



Journal of

**STEPS**

for Humanities and Social Sciences

Volume 1 | Issue 2

Article 40

## The History of Racism in America

Ansam Riyadh Abdullah  
*University of Tikrit, Iraq*

Linda Najim Abdullah  
*University of Tikrit, Iraq, lindan@st.tu.edu.iq*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://www.steps-journal.com/jshss>



Part of the [Arts and Humanities Commons](#), [Business Commons](#), [Education Commons](#), [Law Commons](#), and the [Political Science Commons](#)

### Recommended Citation

Abdullah, Ansam Riyadh and Abdullah, Linda Najim (2022) "The History of Racism in America," *Journal of STEPS for Humanities and Social Sciences*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 2 , Article 40.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.55384/2790-4237.1050>

This Original Study is brought to you for free and open access by Journal of STEPS for Humanities and Social Sciences (STEPS). It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of STEPS for Humanities and Social Sciences by an authorized editor of Journal of STEPS for Humanities and Social Sciences (STEPS).

## The History of Racism in America

\*Prof. Dr Ansam Riyadh Abdullah, English Department, College of Education for Women, University of Tikrit, Iraq

Linda Najim Abdullah, English Department, College of Education for Women, University of Tikrit, Iraq

---

تاريخ القبول: 2022/06/24

تاريخ الاستلام: 2022/04/21

---

### Abstract

This research assumes that prejudice and racism is a malady that is inherited in the white American society... It is mirrored throughout many literary works written by American, Latin, African and Asian writers. The study sakes to introduce epitomized reconnaissance and systematize the history of racism and racial discrimination in the United States from the initial years of its constitution to its recent history in light of the texts and events of August Wilson's play " Fences" and applying critical race theory. Racism is the persecution ,oppression, dehumanizing ,underestimating and subjection of human beings on the basis of their social construction , colour ,ethnicity and race .It may be acted in different shapes including abuses ,beliefs ,behaviours and verbal attacks against a group of minority .Racism also involves oppressive and hostile obstacles that prevent people from maintaining their dignity and being equal to other groups of superiority due to the national origin or colour skin of this minority .This studies reveals the first inceptions of racism in the United States since the first slave was brought up to America from Africa .This study introduces first an s introduction on racism in general and in America in particular then and explains the most basic forms of racism in America then it introduces chronologically the stages and development of racism in America as a policy of its successive governments and a strategy of its white racial citizens all over the short history of this Nation then it presents the racism in America in the16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> century ,18<sup>th</sup> century,19<sup>th</sup> century, and finally in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. At the end the study tamps with a brief conclusion of the destructive consequences and effects of racism on the human beings and that race is imposed and invented basically by white people.

**Keywords:** Racism, Afro-American, Discrimination, CRT.

<https://doi.org/10.55384/2790-4237.1050>

2790-4237/© 2022 Golden STEPS Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC-BY-NC-ND license.

(<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>)

## Introduction

Racism like many other issues in the world has to endure developments and evolution. It has a new forms and new titles. Modern racism has nothing to do with the old ways of slavery and persecution and despite the continuous and increasing condemnation, campaigns, revolutions, international conferences, the various literary works against racism and the artificial and dummy claims and slogans of the leaders and rulers of the superpower nations including Britain, China, The United States of America, France, Russia and other countries. The United States where the Statue of Liberty is standing under the name "Liberty Enlightening the World", who always claims that they had curbed and eradicated all forms of discrimination and racism. In fact, no one could dare to say that racial discrimination and racism had been rooted out. Instead racism is continuously developing throughout occupying new shapes, idioms, and dimensions. The racism and racial discrimination are no longer correspondent with the inherited biology, race or ethnicity. It is too fair to say that modern racism is the one without racists, or active figures who are clear of awareness. All political regimes claim to establish formal equality and justice among the different races though they carry out their policies by procedures that involve hidden oppression, racial discrimination, modern and cryptic prejudice like for example racism at workplace, pandemics, vacations, health care, education and traditional social media.

## What is Racism

"Racism "as a term was depicted in the 1930s, mainly as a reaction to the Nazi project to make Germany 'clean of Jews'. The Nazi believed that Jews formed a distinct race that caused a threat and danger to the race of Aryan which authentic Germans supposed to be belonged (Rattans, 2007)

Racism is a feeling of hatred and superiority directed to a person or a group of community because of colour, national origin or ethnicity. Many people think that racism is associated with acts of harassments and abuses but in fact modern racism does not need to involve intimidating behaviours or clear violent.

