

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter is divided into two subchapters: the analysis and discussion. Chapter IV is the most important part of this research, because it answers the research questions mentioned in the first chapter and it also shows the result of the research. The researcher uses the procedure of data analysis as stated in chapter 2.

4.1. Findings

The researcher was found the unhomeliness of Muhammad Ali since he was a child. There are 3 phases of Ali's unhomeliness. The first is childhood experience as Cassius Clay, second when he became athlete, and the third is when he turned his belief to a Muslim then changed his name.

4.1.1. The childhood experience of unhomeliness in Muhammad Ali

In an interview with a biographer, Thomas Hauser. Cassius Marcellus Clay was born on Louisville, Kentucky where *white* skin people are the majority, and *black* are the minor and a well-known place that has big numerous of racial discrimination issues as the sixteenth class citizen as he explained, when the interviewer asked about Ali's feeling as the second class citizen;

Second class? Oh no. Sixteenth class. They used to always say I was a second class citizen. I would say to my mother, 'Momma?

How come the Chinese can go where I can't go in America? Englishmen can come and set up a business in white America and do things I can't do.

The Puerto Rican, Hawaiians, just about everybody can do more than black people and are more respected.

So who is this second class citizen because they do alright?

Because we were way down as far as I was concerned.

Those are explained that, Ali could not go in America, shouldn't have any business with the *white*, while the Asian can. Negroes were down as he concerned. Those explanation of Muhammad Ali has discussed by Tyson about the classes called as Eurocentric, the theory are differentiated into 4 worlds. the First World are Europe, Britain, and United State, for The Second are the white populations of Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and southern Africa (and, for some theorists, the former Soviet bloc), The Third are developing nations, such as India and those of Africa, Southeast

Asia, the Last is non-white populations, Central and South America (Tyson, 2014:420). So, based on the theory of Eurocentric Muhammad Ali were included in 3rd world because he was an African-American.

When he was 8 or 10 years old he realized discrimination of public policies such as special places for colored people in public busses that force them to seat in the small space at the rear bus.

In the same age, based on his bitterness of discrimination policies, has inspired him to think that boxing as the media to become famous, after that he can inspired the other for fighting everything that he believe for his people. He said, "I don't know what it was, but I always felt like I was born to do something for my people" (Hauser, 1992:18). Ali told "my people" was directly pointing into people who has a common fate, could be racial issues that people like him was treated unwell, so that's why he told that he has to do something. The utterance "I" also draws, only "I" who can fix the condition, or could be shown how critic the condition, so need help. He also continued. "It was like God was telling me I had responsibility." The second utterance, involving God which mean, the condition was not little. Moreover, the word "responsible" in Oxford dictionary means being an agent of something, in this case a condition for Ali's people or people like him when he was 8 or 10 years. The question is, if Ali was born on January 18th 1942 (Rummel, 2005). So, what happened in his hometown when he was 8/ 10 years old, at the year of 1950? Here the researcher try to find the additional informations about issues in 1950's

In 1936 Victor Hugo Green is an American writer that focused on travel needs for everyone who may have problem to finding "suitable" public services. He made a guide book for them with a name THE Negro Motorist GREEN BOOK an International motor guide or known as GREEN BOOK. GREEN BOOK contained tips, instructions, and rules to warn Negro, it also filled with list of hotels, boarding houses, restaurants, beauty shop, barber shop, and various other services. Green claimed that, Negro has been the victim of discrimination which has turned into national issue, so they have to be alert and avoid *white* public policies, the Green Book will keep them from running into difficulties, embarrassments, or even persecution. Green also stated that the book was not complete yet, because another journey for his agent was very dangerous. Green book also warn in the cover that travel is a fatal to prejudice, even though Negro has the money the white wont never accepted and insist will be harmful. However, the lists was not all safe, a few services remain to always bring the GREEN BOOK to show the owner of the service, so they know that the visitors are not strangers. The worse is some city only have 1 public service, total of

the data that only have 1 public service are 172 cities in United State, so 172 cities only has 1 destination, most of them are only tourist house, no restaurant, barber shop, service station, or entertain themselves in night club. The data in the Green Book also said that, there is no public services in Perris, a city in southern California which is meant that no Negro can travel California or stay in there or could be harmful if Negro there. Negroes there must be survived alone. They cannot eat in the public, because eat in restaurant could be seen disgusting for *white*. They also supposed to go with their own transportation, because it is prohibited to go with any public transportation and there is no taxi listed in Green Book. In Louisville for instance, city where Ali born, they cannot go to downtown, and has very small space in the rear in any public transportation. Green Book also told that Negro only used Ford for vehicle (Green, 1949). So Green Book is a proven data shown segregation policies issues in 50's because shown the discriminations of colored people.

