

Analysis of Starr Carter's Social Actions in *The Hate U Give*

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19320062@student.uin-malang.ac.id**ABSTRACT**

Taking action is crucial to achieving our goals. To do that, a variety of actions can be taken. There will be rational or even irrational actions. The purpose of this study was to describe the social action form of the main character, Starr Carten in the novel The Hate U Give, according to Max Weber's Social Action Theory, how she achieved her purposes based on the social action theory, and the impacts of her social actions on her surroundings. This study used a sociological approach with the theory of social action by Max Weber using data sources from a novel entitled The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas. The methodology used is the literary criticism method. Then, the data is collected by reading and noting the relevant data with the theory and research problems. The results obtained from this study are (1) the four types of social action found in Starr Carten's character, which had five instrumentally rational actions, two value-rational actions, seven affectual actions, and two traditional actions. (2) Starr Carten used social action to achieve her purposes by switching her personality, which includes instrumentally rational action that becomes traditional action, and by using her words and voice, which includes incrementally rational and affectual actions. (3) The impact of Starr Carten's social action was when everyone used their voice to defend themselves and change their neighborhood.

Keywords: Irrational Action, Rational Action, Social Actions, Sociology of Max Weber

INTRODUCTION

Being social creatures, humans need to develop relationships with others constantly. This connection makes it extremely simple for others to influence one's actions. It comes from our close circle of family, friends, and community (Durkheim, 1984). Moreover, humans take everything into account when acting to fulfill their purposes. In taking action, humans could think rationally or even irrationally. Every human action also has a specific motive and set of purposes that should be achieved (Alvarez, 2017). Moreover, humans will take all kinds of

actions to achieve it. Therefore, humans take everything into account when acting to fulfill their purposes.

Weber defined action as meaningful behavior and social action as action, that is, behavior that is directed toward others (Weber, 1949). To Weber, it is imperative that we understand the motivations behind a person's actions. It was his belief that individuals are motivated to act based on their interpretations of social situations and the meanings they attach to those situations. The subjective reality of individuals is significantly more important to social action theory than the influence of social institutions on an individual's identity (Ekstrom, 1992). This viewpoint is micro-sociological as opposed to macro-sociological. Nevertheless, Weber was still cognizant that everyone's interpretations and the meanings they ascribe to things are influenced by the social norms, values, and cultural beliefs of the society in which they live (Drew, 2023).

According to Max Weber's (1968) theory, when the purpose, the methods, and the secondary results are all rationally considered and weighed, the action is instrumentally rational. This involves rationally considering alternative strategies for achieving the goal, the relationships between the goal and its secondary consequences, and the relative importance of different possible ends. Instrumental rational action is the term used to describe additional strategies or strategies that are more effective at accomplishing goals. Other strategies or strategies that are more effective at achieving the goals are referred to as rational instrumental action (Weber, 2009).

Value-rational orientation is an action that results from a conscious belief in a specific value, whether religious, aesthetic, ethical, or another type of value (Weber, 1968). Pure value-rational orientation is exemplified by a person acting under their convictions about what they perceive to be required by duty, honor, a religious call, personal loyalty, or another value they believe in. Furthermore, according to Max Weber, value-oriented conduct is any behavior based on considering values (Raho, 2021).

According to Max Weber (1968), affectual action results from the actor's emotional state and specific effects. Consist of an uncontrollable response to a specific stimulus. Effectively motivating action that manifests as the conscious release of emotional tension is a case of sublimation. This indicates that one, the other, or both forms of rationalization are well-advanced. These feelings or emotions include frustration, anger, fear, joy, and even love. Then, traditional action results from ingrained habits. Because behavior is frequently guided by an almost instinctive response to habitual stimuli that leads to a course that has been followed repeatedly (Weber, 1968). Individual decisions based on habits or traditions passed down from generation to generation are considered acts of traditional rationality (Damsar, 2010).