"It is the systemized terror and segregation that equates skin colour and identity" (Sunni mark, 2004).

It is a structure that is a network of social relations at social political economic and ideological levels that shapes the life chances of various races (Bonilla Silva 2014). It may portrayed in through verbal harassment, jokes, or racial names calling or through excluding people from certain public places or workplaces due to their colour or nationality. Racism can also be portrayed through opinions, behaviours of people. It can also be shown in official institutions, public places, and even in parliamentary legislations and amendments. However racism is not

often explicit but it may be hidden and implied ,to name just a few examples ,in schools, universities ,and in applications for careers and promotions where people are treated and dealt with according to their social position and surnames .Not only blacks and other people of colour are treated racially but also white people are affected by racism when dealt with racially when they are constituting minority in certain community .Racism is very sensitive, serious and dangerous issue in this world and it created a problem many centuries ago.

### **Racism and its Forms**

Racial segregation and racism is the most terrible , destructive feeling that an individual or a group of people could suffer and endure and the most passive feeling that leads someone to be frustrated .It is the ugliest act which is inherited and deeply rooted within the human nature intentionally or unintentionally ,consciously or unconsciously .Racism could be interpreted through a hostile act or even belief that may lead to a sharp dehumanization and underestimating individual or minority of people who is native like the Indian Americans or emigrants like the Asian Americans .It implies a subversive feeling that a specific entity is superior and more elevated than the others and tries to create the impression that this entity is the most worthy of love ,respect properly treatment ,loyalty and that this superior group of people owns the right to control and determine the destinies and lives of other people.

Racism describes any kind of hostility or offensiveness on the basis of race, culture, nationality, religion, or other kinds of belongings'(Kundnan,2007). In America racism is considered as a system of, exploitation, power, and ignorance used to oppress black Americans, Asian Americans s, Latino, Indians, Pacific Americans and other people depending on ethnicity, mannerisms, culture and colour.

The meaning of racism cannot be comprehended without distinguishing it from prejudice and discrimination.

“Discrimination is action based on prejudice. These actions include ignoring, exclusion, threats, ridicule, slander, and violence”(Diangelo,2018,).

."Prejudice is pre-judgment about another person based on the social groups to which that person belongs. (Ibid))."Prejudice is a preconceived judgment or opinion, usually based on limited information. (Tatum ,20017).

prejudice is very negative characteristic that is rooted inside the human nature and no one can be get rid it and if any person tries to claim that he is not practice prejudice, he is ironically appearing a situation of self-awareness and also showing the socialization s power. (Diangelo,2018).

Racism for most white people is the output of power and prejudice; therefore, some white folks claim that they are far of being racist as they don't possess a power, but the truth is not, because such people are really truthful and honest with themselves, they could easily recognize how they lucky they are and beneficiary of having a white complexion in a nation like the United States despite the anti-racism slogans and the political discourse. The idiomatic utilities and interests of being white are generally identified in the connotation" White privilege ". (Tatum,2017)).

### **The History of Racism in America**

Despite that the United States built on the rubric all people without any exception have equal birth but the fact is that it was constituted basically on the policy and strategy of genocide of the regional people and depredation their lands, then America blossomed and flourished economically, on the accounts of the Africans labours who were enslaved mercilessly. In the United States racism is formed since its birth. Racism increased hastily and skilfully to be the efficient instrument of the monstrosity and the new continent of the European migrators who settled in the east shore of the new land after 1600. The story of race and racism in America began in 1661 when the first African reached from the Africa to the new land in Virginia and in 1619 a Portuguese boat with nineteen slaves Came from Angola , south of Africa to Virginia to work in the farms of tobacco there .The procedures of employing blacks was continued and developed .According to the legislation of Virginia in 1662 that identified that the situation of the African child pursued the situation of its mother which meant that the enslaved mother gave birth generations of black babies who were considered as commodities who were submitted to ,exploited ,sold and bought. The black emigrants endured a lot. The history reveals that those African were dealt with either as servants or slaves who can have their freedom only if that they convert their religion to Christianity or if they work for their lords for one year. In the initial formation of the American colonies the exploitation and oppression of black people as slaves increased firmly .The law that associated with slavery developed rapidly for the purpose of achieving and fulfilling the expectations and needs of the white settlers .They were aiming to institute their territorial invasion with the simple and minimum expenditures .While slaves multiplied in numbers, the makers of the laws of the colonies sensed the demand to adjust the situations and terms of slavery without regarding the rights of slaves for contracting or owning any property and refusing their civil rights.(Higgintham,2013,).

