CRUELTY OF SLAVERY IN AMERICA AS SEEN IN HARRIET BEECHER STOWE’S *UNCLE TOM’S CABIN*

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**Abstract:** The purpose of this research is to examine the cruelty of slavery in America as shown in Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. It is done to show the many sorts of enslavement cruelty present in the novel, as well as the causes of the brutality in the story. The writers have decided to undertake this research using qualitative methods. The writers employ a socio-historical method to data analysis. In the discussion is divided into several indicators, such as cruelty of slavery which is divided into slave treat as thing or properties and object of physical violence. The other indicator is slaves suffer as the effect cruelty of slavery which divided into racism, discrimination, slaves’ life is restricted and rebellion. Based on the results of the discussion, it can be concluded that slavery has happened to black people who are very cruel in America and even legalized. South Americans treat black people as slaves inhumanely and treat them like animals.

**Keywords:** *Uncle Tom’s Cabin,* cruelty of slavery, Afro-American.

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**Kata Kunci:** *Kabin Paman Tom,* kekejaman perbudakan, Afro-Amerika.
INTRODUCTION

The study of American literary history is an attempt to discover historical movements that influenced America as a nation. A literary work offers learners with real world experiences, interactions between society and individuals where the target language is spoken, even if they are fictions, Maru (Maru, 2014) remarked.

Literary texts may assist students practice the abilities of speaking, listening, reading, and writing, as well as exhibit grammatical structures and introduce new vocabulary. Liando (2010) reveals “students and teachers were two important figures in the teaching and learning process. In the situation such as Indonesia, less student-centered but more teacher-centered was the common approach applied in the classroom all across subject areas.” In addition, literature may assist students have a better knowledge of various cultures, become more conscious of ‘diversity,’ and cultivate tolerance and understanding. And at same time, literary literature may address universal issues such as love, war, and grief.

Many masterpieces of American literature serve as vital historical documentation for American movements. These literary works can teach us about the ideals and societal attitudes that authors utilize to create an imaginative world in their works of fiction. These literary works have a significant impact on the countries where they are published. One of these is the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe, which is still well-known today.

As shown by Slaves Narratives and Uncle Tom's Cabin (1845-1862), Stowe expresses her thoughts on anti-slavery ideals in her novel Uncle Tom's Cabin. She grew up in an abolitionist environment, thus she had a strong anti-slavery attitude, even though she was not an active abolitionist and only protected fugitive slaves from slavery. In the nineteenth century, writing or publishing an anti-slavery novel was exceedingly perilous. Stowe found a publisher, and the novel went on to become a best-seller, was translated into other languages, and was staged.

The cruelty of slavery in America as depicted in the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin is discussed in this research. (As Adam Serwer (2021) said in his book The Cruelty is the Point most people think of cruelty as an individual problem. And that’s true because all human beings are capable of cruelty. But cruelty is also part of politics, demonizing particular groups so that you can justify denying them their basic rights and including them from the political process. Abraham Lincoln (1984) stated in his Peoria Speech on October 16, 1854 that slavery is rooted in the selfishness of man's character and that his love of justice is opposed to it. These principles are an eternal antagonism; and when brought into collision so fiercely, as slavery extension brings them, shocks and throes and convulsions must ceaselessly follow.

Because this novel exists as one of the greatest literary works, this research employs Stowe's classic Uncle Tom's Cabin. Uncle Tom's Cabin is a novel that correctly represents the situation of society at the era. The vicious words and acts of their cruel White owners harmed the Black slaves. Humanity and freedom were both costly to them. Cruelty is the problem in American social life from the past even now and slavery has become a difficult thing to abolish in American, and slavery has been a tough item to abolish in American life because it has propelled progress economically, which drove government to defend slavery and create
regulations more favourable to slave owners. Then, Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote something (Downs, 1903-1991) that would make a whole nation realize what a wretched thing slavery's cruelty is as her stepsister Catharine asked. Stowe wants to show the truth that slavery is cruel and wanted to convince her readers that behaving cruelly and slavery was a sin so that the practice of cruelty of slavery must be ended immediately.

