Evoking Race and Privilege in The Last White Man (2022): A discourse-based post-colonial perspective

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Abstract

This research aims to investigate the portrayal of racism and privilege through linguistic choices in The Last White Man (2022). The study is discourse-based and designed within the broader paradigm of discourse analytical studies and employs The Critical Race Theory (Delgado & Stefancic, 2001) and Fairclough's three-dimensional model (1995) to investigate the linguistic choices to portray racism, privilege, and metamorphosis taking place in the text. In this research, it is analyzed how racism prevails in society and how the blacks are suppressed and face oppression and violence by whites. In this study, it is analyzed how stereotypical discrimination affects society and becomes a reason for inequality and imbalance in society. It results in a chaotic situation and there is a brutal killing of the blacks by the white militants. So as the blacks are facing the consequences and disparities of this racism in society, the whites have constructed an ideology that the blacks are savages and violent people. In this study, the text is analyzed from the perspective of racism, privilege, and metamorphosis that takes place in the selected novel. Study reveals that racism exists in society and a specific social class has all the privileges while the other one is deprived of their basic rights to live in a community of Superior class. Racism is so powerful in the social system even in the contemporary period that

the white people have zero tolerance for the colored people. Racist ideologies are the main cause of this violence, discrimination, and intolerance against the blacks.

Keywords: Race, Privilege, Metamorphosis, Critical Race Theory

1. Introduction

Discourse encompasses the linguistic and communicative strategies employed by individuals and collectives to convey meaning, shape perceptions, and define social constructs. It extends beyond mere conversation, encompassing written texts, media portrayals, and various communication forms. Discourse analysis involves scrutinizing the structure, content, and context of these communications to unveil how meaning is constructed, how power dynamics are negotiated, and how social conventions are either reinforced or challenged. By delving into discourse, we glean insights into how language molds beliefs, molds identities, and perpetuates societal hierarchies, rendering it an indispensable tool for comprehending and navigating intricate social interactions and cultural phenomena.

Understanding discourse holds paramount importance across diverse academic domains such as linguistics, sociology, anthropology, political science, and media studies. It enables scholars and practitioners to unveil latent ideologies, scrutinize power dynamics, and dissect how language constructs and mirrors societal realities. Moreover, by dissecting discourse, individuals cultivate a critical stance towards information, enhancing their ability to discern bias, propaganda, and manipulation within media and public dialogue. Ultimately, discourse analysis equips us with the tools to decode the nuanced ways in which language molds our perception of the world, empowering us to participate more effectively in social and political discourse.

Discourse plays an integral part in the construction of ideologies. The way ideas are communicated, debated, and disseminated shapes how people understand and adopt certain beliefs or values. It influences perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors, ultimately contributing to the formation and evolution of societal ideologies. Ideologies are dogmas or shared beliefs present in society. In most cases, these dogmas work against the minor social groups because the

superior or group in the majority has constructed its beliefs and ideologies regarding that particular group and treats them according to their own constructed ideologies. In US societies, whites have constructed their stereotypical ideologies, dogmas, and beliefs against black people, and due to these ideologies, the colored race is facing oppression, discrimination, and inequality. These stereotypical ideologies have a significant role in the exploitation of the colored race. Due to these socially constructed ideologies, whites are exploiting blacks so that they don't even have the fundamental rights to live in a society and face oppression, murder, and discrimination.

Race refers to distinctions in physical characteristics like skin color, while racism is the belief that these differences determine the superiority or inferiority of various ethnic groups. Racism is often tied to ideologies created by influential societal groups, where the dominant class claims superiority and denies opportunities and assets to others. This unequal distribution of rights and privileges leads to racial discrimination and intolerance within society. This discrimination arises from the unequal allocation of resources, causing biases and prejudice. Social classes are formed based on these racist ideologies, favoring the dominant group and resulting in discrimination and prejudices in various areas such as education immigration, and others.