In all circumstances weather those African people were regarded as or servants or slaves ,it is easily to see how mercilessly they were dehumanized as there was no any other choice and even if they fulfil the conditions ,there will be many

restrictions and obstacles in front of their lords to sign for their freedom were full of oppression, intolerance and prejudice because converting to Christianity is one way to forget everything associated to their heritage, roots, culture and identity. The second condition involves to work, suffer and struggle for not less than one year forgetting anything about their human feelings and dignity. Above all it is considerable to be mentioned that though these conditions were inhuman and oppressive but they were regarded as the best choices for them during the history of slavery because with the increasing of slaves number in America the white Americans called for new ideologies and mechanisms to fulfil their expectations denying any human rights, feelings, and dignity; therefore the laws of the colonies altered to suit and meet the interests and utilities of whites and in case that any slave dreams to get his freedom he should please and have the approval of his lord which is depended and conditioned on a very complicated and abusive procedures.

Black people were exploited and treated mercilessly by the whites. They were considered no more than baggage to be bought or sold in return for some articles having no any civil or human rights.

The exploitation and using slaves in the southern colonies in America was very clear and indispensable because they were mainly relying on them to work in their plantations and fields of cotton, tobacco, and rice while the small fields in the north were not in need for large numbers of workers since their plantations were not as wide as those in the south; therefore they could be run by the members of the family and for the slaves in the middle colonies, they mainly worked in ports, loading and unloading of goods. Gradually slavery turned to be institutionalized and based on race. The native citizens in America who were treated as slaves and they were sold to the owners of the farms in the areas of West Indies but for the African slaves were typically imported in what used to be called the Triangle Trade which linked between the Americas, West Africa and Europe.

The concept "race" is not modern. It is used since the breakdown of the sixteenth century to distinguish groups of people who share a kinship. The terms "slave", "white", and "race" were and developed and grown by the European in the 1400s, they took these terms with them in their migration to America but the recent application of the concept race is considerably different as it is used to identify people on the basis of certain features which are basically, genetic heredity, skinned colour in addition to physical characteristics, but biologically the term "race" is not suitable.

"White" first appeared in colonial law in the late 1600s. By 1790, people were asked to claim their race on the census and by 1826, the perceived degrees of

blood determined who would be classified as Indians. From the late 1800 through the early twentieth century, as waves of immigrants entered the United States, the concept of white race was solidified”” (Ibid.).

The concept “race “is not modern .It is used since the beginning of the sixteenth century to describe a group of people who share a kinship .The terms' ”slave” "white ”,and "race" were developed and grown by the European in the 1400s ,they took these terms with them in their migration to America but the recent application of the concept race is considerably different as it is used to identify people on the basis of certain features which are basically colour skin ,genetic heredity besides physical features but biologically the word race is not suitable .

“The term “White "first adopted in colonial legislation in the late 1600s.After 1790, people were asked to mention their race in the census of 1826”” (Diangelo,2018).

Though there are clearly biological and genetic differences among races like, eye shape ,hair texture and skin colour in addition to traits like ,mathematical ability and athleticism ,sexuality is constructed socially and not biologically and all the features like hair texture or skinned colour are regarded superficial and external which associated and affected with the geographical adaptations .(Ibid.) and the concept “ people of colour” is not reveal or identified biological features and never links to scientific characteristics .People of colour are those who undergone the experience of iniquity and oppression and racism that basically work on remaining people of colour isolated and divided .Huge number of people believe only of their ethnic or racial group when dealing with inequity or the importance to construct their political power without giving any necessity to the need to construct relationships with the rest categories of colour .Great number of people think only of their own racial or ethnic group when discussing inequity or the necessity to build their political power neglecting the need to build connections with the rest denominations of colour .

### **Racism in America in the 18th century**

In the beginning of the 18th century there was a declination to be in harmoniously and adaptation with the nature and that influenced and increased the concept of rationality and race .They had have classificatory manner and concentrated on subjects that questioned whether all human beings were returning to one species .There were many significant and influential classificatory systems in the 18th century particularly the system by the scientists” Swedish Carl Linnaeus “in his book "System Nature " in which he brilliantly classified creatures into animals and planets then he classified humans as part of the animals category then he sub divided humans into four sorts:

1-Americans (red, erect and choleric).

