

**Dictatorship in North Korea Depicted in a Comedy  
Movie Entitled *The Interview*: A Critical  
Discourse Analysis**

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

**BY**

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DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE  
FACULTY OF CULTURE STUDIES  
UNIVERSITAS BRAWIJAYA**

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**DICTATORSHIP IN NORTH KOREA DEPICTED IN A COMEDY MOVIE  
*THE INTERVIEW*: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS**

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

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**2019**

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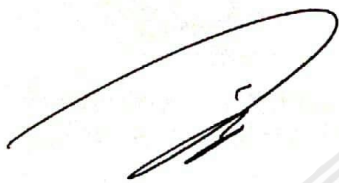


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Ida Ayu Syahfitri

## ABSTRACT

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Keywords: *Critical Discourse Analysis, Movie, Ideology, Dictatorship, Power, North Korea*

A movie functions as an entertainment media which aims to deliver social issues such as ideology and power. *The Interview* is a movie produced by Sony Pictures Entertainment in 2014 which depicts dictatorship in the country of North Korea. Thus, this study aims to find out how the dictatorship is depicted in *The Interview* movie, as well as how the public as the consumers perceive the movie.

Qualitative descriptive method is used to analyze the data in this research. The data is taken from three data sources, *The Interview* movie, the script of *The Interview* movie and the comments of *The Interview* movie trailer video uploaded on Youtube. All of the data taken then analyzed using Fairclough's three dimensional theory. In doing the analysis, the writer uses a corpus tool to help mapping the result data so that it is known how the public perceive the movie.

This research finds out that there are some dialogs and scenes which represent the dictatorship in North Korea. The depiction which is not really explicit and only inserted into some dialogs show that *The Interview* movie is not produced as an 'act of war' as stated by North Korea, but it is done for public's acceptance. On the other hands, looking at how the public perceive the movie, it can be concluded that the public can accept the movie even though the movie itself is controversial; proven by the events happen by the release of the movie, such as the hacking action of Sony Pictures Entertainment and the declaration that the movie is an 'act of war' by North Korea.

It is suggested to the next researchers to do deeper study about the dictatorship in North Korea, hopefully the next researches use other theories such as corpus and semiotics. More profound research on this issue is expected to make significant contributions to deepen the understanding about the movie and its function and role for the society.

## ABSTRAK

Syahfitri, Ida Ayu. 2019. **Kediktatoran di Korea Utara yang Digambarkan dalam Film Komedi Berjudul *The Interview: Analisis Wacana Kritis***. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Brawijaya, Malang. Pembimbing: M. Rozin, S.S., M.A.

Kata Kunci: *Analisis Wacana Kritis, Film, Ideologi, Kediktatoran, Kekuasaan, Korea Utara*

Film berfungsi sebagai media hiburan yang bertujuan untuk menyampaikan isu-isu sosial seperti ideologi dan kekuasaan. *The Interview* adalah salah satu film produksi Sony Pictures Entertainment pada 2014 yang menggambarkan kediktatoran di negara Korea Utara. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mencari tahu bagaimana kediktatoran tersebut digambarkan dalam film *The Interview* dan juga bagaimana publik sebagai konsumen memandang film tersebut.

Metode kualitatif deskriptif digunakan dalam menganalisis data dalam penelitian ini. Data diperoleh dari tiga sumber data yaitu film *The Interview*, skrip film *The Interview* dan kometar pada trailer video film *The Interview* yang diunggah di Youtube. Semua data yang telah diperoleh kemudian dianalisis menggunakan teori tiga dimensi milik Fairclough. Dalam melakukan analisa, penulis menggunakan alat korpus untuk membantu memetakan data hasil sehingga diketahui bagaimana persepsi public terhadap film tersebut.

Penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa ada beberapa dialog yang menggambarkan kediktatoran di Korea Utara. Penggambaran yang tidak begitu eksplisit dan hanya diselipkan melalui dialog menunjukkan bahwa film *The Interview* bukan diproduksi sebagai sebuah ‘aksi perang’ sebagaimana dinyatakan oleh Korea Utara, akan tetapi agar publik dapat menerima film tersebut. Selain itu, dapat disimpulkan bahwa publik dapat menerima film tersebut meskipun film tersebut kontroversial; terbukti dengan peristiwa yang terjadi menjelang perilis film, seperti peretasan terhadap Sony Pictures Entertainment dan juga deklarasi oleh Korea Utara bahwa film tersebut adalah sebuah ‘aksi perang’.

Disarankan kepada peneliti selanjutnya untuk melakukan penelitian yang lebih mendalam tentang kediktatoran di Korea Utara, diharapkan juga agar peneliti selanjutnya menggunakan teori lain seperti korpus dan semiotik. Penelitian yang lebih mendalam mengenai isu ini diharapkan dapat menyumbangkan kontribusi yang signifikan untuk memperdalam pemahaman mengenai film beserta fungsi dan perannya dalam masyarakat.



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>TITLE PAGE .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>DECLARATION OF AUTHORSHIP .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR’S APPROVAL .....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>BOARD OF EXAMINER’S APPROVAL.....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>ABSTRACT.....</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>ABSTRAK .....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES .....</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES .....</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>LIST OF APPENDIX .....</b>	<b>xiii</b>
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Problems of the Study .....	7
1.3 Objectives of the Study .....	7
1.4 Definitions of Key Terms.....	7
<b>CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE.....</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1 Theoretical Framework .....	9
2.1.1 Critical Discourse Analysis.....	9
2.1.2 Power .....	15
2.1.3 Ideology .....	17
2.1.4 Dictatorship .....	18
2.2 Previous Studies .....	20



<b>REFERENCES</b> .....	<b>68</b>
<b>APPENDIX</b> .....	<b>72</b>



**LIST OF TABLES**

Table 3.1 Positive and negative sentences in the dialogs of *The Interview* movie which depict the dictatorship in North Kore ..... 27

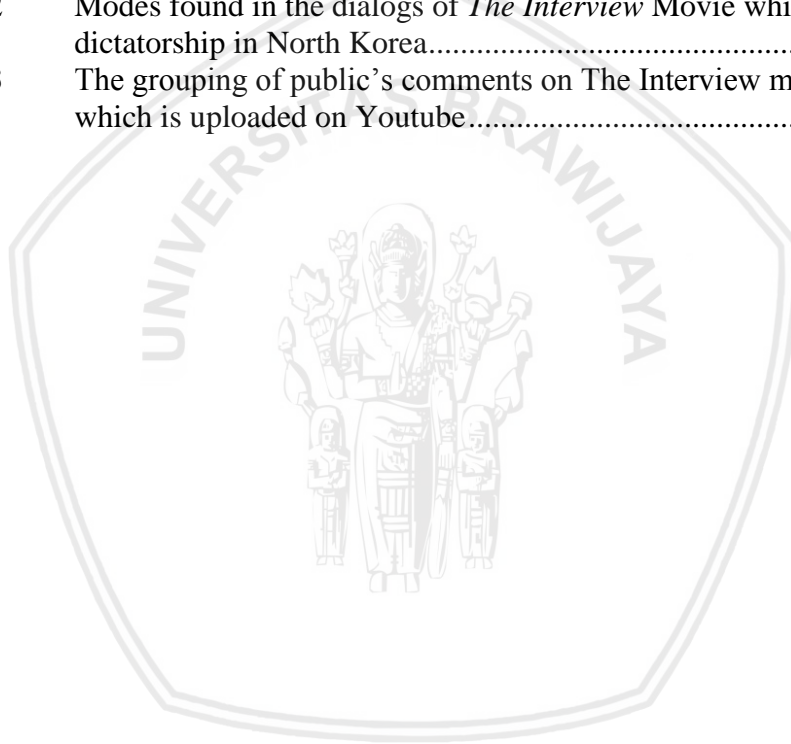
Table 3.2 Modes found in the dialogs of *The Interview* movie which depict the dictatorship in North Korea..... 28

Table 3.3 The grouping of public’s comments on The Interview movie trailer which is uploaded on Youtube ..... 29

Table 4.1 Positive and negative sentences in the dialogs of *The Interview* movie which depict the dictatorship ..... 47

Table 4.2 Modes found in the dialogs of *The Interview* Movie which depict the dictatorship in North Korea..... 49

Table 4.3 The grouping of public’s comments on The Interview movie trailer which is uploaded on Youtube..... 55





**LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 2.1 Fairclough’s three-dimensional CDA ..... 12  
 Figure 4.1 The scene when Dave and Aaron are shown how Pyongyang city looks like ..... 35  
 Figure 4.2 The scene when Dave realizes that the grocery store is fake ..... 36  
 Figure 4.3 The scene when Kim Jong Un shots Dave ..... 45  
 Figure 4.4 The scene when Kim Jong Un’s helicopter fired and exploded ..... 46  
 Figure 4.5 *The Interview* movie trailer video comments on Youtube ..... 56  
 Figure 4.6 *The Interview* movie trailer video comments on Youtube ..... 57  
 Figure 4.7 *The Interview* movie trailer video comments on Youtube ..... 58