1.1. Background of the Study

Paltridge (2006) says that there are several invisible interpretations in every discourse that we cannot detect in a glimpse or first reading, so these critical approaches to discourse help us unveil and explore these invisible or hidden meanings in a text. Every text or discourse carries some hidden connotations that are entirely different from those that are apparent or visible to a reader at a glance or first reading. Discourse is always politically, ideologically, and ethnically loaded. So CDA explains and examines the text to explore underlying or hidden connotations in it. The approaches in critical discourse analysis are deployed to analyze the discourse to track these deep meanings in texts. By employing these approaches of critical discourse analysis we can also figure out the underlying or background knowledge of the discourse. So it helps us know about the purpose of creating and producing that specific text. Its fundamental objective is

to demonstrate the connection between text and community and it also helps to explain and analyze a text or discourse and also explains the connection of a text with society.

CDA examines discourse both as written or spoken language within a societal context and as a form of communication (Fairclough, 1989). He introduced a model with three interconnected phases referred to as a three-dimensional model, encompassing text description, interpretation, and the elucidation of text. This model is further elaborated in his work "Language and Power" (1995).

1.2.   Research Objectives

 The study aims to accomplish several goals, but its main objectives are as follows:

1. To explore the linguistic patterns employed by the author in the text to showcase racism and privilege.
2. To analyze the post-colonial construct of racism in the selected text.

1.3.   Research Questions

The current research focuses on discourse analysis and is situated within the wider field of discourse studies. It utilizes the Critical Race Theory (Delgado & Stefancic, 2001) to analyze how racism, privilege, racial discrimination, and change are represented in the chosen text. Additionally, it employs the Three-Dimensional Model (Fairclough, 1995) to examine the author's linguistic choices in the collected data as the theoretical framework. The study aims to explore the following inquiries:

1. What linguistic patterns do the author employ to portray Racism and Privilege?
2. How does the author deploy the post-colonial construct of Racism in the selected text?

2. Literature Review

Discourse analysis serves as a comprehensive methodological approach aimed at investigating the foundational aspects of a community to enhance comprehension of the intricate

dynamics influencing social, political, and cultural dimensions. This analytical framework entails methodically examining both written and spoken communication within specific contexts to reveal underlying patterns and meanings inherent in language use. Scholars such as Fairclough and Foucault have been instrumental in highlighting the significance of discourse in shaping societal norms and constructing knowledge. Fairclough (1995) emphasizes the pervasive nature of discourses across various contexts, illustrating their impact on societal systems and the construction of reality. He suggests that analyzing turn-taking activities in speech discourse can provide insights into how discourse permeates societal structures.

Similarly, Foucault (1972) investigates the symbolic and meaningful nature of discourse, concentrating on its role in producing and disseminating knowledge. Language functions as a complex network wherein discourses operate at different levels, contributing to the emergence of new genres and discourse styles. Ideology and power are crucial elements within discourse, leading scholars like Wodak (2009) to advocate for discourse analysis as a methodological framework for social research inquiries. Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), as highlighted by Kress (1990), aims to uncover how discourse perpetuates sexism, racism, and power structures in society. The integration of discourse across various knowledge domains facilitates the development of new discourse styles and patterns, as well as the establishment of novel knowledge institutions (Fairclough & Graham, 2000). This interdisciplinary approach illuminates the multifaceted nature of discourse and its impact on societal dynamics.

Transitioning to the specific context of Pakistani literature, scholars have explored how fiction is influenced by the political landscape of the country. Ahmad (2014) investigates how politics serves as a significant stimulus for writers to portray contemporary situations, reflecting the socio-political realities of Pakistan. Zubair (2012) delves into post-colonial perspectives and identity construction in Pakistani novels, highlighting the struggle of characters like Feroza and Changez to reconcile their dual identities amidst globalization and cultural hybridity.

