

Discrimination and Racism in Kennedy's *The Funnyhouse of a Negro*, Fugard's "*Master Harold*" ...and the Boys, Albee's *The Death of Bessie Smith*, and in *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker.

By

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Abstract

This study focuses on Discrimination and Racism as represented in Kennedy's *The Funny House of a Negro*, Fugard's "*Master Harold*" ...And *The Boys*, Albee's *The Death of Bessie Smith*, and in *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker. Some of these works like *The Death of Bessie Smith* and "*Master Harold*" ...And *The Boys* are based on reality and some of them, that describe the suffering of reality, are based on imagination. Despite the different nationalities of the writers and their different origins, they all share an unpleasant reality that led them to write these works.

Through the events of their literary works, the works of the aforementioned writers criminalize discrimination, both racial and sexual. My dissertation studies how the racist policies in America and South Africa lead to violence, alienation, classism, apartheid, loss of dignity, disappointment, deprivation, poverty, humiliation, shame, loss, and identity crisis, as depicted in the literary works approached by my thesis. Therefore, this paper, highlights the practices of oppressive state institutions, and the effects that follow such practices. The dominant powers tend to impose ideologies that are compatible with their interests in order to strengthen their position. Therefore, this research clarifies how such ideologies lead to classify people as superiors and subordinates according to several factors, among which and most notably, skin colour and gender. Accordingly, it shows how difficult it is to move from one social level to another in such societies.

Keywords: Racism, racial discrimination, gender discrimination, marginalization, subordination, supremacy, Apartheid, patriarchy, alienation, and identity crisis.