

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the research background, problem identification, research scope, research problems, research objectives, and research significances of the current study.

#### 1.1. Research Background

Communication is an activity to exchange information among people (Adinda et al., 2022; Halimah & Sukmayadi, 2019). People get new information from other people. In addition, communication is also done to express people during interaction (Sarnika, 2018). People share their emotions during communication. They express what they feel at that time. Furthermore, communication is done to achieve some purposes (Lewar et al., 2023). People have intentions to be reached during the interaction. They communicate to deliver information, share knowledge, and express feelings.

In communication, people somehow use swear words with their partners. Jay (2009) argues that swear words signify emotions, such as anger, frustration, joy, and surprise. In addition, Pratama (2017) states that taboo words are used to emphasise the message of the speaker when it is used in swearing. The message will be achieved easily by the listener. Pinker (2007) classifies swear words into five types, namely dysphemistic swearing, abusive swearing, idiomatic swearing, emphatic swearing, and cathartic swearing. The first one, dysphemistic swearing,

affects the listeners, who will think negatively when hearing that kind of swearing. The second category is abusive swearing. It is used to insult others. The third one is idiomatic swearing. It refers to showing off. The fourth category is emphatic swearing. It focuses on something. The last one is cathartic swearing. It is spoken for something bad related to the bad emotions of the speaker.

People use swear words because of some reasons. Finn (2017) states that swear words are related to rudeness, but they also have social value to be considered polite. There are three linguistic forms of swear words: swear words in words, swear words in phrases, and swear words in the form of clauses. In addition, Finn (2017) adds five more swear words, namely: (1) supernatural, (2) organs, (3) disease, death, and infirmity, (4) sexuality, and (5) disfavored.

Regarding the use of swear words, preliminary observation had been done in Kampung Bugis. In there, some people used swear words in communication with their friends. They used to swear words to maintain their relationship.

Some other researchers have conducted some studies about swear words. Amrullah (2016) studied swear words used by university students in Indonesia. This study found that the social dimension influences the choice of swear words. Swear words are often used by university students who have close relationships. In addition, Sarnika (2018) conducted a study about swear words in the sitcom *How I Met Your Mother*, season one. The study shows that the use of swear words is classified into six types, namely: sex, excrement, name of animal, personal background, taboo or religion, and mental illness. The functions of the swear words are expletive, humorous, abusive, and auxiliary.

Moreover, Prayuda et al. (2019) conducted a study about swear words used by the character in Moonlight movies. The study shows some swear words: excretion, sex, religion, mother-in-law, animal swear, death, and body function. The studies above discuss the type and function of swear words at movies and university levels.

Considering the results above, it is important to study the swear words for two main reasons, namely: 1) the pre-observation showed the existence of swear words used in the Kampung Bugis community; 2) the previous studies only focus on the use of swear words in movie and academic setting. Finding out more swear words spoken by people in Kampung Bugis has caught the researcher's interest. Regarding the explanation above, the researcher aimed to analyse the use of swear words in the Kampung Bugis community. The study analysed the types, functions, and motives of using swear words.

## 1.2. Research Scope

Based on the background illustrated above, people in Kampung Bugis used swear words during communication. Thus, this study analyses the forms and functions of swear words and social factors affecting the use of swear words by People in Kampung Bugis.

## 1.3. Research Problems

Based on the study's background above, this study's research questions can be formulated as follows.

1.3.1. What are the types of swear words used by people in Kampung Bugis?

1.3.2. What are the functions of swear words used by people in Kampung Bugis?

1.3.3. What are the motives for using swear words by people in Kampung Bugis?

#### **1.4. Research Objectives**

Regarding the research problems, the objectives of the study are

1.4.1. To identify the types of swear words used by people in Kampung Bugis.

1.4.2. To classify the functions of swear words used by people in Kampung Bugis.

1.4.3. To identify the motives of using swear words by people in Kampung Bugis

#### **1.5. Research Significance**

##### **1.5.1. Theoretical Significance**

The result of the study is expected to make a significant contribution to the use of language in the field of sociolinguistics. It presents an example of sociolinguistics in communication.

##### **1.5.2. Practical Significance**

###### **1.5.2.1. For Lecturers and Students**

The result of the study can be used as additional knowledge for the lecturers to give a real example in teaching Sociolinguistics. Then, students can use it as a reference in learning Sociolinguistics.

#### 1.5.2.2. For the Researchers

The result of the study can be used as a reference to other researchers who are interested in conducting a similar study about swear words used by children in the next study.

