

## ABSTRACT

MARIANA, NATASYA. (2023). **Black Women's Political Activism through The Poem "The Hill We Climb"**. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

African-Americans have experienced injustice for more than centuries in many sectors including politics, economy, and education. They share their struggles through writing. African American women are discriminated against due to their race, gender, and class. Their gender as women makes them experience sexism, due to patriarchy beliefs that women are inferior to men. Meanwhile, their race as African-American makes them endures segregation and slavery, whereas their class makes them being disenfranchised in economics and criminal cases. With this discrimination, they speak up through literature. The purpose of this study is to show how African American women use literature to strengthen black women's political activism in order to empower the group's survivability,

The primary source of this study is the poem "The Hill We Climb" by Amanda Gorman. To understand the meaning of this poem through the examination on poetic diction. The secondary sources of this study are Merriam-Webster dictionary, textbook of matrix of domination, feminism, the theory of discrimination against black women in the Criminal Justice System, and theory of black women's political activism.

This study used a library research method. In this study, there are three objectives. The first objective is to create an explication and identify the poetic device in the poem "*The Hill We Climb*". The second objective is to analyze how black women are oppressed in politics as reflected in the poem "The Hill We Climb". The third objective is to discover black women's political activism through the poem "The Hill We Climb".

The result of this study show the explication of the poem "The Hill We Climb" portrays about nationalism and revolution to create better unity for The United States of America. The poetic device in this poem are figurative language and allusion, repetition, alliteration, consonance, assonance, and rhymes. This poem depicts the systemic oppression against black women with the historical background of slavery, segregation, and the current discrimination of the stereotyping in the criminal cases. Furthermore, this poem portrays reveal black women's political activism in the aspects of maternal politics and political sisterhood in The U.S.

**Keywords:** *African-American women, Black women's political activism, discrimination, black politic, Criminal Justice System*

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Orang-orang Afrika-Amerika telah mengalami ketidakadilan selama beratus-ratus tahun di berbagai sektor seperti politik, ekonomi, dan pendidikan. Mereka membagikan perjuangannya melalui tulisan. Perempuan Afrika-Amerika terdiskriminasi karena ras, gender, dan kelas. Gender mereka sebagai perempuan membuat mereka mengalami seksisme karena keyakinan patriarki bahwa perempuan lebih rendah daripada laki-laki. Selain itu, ras mereka sebagai Afrika-Amerika membuat mereka terpinggirkan dalam ekonomi dan kasus kriminal. Dengan diskriminasi ini, mereka bersuara melalui literature. Tujuan studi ini untuk menunjukkan cara para perempuan Afrika-Amerika menggunakan literatur untuk menguatkan politik aktivisme perempuan kulit hitam agar mendorong ketahanan grup.

Data utama dalam studi ini adalah puisi *“The Hill We Climb”* karangan Amanda Gorman. Dalam memahami arti puisi ini, data-data sekunder penelitian ini adalah kamus Merriam-Webster, buku Matriks Dominasi, Feminisme, teori diskriminasi terhadap perempuan kulit hitam dalam *Criminal Justice System*, dan teori politik aktivisme perempuan kulit hitam.

Studi ini menggunakan metode kepustakaan. Dalam studi ini terdapat tiga objektif. Objektif yang pertama untuk membuat eksplikasi dan mengidentifikasi diksi dalam puisi *“The Hill We Climb”*. Objektif yang kedua untuk menganalisis penindasan yang terjadi terhadap para perempuan kulit hitam dalam politik yang terefleksikan dalam puisi *“The Hill We Climb”*. Objektif yang ketiga untuk menemukan politik aktivisme para perempuan kulit hitam melalui puisi *“The Hill We Climb”*.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa eksplikasi puisi *“The Hill We Climb”* menggambarkan tentang nasionalisme dan revolusi untuk menciptakan persatuan yang lebih baik bagi Amerika Serikat. Puisi device dalam puisi ini adalah bahasa figurative, alusi, repetisi, aliterasi, konsonan, asonansi, dan rima. Puisi ini menggambarkan penindasan sistemik terhadap perempuan kulit hitam dengan latar belakang sejarah perbudakan, segregasi, dan diskriminasi stereotip dalam kasus-kasus kriminal saat ini. Selain itu, puisi ini menunjukkan politik activism perempuan kulit hitam dalam aspek politik maternal dan politik persaudaraan perempuan di Amerika Serikat.

**Kata kunci:** African-American women, Black women’s political activism, discrimination, black politic, Criminal Justice System