

## SOCIAL CRISIS IN ALBEE'S *THE DEATH OF BESSIE SMITH*

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### ABSTRACT

This paper is an interpretation of Albee's drama *The Death of Bessie Smith*, with an emphasis on the theme of racism, as well as other race-related social problems, such as social inequality, materialism, ethical dilemma and distorted human relation. Beyond the race-induced historical event, it is more of a morality play about the collapse of human values in contemporary society.

**Keywords:** Racism, social inequality, ethical dilemma, distorted human relation.