

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter displayed the research background, problem identification, scope of the study, statement of problem, purposes of the study, and significances of the study.

1.1 Background of Study

The function of language is to communicate human's intention, feeling, telling information, and giving opinion. Unfortunately in certain context language was not like what it should be. In this case the language could be the weapon in order to harm others. The offensive, swear, intimidating words and also hate speech commonly used to harm the victim. Hate speech is done towards the victim based on their sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability, ethnicity, and also race (Jay, 2009). It is phenomenon of linguistics which is contributes to the infringement of particular culture and social norms (Pluszczyk, 2015). This phenomenon was related with the issues of human's language behavior called as taboo language.

Literally the word taboo was the prohibition to touch and speak about something with context sacred things. The avoidance or can be said as prohibition for the society behavior because it could harm them or other (Gao, 2013). It does not mean the taboo language cannot be delivered but the matters is human do not talk about it (Wardaugh, 2006) Furthermore, the taboo language is only able to deliver in some certain object or in the particular context with certain group of people (Gao, 2013)). Taboo language comes from one's problem where it causes harm, injury, and discomfort (Allan & Burridge, 2006). Moreover the taboo

language which concerned in this study was based on the part of language such as word, phrase, clause, and sentence. The phenomenon of using language in order to discriminate certain race refers to the racial discrimination.

Racial discrimination closely related with deeds which was committed by the superior group towards inferior group. The superior groups were commonly not doing anything good instead they committed to harm the inferior group by doing some negative action. According to Hamilton and Carmichael in Liliweri (2005) racial discrimination is divided into two namely individual racial discrimination and institutional racial discrimination. Individual discrimination refers to the unequal treatment mostly bad action committed by human itself. Institutional discrimination refers to the institutional practice such as regulation which is made to commit unequal treatment towards inferior group of society. Furthermore there are four types of racial discrimination; isolated racial discrimination, small-group racial discrimination, institutional direct racial discrimination, institutional indirect racial discrimination (Liliweri, 2005).

There are high numbers racial and ethnic groups in the United States such as Blacks, Asians, Hispanics, American Indians, and others, have historically faced severe discrimination pervasive and open denial of civilization, social, political, educational, and economic opportunities (Blank, Rebecca M, Dabady Marylin, and Citro, 2004). According to Widjaja, (2016) racial discrimination is started from the colonialism of black race people in terms of slavery. The black race people are treated unwell and it is resulting to the casualties. Related to this issue in 2001, has been held a “World Conference Against Racism” in Durban, South Africa from 31st of August to 7th of September, 2001. The Conference concerns on

several aspects such as (1) reviewing progress made in the fight against racism, intolerance, xenophobia; (2) increasing the level of awareness about racism; and (3) recommending ways to increase U.N. Effectiveness through programs that combat racism and related intolerance (Blanchfield, 2008). After the conference was being held the power of racism in America was not over yet and still happening.

The messages of society regarding to the issues of racial discrimination not only could be conveyed through mainstream or mass media such as newspaper, television, radio, and social media. It is also can be conveyed through film. Film becomes a medium comes from phenomena which happen in the society it is also the creator of mass culture (McQuail, 1987). Film was not merely about a motion picture or medium of entertainment for the community, but often films also became our means to learn and understand the things that have happened many years ago which was raised through film media such as history and biography. The occurrence of reality develops in the society will always recorded by film (Sobur, 2003). This study used a film which was published on 2018 entitled “BlacKkKlansman”.

BlacKkKlansman was a comedy-crime theme movie. Based on the certain scenes in this movie there are various overview of how African-American faces racist people especially white extremist Ku Klux Klan (KKK). Related on the pre-research data on this film there were some taboo languages that considered as taboo language for example coons, nigga/niggers, toad, and monkey. Thus, this film was suitable to be learnt because it was containing taboo language where this study was concerned on the same topic. This film was representing the issues of

racial discrimination in the United States especially in the Colorado Springs, Colorado through BlaKkKlansman film.

1.2 Problem Identification.

The problem was human could use the language as the weapon in order to harm someone. The term of language which was considered as bad language can be said as taboo language. It varies from words, phrases, clauses and sentences. Taboo language was a term of language which was prohibited to be talked or deliver unless it is in the certain situation or context with the certain group of people. Racist language also considered as taboo because it was a language which commonly used to hurt someone who came from another racial group, ethnicity, or could be said also from inferior group. Thus it referred to the racial discrimination through taboo language. Racial discrimination was a belief which distinguish powerful race with the one who was considered as weak. There was a history where the black people used to be slave of white people. Moreover Film was one of the mass media which able to lead the perception of the audience in order to understand and it had capability to interpret the way the film was meant to be. Thus, this study concerned on the taboo language (word, phrase, clause, and sentence) which considered as racial discrimination on BlacKkKlansman film.

1.3 Scope of the Study

The focus of this study was to get more information related to taboo language considered as racial discrimination on the BlacKkKlansman film. It could be overviewed through each scene in the movie. The words, phrase, clause, and also sentence was being intended as taboo language in this study and mythology concept by Roland Barthes was used in order to get a better analysis.

