

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Chapter I consist of background of the study, statement of problems, purposes of the study, significances of the study, scope of the study, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of Study

As a social creatures, human cannot live alone. In other to be able to live, human communicate to each other with language. There are two function of language. To deliver our intention is the general function of a language. Meanwhile, making the process of exchanging idea work efficiently is the specific function of it. Furthermore, it becomes a weapon to express people's feeling and thought. It means that language is a means of expressing something implied in our mind. In addition, language that we use every day is always different one to another. It has many different forms, and everyone can choose any of the forms that will be used. According to Chaika (2002), Language is the human's treasure which has a close relationship to all of the action of human being.

In communication, people will have various intonations when they speak. If the people are angry, they usually use swear words to emphasize their emotion when they speak. According to Crystal (1991), swear-words are the commonest signals to be used as emotional expression, especially when one is in anger. Someone swears to do something, someone swears to somebody or something, and sometimes people swear because of being out of control.

Since swear words become more familiar nowadays, people often use the swear words in communication, although the swear word itself is a bad or

impolite word and it is not allowed to be used in daily conversation or talk, but there are many people who use them as a part of their lifestyle. Jay (2009) states that “swearing is like using a horn on your car, which can be used to signify a number of emotions (e.g., anger, frustration, joy, and surprise)”. According to Khoirunnisa (2017), knowing swear words means that people get new English non-formal vocabularies, so they can use them in the right place and situation.

In this case, Swear words can be called as a collection of words that sound impolite, rude, and inappropriate to be said. Every swear word has number of meaning with own emotional association based on how it is used (Pinker, 2007). According to Wardhaugh (2006) there are seven types of swear words based on their meaning namely : *mother in law, animal, sex, death, excretion, bodily function, and religious mater*. Here, *Mother in law* is addressed to women who are described as mischievous women. *Animal* term is related to animal behavior. *Sex* is a term that refers to sexual activities. *Death* refers to something that make people afraid. *Excretion* refers to human’s *excretion*. *Bodily function* refers to sexual organ of human. *Religious matters* is related with something religious or God.

Moreover, there are some purposes in using swear words. Anderson and Trudgill (1991) states there are three purposes of using swear words, *expletive, abusive* and *auxiliary*. *Expletive* is a purpose of using swear words that is used to express personal emotions and it is not directed to anyone. *Abusive* is a purpose of using swear words which is directed to others. It needs target to whom the speaker can utter the swear words. *Auxiliary* is a purpose of using swear word which is not indicated to certain people or situation, and *auxiliary* swear word which is applied

as empty meaning and spoken in non-emphatic tone. People usually using swear words is. to express surprise or shock, to indicate friendship, to insult, and to amuse, (Karjalainen, 2002).

In daily life people using swear word is quite common. Both in personal and public context we frequently find swear word in conversation. There are many media we can discover the use of swear words. One of them is in movie. Therefore, a movie is chosen which the swear words used is going to be investigated. According to Estirika (2016), the way of the characters speak, act, and communicate to each other, usually reflects the real life of the society. One of the examples is an American movie entitled *Moonlight*. The reasons why the researcher chose moonlight movie to be analyzed were, first, according to according to Internet Movie Database (2016) Moonlight movie is American movie which the story about the journey of black American man from his childhood to adulthood while trying to find his personality and sexual orientation. Second, Kurniawan (2013) states that the use of swear words in American movies from time to time increased.

There have been other studies which investigated swear words. There were other studies which investigated swear words. Wiyanti (2015) had conducted the study entitled “The Use of Swear Words in the Movie Script South Park Bigger, Longer, and Uncut. This research was about swear words analysis. This research investigated; (1) the types of swear words found in the movie script entitled “South Park Bigger, Longer and Uncut” ; (2) the purposes of swear words uttered by the characters; (3) the motives of swearing uttered by the characters. The result

of the study found that there was a general term which had the greater frequency to be used by the character in the movie. It was followed by religion term as the second classification, excretory and anatomical term as the last classification. There were four purposes of utterance founded namely; expressives, directives, commissives, and representatives. There were only two motives of the characters to swear those were psychological motives and linguistic motives. On the other hand, A research entitled “The Analysis of Swear Words that are Used by White and Black Characters in 12 Years a Slave Movie” was done by Esterika (2016). The aims of this research were to identify the types of swear words that uttered by White and Black characters in 12 Years a Slave movie and to know the purposes of using swear words uttered by White and Black characters in 12 Years a Slave movie. There were three types of swear words namely epithet, profanity, and obscenity. The purposes of using swear words found in the movie are: to create attention, to discredit, to provoke, to create interpersonal identification, and provide catharsis.