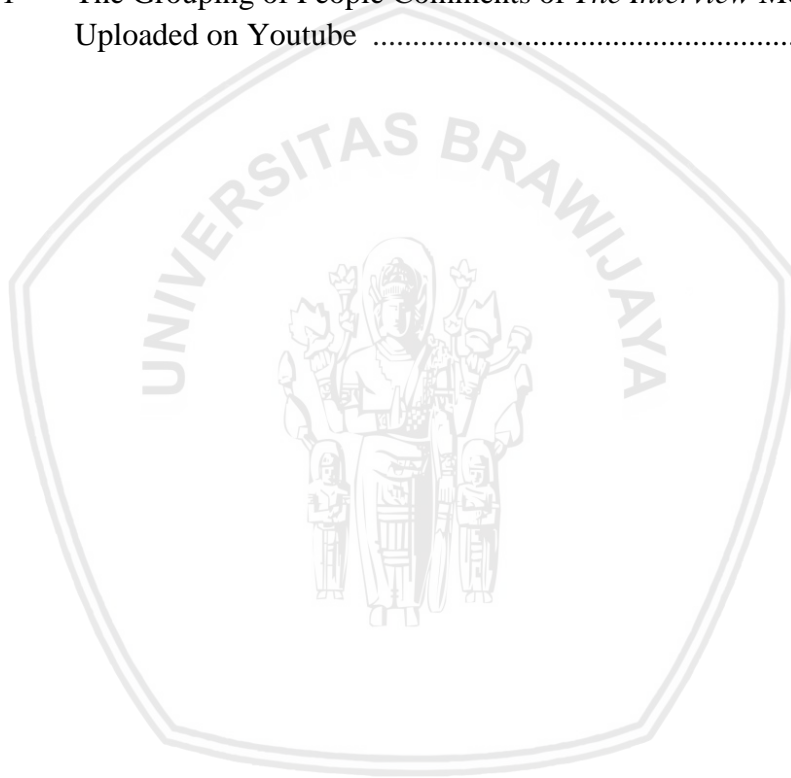


**LIST OF APPENDIX**

Appedix 1 Positive and Negative Utterances in the Dialogs of *The Interview* Movie which Depict the Dictatorship in North Korea ..... 72

Appedix 2 Modes Found in the Dialogs of *The Interview* Movie which Depict the Dictatorship in North Korea ..... 74

Appedix 1 The Grouping of People Comments of *The Interview* Movie Trailer Uploaded on Youtube ..... 77



## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

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

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Movie is an art of audio-visual story telling, . . . medium of communication rich with social implications, created within different social, historical and cultural context (View, 2011, p. 1, cited from Pranata, 2016). According to Meriam Webster Dictionary, movie is a recording of moving images that tells a story and that people watch on a screen or television. Somehow, movie is reputed as an entertainment media which purpose is only to entertain, but most people are generally unaware that every movie brings a message (Pranata, 2016).

The main function of movie is entertainment, while it has some genres such as biography, education media or a provocative media which has some purposes behind its creation. Provocative media in here means that movie can influence people to do or not to do something, or in some cases, movie can change people's mind or perspective toward one particular thing. This can be related to Setiawan's (2014, p. 2) statement:

Movie is the medium of the message that want to be presented for moviegoers. Movie becomes a media to entertain, educate and improve knowledge. . . . Movie shows another life that is close to the real life. The moviegoers can watch all the parts of the story, mostly all the films have conflicts inside and people can learn many things about life from there.

The message which a movie tries to deliver to public can be social issues; such as discrimination, juvenile delinquency, etc., or some more sensitive issues such as politics or ideology which a country holds. These issues may not be shown to public explicitly, but the message behind all the scenes and acts may describe how the country runs under the particular politic and ideology. Kellner (n.d., p. 1) also says that popular films intervene in the political struggles of the day, . . . that films can be interpreted as a struggle of representation over how to construct a social world and everyday life.

As the technologies become more advanced, the message which a movie tries to deliver can be accepted even easier, even for some sensitive issues such as ideology in a particular country. Ideology is the basic thing by which a country rules its whole country elements. It is stated on the writing of Destutt de Tracy (van Dijk, 2004, p. 6) that ideologies have something to do with systems of ideas, and especially with the social, political or religious ideas shared by a social group or movement. . . . mostly used in psychology to refer to 'thoughts' of any kind: *beliefs*. Hinnich and Munger (1993, cited in Tao, n.d., p. 3) define ideology as a set of beliefs about the world, including beliefs about the morality of the division of labor, income



distribution, and the existing institutional structure of a society. It can be concluded that ideology is belief that regulates the entire life of society.

Ideology leads to political actions, such as the election of the leader, law establishment, etc. Democratization has set people to live freely under the same degree of political rights and civil liberties. Freedom House (Sharp, 2010, p. 2) notes that there are around 89 countries categorized as “free” in terms of political rights and civil liberties. But, there are also about 42 countries categorized as “not free”. Those countries are ruled by a range of military dictatorships, traditional repressive monarchies, dominant political parties, foreign occupiers, or are in the state of transition.

The problem of dictatorship seems deep. This is stated by Sharp (2010, p. 3) that dictatorship brings predictable results such as weak populations, lacks of self-confidence, and incapable of resistance. This is caused by the ignorance of the dictators of the constitutional and legal barriers, judicial decisions, and public opinion. It can be understood that later violence such as reacting to brutalities, torture, disappearances and killings are thought to be able to end the dictatorship. Moreover, elections as an instrument of significant political change are not available under dictatorships (Sharp, 2010, p. 5). This can be argued that it is almost impossible to resolve the problems of dictatorship from inside the country. As also stated by Sharp (2010, p. 6) that people under dictatorship believe that only international help can be strong enough to bring down the dictators.

The problems of dictatorship nowadays have reached international public. Many media also seem to reveal the ugliness of the dictatorships. As stated in the beginning of this sub chapter as well, movie has also become a media to show the world how rude the dictatorship treats people under its regime.

*The Interview* movie is one of the media which reveals how the dictatorship runs, especially in North Korea. This movie is an action-comedy movie released in the end of 2014 by Sony Pictures Entertainment which tells a story about a presenter named Dave Skylark, figured by James Franco, and his producer named Aaron Rapoport, figured by Seth Rogen who run their talk show called “Skylark Tonight”. As they know that Kim Jong-un is a fan of the show, they attempt to hold an interview with the dictator leader of North Korea. But unfortunately, they have to change their plan since they are recruited by CIA to assassinate Kim Jong-un.

However, it is interesting to analyze further about a sensitive issue such as dictatorship which is twisted in a comedy movie. Buffam (2011) stated that comedy is a genre of movie that uses humor as a driving force which the aim is to illicit laughter from the audience through entertaining stories and characters. He also stated that although it may take some serious material, most have happy ending. *The Interview* movie is also taking a serious material; the dictatorship in North Korea, and this movie also has a happy ending; the death of the dictator leader.

In *The Interview*, the writer found some scenes which show the conditions in North Korea, such as when the government tries to hide the poverty of their people.

The writer also found some hopes which the movie tries to deliver about the end of the dictatorship. Those then trigger the writer to analyze *The Interview* movie, mainly to know how the movie depicts dictatorship in North Korea.

Analyzing movie using general linguistic theories which observe language grammatically, semantically, or syntactically will not be easy since most of those theories merely analyze the form of language itself which is presented in the form of text. While in movie, the issue is depicted in the form of audio and visual, so a deeper study is required. In this case, the analysis of *The Interview* movie will be using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) since the movie has more sensitive issues, in this case is dictatorship in North Korea.

According to Hawthorn (1992), discourse is linguistic communication which is seen as an exchange between speaker and hearer, as a personal activity which form is determined by the social purpose. While according to Collins Concise English Dictionary (1988), discourse is divided into three definitions: (1) verbal communication, utterance, and dialogue, (2) a formal treatment from a subject in the form of spoken or written language, (3) a text unit which is used by linguists to analyze the sentence unit. Examining the definitions of discourse above, it means that Critical Discourse Analysis is used to analyze social phenomena in the society through text.

The study should be a “critical analysis” because there are many discourses around us which cannot be accepted directly without any consideration. According to

Fairclough (2010, p. 243) this social research is called “critical” because it is analyzing ‘what went wrong in society’ (injustice, inequality, discrimination, liability) by looking for the source and the causes as well as the probable contradiction. First in time, discourse is only to analyze texts in linguistic context. However now, many kinds of discourse in the society can be analyzed by using critical discourse analysis. In addition, the last destination of CDA is to reveal any forms of impair dominations, discriminations or presumptions. CDA wants to analyze how a discourse produces the social domination, encourages a group’s power abuse toward the others and how a group which is being dominated through discourse resist the power abuse (van Dijk, 2009, p. 63).

This study is focused on the analysis of the dictatorship that happens in North Korea depicted in *The Interview* movie. The writer wants to know how a sensitive issue such as dictatorship is depicted in a comedy movie. However, a comedy movie must contain many jokes with strong humor sense, but in the case of this research, the twisting of sensitive issue into a comedy movie seems interesting to be analyzed. Public’s perception about this kind of movie is also highlighted because it is considered as how the public may response to the dictatorship in North Korea as well. All of the analysis will be according to the theory of CDA according to Norman Fairclough.

