

The Affirmation of Self Existence
In *Andrea Levy's Novel Every Light in the House Burnin'*

Thesis

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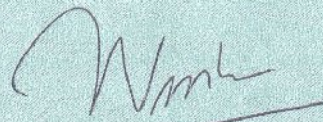
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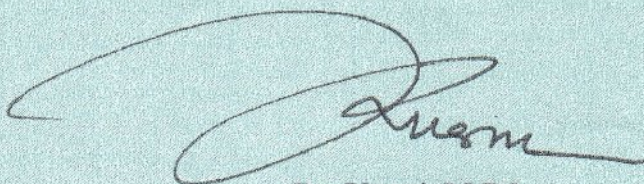
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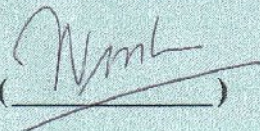
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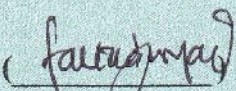
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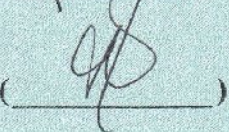
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ABSTRAK

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Skripsi ini merupakan analisa dari novel yang di tulis oleh Andrea Levy yang berjudul *Every Light in the House Burnin'* dengan topik *The affirmation of self existence*. Permasalahan yang di bahas dalam novel ini adalah bagaimana seorang karakter yang bernama *Angela* seorang imigran generasi kedua dari *Jamaika* yang berusaha untuk memperjuangkan eksistensinya sebagai *colored people* di tengah *circumstance* kulit putih. Penganalisaan dari novel ini tidak terlepas dari *fictional devices* di antaranya seperti *character*, *setting* dan *plot (conflict)*. Ketiga hal tersebut merupakan elemen terpenting dalam mengungkapkan topic *The affirmation of self-existence*. Elemen ini juga di analisa berdasarkan atas konsep eksistensialisme dan resistensi.

Hasil dari analisa ini membuktikan, bahwa *Angela* ingin menunjukkan kepada imigran yang ada di *England* bahwasannya untuk menjadi eksis tidak perlu menjual identitas diri atau mengikuti semua standarisasi orang lain. Sebaliknya dengan menjadi diri sendiri, eksistensi diri itu akan muncul. Selain itu, karakter juga berupaya untuk memberikan kesadaran kepada *colored people* atau komunitasnya untuk yakin dengan kemampuannya sendiri dan berpikir positive dengan kemampuan yang dimiliki. Hal ini bertujuan untuk mengikis semua stereotype negative terhadap *colored people* yang selama ini menjadi salah satu penyebab eksistensi mereka menjadi di kesampingkan.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

England, which is often considered as a dream land, is sought after by many commonwealth countries around the world. They come to England to seek better life, freedom, and equality. Conway in his article entitled *Is the Commonwealth an International Organization?* (2010) stated that most first generation immigrants come to the Britain in order to seek and to improve standard of living, to escape violence or to find employment. In other words England is the place for a new hope where the immigrants can raise family income and become prosperous.

The Immigrant in England mostly comes from the colonized former of British Empire. They come from the third World country such as Asia and Africa. Holmes in his article entitled *Conservatives and Immigration* (2009) stated that:

The immigration to England since 1922 has been substantial in particular former colonies of the British Empire such as India, South Africa, Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Caribbean, Kenya, Hong Kong, including Jamaica which are under the British nationality law

From the quotation above, it can be concluded that the immigrant in England has been a long and well established. Jamaica is one of the immigrant and colored people in England who have established their community since the beginning of the 19th century. As one of the commonwealth country they have openly access under the British political law.

As the immigrant, Jamaicans who is living in England is not easy. They will trace with many handicaps in order to fit with their society. There are two ways that the immigrant tends to used to get her existence in society; adopting the cultural of England and doing a resistance. Most Jamaican people who use the adoption way in order to fit with England society get problems with their own personality. They tend to ignore their original or unacknowledged their personality as a colored people. Meanwhile, the white keeps a social distance from the colored people. The white does some repressive ways to create a social distance between the white and the colored people. For example, the white has made impressive gain in job, finance, career and so on. As the impact of this condition, the Jamaican people get troubles with their own identity. They cannot return to their original because they have ignored their own heritage identity and they also cannot be accepted as a Britain because they are not Britain anymore. Bhaba (1994) simply called it by the mimicry. This condition makes the existence of colored people become ignored since they have put themselves in the weaknesses.

Doing resistances is another way in order to against the handicaps living in England. One of the efforts that the colored people can do is affirming their self existence. Existence is one of the basic things to get an entity in social life. By maintaining the existence, people are aware of themselves through their senses and the value of human being because of being exist means becoming real in society. Pearl (2002) in his article entitled *Ontological Implications of 'Exists'* said that:

To say that 'exists' meant 'is real'. In fact, this could be distinctly appealing, for 'real' is not what has been called an 'excluder' predicate, meaning thereby that it attributes nothing positive to someone, but operates in a purely negative fashion simply to exclude someone from being imaginary, mythical, fictional, and the like.

From this quotation it can be explained that the existence is becoming real in a social life or not as an excluder. In other words, being exist means people admit and accept them as a subset in society. In a real life, they get an equal treatment from others in everything such as human right, job, position, opportunity, education, and so on. In addition, Sartre in Landry (2004) said that the existence refers to the virtue of being own nature and independence of any other being or cause. In other words, by having existence, the human beings no matter what the color is, have the right to be their own nature and independence to choose their own way of life.

