

ABSTRACT

Racial issues in the 1930s America illustrate the high racial tension between the White and Black due to the series of the mass racial violence. Despite the rapid industrialization, Blacks, in this period, struggled to find their equal place in the society. Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man* depicts the social conditions of Black workers' socio-economic backwardness in the 1930s. This novel is set during post-reconstruction era of America where Jim Crow laws are instituted. Therefore, this analysis of racial distinction for this novel is conducted with Post-Nationalist American Studies and Marxism approach. This qualitative research utilizes Althusser's theories: of Ideology and Ideological State Apparatus (ISA). The findings show how White ideology is depicted and maintained. It is through: (1) the depiction of Ideology that can be seen through the class distinction and racial dependency in which Blacks are created to be inferior and submissive to White people. The intersectionality between the class distinction and the racial dependency creates the discrimination of middle-class Black man. (2) in the maintenance of ideology, where it relies on Althusser's concept of Ideological State Apparatuses such as religious, family, education, legal, politic, trade union, communication and cultural institutions, function as adjunct of the state that perpetuates and preserves White-centered values. Thus, the racially segregated society essentially only supports the needs of White capitalists as the ruling class.

Keywords: Racism, Marxism, Ideology, the 1930s America, Ideological State apparatus.