questioning

Racial profiling is a discriminatory practice where the law enforcement officers conduct such actions like questioning someone when they find that person looks suspicious. Usually, factors that make the officers suspect someone because of their race or ethnicity (Cleary, 2000). Other than their race or ethnicity, sometimes the officers question them by judging from the way they dress or the way they present themselves. The act of questioning is usually conducted after stopping action.

Several characters happen to experience this action in the novel. As shown in the Research Findings, in quote 7, a woman is explaining a situation in which she tripped over Rashad and she was about to provide an explanation. However, the officer, Paul, quickly interrupts her by cutting off her intention to explain the situation. The interruption indicates the lack of patience and readiness to listen to her side of the story. It is the officer's assumption that Rashad might be involved in some criminal activity because of Rashad's race and ethnicity.

Moreover, quote 8 explains the experience with the police officers faced by Spoony. He has experienced actions conducted by the officers such as stopping, searching, and also questioning. Such actions happen to him numerous times without valid reason since he is not involved in any criminal activity but rather because of his race as an African-American and the way he dresses. This clearly indicates that he has been subjected to the action of racial profiling.

In addition, this type of questioning without probable cause or reasonable suspicion indicates racial profiling (Cleary, 2000).

Next, in the quote 9, Shannon describes an incident where after he is stopped; he gets questioned by the police based on the description that matches his physical appearance which is five-foot-nine, wearing a black T-shirt and black sneaker, and especially for having dark skin. By the fact that the police officers stop and question Shannon using the description of the robbery as the basis, it indicates that his appearance plays a role in the police's decision to conduct an approach. As stated by Cleary (2000), racial profiling occurs when the law enforcement officers use race or ethnicity in deciding who to stop, question, search, and arrest.

C. Racial Profiling Action: Searching

Searching is a common practice associated with racial profiling. They refer to the act of law enforcement officers targeting individuals for inspection on the basis of their perceived race or ethnicity (Cleary, 2000). Specifically, officers are selecting individuals based on their racial or ethnic identity and subjecting them, regardless of whether there is any evidence or reason to suspect them of wrongdoing. This can be seen as a form of discrimination by the individuals who are targeted, as it is based on preconceived notions about individuals' characteristics rather than on objective evidence.

Quote 10 shows the experience of Spooky dealing with the police officers where he is asked to turn his pockets out and lift his shirt up. However, this action conducted by police officers is without valid reason. It clearly shows that they conduct a search to him

because of his race as an African-American since he does not involved any criminal activity which means that his experiences racial profiling. Another reason for the stop is because the way Spooky dresses. As stated by Cleary (2000), the outfit such as wearing hooded sweatshirt and baggy pants play important part in police's decision making.

Differently with Rashad, the main character, in quote 11, he is brutally beaten because he is being accused to stealing bags of chips. The officer believes what the cashier says without proof of Rashad's criminal action or wrongdoing. He first arrests him by cuffing him and then searches through his body in order to know if something is stolen or to see if he brings any weapon with him. This shows the concept of racial profiling where the action of officers relies upon the race or ethnicity rather than the behavior or the information that leads to the individual who has been officially identified as criminal (Cleary, 2000).

In quote 12, Carlos also shares his experience where the police conduct searches through his vehicle. Although he only receives a speeding ticket, it highlights a concerning pattern of racial profiling within law enforcement. The fact that he mentions having his car thoroughly searched for drugs or weapons implies that law enforcement officers are assuming criminality based on his appearance. Cleary (2000) incorporates similar narratives to emphasize how people from the marginalized community are often subjected to unnecessary searches, leading to feelings of injustice, and violation of their rights.

Moreover, in quote 13, English's experience of being stopped on the street and subjected to pat-downs and shirt-lifting by the police, ostensibly to check for weapons, further underscores the action of racial profiling. The fact that the police request him to lift his shirt and undergo pat-downs solely based on his physical appearance suggests that he is being targeted due to his race rather than any objective suspicion. This type of scenario is an evidence of systemic bias, where individuals are subjected to degrading searches and interrogations solely because they belong to specific racial groups (Cleary, 2000).

