

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language as people communication tools between one another used to expresses feelings, to shows emotions and to shares ideas. Language becomes the one of main things in human life. Many times we realize or not, people often show their emotions in different ways and conditions in using language. As means of communication, language has several functions and meanings. People utilize language to expresses anger, sad, fear, happy, desperation, frustration and others. So, language is an exclusively human property.

Language as mean of communication, when people having conversations is surely need to understands means of some language. When they are sad they will cry, when they are angry they will swear, when they are scare they will scream or when they happy they will laugh. People utter many words as what they feel. When having conversations, people bring polite and impolite words to show their thoughts. In daily conversation they communicate with each other by using polite sentences, while in anger condition they use an impolite sentence. Impoliteness in our scope has many kinds and different style of words. Example, people who are in anger conditions, probably they will uses inappropriate words.

Taboo words are closely related to impoliteness and taboo words are also used in daily life. Taboo words are included as an inappropriate words influence

in environment; we can also find them in daily conversations, songs, social media and movie. Actually, taboo words are included as rude words and it is forbidden to used, but people nowadays uses taboo words in expressing their feelings.

Today swear words are an established part of the linguistic environment, occasionally invading even the best mannered and most controlled circles. Not only used by adult, but it is also produced by teenagers or even children. Actually, swear words used by people, especially children, is a prohibition. Environment also has an important role to the development of language. That fact is supported by Allan and Burridge (2006: 27) who state that language is constantly subject to censoring: individuals who do not censor their language, and so normally say whatever first enters their heads without considering the circumstances of utterance, are deemed mentally unstable.

Karjalainen (2002: 18) states that taboo words or words that refer to taboo are swearwords, although all swearwords are taboo, not all taboo words are swearwords. This statement is supported by Ljung (2011: 12): That the taboo words used in swearing do not retain their literal meaning and that, conversely, taboo words used with literal meaning cannot be regarded as swearing. Although taboo words are part of every culture and language and individuals at a certain point in their life would, for one reason or another, use a taboo word, the topic is poorly studied because of its sensitive nature which implies that it is not appropriate for academic study. However, the study of linguistic taboos in any society from a socio-cultural perspective is hoped to add a new dimension to the understanding of the human psyche, as communal members are watched reacting

to the world around them by creating prohibitions and linguistic sanctions to screen off behavior and certain objects.

Moreover, despite the censoring of language, taboo words will persist in the community's lexicon because they strengthen the social fabric and group identity through the feeling of sharing one socio-cultural and belief system. They make the members of the society distinct from other members in other societies. If we understand why a taboo exists, we can understand the values and realities in the society- it gives ample information on what people think about certain issues. It also sheds light on the social customs, religious and metaphysical beliefs and also the political system of the community (Qanbar, 2011: 2).

In the Holy Qur'an, An-Nisaa' verse 148:

لَا يُحِبُّ اللَّهُ الْجَهْرَ بِالسُّوءِ مِنَ الْقَوْلِ إِلَّا مَنْ ظَلَمَ ۚ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ سَمِيعًا عَلِيمًا

The verse proves that we are forbidden to pronounce the abusive words except from people who are wronged. This verse explains that Allah punishes those who like to broadcast bad words that are spoken openly. Because in fact this cause hostility and hatred among the people. Bad words can also influence the people who hear it to imitate the act, especially if the words are heard by minors.

Douglas (1966) thinks that by default we are polite, and euphemistic; and we censor our language use to eschew tabooed topics in pursuit of well-being for ourselves and for others. Expressing feelings of sadness, upset, or angry, speakers will use taboo words so as to feel relieved. But even so, the choice of words still is influenced by social status, culture, and customs of the speaker. So there is still a prevailing norm in the use of taboo words.

There are three previous studies used as references to make this thesis. The first one is a thesis by Fika Nur Anggita (2015) entitled *A Sociolinguistics Analysis of Taboo Words in Bad Teacher Movie*. The problem is focused on types, functions, and social factors that influence the occurrence of taboo words uttered by the characters in *Bad Teacher* movie. The second is a thesis by Kristofurus Erda Kurniawan (2015) entitled *The Analysis of Taboo Words and Swear Words in George Carlin's Monologue Seven Words You Can't Say on Television*. The problem is focused on analyzing words, phrases, or sentences which contain words with taboo as their origin (both taboo words and swear words). The third is a thesis by Fithrotul Khoiriyah (2017) entitled *An Analysis of Taboo Words Translation in John Steinbeck's of Mice and Men*. The problem is focused on strategies of translation used in translating the taboo words into Bahasa and the quality of taboo words translation in *Of Mice and Men* novel.