The efforts in affirming self existence can be done in two ways. They are maintaining identity and building positive affirmation. The first effort that the colored people can do is maintaining identity. The condition of the colored people which is minority in society force some of them to be adoptable being like white fully or become stand as quite as possible without any struggle. This condition makes the colored people's existence becomes neglected. Therefore, maintaining identity among the domination of white circumstance is needed. By maintaining identity, people will be aware about their identity and acknowledge the existence of their diversity. According to Locke (2008) *identity (the self)* depends on consciousness identification of oneself. It is paralyses with the discourse that

maintaining identity could trigger the awareness to identify them as a colored people and assert the existence that they are different with the others.

The second aspect as the effort in affirming self existence is building the positive affirmation. Since the colored people tend to judge themselves with negative image and feel worse, the affirmation of self existence is the effort of building the awareness or positive image about their self identity. Scott (2007) in his article entitled *Positive affirmation* stated that positive affirmation is a technique to change that negative perception into something more positive. It means the positive affirmation is the way to change the impact of negative thinking such as the lack of confidence, mental pressure, and pessimistic to face the society. For example, someone who is capable to be an active and communicative, and believes in themselves about the talent and ability are some of the act of building positive affirmation.

There are many phenomenon of individual effort in order to affirm self existence as a colored people in society. Some of them can be reflected from the act of Benjamin Zephaniah and Bob Marley. Benjamin Zephaniah is one of the most important black author who loves to criticize the racial discrimination and to ask for existence in many of his literary works such as poem, short story, play or even lyrics song. In addition, Zephaniah also describes how the colored people survive and struggle to claim their existence. Moreover, Bob Marley affirms his self identified as a colored people through music, lyric and style. Farley (2009) in Wikipedia said that Marley remains the most widely known and revered performer of reggae music, and is credited with helping spread both Jamaican

music and the Rastafarian movement to a worldwide audience. It can be understood that Marley affirms their assertion by rebuilding the pride upon African's identity such as in Jamaican music and the Rastafarian religion.

The phenomenon of affirmation of self existence can be also found in literary works. One of them can be reflected in the novel *every light in the house burnin'* (1995) by Andrea levy. This novel is a subversive work because it can be a motivation for minority in society to struggle to get their freedom and right as a subset in society. The writer is interested in analyzing this novel because through the protagonist character, the struggle of minority class through the affirmation of self existence is clearly seen.

1.1.1 The affirmation of self existence

There are two terms used in this analysis; the affirmation and self existence. The term affirmation is commonly used in natural scientist sciences, social sciences, psychology sciences, and philosophy sciences. In social life, it is used to consider how the phenomenon develops in social context. Merriam Webster Dictionary (2010) stated that affirmation is a statement asserting the existence or the truth of something. In addition, FitzGerald (2008) defined affirmation as something declared to be true; a positive statement or judgment. From the quotations above, it can be understood that affirmation refers to the assertion or declaration of something which is true.

The second term is self existence. Existence is commonly used in social sciences, mathematical logic sciences, and philosophy sciences. The existence is

human's presence in a society. However, it is not merely about the presence but it is about value of human being in that place. Vallicella (2005) in his article entitled *does existences itself exist* said that:

Existence is not something of which it might properly be said that ... it 'exists' or 'does not exist.' In other words, a 'category' of being cannot be applied to existence. It can be applied only to what exist.

In addition Vassallo (2002) stated that existence is people who is aware of whom they are and fully responsible for their existence. The existence of someone in the society is caused by people's awareness as human being. The study that is concerned about the existence of human being is called by existentialism. Then, the self existence is the self awareness of the existence in society about the value of human being in that place.

In this analysis, the affirmation of self existence means the individual assertion to show the awareness of self identified as a colored people. It can be seen through maintaining self identity and positive affirmation in order to refuse the negative image toward themselves as a colored people.

1.1.2 A brief of Andrea Levy

Andrea levy was born in London in 1956. Her father sailed from Jamaica to England on the Empire Windrush ship in 1948 and her mother joined her father soon after. Levy was growing up black in what was still a very white England. Levy's experiences who grew up in England have given her a complex perspective about the country of her birth.

Levy began writing in 1988, and attended a writing course at the City Literary Institute. Growing up black in white England circumstance gives much contribution to her novel. Hickman (2008) in his article *under the skin of history* stated “Andrea Levy is the long awaited birdsong of one born Black and Gifted in Britain”. It means that Levy is a new generation who has a bravery and talent asking black existence in Britain through her writing. In addition, *independent on Sunday* (2004) also stated “Andrea levy is a fresh and invigorating new voice”. In short, Levy is one of the Jamaican author and young writer who has a brave to write many phenomenon of the immigrant.

There are many literary work that she has written such as her first novel, *Every Light in the House Burnin'* (1995) that it is long-listed for *the Orange Prize*. The novel is talking about her experiences as a child of Jamaican immigrants growing up in the seat of power of the British Empire. The establishment of the empire resulted primarily from commercial and political motives and emigration movements. Her second novel is *Never far From Nowhere* (1996). Her third novel, *Fruit of the Lemon* (2000), drew on her Caribbean family history. Her fourth novel, *Small Island* (2004) is also related to the problems faced by black British-born children of Jamaican emigrants. Levy also writes short stories which have been anthologized and broadcast on Radio 4, and has been a judge for *the Saga Prize* and *the Orange Prize*.