According to the statement above, the writers are interested in conducting this research. Nobody likes to be cruelly treated or enslaved by others. Every human being, regardless of ethnicity, skin color, religion, or nation, has the right to freedom. Cruelty persists through each period, beginning with buying and selling people, progressing to child abuses, woman sex abuses. And now appearing in a workforce of low-wage workers, thus it is our duty to eradicate all types of cruelty from the society. Uncle Tom is a great person to emulate because of his passion and struggle in the face of the cruelty of living the uncomfortable conditions of slavery.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**Research Design**

Because the material in this study is in the form of words, the writers conduct qualitative research. According to Creswell, qualitative research is a holistic technique that incorporates discovery; qualitative research is also defined as an unfolding model that happens in a natural context that enables the researchers to acquire a degree of detail from strong engagement in the actual events (Creswell, 1994). Based on this knowledge, in the form of words, this will describe in detail the brutality of slavery as shown in Uncle Tom's Cabin.

**Data Collection**

To get information, the writers consult two categories of sources. Two forms of evidence are significant for essays on literature: evidence for primary sources are the works of literature itself, and evidence for secondary sources are facts or opinion outside the work itself, as stated (Griffith, 2011). The novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* served as the major material for this research. Secondary sources include books, journals, dictionaries, the internet, and other resources.

**Data Analysis**

The socio-historical method is used as the foundation of the analysis. According to Rohrberger and Woods (1971) critics who are primarily concerned in the socio-historical approach argue that the only way to uncover the genuine work is to go to the civilization that created it. As a result, socio-historical evidences are becoming more important. This technique highlights the importance of knowing the social people and society that existed at the time the literary work was written.

**FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

Cruelty of Slavery

*Uncle Tom's Cabin* is one of the works that vividly depicts the cruelty of slavery as its major theme. Uncle Tom's Cabin was written in the aftermath of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act, which made it unlawful for anybody in America to provide help or assistance to escaped slaves. The is attempting to overturn that statute in order to achieve instant liberation of slaves and freedom for all. Each incident in the story is designed to persuade the reader that slavery is bad and unacceptably tolerated in modern society. Slave cruelty can be evident in the following conditions:
Slave Treat as Thing/Properties

A slave often gets treatment from slave master who sometimes so cruel. They think the slave just like a property and treated them like animals. The reason why the writer state that slave as properties is because slave cab be traded at auction. Slave is bought for getting profit. They are forced to make money by working overtime. Slaves are treated as master’ properties and even has no rights as a human being.

In the beginning of the novel, the writers discover cruelty of slavery, which is well shown. Mr. Shelby and Mr. Haley argue over how many slaves he will sell to pay off his debt; else, he will lose all of his property and belongings.

“Well, then, Haley, how will you trade? said Mr. Shelby, after an uneasy interval of silence. Well, haven’t you a boy or a gal that you could throw in with Tom? (Stowe, I. 11)

Well, you’ll let me have the boy, though” said the trader. What on earth can you want with the child?” said Shelby. Why, I’ve got a friend that’s going into this yer branch of the business wants to buy up handsome boys to raise for the market. They fetch a good sum” (Stowe, I. 11).

We are introduced to the figure Simon Legree, who is a very nasty master, in the novel. He purchases a younger woman as his sexual object. Legree despises Tom and has been cruel to him.

Slaves were frequently sold in slave auctions, when potential owners may inspect them from head to toe. They are treated as property, similar to livestock, and have little choice over their own life. The scenes above depict how slave masters treat their slaves, who are merely for sale and have no worth in their eyes.

Object of Physical Violence

Slavery was often a terrible treatment, as evidenced by Uncle Tom's Cabin, in which slaves were tortured, beaten, abused, starving, worked to death, sexually abused, and even killed. Despite regulations restricting abuse, slaves continued to face physical cruelty and even rape of female slaves.