D. Racial Profiling Action: Stopping

The action of stopping people as a form of racial profiling happens when law enforcement officers stop people not because of they have proof of wrongdoing, but only because of their race and ethnicity. This can take place during regular traffic stops, where the drivers are pulled over by the police officers. It can also happen in the pedestrian context such as in public places like streets or parks, where people are stopped and asked question with no valid reasons just because they look suspicious (Ramirez et al., 2000).

As shown in the sub-chapter Research Findings, quote 14 illustrates Spoony's experience of being stopped on the street and questioned by police officers more than once for no apparent reason although he does not have any prior history of criminal behavior or violence. Moreover, quote 15 and 16 also shows the other characters, Carlos and English's experiences of getting pulled over many times by the police. For Carlos' case, even though he only got a warning ticket for speeding, his car was searched extensively.

Their experiences tell the action of racial profiling. The description of them being subjected to repeated stops despite not having any prior history of criminal behavior or violence implies that their race have played a role in the police's decision to target them. The stopping of black drivers, just to see what officers can find, has become so common in some places that this practice has its own name. African Americans sometimes say they have been stopped call this action as driving while black (Cleary, 2000).

Quote 17 describes that Shannon is stopped while walking because his look fits the criteria of the robbery, especially for also being dark skinned. Therefore, the officers stop and suspect him then asking questions since he looks suspicious. This explains that the law enforcement officers do not only engage in stopping individuals during traffic stops but they also do so with pedestrians.

Since the officers' action of suspecting people based on their assumption of people with dark skin, it is racial profiling action. The street where Shannon walks in and the outfit Shannon wears on strengthen the existence of racial profiling. According to Cleary (2000), few factors that play important roles and have influence police stop other than race or ethnicity are the dress they wear on and the neighborhood they are in.

Furthermore, Cleary (2000) states that their actions of stopping people are not restricted to just cases involving vehicles but also extend to instances where people are walking. In addition to pulling over cars, police officers also interact with and stop pedestrians. This bigger set of things they need to do shows how important for keeping everyone safe in many different situations. They might do

things like looking at cars or helping people who are walking, and all of these help keep the community safe and make sure the rules are followed.

E. Stereotypes and Perceptions

Stereotype refers to a generalized belief or idea about a particular group of people, often based on their race, ethnicity, gender, or other characteristics. Stereotypes can be either positive or negative, but they are typically harmful when they lead to biases and discrimination against individuals based on these characteristics (Steele, 2010). It is similar to think that everyone who belongs to that group is the same or does the same things, even though that is not true. While perception refers to how we interpret things we perceive and it also includes how we understand and make judgments about what we sense.

Quote 18 shows the dialogue of the police officer that contains derogatory language and reflects a negative stereotype and perception of a group of people. Paul, the officer, use the label “thug” to Rashad without proof that he has done something wrong. This label is often used in a negative way to describe people who are thought to be involved in bad or criminal activities. When one individual is labeled as thug, people will unfairly judge other members in that group based on the actions of just a few although they are not involved in any criminal action (Nelson, 2016). This kind of action is called stereotype.

Quote 19 describes David’s, the father, question about whether the Rashad’s pants were sagging suggests that he may be associating sagging pants with a certain stereotype. Sagging pants

have been stereotypically linked to a particular style or subculture, and people may make assumptions or judgments about someone based on this style. David's question implies that he might be considering whether Rashad's appearance conforms to or challenges this stereotype. Also, it indicates a perception about how people judge others based on their appearance. David seems to be concerned that Rashad's appearance may lead others to make negative assumptions about them, especially the law enforcement officers.

Quote 20 highlights the intersection of stereotypes and perceptions, particularly in the context of racial profiling. Spooky explains that Rashad is potentially being targeted by a police officer for having brown skin and the way he is dressed, specifically wearing his jeans a certain way. Rashad's appearance with a stereotype has been historically linked to racial profiling. Two factors to conduct racial profiling are race or ethnicity, and the dress such as hooded sweatshirt, baggy pants, etc. (Cleary, 2000). The quotation also emphasizes that Rashad is going to pay for the bag of chips, which means he has no intention of stealing. However, the police officer's actions are based on his perception of the situation and Rashad's appearance, which is influenced by stereotypes.