By conducting this study, the writer hopes that this study gives advantages in theoretical purpose to develop research in the field of Critical Discourse Analysis,



especially the disclosure of ideological or political involvement in a movie. This study also has practical purpose to give people understanding that a movie can be a media that implies ideology and politics, as well as giving knowledge about the dictatorship that happens in North Korea.

## 1.2 Problems of the Study

In this study, the writer proposes two research problems. The problems are:

1. How is the dictatorship in North Korea depicted in *The Interview* movie?
2. How do public as consumers perceive *The Interview* movie?

## 1.3 Objectives of the Study

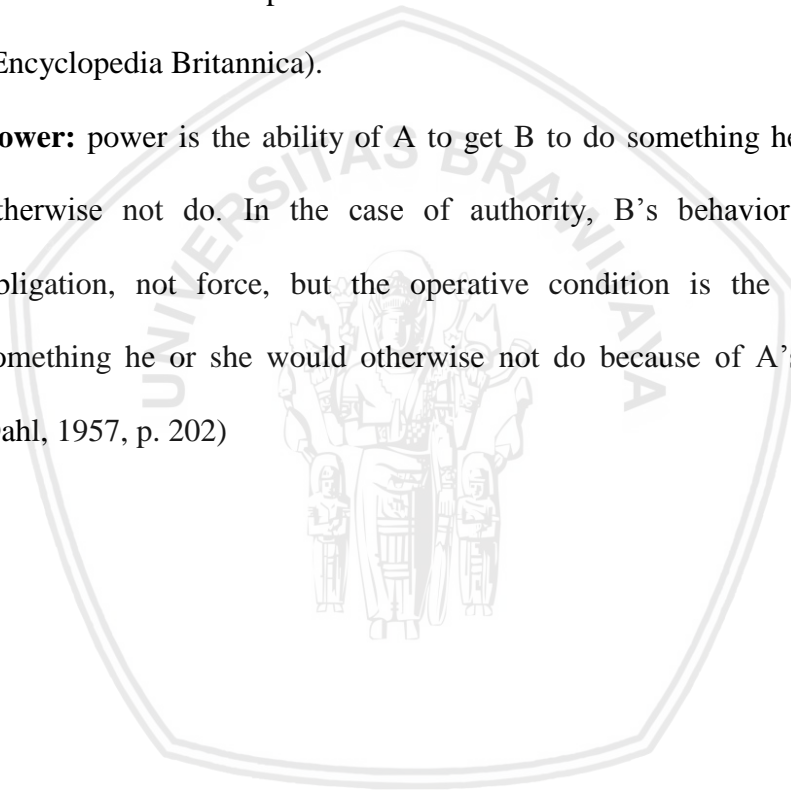
In this study, the writer has two objectives. Those objectives are:

1. To find out how the dictatorship in North Korea is depicted in *The Interview* movie.
2. To find out how public as consumers perceive *The Interview* movie.

## 1.4 Definition of Key Terms

- a. Critical Discourse Analysis:** a branch of discourse analysis, which is concerned with analyzing opaque as well as transparent structural relationships of dominance, discrimination, power and control (Fairclough, 1993, cited in El-sharkawy, 2016).
- b. Movie:** a recording of moving images that tells a story and that people watch on a screen or television (Meriam Webster Dictionary).

- c. **Ideology:** Significations/constructions of the reality . . . which are built into several various dimensions of the forms/meanings of discursive practices and which contribute the production, reproduction of transformation of relations of dominations (Fairclough, 1992)
- d. **Dictatorship:** form of government in which one person or a small group possesses absolute power without effective constitutional limitations (Encyclopedia Britannica).
- e. **Power:** power is the ability of A to get B to do something he or she would otherwise not do. In the case of authority, B's behavior is driven by obligation, not force, but the operative condition is the same: B does something he or she would otherwise not do because of A's will. (Robert Dahl, 1957, p. 202)



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter, the writer will present two main points, those are (1) Theoretical Framework and (2) Previous studies. Those points will be described as follows:

#### **2.1 Theoretical Framework**

This sub-chapter consists of theoretical framework of this study, those are: (1) Critical Discourse Analysis, (2) Power and (3) Dictatorship.

##### **2.1.1 Critical Discourse Analysis**

Discourse is a social practice in the form of symbolic interaction which can be revealed in dialogs, texts, gestures, pictures, diagrams, films or musics (N. Fairclough, 2010, p. 233; and M. Bloor & Thomas, 2007, pp. 1-2). In Ricoeur's (1986, p.104, cited in Haryatmoko, 2016) definition, discourse has four elements, those are first, there is a subject who explains; second, to whom the explanation is delivered; third, the world and mode which want to be represented; and fourth, temporality and context of time.

According to Fairclough (2010), discourse has three basic properties: relational, dialectical and interdisciplinary. The relational form of research focuses not only on entities or individuals, but on social relations. The social relations are

very complex and it is 'layered', for example it includes relations of communication between people; it can be conversations, newspapers, articles, etc., and more abstract and enduring complex discursive 'object' like languages, discourses and genres. Further, discourse has relations with other such complex 'object' which are interconnected elements in social activity. Hence, it can be said that discourse brings into complex relations which constitute social life: meaning and meaning making (Fairclough, 2010).

The second property of discourse is dialectical, which is the relation between objects which are different from one another but not called 'discrete', not fully separate in the sense that one excludes the other (Fairclough, 2010). Let's see power and discourse as Fairclough (2010) stated that:

Power is not simply discourse, it is not reducible to discourse; 'power' and 'discourse' are different elements in the social process (or in a dialectical terminology, different 'moments'). . . . Social activity or practice consists in complex articulations of these and other objects as its elements or moments; its analysis of dialectical relations between them, and no one object or element (such as discourse) can be analyzed other than in terms of its dialectical relations with others.

And the last, discourse is interdisciplinary since it analyzes such relations cut across conventional boundaries between disciplines (linguistics, politics, sociology, etc.) (Fairclough, 2010). Fairclough (2010) explained that:

The term entails is the 'dialogues' between disciplines, theories and frameworks which take place in doing analysis and research are a source of theoretical and methodological developments within the particular disciplines, theories and frameworks in dialogue – including CDA itself.

CDA is more complex than the common discourse analysis which focuses to reveal problems or phenomena which is implied in texts, because CDA can be used to analyze phenomena which happen in society. Fairclough (2010) has explained in his book that CDA has characteristics as follow:

1. It is not just analysis of discourse (or more concretely texts), it is part of some form of systematic transdisciplinary analysis of relations between discourse and other elements of the social process.
2. It is not just general commentary on discourse, it includes some form of systematic analysis of texts.
3. It is not just descriptive, it is also normative. It addresses social wrongs in their discursive aspects and possible ways of righting or mitigating.

The basic assumption of CDA is that language used for various functions and language also has various consequences (Haryatmoko, 2016). While the object of CDA is all data sources, it can be documents, discussion papers, parliament debates, speeches, cartoons, photos, newspapers or other media sources, including political treatises and pamphlets (van Dijk, 1997).

There are four goals to be achieved by CDA stated by Haryatmoko (2016):

First, to analyze discourse practices that reflect or construct social problems; second, to analyze how ideology is standardized into language and how to dilute the ideology that binds language or words; third, to raise awareness to be sensitive to injustice, discrimination, prejudice and other forms of abuse of power; fourth, to help providing solutions to obstacles that hinder social change.

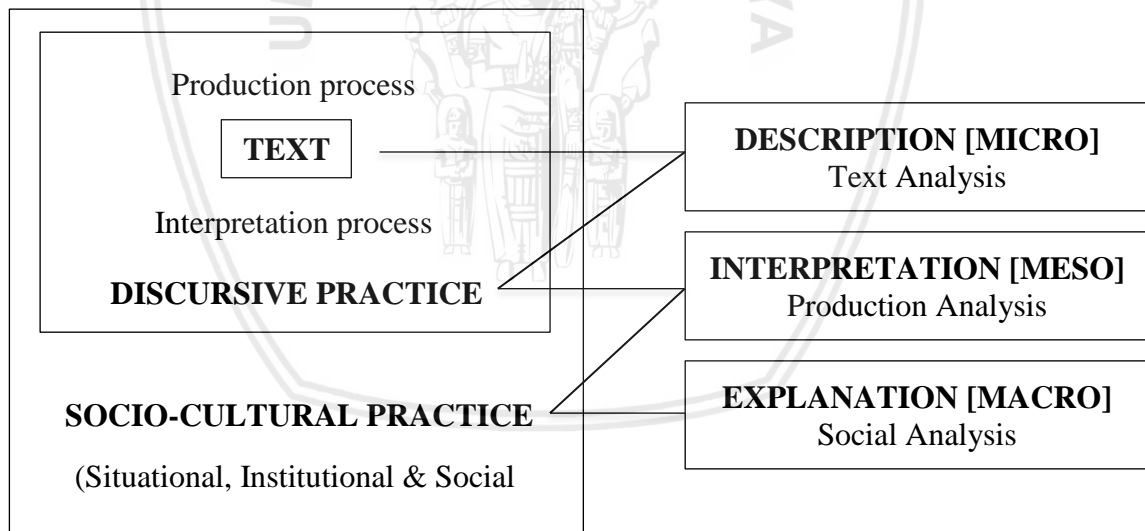
Hence, it is necessary to dismantle the relationship between language and ideology by showing the meaning of language in power relations and social relations. (Haryatmoko, 2016)

Fairclough offers four steps of CDA method (Fairclough, 2010, p. 235):

1. Focus on the ‘social irregularities’ and the semiotic aspect. The irregularities include poverty, inequality, discrimination, lack of freedom and racism.
2. Identifying the obstacles to handle the ‘social irregularities’. There are three steps to do this level.
3. Identify whether the social order ‘requires’ social irregularities.
4. Identify possible ways to overcome obstacles.