Slaves are the subject of cruel physical abuse in various chapters of Uncle Tom's Cabin. George, for example, witnesses her mother and sister being kicked, beaten, and chained before being transported to the market.

“I saw my mother put at sheriff’s sale, with her seven children. They were sold before her eyes, one by one, all to different masters; and I was the youngest. She came and kneeled down
before old mas’r, and begged him to buy her with me, that she might have at least one child with her; and he kicked her away with his heavy boot. I saw him do it; and the last I heard was her moans and screams, when I was tied to his horse’s neck, to be carried off to his place” (Stowe, XI. 104-105).

“I have stood at the door asnd heard her whipped, when it seemed as if every blow cut into my naked heart, and I couldn’t do anything to help her; and she was whipped, sir. At last I saw her chained with a trader’s gang, to be sent to market in Orleans – sent there for nothing else but that – and that’s the last I know of her” (Stowe XI. 105).

In the story, Prue is also a victim of abuse. Her master tortured Prue by using her as cattle, and she was flogged to death.

“What has got Prue, anyhow?” she said. “Well, you musn’t tell nobody. Prue, she got drunk again and they had her down cellar and that they left her all day; and I heard ‘em saying that the flies had got to her and she’s dead.” “What now? Why those folks have whipped Prue to death!” said Miss Ophelia, going on, with great strength of detail, into the story and enlarging on its most shocking particulars” (Stowe, XIX. 149).

Other violent acts are also witnessed by a young girl named Topsy. Topsy was one of the victims of the previous owner's violent physical abuse. St. Clare, her old master, notices that the child's back bears several wounds.

“Why, the fact is, this concern belonged to a couple of drunken creatures that keep a low restaurant that I have to pass by every day, and I was tired of hearing her screaming, and them beating and swearing at her. She looked bright and funny, too, as if something might be made of her; so I bought her, and I'll give her to you” (Stowe, XX. 222).

I've seen this child whipped with a poker, knocked down with the shovel or tongs, or whichever came handiest, and, seeing that she is used to that style of operation, I think your whippings will have to be pretty energetic, to make much impression (Stowe, XX. 229).

Slaves became targets of their master’s wrath. If they do something wrong, they will be punished cruelly. We can find physical violence towards Tom and other slaves in the quotations above. Slaves were beaten and left with scars till they died. It exemplifies the cruelty of slavery.

The Cause of Cruelty
Humans commonly engage in behaviours in order to achieve pleasure or avoid suffering. This demonstrates that individuals or organizations are cruel because they like feeling the pain of another reason people be cruel is because they see a danger to their social standing. This helps to explain cruelty, such as when people harm those who are assisting them financially.

The cruelty of slavery occurred because America needed laborers for its plantations, such as those in Alabama. As a result, the British sailed to Africa's west coast and abducted Africans from their tribes. They then transported them to America, where British and American slaves were exchanged for tobacco, sugar cane, and other commodities. The British
subsequently travelled to England to leave their goods before returning to Africa. This is referred to as the Slave trade. The following are some of the causes that contribute to the cruelty of slavery in America:

**Fugitive Law**

The Fugitive Law is a federal law that allows for the apprehension and return of slaves who have fled inside the United States. The slave will be punished if they break this law. Many Northern states also established personal-liberty legislation that allowed fugitives to be tried by a jury, while others prevented state personnel from helping in the pursuit of suspected fugitives or holding them in state jails.

When George, Eliza's husband, ran from Mr. Harris in the classic Uncle Tom's Cabin, Mr. Harris prepared a pamphlet that the people read on the bar.

“What's that? said the old gentleman, observing some of the company formed in a group around a large handbill. "Nigger advertised!" said one of the company, briefly. Mr. Wilson, for that was the old gentleman's name, rose up, and read as follows: "Ran away from the subscriber, my mulatto boy, George. Said George six feet in height, a very light mulatto, brow curly hair; is very intelligent, speaks handsomely, can read and write; will probably try to pass for a white man; is deeply scarred on his back and shoulders; has been branded in his right hand with a letter H. "I will give four hundred dollars for him alive, and the same sum for satisfactory proof that he has been killed" (Stowe, XI. 80).

