

The Analysis of Hegemony in Terra Nullius Novel by Claire G. Coleman

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze hegemony in Terra Nullius a novel by Claire G. Coleman uses Antonio Gramsci's theory in literary studies and Sociology. The research focuses on discussing the concept of hegemony that occurs within the main character. The theory in literary studies is used to analyze the novel, using an intrinsic approach including characterization, plot, and setting which is elaborated through an extrinsic approach related to hegemony. This research uses a qualitative method with data collection techniques including literature study, observation, and note-taking. The source of data used are novels and several books and journals to support the research. The results revealed that in the novel Terra Nullius, the concept of hegemony and the state involving civil society, namely the Natives called Aboriginals, with Settlers communities, Europeans are identified. In the hegemony that occurs, the practice of supremacy is found, namely a group that manifests itself in leadership that

dominates the opposition to destroy or subdue the Aboriginals with weapons. All done to win power over the nobody land called Australia. Consequently, it became an Integral state, a hegemony shielded by the systems of violence.

1. INTRODUCTION

Literary works represent an author's imaginative creations based on their social context. This is how the world is described in literary works using language so the readers may understand what the author is saying. Intrinsic and extrinsic aspects are the two key components that make up a literary piece. While extrinsic aspects describe the social life of society at a certain moment, the section dealing with intrinsic elements reveals the contents of the work's structure. As a result, the social life of society as described in literary works starts to resemble a realistic representation of life. With this consideration, this research project offers a sociological approach to literary works with social significance.

Damono (1978) claims that literary sociology is frequently described in the context of literary studies as an approach that analyzes and assesses literary works considering social factors. Literary sociology, contrary to its name, is an interdisciplinary field that uses Sociology and Literary Science to analyze literary works. The relationship between Sociology as a discipline and literature as a sociological phenomenon researched in literary terms about Sociology is therefore described in the following to grasp the notion of literary sociology. The study of literary sociology has grown significantly over time and is perhaps the oldest in human history. Plato is regarded as the pioneer of the social theory of literature together with his student Aristotle who had the theory of mimesis until the theory of hegemony was put forward by Antonio Gramsci. In this instance, society views the creation of literary works as having the ability to mold, influence, and even transform society.

Hegemony as a concept developed by Antonio Gramsci as an improvement of political theory that Karl Marx had not yet fully developed. Marx promoted an oppressive form of mastery. Marx also claimed that social processes are nothing more than internal production relations, base movements, or infrastructure advancements have an impact on human consciousness.

Temporary superstructure is the process of social existence and comprises culture, human ideas, religion, politics, law, philosophy, art, and ethics. Infrastructure also includes production forces and production linkages.

Patria and Arief (2015) stated that hegemony developed because of a balance between the strength of political society as the dominant party, the power of forceful tactics, and the power of consent from civil society. As a result, it might be claimed that deep, violent hegemony appears hazy because it is hidden by a force that quietly manipulates symbolic representation. Thus, Gramsci's notion of hegemony includes both agreements within the hegemonic party and dominance established via the use of force, such as coercive methods. As a result, Gramsci's definition of hegemony includes both agreement among the hegemonic group and mastery established with the authority of some form of oppressive action.

Hegemonic behavior manifests itself unquestionably in literary works as well. Everything a literary author writes is accurate since he or she is also a person. Novels are within the category of literary works that address environmental issues that people face daily. A novel is a piece of literature that examines a wide range of intricate, nuanced, and profound topics that are present in the social context in which it was written. The hegemonic theory is used in Claire G. Coleman's book *Terra Nullius*, which can address social issues.

Terra Nullius is a novel by Claire G. Coleman, a Noongar woman, which was published on 29 August 2017. Although the work is entirely fictional, Native Australian and postcolonial survival narratives have a significant and subtle effect. It is not *Terra Nullius* as we know it. It was not typical empire, continent, time, place, country, or race. In *Terra Nullius*, the goal of taking over Australia as a nation under the rule of the colonists is not just the atrocities committed by Europe against indigenous peoples, mass murder, slavery, language death, land theft, destruction of livelihoods, and total humiliation of the native population.