In addition to political influences, scholars have also examined themes of racism and privilege in literary texts. Shaheena (2010) applies Critical Race Theory to analyze works by

Sherman Alexie, highlighting how racism is depicted and how it reflects broader societal power dynamics. Rani and Jamil (2015) utilize similar theoretical frameworks to explore racism and privilege in the works of E.M. Forster, emphasizing the complexities of intercultural relations and the perpetuation of colonial ideologies. Furthermore, studies by Mashori and Zaib (2015), Omaishat (2015), and Shirazi (2014) delve into issues of gender, oppression, and post-colonialism in Pakistani literature. They examine the challenges faced by marginalized individuals, particularly women, and how they navigate societal norms and power structures within the context of racism and privilege.

Discourse analysis provides a comprehensive framework for understanding the intricate interplay of language, power, and ideology within society. By dissecting the core components of communities and texts, researchers can uncover underlying patterns and meanings, thereby contributing to a deeper comprehension of social, political, and cultural phenomena. Through its interdisciplinary nature, discourse analysis enables scholars to engage with complex issues and generate nuanced insights into the dynamics of human interaction and societal structures.

3. Methodology and Theoretical Framework

The researcher has employed a specific set of criteria for selecting the data. Firstly, a comprehensive analysis of the text was conducted to determine its suitability for the chosen framework. The goal was to identify the text's characteristics that align with the framework's objectives. The novel was chosen due to its compelling exploration of themes related to race, privilege, white anxiety, and the challenges faced by individuals undergoing a significant transition. Secondly, the narrative of the story also revolves around the themes of identity and loss, which are relevant aspects that make the text a valuable choice for the research project. These themes add depth and complexity to the study, making it a rich source of data for examining various social and psychological dynamics.

3.1.   Critical Race Theory

The theory used in this study is Critical Race Theory (2001) and Richard Delgado and Stefancic proposed this theory. Delgado (2006) proposed that "…actions that do not discriminate against such groups [people of color, women, and other out groups] but instead entrench white privilege" (p. 1279). He noticed the discrimination and biased attitude by a white person against a colored individual and refused to provide his services and then another thing observed was the discrimination in which the white person does not deny his services rather he favors the person instead of that person of color. A white person was favoring another white man instead of giving services to the other group of people (colored people).

Critical Race Theory as articulated by Delgado and Stefancic (2001) operates on six fundamental principles:

1. **Racism as a Salient Experience:** CRT recognizes that racism is a pervasive and normalized experience rather than a rare occurrence.
2. **Interest Convergence**: It posits that racism is addressed when there is an interest convergence between the White majority and people of color. It suggests that racism tends to be confronted when it aligns with the self-interest of White individuals or groups.
3. **Race as a Social Construct:** CRT emphasizes that race is a social construct, not a biological or genetic difference, challenging the notion of inherent racial characteristics.
4. **Authoritative Voices:** It asserts that those who experience racism are the authoritative voices to describe it. People of color are considered experts on their own experiences, and the use of narratives and counter-narratives can empower their perspectives.
5. **Differential Racialization:** CRT examines how the dominant society adapts and changes the way it racializes different groups of color over time to serve the political and social needs of the White racial majority.

6. **Intersectionality:** It acknowledges that race is just one aspect of a person's identity, and individuals often belong to multiple demographic groups, highlighting the complexity of identities.

These principles provide a framework for analyzing and addressing racial injustice from a critical perspective. They challenge conventional wisdom and encourage a more nuanced understanding of how racism operates within society.

3.2. Methodological Framework

The researcher chooses a 3-dimensional model of Critical Discourse Analysis. Fairclough (1995) provided a detailed and comprehensible three-dimensional model to analyze different discourses. By using this three-dimensional model, the researcher explores how white people's discourse goes in opposition to Blacks. The study is qualitative and there is no statistical data in this research. The whole novel is studied logically by the researcher and collected the data for analysis.

3.2.1. Fairclough's 3-Dimensional Model

The choice of using the three-dimensional model of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) for your study is a well-structured approach. This model, as you've described, involves analyzing discourse across three dimensions: text, discursive practice, and social practice. Each dimension offers a unique perspective on how language and discourse function in shaping social phenomena.

