

## METAFICTIONAL HISTORIOGRAPHY IN KATHRYN STOCKETT'S NOVEL THE HELP

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### **ABSTRACT**

*This paper analyses how the novel *The Help* blurs the boundaries between fact and fiction. The novel describes the event of the Civil Rights Movement, the laws of segregation and intimidation. It takes theoretical insights on Historiographic Metafiction from by Linda Hutcheon, and Hyden white and studies how this novel blurs the distinction between fact and fiction and presents the critique of racial stereotyping present in American society. A new rule has been set under the Civil Rights Movement according to this every citizen irrespective of class; creed or colour will have access to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness through individual effort. This research concludes that *The Help* not only presents the history by narrating the story through the old maid but also analyses the history through the present-day situation and the text revisits history by revising and questioning it.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Racism, History, Slavery, Segregation, Stereotyping, Historiography, Metafiction*