1.1.3 Every Light in the House Burnin'

Andrea Levy's novel *every light in the house burnin'* (1995) exposes the affirmation of self existence. The affirmation of self existence means the individual assertion to show the awareness of self identified as a colored people. In this analysis, the affirmation of self existence is represented by the character, Angela, as the second generation of immigrant from Jamaican in England. The efforts in affirming self existence can be seen through maintaining her identity and building the positive affirmation.

The assertion to show her self-existence can be seen from the character's ways to maintain her identity as a colored people. The effort to maintain identity can be revealed based on two aspects; the character ways to face her environment and her family's condition. Both aspects trigger the character's awareness to identify herself as colored people. Even though, the environment of the white views the colored people with negative perspective, the character maintains becoming herself and asserts that she is different from others. Further, the character makes affirmation to her family to become her own nature and brave to made decision. It can be seen from her decision to choose her own way of life and study in RADA "the royal academy of dramatic arts" although she got protest from her family.

The other way in affirming of self existence is building the positive affirmation. It is the character's way to change the negative perception toward themselves such as; lack of confidence and pessimistic occurred as the impact of

white discrimination. It happens toward her friend, Ada and her father who did not do anything at all to stand against the negative thinking. In contrary, the protagonist is aware about this condition and affirms her determination to rebuild the positive affirmation. It can be seen from the characters effort to become the most active and critic student in the class. Here, she indicates the positive affirmation through her intellectual and intelligence.

1.2 Problem of study

There are many cases that can be examined in the novel *Andrea Levy Every Light in the House Burnin'* (1995). In order to reveal the affirmation of self existence in this novel, research question are needed. Those research questions are:

1. How far does the affirmation of self existence reflect in *Every Light in the House Burnin'* novel by Andrea levy?
2. To what extend do the character, setting, and plot (conflict) of the *Andrea levy's* novel support the affirmation of self existence?

1.3 Purpose the study

The purpose of the study is to find out how far the affirmation of self existence is reflected in *Every Light in the House Burnin'* (1995) by Andrea Levy and to find out to what extend the character, setting, and plot (conflict) support the issue of affirmation.

1.4 Previous study

The analysis which is referenced to this novel that focuses on the affirmation of social existence has not been found yet. However, there are several studies in journal that have given contributions and inspirations to the writer in analyzing this novel.

The first analysis is written by Dr. Mohamed Fawzy El-Dessouky entitled *The Cultural Impact upon Human Struggle for Social Existence in Chinua Achebe's Things Fall Apart* (2010). This study focuses on the early experience of colonialism. El-Dessouky uses resistance theory and the transculturation hypothesis to find how the struggling of social existence in this novel. His analysis aims to introduce an insight into the nature of cultural conflict as depicted in Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*. This study shows how the African black culture comes into disagreement with the white one imposed by the British imperialism. This article analyzed through the Conflict of the character, mere existence, and social culture. The pursuit of mere existence is the dominant theme within this novel.

The other study that gives contribution is written by Georges Sawadogo (2007) entitled *Poetry and cultural identity in F. T. Pacere's writing: from identity affirmation to universal humanism*. Sawadogo belongs to a cultural and linguistic community. His analysis concerns about the socio-cultural characteristics of F. T. Pacere's poetry and their aesthetic and semantic structuring role. In this study Sowadogo analyze some figurative language and symbol such as simile, methaphore and personification to show the tradition of identity affirmation and

the larger body of Black African poetry. Pacere's poetry is not only about identity affirmation, but also about being open to the world, namely other people and other cultures. Through this analysis, the writer seeks to achieve universal humanism. Pacere's poetry operates on a double dialogic and dialectic process, as required by the negritude movement; rooting in his native culture and opening to the world. This analysis uses the context of cultures communicating by Rogues and Corbin, and consciences communicating by Jean-Paul Sartre.

Those analyses have contributed to deliver the issue of the affirmation of social existence. However, the focus of this study is different from the two analyzes. This study analyzes the affirmation of self existence through maintaining the character's identity and building positive affirmation. This study focuses on finding out how the affirmation of social existence can be revealed by analyzing character, setting and plot (conflict) in the novel.

1.5 Theoretical framework

The analysis of this novel deals with the theory of Existentialism. Existentialism is the philosophy of existence, the nature of human existence, its value, and its meaning. Existentialism emphasizes on the supreme importance of the individual and his choices. Kierkegaard in Flynn (2006:25-26) divides five basic themes that the existentialist appropriates each in people own ways. Rather than constituting a strict definition of 'existentialist', Kierkegaard depicts more of a family resemblance among the philosophers.

