

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language has a function as a communication tools of human being between one person to another. Language is used as a medium or tool to express our thoughts, opinions, emotion and feelings to others through written, spoken, and movement. Many people more often show their feelings and emotions through language, whether it's written, spoken or signs. As a communication tool, language has different meanings and function depending on the place, condition and situation, but they still have the same purpose. Most people use language to express their feelings of happiness, sadness, anger, frustration, jealousy, fear, despair and etc.

Language is a tool for communication, when someone is having a conversation, they must use language as the main tool for communication. When someone communicates, they must understand what they are saying from the language they use. Meanwhile, with a word from a language, someone can hurt, treat, kill, and help others. When someone is having a conversation, they must pay attention to the speech of their language because in speaking someone must pay attention to whether they are saying is polite or impolite sentence. Polite sentence is often used in everyday conversations with people who are older, have a higher rank, whom they love or care and respect. Impolite sentence is often used in conversation when someone is angry, upset, and cursing.

Taboo words are words that can't be said in public. Wardhaugh (1986:239) states taboo is the prohibition or avoidance in any society of behavior believed to be harmful to its members in that it would cause them anxiety, embarrassment, or shame.

According to Edwin Battistella (2005:38), Taboo words are defined as offensive language and divided into several categories: epithets, profanity, obscenity, epithet and insults. In Jay (1992:2), taboo languages are divided into several categories: cursing, slang, insult, slur, scatology, profanity, vulgarity, obscenity, epithets, and blasphemy.

Taboo words often refer impoliteness and taboo words themselves are considered as impoliteness form and usually are used in daily life. According to Culpeper (2011:23), impoliteness is a negative attitude towards specific behaviors occurring in specific context. According to him, taboo words fall into the category of linguistic-pragmatic factors in operating the level of impoliteness. Taboo words are inappropriate words to say in public and include negative actions that can affect a person's behavior towards one thing or another. Apart from everyday conversations taboo words can also be found in movies and music.

In this study, the researcher uses movie as the research subject. A film is a work of art in the form of a moving image combined with sound and movement. Films are used by scriptwriters to describe all the ideas, feelings, desires, and experiences. Usually, a film has various genres such as comedy, romantic, horror, sci-fi, fantasy, action, and adventure.

The researcher chose a movie with the adventure comedy genre entitled "*A Few Less Man*" as the research subject. *A Few Less Man* is an adventure comedy movie directed by Mark Lamprell and released in 2017, this movie is the second movie adaptation from *A Few Best Man* movie. This movie tells the story of the adventures of three best friends named David, Tom, and Graham who are on their way to bring back the body of their best friend Henry, who died because he was drunk and fell off a cliff right after David's wedding to London. Their journey is full of twists and turns of the ordeal that confronts them during their journey to return the body of their

friend whom Henry's aunt awaits, who is mourning Henry's death and has planned his funeral.

Researchers will analyze the types of taboo words and function of taboo words used by the characters in the *A Few Less Man* movie as objects, here are types of taboo words examples of conversations between the two main characters in the *A Few Less Man* movie:

Tom : Yeah, well you don't really need us anymore, do you? Not since you married that *bint*.

Graham : Tom.

Tom : What?

David : Did you just call my wife a *bint*?

The utterance "Not since you married that *bint*" is one of the taboo words types, the "*bint*" sentence can be categorized in *Epithet*. Function of taboo words from "*bint*" sentence is to *Discredit* David opinion about them.

There is the second example:

David : It *bloody stinks* around here.

Tom : Yeah.

Graham : That might be me.

The utterance "It *bloody stinks* around here" is one of the taboo words types, the "*bloody stinks*" sentence can be categorized in *Cursing*. Function of taboo words from "*bloody stinks*" sentence is to *Create Attention* to Tom and Graham.

This movie is very suitable to be used as a source of research data because of the many taboo words that can be found through the words spoken by the characters in this film. Researchers analyzed taboo words, the purpose of using taboo words and the function of using taboo words used in this movie. The study about taboo words is needed by society because there are many taboo words that we often say in our daily life but we don't realize it. Taboo words have their respective meanings, many of them have rough

pronunciations but have good meanings and some have simple pronunciations but have deep or satirical meanings.

The use of taboo words mostly occurs at times when people are in trouble, feel anxious, shocked, and their emotions will say taboo words. In English, the most common taboo words that people say are *fuck* words. The use of taboo words is actually not allowed because every existing taboo word must have a bad meaning.

From the explanation above, the researcher will analyze taboo words under the theory of socio pragmatics. With the title of this research **TABOO WORD USED BY CHARACTERS IN A *FEW LESS MAN* MOVIE.**

B. Limitation of the Study

This research focuses on taboo words expressed by the characters in the film *A Few Less Man*, because there are many taboo words that we can find in this film. The author limits the problem by focusing on the types of taboo words and the function of using taboo words uttered by the characters of the film *A Few Less Man*.

C. Problem Statement

Based from the explanation, the researcher intends to focusing on the study of taboo words based on the questions below:

1. What are the types of taboo words uttered by characters in *A Few Less Man* movie?
2. What are the functions of using taboo words in *A Few Less Man* movie?

D. Objective of the Study

1. To investigate the types of taboo words uttered by characters in *A Few Less Man* movie.
2. To analyze the function of using the taboo word in *A Few Less Man* movie.

E. Benefit of the Study

This research was conducted by the researcher in the hope that this research can be useful for helping the society to increase their knowledge about kind of taboo words in the field of academic and social life. There are:

- a. For the readers

Researchers hope that this research can be useful in disseminating information about taboo words, the use of taboo words and how to use taboo words in everyday life.

- b. For the researcher

Researchers hope that this research can be useful to other researchers in finding information about taboo words research.

- c. For the writers

This study aims as a graduation requirement for writers.