In this context, CDA is an analysis of dialectic relations between semiosis and other elements of social practice. Those semiosis process are explained clearly by Fairclough in three-dimensional CDA.

According to Fairclough, CDA has to pay attention to its three dimensions: text, discursive practice and social practice. This will be presented as follows:



**Figure 2.1. Fairclough's three-dimensional CDA**

*Text* is all that refers to speech, writing, graffiti, and its combination or all linguistics forms of text. A text does not only show how an object is described, but also how relationships between objects are defined (Eriyanto, 2001).



In Haryatmoko (2016), there are three basic things that need to be considered in analyzing text, they are the choice of words or vocabularies, the use of terms and grammar. The vocabularies include meaning of words; one word can have many meanings depending on the context. The terms are used to facilitate the readers in identifying themselves with the author and establishing a 'trust' in their opinion. And grammar includes transitive verbs, themes and modalities. Themes are related to textual function, while modalities relate to the function of interpersonal relations. What needs to be considered is the integration between the sentence and the meaning of word, and how the logic of the argument for justification is compiled and systematized in the text structure (Haryatmoko, 2016).

Theme is a part of a clause; it is indicated only by position in the clause. Halliday (2014, p. 89) stated that theme is the element that serves as the point of departure of the message; it is that which locates and orients the clause in its context. Theme lets the speaker guide the addressee to interpret the message by making the part of the message prominent. Theme functions in the structure of the clause as a message; it is the point of departure for the message, or in other words, the element the speaker selects for 'grounding' what he is going on to say (Halliday, 2014, p. 83).

Modality is important concept in grammar, as Fairclough (1989, pp. 126-127) stated that there are two dimensions of modality, those are relational and expressive modality. Relational modality refers to a matter of authority of one participant in relation to others, while expressive modality is the matter of the speaker or writer's

authority with respect to the truth or probability of a representation of reality. He also stated that modality does not only deal with modal auxiliaries such as , but also with other formal features including adverbs and tense.

*Discursive practice* is all forms of production and consumption of text. It wants to see the power of the statement in the sense of the extent to which it encourages affirmative action of power. In this dimension, the coherence of text that has entered the interpretation area will be messaged. At this stage, text intertextuality has received special attention (Fairclough, 1995, p. 75).

*Social practice* is usually embedded in broad cultural goals, networks and practices. The method includes a description of the language of the text, interpretation of the relationship between the discourse process (production and interpretation) and the text and an explanation of the relationship between the discourse process and social process (Fairclough, 1995, p. 97).

Fairclough's (2010) dialectical relation stated that power and discourse are different 'moments' yet they are not discrete, the complex realities of power relations are 'condensed' and simplifies in discourses (Harvey, 1996, cited in Fairclough, 2010). Related to the problem which will be discussed, CDA here will be used to help researcher to find how *The Interview* movie depicts the problem of North Korea, which in this case is related to the power abuse. Hence, knowledge of power is needed in order to make the study run easier.

### 2.1.2 Power

Power is understood as the capacity of an agent to impose his will over the will of the powerless, or the ability to force them to do things they do not wish to do.

(Bălan, n.d., p. 2). But according to Foucault (1980), power is defined as follows:

Power is not something that can be owned, but rather than something that acts and manifests itself in a certain way; it is more a strategy than a possession: “Power must be analyzed as something which circulates, or as something which only functions in the form of a chain . . . Power is employed and exercised through netlike organization . . . Individuals are the vehicles of power of application”.

Foucault’s concept of power is opposed to marxist thinkers, in which Foucault is concerned less with the oppressive aspect of power, but more with the resistance of those the power is exerted upon (Althusser, 1984, cited in Bălan, n.d., p. 2). Foucault proposes an alternative model which enables him to build a model of the daily and mundane manners in which power is exerted and contested, as well as an analysis centered on the human individual as an active subject.

Mills (2003, cited in Bălan, n.d., p. 2) stated that there are two key features in understanding power, those are:

- a. Power is a system, a network of relations encompassing the whole society, rather than a relation between the oppressed and an oppressor;
- b. Individuals are not just objects of power, but they are the locus where the power and the resistance to it are exerted.

These features can be further nuanced (Kelly, 2009, pp. 37-38). Kelly stated that Foucault’s view of power involves some features as follows:

1. The impersonality, or subjectlessness, of power, meaning that it is not guided by the will of individual subjects;
2. The rationality of power, meaning that power is always a case of power relations between people, as opposed to a quantum possessed by people;
3. The decentredness of power, meaning that it is not concentrated on a single individual or class;
4. The multidirectionality of power, meaning that it does not flow only from the more to the less powerful, but rather “comes from below”, even if it is nevertheless “nonegalitarian”;
5. The strategic nature of power, meaning that it has a dynamic of its own, is intentional.

Back to the opposition of marxist concept of power, Foucault thinks that power must be understood differently from repression, which simply forces individuals to obey (Bălan, n.d., p. 3). To help understanding the differences, Foucault (1980, cited in Bălan, n.d., pp. 3-4) contrasts two ways of exerting power explained as follows:

“This new mechanism of power is more dependent upon bodies and what they do than upon the earth and its products. It is a mechanism of power which permits time and labor, rather than wealth and commodities, to be extracted from bodies. It is a type of power which is constantly exercised by means of surveillance rather than in a discontinuous manner by means of a system of levies or obligations distributes over time. It presupposes a tightly knit grid of material coercions rather than the physical existence of a sovereign. It is ultimately dependent upon the principle, which introduces a genuinely new economy of power, that one must be able simultaneously both to increase the subjected forces and to improve the force and efficacy of that which subjects them.”

Foucault’s main aim is to turn negative conception upside down and attribute the production of concepts, ideas and structures of institutions to the circulation and exercise of power in its modern forms (McHoul, W. Grace, 1993, cited in Bălan, n.d.,

p. 4). Regarding the political power, he studies especially power relations related to government (Bălan, n.d., p. 4). He thinks that relational power relations are doomed to fail in reaching their goals as he stated that:

“If power is relational rather than emanating from a particular site such as the government of the police; if it is diffused throughout all social relations rather than being imposed from above; if it is unstable and in need of constant repetition to maintain; if it is productive as well as being repressive, then it is difficult to see power relations as simply negative and as constraining.” (Mills, 2003, cited in Bălan, n.d., p. 6)

To conclude what has been discussed above, it can be said that Foucault’s analysis is not assuming that the individual is powerless compared to institutions, groups or state, but power is diffuse throughout the whole society. Power has such close connection to ideology. Hence, the understanding of ideology is paramount.

### 2.1.3 Ideology

Ideology according to Fairclough (1992) is produced and reproduced for the benefit of power. Its existence is crucial to support the power relations in the social structure or in society (Munfarida, 2014). This corresponds with the definition of ideology given by Fairclough (1992) as follows:

Significations/constructions of the reality . . . which are built into several various dimensions of the forms/meanings of discursive practices and which contribute the production, reproduction of transformation of relations of dominations.

Fairclough’s understanding of ideology in discursive practices is influenced by Thompson who considers ideology as a practice that exists in every process of meaning production which is oriented to maintain power relations (Jorgensen and

Philips, n.d., cited in Munfarida 2014). This can be related to Munfarida's (2014) statement: construction of meaning to reality through language, in terms of meaning of the world, social relations and social identity is ideological because it pretends to establish relations of domination in society.

The existence of ideology is latent which operates behind discourse and social-discursive practices so that ideology has great potential to influence and shape the subject's understanding in reality and direct its social practice (Munfarida, 2014). Even though it brings ideological effect that public is unaware of the ideology invested in the language and underlines certain discursive practices, Fairclough (1992) makes ideological struggle as one dimension in discursive practice to reshape discursive and ideological practices in the context of transforming domination relations, so that ideology is not static. In the end, all of the theories delivered related to one another. In term of doing this study which focus on the dictatorship, the knowledge of dictatorship should be provided as well.

#### **2.1.4 Dictatorship**

Nondemocratic regimes almost always rely on some degree of repression against competing groups (Acemoglu, Ticchi and Vindigi, 2008, p. 2). There are two different arguments about democratic and nondemocratic regimes, which in this case is dictatorship. Cited from Antić (2004), one group of authors (Galenson 1959, Schweinitz 1959, Huntington 1968, Rao 1984-5) argued that dictatorships are more effective than democracies in mobilizing resources for investment. While another



group of authors argues that democracies are more successful than dictatorship. According to Sen (2000, cited in Antić, 2004) universal suffrage and division of power neither produce political instability nor hinder economic growth. North (1990, cited in Antić, 2004) also stated that only democracy can force a government to act in the interest of the general population. In other words, democracy imposes accountability on governments.

