

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter contains the overall results from the previous chapters that consist of a summary of all of the analyses. Moreover, this chapter also recommends for future related research theoretically and practically.

5.1 Conclusion

A Jazzman's Blues (2022) explores the causes of Leanne Harper's double consciousness, which stems from her own experiences and the environment she lives in. The movie highlights the oppression, discrimination, and segregation faced by African Americans during the early 20th century, particularly during the Jim Crow laws. The film depicts the racism experienced by Black Americans, such as Jackson, the sheriff of Hopewell County, who discriminates against Bayou due to his darker skin color. This racism is a result of the environment around him and also from Margaret, Jackson's wife, who expresses her hatred towards Black people.

Institutionalized racism is another significant factor in the movie, as it is the oppression of one race by political, economic, or legal institutions. The setting of the movie, set in 1937-1947, is a significant part of this issue. Jim Crow laws, which separated Black people from White Americans, are depicted in the movie, as well as the poor living conditions of African Americans. The movie also highlights the economic inequalities between African Americans and White Americans, as they struggle to afford decent health treatment.

The second type of racism is intra-racial racism, which Leanne herself engages in. She uses her lighter skin to escape the racism her fellow characters have faced, leading to positive social life and economic advantages. However, this act raises negative responses from other African American characters, such as Citsy, who is jealous of Leanne's ability to escape the misfortunes of being a Black American. Hattie Mae, on the other hand, believes that Leanne is hurting the Black people by pretending to be a White American with her lighter skin tone.

The movie also highlights the forced migration Leanne undergoes, both from Summerville to Boston with her mother and from Boston to Hopewell County, where the new environment consisted mostly of White Americans. This forced migration creates two contrasting self-consciousness within herself. Leanne's double consciousness is evident through her power abuse towards Citsy, fearing her baby would turn darker due to her relationship with Bayou, and her unconsciously defending Black people from other White American characters.

Leanne's double consciousness is a phenomenon that coincides with other phenomena called mimicry and unhomeliness. Mimicry involves colonized people imitating the colonizer's style of dress, lifestyle, and speech, often leading to ambivalence and a balanced side for both cultures. Leanne's example is her employer treating black employees well, and her attempt to protect herself by disguised as a white person and marrying a wealthy man. Leanne's mimicry is evident in her hairstyle, which changes from curly to wavy, a symbol of movement and freedom for African Americans. Her double consciousness also leads to her mixing AAVE with English, a language used by White Americans in the early 20th century. This mixed-up language caused Bayou to react negatively, implying she sounds like one of the White folks.

Leanne's lifestyle after her marriage is also a manifestation of her double consciousness. She uses a small and expensive car, which implies that she does not have to worry about discrimination because she is known as a White American. Unhomeliness, on the other hand, is a feeling of being caught between two cultures where none of them feels like home. Leanne's identity crisis arises due to her double consciousness, and she struggles to adapt to her husband's home in Hopewell County.

In short, *A Jazzman's Blues* (2022) skillfully explores Leanne Harper's double consciousness, rooted in personal experiences and societal dynamics. The film vividly portrays the racial struggles faced by African Americans during the Jim Crow era, exemplifying institutionalized racism. Leanne's engagement in intra-racial racism and

her forced migrations add layers to her internal conflicts and power dynamics. The movie masterfully weaves these themes with mimicry and unhomeliness, depicting Leanne's attempts to navigate between cultures and the profound sense of displacement she experiences. In essence, the film offers a poignant commentary on racial identity, societal challenges, and the enduring impact of systemic oppression on individual psyche.

5.2 Suggestion

Based on the discussion, results, and conclusion from above, there are some suggestions regarding the future research. The researcher suggests to:

1. Use another theory such as psychoanalysis or socio to be able to compare double consciousness in other approaches.
2. For future research about *A Jazzman's Blues* (2022), the researcher can use hybridity as the main theory to explore more topics lay in the movie.