1. *Existence precedes essence.* The individual is (the essence) the result of his/her choices (the existence) rather than the reverse. Essence is not destiny. He/she is what he/she makes his/herself to be.
2. *Time is of the essence.* People are fundamentally time- bound beings. Unlike measurable, 'clock' time, lived time is qualitative: the 'not yet', the 'already', and the 'present' differ among themselves in meaning and value.
3. *Humanism.* Existentialism is a person-centered philosophy. Though not anti-science, its focus is on the human individual's pursuit of identity and meaning amidst the social and economic reassures of mass society for superficiality and conformism.
4. *Freedom/responsibility.* Existentialism is a philosophy of freedom. Its basis is the fact that people can stand back from their lives and reflect on what they have been doing. In this sense, they are always 'more' than themselves. But they are as responsible as they are free.
5. *Ethical considerations are paramount.* Though each existentialist understands the ethical, as with 'freedom', in his or her own way, the underlying concern is to invite us to examine the authenticity of our personal lives and of our society.

This analysis relates to the themes of existentialist depend on Ethical considerations are paramount and Existence precedes essence. In addition, Heidegger in Webber (2009:59) states that existentialism is the matter of the probability of the person itself to be himself. He also states that it is the human rights to choose the way he lives. Heidegger called these rights as authentic

rights. A person is a subject, he is not an object. Everyone has right to decide his destiny. This is the crucial matter in a human right. In addition, Sartre in Landry (2004) says:

"Existence is prior to essence. Man is nothing at birth and throughout his life he is no more than the sum of his past commitments. To believe in anything outside his own will is to be guilty of 'bad Faith.' Existentialist despair and anguish is the acknowledgement that man is condemned to freedom. He cannot escape choosing."

This statement explains that every human being is free because they act toward an end which is identified by that individual. Sartre's statement *he cannot escape choosing* above means that every human being have a right to decide their destiny becomes an object or subject and they cannot escape from choosing. Related to this analysis, the protagonist struggles to get existence and lives authenticity can be reflected from her choice to determine her own life as individual who has a freedom. She also determines herself as a subject to handle her own life. It can be reflected from her way of thinking to make decision to train more her ability and her survival to maintain self identified as a colored people under the practice of indoctrinate and discrimination toward them.

This analysis also implements the concept of power. It states that power doesn't merely occur on dominant subject. The subordinated also has potential to make a power as Tiffin (1990) called as counter power. A counter power is usually projected by the subordinated to interrogate the dominant from the power privilege. It could be connected with the term of power by Foucault in Mason (2010) "power is everywhere and as soon as there is a power relation, there is a

possibility of resistance”. In counter power could be correspondence with the term of resistance.

Resistance can be done directly and indirectly. According to Kitano (1985) direct resistance includes some kinds of retaliation. It is often taken as a sign of contentment such as striking, rebellion, race riots, and so on. In short, the kind of direct resistance is usually correlated with physical contact. The most common resistance that has been usually applied by the minority is indirect resistance. It is usually used to limit the harmful physically that possible to be emerged without reducing the main goal of resistance. This opinion is supported with the statement of Sun Tse in Gelderen (1992) said “To fight and conquer in all our battles is not supreme excellence; supreme excellence consists in breaking the enemy's resistance without fighting”. It means that the effort of indirect resistance such as using intellectual and ideological more effectively than resistance through physical conquers.

In addition the term of resistance also comes out by what Slemon (1990) called as redefining “representation”. It is a kind of interrogates the meaning produced by understanding how one’s identity is constantly being produced through a play of different penetration. Then, the representation itself is reflected by shifting and conflicting discursive through ideological relation, formation and articulation. In short, if the dominant has a discourse to represent its power, the minority also has discourse to counter them with their own ideological and formation. In this analysis, the minority refers to the colored people who have awareness about their self identification. Whenever the dominant as representative

of white used their oppression through discrimination and humiliation, they encounter them by maintaining their identity. Further, whenever the White oppress some of the colored people by giving the negative stereotypes and judgments, some of the colored people counter it by building the positive affirmation toward their community.

There are three elements of fiction which are used in this study. They are the character, setting and plot (conflict). Character is the crucial element of story that needs to be examined to reveal the meaning. It is supported by Bennet and Royle (1999). They stated that character is life of the literature; they are object of our curiosity and fascination, affection and dislike, admiration and condemnation. Examining the character is not only through their behavior but also through thought. It can be seen from Angela, the protagonist, as a representative of the immigrant people in England. She is a second generation from Jamaican who asserts the awareness of self identification as a colored people.

Another element that can help in the process of the analysis is setting. Setting does not only mean place and time in the novel but also the atmosphere of the story. Madden (2002) stated that setting in fiction is the location and atmosphere of the story. It has direct and indirect impact on character and conflict; it supports the story meaning. The setting is dealing with condition, atmosphere, situation, and circumstance constructs the story. In this analysis, setting refers to the refusal from the character to adopt the cultural of Britain. Furthermore, setting also refers to the atmosphere and situation of the immigrant which is minority

among the white circumstance. It helps to reveal the character's motivation to ask their existence. From the explanation above, it can be seen that setting can give big effect on character. Setting and character cannot be separated to extend the issue of affirmation of self existence.

The other element which is going to be involved in this analysis is plot (conflict). Robert (1999) stated that conflict is not only between the protagonist and the antagonist but may occur within the character's own mind. In this study, conflict faced by the protagonist both inside and outside herself important role to reveal the affirmation of social existence in this novel. The conflict in this analysis can be shown in two aspects; an internal, which can be traced within the same culture among their community as a colored people and sometimes inside the specific character, and an external conflict takes place between two cultures Jamaicans as a colored people and the British itself.