The Fairclough's (1995) three-dimensional model is divided into three steps/stages.

i.   Description
ii. Interpretation
iii. Explanation

Description

The initial phase of Fairclough's three-dimensional model views discourse as a text, focusing on the descriptive aspects and elements within the text. It involves identifying the reader's characteristics by examining their responses to ten specific questions devised by Fairclough. These questions, which pertain to the description level, are present in Fairclough's book "Language and Power" (1995).

1. Vocabulary
2. Grammar
3. Textual structure

Interpretation

Interpretation in this context is closely associated with the "process analysis" integrated into a specific discourse. In this regard, Fairclough addresses both the creation and reception of the text, focusing on the individuals who produce the text and those who consume it. In the three-dimensional model, the interpretation stage is connected to the text and emphasizes the significance of the textual context, as the text is shaped based on certain discourse patterns. Consequently, the primary element of the inter-textual domain is the relationship between discourse and text, allowing for the interpretation of inter-discursive and inter-textual contexts.

Explanation

In this phase of Fairclough's three-dimensional model (1995), the examination revolves around the structures and activities of social institutions. This section underscores the significance of power, control, and other communication-related activities within the social context. Furthermore, it elucidates the interaction between social practices, which include discourse, and the underlying social structures. The primary focus in this stage is to portray discourse as a societal practice and to illustrate how it is created and disseminated within society.

4. Discussion and Data Analysis

Language reflects our comprehension and gives an outline of our discernment, cognition, and judgments (Carnaghi and Maass, 2007; Collins and Clement, 2012). Language is gendered by the anthropological and ideological structures of the culture in question, and they incorporate prejudice, exploitation, unfairness, and other negative attributes. The words in the sentences serve a variety of functions to communicate the invisible meanings in them, and in this way, they communicate the target for which the writer chose the specific words. For instance, by examining the roles of the characters in the given context, it is possible to understand how the characters (participants) respond to the event narrated and what effect it has on their personality.

Text 1: The Last White Man, chapter 1, Part 1

"One morning Anders, a white man, […] deep and undeniable brown. […] darker, […] not a separate person, but was just him. […] he had changed color […] was not his at all." (Hamid, 2022, pp. 3-4).

Introduction

In the given text, there is a description of a white man who wakes up one morning and faces the transition in his skin color and he gets terrified by the sight of the dark person. He is not ready to believe what his eyes have just seen. He looks at himself through a mobile camera but does not accept that the dark man is himself. He is in a state of shock, mistrust, and disbelief.

Description

While doing a critical discourse analysis of the text, the researcher related the text and mentioned it under the primary questions highlighted in the description stage of Fairclough's (1989) three-dimensional model. The answers featuring the ten central questions of the text under study are:

Lexicalization or Ideologically Loaded Words:

"White man", "Undeniable brown", "Darker".

Choice of Mode:

Declarative

Tone:

Informing

Tense:

Past

Vocabulary:

Simple and formal

Syntactic Structures

Complex

Nominalizations

Anders

Logical Connectors

"And", "As", "Or"

Pronouns

"He", "Him"

Interpretation

In text 1, there is a description of the transition that occurs in the color of the protagonist, his skin has turned brown from white. It is an abrupt transition and is unbelievable for him to

accept. He is residing in a society where white people are privileged and blacks are treated as inferior so it is an unbelievable situation for him to accept himself as a dark person. He assumes that maybe it's his misconception or illusion and someone else might be lying there in his bed with him. The transition in his skin color shows his transformation from a superior race to a less privileged race so that is why it is difficult for him to accept the change. The society in which Anders is living has different rules for people with different skin colors. The protagonist has faced a metamorphosis but he is in a state of mistrust and is unable to accept this change.

In this text, some ideologically loaded terms carry some ideology and connotation i.e. "white man" denotes the superior race and superiority of people belonging to the white race. The word "undeniable brown" is used to show the transition of people of one race to another that is less privileged race. The word "darker" is used to show the metamorphosis of an individual and that a person who is dark in color has a different and lower status than a white person living in the same society. The mode of the text is declarative and the tone is informing.