From the quotation above, we can know that Fugitive Law is one of the causes of cruelty.

**The Power of White People**

Power is defined as an individual's capacity to influence the actions, beliefs, or behavioural behaviour of others. Power may be perceived as a beneficial thing that is inherited or given for the sake of carrying out humanistic goals that serve, move, and empower people; nevertheless, power can also be viewed as cruel or unjust. Europeans, particularly Americans, have a tendency for associating blackness with savagery, heathenism, and a general inability to adhere to European notions of civility and decorum (Fredrickson, 1981). It becomes a tool for Whites to use to legitimize their control.

White Christianity, which is concerned with the desire for purity, and White Racial Religion, which is the religious white power ideology. It is known as "the one and only White Racial Religion." All other races are inferior and endanger the success and existence of the white race (Fredrickson, 1981). This promotes the stereotype that religion is only for white people. Eliza, the novel's main character, is the first to bring up the notion of White Christianity

“Well, said Eliza, mournfully, I always thought that I must obey my master and mistress, or I couldn't be a Christian” (Stowe, 1852).

It is feasible to conclude that one of the focal points in white dominance is the utility of teaching Christianity to black people. Tom is mentioned as the main Christian who lives his entire life for God. He is submissive to his white masters, yet
he is stern when it comes to his beliefs. Tom’s view of Christianity is one of Christ’s Love; white power’s viewpoint is warped and self-serving. The evil of slavery can only be removed from society by rejecting that perverted image of Christianity in favour of one more suitably based on a foundation of Christ’s values love, Frederickson argues (Frederickson, 1981).

White nationalist culture, as shown by Frederickson (Frederickson, 1981), is a reflection of the historical fact that the "founding fathers" intended this nation to be one of, for, and by white people, and that the fight to make it one "of, for, and by white people, and that"

"human identity. It is caused by the identities of white and black people. These human identities have various physical looks, personalities, and behaviors. The white race's human identity is cruel and nasty. “The white race has a tendency to be extremely cruel toward other races, particularly the black race, since they believe that the superior race has the right to do whatever to the inferior race” (Oroh and Mamentu, 2020). Slaves were subjected to brutality as a result of their owners' harsh and cruel treatment of them. The white masters consider themselves to be of great social standing.

“Nevertheless, as this young man was in the eye of the law not a man, but a thing, all these superior qualifications were subject to the control of a vulgar, narrow-minded, tyrannical master. This same gentleman, having heard of the fame of George's invention, took a ride over to the factory, to see what this intelligent chattel had been” (Stowe, II. 13).

The quotation above illustrates a comment on the cruelty of slavery. White people perceive black people as things rather than human beings. It also shows the identity of white individuals. It suggests that a superior will go to any length to

George Harris introduces the first notion of white nationalism in the novel. According to the novel, Mr. Wilson had an argument with George and attempted to persuade him not to leave or disobey the country's rules, but George rejected the country and its laws. He correctly notes that America is not his home because the law

either owns nor protects him. His desire and need to escape become clear. He grew rebellious as a result of his memories of his traumatic separation from his mother and sister, as well as his master's order to take another lady as his wife. It also illustrates America's two legal systems, one for Whites and one for Blacks.

Human Identity

Slavery cruelty may be created by human identity. It is caused by the identities of white and black people. These human identities have various physical looks, personalities, and behaviors. The white race's human identity is cruel and nasty. “The white race has a tendency to be extremely cruel toward other races, particularly the black race, since they believe that the superior race has the right to do whatever to the inferior race” (Oroh and Mamentu, 2020). Slaves were subjected to brutality as a result of their owners' harsh and cruel treatment of them. The white masters consider themselves to be of great social standing.
establish his superiority. A superior will be cruel and inhumane to black people.