Taking action to fulfill its purposes carried out by humans is reflected in literary works. Literary works frequently reflect a social reality that takes place in society. One of the numerous literary works that depict social reality is a novel. The characters in the narrative will engage in various acts (Triani, Zuldahita & Jamelda, 2019). One novel that describes how the characters take various actions to achieve purposes is *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. *The Hate U Give* was published in 2017 by Angie Thomas. *The Hate U Give* is set in the fictional city Garden Heights, a neighborhood in the southern United States, and set in the 2010s. Starr Carten is a sixteen-year-old black girl who lives between two different societies. The problem in this novel begins with Khalil being shot by the police, which Starr saw firsthand. Khalil did not get justice for his death just because Khalil was black. Starr took various actions to ensure that her fight

for her and Khalil was successful. Starr's actions are classified as social actions since they are directed at other people and have a subjective meaning, being accepted by her school friends, helping her, and getting justice for Khalil. Therefore, in this research, *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas is analyzed with social action theory by Max Weber.

Several literary works had been analyzed using Max Weber's Social Action. This theory's application was predicated on the idea that every literary work has characters. First, Pratama (2022) examined the social action of the main characters in *A Man of the People* by Chinua Achebe, second Sardehi (2021), examined social action in Akbar Radi's "Staircase" play. Furthermore, Widodo & Sudikan (2019) examined social action in *Alkudus* by Asef Saeful Anwar. The last journal was by Winata, Florentinus & Utomo (2019), which analyzed the social action from music performance, Tongklung. The research showed an additional aspect of social action through performing art.

Next, as an object in this research, *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas had been studied by several researchers with various results. First, researched by Yunitri, Rajeg, and Maharani (2019) with the results obtained, Wellek and Warren's five extrinsic components—biography, psychology, society, ideas, and other types of art—were confirmed. The author acknowledged that the extrinsic components influenced the novel's creation. Second, was a journal article by Lubis and Satria (2021) in their research showing the impacts of the hierarchy of needs on the characters in *The Hate U Give*, namely physiological, safety, love/belonging, esteem, and self-actualization. Furthermore, the last article journal was by Naji and Abbas (2022); according to their research, lexicalization, and polarization occur most frequently in this novel, although metaphor did not, pointing to a process of self-society conflict.

The research above found that none of the researchers analyzed how Angie Thomas' *The Hate U Give* applies Max Weber's social action theory. Therefore, this research would analyze the main character's social action, Starr Carten. Concerning the analysis of Angie Thomas's, *The Hate U Give*, this research will fill the knowledge gap and give new knowledge to literary criticism. The focus of this research was to analyze the social action done by Starr Carten. Continue by discussing how Starr Carten uses her social actions to further her purposes and the impact of those acts. Due to this, research was conducted to determine how social actions were used and their impact on someone's life. Therefore, this research used Max Weber's social action theory to analyze Starr Carten's actions.

From the background of the research described above, the researcher formulated several problems with the research, including: What does Starr Carter perform in forms of social action in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas? How does Starr Carter use her social actions to achieve her purposes in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas? What is the impact of Starr Carter's social action in *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas?

RESEARCH METHOD

The design of this research was literary criticism. This research used a sociology of literature approach to examine Starr Carter's social action in Angie Thomas' novel *The Hate U Give* using Max Weber's theory of social action. The researcher used data indicating Starr Carter's character's four social action categories. Regarding the research problem, the researcher analyzed this novel using sentences, words, and dialogues.

This study's researchers followed several steps to collect the data. The first step was to read *The Hate U Give* and understand its story. The researchers then reread the novel and

classified the types of social actions it contained, underlining any data related to the theory being used. Then, they quoted selected sentences from the novel.

Data analysis involved several steps after data collection. The researcher first classified Starr Carter's social action into four categories based on Max Weber's theory of social action: instrumentally rational, value-rational orientation, affectual action, and traditional action. Then, the researcher interpreted the data that had been obtained and analyzed the impact of Starr Carter's social action. Furthermore, in the last step, the researcher drew conclusions.

