

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses background of the study, research problems, research objectives, and definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of The Study

Human beings are social creatures who cannot live alone. They have to socialize with other human beings. In every single day, we always communicate with each other. We communicate to interact with other people in our society. The tool for the human to interact and socialize is language. Language is an important thing for communicating with other human beings. By using language, we can express our feeling, interact with others, and show everything. Language is an essential means of expression and communication among people.

According to Edward Sapir in Stuart C. Poole, (1999, p. 4), language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols. Language is the most important things of communication. It does not matter whether it is in the spoken or written form. We can understand each other through language. People cannot deny that most of them need to communicate in their daily activities.

Therefore, language is the important thing for our society.

According to (George Yule : 2006), in daily communication, the use of standard language is mostly replaced by non- standard language. It especially happens in communication among people with their close relation. The difference between standard and non-standard language has nothing in principle to do with differences between formal and colloquial language or with concepts such as “bad language”. Peter Trudgill (1983) states that standard language is also called by formal language, whereas informal language is called as non-standard language.

There are some aspects that affect on language, like the social environment, social structure, and values of the society. The study that concerns on language and society is called sociolinguistics.

Wardhaugh (1986) also says that in case of communication, for a moment people often express a language freely, and they forget about cultures or norms. It means that a person can spell the language freely or use taboo words, for example when he is shy and angry. This happens because he or she forgets about culture and norms in force. Sometimes people express their feelings in any situation by filthy words not only in oral expression, but also in acts or behavior related to impolite one, and deemed taboo. The taboo words used when they feel shy, angry or being emotional. It is also uttered when someone does not like a certain behavior.

Taboo is one way in which a society expresses its disapproval of certain kinds of behavior language believed to be harmful to its members, either for supernatural reasons or because such behavior is held to violate a moral code (Wardhaugh, 1986, p. 230). Other taboo results are embarrassment (an unpleasant

emotional), shame (the consciousness or awareness of dishonor, disgrace, or condemnation), and rudeness (the disrespect and failure to behave within the context of a society or etiquette). In society, certain things are not said, not because they cannot be, but because people do not talk about those things or if those things are talked about, they talk about in very roundabout ways.

According to Wardhaugh (1986: 229), taboo is related to the culture meanings, which are expressed in language. It means that language is used to avoid saying certain thing which is considered immoral and improper to the certain thing. Taboo words can also be a way for some people or groups to express what is on their minds. In addition, a taboo word also helps some people to express a sense or things to be disclosed.

Wardhaugh (1986: 230) states that tabooed subjects can vary widely: one's mother in law, certain game animals, sex, death, excretion, bodily functions, religious matters, and the left hand (the origin of sinister). Further Timothy Jay (1996) states that taboo language has many categories, there are cursing, profanity, blasphemy, obscenity, sexual harassment, vulgar language, and name calling and insults.

The classifies taboo subject into 8 categorized namely: one's mother in law, certain game or animal, sex/ copulative term, death, bodily function/ human genitals term, excretion, religious matter, the left hand

Linguistic taboos are also violated on occasion to draw attention to one self, or to show contempt, or to be aggressive or provocative, or to mock authority.

In Indonesia, there are many different taboo words and their meanings. In each region or city in Indonesia. There are taboo words which are appropriate with available language in each areas, but there are some similar words. The examples of taboo words in Indonesia are *jancok (cok)*, *asu*, *guatel (gateli)*, *guaplek (gapleki)*, *matane*, *raimu*, *matek*, *siletmu*, *nelek*, *fuck you*.

In the media we often hear taboo words spoken by actors. For example, we could see and hear the taboo words spoken by the actors in the “Video Grammar Suroboyo” played by *Suro* and *Boyo*. In the video there are taboo words spoken by *Suro* and *Boyo*. Video and movie is one of the media that have cultural meanings which are expressible. Video and movie are regarded as entertainments and they reflect cultural richness within them.

In this case the author tries to do research on a film made by *Gathot Kaca Studio*. The film is called *Video Grammar Suroboyo*. It is an animated film telling about the friendship story of a symbol of Surabaya city, namely *Suro* and *Boyo*. The film shows a conversation between *Suro* and *Boyo* who use taboo words which are often spoken by Surabaya citizens community called Grammar Suroboyo. In Surabaya, if we examine or count the taboo words that are pronounced by everyone then we will get a lot of taboo words.

In conducting the researcher limits the research problems on the taboo utterances in *Video Grammar Suroboyo*. The researcher focuses on (words, phrases, clause, and sentences) utterances of the characters in the *Video Grammar Suroboyo*. The researcher uses the theory of taboo word by Ronald Wardhaugh (1986) as his guideline to answer the research problems.

Theoretically, this research is expected to be able to apply sociolinguistics theory, especially on the use of taboo words in relation to phenomena existing in our society. Practically, this research is expected to open and offer another way in studying the social taboo and entertainment area especially video where it hardly ever gets any attention from any researchers. For the society, the result of this study can be used as a guidance not to use any taboo words. The result of this research hopefully can be something meaningful to everybody, especially the students of English department in Universitas Brawijaya. Generally, this is expected to give more understanding to all people who have concern on Sociolinguistics. This study is expected to give contribution on the phenomena of taboo language in our society.

1.2 Research problems

1. What are the taboo words used in “Video Grammar Suroboyo”?
2. What are the types of taboo words uttered by characters in “Video Grammar Suroboyo”?

1.3 Research Objectives

1. To find out the taboo words used in “Video Grammar Suroboyo”.
2. To find out the type of taboo words uttered by characters in “Video Grammar Suroboyo”.

1.4 Definition of Key terms

The researcher gives the definition of key terms to avoid the misunderstanding

They are elaborated as follows:

Taboo Words : Taboo words is one way in which a society expresses its disapproval of certain kinds of behavior language believed to be harmful to its members, either for supernatural reasons or because such behavior is held to violate a moral code (Wardhaugh, 1986, p. 230).

Taboo : Taboo is related to the culture meanings, which are expressed in language. It means that language is used to avoid saying certain thing which is considered immoral and improper to the certain thing Wardhaugh (1986: 229)

Utterance : A spoken word, statement, or vocal sound.

<http://oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/utterance>

Sociolinguistics : Sociolinguistics is the study of language in relation to society (Hudson, 1980, pp.4-5).

Video Grammar Suroboyo

: It is an animated film telling about the

friendship story of a symbol of Surabaya

city, namely *Suro* and *Boyo*.