**The Effect Cruelty of Slavery**

America has entered a crucial and extremely horrible situation, including the subject of slavery, which is a highly sensitive event for the people of this country. Slaves suffered psychologically and emotionally as a result of their mistreatment, which had a negative impact on their life. They are the recipients of the rage, pain, and hatred. Cruelty of slavery is a terrible act that causes unpleasant things to happen in the lives of slaves and their families, even causing slaves to suffer from long-term despair.

There are various effects that contribute to the cruelty of slavery, which is also depicted in the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin, and they are as follows:

**Suffering from Racism**

In a book entitled *Introduction To Black Studies* by Karenga defines racism as a system of denial and deformation of the history and humanity of third world (people of color) and their right to freedom based exclusively or primarily on the specious concept of race (Karenga, 1993). Based on research about *Social Conflicts In William Faulkner’s Novel Light In August* revealed that one of the social conflicts is racism; “the social background in America has a history of racial oppression. Their culture forbids contact with blacks. Domination groups are detrimental to oppressed racial groups” (Tombiling, Wuntu and Maukar, 2021). Racism has become a major problem in the world, including African American history. Cruelty is triggered by the belief that one race is superior than others. As a result, slavery is inextricably linked to racism.

One kind of racism is the slave master’s brutal treatment of their slave. Many examples of racist attitudes may be found in *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. One example is when our protagonist, Uncle Tom, is compelled to abandon his beliefs and faith in order to lash another slave. Uncle Tom’s last owner. Legree, believes that slaves do not require religion and wants to persuade him to abandon it, but Uncle Tom refuses, preferring to die rather than abandon it.

“Humph! pious to be sure. So, what's yer name, you belong to the church, eh? Yes, Mas'r,” said Tom, firmly. "Well, I'll soon have that out of you. I have none o* yer bawling, praying, singing niggers on my place; so remember. Now, mind yourself,” he said, with a stamp and a fierce glance of his gray eye, directed at Tom, “I'm your church now! You understand, you've got to be as I say” (Stowe, XXXI. 231).

Another instance of racism discovered by the writer in Uncle Tom’s Cabin is chapter sixteen. Tom’s mistress and her views. This section clearly illustrates widespread view on the slave master’s attitude to their slaves. In the narrative. Marie describes slaves as a disease in her existence.

“I don't know, I 'm sure, except for a plague; they are the plague of my life. I believe that more of my ill-health is caused by them than by any one thing; and ours, I know, are the very worst that ever anybody was plagued with. O, eome, Marie, you 've got the blues, this morning, said St. Clare. "You know 't is n't so. There's Mammy, the best creature living,
what could you do without her?” (Stowe, XVI. 115).

Suffering from Discrimination

Discrimination is described as treating a person or a certain group of people differently, particularly cruelly, than you treat other individuals because of their skin color, gender, sexual orientation, or other traits. Oroh and Mamentu in Racial Discrimination As Seen In Stockett’s The Help stated (2020: 1), “the different of appearance, skin color, education, belief and intelligence are reasons which cause racial discrimination practice in society.” White people are dominating than black people and causing the era of slavery in America. It implies that the influence of colonialism increases racial phenomena. Racial discrimination is an uneven treatment of persons or groups based on their race or ethnicity. As cited in Racial Discrimination As Seen In Stockett’s The Help, the impact of discrimination to black race is that they are trauma, murdered and living in poverty (Oroh and Mamentu, 2020).

“But, Topsy, if you 'd only try to be good, you might Could n't never be nothiii' but a nigger, if I was ever good, said Topsy. If I could be skinned, and come white, I'd try then. But people can love you, if you are black, Topsy. Miss Ophelia would love you, if you were good. Topsy gave the short, blunt laugh that was her common mode of expressing incredulity. Don't you think so? said Eva. No; she can't bar me, 'cause I'm a nigger! she 'd Boon have a toad touch her! There can't nobody love niggers, and niggers can't do nothin'! I don't care," said Topsy, beginning to whistle” (Stowe, XXV. 192).