FINDINGS & DISCUSSION

Starr Carten's Forms of Social Action

Instrumentally Rational Action

Instrumentally rational action was reflected when Starr created a new blog for Khalil on her Tumblr. After receiving a verbal slap from Kenya, Starr took this action. Kenya claimed that Starr had done nothing for Khalil, but she thought that the Khalil she knew would have come on TV right away to explain what had happened that evening if it meant standing up for the people he cared about. As a result, Starr created a blog to help Khalil get justice. This could be seen through the following datum:

Datum 1:

I started a new blog—The Khalil I Know. It doesn't have my name on it, just pictures of Khalil (Thomas, 2017, p.221).

According to the quotation above, Starr created a blog to post pictures of Khalil. On her blog, Starr not only posted pictures but also captioned them. She did this to convince people that Khalil was not a thug and to counter the false claims being made about him on the news. In just two hours, hundreds of people had liked and reblogged the pictures of Khalil on Starr's blog. Starr knew it was not the same as getting on the news like Kenya had suggested, but she hoped it would help. At the very least, it helped her process her feelings about Khalil.

This showed that, in datum 3, Starr's action was an instrumentally rational action. She used the blog as an instrument to achieve her goal. Starr created the blog with the consideration that it could help her change people's negative opinions about Khalil. Using the blog as a tool was an effective strategy for achieving her goal. Therefore, this action was categorized as an instrumentally rational action because Starr created the blog with the deliberate intention of using it as a means to change people's perceptions of Khalil.

Another rational action occurred when Starr was at Williamson School. While at Williamson School, Starr needed to switch to "Williamson Starr." This was reflected in datum 2:

Datum 2:

I just have to be normal Starr at normal Williamson and have a normal day. That means flipping the switch in my brain so I'm Williamson Starr. Williamson Starr doesn't use slang—if a rapper would say it, she doesn't say it, even if her white friends do. Slang makes them cool. Slang makes her "hood." Williamson Starr holds her tongue when people piss her off so nobody will think she's the "angry black girl." Williamson Starr is approachable. No stank-eyes, side-eyes, none of that. Williamson Starr is nonconfrontational. Basically, Williamson Starr doesn't give anyone a reason to call her ghetto (Thomas, 2017, p.80).

The quotation above showed that Starr took several specific actions when she was at Williamson School. All these actions were taken by Starr to have a normal day at Williamson, so she became "Williamson Starr." All the actions that Starr took were based on her conscious considerations and decisions. When Starr thought about the actions she should take while interacting with her friends at Williamson School, she performed them by considering the responses her friends would give. So, she chose not to do what black girls usually did or what was considered "ghetto". It was an efficient strategy that Starr used to achieve her goal of having a normal day at Williamson, ensuring that no one had a reason to call her "ghetto." All the actions taken by Starr were oriented toward the behavior of others because she focused on her friends' responses to her actions. All her actions were directed toward an absolute goal since she acted with a specific purpose: to be accepted by others as a Black person without being labeled as "ghetto". As a result, Starr's actions were instrumentally rational since she carefully considered each action with the purpose of avoiding being called "ghetto" while also being accepted by others.

Value-Rational Action

Starr's value-rational action occurred when she was questioned about what happened the night Khalil was killed by Detective Gomez during the interview at the police station. As the following quotation showed, Starr's mother told her to look into Gomez's eyes as she spoke, as seen in datum 3:

Datum 3:

Momma rubs my back. "Look up, Starr."

My parents have this thing where they never want me or my brothers to talk to somebody without looking them in their eyes. They claim that a person's eyes say more than their mouth, and that it goes both ways—if we look someone in their eyes and mean what we say, they should have little reason to doubt us.

I look at Gomez.

"Khalil pulled over to the side of the road and turned the ignition off," I say. "One-Fifteen put his brights on. He approached the window and asked Khalil for his license and registration." (Thomas, 2017, p.108).