A story that cannot be imagined how it could happen, but Coleman as a writer brings us a story from the testimony of old stories but seen again from a new perspective. In the first narrative act, the story is familiar enough to differentiate between black and white. Secondly, race is still ambiguous, only the Aboriginal characters are racialized. Victims from the Ministry of Settlers currently emphasize that as living creatures there must be mutual benefit for all humanity. This even led to interbreeding such as baby farming, so that all Australian humans, except for a few isolated individuals, were raceless. This reflects the artificial homogenization of Indigenous culture under colonization and the responsive changes to identity and community in reaction to atrocities.

The purpose of this study is to discover how violence connected to the main character, characterization, storyline, and setting in *Terra Nullius* reinforces Antonio Gramsci's concept of hegemony, as well as the impact of hegemony and the state on the novel.

2. METHOD

The research uses a qualitative approach in analyzing a literary work in the form of a novel. According to Creswell (1994) qualitative research is a comprehensive strategy, that is part of discovery. The unfolding model that takes place in a natural environment is another way to define qualitative research. It allows the researcher to gain a degree of depth from a high level of involvement in the actual events. The social phenomenon being studied from the participant's point of view is one way to recognize qualitative research. Qualitative research methods are used in various research designs to frame the research methodology. The various methodologies therefore significantly influence the research strategies considered.

Data collected through the senses are used in this scientific study to support innovative and developing ideas that aim to explain social behavior-related events. In addition to the obvious distinctions between quantitative and qualitative research methods, significant variations in each research approach have been found. The methodology we utilized for our qualitative research is content analysis.

This method is described as a detailed and systematic examination of the contents of a particular body of materials to identify patterns, themes, or biases by Leedy & Ormrod (2001). Books, newspapers, movies, and other forms of human communication are examined using content analysis to look for trends, themes, or biases. The technique is made to extract specific traits from the text of human communications. The researcher is investigating linguistic, visual, and behavioral themes, biases, or trends.

The object of research is scientific to obtain data with specific purposes and functions about something objective, valid, and reliable about a particular variable, according to (Sugiyono, 2014). From this understanding, it can be understood that the object of research is a description of the scientific targets that will be explained to obtain information and data with specific purposes and uses. The object of research that we examined is *Terra Nullius* a novel by a Noongar woman named Claire G. Coleman published in (2017).

Arikunto (2005) defined data sources as places where researchers can watch, read, or inquire about data. The author must consider the source of the data when choosing the best strategy for data collection. Primary data and secondary data are the two types of data used in this investigation. In this research, the primary data take form of texts from *Terra Nullius* a novel by a Noongar woman named Claire G. Coleman published in 2017. The secondary

data used in this research are supporting data, such as; excerpts from literary works and several journal articles to from which the required data for this research were obtained.

The data were examined using both intrinsic and extrinsic methods in a literary analysis. According to Pickering & Hoepfer (1981) literary components that are covered and discussed in the following parts make up a brief inventory. Each has a connection to at least one of the three main categories: drama, poetry, and fiction. The elements provide a logical order for their analysis, even though they are more important in some works than others and have no order of importance affecting the works' overall worth. Certain components are more evident than others; for instance, it makes sense to start a discussion of fiction with the three components that make up a fictional story: plot, character, and setting. The plot is also a narrative of events, the emphasis falling on causality that has defined a story as a narrative of events arranged in their time sequence. There is exposition, complication, crisis, falling in action, and resolution. When we discuss character in the context of literary analysis, we are primarily focused on three different but closely related acts. First and foremost, we are worried about our ability to recognize the main identifying intellectual, emotional, and moral traits as well as the nature and personalities of the characters themselves, called characterization. There are essentially two methods of indirect characterization by showing: characterization through dialogue (what characters say) and characterization through action (what characters do). The last part focuses on setting, which in its broadest sense refers to the physical location that frames the action as well as the time of day or year, the climactic circumstances, and the historical era in which it occurs. The setting, at its most basic level, aids the reader in visualizing the action of the piece and lends the characters believability and an air of authenticity. In other words, it contributes to the development and maintenance of the illusion of life, or what we refer to as verisimilitude. The reader must pay close attention to the descriptive passages in which the specifics of settings are revealed if they are to comprehend the meaning and function of the setting, such as the setting as a background for action, the setting as an antagonist, and the setting as a means of creating an appropriate atmosphere.