In defining dictatorship, Machiavelli (1970) and Rousseau (1978) stated that it is justified under extraordinary circumstances. In Machiavelli's work (cited in Antić, 2004), dictatorship is a system that has negative connotation is tyranny – unlimited ruling. Nowadays it is usually synonym for an illegitimate government (Antić, 2004).

In dictatorship, institutions are in line with the interests of the regime and work as a method for exercising its power without regard to laws of a constitution (Diamond, 1999, cited in Lidén, 2011, p. 52). Karnoven (2008) stresses the absence of civil rights and that civil society in dictatorships is permeated by the close scrutiny of citizens' movements. Thereby he complements, corresponding to how Dahl (1989) expanded the electoral definition of democracy, the understanding of how a dictatorship is also characterized by the violation of rights and basic individual freedom.

Geddes (1999, p. 121, cited in Lidén, 2011, p. 53) has built an arguments that there are some dictatorship variants found. They are categorized on the basis of which has control over access to power and results in three types of dictatorship:

‘personalist’, ‘military’, and ‘single party’, as well as combinations of these three forms. Geddes defines these types as follows:

Personalist rules are made up of regimes where the power and distribution of power is in the hands of one certain individual. In the dictatorships that are classified as military, the influence on policy is carried out by a group of officers where military hierarchy is respected. Finally, in single-party regimes the political power is derived from a dominating party. (Lidén, 2011, p. 54)

From all the explanation above, it can be concluded that dictatorship is a regime which centers its power to a particular group, which can be personal, military or single party. As also showed in *The Interview* movie, North Korea is led by a particular group; military. So, it can be assumed that *The Interview* movie tries to depict the dictatorship happens in North Korea.

## 2.2 Previous Studies

This study uses other research to help giving outline of the writing process. The previous studies have similar topics regarding Critical Discourse Analysis. The previous studies the researcher uses are done by Amirian (2017) and Setiawan (2018). These previous studies are used because they are suitable with the criteria to support the writing of this study. They examined how Critical Discourse Analysis is used to analyze social phenomena; which in this study case is political issue.

The first study is Mohammad Reza Amirian’s journal (2017) entitled *A Critical Discourse Analysis of the Representation of Iranians in a Western Movie Not Without My Daughter*. This journal uses CDA framework of van Dijk in analyzing

the data. Amirian used van Dijk's theory in order to investigate the representation of the images of Iranians in the Western movies. He chose the movie because it was amenable to the intended CDA framework and epitomized various religious, nationalistic and political viewpoints. In doing the analysis, Amirian uses Van Dijk's (2004) framework to uncover the ideological manipulations and misrepresentations of the movie. The analysis revealed that the dichotomy of In-group favoritism vs. Out-group derogation is a very effective discursive strategy at the disposal of the movie makers who have used language as a weapon to attack Iran by representing a distorted and unrealistic image of the Iranian's history, culture and ideologies.

And the second previous study is a journal entitled *Deconstructing Concealed Gayness Text in The Film Negeri van Oranje: Critical Discourse Analysis* by Heri Setiawan (2018). This study analyzes the concealed gayness in Indonesia. In conducting the study, Setiawan uses Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis model. The study's result creates a picture of what gay life looks in Indonesia which is a multicultural country with the largest Moslem population in the world.

Seeing from the process of analysis of the film *Not without My Daughter* (the first previous study), what Amirian did is only limited to the analysis of ideology using semantic discursive strategies, which in this phase of analysis, Iranians are described as primitive barbarians. The researcher does not include analysis of American and Iranian relations (as well as the discursive analysis and socio-cultural analysis phases on Fairclough's theory). The author's opinion about the film *Not*

*without My Daughter* as a propaganda media that Iranian is a barbarian is only reinforced by the analysis of semantic discursive strategies on dialogue in the film. Whereas, the relations between the two countries should also be analyzed, so that more valid evidence is obtained about how American society sees Iran in real life, because after all, film does not really represent real life. So, it will be known more clearly that the film is only a media of ideological propaganda and not how Iranian representation in real life.

Meanwhile, this study is more similar to the second previous study because both use Fairclough's three-dimensional theory. The different is, the second previous study does not emphasize how a film was created as a propaganda media like the first previous study and this research itself, but rather to explain how the existence of homosexuality in Indonesia and how Indonesians respond to the issue. However, in socio-cultural analysis, researcher still only provides stereotypes and has not clearly explained the issue of homosexuality in Indonesia, so more data on homosexuality in Indonesia and how Indonesian responds to it is needed, so that the results obtained will also be clearer and more related to real conditions in Indonesian society.

The writer chose those two previous studies because the topic is similar, it is social phenomena analyzed using Critical Discourse Analysis. However, this study tries to investigate and get clearer analysis result over the political condition in a country, which in this case is dictatorship in North Korea. Apart from the concern of revealing how the social phenomena being illustrated in a film, this research also tries

to investigate the message which the movie tries to deliver related to the persistence of the issue. Hence, this study offers a more in-depth analysis of the articulation of the ideology and geo-politics conditions of the two countries involved in the creation of *The Interview* movie, so that it will be known how America uses the film as a media as well as how the ideology is articulated by the media.



## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter discusses four parts, those are (1) Research Design, (2) Data Source, (3) Data Collection and (4) Data Analysis.

#### 3.1 Research Design

This study uses descriptive qualitative method which tends to draw from naturalistic inquiry, which purports a commitment to studying something in its natural state to the extent that is possible within the context of the research arena (Lambert, 2012, p. 1). According to Kirk and Miller (1986, cited in Messak, 2017) qualitative is a specific tradition in social knowledge which fundamentally depends on how the societies in a circle interact by their own word. Lambert (2012, p.1) states that qualitative descriptive studies are the least “theoretical” of all the qualitative approaches to research. It allows the researcher to describe the phenomenon of interest with minimal interpretation of data (Sandelowski, 2000, cited in Graham and Ogawa, 2014, p. 28).

For determining the data, theory of Critical Discourse Analysis is used. The focus of the analysis is the issue of North Korean dictatorship depicted in *The Interview* movie, which is related to the problems of the study stated in Chapter I. Hence, the understanding of power and dictatorship is also required. In the end, the



analysis is conducted to the dialogs of the characters in *The Interview* movie which taken from the movie script assisted with pictures of the screenshot scenes. In order to find out how public as the consumers respond to the movie, the writer also took some comments on the movie trailer video which is uploaded on Youtube. Since the total amount of the comments is 1841 comments, the writer then uses corpus tool to analyze them as well as to reveal how the pattern of the comments so that the conclusion is easily drawn.

### 3.2 Data Source

The object of this study is a movie entitled *The Interview* which released in the end of 2014 by Sony Pictures Entertainment. Since this study is using movie script to make the analysis easier, the script of this movie was downloaded online as well from wikileaks.org. However, since this research also wants to know how public perceive the movie, the the researcher also took some comments on *The Interview* movie trailer which is uploaded in Youtube. Because there are 1,841 comments, the writer uses corpus tool to help mapping and analyzing the comments. The comments are highlighted based on the 26 key terms or key words which often appear.

### 3.3 Data Collection

In order to do the analysis of *The Interview* movie, several steps of collecting data are as follows:

1. Downloading the movie from <https://moviegan.com/movies/the-interview-2014-xy1/>
2. Downloading the movie script from [https://wikileaks.org/sony/docs/03\\_03/Market%20Research/Scripts/The%20Interview%2020120312.pdf](https://wikileaks.org/sony/docs/03_03/Market%20Research/Scripts/The%20Interview%2020120312.pdf)
3. Watching the movie deliberately and reading the script to get deeper understanding about the issue being described.
4. Sorting the data by marking and separating some particular dialogues and scenes which depict the dictatorship in North Korea. The dialogs are selected according to the use of some key words such as ‘dictator’, ‘reclusive’, ‘solitary’, and etc.
5. Collecting the comments of *The Interview* movie trailer on Youtube.
6. Copying the comments on Youtube and then pasting them into a txt file while reading the comments.

7. Taking some key terms from the comments collected to be use to do corpus analysis. There are 26 key terms as follow:

Jokes, want, forward, worst, upset, insulting, realise, funny, amazing, nuclear, watch, angry, good, nuke, nice, funniest, ww3, hate, Netflix, war, hilarious, tension, great, wow, Korean

### 3.4 Data Analysis

In this sub-chapter, the steps of analyzing the data are described. The data of this study are analyzed through the steps which refer to Fairclough's three dimensional analysis. The steps are explained as follow:

1. Grouping the data selected into some ideas which depict the dictatorship in the movie.
2. Analyzing the vocabularies used and the modalities of the data selected.
3. Doing grammar analysis toward the data collected which is divided into two parts of analysis, those are positive and negative utterances analysis and mode analysis. In this part of analysis, the writer use the tables as follow:

**Table 3.1 Positive and negative utterances in the dialogs of *The Interview* movie which depict the dictatorship in North Korea**

	Utterances	
	Positive	Negative
Number of Utterances		

**Table 3.2 Modes found in the dialogs of *The Interview* movie which depict the dictatorship in North Korea**

	Modes		
	Declarative	Interrogative	Imperative
Number of Utterances			

In doing this step of analysis, the data inserted are the number of the analyzed utterances based on the analysis step number two. The complete grouping is attached on appendix.