The significant difference between thesis and the three previous studies is in the context of taboo words and the way to analyze. The first previous study discussed about the types of taboo words based on Baristella and the functions of taboo words uttered based on Wardhaugh by the characters in *Bad Teacher* movie. The second previous study discussed about the use of swears words by the characters in *Fast and Furious Number Five* movie and identify the kinds of it. The last previous study employs a theory from Baker to analyze the translation strategy and theory from Nida to analyze the quality of translation.

Additionally, for this study, researcher will take a film as independent variable. The title is *Wild Child*. This movie was written by Lucy Dahl, this movie

tells about a young rich girl's life, her name is Poppy Moore. She is an American and has a best life, but there is a problem with her fellowship. It causes her mother gone when she was child. She always gets everything what she want and do anything. Her father and little sister are very sad about her habits and attitudes, so that her father decided to send her to Abbey Mount School, England.

The reason why the researcher analyzes taboo words in *Wild Child* movie is that this will help the readers to understand more about prohibition words of all characters in the story. *Wild Child* is interesting to be analyzed in this research as an object because of other reasons. Firstly, *Wild Child* is one of films that are included in popular literary works, where this movie is presented as light as possible but still shows moral values through this research. This movie shows contradiction of young people lifestyle in California and England. Secondly, on *Wild Child* there are many lessons such as of those friendship, teamwork, sincerity, responsibility, honesty, and struggle.

Moreover, the researcher takes this movie as a research source because the story is easily understandable and has a clear plot, it is also containing to watch and it also presents in good audio visual. Here is example of taboo words in *Wild Child* movie:

Josie : Poppy, roll over it and pick it up!

Poppy: Yeah! You go, girlfriend. You dunk that bitch. You see the goal,

Josie. Focus, focus. Do you see the goal?

In this conversation, the word *bitch* is types of taboo words of “epithets”. In *Kamus Inggris Indonesia* by Jhon M. Echols and Hassan Shadily, the meaning

of bitch is a female dog. Since the word is uttered with frustration or anger, it becomes emotional language. Therefore, Poppy uses the word *bitch* as an expression of anger and also to insult her friend.

B. Statements of Problem

Concerning the title, the problems that come up with can be formulated as following:

- 1) What types of taboo words used in the *Wild Child* movie?
- 2) What are the functions of taboo words uttered by the characters in the *Wild Child* movie?

C. Objectives of Study

In relation to the formulation of the problems state above the purposes of the study are:

- 1) To describe the types of taboo words used in the *Wild Child* movie and place them into categories.
- 2) To describe the function of taboo words uttered by the characters in the *Wild Child* movie.

D. Significant of Research

From this research, the researcher expects to get many benefits that are useful. It has benefits theoretically and empirically:

- 1) Theoretical benefits
 - a. This study will make us more knowledgeable about sociolinguistics, especially in terms of language variation.

- b. This study will make us more understand about taboo words that used by American people.

2) Empirical benefits

- a. This study gives us a deep comprehension about the relation of language and culture.
- b. This study makes us to more be patient while we received taboo words from other people.
- c. This study will give some little benefits to us, so we can socialize easier in the citizen.
- d. The result of this study can be used by other researcher as the first reference.

E. Definitions of Key Terms

1. Taboo Words

Taboo words are words which refer to things which are considered taboo. The emergence of these words is strictly avoided and their presence is hardly received by the society (Hughes, 2006). Taboo words in this research discusses about types and functions in utterances that appear in *Wild Child* movie and the functions of utterances.

2. *Wild Child* Movie

Wild Child is a movie directed by Nick Moore, which tells about a young girl named Poppy Moore from America who has to move to England to study in a boarding school. At first, Poppy is a stubborn childish rich girl

who likes to hold parties and mostly does whatever she wants to do. Then because she is experiencing an extreme life change since she moved to Abbey Mount (boarding school), she begins to change her personality to be a better person than before.