This study analyzed the swear words used by the characters in Moonlight movie. Moonlight movie was an American movie. The subjects of this study were the characters in Moonlight movie. This study was a descriptive qualitative study. This research used checklist to analyze the types of swear word based on the Whardugh’s theory (2006). To analyze the purpose of using swear words this research used Andrsson and Trudgill’s theory (1992).

1.2 Statement of the Problems

1. What are the types of swear words that are used in the Moonlight movie?
2. What are the purposes of the characters in the moonlight movie in using swear words?

1.3 Purposes of the Study

1. To find out the types of swear word that are used in the Moonlight movie.
2. To find out the purposes in using swear words that are used by the characters in the Moonlight movie.

1.4 Significances of the Study

1. The study of swear words in this research is given some significances to the readers in some ways. First, the readers learn about the types of swear words. Second, the readers learn about the principal purpose in using swear words and there are many kinds of purposes when somebody is uttering swear words. In addition, the researcher hopes that it can encourage the reader to have a deeper study about swear words.
2. For education, the knowledge of this research will give the students understanding about swear word. Also it will give the students knowledge that in English speaking country especially America, the use of swear word is quite common although swear words is normally forbidden to be used in most countries in the world. Besides that, by knowing English swear words mean, the students can get new English non-formal vocabularies. So, they can use them in the right place and in the right situation.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The scope of this research is sociolinguistics. To avoid a broad discussion, the researcher must limit the discussion because many elements in this research can be analyzed. The researcher is focusing this study to analyse the types of swear words and purposes in using swear words in Moonlight movie.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding in the certain key terms related to this study, the researcher provides the conceptual and operational definition, as follows :

1.6.1 Conceptual Definition

1. Swear words

In the swear words, it may consist the bad words that are used to express someone's expression or emotion. It is usually impolite but by using these words cannot be denied because they are coming out naturally of one's mouth as an expression of unsatisfactory of human feelings (Trimadona, 2016).

2. Character

According to Famela (2011) Character is one important element in the movie, because there will be no movie if there is no character.

3. Movie

According to Effendi (2004), movie is a result of cultural and artistic expression tools. In the movie, there is a communication that is combined with various technologies such as photography, sound recordings, theater, literary, architecture, and music. On the other hand, movie is a type of visual

communication which uses moving pictures and sound to tell stories or teach people something

1.6.2 Operational Definition

1. Swear word

Swearwords may consist of bad words that are used to express emotion. It is usually impolite if we use swear words in the communication. In the moonlight movie, there are some swear words that are used by the characters in moonlight movie such as: *fuck off, motherfucker, bullshit, damn.*

2. Character

Character is a person who has an important role play in novel, drama, and movie. In this case, without a character in novel, drama, and movie, it does not mean anything. It is because the characters have an important role to get attention from the audience. In this study, the writer will analyze swear words that are used by the character in moonlight movie. In moonlight movie there are eight characters namely : Juan, Teresa, Paula, Kevin, Terrence, Terrel, and Chiron.

3. Movie

According to Oxford Dictionary movie is a series of moving pictures recorded with sound that tells a story, watched at a movie theater or on a television or other device. This study will analyze about moonlight movie. Moonlight movie is telling about Chiron is a young black American man that struggle to keep his life. The movie presents three stages in the life of the main character are young adolescence, mid-teen and young adult. In this case, it discusses about difficulties that is faced by his sexuality and identity. Besides that,

it also discusses about physical and emotional abuse about how Chiron endures to grow up. Moonlight movie was released in the United States on October 21, 2016.