2-Asians: (yellow, inflexible and melancholic).

3-European:( as white and the other kind are muscular)

4--African (as phlegmatic and the other sort is indulgent)

At the time when Linnaeus had done this kind of classification, there was no importance to the idea of race but his assortment is built on a type of judgment that was considered evaluative. The two significant philosophers and scientists of the 18th century were David Hume and Immanuel Kant. they classified human beings by evaluating the moral and intellectual worth relying on the principle of colour skin. Emmanuel Kant claimed that the group of negroes are subordinate to the whites naturally, and that the sort of whites is the only elevated civilized and urban race in this world on the contrary of the other complexions races who are not civilized (Rattansi 2007)).

The policy of the United States which is entirely classificatory kept on its ideology and the classification's system of people according to their races before the civil war regarded the white as superior ,outstanding and the most deserving of political and economic rights .The American's classificatory system was adopted as they claimed , for not enslaving people and to free them instead .According to this classificatory system American people was categorized into three classes : White, Black, Indian Americans and mulatto(Higginbotham,2013,).

Despite the American scientists and philosophers claimed that their goal of this distributary system was only to sort people for the sake of their liberty and freedom but how sarcastic and ridiculous this system was! since procedures and mechanisms were full of hierarchical classification and discrimination as the White American people on the top of the pyramid while mulatto and black Americans were down the pyramid .The ambivalence and duplicity of the American policy all over its short history in addition to the obvious manipulation and trickery in the caused and motivations of the stream of events is the most diacritical feature of the its political system.

The Virginia legislature in 1705 barred criminals, blacks, mulattos and Indian Americans, criminals from holding any ecclesiastical, military, or civil, office, or of being in any position of public trust power "(Ibid).).

The term white in the 18th century was referred to any individual who has no any African or Indian blood drop (David,1999).

John Solomon and Martin. X believe that aesthetics and Science alternatively influenced each other. To a great deal, the scientific attempt was directed toward



adopting method distributing human races in classificatory way depending on their nature and location and the effect of the environment (Blumer 2003).

here was, however, something theoretical and unworldly about the French discussions of black ugliness and stupidity. At times members of the society advocated, in all seriousness, the crossbreeding of colonial whites and blacks as a way of improving the latter. Mulattoes, it was asserted, were scarcely if at all inferior to whites. Nothing could have been more remote from the phobias that characterized North Americans attitudes toward the prospect of intermarriage with people of African ancestry (Fredrickson 67).

### **Racism in America in the 19th century**

“The classificatory system “of ranking human race continued and developed in the 19th century. Many ,anthropologists ,scientists and thinkers contributed in developing that system like the anthropologist , philosopher and scientist ;W. Winnowed Reed , who published in 1846 ,his book the "Savage Africa ",in this book he introduced his racial predictions that is filled with genocide intentions and expectations when he said that Britain and France would dominate and control Africa and the African people will drill the moats and would equip the deserts with water and that mission would be very difficult and because of that the Africans would possibly be extinct .He mentioned the beneficences rule which is part of the “ the law of nature “ adding that the weak people must be devoured and preyed on at the hands of those who are strong.(David ,1999).)

“In the 19th century there emerged a whole range of theories that explained all human variation on the basis of innate racial characteristics” (Rattansi, 2007).

Most views of the scientists of race in the 19th century are united by many assumptions ,including the theories of the scientist Robert Knox who wrote in his book “The Races of Men” published in 1850 that “race is everything “ and the French scientist Count Arthur de Gatineau in his essay published in 1854”Essay on the Inequality of Human Races “;these assumptions identified firstly ,that human beings could be classified into finite number of permanent and distinct races .Secondly, there were notable physical features that characterized the various races mainly skin colour ,texture of hair, shape and size of skulls ,and facial features .Thirdly ,that every race innately related to notable social features ,moral and cultural traits Fourthly ,that those races could be grouped hierarchy of beauty ,latent ,with white people at the top while black people at the bottom(Ibid)).

Darwin published his famous theory in 1859 on the sources of species. He documented the process of evolution and explained his beliefs and views of order of nature and its relation with the evolution of spices. He wrote his view that the weak species dies while the strong one survives.