In addition, according to Patterson, there were a pivot moment, that known as *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* the case was a Supreme Court case in 1954. It was all began with the black driver of Chief Justice Earl Warren that wanted to visit sites of Civil War in Virginia. He has made an advance reservation. He was expected to stay with his driver. In the next morning he realized, that his driver spent his night in the car. When he asked why, His driver explained that “it was obvious that there were no decent accommodations to be had for black man in that racially segregated region”. These moments were inspired a movement called *Brown v. Board of Education*. The movement was fought for equal (Patterson, 2001). So the movement were tried to fought for equal because of the discrimination of segregation policies.

In the other hand, the discrimination policies also done well in boxing world, the researcher are trying to find all of boxers list in 1950's and here is the lists as fellows. There are several classes based on the weight of the boxers, such as Fly Weight 51kg, Bantam Weight 51 – 54 kg, Father Weight 54 – 57 kg, Light Weight 57 – 60, Light Welter-weight 60 – 63 kg, Welter Weight 63 – 67kg, Light Middle Weight 67 – 71 kg, 71 – 75kg, Light Heavyweight 75 – 81 kg, Heavy Weight above 81. Fly Weight has 23 participants, with 18 persons were *white*, 2 others are *black*, and the winner is *black*, in Fly Weight *black* are the minor, but he still have a chance to be the winner. Bantam Weight has 22 participants, 18 persons were *white*, 2 other are *black*, and the winner is *white*, in this class black is the minor and also did not get a chance to win. Father Weight also has 22 participants and has no *black* which clearly drew the discrimination based on the

contain of participant. Light Weight has 20 participants with only 2 *black* and the winner is *white*. Welter Weight has 24 participants, however, this class only has only 1 *black* and also the winner is *white*. Light Middle Weight has 24 participants 1 of them is *black*, and again, the winner is white. Light Heavyweight has 23 participants with only one black, the winner is white also. Heavy Weight above 81 has 24 participants listed, 3 of them are black, and the winner is *black* (Hesinki, 2019). From those data can conclude that there were totally 10 classes with 226 participants while only 12 persons who have *black* skin, and only 3 classes won. So, it means there is discrimination in the Olympiad because the number of the participants that only have 3 *black* maximum each class, even more, 7 classes did not give *black* people chance to win.

Those facts become the inspiration of Ali to join boxing as the media that can make him famous then stand up for people's right that has common fate, his skin color for instance. People like him, were not treated well in their own hometown, victim of the discrimination, oppress, and don't have power to fight back so that's why, they need a figure to stand and fight for his right.

4.1.2. The experience of unhomeliness in Muhammad Ali when he became athlete

Cassius M. Clay Jr. began his boxing carrier since in the age of 12, 1950's. he begin boxing because he lost his shiny new bicycle, then reported to the policeman, Joe martin and told that he wanted to fight the thief. After that, Martin offered to train Ali for Boxing. Although, after Ali won his first gold medal in Rome's Olympic Games, he realized that he had been treated no better than a slave.

However a well-known boxer did not get what he want yet, in Goldstein written that in the first won Olympic Games in Rome brought 11 millionaires, he came home with a news titled "The Biggest Prize a Black boy has Brought Back Louisville" (Goldstein, 2000;51), so it means Ali were very mad and disappointed, because he was successful defeated Zbigniew Pietrzykowski of Poland, a three time European champion and bronze medalist in the 1956 Olympic, fought for his country, worked very hard, hoped for appreciate, but people acted like he is not one of them. Goldstein after that, Ali throws his first gold medal to the Ohio River (Goldstein, 2000;51). It means, Millions of money that he got, he was expected to eat in downtown, however then he still got deep hearted bitterness over segregation policies of the South. In the other hand, Goldstein told that Ali also still called as "Nigger", treated unwelcome in downtown hotels, restaurants, and

theaters. They often said “We don’t serve Negroes” or “Black folks couldn’t eat downtown” then chased away that well-known boxer, he also said, “Where are all the colored folk?” he wondered. He said “colored” were referred to his envy of the skin color (Goldstein, 2014).

