

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Humans are born as the most perfect living creature among the other living beings. What makes human perfect is the language that they have. Language is used by people to be a human being that can socialize. Language is an instrument in order to connect with one another. It can even be said that language is the source of human life because in all aspects of our life need the help of language (Fromkin, Rodman, & Hyams, 2011, p. 284). Start from the children to adults, they all need the help of language. Without language, people cannot interact well because they cannot understand one another. Language becomes a very important part in human's life because through language someone can convey their ideas, messages, purposes, feelings and their opinion to others. Trudgill (2000, p. 1) mentions that the language is not only served as a tool of communication but language plays an important role as a tool for establishing and maintaining the relationship in the society.

Language and humans have very close relationship in the society and the existence of language cannot be separated in it. The relationship between language and society can be learned and found in sociolinguistics. In accordance with Deckert and Vickers (2011, p. 1), sociolinguistics is a field that studies how people use language in all aspects of their lives. In use, sociolinguistics will provide knowledge about how we can use language and how we can put ourselves in the use of language when we are in a particular society (Wardhaugh, 2006, p.13). In other similar explanation, "Sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language and society" (Holmes, 2013, p.1). Society won't be able to interact without language and vice versa language won't be existed if there is no society.

As mentioned above about the importance of language in human life, language has five main functions which are mentioned by Leech (1981, p. 40), those are; Informational function, Expressive function, Directive function, Aesthetic function

and Phatic function. One of them is Expressive function. Expressive function is about how we express our feelings like; happiness, sadness, regret, and anger, through the language. Anyone can express their feelings using language, for example when people are happy they tend to use a positive and jubilant word so the listener can understand that the speaker is in a good mood or in a happy situation and vice versa when the speaker is sad, frustrated, or angry, they will tend to use sad words or it's possible that some people use swear words. In his book, Leech also mentioned the obvious example that can be taken to explain the expressive function which is the use of swear word. (Leech, 1981, p. 41).

Based on the definition in the dictionary, the meaning of swear word itself is a strong word commonly used by someone as an expression in anger (Oxford dictionary). Crystal (1995, p. 55) notes that swear word has power to give a relief to someone who utters it, so it can be said that swear word can be a tool to relieve stress, frustration or anger because by using swear word, the person will feel satisfied and their emotion can be released through it.

In fact, nowadays there are many people who often use swear word in communicating which shows that swear word becomes more common around the society. Since swearing becomes familiar day by day, as a result there are many educated people who also use it to express their feelings. Besides that, swear word is not only for insult, but also can for humorous purpose. Swear words are commonly use in daily communication which can easily found in movies. There are many movies which the characters use swear words in their conversation or dialogue. The movie that the researcher chose to analyze is entitled "*Whiplash*" because the researcher found many swear words uttered by most of the characters.

Whiplash is a 2014 American drama movie written and directed by Damien Chazelle. In this movie that lasted one hour and seventeen minutes tells about the life of nineteen years old boy, Andrew Neiman, who is undergoing his first year at Shaffer Conservatory University, which is mentioned as the best music school at that time. This movie illustrates how his efforts to become a great drummer but in the way to achieve his dreams it isn't easy. He had to face Fletcher who is a famous,

great and most feared conductor at that university. In this movie, Andrew had to accept harsh treatment and insults from Fletcher because he wanted everything to be perfect and even did not hesitate to curse anyone who is not performing well according to his expectation.

Due to the explanation above, the writer is interested in analyzing *Whiplash* movie as the object of the study entitled “Swear Word by Andersson’s Theory in the Movie *Whiplash*” because there are many swear words that can be found which is used by most of the characters. Moreover, this movie is also different from the other movies, as we know swear word is mostly used by uneducated people in general, but in this movie, those words are used by educated people. For this reason, the writer wants to analyze and find out, the types of swear words and the reasons that makes the characters use swear words.

1.2 Problems of The Study

Based on the background of the study, the problem of the study are formulated as follows:

- a. What are the types of swear words uttered by the characters in the *Whiplash* movie?
- b. What are the motives for using swear words used by the characters in the *Whiplash* movie?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

In relation to the problem of the study, the objectives of this study are stated as follows:

- a. To figure out the types of swear words which are used by the characters in the *Whiplash*.
- b. To find out the motives of the characters in using swear words in their conversations.

1.4 Significance of The Study

a. For students

This research hopefully can be useful for students to help them to understand more about the concepts of swear words, the types, the motives in using swear words.

b. For future researchers

This research is expected to be used as a reference for the future researchers who want to do a research about swear words.

c. For those who interested in the discussion about swear words

This research is expected to be a source of information for everyone who are interested to know about swear words. Hopefully, the information can help the reader to understand the matter of swear words.

1.5 Limitation of The Study

As stated in the title, the limitation of this study is around the use of swear words in the *Whiplash* movie. This study only focused on the usage of swear words which were found in the dialogues uttered by the eight characters. Furthermore, the writer categorized all the swear words in the movie based on the types and the motives of the use of swear words also discussed to answer the second research question.