The extrinsic approach used in this research is through literary sociology by Damono and the theory of hegemony by Antonio Gramsci. According to Damono (1978) In short, Sociology can be defined as the objective, scientific study of people in society, including the analysis of social institutions and processes. The goal of Sociology is to understand how society develops, functions, and endures. Studying social structures and all associated economic, religious, political, and other issues helps us understand how people adapt to their surroundings, as well as the mechanisms of socialization and the process of civilization that places people in their respective roles in society. It has been determined that both literature and Sociology have goals. According to Patria and Arief (2015), in fact, Gramsci's definition of supremacy allows for the elaboration of his idea of hegemony. As mentioned, "domination" and "intellectual and moral leadership" are two ways that a group's superiority is shown. It is explained that opposing organizations are subject to social group dominance to "destroy" or subjugate them, sometimes even using violent force. One of the requirements is that a group must demonstrate this kind of "leadership" before gaining political authority. This explanation makes it evident that the unity of the two ideas of dominance and leadership supports wholeness. Three things can be summed up as the relationship between dominance and leadership if it is deeply understood. First, opponents exercise dominance, while allies exercise leadership. Secondly, in the sense of limiting governmental power, controlling the state apparatus requires strong leadership. Third, class supremacy can be attained from two directions: domination and direction. According to Faruk (2021) the methodological presumption that underpins Gramsci's research is that a social group's dominance manifests itself in two ways: "domination" and "moral and intellectual leadership." A group that is more likely to be "crushed" or even subjugated by force of arms is subordinated to a social group. Gaining political power is a prerequisite for the group to demonstrate leadership. When a group exerts power, it becomes dominant, and since it already maintains that dominance, it must continue. We refer to this style of leadership as hegemony. Another definition of hegemony is something complex that combines political, ethical, and economic aspects. According to Firmansyah and Auliya (2022) The rule of power by one social class over another is another definition of hegemony. of one social class over another, of one person over another, or a group over a person via moral and intellectual subjugation or guidance. Every person undoubtedly has a wide range of objectives and aspirations. As a result, they can feel compelled to enforce their will even on other individuals or organizations, believing that maintaining control over others is crucial to their protection. For Mark, the state serves as the ruling group's instrument of repression. They resort to violence to keep control or authority. They start using the economy as a weapon to stay in power. Hegemony can be found in interpersonal relationships as well as in the domain of politics. Dani and Suseno (2023) claimed that Antonio Gramsci's concept of hegemony originated as a development of political theory that Karl Marx was unable to fully articulate. Marx maintained that repression is the means of domination. Marx further claimed that the social process that is, the production relations process, the foundation or infrastructure that advances the superstructure has an impact on the awareness of human thoughts. The forces of production and the relations of production make up the infrastructure, while the social life process which encompasses politics, religion, culture, human ideas, law, philosophy, art, and ethics makes up the superstructure.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Result

There are six characters and characterizations, five types of plots, three functions of setting, and three impacts of hegemony identified from the analysis that was done through the elaboration between intrinsic and extrinsic approaches.

Hegemony Through Character and Characterization in Terra Nullius

Sister Bagra is a nun who serves as a leader in the church, school, and dorm. She goes by the title “Super mother” because no one dares to defy the severe standards she has managed. She is also one of the intellectuals tasked with introducing education and religion to Native children.