Despite the fact that Darwin 's theory of evolution is not racist, many social thinkers and scientists employed this theory in pseudoscientific policy to justify their disgusting aims of genocide and racial discrimination. This method of thinking that had merciless inclusions and connotations is called later "Special Darwinism"(Rogers 1999).

The scientist Fredric Farrer presented in 1866 his lecture entitled "Aptitude of Races "which he distributed and ranked races under three denominations: "Savage" involves: indigenous African and Asian people excluding Chinese. "Semi-civilized "involves Chinese people and finally "Civilized "which includes Aryan, European, and Semitic people. (Ibid).

### **Racism in America in the 20th century**

Racism acts in America started to have new forms and directions. It is rooted out in the minds and beliefs of new generations and filled many sides of life even the idea of aesthetic was linked deeply with whiteness and ugliness was linked with blackness to create this impression in the minds of generations. Since the formal emancipation of racism was declared in America in 1865 with the exception of criminals which produced a legal gap that permitted for exploitation black people under the title of law which caused to arrest many African Americans for unmentionable reasons like meandering and above all after arresting those black peoples were forced to work for reconstruction and refreshing the American economy and building the country .Despite law of abolishing slavery in the United States in the nineteenth century but in fact racial discrimination was not substantially cancelled instead another form of racism was starting to appear which is more subtle , more tricky and more dangerous than the old form.

White American art and literature ,mass media ,and cinema was introducing passive and negative stereotypes of Africans and other people of colour and they we depicted as savage predators ,thieves and dangerous criminals .Great number of American movies tried to demonstrate the dangerous consequences and effects of liberation the blacks .Most of those films give the impression of social justice and democracy ,but they could not disguise the implied and hidden racism against Blacks portraying them as serious danger and threats for the white women .Jim Crew Laws

### **Jim Crew Laws**

"Jim Crow laws discriminated whites from blacks in schools' public transportation, universities, hospitals, restaurants orphanages, public places and even death doesn't finish did not this segregation. Black people had isolated funeral homes and even separate cemeteries (Fremon,2000).

"The term "Jim Crow" refers to a series laws and ordinances passed by Southern states and municipalities between 1877 and 1965 legalizing segregation (the physical separation of individuals based on race, gender, religion, or class) within their boundaries. It also refers to " an entire way of life in which whites and blacks lived in two vastly unequal communities in the South. One of them—the white— had all the power, wealth, and privileges while the other—the black—faced daily, seemingly unending incidents of terror and humiliation, with hardly any freedom, very little wealth, and absolutely no justice."(Tischauer,2012).

After 1920 African American began their decampment to the large and industrial cities to compensate the shortage of employees. The scenario of discrimination and segregation didn't and rather blacks and other people of minority continued to suffer and struggle. They encountered exclusion and discrimination in every aspect of life particularly in getting opportunities for work and also in their political, social rights, including and the right of vote chiefly in the southern states.

"The inequitable treatment of blacks in public accommodations, housing, employment, government services, and criminal justice. This inequitable treatment, in turn, further separated blacks and made them easier targets for continued victimization, propelling the cycle of inequality. The open, systematic separation of blacks would come to be known as "Jim Crow," and it flourished insidiously throughout the 20th century"(Higgingbotham,2013).

This isolation gave opportunity to the realization superiority of whites in return to strength the impression of the inferiority of blacks. Additionally racial segregation facilities and legitimized separation victimized the blacks. The whites achieved this policy in successful way throughout racial profiling, racial decisions and race -neutral acts including drug laws, sentencing and crack cocaine. All these acts disproportionately affected blacks causing excessive rates of improvement and suppression especially concerning the Vote identification laws.

### **Modern Shapes of Racism**

In the United States of America, three major frames of racism can be identified according to the its reasons, experiences and motives into three main forms which are unified in their bias of dehumanization and oppression against African Americans and other minorities:1-Individual racism 2-Cultural racism 3-Institutional racism.

Individual racism is associated with international and unintentional practices of discrimination and racial acts white people point against

blocks and other groups of colours due to their emotional intellectual cultural and social superiority. This shape of racism is corollary or individually practiced against blacks and other minority groups. Though, people view themselves remote from being racist and aggressive and often practice discrimination and prejudice in subtle and hidden ways Unlike, more aversive, explicit those racists, attribute their prejudice and biases to non-racial elements.