4. Analyzing the production process of *The Interview* movie by seeing how the castings were chosen, what events happened during the movie promotion, as well as checking the geo-political background between the two countries involved in this movie; America and North Korea. This step of analysis is done after reading articles and news related to the movie and those two countries.
5. To see how the public perceive the movie, the movie trailer comments on Youtube are divided into three main groups: the comments showing support to the movie, comments showing the critics to the movie, and the comments which is neutral (from people who see the movie as not more than an entertainment media which the aim is to entertain people). This step of analysis is helped by the corpus tool. Here is the clearer explanation about the steps:

- a. Choosing the key terms by seeing what words are often found or used in the comments. Another consideration to choose these key terms is the controversy following the movie production and release and also the political conflict between the two countries involved in the creation of the movie, those are America and North Korea. There are 26 key terms selected to do this step of analysis as listed below:

Jokes, want, forward, worst, upset, insulting, realise, funny, amazing, nuclear, watch, angry, good, nuke, nice, funniest, ww3, hate, Netflix, war, hilarious, tension, great, wow, Korean

Entering the key terms into the corpus tool to find out the frequency of appearance of the words.

- b. Grouping the comments which have been highlighted by the help of the corpus tool. The utterances of the comments are analyzed and then divided into three groups, those are the utterances which are neutral, supporting as well as those which rejecting the issue being depicted in the movie. Below is the table:

**Table 3.3 The grouping of public's comments on *The Interview* movie trailer which is uploaded on Youtube**

No.	Word	Appearance frequency	Neutral toward the movie	Supporting the issue to be depicted in the movie	Rejecting/protesting the issue to be depicted in the movie
Total					

6. Drawing the conclusion.





## CHAPTER IV

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter consists two sub chapters, those are (1) Findings and Analysis and (2) Discussion.

#### 4.1 Findings and Analysis

All the findings are obtained through the data analysis which refers to the research questions on the Chapter I. There are 24 utterances found among the dialogs along the movie and four scenes which show how the dictatorship runs in North Korea. There are also 811 comments on the movie trailer video which is uploaded in Youtube which show public's response toward the movie. Those comments are then divided into three groups: those are pro, contra and neutral.

##### 4.1.1 The Depiction of Dictatorship in *The Interview* Movie

Answering the first research question, the writer found that *The Interview* movie depicts the dictatorship in North Korea in two ways, those are by inserting the issue in some dialogs of the characters and showing it directly through some particular scenes.

From the whole findings obtained, there are six ideas of the dictatorship depiction, those are:

1. Kim Jong Un's attempt to hide the reality of the country from the world.
2. The statements that Kim Jong Un is a liar.
3. Brainwash as a way to keep the North Korean people under the dictator's leadership.
4. The existence of people who want to change the leadership.
5. Kim Jong Un's manners which show that he is a man who has no mercy.
6. The signal that there is a hope for North Korea to be free from the dictatorship.

There are 24 utterances representing the six ideas above. Those utterances are chosen based on some words, phrases and clauses which build the context of how the dictatorship is being depicted in the movie. Here are the complete data and analysis of the ideas above:

#### **4.1.1.1 Kim Jong Un's Attempt to Hide the Reality of the Country from the World**

##### ***Data 1***

DAVE : Oh! Boom! (IMITATES EXPLOSION) This is great! This is what you were talking about. I interview this guy.

AARON : Are you joking me, man? **(1)** He's the most **reclusive** leader on the planet. It's not gonna happen. He lives in North Korea. We **can't** go there.

In the passage, Dave is talking about interviewing Kim Jong Un since Kim is Skylark Tonight's fan. However, Aaron tries to reject. He said that Kim is a reclusive

leader. The word ‘reclusive’ has a same meaning as ‘solitary’, which is avoiding other companies of other people, in this case is referring to countries, since North Korea is not a country which is open for any people like most countries. It can be assumed that he is trying to hide the ‘identity’ of his country. Additionally, in the next sentence, Aaron also stated that they ‘cannot’ go because Kim is living in North Korea. Those dialogs bring impression that beside Kim is a reclusive leader, there seems that no one can freely enters the country and see how the country is.

### *Data 2*

SOOK : Mr. Rapoport, I am Sook-yin Park. The Supreme Leader will Grant a one-hour interview to Mr. Skylark from inside North Korea. **(2)** All questions **will** be supplied by the Supreme Leader himself. **Terms are nonnegotiable.** You have 24 hours to decide.

The passage happens in a scene when Sook is telling the rules and regulations of the interview between Dave Skylark and Kim Jong Un. There is stated that all questions will be supplied by Kim himself. The word ‘will’ is modal auxiliary which signals the futurity. In this case, the questions for the the interviewer are provided by the interviewee in the future.

It has also been stated that modality does not always deal with modal auxiliaries. It can be seen in the sentence ‘terms are nonnegotiable’. The verb ‘are’ is in the simple present tense form, which this is one of terminal point of expressive modality, a categorical commitment of the producer to the truth of the proposition (Fairclough, 1989, p. 129). In the case of the sentence of the dialog, it shows the truth

about the terms is conditioned to the interview; it is nonnegotiable, means that there is no negotiation allowed according to the conducting interview.

In fact, an interview should be arranged by the 'interviewer' since the aim of an interview is to know someone's fact unknown to the public, but here, the 'interviewee' wants to supply all the materials. It means that Kim is trying to create his own image to be shown to public around the world. In other words, Kim tends to hide the reality of him and his country instead of letting people know the facts through the interview.

This idea is supported by the following dialogs:

***Data 3***

AARON : She said we couldn't ask any of our own questions. They were gonna write all the questions. We can't do it. (3) We're essentially letting him interview himself with your mouth.

In the last sentence of Aaron's dialog, it is stated how his opinion after knowing Kim's rule that the interview will be done based on Kim's own arranged questions. It clarifies that Kim just wants to 'borrow' Dave as a tool to create his own image to the public which the integrity cannot be confirmed. This can be one proof also that he is a liar (this will be explained further in the next point).

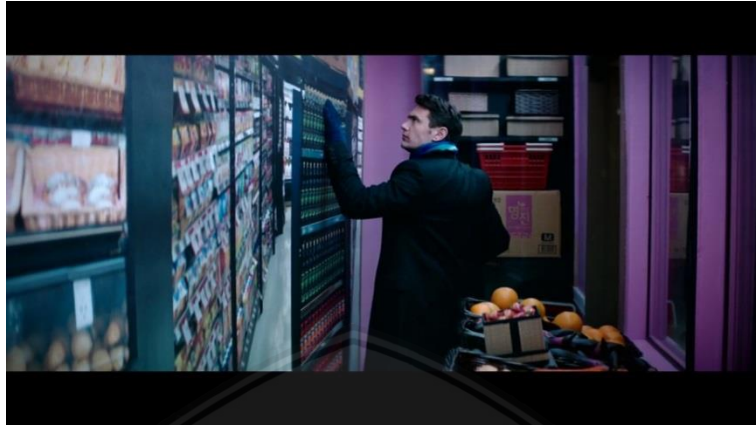
Additionally, the idea that Kim Jong Un tries to hide the reality of his country is also supported by the following scene:



**Figure 4.1. The scene when Dave and Aaron are shown how Pyongyang City looks like**

In this scene, Dave and Aaron just arrived in Pyongyang, North Korea. They are accompanied by Sook, an officer who personally serves Kim Jong Un. She shows Dave and Aaron that public's opinion about North Korea is a poor country with high hunger rate is totally wrong. It is proven by the existence of a grocery store with a fat boy in front of it who waves his hands to them as if he is a happy child. However, the existence of the grocery store can be used as a proof that North Korean food stock is sufficient, means that the people do not suffer from starvation. In addition, the fat boy who looks happy can be used as a symbol that the country is prosperous, since fat people is usually related to prosperity.

Another scene in the movie also supports the idea, here it is:



**Figure 4.2. The scene when Dave realizes that the grocery store is fake**

This scene is when Dave takes a walk in Pyongyang then he realizes that the grocery store is actually fake one. From this passage, it can be assumed that North Korea is not a prosperous country. Moreover, the fact is being hidden by the leader of the country. Hence, it can be said that the leader is trying to build an image which is contrast with the real situation of the country.

#### **4.1.1.2 The Statements that Kim Jong Un is a Liar**

##### ***Data 4***

AARON: (4) The truth is, Kim is a **master** at **manipulating** the media.  
DAVE: Yeah.

In the sentence (4), Aaron clearly said the fact that Kim Jong Un is a liar. He uses two powerful words, those are ‘master’ and ‘manipulating’. The word ‘master’ has a strong sense since it means the person is a skilled person and he acquires complete knowledge in something. The following word, ‘manipulating’, also has

much powerful meaning than just ‘a liar’ or something equal. ‘Manipulating’ means the person does not only lie about something, but also controls in such a skillful manner. It can be concluded that Kim Jong Un is a very clever liar which can control people by the untrue things he delivered.