Sister Bagra paced the oppressively dark, comfortably stuffy halls of her mission in silent, solitary contemplation. She was dedicated to her duty, to bring faith to these people, if they could be called people; to bring religion, to bring education to these savages. An almost completely thankless task, a seemingly pointless, useless task. The recipients of her effort seemed totally incapable of appreciating what was being done for them, even going so far as resenting her help (chapter-1, p-6).

The name Bagra is not immediately familiar because Bagra is the name of a city in India. The above quote leads one to the conclusion that Bagra is a nun assigned with educating and introducing these so-called Native people to religion. In the theory of hegemony by Gramsci there are intellectuals, all humans have the potential for it but not everyone is an intellectual in social function. Moreover, from the category of intellectuals, the most is done by a spiritual person because they can monopolize important services such as ideology and education. This is very appropriate for the character named Bagra, a nun who does have expertise in her field, for bringing religion and education. As quoted above there are negative words for a spiritual person because it seems to be a useless task. This leads to Bagra being an intellectual who is defective in her social function.

JACKY WAS RUNNING. There was no thought in his head, only an intense drive to run. There was no sense he was getting anywhere, no plan, no destination, no future. All he had was a sense of what was behind, what he was running from. Jacky was running. The heave of his breath, the hammering of his heart were the only sounds in his world. Through the film of tears and stinging, running sweat in his eyes there was nothing to see, only a grey, green, brown blur of woodland rushing past. Jacky was running. Other days he had felt joy at the speed, at the staccato rhythm of his feet, but not today. There was no space in his life for something as abstract – as useless – as joy. Only a sense of urgency remained. Jacky was running (chapter-1, p-6).

Jacky is the main character and protagonist of the novel, a young man from Native Australia who was kidnapped by European. Jacky is the main object of the Europeans because of his rebellion during his education under the command of Sister Bagra. It can be said that Jacky is subaltern class. In chapter 1, a minor character mentions the name Jacky in the opening paragraph. In the past, Jacky was a man’s name that meant “favorite.” In English, it meant “assistant,” and in Scottish, it meant “God is most merciful.” According to some sources, Jacky represents tenacious ambition. If someone has the name Jacky, the person will never give up on dreams and goals in life. Jacky’s look above suggests that he is a boy fleeing from a difficult situation or event in his life, which is why it is mentioned that he has nowhere to run. In hegemony, there is a subaltern class where they will accept the leadership form of domination, and this subaltern class includes different races or lower races including slaves. In this case, Jacky who comes from the Native group is the subaltern.

The head of the Department for the Protection of Natives was drowning, in a flood, in an avalanche of paperwork that had lately become more important than fulfilling the actual duties of his office. It had reached the point where the uninformed would believe from a glance at his office that paperwork was, in fact, all he actually had to do. That had to change, he just didn’t know how to do it (chapter-3, p-21).

The term Devil seems unusual, but since the novel does not reveal the true identity of the chief of the tribes’ protection, it only states that people call him Devil. Devil is also one of the intellectuals who lacks social skills.

The Native Protection Department has a head, although the character's name *is* not revealed. Given the conditions, we concluded that he belongs to one of the dominating groups and has failed to fulfil his responsibilities for protecting Native people.

SERGEANT ROHAN HELD the letter in his hands as if it was a piece of stinking filth, as if it was one of the venomous animals that infested the forest around his office. Animals – venomous, Native, filthy – they even infested the cracks in the walls, crawled under the walls through the countless gaps (chapter-4, p-34).

Sergeant Rohan is a European sergeant whose job it is to discipline Natives when they make mistakes, and he is accompanied by a man named Devil. In the army's ranking structure, a sergeant is a non-commissioned officer who ranks beyond an enlisted soldier but below a first officer. The concept of hegemony defines two groups: political society and civil society. Because governance is the province of political society, Sergeant Rohan shares supremacy with characters such as Sister Bagra, who is in charge of both education and religion, and Devil, the head of Native protection, but he is also one of the intellectuals who is lacking in social function.