Text 2: The Last White Man, Chapter 1, Part 1

"Anders waited [...] he had been robbed [...] the horror [...] could say he was Anders now, be Anders now, [...] his arms and his hands dark [...]." (Hamid, 2022, p. 6).

Introduction

In this text, the condition of the protagonist (Anders) of the novel is explained as he waits for the undoing of his change in skin color but when hours pass he feels that he has been robbed. He saw himself in the mirror and he did the same again and again but he felt that there was no change. All this situation was popping in his mind as a bad memory and he was frightened as well.

Description:

While doing a critical discourse analysis of the text, the researcher related the text and mentioned it under the primary questions highlighted in the description stage of Fairclough's

(1989) three-dimensional model. The answers featuring the ten central questions of the text under study are:

Lexicalization/ ideologically Loaded Words:

"Dark", "Robbed", "Theft", "Fear"

Repetition

An undoing, an undoing

Pronouns

He

Passive

He had been robbed

Negation

"Did not come", "Did not know", "Not Checking", "No escaping", "No guarantee"

Logical Connectors

"And", "So"

Modality

Would

Syntactic Structures

Complex

Vocabulary

Simple

Tense

Past

Interpretation:

In this text, the situation of Anders is described who is waiting for something good to happen but then he realizes that he has lost his identity and previous status. He is fearful that his status is no longer available to him. He just feels like everything has been taken from him and he is a prey and has lost everything. Only the skin color has changed apparently but he knows that he cannot enjoy his previous status and privileges in society because he has been demoted to an inferior race from a superior race. His fear shows how he is feeling after this metamorphosis and he knows that he is living in a racist society so it is difficult for him to move into such a society after losing his identity.

Here in this text, ideologically loaded terms are there i.e. dark which shows the race system and especially the inferior ethnicity. Robbed is there to show that the loss of whiteness is just a theft of identity and a great loss for Anders who is suffering from fear and is behaving as if he lost everything. It looks like only the skin color has changed but in reality, it is the loss of his race and his privilege, and is no longer eligible to enjoy the comfort he is enjoying before this metamorphosis. The passive tense is also used in that "he has been robbed" which shows the loss of Anders's identity, status, and privilege he is enjoying before his transitions from a white man to a dark person.

Text 3: The Last White Man, Chapter 3, Part 1

"That week Anders […] wore a hoodie, his face invisible […] he kept his hands in his pockets […] stay hidden […] flash of brown skin […] hazards of being seen." (Hamid, 2022, p. 25).

Introduction

In this text, there is a description of how the protagonist of the novel is hiding his identity just because of the fear of not being accepted in society due to his brown color. When he goes out he wears garments that can hide him from others. He is doing so to hide himself and his brown skin and is aware of the fear of being seen.

Description

While doing a critical discourse analysis of the text, the researcher related the text and mentioned it under the primary questions highlighted in the description stage of Fairclough's (1989) three-dimensional model. The answers featuring the ten central questions of the text under study are:

Lexicalization / Ideologically Loaded Words

A flash of brown skin

Logical Connectors

"And", "As|"

Pronouns

"He", "His"

Tone

Informing

Modality

"Would", "Would not"

Interpretation

Here in this text, it is clear that Anders is not comfortable with his transition and transformation into another ethnic group. He is frightened to face and move into the town. He is trying to escape and has hidden and covered himself with his clothes. He has managed in such a way that his identity could not be identifiable to others in the town. The tone of the extract is informing and he has his only visible hands that are used by him very rarely. He is escaping because he is fearful that he will not be accepted in society as a dark person. It's the fear of being not accepted that he is behaving in such a way and is trying to hide as much as he can.

After the identity loss, Anders feels nervous about moving into society so he tries to hide himself. He is doing so because he knows society will not accept him like this as he lives in a racist society. Racist societies have constructed their ideologies and dogmas to treat inferior ethnic groups. Racism is so deeply enrooted in society that they have such intolerance toward the people who used to be part of their ethnic group before their transition.

