

Repercussion Of Institutionalized Racism In Uncle Tom's Children

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Abstract

Racism is a mode of thought that seeks to connect a set of immutable physical traits with a person's moral and intellectual traits. It makes a distinction between superior and inferior racial groups based on physical characteristics. Both prejudice and racism are ways of thinking. In his writings, Richard Wright examines racism as an ideology and reveals how racism changes over time because of modern society. This paper examines how racism affects both blacks and whites and also the repercussions in the novel *Uncle Tom's Children*.

Racism is widely understood to be the basis of decisions and policies on racial factors with the intention of oppressing and retaining control over a racial group. "Race has been a cause of more misunderstanding and human suffering than anything else that can be associated with a single word in language" (Lorning Brace's "Race," 116). It is a bias influenced by perceptions. It has been a tradition in America to treat blacks in this way. The practice is viewed on two levels: the individual and the community level.

Individual whites discriminate against individual blacks, but the entire community does the same for the black community. The latter is less harmful to human life and results from the functioning of established and respected forces in society. It also attracts significantly less public censure than the former type because it does not involve death, damage, or the violent destruction of property. Stereotyping, which is a socially developed idea, dehumanises people by rejecting their complexity and variety based on their many physical, mental, moral, and social variations. It comprises the sense of superiority one has towards other races or ethnic groups.

Black society is thought to be inferior to white society. This is because of the authority they have historically proclaimed. The vision of the term, "word," has a positive connotation that there are inescapable associations between white with light and consequently safety (as well as spirituality, cleanliness, purity, transcendence, virtues, and several positive terms), and black with black with dark and consequently danger (as well as filth, sin, and several negative terms), and this opens-up the concept of race.

In his writings, Wright examines racism as an ideology and traces its origins. This paper reveals how racism changes over time because of modern society. This paper examines how racism affects both blacks and whites in the novel *Uncle Tom's Children*.

Wright is frequently seen as a victim of racial prejudice in its overt or covert forms or as a troubled young man determined to overcome prejudice and poverty. His writings demonstrated his attempts to adopt an ideological perspective, and he did not merely view his situation in terms of race and nationalism during the waning Garvey movement. He was enlightened by the theories of Marx and Lenin on the larger global scene and made the decision to overcome these obstacles since he was perceived as a victim of racial discrimination and segregation in its violent and overt form.

In *Uncle Tom's Children*, Wright is given the task of inciting and motivating his black community to fight against all forms of racial segregation to develop the distinctive characteristics of his race. He overturns the conditions that force his people to live a life as Blacks. He exhorts them to assume responsibility for developing intellectual or symbolic means through potential black movements.

Uncle Tom's Children is a thorough examination of the catastrophic consequences of alienation on a young Negro who represents the Negroes in America; the rejected, the snored, the disappointed, and the hate-tormented who drive him to murder. Leslie A. Fiedler places emphasis on this reality of the negro in *No! In Thunder: Essays on Myth and Literature*, not only because it is present in this novel but also because it is a major theme in most Negro novels. He draws attention to these catastrophic impacts on black psychology:

The Negro ... whether thought of as killer or pious slave, has always represented American imagination ... While the Jew, cerebral, talkative melancholy is the enemy of his own sexuality. (238)

In *Uncle Tom's Children*, every white character is portrayed as a villain, which exposes the tragedy of violence fuelled by racial hatred. This novel provides an in-depth analysis of racial prejudice and the chaos it causes in society. Racism was not only tenable, but it also severely disrupted the internal and exterior harmony of black existence. Therefore, it generated fragmentation among white people, particularly poor white people, as well as among black people. The systematic racial oppression that exists in the rural South is depicted in this novel. It portrays the racial tension and social unrest during Great Depression. Through Wright's characters, it examines the national of interracial collaborative action.

Five stories of deaths are included in *Uncle Tom's Children*. In his five stories, the themes of violence, fragmentation, identity, crime, death, and dream are present. In the deep South, there was a brutal race war took place. The black people in this novel are fighting in the battle, and their solidarity has become essential as a strategy for power to win their freedom.

All his stories in the novel portray racism by white people towards black people and occasionally by white people who have black sympathies. And, the stories they depict the psychological and physical degradation of black protagonists and others. It is possible to understand black people's responses as choices made by individuals. The violent fights that occurred in the stories illustrate the social, political, and economic discord that exists in society because of racism, oppression, racial animosity, and violence.

The clash in *Uncle Tom's Children* between the hero's irrational urge for self-preservation and an impersonal military machine is a psychological reality in the North. Fear of lynching looms over the black community like a "white fog." The basic psychological essence of black living in the Deep South is expressed in the novel. The novel's depiction of black existence is a literary analysis of Wright's handling of a touchy subject. The tale "Big Boy Leaves Home" depicts the souvenir-snatching orgy and even an authentic lynching. Buck's crime had been his attendance at the scene of a black man's murder of a white man.