It had been a night of fire and noise, a night of gunshots and screams, of fear, blood and death, mostly death. A glut of death that had ended Johnny Star's life. Following standard tactics, they had arrived at the Native camp a couple of hours before dawn. They were searching for a fugitive, a murderer who had killed a Settler. It did not matter why the Settler had been singled out and killed, although the Native would surely have some story, some pathetic excuse. Murder would not be tolerated (chapter-5, p-48).

Johnny Star is a unique character because he plays both the role of antagonist and protagonist. At the beginning of the story, he plays a villain who is used to stealing and even slaughtering the natives, but at the end of the story, he tries to correct his mistakes and turns around to help protect the natives from the attacks of his people. Johnny Star is a character that first appears in chapter 5. In English, Johnny signifies "a young man on the run," while the name Star symbolizes something that shines in his work being the best in the field. Whether a star is positive or negative, that is how it functions. It is suggested that a night filled with fire can also be regarded as tense because of something occurring, and there is indeed a murder issue in the last sentence since violence can take any form in hegemony to accomplish goals.

THE PEOPLE IN the Settler town where Perth used to be, on the continent that was once called Australia, did not know how lucky they were that Father Grark of the First Church had been sent to the planet unarmed. For days he had been moving from pathetic colonial office to more pathetic colonial office, attempting to request, then later to requisition a flier. He had been told by the Trooper Office that it was unsafe to travel by land, especially for someone inexperienced and unadapted to the local climate (Chapter-13, p-135).

Father Grark is a European priest with high morals, he is the only church leader who works with the government to protect the natives. He is the only intellectual with morals from Europe. Father Grark is a character mentioned in the paragraph. At first, Father Grark was a minister in Australia's first church. However, one day he was assigned to conduct an inquiry in a remote colony, specifically in Perth. They say they are fortunate to have Grark. This statement suggests that Grark does an excellent task of capturing the essence of a pastor who wishes to shield his flock.

3.1.1 Hegemony Through Plot in of Terra Nullius

Exposition

The author sets the scene, introduces the characters, establishes the situation, and dates the action.

When I saw the squalor they lived in, without any of the conveniences that make our lives better, dirty and seemingly incapable of being clean, I was horrified. When I discovered they had intelligence I was surprised. When I was told their souls had not been saved I resolved to do something about it (chapter-1, p-6).

The introduction of the word "I" at the beginning of the story implies a point of view, namely the first person. The following sentence, which comes from an insignificant character presenting a story, speaks of their extreme

poverty as well as “their” knowledge and desire to save “themselves”. On closer analysis, the phrase “*their souls had not been saved*” relates to a specific faith. Christianity is evident in this statement.

JACKY WAS RUNNING. There was no thought in his head, only an intense drive to run. There was no sense he was getting anywhere, no plan, no destination, no future. All he had was a sense of what was behind, what he was running from. Jacky was running. The heave of his breath, the hammering of his heart were the only sounds in his world. Through the film of tears and stinging, running sweat in his eyes there was nothing to see, only a grey, green, brown blur of woodland rushing past. Jacky was running. Other days he had felt joy at the speed, at the staccato rhythm of his feet, but not today. There was no space in his life for something as abstract – as useless – as joy. Only a sense of urgency remained. Jacky was running (chapter-1, p-6).

It begins the story first, and in the next line Jacky, the main character, is running with no plan, no destination, and no future. It has been stated that Jacky was crying as he runs through a forest that appears to be composed entirely of green leaves and tree trunks. It is unclear what was happening in Jacky's life to cause him to run so fast. Jacky runs because of a sense he has, even though it is unclear where he is going. This introduction paragraph is accompanied by conflict as well. People typically experience discomfort in their lives when there is hegemony, which leads them to believe that fleeing is the best course of action.

Complication

In hegemony, ideas are crucial for transforming into material power. Trust is one of the many ways that ideas may spread. In this instance, religion can be a tool to change someone's perspective on the world.