1.6 Methodology

The analysis of this novel was done through text based interpretation. Furthermore, this novel was also done by analyzing fictional devices. The fictional devices are character, setting, and plot (conflict). Character is the element to show the act of affirmation through maintaining self-identity and building positive affirmation. Then, setting also gave much contribution in supporting the meaning. Plot (conflict) is also an important element in order to reveal the issue of affirmation. Moreover, these elements are analyzed on the concept of existentialism and resistance as encounter of power.

CHAPTER II

The Affirmation of self-existence

This chapter deals with the analysis of the affirmation of self existence in Andrea Levy's novel, entitled *Every Light in the House Burnin'* (1995). The fictional devices which are explored in this analysis are character, setting and conflict. This analysis focuses on character Angela, who is an immigrant in England. She is the representative of a second generation of immigrant people in England who asserts to show the awareness of self identification as a colored people. The efforts in affirming self existence can be seen through maintaining her identity and building a positive affirmation in order to refuse the negative image toward herself as a colored people.

2.1. Maintaining identity

Maintaining identity is one of the efforts to affirm the self existence in society. In this novel, the assertion to show the self existence can be seen from Angela as the protagonist. The effort of maintaining identity is reflected from two aspects; environment and her family's condition. Both aspects trigger the character's awareness to identify herself as colored people. It is revealed in the quotation below:

“Ronnie and Brucie and everyone. They said we should go back to where we came from.”
“You don't have to answer them” my mum went on “just tell them to mind their business”. ‘Look child, you born here. That's what the matter.’”

“Yes, Anne,” my dad said, “takes no notice. You come from here. You don’t let them worry you”.
“But we’re different- we’re colored,” I said. That’s what we are- (p.58-59)

The conversation above reflects that the character is aware about her self-existence and the way she faces the environment. As a minority among the white domination, colored people often get discrimination and alienation. It can be shown from the statement, *Ronnie and Brucie and everyone. They said we should go back to where we came from*”. This statement refers unacceptable of white toward colored people. The character asks this statement to her family to make them aware that they cannot become white anyway. It means the character determines that they should have a choice to become themselves. It can be reflected in utterance “*But we’re different- we’re colored*”. It proves that the character insist her choice to be a subject as a human being to acknowledge her diversity. Furthermore, the words “*That’s what we are-*“, implicitly means that the colored people cannot become white anyway because they are different. The character refuses her family’s perception to take no notice to this condition. The colored people should stand with their identity as a colored people and assert that they have a choice to determine themselves. This is the way to resist getting back their existence.

The setting in the quotation above refers to the refusal from the character to be a Britain. The condition of the colored people which is minority among the white domination made them often get a discrimination and alienation. This atmosphere makes a conflict among her community. Some of the colored people

tend to ignored about who they are and obsess to follow the white standardization in order to get existence from their environment. However, the character doesn't want to change her identity to become like white or being white. She maintains her self-identified as a colored people and asserts to lives authenticity. It means the character determines that she has a choice to become herself. This is the way to affirm their existence as a subset in society.

Furthermore, the conflict also happens between the character and her family as representative of the colored people in England in order to face her environment. It can be reflected from the quotation below that shows the character's effort to maintain her identify as colored people:

“You going like that, Dad?” I asked.
“Of course!” he insisted
“To the beach, Dad?” I sneered
“Cha- do you want to go or not?”
The beach was crowded- full of English families. They looked like they'd been there a long time and had come to understand beach life. They had deck chairs, windbreakers, radios, buckets and spades, thermos flasks and packets of sandwiches. They sat in the sun in their swimsuits and ran and splashed in the sea.
“What are you doing, Dad?” I shouted.
“That's enough sun now, Anne.”
“Get off,” I yelled. “I shouldn't sit in the sun too long; I don't like to turn red like those people.” (p. 83-84)

The quotation above reflects the character perspective toward her environment. The sentence “*You going like that, Dad?*” reveals Angela struggles to challenge her father's opinion to imitate the white lifestyle. In fact, her father mind has been oriented to follow the white attitude. The statement *the beach was crowded- full of English families. They looked like they'd been there a long time and had come to understand beach life* shows the character's view toward the white activity

which is strange in her mind. This statement means that the character wants to insist her refusal to the white's habit that shouldn't be imitated. It risks destructing her community from the lack of identity. It can be also proved from the quotation *Get off," I yelled. "I shouldn't sit in the sun too long; I don't like to turn red like those people.* It is implied that the red skin is not a formula to get an existence. In other words, she clarifies that the red skin is not the standardization of the physical ideal for human being. It means though she lives in British environment, not all of the White's attitudes and habits should be adopted.

The setting in the quotation above refers to the condition how the colored people should confront the cultural of white in England. Beach and holiday are the habitual of white in order to waste her weekend with their family. Sunbathe is also the habitual of white in order to make their skin become red and flat. The character refuses her father to do the habitual of white because she knew that they do not need it. Their skin has been flat and colored. It means the character insist to her father that not all the cultural of white should be imitate. The character tries to make her family aware that adopting all the cultural of white is not the best formula to get existence in society.