Wright provides and exemplifies a noteworthy justification for white prejudice and brutality. The first story's author and protagonist were both victims of white aggression. Once in the suburbs, his bicycle was punctured, and a white man driving by asked him to cling to the side of the road. There were several white men with this white friend. They had whisky in their hands. He declined and turned down the invitation, but he left out the title "Sir" in his response. He was struck in the face with an empty whisky bottle because of his rude actions.

One aspect of the background of racial relations that differentiates American society in the twentieth century is that it is problematic. These issues created complexities that complicated the situation further since black people thought they could handle the demands made of them by white people, which led to their becoming the target of white violence. The civil rights movements for black people emerged and fought tenaciously; there was a protest march led by black people. Taylor was actively involved in organising and participating in these protests in "Fire and Cloud," but the white people did not support him. Reverend Taylor was tasked by the town's Mayor with using his position to persuade the blacks "to stay off the streets" (85). However, due to Taylor's attitude when he ought to have been biased towards his black race. Because he refused to comply with the Mayor's request, the Mayor ordered the police to arrest him and severely beat him. This sequence examines how racism's ugly side is so masterfully handled. For the characters as well as the readers, this sequence is also difficult and intense.

Wright paints a thorough picture of racial persecution and discrimination in the Deep South in the 1930s through this novel. At gunpoint, white people were forcing black people to labour on the pavement. The racist local government's plan illustrates the degree of the oppression that persisted in the South. In addition, the novel's characters fiercely and brilliantly criticise Southern racial injustice.

The response of blacks to white racism is explained. Through Taylor, Wright demonstrated to blacks how to fight together while simultaneously joining with poor whites. Taylor showed his followers the way to follow. They gathered with other white labourers and protested exploitation and starvation.

Wright depicts a sequence of disasters in this novel through the protagonist's attempts to regain psychological balance and cohesion. He undoubtedly explored tragic elements in this novel. These tales investigate the idea of desperation. Taylor considered holding a demonstration as a form of protest white people's racism and for the rights of his people. As a first step towards obtaining their full rights, he wanted to at least grant them the civic rights necessary for their survival. "Lawd, we could manufacture them olfiels bloom ergin, he wrote. The relief would deprive them of food, so we could force them to feed us" (160-1). This excerpt portrays the white people's instant response as a planned racist action by the government.

Taylor's son Jimmy informed his father that the mayor and the police were present. Sisters Harris, Davis, and James, along with other women who were waiting for Taylor in the church, are threatened by the mayor with imprisonment if they march. Taylor was asked by Hadley and Green, who are planning a protest, to support this protest so that it can be saved when enough people show up. Taylor paused, though: "Ef them white folks knew A was giving the people a chance to do something for the betterment of the people" (175).

Taylor held back because Hadley and Green wanted this protest to be all-white, which would imply war. He provided a defence for his prior protest the shooting of Scott, a Black man, and this is different. Taylor attempted to show encouragement against this repression by white or, more specifically, by the local racist government; he stopped Mayor Bolton by saying, "save that kind of talk for bad niggers" (182). However, Mr. Lowe, who was present as a representative of the local government, and the mayor chief Bruden threatened Taylor for this demonstration.

The blacks also accused Taylor of being too eager to support hand bills. In this scene, the fragmentation of the black community is examined in relation to the fragmentation of society. Wright expresses the black protest through the demonstration in a powerful and expressive manner. The Taylor will take part in the display. In a violent way, the white suppression demonstrated their racism.

Taylor was apprehended in a terrifying manner by being taken against his will and being driven along a gravel road far from town. They beat him, stripped him of his shirt, and repeatedly beat him until he knelt and prayed, but he cried out, "Awe right murder me! "Goddamn you, say that again!" (164). This scene serves as a glaring example of the racist authority's cruelty. After seeing this, Jimmy was upset and wanted to call on many black people, but Taylor realised they had nothing to do. Even some black people wanted to vote Taylor out of the church because of the discriminatory climate in which he lived. Taylor fell asleep because of the repercussions of this violent incident.

All the tales make clear how white people perceive black people with contempt and treat them differently. Most of the stories show white sadism by brutally executing a black man, for example, "Fire and Cloud" recounts a whipping while "Long Black Song" is seen as a significant departure since it shows how black victims encounter white brutality.

Uncle Tom's Children deals with the basic and expansive aspects of black existence. The tales illustrate how the protagonist demonstrated his manhood as a contemporary man in addition to highlighting his hardship. In "Big Boy Leaves Home," Big Boy kills the white soldier by taking his gun away after he had slain two of his friends. His friend Mann is executed by the woman he asked to save him, but the main character, Big Boy, flees.