According to the quotation above, Starr's mother told her to look Detective Gomez in the eye. And Starr did. By looking Gomez in the eye, Starr tried to demonstrate that her statement was credible and that Gomez had no reason to question it. Starr did so because she remembered what her parents had taught her about looking into someone's eyes when speaking. They claimed that a person's eyes say more than their mouth and that it works both ways. This act represented the values that her parents had taught her, she acted based on what she had learned. The actions taken by Starr were motivated by the values she believed in, particularly what her parents had taught her. Starr followed her mother's instruction to look Detective Gomez in the eye because, in her opinion, what her parents had taught her were "demands" she had to follow. This showed that the action taken by Starr was guided by a clearly self-conscious formulation of the ultimate value governing her behavior, which is why it was classified as a value-rational action.

Affectual Action

Starr's affectual action occurred when she wanted to discover Khalil's condition after seeing Officer One-Fifteen shoot him. This could be seen in datum 4:

Datum 4:

Instinct says don't move, but everything else says check on Khalil. I jump out the Impala and rush around to the other side. Khalil stares at the sky as if he hopes to see God. His mouth is open like he wants to scream. I scream loud enough for the both of us (Thomas, 2017, p.31).

In the quotation above, Starr examined the condition of Khalil, who had fallen after being shot by the police. Starr kept checking on him even when her instincts told her not to. After seeing Khalil's worsening condition, she wanted to scream. She screamed loud enough for both of them. The action taken by Starr was clearly an affectual action. Her decision to check on Khalil's condition was made impulsively, without any thought, and under the influence of her emotions. Her emotion was fear—fear of what would happen to Khalil. Starr's response to what happened to Khalil was an uncontrollable reaction to a specific stimulus. Since Starr and Khalil were great friends, she hoped that Khalil would be fine. As stated in the quote, Starr said, “No, no, no,” (p. 31), rejecting the worst-case scenario after the police shot Khalil. This was an uncontrollable response made by Starr to a specific stimulus, which was her fear. Therefore, this act was categorized as affectual action.

Another affectual action occurred when Starr heard the jury's verdict in Khalil's case. Moreover, the jury's verdict was not fair to Starr. Consequently, Starr decided to join the chaos that was happening. This could be seen in datum 5 below:

Datum 5:

Anything. Everything. Scream. Cry. Puke. Hit somebody. Burn something. Throw something. They gave me the hate, and now I wanna fuck everybody, even if I'm not sure how. "I wanna do something," I say. "Protest, riot, I don't care—" (Thomas, 2017, p. 411).

The quote above showed Starr's reaction to the disappointment over the jury's decision in Khalil's case. The jury ruled that the policeman who shot Khalil was innocent, leaving Starr in emotional turmoil. Starr experienced an uncontrollable response to the injustice Khalil had suffered. This response took the form of Starr wanting to do anything to vent the hatred and anger she felt.

This action was an affectual action since it was driven by the emotions Starr experienced. Affectual action is a human's spontaneous, less rational, and emotional expression. Starr wanted to vent her disappointment and anger over what had happened to Khalil. She was unable to think rationally due to the overwhelming emotions she felt—her emotions took control of her actions.

As a result of these emotions, Starr joined the crowd with other Black people in protest against the injustice they perceived. During the protest, Starr told everyone about what had really happened to Khalil. This could be seen in datum 6:

Datum 6:

"My name is Starr. I'm the one who saw what happened to Khalil," I say into the bullhorn. "And it wasn't right." (Thomas, 2017, p. 435).

In the quotation above, Starr introduces herself to the crowd and says that she was a witness who was with Khalil at the time Khalil was shot by police, killing him. Starr also said that what has been reported by people or the media so far is not true. Starr did this all because of the disappointment and anger she felt. How emotions Starr felt controlled her action. And Starr initially has no idea what to say in carrying out her speech act. Starr had not planned the speaking act at all. She did so due to the anger and disappointment she got, as well as the encouragement of the people in the crowd. Starr's action was an emotional action since she considered this action non-rationally considered by Starr. This action is under the control of her emotions. Starr's emotional state of mind influences all the actions she takes. Starr just wanted to let everyone know what happened, without thinking about the consequences of her actions.