The second aspect that refers the effort of the character to maintain her self-identified can be seen from her ways of thinking to face her family's condition. The setting refers to the condition of immigrant lives in the white circumstance, makes some of the colored people should be adaptable to fit in the society better. The problem appears when the first generations are unable to discharge certain element of their heritage culture to the second generations.

Moreover, they shame to acknowledge their self-identified as a colored people. The impact of this condition, it had kept the immigrants in the horrifying condition, which causes destruction within their community. It can be shown from the quotation below;

My aunt, my dad's sister, was coming to visit us from Jamaica and bringing her new husband, who was Scottish. Visitors were rare at our home, and preparations started almost from the minute my dad got the letter.
"So you like it in England then, Winston?" my uncle asked. No regrets about leaving Jamaica?"
"My mum and Dad shook their heads"
"No, my dad said, "it's good – life is easier – in Jamaica life is hard."
"we hear awful things back home about how colored people treated bad here. Living in one room. People not wantin' to give jobs if you from Jamaica. You find that?" my aunt asked
"No, I have everything here," my mum said.
"Wait!" my aunt said "where is the parcel?"
"Something to remind you of home – a Christmas cake," my aunt said with a smile, "and some other bits an' pieces we collect up"
(p.125-126)

The quotation above reflects the immigrant's dream living in England that can be represented from Angela's parents. The setting also refers to the time when her relative from Jamaica who is coming to visit Angela's family. The conflict is traced from her parents who unacknowledged her own country and more proud with England. The sentences *so you like it in England then, Winston? My uncle asked. No regrets about leaving Jamaica? , My mum and Dad shook their heads,* shows her parent way of thinking that shame to recognize her self-identified as a Jamaican people. In contrast, she is proud of living in England. In fact, in this novel her parents never got better opportunity living in England. The words *No, I*

have everything here means her parents dislike admitting their real condition living in England. This way of thinking put colored people in horrifying condition. It caused inability of the first generation to discharge their next generation to be proud with her self-existence. In another hand, the words *“something to remind you of home – a Christmas cake,” my aunt said with a smile, “and some other bits an’ pieces we collect up”* expresses the statement to remind her parents as a holder in a family to recognize their own identity. It is the basic way to maintain their identity to their next generation as the effort to get existence in society.

Further, maintaining identity is the efforts to affirm the self existence as a people who are aware through their senses and the value of human being. Sartre in his theory has been explained that each of us is ‘a being which is what it is not’ (Webber. 2009:44). It can be understood that this statement purely based on its use in these contexts that character consists in freely chosen projects. Human beings are free because they act toward an end which is identified by that individual. By struggling the existence, people can overcome through the act of resistance, the act of assertion and the meaning it creates to attain the freedom. Then, the actualization of existence can be reflected from the act of affirmation. It can be reflected from the protagonist’s way of thinking to make decision as an individual who has a freedom to train her ability. It can be reflected from this quotation:

“I’m going to sing, Miss,” I said.
Right, on to the stage,” Mrs. Kromer said with the laugh.

“I sang, I jumped, I pouted, I danced and I ended with my arms crossed over my body and my knees bent.
“That was lovely, Angela,” Mrs. Kormer said, clapping,
“lovely, I didn’t know you could sing – and dance! Well, that was lovely. Do you like singing Angela?”
“yeah, it’s what I want to do when I grow up, singing and dancing and that,”
(p.183)

The quotation shows that Angela is aware that she has a talent and ability in singing and dancing. The statement “*yeah, it’s what I want to do when I grow up, singing and dancing and that,*” proved that she believes if every human being have a right to choose her own way and life. Whatever it is, the white or the colored, every human have a decision to choose her own life. She also wants to affirm that the existence doesn’t depend on the physic or personal background but depends on the talent and ability. In addition, singing and dancing are some of the talent that was assumed as black ability. Here, the character wants to affirm her self-identity through the talent that she chooses. It is the human rights to choose the way of life and everyone has right to decide his destiny.

As colored people who have been constructed with the value and myth from the White, Angela struggles to give comprehension to her family. She wants to prove to her family if every human being has a right to choose her own life. It can be reflected from the quotation below:

“Mrs. Kromer thinks I’d be good enough go to RADA.”
“To where?” my mum said.
“RADA- the Royal Academy of dramatic Arts- they do acting and that. It’s a college, you know, where they teach acting and that.”
“Acting,” my mum said with disdain. “Acting – waste of time acting.”
“It’s not-I really like it. It’s what to do when I grow up.”

“Yes Anne,” my dad began. “you don’t want to get fancy ideas-you’ll only disappointed. Do what you can do. “

“You want to go to college, get a good job, then you can think about doing all your fancy things in the evening. People like us don’t get famous. Not everyone can be famous,” my mum went on.

“I could try”

“You’ll be disappointed. I had big ideas when I was your age, but you soon grow up. I know!”

“But, I could, I have a talent” (p.192)

The quotation above reveals that the condition of her family who have been pessimistic about Angela’s existence. The statement “*People like us don’t get famous. Not everyone can be famous,*” from her mother proved that value and myth have permeated to her family. It makes her parent’s way of thinking become pessimistic and afraid of making a decision. Furthermore, becoming a public figure needs a confession from society. The utterance *not everyone can be famous* shows her parent’s way of thinking who have been pessimistic. It refers that they do not have an opportunity to exist as public figure. Further the sentences “*You’ll be disappointed. I had big ideas when I was your age, but you soon grow up. I know!*” refer that her parents have gotten experience in England that made them become pessimistic and unconfidently. In contrary, the character affirms her conviction and demolishes the myth about the colored people. It can be proved from her statement “*I could try*”. This quotation means that Angela wants to change the situation and become different from other. She also wants to affirm that the existence doesn’t depend on the physic or personal background but depends on the talent and ability.