When you landed in our home we knew you were like us and yet not like us. You eat, you sleep, you care about your children, you love one another, just as we sleep, eat, care for our children and love. Yet you brought your own ways, your own customs, your own religion, your own law, your own language. You brought your own crops and your own animals. We saw little evidence of a desire on your part to try and understand our ways. We tried to understand you yet we could not. I don't know if you made any genuine attempt to understand us but if you tried you failed (chapter-3, p-21).

In this section of the text, the pronoun “you” refers to the antagonistic position the Settlers took upon landing in Australia. The word “we” in the story refers to the Native Australian tribe. The indigenous people of Australia suffer considerably with the arrival of the Settlers, who are thought to have imposed their will by dominating customs, religion, language, law, and other sectors. This is completely declared in the theory of hegemony.

Crisis

The crisis, also known as the climax, is the point in the story where emotions are at their peak; it is the critical moment that leads directly to the story's resolution.

'I am Jacky, some call me Jacky Jerramungup,' his calm voice said. 'I think you are looking for me.' (chapter-20, p-233)

Based on the quote above. Jacky stabs Sergeant Rohan with a knife, causing him to collapse to the ground. It is said that several settlers, or colonial organizations, have prepared to shoot the Native Americans living in the camp. As soon as Jacky notices the attack, shots are fired, striking his torso, and knocking him to the ground behind Sergeant Rohan. Jacky smiles faintly as he exhales his last breath. He wishes death to escape being captured once more.

With a soggy, weak thud he hit the ground. There were over thirty Settlers out there, surrounding the camp. When they fired it was like a song, a slippery discordant tune, magpies amplified and distorted, requesting a dance from Jacky. They must have hit him twenty times at least, each hit adding a step to his dance. He fell, a look of total contentment, utter peace on his face. Again the breathless silence descended. Jacky made not a sound, everybody watched as he lay on his back with his head turned to one side. Everybody watched his chest rise and fall, the breaths getting more labored. Everybody, human and Settler alike, was watching when Jacky Jerramungup, faintly smiling, breathed his last (chapter-20, p-233-234).

Supremacy has been discussed a lot with hegemony and this is the result of supremacy using force to subdue the group under attack. From the first excerpt, the story of Jacky and Sergeant Rohan heading toward death becomes a crisis in the plot. In hegemony, some leadership is dominating and in practice involves supremacy, on the one hand, a group wants to destroy or subdue them, and even with weapons the goal is only one, namely winning power.

Falling Action

After the crisis, the turning point occurs, the action calms and the story unfolds to its desired conclusion.

Grark examined the room with a look of disgust he no longer even wished to disguise. Those walls, how could anyone stand to work in a room with those walls? He had never seen something so busy, so densely layered with bullshit. The contrast between the empty, obsessively plain desk and the walls was painful, nauseating, distressing (chapter-20, p-240).

The quotation shows how the reduction in action begins when the main character experiences a prolonged crisis. Grark investigates the empty chamber that has served as the backdrop for the action plot's collapse. There is nothing to indicate that this is a Native protection agency, and Grark just stands there, beaming with glee. There is no activity there, only monotonous walls and empty tables, indicating that the employees do not support Native Americans.

Resolution

The last part of the story is the resolution of the plot, which captures the outcome of the conflict and establishes a new balance or stability (though flimsy and fleeting).

Evidence,' Grark had said. Sitting in the third-class lounge – the only seat she had access to, her room being no more than a tube with a bed in it, not even really enough room to sit up – she carefully avoided making eye contact with anyone. She did not want to talk to anyone; if she was foolish to make eye contact someone surely would have a spiritual question to ask her or need help with an emotional matter or some other such foolishness. Being a sister of the Order, she would be obliged to talk to them (chapter-21, p-246).