Wright also emphasises the severity of the environment and how it affects Big Boy both physically and mentally. His shifting views, behaviours, and thoughts so demonstrated his unstable personality. He turns into a dystopian mirror of the oppressed people in his surroundings. His chat on the boat in the river reveals his uncertainty and his psychic instability. Mann missed his moment and continued to row till he was weary. Without being acknowledged, he approached Heartfield's home and requested to use the phone. Heartfield found his boat on the river and surrounded the home after that. He then opened fire, but Mann returned fire and killed him. Heartfield had to be killed by Mann. Mann successfully enters the city and tells Brinkley about his predicament.

The captivating fiction of *Uncle Tom's Children's* stories demonstrates the accompanying warping of the spirit. They exhibit a level of stylistic and dramatic mastery that is well above that of most of his black contemporaries and forebears and comparable to that of his most gifted white contemporaries. Perhaps no other story in the anthology does a better job of skilfully illustrating the violence and dreadful ramifications of prejudice.

The barbaric lynching of Bobo by Wright is explored in "Big Boy Leaves Home" in terms of how the protagonist, Big Boy, is psychologically affected by seeing his friend burn. The violence perpetrated by white people is not the only factor working against black people; coiling snakes, irate roosters, growling dogs, and impending storms all contribute to this sense of cosmic violence.

The horrific clashes between blacks and whites in the south are used in *Uncle Tom's Children* to illustrate the lifelike storytelling and John Do's writing style. "Down by the Riverside" also examines the awful predicament that Brother Mann encountered. When a black man uses a white man's boat to take his pregnant wife to the hospital, it highlights the terrible prejudice involved. While the black man himself was fleeing the site of the murder, the owner of the raft was slain in self-defence while being transported to the hospital. "What would they do to a black man who had killed a white person in a flood?" (76). This white humiliation and rage explained how Jim Crow devastated the lives of black people in the South.

In *Uncle Tom's Children*, Wright investigates how white society oppresses and engages in racial discrimination against black people. The chastising conversation between Taylor and his son demonstrated how racism and oppression still exist today harmed their lives and robbed them of their humanity; they tolerated white discrimination and authoritarian attitudes. His son bemoans: "Wes been waitin too long! All we do wait, wait! ... Aw help, pa! Is we gonna be dogs all the time? (169). This query made Taylor realise and irritated his emotions. Taylor is hurting, his people are suffering as well, and he is unsure of how to deal with malnutrition, depression, and famine. He asked the white for assistance, but received neither help nor an answer. So, he discovers his true place in the white community, where people do not suffer like he does.

The novel illustrates how the relationship between a white woman and a black man is impacted by severe racial limitations. Riva, a white woman, has a genuine affection for a black man and is sympathetic to his plight. Additionally, the mass action represents a social message by offering a remedy for black people's issues in the face of white prejudice. "Fire and Cloud" makes this point obvious.

Wright's art was heavily influenced by his racial outrage. Each of his main characters is viewed as merely a stereotypical example of the oppressed race he represents. He tried to make the racial issue obvious. The political problems brought on by the colour prejudices of the white majority are also depicted in "Bright and Morning Star." Long-term white dominance resulted in significant suffering for black people, which in turn moulded and developed the spirit of this oppressive society. In "Bright and Morning Star," brutality and misery led an Orthodox woman to embrace Marxism.

Wright emphasises these limitations and constraints in a society that is split due to white dominance. The Whites engaged in racial oppression and economic exploitation of Blacks. All these actions by white people reduced black people to the point of forced servitude and, incidentally, led to their eradication. After the tirade against him, the situation in "Fire and Cloud" still left Taylor only two choices; he states, "EF mah folks marches in the mawnin Ahm machine wide m" (184).

Taylor's psychological make-up and broken personality are both explained by Wright. He had trouble seeing the right and better way because of this. That was evident when the white men called Taylor from the Deacon Board meeting and gave him a "nigger lesson" with a horsewhip to teach him "how to stay in a nigger's place" (189). He suffers from humility and obedience as well as cruelty and racism in all its manifestations. He criticises white society and accuses them of exploiting, controlling, and misusing resources, which led to dysfunction in economic and social life. He also declares the necessity of facing down white ware by standing in unison with the people. In *The Example of Richard Wright*, Dan McCall highlights Taylor's strategy for pulling off the demonstration: "Not only Taylor's survival of the beating seems gratuitous, but the success of the demonstration seems contrived also" (34).

The novel *Uncle Tom's Children* tore apart not just the protagonist but also the readers, particularly the white readers, leaving them with mental and spiritual wounds. Each tale examines how white people treat black people unfairly and how white people displayed blatant, unreasonable, and brutal prejudice.

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