“Systemic racism” or “institutional racism”, points to “how ideas of white superiority are captured in everyday thinking at a systems level: taking in the big picture of how society operates, rather than looking at one-on-one interactions” (O Dowd).

Not long after the WWII, the well- known and old-fashioned forms of racism that depend on a limited biological opinion of race and ethnicity, became unacceptable, odd and shameful thing in North America and Europe, as a result new shapes of racism appear that take legal measures and legitimate coverage in multiple fields in the society and are classified generally the as “Institutional racism”

“The struggle to recognize institutional racism can be understood as part of a wider struggle to recognize that all forms of power, inequality, and domination are systematic rather than individual” (Ahmed ,2012).

Cultural racism occurs when white values, principles and cultural phenomena are depicted and been preferable and superior in literature, and reflected in art, standards of beauty music, religion and other aspects that are regarded cultural norms, and when the norms, culture and heritage of black people are neglected, distorted, dismissed, minimized and erased (Constantine 2006).

### **Racism in light of August Wilson’s “Fences “.**

In this research, racism is tackled according to critical race theory in August Wilson’s “Fences “.

"Critical race theory (CRT) is an approach to studying U.S. policies and institutions that is most often taught in law schools"(Borter)

Critical race theory is built on the principles of two preceding movements ,radical feminism and critical legal to both of them ,it was a great debt as well as to the influence of European theories and philosophers like Antonio Grams i, Jacques Derrida and Michel Foucault ,in addition to the American radical tradition such as Martin Luther King jr.,Sojourner Truth ,W .E .B .Du Bois, Frederick Douglas and Cesar Chavez .It also based on the insights of Chicano and the Black Power that had emerged in 1960d and the beginning of 1970s(Delgado 19).

The theory is based on the assumption that racial-bias, being intentional or not is penetrating within the laws and institutions of the United States. Black Americans for instance are jailed at rates that are much higher than whites or any other group of racial certain race, and the theory calls for the scrutiny of the offender role of the justice system (Borter).

Racism now is patronised through policy, law and practices more than in individual discrimination, prejudice or bias.

According to critical race theory I try to reveal aspects of racism from the point of view of the theorists Delgado and Stefancic who believe that racism is reflected throughout the following tenets:

1-Everyday racism is common, ordinary expo for people of colour in the United States.

2-Racism is largely the result of interest convergence, sometimes referred to as material determinism.

3-Race is socially constructed.

4-Racism often takes the form of differential radicalisation.

5- Everyone's identity is a product of intersectionality.

6-The experiences of racial minorities have given them what might be called a unique voice of colour (Tyson 352,353).

Critical race theorists are different in their opinions concerning these tenets, however understanding these six tenets will be very useful means to comprehending the critical race theory.

In this research I try to apply the tenets of critical race theory on chosen dialogues from August Wilson's "Fences" to reveal how racism is reflected in America throughout this play.

Troy: I ain't worried about them firing me. They gonna fire me because I asked a question? That's all I did. I went to Mr. Rand and asked him, —why? || Why you got the white men driving and the coloured lifting? || Told him, —what's the matter, don't I count? You think only white fellows got sense enough to drive a truck. How come you got all whites driving and the coloured lifting? He told me —take it to the union. || Well, hell, that's what I done! (Fences, 2-3)

According to the doctrine of critical race theory that are identified by Delgado and Stefancic, "Racism is largely the result of interest convergence, sometimes referred to as material determinism" (Tyson 352).

Troy complains the inequality in the distribution of missions in the garbage company disappointed by the general policy of racial suspicion. As active labourer in his company Troy wants to have equal treatment; therefore, he rebels against the common fact that only white labourers are located in the places of driving the truck, but blacks are assigned only to lift the garbage.

Bono: I hear you well it. Me and Lucille was staying down there on Logan Street. Had two rooms with the outhouse in the back. L isn't minding the outhouse none. But when that goddamn wind blew through there in the winter. that's why I'm talking about! To this day I wonder why in the hell I ever started down there for six long years. But see, I didn't know I could do no better. I thought only white folks had inside toilets and things (Wilson 7)

Bono spent his life on Logan Street because he is content that he hadn't have any other choices since he believed that unless you were white, you would not get rid of poverty and this is accorded with the tenet of critical race theory which is identified by Delgado and Stefancic that "Everyday racism is a common, ordinary experience for people of colour in the United States "(Tyson 352).