The story of Sister Bagra, sometimes known as Mother Superior, ends here. She is transported home by ship and segregated chamber because of the errors she has made in his role as a nun. On a ship that would journey for days, nothing but the brutality and ignorance of what she has done to the native youngsters as companions festers. Despite the horrors she has caused, she does not appear depressed; rather, she is thankful that she can now go home after serving the colonial group in Australia for decades. She has pictured herself feeling embarrassed about what she has done when she gets back home. Presiding as a nun, she rules by enslavement, oppression, and the punishing of Native children. Ultimately, Father Grark who is leading the church in a different location discovers this action. Bagra has to realize that she is free to become a nun because this act cannot be accepted.

3.1.2 Hegemony through Setting in Terra Nullius

Setting as an Antagonist

Setting types are many in fiction, and they serve a multitude of purposes. Certain settings do not matter. They are merely accidental and ornamental backgrounds. It can be defined that setting can act as an antagonist or causal agency, establishing plot conflict and determining how events will turn out.

here was silence around the tiny group as the boys realized the gravity and danger of the situation. Wind shook the leaves of the ugly Native trees, a light hot wind, bringing thirst, sapping what strength they had left. Despite being in the same situation they were different men and had different thoughts but they all had at least one thing in common (chapter-4, p-39).

"Wind shook the leaves of the ugly Native trees, a light hot wind, bringing thirst, sapping what strength they had left." We learned from the above quote that the setting serves as the antagonist. In this situation, the natural world might serve as an enemy or causal agency, creating tension in the plot and influencing how things play out.

Setting as a Means of Creating Appropriate Atmosphere

Here, the setting helps shape or create an atmosphere. As an illustration, consider the words happy, romantic, sorrowful, and so forth. To raise readers' expectations and prepare them for the events, it is hoped that this will do.

Sister Bagra had never bothered to learn the noises the Natives made instead of speaking; she could not see the point of learning a language so close to extinction. She berated them in hers, totally unconcerned whether or not they could understand her. Kicking each door once for emphasis, the sheet metal emitting a yell like a cross between thunder overhead and a church bell, she stormed away. In the dormitories the other children were silent in deep pretence of sleep. To hear Sister Bagra at all was rare, to hear her in a fury was something few forgot. Like an ill-mannered ghost she stamped and clattered her way back to her room to pray for the strength to survive these little beasts, this terrible place (chapter-1, p-8).

It is mentioned in the dormitories and the church in the paragraph above. This is the location and place of setting where the hegemony factor first appears to exist in Terra Nullius' novel. It is emphasized throughout the previous story that Sister Bagra's responsibility as the dominating subject has the task to educate Aboriginal children about their faith. with the language, faith, procedures, and traditions they carry over from Europe.

Setting as a Means of Revealing Character

Setting as a means of revealing character can be defined as the reader will frequently learn more about the character and his or her state of mind from how the character interprets and responds to the situation than from the setting itself.

Grark was not even remotely happy to be in the colonies, not anymore. At first it had been an adventure, an experience, but that soon paled as he discovered more and more abuse and immorality he would have to report. There was cruelty and slavery everywhere, in every corner of the colony; almost every Settler was involved from the lowest worker who had a slave he called an apprentice right up to the highest level of government where they turned a blind eye to these abuses (chapter-15, p-167).

There is a setting in the lengthy passage above, which is shown by Father Grark's perspective of the situation that is the numerous issues his group is causing. He witnesses instances of enslavement, brutality, and abuse. According to hegemony theory, dominating via violence is not acceptable, as Father Grark believes. However, it does not feel like you can take over the world by simply closing a transaction. Dominance will therefore have disastrous results, like what occurred in Australia. Because it controls both its population and its nation, hegemony, violence, and state authority are closely related concepts. Similarly, Lenin said in his theory of hegemony that the state in Marxism serves as a weapon in the hands of the ruling class to subjugate the populace. This is the state and revolution that Lenin represented.

3.2. Discussion

The beginnings

From the analysis of hegemony in Terra Nullius Novel, hegemony and country are intimately associated since Gramsci introduced the idea of a specific country serving as the embodiment of class power, known as hegemony, which defines politics and its consequences. On the contrary, a revolution that fits under Gramsci's definition of the integral country or extended country may occur. Thus, contextually, the concept of country and hegemony was born to answer two problems: how to create a revolution in Australia and why there is a gap in political practice.