#### *Data 5*

AARON : (5) Everything he's shown you is **fake**. He's shown you what you want to see. (6) He's **fooled** you, you fucking idiot!

In sentence (5), it is clear that Aaron said that Kim Jong Un is a liar by seeing the fact that everything he had shown is fake; this can be related to the fake grocery scene. The statement is also supported by the next sentence which declares that Kim has fooled Dave. This can be a quite strong proof that Kim Jong Un is a liar.

#### *Data 6*

KIM : (7) You know, there is so much **misunderstanding** about North Korea and, uh, me personally.  
 SOOK : He's reading the scripted questions.  
 AARON : (8) He **lulls** them and then he gets them. It's his technique.

The setting of the dialogs above is separated; Kim Jong Un is doing the interview in the studio, while Sook and Aaron are in the control room. However, those dialogs have relationship to each other. In dialog number (7), Kim claims that there are many misunderstandings about him himself and his country. In the next dialogs, it is stated that what Kim Jong Un said is following the interview script. In conclusion, Kim Kong Un is not saying the truth. There may be no misunderstanding



about him and his country, or what people know about Kim Jong Un and his country is a fact.

Further, in sentence number (8) Aaron is telling how Kim gets people's sympathy. He uses the word 'lulls' which literally means to calm or to send to sleep, but in this context, he is not trying to make people sleep, but it is more to draw people's attention. After he gets people's attention, then he moves to the further step, it is manipulating them. From here, it can be seen that Kim Jong Un is a dishonest person.

#### **4.1.1.3 Brainwash as a Way to Keep the North Korean People under the Dictator's Leadership**

##### ***Data 7***

LACEY : Please remember, gentlemen, you are entering into the most dangerous and unpredictable country on Earth. Kim Jong-un is a master manipulator. (9) His people **revere** him as a god. (10) They'll believe anything he tells them, including that he can speak to dolphins or he doesn't urinate and defecate.

Sentence (9) uses word 'revere', which which means to have great respect. As a full sentence, it makes a full meaning that people in North Korea did not only give a respect to the leader, but they give such fanatic respect that they figure Kim Jong Un as a god. Since 'god' means the being that has great power, strength, etc., it means that people believe that Kim Jong Un has such limitless power since 'god' also means the being that created and rules the universe.

The next, sentence (10) supports sentence (9) by giving additional information that Dave and Aaron should know. The sentence tells that Kim Jong Un has such power which makes him capable to speak to other creatures other the human being. It is also impossible for human being not to urinate and defecate. Moreover, the sentence also uses the auxiliary word ‘will’, which in this case shows the inevitability; it can be denied that the people are surely believe what their leader does and says since they have call him as their god. Hence, by seeing this condition, it can be concluded that they has been given doctrine that brainwashed their mind and they end up accepting Kim Jong Un as a god who has absolute power.

**Data 8**

SOOK : It's been bothering me for a long time, and I'm not the only one, but too many people see him as a god. (11) How do you prove to 24 million people that their god is a **murderer** and a **liar**?

Sentence (11) shows that there is no way to give people explanation that they have believed something wrong. In addition, it is also shows that the leader they have respected in a long time is actually an ordinary man who has bad attitude, or maybe can be called immoral, which can be seen from the statement that the leader is a murderer and a liar. Also, it can be concluded that the fact is nicely covered that Kim Jong Un is still considered as a respected leader.

**Data 9**

DAVE : (12) Supreme Leader Kim, when... the United States, which has an enormous stockpile of nuclear weapons, insists that countries like yours have none, does that feel hypocritical to you?

KIM : **(13)** Many Americans do not realize that the war in North Korea was entirely the fault of the United States.

This scene is when the interview between Dave and Kim Jong Un takes place. It has been mentioned that the questions to be asked by Dave have been already scripted. Those two sentences make up a context that United States has underestimated North Korean power. Kim Jong Un, in sentence **(13)**, also stated that the war in North Korea is caused by the United States. This can be concluded that Kim Jong Un is trying to make the United States as the suspect of the chaos happens in his country. Moreover, he brings this scripted interview to be shown to public over the world, which means that he tries to pull public's attention and sympathy and then turn America as the antagonist of the 'world' he created. Additionally, this can be seen as propaganda as well as a tool to cover his 'ugliness'.

#### **4.1.1.4 The Existence of People who Want to Change the Leadership**

##### ***Data 10***

LACEY : **(14)** Uh, actually, we're aware of a small faction in the existing leadership that **already** wants him gone. **(15)** They **want change**; They're too scared to act alone, and they need you two to go in there...

Sentence **(14)** states that among all the society in North Korea, there is a small group who want Kim Jong Un dropped from his position. There exists the word 'already' which means that the desire to be free from Kim Jong Un's leadership has existed from long time. Sentence **(15)** also stated that the group wants change, means that they want to replace the current leader with someone or some parties who can make a better government. And it can be said that to withdraw the leader, they need

help from outside the country, since they think that it is useless to gather the community and doing the protest against the government because of the small amount of the people who show the desire to get the leader dropped down.

***Data 11***

LACEY : Can we please move on? (16) We have a dictator to **kill**.

It has been known that Lacey is a CIA agent who asks Dave and Aaron to assassinate Kim Jong Un. Before, there is stated that North Korean people want Kim Jong Un to be replaced by better leader and government. However, the word 'kill' indicates that the CIA seems having no idea to keep Kim Jong Un alive. Instead of just overthrowing the leader from his position, CIA prefers to eliminate him at all.

**4.1.1.5 Kim Jong Un's Manners which Show that He is a Man who Has No Mercy**

***Data 12***

REPORTER : (17) Obscene glorification of a **brutal dictator**. (18) This is a man who **tortures, terrorizes** and **starves** his own people.

The word 'dictator' in the sentence (17) which refers to Kim Jong Un has labeled him as a man who has the absolute power to control his country. And there also exists the word 'brutal' which means Kim is powerful yet does not have any mercy to his people. This is supported by the next sentence which clearly states why he is called a 'brutal dictator'; he tortures, terrorizes and starves his own people.

It is a duty for any leader of any countries to make his people live peacefully. However, it seems that Kim Jong Un does not do so. The word ‘tortures’, ‘terrorize’, and ‘starves’ have an impression that he does them in purpose. Let us say ‘tortures’ is kind of punishment in North Korea. But actually there is no need to do such kind of punishment since ‘tortures’ seems very rude; it causes mental and physical suffering. It can be assumed that there is something wrong with the law system of the country.

‘Terrorize’ is also a bit too much. If the leader wants his people obey to the rule he made, there should always be better way to get their attention. ‘Terrorize’ is identical by something violent. This can be said as a form of compulsion, and further, it can be concluded that the government does not give any freedom to his people.

Starvation is a serious problem a country may face because it will relate to people’s health quality. And in sentence (18), the word used is not ‘starvation’, but ‘starves’. This builds up an impression that the starvation is exists in purpose. The existence of the starvation may because of the leader of the country who does not pay any attention to this issue. It is very unfortunate since a leader should pay attention to his people, but in fact which the movie depicts, the leader lets his people suffer from starvation and even do such cruel thing to make them still under his control.

### *Data 13*

LACEY : (19) Well, Aaron, Dave, as I'm sure you know already, Kim Jong-un is now **capable of nuking all** of the West Coast. The point is we're talking about nuclear nations at war with each other.

Sentence (19) shows that Kim Jong Un has the ability to nuke all the West Coast. It means that he already improves the nuclear weapon which is very dangerous and it is sure very expensive. It can be criticized, related to the starvation of the country, instead of developing such a weapon which is actually not really necessary, Kim Jong Un should put his people first. Let us say in a simple analogy, that if he has his people's health quality well, so his country standard can also be raised.

The sentence also said that all the West Coast may be the target of the nuclear weapon. 'All' means the whole, entire, there is no exception. This is very rude because people who do not have any business with him should feel the impact of the nuclear weapon. Moreover, the effect of nuclear is not something bearable. The restoration may take a very long time. Hence, it can be said that Kim Jong Un has no mercy if he is serious about the nuking.

#### *Data 14*

**KIM** : (20) These bastards deserve no humanity! (21) To those who seek to undermine me, at home and abroad, I **cannot** respond with anything less than the totality of my strength! (22) If a billion people across the Earth and in my own country must be burned to prove it then my **worthiness** as a Kim will be demonstrated!

Sentence (20) is quite brief to assume the idea that Kim Jong Un is a man with no sense of humanity. Sentence (21) uses the modal auxiliary word 'cannot' which signals impossibility. In the context of the dialog then it can be said that he has no choice but not to give any excuses for anyone trying to mess up his business, no matter who the person is. As also built by sentence (22), he does not care who he will

sacrifice as long as people in the world see how powerful he is. An auxiliary modal ‘must be’ also exists, which the word is associated with certainty. However, in the context of the dialog, the word ‘must be’ signals that the sacrifice is supposed to do, it is necessary to make his image clear to the world. There is also the word ‘worthiness’, which in this context has a more negative connotation than just having good qualities to deserve respect since the respect he would like to get comes from the chaos he probably make. There is no way he can be called worthy if he does something harmful to others.