Traditional Action

The traditional action that Starr took was when she changed her voice while speaking to other people. This could be seen in the following datum 7:

Datum 7:

"Hello." My voice is changing already. It always happens around "other" people, whether I'm at Williamson or not. I don't talk like me or sound like me. I choose every word carefully and make sure I pronounce them well. I can never, ever let anyone think I'm ghetto (Thomas, 2017, p.105)

From the quotation above, it was undoubtedly clear that Starr purposely changed her voice or way of interaction to avoid giving the impression that she was "ghetto." This always happened, such as when she interacted with her white friends at Williamson School. Therefore, the changes in her voice or way of interaction automatically occurred when she interacted with other people.

Starr consistently used this approach while interacting with white people, and these actions became an automatic response for her. The habitual stimuli perceived by Starr led her to follow a pattern she had repeated many times—changing her voice, carefully choosing every word, and ensuring she pronounced them well. Starr had mastered these actions, as could be seen in the following datum.

Datum 8:

God. Being two different people is so exhausting. I've taught myself to speak with two different voices and only say certain things around certain people. I've mastered it (Thomas, 2017, p.320)

According to the quote above, Starr was very used to changing her voice and only saying certain things around certain people, and she had become an expert at it. This action was also part of "Williamson Starr." It had become an automatic response for her. Starr had done it so often that it became an ingrained habit. She repeatedly followed the same pattern, which reinforced her behavior. Therefore, all of those actions had become an ingrained habit that automatically appeared when she interacted with others, predominantly white people. This proved that all of Starr's actions, which were automatic reactions, belonged to the traditional action category. Starr's conduct was frequently dictated by almost automatic responses to habitual stimuli, leading her to follow patterns she had repeatedly reinforced.

How Starr Carten Achieves Her Purposes Based on Her Social Actions

Social action, which includes both failure to act and passive acquiescence, could be oriented to the past, present, or expected future behavior of others. Thus, it could be motivated by revenge for a past attack, defense against the present, or measures of defense against future aggression. The "others" could be individual persons and might be entirely unknown as individuals (Weber, 1968). Thus, the social action carried out by Starr in *The Hate U Give* had two different motives, each oriented toward different behaviors of others. Starr's motives included, first, a defense against the present, where she wanted to be accepted by everyone and not be considered "ghetto." The second were actions motivated by revenge for a past attack namely, the shooting of Khalil, where he did not receive justice. Additionally, Starr's actions were motivated by measures of defense against future aggression, as she did not want anyone else to experience what Khalil had gone through. Therefore, in the novel, Starr had two purposes she wanted to achieve: being accepted by others and seeking justice for Khalil and herself.

By Using Her Instrumentally Rational Action That Becomes Her Traditional Action for Being Accepted

The first social action used by Starr as a defense against the present was her instrumentally rational action. Starr performed specific acts when she was at Williamson School, and she directed these acts toward her friends. Starr did this with the motive of being accepted and not being considered "ghetto." All these acts carried out by Starr were behavior-oriented toward her friends at Williamson School. This was reflected in datum 9:

Datum 9:

I just have to be normal Starr at normal Williamson and have a normal day. That means flipping the switch in my brain so I'm Williamson Starr. Williamson Starr doesn't use slang—if a rapper would say it, she doesn't say it, even if her white friends do. Slang makes them cool. Slang makes her "hood." Williamson Starr holds her tongue when people piss her off so nobody will think she's the "angry black girl." Williamson Starr is approachable. No stank-eyes, side-eyes, none of that. Williamson Starr is nonconfrontational. Basically, Williamson Starr doesn't give anyone a reason to call her ghetto (Thomas, 2017, p.80).