Text 4: The Last White Man, Chapter 4, Part 1

"The gym [….] stares, quick evasive stares, […] dark guy, […] been Anders […] ignore it." (Hamid, 2022, p. 37).

Introduction

In this text, there is a description of the gym and the attitude of the people at the gym toward Anders and how they are staring at Anders after the change in his skin color. They even know that this dark man is Anders but still, their stares are evidence of their discriminatory attitude towards that dark guy.

Description

While doing a critical discourse analysis of the text, the researcher related the text and mentioned it under the primary questions highlighted in the description stage of Fairclough's

(1989) three-dimensional model. The answers featuring the ten central questions of the text under study are:

Lexicalization / Ideologically Loaded Words

"Stares", "Evasive Stares", "Dark Guy"

Tense

Past

Repetition

Stares

Logical Connectors

And

Interpretation

In this text, there is a description of how Anders is being treated by the people at the gym where he works. People are making him insecure with their stares at Anders. He is trying to avoid the behavior of people but the stares are there. They even know that this dark man is the same as they knew before but their attitude is different and discriminatory. It is just because of the metamorphosis he has faced. Whites consider themselves special due to their white color they claim to be the superior people of the society. The word stare is repeatedly used in this text it shows the intensity of the attitude and behavior of the people at the gym toward Anders.

The stares are proof of the behavior that whites have toward dark people. Although they knew Anders before after a change in his skin color the same person is not treated as before. It shows the discrimination and racism prevailing in society and how they are behaving with the same person but with different skin colors. It shows the standards of society and their rules for persons belonging to different ethnic groups. Discrimination is based on the skin color a person

has it does not matter who is he. Race is given importance as an element of respect and the position of the person is also judged based on the race system.

Text 5: The Last White Man, Chapter 5, Part 1

"Ander's boss [...] killed himself [...] shooting himself [...] dark body [...] intruder, [...] a white man [...] shot a dark man [...] white man [...]." (Hamid, 2022, pp. 47-48).

Introduction

This text narrates the interaction between Anders and his boss. Anders's boss states that If he were Anders he would have killed himself or attempted suicide. After some days the news comes that a black man who once used to be a white has attempted suicide. It was impossible for him to be known as a black man or to carry the burden of blackness which is the most detestable thing for the people belonging to the white race. This incident shows excessive hatred for blackness.

Description

While doing a critical discourse analysis of the text, the researcher related the text and mentioned it under the primary questions highlighted in the description stage of Fairclough's (1989) three-dimensional model. The answers featuring the ten central questions of the text under study are:

Lexicalization / Ideologically Loaded Words

"Dark body", "Intruder", "White man", "Dark man"

Antonymy

"White man", "Dark man"

Repetition

"Dark man", "White man"

Vocabulary

Simple and formal

Logical Connectors

And

Tense

Past

Interpretation

In the above-mentioned text, there is a narration of the incident that shows excessive hatred for blackness or being black. A man who used to be a white person when changed to a dark one committed suicide. The people in the town mostly belong to the white race and consider themselves superior. They cannot bear the burden of this transition and hate the same person for being black who is transformed now. Along with the changed attitude of the people of the surroundings, the person is himself not bearing the burden of the metamorphosis. It shows the hatred of the townspeople for the black race. The terms "dark body" and "dark man" are used to portray the black race and their inferior status in society. The white man is used for the people belonging to the white race who have a superior respectable status for being white. The treatment of society for a person depends on his skin color or his ethnic group. They consider blacks as uncivilized or intruders in their town so they do not accept their people after their transformation. The hatred for blackness shows that a person in the town has committed suicide just for being a black person. It is the burden of skin color and the existence of racism in a society that is unbearable for people. The text has a repetition of the terms "dark man and white man" which are used to show that discrimination and disparities are present in society for two ethnic groups. These terms denote two different superior and inferior ethnic groups.