Quote 21 illustrates the existence of stereotypes and perceptions related to particular race and appearance. The cabdriver mentions that the kid, which refers to Rashad, looks like and is dressed similarly to the person who robbed him before. This indicates that past negative experiences leads to a perception that people who share certain characteristics with the perpetrator are

more likely to be involved in criminal activities (Steele, 2010). The cabdriver also mentions that if he were driving his cab at night and sees a kid who looks a certain way trying to hail him, he would keep driving. This statement strongly suggests that he is making judgments about the kid solely based on the way the kid looks.

The racial conflict between black people and white people has been existed since long ago where the black people were treated as slaves and oppressed by the whites. However, this issue still happens in these modern days. The novel takes place in the United States especially in the fictional town called Springfield. Although the town itself is fictional, the events and themes in the novel are reflective of real-life situations and conversations happening throughout the United States related to issue of racism. It highlights how such incidents can lead to tensions in the society and trigger the issues that persist in the United States.

The novel also delves into the dynamics of stereotypes and perceptions. Not just how the white people think and see the black people, but also how black individuals may view white people, especially the white authorities like the police officers. Rashad Butler's experience reinforces negative stereotypes. Black individuals and communities have lower levels of trust in the police and other authorities due to historical and contemporary instances of discrimination and violence.

In conclusion, the specific actions of racial profiling, such as arresting, questioning, searching, and stopping people, are interconnected and driven by stereotypes and perceptions. Stereotypes are assumptions about a group based on the actions or characteristics of a few individuals, which lead to unfair treatment. These stereotypes can influence perceptions, which involve how we interpret and judge everything around

us. In the context of racial profiling, individuals are often judged based on their race, appearance, or clothing, which can lead to unjust actions by law enforcement officers.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter includes two sub-chapters which are conclusions and suggestions related to the research findings and discussions. These two sub-chapters have the purpose to conclude chapter IV and provide suggestions for the next researchers and readers.

5.1. Conclusions

Based on the analysis conducted by the researcher, the four actions of racial profiling by Jim Cleary are found in the novel. Those actions consist of stopping, questioning, searching, and arresting which are displayed in 17 data. Furthermore, from all the found data, it can be seen that one action follows another. In particular occasion, the stopping action is followed by questioning, searching or arresting action by the police officers. The action of stopping people by using race or ethnicity does not only happen in the context of traffic stops, but also in the pedestrians. The four actions are linked together and driven by stereotypes and perceptions toward particular race or ethnicity which is displayed in 4 data.

The research shows that Rashad Butler and other characters such as Spooky, Shannon, Carlos, and English are subjected to racial profiling because of their skin color as they are members of the minority or marginalized community. All these characters experience not only one, but two to three racial profiling actions. These characters perpetuate unfair treatment by the law enforcement officers without getting involved in any criminal activity. In addition, the data reveals that racial profiling involves discriminatory actions driven by stereotypes and perceptions, where individuals are targeted based on their race or appearance such as skin color and the outfit worn by these characters.

5.2. Suggestions

This research was conducted using the theory of racial profiling by Jim Cleary to analyze what the actions are and the motives behind them in *All American Boys* novel. However, apart from analyzing racial profiling, the novel offers other opportunities to be analyzed such as friendships, the character's inner struggles, or the power of society against injustice. On the other hand, if the next researcher finds it interesting to analyze racial profiling, the researcher suggests looking for different approach or theory that encompasses diverse aspects of the phenomenon. To give an example, the theory of Jack Glaser can be applied to analyze the causes of law enforcement officers' action and the consequences experienced by the character who is subjected to racial profiling in the story.

Furthermore, the researcher hopes by reading this research, the readers are able to add the knowledge and information about the actions of racial profiling. Also, how stereotypes and perceptions towards particular race or ethnicity can play important role in treating individuals. Racial differences have been around for a long time and are still common today. Thus, it is important to understand that an individual's thoughts and actions regarding existing racial stereotypes can trigger this problem.

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