In an interview (Ali, 1971) he clearly explained about all of the racial issues by colored that happened to him, here as follows:

.....I always asked my mother, I said, ‘Momma, how come is everything white?’ I said, ‘Why is Jesus white with blond hair and blue eyes? Why is the Lord’s supper all white men? Angels are white, the Pope, Mary, and even the angels.’ I said, ‘Mother, when we die, do we go to Heaven?’ She said, ‘Naturally we go to Heaven.’ I said, ‘Well, what happened to all the black angels?’

‘They took the pictures.’

So anyway, I was always curious. I always wondered why Tarzan is the King of the Jungle in Africa, he was white.

And Miss America was always white. All the beautiful brown women in America, beautiful sun tans, beautiful shapes, all types of complexions, but she always was white.

And Miss World was always white, and Miss Universe was always white.

And the angel fruit cake was the white cake and the devil food cake was the chocolate cake.

I said, ‘Momma, why is everything white?’ I always wondered. And the President lived in the White House.

And Mary had a little lamb with feet as white as snow, and Snow White, and everything was white.

Santa Claus was white and everything bad was black. The little ugly duckling was the black duck, and the black cat was the bad luck.

In conclusion, in that interview Ali tried to explain all of the perception of the white that always drawn beauty, goodness, power, and luck, even more angel, Jesus, his God before he declares as Muslim is also white, while black are the opposite and wondering the reason of the bad image of black. In addition, there is no figure, angels, or figure that has a good perception of black color even in Negroes area, Africa for instance.

4.1.3. The experience of unhomeliness in Muhammad Ali when he became Muslim

In September 1963, Hauser explained narratively. All began with the Philadelphia Daily News reported Clay’s attendance at a “Black Muslim” in Philadelphia. He was just only attend their meetings, and he admired Muhammad, he also claimed he likes Muslim, he found piece in

Muslims, because Muslim never force anyone to like or hate, or even kill someone because you hate, Muslim also refusing violence. Those admire were drive him to declared himself as Muslim on February 7th, 1964, eighteen days before the Liston fight. He also changed his name, Muhammad Ali. (Hauser, 1992:17)

Not long after that, Ali were failed mental aptitude portion of pre-draft testing, his score delivered him to join army force of Vietnam war because, Cristian G. Appy argues that people that must go to serve in combat of Vietnam are 80 percent are having less education, not more than high school. Appy also claimed that, 25% of them are poor, 55 percent are working class, and for the rest are middle class, so the armies were middle to down classes of economical. One-four of the soldiers are black, he also stated “southern blacks were far more likely than their white counterparts to be drafted, to serve in combat, and to be wounded or killed”. Most of the armies are from Kentucky, where Ali lived which is in number significantly 884,000 of 2,926,000. So, Ali whom failed to passed mental aptitude explained having less education, black, and from Louisville, Kentucky has made him become the most appropriate person to join army force. At the years of 22 he got a command named The Armed Force. Then he rejected, he said. “I believe in Allah and in peace, I Ain’t got no quarrel with the, Viet Cong. The Viet Cong are not all bad. But America still dropping bombs. In Hiroshima weren’t bad but they still dropped the bomb.” (Fry, 2015). In an interview with (Hauser, 1992) added Ali’s taught about Vietnam war

“I’m expected to go overseas to help free people in South Vietnam, and at the same time my people here are being brutalized and mistreated, and this is really the same thing that’s happening over in Vietnam. So I’m going to fight it legally, and if I lose, I’m just going to jail. Whatever the punishment, whatever the persecution is for standing up for my beliefs, even if it means facing machine-gun fire that day, I’ll face it before denouncing Elijah Muhammad and the religion of Islam.” (Hauser, 1992)

It seems that the statement told the similarity position of Vietnam and his kind people, drawn how bad the situation was. That sadly should not to be the enemy of war according to his beliefs of Islam.