It illustrates the long struggle of African-Americans for equality as a result of discrimination. Many blacks face injustice, pain, ridicule, and hatred at the hands of white people who have long held the belief that they are superior. Whites believe that blacks are a slacker, a liar, and a bad race. Furthermore, black people's faith becomes a form of discrimination. White people discriminate against blacks and Negroes by disparaging them based on skin color, impoverishing their life and religion, preventing them from achieving their human rights, and torturing black people for whatever cause.

Slaves’ Life is Restricted

Cruelty of slavery limited slaves’ life and denied them civil rights. Slaves are unable to satisfy all of their aspirations for themselves and their families. Their movements and conduct are regulated, leaving them completely dependent on their masters. Slavery's cruelties make it impossible for slaves to converse with one another. Slaves are not allowed to speak in their own language; hence they are unable to communicate effectively. Slave masters also prevent their slaves from learning to read and write, severely limiting their capacity to communicate. Because slave masters are anxious that slaves’ ability to communicate and intellect may lead to their liberation or insurgency. As a result, slaves are never permitted to learn anything cognitively beneficial.

An example of a case found in the novel that shows that the lives of slaves are restricted, can be seen from the character Topsy. Topsy has no idea how old she is. She has no notion what time it is or where she is in the year. Ophelia tries to teach her, but Topsy doesn't get the words or the
meaning. It reveals that Topsy was never educated.

“How old are you, Topsy? Dun no, Missis said the image. Don't know how old you are? Didn't anybody ever tell you? Who was your mother? Never had none! said the child. Never had any mother? What do you mean? Where were you born? Never was born! persisted Topsy, with another goblinlike grin. You mustn't answer me in that way, child. Tell me where you were born, and who your father and mother were. Never was born, reiterated the creature, more emphatically; never had no father nor mother, nor nothin'. I was raised by a speculator, with lots of others. Old Aunt Sue used to take care on us” (Stowe, XX. 158)

“How long have you lived with your master and mistress? Dun no, Missis. Is it a year, or more, or less? Dun no, Missis. Laws, Missis, those low negroes, they can't tell; they don't know anything about time, said Jane; they don't know what a year is; they don't know their own ages” (Stowe, XX. 159)

“Do you know how to sew? said Miss Ophelia. No, Missis. What can you do? what did you do for your master and mistress? Fetch water, and wash dishes, and rub knives, and wait on folks” (Stowe, XX. 159)

Slave illiteracy is depicted in one occasion in the novel as a result of their failure to obtain a solid education. When Tom tries to write a letter to his wife and children, his weak reading skills because him troubles.

“The fact was, Tom's home yearnings had become so strong, that he had begged a sheet of writing-paper of Eva, and, mustering up all his small stock of literary attainment acquired by Mas'r George's instructions, he conceived the bold idea of writing a letter; and he was busy now, on his slate, getting out his first draft. Tom was in a good deal of trouble, for the forms of some of the letters he had forgotten entirely; and of what he did remember, he did not know exactly which to use” (Stowe, XIX. 152)

According to quotes above, the lack of understanding is the fact that they only know how to do work for their owners. They don’t have to study or sort. They had never had such a thorough education before. Their mobility is restricted, making it hard for them to do anything other than work.

Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is one of the consequences of cruelty of slavery. Eliza’s experience provides evidence of human trafficking. Eliza heard about his master talk with a trader. His master intends to sell Harry, Eliza’s son. Eliza was harmed as a result of this. She can’t be abandoned by his son again. She had already lost her kid, and she is now alone in the world, with only Harry to accompany her. Blacks are more likely to be victims of human trafficking. They are sold to white people so that they can labor for them.

Many niggers are sold as slaves to whites as a result of human trafficking. The whites are able to sell and buy niggers. They have a lot of money in comparison to
poor blacks. Human trafficking is still prevalent and has become the primary source of revenue for white people. Selling a human to a trader is lawful. There is no law in place to prevent human trafficking, and they desire to be a part of the slave trade.