Furthermore, the effort of the character to show the existence of a colored people who have a freedom to make a decision can be revealed from her decision to study at RADA “the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts. It can be seen from the quotation below;

My dad was not easily impressed. He didn't take much interest in the detail of my “career”. All he knew was that I had been to college and that made me knowledgeable about certain things – for example, whether milk was still good for you or not. The day before I went off to art college, my Dad looked at me earnestly and said, “so-what are you doing at college – typing and that?” “No, it's Art College,” I answered, and he had said, “Oh,” in the same manner as he was saying it now, while thumbing through one of my designs. (p. 63)

The quotation above refers that the character has been proved that she has a freedom to choose her own life and affirm her self-existence. The words *my dad was not easily impressed. He didn't take much interest in the detail of my “career”* revealed that her Dad still didn't agree with her decision to study in art. It is because of his experience of living in England. Whereas, the character still want to prove to her Dad if everybody has a chance. The words *“No, it's Art College,” I answered, and he had said, “Oh,” in the same manner as he was saying it now, while thumbing through one of my designs* shows that the character expresses her decision to registered in art college while bring one of her picture to her Dad. It means that the character proves to her parents if everybody has opportunity to get her own career whatever they are. Then, the career in art faculty that she was chosen implies her effort to maintain her self-identified as a colored people.

In short, maintaining identity is one way to get self existence in society. The conflict has two aspects; internal and external aspect. Internal aspect can be

traced within the character and her community. On the other hand, an external conflict takes place between the character and her environment. Here, the character makes an affirmation to her community to become her own nature and braves to make a decision. She wants to prove that she has act toward an end which is identified by that individual. The setting in this analyze is dealing with condition, atmosphere, circumstance, supports in doing the affirmation. The atmosphere and situation of the immigrant which is minority among the white circumstance helps to reveal the character's motivation to ask their existence

2.2. Building the positive affirmation.

The other way in affirming self-existence is building the positive affirmation. As long as the colored people judge themselves with negative image and feel worse, building the positive affirmation is another way to get self existence in society. Scott (2007) in his article entitled *Positive affirmation* stated that affirmation is a technique to change that negative perception into something more positive. In this novel positive affirmation is the way to change the lack of confidence, depression, and pessimistic occurred as the impact of white discrimination. The discrimination itself can be seen from the quotation below:

“Ada was black. She was also in my class at school. Me and Ada were the only black pupils in our class. Ada Family came from Africa... (p.141)

“Yes, you have a lovely voice, Ada. Everyone wants to hear your voice, Ada,” Miss Thompson said, titling her head the other way and smiling.
“I don’t want to. She’s stupid,” Michael said
“No, She is not,” I said. “She’s cleverer than you – you’re dunce.”

“She’s stupid and dirty,” Michael said, folding his arms defiantly.
Michael, I don’t think that’s very nice thing to say, especially in a church,” Miss Thompson said
She’s dirty, Miss, All darkies are dirty. She’s dirty,” Michael said again. I sat and waited. I knew what was coming next. It was the same at school. “And so is she, Miss,” Michael said, Pointed at me.
(p.144)

The quotations above reveal the condition of Ada as one of a black people who has become the victim of discrimination. It can be revealed from the quotation *“She’s stupid and dirty,” Michael said, folding his arms defiantly.* It is a kind of mental pressure toward colored people, it is aimed to build negative suggestive toward the colored people’s mind. The setting of the quotation above refers to the situation of the immigrants who grew up and live among the white domination. This situation is the reason to make the colored people becoming pushed to the cornered. As the impact, some of the colored people who cannot survive from all the white oppression put themselves left behind and always feels worse. As the consequence, they don’t believe about their talent and they are lack of confidence to arise up their ability. This condition makes the colored existence becomes neglected because they put themselves in weaknesses. It can be represented from the character Ada, Angela’s friend, in the quotation below;

Ada had no friends at school and spent her playtimes with her sister, who was in the year below us. She sat politely upright through the lesson, but had the habit of falling asleep with her head on her desk through stories and had to be woken up when she snored too loudly. Our teachers never asked Ada anything, because she would never reply – she just sat and smiled and looked embarrassed, but she was clever and got good marks.
(p.142)

The quotation above shows the impact of discrimination toward colored people in school. The character Ada does not do anything at all to stand against the negative stereotype. It has embedded in her mind that she deserves to have that negative self talk. The potentiality showed by her good grade in the class that cannot change her mental condition, *but she was clever and got good marks*. It proves that she doesn't have bravery to exit from the negative self talk and receiving her condition.