His taught about piece were rejected by his government, he was actually having a civil right to choose his believe, such as life in peace, were going contrast, Goldstein explained, by refusing the command, Ali was branded Anti-war, an enemy of state, and then claimed as a traitor. Moreover, Ali was punished 5 years in jail and fine of \$10.000 by the government. The worst for

him, he was stripped of his crown the heavyweight, banned to have a fighting under United States, under FBI's surveillance, and took his passport. Ali felt rejected by his own home, and said to the press "They want to stop me from working, not only in this country, but out of it" he was felt kicked to the ground, he got fine, but he banned to work.

In conclusion, he was separated "my people" and "they". My people were referred a people like him, his skin, taught, and beliefs. And "they" are the *white* people that always chased Ali and his people away, including all of the segregation policies, and even the perception of *white* as a good or the best and *black* as the ugly and all of the bad things, such as bad luck, bad appearance, or ugly things. Treated unwelcome in his own home, such as prohibited to eat in downtown, called as "Nigger", "Black", ETC, often chased in public entertainment, and got improper places separated with the other skin color. So he was feeling "unhome" in his hometown, were known as the unhomeliness. (BhaBha, 1994)

4.2. The Struggle of Muhammad Ali to Solve his Unhomeliness

The researcher has explained that Muhammad Ali felt unhomey since he was a child, the unhomeliness are because the segregation policies, *white* treated and the culture of the *white* that never accepted Negro and only can use several public services that listed in Green book, if they insist, they will find difficulties, embarrassments, or even persecution (Green, 1949). Join boxing can be the solution as a self-defense if there is persecution or any physical attack. Then, he turned it become talent, Clay has won 61 fights, with 56 victories and got 3 heavyweight titles in 12 countries. Clay's first trainer said, "He didn't know a left hook from a kick in the butt. But he was the most dedicated fighter I ever saw. He lived in the gym. He was there when I arrived in the morning and he was there when I left at night."(Goldstein, 2014:13). His friend in pre-Olympic competition in Rome, Skeeter McClure also told "... even then he fought in an unorthodox way. He kept his hand down and threw only head punches. But he had great legs and great speed. To see the heavyweight move like that was really something." (Goldstein, 2004:15). English journalist John Cotterel also wrote

"In the final round he finally found his form, moving in and out with expert judgment, punching crisply and with perfect timing. This sharper, better-coordinate Clay stormed back with a torrent of combination punching that left Pietrzykowski dazed. At the final bell the Pole was slumped helplessly on the ropes. There was no doubting the verdict." (Goldstein, 2004:17)

Clay also could predict about how long he would stand in the ring. This is one of the example:

“It was that night at the Coliseum that I annihilated him. I gave him a lot of sand. The one they call the old man I swept that old man clean out of the ring, ‘cause a brand new broom will clean up most anything. He was trying to remain the Great Mr. Mooore but Cassius said: ‘He must go in four’” (Hauser,1992:18)

So the baldhead Moore which was 40 years at that time, he was going more like a 80 years old guy fought flat. As Cassius said in an interview “This middle- age man, with a wild looking his eyes, grabbed me by the arm and asked ‘Are you God’ I said, ‘No sir, I am Cassius Clay, the greatest’”. (Hauser,1992:19). In addition, according to Goldstein Cassius Clay always predicted his 29 fought and run well as like he predicted. He was stopped predict when he turned his belief. Then, his achievements become brighter. Ali has won 61 fights, with 56 victories and got 3 heavyweight titles in 12 countries. His achievements and his unique things such as dancing in the ring, and predictions made him famous. He became the most recognized face in the universe (Goldstein, 2014:13). After that, standing of his achievements, he began got chance to deliver his taught, outside the ring. As Michel Parkinson said in the first interview, he said that;

Few would argue if I call him unique. In an age when the demarcation line between [sport](#) , showbiz and [politics](#) has become blurred, he’s a prime example of a man who is an athlete yet he represents so many other things for so many other people.

To me, as someone who’s interested in sport, he’s without doubt the most beautiful and complete athlete I’ve ever seen.