“I heard Master tell Missis that he had sold my Harry, and you, Uncle Tom, both, to a trader; and that the man was to take possession to-day. Eliza started Oh, Missis! she said, raising her eyes; then, bursting into tears, she sat down in a chair, and began sobbing. Why Eliza, child! What ails you? said her mistress. Oh, Missis, said Eliza, there’s been a trader talking with Master in the parlor! I heard him. Well, silly child, suppose there has. Oh, Missis, do you suppose Mas’r would sell my Harry? And the poor creature threw herself into a chair, and sobbed convulsively” (Stowe, V. 32)

Children are also traded in this cruel trade. Many youngsters are sold to work at the mansion of White. Children are removed from their parents as a result of human trafficking. The parents of their children have suffered as a result of human trafficking.

“When the voices died into silence, she rose and crept stealthily away. Pale and shivering she looked an entirely altered being from the soft and timid creature she had been hitherto. She moved caustiously along the entry, and then turned and glided into her own room, where, on the bed, lay her slumbering boy. Poor boy! poor fellow! said Eliza; they have sold you! but your mother will save you yet I” (Stowe, V. 30)

Human trafficking affects African-Americans, who are treated as captives. Both their hands and feet must be bound. Because they are human, the realities that harm them. It depicts niggers as though they are shackled and unable to escape. The white trade legislation reflects the cruelty of slavery.

**Rebellion**

Rebellion is another effect of cruelty of slavery. Rebellion may be defined as the path of the slave's fight. "Every phase of human life demands effort," according to Life Struggle As Reflected In Ralston's Between A Rock And A Hard Place. When people are in a tough situation to make decisions, they battle to survive. In the world, everyone has ambitions or objectives that they want to reach, but achieving such achievement is not simple; it demands effort and maximal hard work in line with the capabilities of the individuals who want to attain these goals" (Bataha, Mogea and Lolowang, 2021). Slaves who wish to be free will ultimately rebel. They require freedom.

Several characters in the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin demonstrate rebellion. George is one of the rebellious characters. George's rebellion was motivated by a desire for liberty. He wishes to visit Canada. He was there to reclaim his wife and son.

“Going, George! Going where? To Canada, said he; and when I'm there, I'll buy you; that's all the hope that's left us. You have a kind master, won't refuse to sell you. I 'll buy you and the boy God helping me, I will! 0, George, for my sake, do be careful! Don't do anything wicked; don't lay
hands on yourself, or anybody else! You are tempted too much too much; but don’t go you must but go carefully, prudently; pray God to help you” (Stowe, III. 18)

Cassy was also involved in the rebellion. She, like Uncle Tom, works for Legree. Cassy offers Tom to run away with her, but Tom declines. Tom is a decent individual who is always concerned about the other slaves. The slaves all look up to Tom because he is a spiritual man who cares about everyone. Tom refuses to run with his friends because he believes in remaining faithful to his terrible master till the end of his life. Cassy's escape strategy, as well as an act of rebellion, are depicted in the following passage.

“Come! said she, in a whisper, fixing her black eyes on him. Come along! He's asleep sound. I put enough into his brandy to keep him so. I wish I 'd had more, I should n't have wanted you. But come, the back door is unlocked; there's an axe there, I put it there, his room door is open; I ’ll show you the way. I ’d a done it myself, only my arms are so weak. Come along!” (Stowe, XXXVIII. 268)

The desire of slaves to escape is a kind of rebellion. They are not comfortable with their master or their situation. They believed that being the slave of the cruel master was a horrible thing. From the quotations above and explanations, we can see the effects of the cruelty act of slavery in racism, discrimination, slaves’ life is restricted, human trafficking and rebellion.

CONCLUSION

The fundamental topic of Uncle Tom's Cabin is cruelty of slavery, which focuses on the challenges of slaves who have been sold multiple times on the slave market. Slaves are treated as property by their owners in order for them to profit from working extra. Slaves are also subjected to physical violence, with some sometimes being beaten to death. Cruelty typically implies that some form of pleasure is found in causing suffering in others. Cruelty is an expression of anger. Torture and abuse are the results of wrath or another emotional state. Cruelty is closely connected to, or even involves, the victims of cruelty.

REFERENCES