"And members of minority groups frequently encounter a lack of common civility from their white fellow Americans-they are ignored, they see white people grimace or roll their eyes, they overhear sarcastic comments made at their expense "(Ibid: 353).

Rose: Cory done went and got recruited by a college Football team.

Troy: I said that boy about that football stuff. The White man ain't gonna let him get nowhere with That football. I told him when he first come to me with it. Now you come telling me he done went and got more tied up in it. He ought to go and get Recruited in how to fix cars or something where he Can make a living.

Rose: He ain't talking about making no living playing Football. It's just something the boys in school Do. They are going to send a recruiter by to talk to you. He'll tell you he ain't talking about making no Living playing football. It's an honour to be recruited.

Troy: It ain't gonna get him nowhere. Bono' ll tell you That (Wilson :8).

Troy wants his son Cory to stay at his job at A&P, in order to help the family in their living ,Troy doesn't want his son to join the football team because he doesn't want Cory to pass the same experience of pain and failure as he did in the past .He wants to protect Cory ;therefore he refuses to sign the recruiter form of Cory .Troy painful experience in baseball's league of excluding him merely because of his black skin ;therefore As former player in baseball's Il League, Troy considers his life as a big failure, because the racial discrimination in American

institutions did not give him any opportunity to express his performances and introduce his status as skilled and talented athlete. Being so frustrated and disappointed, he is not ready to expose his son to the same offense form that would

I done seen a hundred niggers play baseball better than Jackie Robinson. Hell, I know some teams Jackie Robinson couldn't even make! What you talking about Jackie Robinson. Jackie Robinson wasn't nobody. I'm talking about if you could play ball then they ought to have let you play. Don't care what colour you were. Come telling me I come along too early. If you could play ... then they ought to have let you play. (Wilson, 10).

Troy's proscription from baseball league is embedded in the institutionalized racism which is aided by a number of the laws of. that are imposing racial segregation on black -Americans.

Troy distorted both white and black players of baseball in this scene. More than two decades have gone since the time of Troy banning to participate in the white league but now black players are able to play as professional players after the cancellation of Jim Crow Laws. One of those plays is, Jackie Robinson who was the first black -American who permitted to play in the Major League. He points out to his own great skill which he was not allowed to participate in the professional league. Likewise, Troy does not permit his son to play football because he believes that no important change has happened in the American community. When he was a young man, Troy dreams to be a professional player in the Major League and he has always believed about the possibility of success in a nation that is regarded as the country of equal opportunities and a land of civil rights; therefore, he struggles to develop his talent and well practice to achieve his dream.

But, the fears of slavery are not recovered even after its cancellation. His black colour keeps him far from the achievement of his dream in a community in which its policies generalize the false faith of the American Dream which remain unattainable for blacks and other people of colour and this according to Delgado and Stefanic is go on with the tenets of critical race theory that "Racism often takes the form of different rationalization"(Tyson 352).

Troy: ... I went down to see Herzbether about some furniture. Got three rooms for two ninety-eight. That what it says on the radio. ... Go down there ... man tell me I can't get no credit. I'm working every day and can't get no credit. What to do? ... Cory ain't got no bed. He's sleeping on a pile of rags on the floor. Working every day can't get no credit. ... Come a knock on the door. Ain't been living here but three days. Who know I'm here? Open the door ... devil standing there bigger than life. White fellow ... got on good clothes and everything. Standing there with



a clipboard in his hand. First words come out of his mouth was ... "I understand you need some furniture and can't get no credit." I liked to fell over. He says "I'll give you all the credit you want, but you got to pay the interest on it." I told him, "Give me three rooms worth and charge whatever you want." Next day a truck pulled up here and two men unloaded them three rooms. Man, what drove the truck give me a book and everything will be all right. Say send ten dollars, first of every month to the address in the book and everything will be all right. Say if I miss a payment the devil was coming back and it'll be hell to pay. That was fifteen years ago. To this day ... the first of the month I send my ten dollars, ... I ain't never seen that man since. Now you tell me who else that could have been but the devil? I ain't sold my soul or nothing like that, you understand. ... (15).