To others he’s a political leader, a figurehead in the battle between black and white. And yet to more people who care little about sport and even less about politics, he’s one of the world’s great entertainer. A character, a comedian, and a sometimes poet. Here he is in all his splendor. (Ali, 1971)

Those explanation clearly explained how extraordinary Ali was, He was not only an ordinary athlete that won some competition, but he also being an activist, his thought, spoken, written, or even movement that moving in racial descrimination issues. He as the athlete of boxing but then became a political figure also. He replayed in the interview, “I don’t call myself a political figure but I’m taken to be”. What he told was right, In case when he was refused military force for Vietnam war for instance, he might be got punished, arrested, and pay the fine \$10.000. However, not long after the decision of Supreme Court knocked out, Ali as a public figure, the well-known boxer with a lot of achievements gave a petition about anti-war, he told,

“Why should they ask me and other so-called Negroes to put on a uniform and go 10,000 miles from home and drop bombs on brown people in Viet

Nam while so called Negro people in Louisville are treated like dogs and denied simple human rights?" (Fry,2015:215)

And continued with a famous jargon "I had no personal quarrel with those Vietcong" considering Ali as the international figure, those statements has possessed people to assumed as like what Ali thought, then inspired a lot of Protests of anti-war by the Mississippi Freedom Democrats, SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee), CORE (Congress of Racial Equality), and Julian Bond, then made Ali became the most visible symbol of anti-war in April 1967. (Fry, 2015). Those were also stated by George foreman, his enemy in the well-known fought told "that was the least I could do for the man who had taught me so much about how to carry myself in and outside the ring. In my heart, he will be always 'The Greatest'". George also explained that Ali's presence has change the world, he gave hope for Negro that always be the victim of segregation policies, he seemed to give guidance for George to turned his life for a better version. He said, "Ali has led me to God, made me be the spokesman" (Goldstein, 2014:7). Foreman also stated that "Ali goes beyond boxing" and continued

Although the ravages of Parkinson syndrome have made the man a shadow of his former self, it has no stopped Ali from continuing to be a world ambassador. And in November 2005, was opened with the dedication of the Muhammad Ali Center in his Birthplace, Louisville, Kentucky (Goldstein, 2014;166)

Ali has a dream to be a famous boxer that can change the world, stand up for his people in racism issues. Then, his dream came true. As Goldstein stated,

He designed status as a poor citizen would serve as a far greater motivating force more than his natural ambition to achieve a measure of success. It would drive him become an Olympic gold medalist, thrice world heavyweight champion, and in, the Sixties, the most recognized face in the universe. (Goldstein, 2014;13)

Ali also becomes the only one person from around 2600 stars who signed in the Walk of Fame in the wall. So, Ali's first struggle is join boxing as the media to be famous, and then he can influence people to fight for racial issues turn to be equal and for peace life. Although, his anti-war movement might be successful but racial issues problem still exist. However, finally he found other solution with turning into Muslim. "I was taught to believe there could be no image of God, no color". He also added that is a big difference because he won't wonder about the white Jesus with a blonde hair and blue eyes again. (New York Times, 4.28.1985).

In addition, without God color, he feels free from racial problems, as he told,
And Elijah Muhammad was taught by Allah, who we refer to as God, to teach us
the truth that will free us.
And when I heard it, I've been free ever since. I have no racial problems. I don't go
where I'm not wanted. (Ali, 1971)

And there is no difference for Muslim that made him feels equal as he said in the interview,

“We got white Muslims, brown Muslims, yellow Muslims, tan Muslims, red
Muslims and black muslims - we're the same all over.” We are all the same. I
recognise them and they recognise me. I'm invited to all of their homes all over the
world and I'm invited to Muslim countries.”

Ali was like found his light in Islam, he said that he has a bodyguard and do anything to serve his
bodyguard that is Allah (Ali, 1971). He also added, Boxing was Allah's way of getting me fame
to do something bigger. This is ten times bigger than boxing, he turned to promote world peace.
Then he got Presidential Citizens Medal dan Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2005. He also has
a a fitting tribute to a man whose influence extends beyond boxing. (Goldstein, 2014:161).

In the other hand, it can conclude that the concept of unhomeliness in Muhammad Ali are
from a failure of assimilation and acculturation that creates alienation that makes Ali reconsidering
personal identity that makes him feel unhomely (Papastergiadis, 2013; 35). Then he found his truly
God and no longer evaluate his identity as stated in Huddart that “religions conceive individual
freedom in and for itself”. (Huddart, 2008; 103).