Text 6: The Last White Man, Chapter 7, Part 2

"At Anders [...] changed [...] whites-only gym, [...] dark man [...] tense [...] violence [...]." (Hamid, 2022, p. 71).

Introduction

This text narrates that Anders is not the only person who is changed rather other people faced metamorphosis like him. The gym where he goes is the whites-only gym but now people are transforming and changing. Ander believes that now situation will be normal but it gets worse. Tension in the gym is increasing day by day. The situation in the gym is like the people who have known each other for a long time are now acting like they don't know them it is just because of the transition in their skin color and it shows their hatred for blacks as well.

Description

While doing a critical discourse analysis of the text, the researcher related the text and mentioned it under the primary questions highlighted in the description stage of Fairclough's (1989) three-dimensional model. The answers featuring the ten central questions of the text under study are:

Lexicalization / Ideologically Loaded Words

"Changed", "Whites-only", "Dark man"

Repetition

Violence

Vocabulary

Simple and formal

Logical connectors

And

Interpretation

In this text, a narration of the gym scene shows how people belonging to the white race are neglecting the transformed individuals. Along with their skin color, their position and status in the community have also changed. They know them well when they lived as white men but after their conversion to dark men, no one accepts and recognizes the same individuals. This attitude shows the behavior of a superior race toward an inferior race. Although the individuals are the same only their skin shade is changed and society treats them differently. The gym is shown as a whites-only gym and it is evident that racial segregation is already present there. Only the people who belong to the white race have the opportunity to exercise in that particular gym because it is just for them. A dark person is there to clean the gym and is not allowed to exercise there. This shows how racial segregation is done based on color. The transformed people are those who lost their color and their privilege as well. It is not an easy task for them to survive and face society as dark persons. This discriminatory attitude is evidence of the existence of racism in society and how racism is functioning in the community.

Society has constructed its ideologies and dogmas and these are constructed by the superior ethnic group. So they being superior have the privilege of treating the inferior ethnic group (blacks) as they want to deal with them.

Text 7: The Last White Man, Chapter 8, Part2

"Anders […] militants […] clear people out, dark people, […] prepared and not prepared, but prepared as he was, […] rifle in his hands […]." (Hamid, 2022, pp. 90-91).

Introduction

In this text, there is a description of how the militants are eliminating colored individuals from the town and Anders knows about this situation. A car also comes to his house and he knows why are they coming to him and he opens the door himself but has a rifle in his hand. This shows that after having a color change the perks and privileges he was enjoying in the

society have gone now. This shows the discriminatory attitude of militants towards dark people and shows how Anders has lost his privilege along with his color, identity, and ethnicity.

Description

While doing a critical discourse analysis of the text, the researcher related the text and mentioned it under the primary questions highlighted in the description stage of Fairclough's (1995) three-dimensional model. The answers featuring the ten central questions of the text under study are:

Lexicalization / Ideologically Loaded Words

"Militants", "Dark people"

Negation

"Not prepare", "Not expecting"

Repetition

Prepared

Pronouns

"He", "Him"

Vocabulary

Simple and formal

Interpretation

In this text, there is a narration of how superior ethnic groups use armed forces to eliminate the inferior race from the community. The people who enjoyed the privilege before are now treated as culprits by the military forces. This is all due to the metamorphosis and as a result, they lost their skin color and identity. All the privileges they enjoyed were just because of their superior race and were associated with their ethnicity. With the loss of identity, they also

lost their status and respect in the community as well. Anders who is a changed person now and had status and respect in society before this metamorphosis is also suffering from this trauma, brutality, and violence. Anders is also aware of his loss of ethnicity and privilege. He knows that now he will be treated like a person from an inferior race or like an individual in a low-grade position. He also has prepared himself for this situation and has a rifle for his defense. A respectable person is now hiding like a culprit it is all due to the racial differences that exist in the community. The people who faced transformation or metamorphosis are now suffering like other dark people. It's only the skin color or ethnicity that matters in society to treat a person. One can be superior or inferior in the community just because of his ethnicity or skin color. So it is a tragedy for the people who are facing this change in skin color along with the loss of color they also lose their identity, status, position, and privilege in society. They suffer doubly and their loss is also double. Skin color loss is just one loss but the social status they enjoyed is no longer available to them. So it's a great loss for them it shows the presence of racist ideologies, racial discrimination, and the status of colored people in the society.

