CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

The writer chooses *The Book of Night Women* with Lilith as the main character as the subject for the thesis entitled *Racism in Marlon James’ The Book of Night Women*. The writer selects this issue because she finds that there are a lot of practices of racism which happened in this novel. Racism occurs because of chattel slavery. Blacks as slaves are like goods. They are traded and treated inhumanely. There are many forms of racism that exist in this novel, that are white privilege, prejudice, discrimination and segregation.

White privilege system makes Whites feel very superior among other races. They got it as a gift from God so that they behave arbitrarily towards slaves. They consider the Black race is the worst race so that they are free to do the persecution against them. From the system of white privilege, raise the racial prejudice. They believe in something without seeing the truth of what happened. They assume if the criminal act certainly is Blacks. They do not seek the truth before, they accused and punish at will. Much violence has been experienced by Blacks, they get physical and mental violence. The violence happens in the form of the whipping, kicking, sexual abuse and insults. Not only violence, blacks also experienced segregation. They live in huts made of mud and in the cellar. They did not get the room to sleep soundly. The right to live together with the family was gone.
Lilith as the main character in the novel, she is a black girl who experience violence even from her birth. Her mother died after giving birth to her. She was born orphaned and slave because she was born from a slave who was raped by her overseer. When she was 14 years old, she was sent to work as a slave. Much violence has happened to her. Many wounds she got from whipping. She is often viewed and treated cruelly than Whites, she lived in an environment of violence. So, she changed into a black woman who dared to revolt and she became dark. Not only she is dark of her skin but also her soul. She has killed many whites. In fact, she forgot how many people are dead because of her. She joined the night women to revolt to be free. She stuck a forbidden love to a white that is Quinn, her overseer. This confused her, she may not love the man who had whipped her. Until then, the uprising occurred. However, Lilith still has the humanity to help her father and also Massa Isobel. This is done because after all Jack Wilkins was her father and never abused her. She saved Isobel because she wanted to atone for her guilt that had killed the entire Isobel’s family.

In this novel there are many forms of racism that occurred. Whites discriminate against Blacks. They behave as they pleased. They claimed the rights of Blacks. Due to that, the effects of racism could change attitudes and soul like what happen to Lilith.