When you landed in our home we knew you were like us and yet not like us. You eat, you sleep, you care about your children, you love one another, just as we sleep, eat, care for our children and love. Yet you brought your own ways, your own customs, your own religion, your own law, your own language. You brought your own crops and your own animals (chapter-3, p-21).

The quotation above show that how the Europeans arrive in their unique manner, bringing with them laws, customs, languages, and faiths. They make sure to carry the animals with them from their homeland. This marks

the commencement of the European revolution in Australia, which was carried out through a dominant leadership style that began with customs, language, religion, and so forth.

The Invasion

The Dominant social groups want to destroy and conquer subordinate communities. Gramsci introduced the idea of an integrated country, which is hegemony-based leadership that develops from civil society and incorporates political society, in his theory of hegemony. One can conclude an integral country from two sources: first, violence; second, hegemonic leadership as manifested in the media, school system, and religious establishment, among other places.

This is Not an Invasion. I am writing this report from under a camouflage tarp somewhere north and west of the Murray River, in what once I would have called the desert. Which is the only reason I am able to write it at all. We are not being invaded, we are being colonised, and there is absolutely nothing we can do about it (chapter-10, p-108).

The quotation capitalizes the term “Invasion” in the first sentence, making it very evident that “This is not an invasion.” As widely known knowledge, an invasion is a military operation in which the armed forces of one nation invade a territory under the authority of another nation. However, the story of *Terra Nullius* is about colonization rather than invasion, leaving the Native Australians with no options. Speaking of colonialism and the impossibility of reversing it, this highlights the hegemony of the ruling class over the ruled class, which is essentially established by a process of agreement.

The Action to resist the colonists

Wherein adjustment occurs, specifically because of habit, fear, and finally awareness and agreement. In this instance, the quotation above suggests that there is dread, which prevents the Native Australians from taking any action to resist the colonists.

Person to person we are stronger than them, faster than them and we have the advantage of local knowledge. We are no less intelligent than them, might even be smarter on an individual level. Where they beat us consistently is in technology and the unrelenting, merciless, largely impersonal, application of force. Our species is also as ancient as theirs; when we were climbing down from the trees they were taking their first upright steps from the swamp, so there is no age advantage. It seems all their advantages developed because they come from a part of space where populated planets are more numerous (chapter-12, p-122).

Native Australians, often known as Aboriginals, recognized their superior strength and intelligence because of their mutual friends with the country. However, the coming of Europeans, armed with advanced technology, resulted in their harsh subjugation. This resembles the concept of the integral state in hegemony theory, in which control is achieved and maintained through force. The incorporated state is a political society that operates under dictatorship, with dominant cultural, political, and economic leaders. In essence, it is a type of hegemony maintained through violence.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on our analysis, we find that Claire G. Coleman's work *Terra Nullius* is a fictional dramatization of the true tragedy of European control over Australia's Aboriginal people. The story depicts the impact of hegemonic control through repressive leadership methods that resulted in European dominance over the native population. This dominion began with the European Revolution upon their arrival, to reshape Australia according to their rules. The Europeans declared their dominance by aggression, weaponry, slavery, violence, and discrimination, which led to undeniable fatalities among Aboriginal people. Finally, all these actions were motivated by a desire for power, transforming Australia into a land ruled by European aristocrats and supported by violence, demonstrating the concept of hegemony.

In conclusion, Claire G. Coleman's novel *Terra Nullius* accurately portrays the concept of hegemony through its depiction of European domination over the indigenous people of Australia. The novel dramatizes the tragic reality of how European settlers imposed their dominance through violence, oppression, and systemic discrimination. Coleman emphasizes the terrible consequences of hegemonic rule on indigenous populations by portraying characters who either represent or fight oppressive dynamics of power. *Terra Nullius* is a sobering symbol of colonialism's disastrous repercussions and the struggle for power and justice.

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