Troy goes to Herzbether to buy some furniture and when he got there they told him that he can't get any credit to buy furniture though he is hard labourer and there is no real reason for that rather than his dark colour .Wilson uses "Death" as metaphor for life .Troy "wrestling with Death "is identical to his struggling and suffering with his real life around him especially at the company he works in ,he is hard and active labourer ,yet, he cannot gain any promotion only because of his colour and though he is skilful and talented ,Troy could not be given the opportunity to play basketball with the main leagues for the same reason.

Wilson then refers to the white man as "Devil", who sells furniture which Troy pays for every month and if Troy miss to pay one payment he will be pitilessly punished by the white man.

According to the tenet of critical race theory identified by Delgado and Stefancic that: "Racism is largely the result of interest convergences, sometimes referred to as material determinism"(Tyson 352).

Studies reveal that Latinos and blacks who seek jobs, apartments and loans are much more appropriate than their white counterparts to experience rejections, often for spurious and ambiguous reasons. Moreover, blacks and Latino executives and lawyers always attract suspicion while driving or riding a train earlier to their offices. The population of the prisons is largely browns or blacks; senators, chief executive, officers, university presidents and surgeons are roughly all whites. Recently, nearly all Oscar winning actors ,stars and directors have been whites .Poverty in America has brown or black face .Studies show that the average of assets for black families is only one thirteenth as compared with their white counterparts .The families of Blacks and other minorities have to pay more for products, shopping, services like hiring cars .Most people of colour live shorter lives ,got worse medical care, spend less years at school and occupy more niggling jobs than white people(Delgado and Stefancic 12,13).

## Conclusion



There is no doubt that all forms of racism including prejudice and racial discrimination turn to be inseparable part of the daily behaviours and acts of huge portion of people in the world especially societies of mixed races particularly the United States of America .There is no certain Philosophy ,certain religions or ideology that justifies racism and racial discrimination .Racism is rooted out deeply inside many societies but its shapes are various ranking from its minimal degree like ignoring others ,irritant, and upsetting others to its maximum degree like racial segregation. . Racism in the United States of America is a long story that has beginning but no certain destination or end. The scenario of racial offences. and discrimination against African Americans and other people of minorities continue and never stop in the United States with the supporting and blessing of the concessive governments, institutions, movies.

literature and the society. Racism in America has various and new-able acts but it never changes or end. Its consequences are extremely destructive and catastrophic as racism increasingly puts to death the seeds of humanity, Peaceful coexistence and peace in America and the whole world.

## Reference

1. Ahmed, Sara. (2012). *On Being Included in Institutional Life*. Duke University Press. U.S.A. Bulmer, Marten (1999). *Racism*. university press, the New York.
2. Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. (2014). *Racism Without Racists: Colour -Blind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequalities in America*. Library of Congress. the United States of America.
3. Constantine, Madonna G. (2006). *Addressing Racism: Facilitating Cultural Competence in Mental Health and Educational Settings*. Library of Congress. The United States of America.
4. *United States of American*.
5. Diangelo, Robin, (2018), *White Fragility*. Boston
6. . Fredrickson, George. (2002) *Racism “: A short history.*, Princeton University Press.
7. Fremon David, K (2000). *The Jim Crew Laws and Racism in the United States History*, Library of Congress, the United States of America.
8. . Higginbotham, F. Michael. (2013). *Ghosts of Jim Crew Ending Racism in Post Racial America*. Library of Congress. New York.
9. Kundnani Arum (2007) *The end of Tolerance*, Pluto Press. London.
- 10.O’Dowd, Mary Frances. (2020). *Explainer: what is systemic racism and institutional racism?* . <https://theconversation.com>.
- 11.Rattans Ali. (2007). *Racism a very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press. New York.

12. Rogers, David and Moira Bowman (2003) *Dismantling Racism: A resource Book for Social Change Groups*, Western States Centre, the United States of America.
13. Sunnemark, Fredrik. *Ring out Freedom: The Voice of Martin Luther King*. (2004). Indiana University Press. The United States of America.
14. Tatum, Beverly, (2017). *Why are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria*, New York.
15. Tischauser, Leslie V (2012). *Jim Crow Laws*. Santa Barbara. California.
16. Tranti Quentin. (Director). (2012). *Django Unchained, Film*.
17. Tyson, Lois. *Critical Theory Today: A user Friendly Guide*, 2015, Gate Britain, New York.
18. Wilson, August. "Fences", 1986. Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication Data, New York.
19. <https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/what-critical-race-theory-means-why-its-igniting-debate-2021-09-21/>.