

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language is a daily communication medium either used individually, in pairs or groups. Language is the most effective and very important communication media for humans. Language connects individuals to one another in socializing. With language, people can convey their thoughts and feelings to others. According to Wardhaugh and Fuller (2015:2) language means a linguistic communication system including oral, written, and signed communication. The community uses language to carry out its objectives in different ways. The use of language is affected by social factors. Language has the role of characterizing and provides identity, including characterization and identification based on the speaker's gender. Language can be used as a benchmark for determining or knowing the type of the speaker's gender.

Language studies related to social or community are sociolinguistics. Holmes (2013:1) stated "Sociolinguistics studies the relationship between language and society and its context." One of the components that support the question why we all don't speak the same way is participants. People use language differently in speaking according to the social context to convey the social meanings based on the social functions. They create the way of delivering language, social relations in the community and social identity of the community. So, the term of 'society' describes a group of people who are united through a goal in forming a community that doesn't depend on socioeconomic class, gender, language background, and age. In this research, the researcher takes gender and women as a general point. Gender is a concept that uses to show the role and to deliver an impression of information that has a broader scope not just a term of sex. The fundamental differences in men

and women language varieties are the use of language, classification, and the meanings contained in the sentences including intonation, structure, and expression.

The history of women in United States and other country explains that women are treated as minorities, which makes them unable to carry out their activities and to obtain their rights in social and political order. In United States, women are still be paid-less than men for the same job. As a part of society, women and men should have the same rights and obligations. Today, gender equality demands that women ability should get and do something that has been dominated by men in education, work, responsibility, and social roles. Women and men have their characteristics in some ways and one of them is while using language. The terms women language and men's language are found in many language and gender studies. Women and men have language distinctions. The difference between men's language and women languages is on the function that gives a social role. In general, women speakers use intonation, structure, and expression that tend to be more polite compared to men speakers. It aims to give the impression of feminism, meet the level of intimacy, avoids dominant impressions, and shows prestige.

Women often think of the cause and effect before they speak. They usually avoid in saying swearing words because these words make an unethical impression, but also damage their relationship and others. According to Janet Holmes (2013), "Women are designated to be a role model of the right behavior in community." In her book, she mentions the types of women language such as lexical hedges or fillers, tag question, rising intonation, intensifier, precious color terms, empty adjectives, hypercorrect grammar, super-polite form, avoiding strong swearing words and emphatic stress. Women always pay attention to their politeness in using language. It is inconceivable for a woman to use swearing words, for example shouting "damn or shit"; women will just say "oh dear or fudge".

In this study, the researcher wants to analyze women language in Furlough movie directed by Laurie Collyer which is released on March 16th, 2018 in United States of America. This movie has a lot of American women casts and there are many conversations that occur among women which contains women language. The researcher provides four examples from nine types of women language found in this movie, as follows.

1. Lexical Hedges or Fillers

Nicole : “You remember to take your pills?”

Mrs. Stevens: “I **don't think** I did.”

Nicole : “I **don't think** you did either.”

The words “**don't think**” are delivered to express feelings of uncertainty in the part of the truth in both of Mrs. Stevens and Nicole’s response each other.

2. Rising Intonation on Declaratives

Mrs. Stevens: “What's the matter?”

Nicole : “That's work. I gotta go in early today.

Mrs. Stevens: “**Today?**”

The declarative question “**Today?**” is used to get confirmation because the other speaker is the only ones who have the information needed at that time.

3. Intensifier

Mrs. Stevens: “Nicole.”

Nicole : “What?”

Mrs. Stevens: “How long are you gonna frost that thing for?”

Nicole : “I **just** want to make sure that the icing is perfect so the canvas on which to paint...”

The words “**just**” gives an emphasizing adjective “**want**”. It expresses that she doesn’t make the cake intentionally because she likes to do it.

4. Avoidance of Strong Swear Words

Warden : “Uh, Anderson, there's no, oh, easy way to say this but your mother is dying.”

Anderson: “**Oh, man.** That's too bad.”

The expression “**Oh, man**” is used to avoid the swearing words (damn, goddamn, hell, etc) because a woman is considered as human being who softens in speaking than men.

The brief phenomenon above can illustrate enough the women language features in *Furlough* movie. Furthermore, the researcher conducts to find the other types of women language and the functions of American women language using sociolinguistics perspective in the study entitled *Type and Function of Women Language Found in Furlough Movie: A Sociolinguistics Perspective*.

B. Problem Statement

Based on the phenomenon mentioned on the background of this study, the researcher formulates the following problems.

1. What are the types of women language found in *Furlough* Movie?
2. What are the functions of women language found in *Furlough* Movie?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the problems above, the objectives of the study are formulated as follows

1. To describe the types of women language found in *Furlough* Movie.
2. To examine the functions of women language found in *Furlough* Movie.

D. Benefit of the Study

In this research there are several theoretical and practical benefits that are expected to be implemented after the research as follows.

1. Theoretical Benefit

The researcher hopes this research has a contribution to sociolinguistics study especially as additional source and suggestion in the process of teaching learning of language and gender or women language.

2. Practical Benefit

a. For the lecturer

This research can be the example for the students who are interested in studying linguistics or sociolinguistics especially on language and gender or women language.

b. For the future researchers

This research is also significant for stimulating to the other researchers in conducting such kind of research in the future. The result of this research can help the sociolinguistics researchers especially in women language study.