In the quotation above, it was explained what specific acts Starr performed when she was at Williamson School. All these actions were the most efficient way for her to be accepted by her friends and not be considered "ghetto." To ensure that Starr could go about her normal day at Williamson, she took these actions. The actions taken by Starr could be described as acts of switching her personality—how her personality changed when she was at Williamson School. Starr's motive was very clear: all of her personality-switching actions were oriented toward the behavior of her friends at Williamson School. Starr had established the habit of switching her personality with her friends at Williamson School. As she had done it so often, it became second nature to her. This could be seen in datum 10:

Datum 10:

God. Being two different people is so exhausting. I've taught myself to speak with two different voices and only say certain things around certain people. I've mastered it (Thomas, 2017, p.320)

According to the quote above, Starr had mastered her different actions when interacting with other people, especially her friends at Williamson School. These different actions, which were part of her personality-switching behavior, had become habitual because she had done them so often. Since they had become an automatic reaction when interacting with her friends at school, they were classified as traditional actions. Therefore, the personality-switching actions carried out by Starr were initially instrumentally rational actions that later developed into traditional actions, with the aim of being accepted by her friends at Williamson. Starr performed all these actions as a defense against the present, particularly in her environment at Williamson School, where most of the students were white.

The social actions used by Starr were oriented toward the behavior or responses she received or expected from her friends at Williamson School. She successfully used her instrumentally rational action, which eventually became a traditional action, to achieve her goal. Thus, Starr's personality-switching behavior was an instrumentally rational action that evolved into a traditional action, ultimately helping her gain acceptance among her friends at Williamson.

By Using Her Instrumentally Rational Action and Affectual Action to Help Herself and Khalil

Starr's first action to help herself and ensure that Khalil received justice was to change the public's opinion of him. Therefore, Starr took an instrumental action by creating a blog that contained memories of Khalil, as seen in datum 11:

Datum 11:

I started a new blog—The Khalil I Know. It doesn't have my name on it, just pictures of Khalil. (Thomas, 2017, p.221)

The quotation above showed that Starr created a blog and posted pictures of Khalil on it. Starr started this blog with the belief that it would help people change their negative perceptions of Khalil. This action served a specific purpose and took into account other users' responses (Weber, 1968) to Starr's blog. Starr initiated the blog to reshape people's views about Khalil. Along with trying to help Khalil, Starr also helped herself to some extent. She sought relief from the guilt and self-perception of being a coward after witnessing what the police did to her father and Khalil. Using the blog as a tool was an effective strategy to achieve her goals.

Another instrumentally rational action Starr took after creating the blog was revealing the truth to the District Attorney and participating in an interview on a national news program, Diane Carey's *Friday Night Special*, with Mrs. Carey as the interviewer, as seen in datum 12.

Datum 12:

I can't go into a lot of details—Ms. O'frah told me not to—but I tell her we did everything OneFifteen asked and never once cussed at him like his father claims. (Thomas, 2017, p.307)

During the interview, Starr carefully considered the statements she would give in response to each question from Mrs. Carey. She used her voice to fight for herself and Khalil. Starr revealed everything she could about Khalil to refute what the father of One-Fifteen, the police officer who shot Khalil, had said about him. Through her instrumentally rational actions, Starr irrevocably changed the public's perception of Khalil. She conducted the entire interview

with careful consideration and remained focused on her goal (Weber, 1968): to help herself and Khalil by clearing his name and seeking justice for him.

Starr also used affectual action to further her purposes. She took this action because her prior attempts to accomplish her goal had failed. When Starr acted affectually, she was driven by anger over the injustice done to Khalil. Her emotions controlled her actions (Weber, 1968), leading her to yell and join the crowd in protesting the injustice she felt. Starr's anger was not only fueled by injustice and a sense of failure but also by the realization that, despite doing everything right, nothing had changed. She had received death threats, her father had been harassed by the police, someone had shot into her house, and she had faced numerous problems as a result.

Starr's affectual action also led her to retell what happened on the night of Khalil's death. She revealed the incident—which had been hidden from the public until that moment—before a crowd and even a line of police officers. This is shown in datum 13.