Text 8: The Last White Man, Chapter 15, Part 3

"*Oona's mother [...] missed being white [...] being white [....] might be white [...] probably would not be [...]. (Hamid, 2022, p. 162).*

Introduction

In this above-mentioned text, there is a narration about the missing whiteness by Oona's mother. She is missing her old days rather she is missing his daughter's whiteness and is thinking about the color of her grandchildren and is feeling sad. She is sad it shows her affection and attitude toward the white color which shows her love for her lost color and race. This shows her affiliation and affection for her lost color and the old days she has spent.

Description

While doing a critical discourse analysis of the text, the researcher related the text and mentioned it under the primary questions highlighted in the description stage of Fairclough's (1995) three-dimensional model. The answers featuring the ten central questions of the text under study are:

Tense

Past

Modality

"Might be", "Would"

Pronouns

"She", "Her", "They"

Negation

"Would not", "Not enough"

Repetition

Being white

Interpretation

In this above-mentioned text, the desire to be white is shown by the transformed people. The people who faced metamorphosis are yearning for white color because it's not a skin color for them. But their color was the symbol of their sovereignty and superiority. They yearn for their lost identity because they are missing their lost privileges and status in the town. The treatment and attitude of white people are disappointing and unbearable for them. Oona's mother is sad for his daughter and her grandmother's identity because now they have dark skin. It seems as if it's only the skin color that is misplaced but in reality, it's their social status, ethnicity, and

privilege that is departed. Due to this metamorphosis, they have to face the racial discrimination existing in society and the hatred that is present in society for colored ethnic groups. Before the metamorphosis, the same people were enjoying the privilege that is departed now along with their identity.

5. Conclusion

This research paper has investigated the portrayal of racism and privilege through linguistic patterns or choices employed by Hamid in The Last White Man (Delgado & Stefancic, 2022). The Critical Race Theory (2001) and Fairclough's (1995) Three-dimensional model is applied to examine the linguistic choices made by the author in the data collected as the theoretical framework. In the novel, Hamid has portrayed how an individual suffers in the same society just because of his skin color. The story is set in an unknown town in the USA and it shows how people of color are being treated in such a developed community.

In this study, the text is analyzed from the perspective of racism, privilege, and metamorphosis that takes place in the selected novel. Study reveals that racism exists in society and a specific social class has all the privileges while the other one is deprived of their basic rights to live in a community of Superior class. Racism is so powerful in the social system even in the contemporary period that white people have zero tolerance for colored people. Racist ideologies are the main cause of this violence, discrimination, and intolerance against blacks.

In this text effects of racism on society have been portrayed. Hamid himself faced difficulties after 9/11 in different places like airports, immigration, etc. He describes how things shape you and also talks about the rise of race. The notion of race and identity is the main idea of this text. Hamid claims that race is an imagined phenomenon and he uses the technique of magical realism in this novel.

Racism is not a biological factor rather it's a socially built ideology and dogma to suppress colored people just because of their skin color. People of the white race consider themselves a superior ethnic group while they consider blacks as savage, violent, and oppressors,

and blacks being an inferior ethnic group are also deprived of their basic rights and privileges. In the current study, the selected text has been analyzed from the perspective of Racism and it examines how blacks are confronting suffering, exploitation, discrimination, stereotyping, and segregation while residing in a white community. This study raises understanding and awareness in the public about the impacts of ideological discourses and discursive practices that are utilized in the propagation of hidden and explicit knowledge related to ideologies. These discursive practices based on various ideologies have the strength to shape the notions of people.

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