On the other hand, since the colored people judge themselves with negative image and feel worse, the protagonist builds the positive affirmation to get back her existence as the colored people. It can be seen from the quotation below;

I knew this society better than my parents. My parents' strategy was to keep as quiet as possible in the hope that no one would know that they had sneaked in to this country. They wanted to be no bother at all. But I had grown up in its English ways. I could confront it, rail against it; fight it, because it was mine – a birthright. (p.88)

The quotation above refers to the phenomenon of colored people's mental condition that represented by her father. Conversely, the protagonist inculcates her positive affirmation in her mind. The sentence *I know this society* above refers to the white who has discriminated her father with the bad treatment. In this case, her father is aware that he has been underestimated from white, but he does not have bravery to struggle. Moreover, he is opting to be quite and submit all the condition in order to cover his weaknesses. It is similar with what Ada has done in receiving her condition to keep as quite as possible. It implies that her father mind has been

constructed by the negative self talk and makes her father tend to be more ignorance. On the other hand, the protagonist is aware about this condition and affirms her determination in order to rebuild positive affirmation. The statement *But I had grown up in its English ways. I could confront it, rail against it; fight it, because it was mine – a birthright* means that she has known everything and learned more about the White and ready to battle it. She believes that she has a capability to struggle their existence. The utterance *a birthright* means that Angela determined herself to be a pioneer of colored people to inspiring her community. That is her way to build her positive affirmation and the actualization can be proved through her attitude to face her society.

The setting in the quotation above refers to her father situation who have been depressed with her condition as the impact of discrimination. He got a bad treatment in the hospital because of he is not white anymore. This atmosphere that makes a conflict in the most of colored people's mind. They become lack of confidence to face their society. Moreover, they are opting to be quite and submit all the condition in order to cover his weaknesses. On the other hand, this condition trigger Angela to do a resistance. Colored people should sturggle getting back their existence. One of effort to affirm their existence is building a postive affirmation among her community. It can be reflect from her statement become *a birthright*. It means Angela ready to be a pioneer to inspiring her community and makes them beliaive with their position or ability.

Furthermore, building positive affirmation can be reflected from the protagonist's talent and ability in school. It is presented from her attitude as the

most active student to ask question and discussion. It can be seen from the quotation below:

“Now, has anybody got anything they would like to entertain us with?” the vicar said after the prayer. He said the every week and someone would stand up and sing a song or tell a Bible story. I put my hand up. I’d been practicing all week.

“Come on Angela, out to the front”

(p.140)

The quotation above explains that the Angela as representative of colored people who want to refuse the negative image and the humiliation toward them. In this case the statement *now, has anybody got anything they would like to entertain us with?*” shows that the vicar asked to the class in the church to do something in front of them. Here, Angela inverts the judgments from some of her friend who has humiliated her with the negative talk. Then, the sentence *I put my hand up, I’d been practicing all week* expressed that the existence is not only a simple effort. It needs a persistence effort that should be embedded in each of the colored people. In this case, Angela gives inspiration to the colored people to be confident with their ability.

Building positive affirmation is purposed to attract her community to be more positively faces her environment. It reflected from the protagonist ways to be the most active and critic student in school. It can be found from the quotation below:

“Miss, I’ve got a question about the Bible,” I said. I couldn’t have grinning

Miss Thompson nodded

“Well, Miss, Adam and Eve were the first people on Earth,” I began.

“Yes, That’s quite right, Angela. They lived in the Garden of Eden,” She said confidently.

“Well, they had two children, Cain and Abel.”
Miss Thompson Nodded.
“And Cain killed Abel,” I went on
Miss Thompson was still nodding and saying yes.
“Then Cain went off to the forest and found a wife,” I
paused for dramatic effect, “but where did she come
from, miss, ‘cause there weren’t any other people on the
earth?”
“Oh,” Miss Thompson said, putting her hand up to the
string of beads round her neck. “Well, that’s a good
question. I grinned and looked at Ada, who pulled a face
at my cheek.
“Well,” Miss Thompson went on, “I’m not sure I know
the answer to that. Well, I mean ... well... does
anyone... well... no.” she began to go red. “I’ll have to
think about that one,” she said. “I’ll tell you next week.”
She looked along the pew at everyone else.

The quotation above also shows that the protagonist struggles her existence through her critical thinking. After she has got much discrimination from her friends she never fell down to it. The sentence *I grinned and looked at Ada*, means that the character wants to assert her positive affirmation to Ada. She also inspires Ada in order to build her confidence with her talent and show it up to affirm her existence toward the white. It is shown from the quotation “*Well, Miss Thompson went on, ‘I’m not sure I know the answer to that. Well, I mean ... well... does anyone... well... no.’ she began to go red.*” Here, the character asks Mrs. Thompson and all of her friends as representative of the white people. In fact, not any one in the class can answer her quotation. It means Angela has demolished the stereotype of white toward colored people through her critical thinking. She also rebuilds her positive affirmation toward colored people to be self confidence to face white environment.

In short, positive affirmation is one way that the character used to refuse the negative image toward colored people. It can be seen from the character’s way

to show her existence in her school, her play match and in her society reveal her struggle to build with affirmation. She affirms her positive affirmation through her intellectual and critical thinking. She also asserts it by being an active and confidence student in school. The setting refers to the condition, situation, and atmosphere in building positive affirmation give a big influence to her community and society. The condition of the character as the immigrant from Jamaican in Britain is the reason of the character to do affirmation in order to building their self confidence. The atmosphere and situation of the immigrant which is minority among the white circumstance helps to reveal the character's motivation to ask their existence

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