Datum 13:

"My name is Starr. I'm the one who saw what happened to Khalil," I say into the bullhorn. "And it wasn't right." (Thomas, 2017, p.435)

In the datum above, Starr told everyone the truth. Her emotions controlled this action. Starr stated that everything she did was a form of defense for Khalil. She used her voice to tell the truth. She even claimed that the real criminal was not Khalil but Officer Cruise, also known as One-Fifteen. She spoke without any prior planning, acting purely on her feelings. This social action was carried out by Starr and was motivated by revenge for a past attack—Khalil being shot by the police and denied justice. Additionally, this social action was driven by Starr's desire to prevent future aggression, as she did not want anyone else to experience what Khalil had gone through. Starr ensured that all her actions were directed toward her goals by considering the responses she received from others regarding Khalil's case. Initially, Starr's purpose was solely to help herself and Khalil by letting everyone know that Khalil was innocent and not as some people had claimed.

The Impact of Starr Carten's Social Action

Starr's social action had an impact on other individuals and demonstrated how she used her voice to achieve her purposes. Starr's affectual action influenced the actions of those around her, inspiring them to do the same using their voices to change their lives. The impact of Starr's social action could be seen in the following quotation:

Datum 14:

Mr. Lewis starts to charge at King, and an officer has to hold him back. "I ain't crazy! You did start it! Everybody know it!" (Thomas, 2017, p.448)

In the datum above, Mr. Lewis had dared to tell everyone, especially the police, that the cause of the fire that broke out at the shops in Garden Heights had been King's doing. No one had dared to blame King for the fire incident. Mr. Lewis had reported the fire to the police and had claimed King was responsible for starting the fire, and Maverick had confirmed it. Datum 1 indicated that Starr's affectual action had been using her voice to help herself and Khalil and

had influenced others' actions. Social action theory was an individual action that had an impact on other individuals (Agevall & Swedberg, 2016, p. 313). Not only Mr. Lewis, but everyone had done it too, as could be seen in datum 15.

Datum 15:

"I saw him," Mr. Reuben says. "He did it."

"I saw him too," Tim says.

"So did I," Ms. Yvette adds.

And shit, now the crowd is echoing the same thing, pointing at King and his boys. I mean, everybody's snitching. The rules no fucking longer apply. (Thomas, 2017, p.449)

Datum 15 showed that everyone in Garden Heights had started snitching about King. They had told the police the truth. The collective act of snitching had finally led the police to respond to King. They no longer followed the unspoken rule in Garden Heights that no one could inform the police about King. Their decision to speak up had been a step toward changing life in Garden Heights—transforming it for the better by getting rid of drug dealers and gangs.

Starr's social action had influenced the people in Garden Heights, and its impact had led everyone to expose King, resulting in a social movement that brought change to the community. As an active member of society, Starr's actions had motivated the people of Garden Heights to seek change, which had inevitably affected their lives. Therefore, Starr's social action had made a significant impact on her community. She had been seen as both an active member and a driving force in shaping society. Her actions had transformed the people of Garden Heights—from once living among drug dealers and gang members to actively working to dismantle that world by exposing the biggest drug dealer and gang leader in their neighborhood.

CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

The forms of social action performed by Starr Carter covered all four categories of Max Weber's theory of social action: instrumentally rational action, value-rational action, affectual action, and traditional action. All of Starr's social actions were used to achieve her purposes. To accomplish her goals, Starr employed social action by switching her personality—an instrumentally rational action that developed into a traditional action—to gain acceptance from her friends at Williamson School. Additionally, she used her words and voice, which encompassed both instrumentally rational action and affectual action, to help herself and Khalil.

Starr's social actions had a significant impact on her neighborhood. The people in Garden Heights began using their voices to defend themselves. Her actions contributed to social change, as everyone in Garden Heights eventually found the courage to speak out against King. Based on the results and conclusions of this study, the researcher suggests that future research on the same subject consider using a psychological approach to analyze the main character's emotions, given that affectual action was the most frequently used form of action by Starr. Furthermore, the researcher recommends that future studies apply different approaches and theories for a more comprehensive analysis.

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