1.4 The Statement of Problem

Based on the background of the study as well as the problem identification which was explained about the importance and the main problem which became the focus on this study it could be divided into two statement of problem as follows:

1. What are the types of taboo languages which are considered as racial discrimination on The BlacKkKlansman film?
2. What are the meanings of the taboo languages which are considered as racial discrimination on The BlacKkKlansman film?

1.5 Purposes of the Study

Based on the statement of problem that had been mentioned, the purpose of this study could be seen as follows;

1. To identify the types of taboo languages which are considered as racial discrimination on The BlacKkKlansman film.
2. To identify the meaning of the taboo language that considered as racial discrimination on The BlacKkKlansman film.

1.6 Significances of the Study

The significance of this study was to give a number of benefits of this study. Significance of this study was divided into two group, they were theoretical significance and practical significance.

1.6.1 Theoretical Significance

The result of this study is expected to be able to give contribution to the same topic of taboo language through film as the subject of study. Film considered as a media which has so many purposes such as entertaining,

educating, persuading, or even criticizing, and so on. By watching film the way we think about world will be different and we all have a new point of view and also our experiences about our society will be increase as well as the knowledge of the film. It can influence the way of how people thinking and behaving. Moreover in terms of taboo language the teacher is able to explain about the types and example of taboo language.

1.6.2 Practical Significance

The practical significances of this research were expected to bring significances toward lecturer, teacher, parents, students, society and other researchers.

1.6.3 For the Lecturer

The result of this study is expected to give benefits especially for the lecturers who teach sociolinguistics, cross cultural understanding, character education values and the lecturer who wants to insert the learning process using the approach of socializing in the society which represented with the topic of how to live in the society properly with maintaining the certain context such as good and bad thing in the society. The object of this study is about taboo language that refers to racial discrimination and the teacher can input this topic into their teaching and learning process. It is important to the teacher to input this matter and introduce it to the student because the issues of racial discrimination can be happened everywhere and anytime. By giving appropriate explanation about culture and also convince the student about the danger of racial discrimination can make the students to live their life in the society better. Moreover, the lecturers

enable to use this study as a source or reference in conducting their research related to the same topic which is about racial discrimination.

1.6.4 For the Teacher

This study is expected to give beneficial value to the teacher who will teach their students. This topic can be beneficially used by the teacher who teaches character education and or even a teacher counselor. The teaching and learning process can be inserted by the issues of racial discrimination which they can watch in BlacKkKlansman movie. The issues of racial discriminations that focus on taboo language where the language is prohibited to use. The teacher is able to give deep explanation about the danger of racial discrimination practice in the society. Furthermore the teacher also able to develop the lesson plans in order to develop the comprehension of students about cultural understanding.

1.6.5 For the Parents

This study is expected to give significance contribution to the parents that this study is related to the issues of taboo language which refers to racial discrimination. The parents can learn from this topic which becomes the references of how to teach and give a proper lesson to their children related to the issues of racial discrimination. Since the racial discrimination is closely related with the society and also it is bound with the culture in the society the role of parents towards their children is really important. By reading this study and after that knowing what kind of taboo language which is portrayed in the BlacKkKlansman film parents are able to give lesson to their children. The practice of racial discrimination is becoming major problem in the society and this becomes our concerns to prevent the children into the practice of it.

1.6.6 For the Students

This study is expected to give significance contribution to the students especially with the topic of taboo language. By reading this study the will have a good comprehension or a better understanding towards the issues of racial discrimination which consisted of taboo language which is portrayed in the BlacKkKlansman film. By reading and also watching the film, it is expected that the students will have image and able to learn from the situation in the movie which the practice of racial discrimination toward minority or out-group member is not supposed to happen in any occasion and anytime towards every single person in the society whether it is in America or even in our land. Thus, the students will have an idea of how to live in the society with maintaining the good and bad language that should not be said in certain occasion.

1.6.7 For the Society

This study is expected to give beneficial value towards society. In this study the subject is taboo language which considered as racial discrimination in the BlacKkKlansman film. The issue of racial discrimination is a major problem that is happening in the society. Through reading this study and also watch the film it will give the new information for the people who do not have any idea yet about taboo language which used to discriminate inferior group. Hence, the practice of racial discrimination considered as a bad deed that committed by the superior group of society towards the inferior group of society. Thus, this study enables the society to know as well as understanding the taboo language which is prohibited in the society. Furthermore, the society will develop new perspective of the way they thinking that practice of racial discrimination. In addition, this study

will be the example of treating people in the society equally without any privilege or bad treatment to the certain of group society.

1.6.8 For the other Researcher

This study is expected to give significance benefit to the other researchers in which it enables them to use this study as their reference in studying language, film analysis, and also racial discrimination as well as its practice in the society as their empirical review. Aside from the racial discrimination, this study also focused on the taboo language where this study also has a benefit for the other researcher who focuses on the same topic. Moreover, the other researcher can have the theory and make citation as the reference. In addition, the other researcher also able to use this study as guidance in order to be able to know the rules as well as the step by step technique in conducting this research that will be very beneficial.