**Data 15**

AARON : How many people malnourished?  
 DAVE : 16 million. **(23)** They spent \$800 million on nukes last year and got \$200 million in food aid from the UN.

This scene takes place when Dave Skylark is about to do the interview with Kim Jong Un. Aaron asks to check that Dave remembers what he would say in the interview. It is stated in sentence **(23)** how many budget has been spent for the nuclear weapon. It can be seen that Kim Jong Un has no humanity to his own people. 16 million people are confirmed malnourished, but Kim Jong Un does not pay any attention and keep developing the nuclear project. It becomes even ridiculous since he uses the \$200, which actually given by UN for solving the starvation problem, for the nuclear project instead. It can be concluded that Kim Jong Un has no mercy for humanity.



**Data 16**

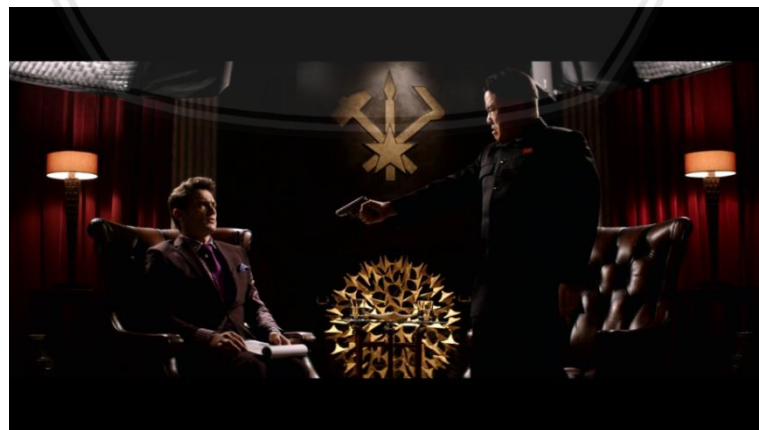
DAVE : So when you think of all that your country has been through... The wars, the floods... do you think that your people should be rewarded for their resilience and strength?

KIM : Of course, Dave.

DAVE : (24) Then why don't you feed them?

This passage shows that there is a contradiction between what Kim Jong Un says and the reality in the society. Dave's question indicates that he is trying to make sure the reason of why there is still starvation while Kim Jong Un says that his people deserve reward for their strength. Dave also indirectly accuses Kim Jong Un that he does not work well on raising his people's basic necessity; food. If this passage is related to the previous one, then it can be concluded that Kim Jong Un is a liar who has no humanity sense.

The idea that Kim Jong Un has no mercy is also supported by the scene below:

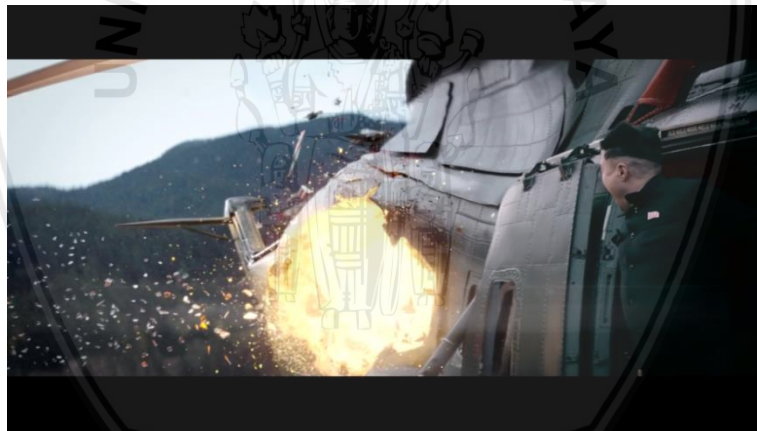


**Figure 4.3. The scene when Kim Jong Un shoots Dave**

It can be seen in this scene where Kim Jong Un has no doubt to threaten Dave using a gun. His statement that he would not give any mercy for people messing his business seems serious since he does not pull back himself and ignoring the show which is broadcasted live over the world. It can be said that his action to Dave is also a warning for anyone else who has the same intention as Dave done, that he would not show any mercy for people who dare to show their face off against his power.

#### **4.1.1.6 The Signal that there is a Hope for North Korea to be Free from The Dictatorship**

This idea is supported by the following scene:



**Figure 4.4. The scene when Kim Jong Un's helicopter fired and exploded**

This is the final scene of the action part of *The Interview* movie. It depicts Kim Jong Un's helicopter which is fired by the tank Dave rides. It is quite brave scene since the one who is being fired is a leader of a country. However, it also brings an idea that even the dictator that North Korean people have always figured out as a god is actually a man who someday can die. It also brings hope to people that the day

of freedom; free from the dictatorship, will come. Hence, it can be said also that the movie brings such a meaningful message about the end of the dictatorship.

#### 4.1.2 Grammar Analysis of the Utterances which Depict the Dictatorship in *The Interview* Movie

This part of analysis will cover the positive and negative sentences and modes.

##### 4.1.2.1 Positive and Negative Sentences

There are 19 positive utterances and only three negative utterances of the total of 24 utterances found in the dialogs which show the dictatorship in North Korea. The complete utterances are attached in the appendix. Here is the table containing the number of the utterances:

**Table 4.1. Positive and negative utterances in the dialogs of *The Interview* movie which depict the dictatorship in North Korea**

	Utterances	
	Positive	Negative
<b>Number of Utterances</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23	13, 21, 24

According to Fairclough (1989, p. 125), negation obviously has experiential value in that it is the basic way we have of distinguishing what is not the case in reality from what is the case. It can be also said that the use of the positive sentences in the dialog indicate that the speaker is trying to convey the reality or the correctness

of what they have been saying. In the case of this study where positive sentences are mostly found, it can be concluded that those dialogs reflect the reality of the dictatorship happens in North Korea, as well as people's condition and how the leader rules his country.

#### **4.1.2.2 Mode Analysis**

According to Fairclough (1989, p. 125), there are three major modes, those are declarative, grammatical question and imperative. Those three modes position subjects differently as following explanation:

In the case of typical declarative, the subject position of the speaker/writer is that of a giver (of information), and the addressee's position is that of a receiver. In the case of imperative, the speaker/writer is in the position of asking something of the addressee (action on the latter's part), while the addressee is (ideally!) a compliant actor. In a grammatical question, the speaker/writer is again asking something of the addressee, in this case information, and the addressee is in the position of provider of information. (Fairclough, 1989, pp. 125-126)

There are 21 declarative utterances and three grammatical questions found, while there is no imperative sentence from the total of 24 utterances found which depicts how the dictatorship runs in North Korea. This amount of number is presented in the following table.

**Table 4.2. Modes found in the dialogs of *The Interview* movie which depict the dictatorship in North Korea**

	Modes		
	Declarative	Grammatical Question	Imperative
Number of Utterances	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23	11, 12, 24	-

It can be seen from the table that the use of declarative sentences is very much dominant than grammatical question and imperative sentences. Hence, the relation between then speaker and the hearer is between the information provider and the receiver. It means that what the producer provide in the movie is the information to the audience about how the dictatorship runs in North Korea, and how the North Korean people live their lives, as well as how the leader uses his power to get his people's attention and sympathy.

#### 4.1.3 The Production Process of *The Interview* Movie

During the casting, Seth Rogen chose James Franco since James has ever worked with him in his previous movie, called *Pineapple Express*. Besides, he thinks that James is the suitable person to portray Dave Skylark since he considered James as a great actor who can do whatever the character given to him. The unique thing is, during the casting for the character Kim Jong Un, Seth Rogen did not really pay any attention to other contestant, but directly chose Randall Park (Los Angeles Times, 2014). There is no specific reason, but he said that Randall Park is suitable for the character of Kim Jong Un. Another person also casted for portraying Sook, Kim Jong

Un's personal staff, she is Diana Bang. According to Seth Rogen, Diana Bang is suitable to portray Sook because he thought Diana is tiny yet powerful. He saw it nice since the Sook character itself is a powerful woman who is also a propagandist beside being Kim Jong Un's personal staff.

The few proportion of the dictatorship depicted in the movie indicates that the movie tends to show off the comedy sense rather than the issue of the dictatorship in North Korea. The scenes where the dictatorship takes place are not really obvious, but they are inserted into some dialogs of the characters. There are also no specific scenes about how the dictator leader treats his people badly, i.e. torturing and terrorizing them. It is similar to the starving issue of North Korean people that is not depicted directly in a particular scene, but it is spoken in some dialogs as well as the scene where Dave realizes that the grocery store in Pyongyang city, which was used as the prosperity symbol of the country, is fake. Therefore, the decision to make the dictatorship issue not too obvious can be understood to indicate that the director is aware of the sensitivity of the issue for North Korea as well as the international consumers. In other words, the non-clear speeches and scenes of the dictatorship are to make the movie 'acceptable' in the international environment.

On a talk show called Real Time with Bill Maher (2014), Seth Rogen also has stated to public that *The Interview* movie's genre is comedy, so the whole movie scene is only for the entertainment sake. However, there were many controversies appeared during the promotions. Those controversies mainly came from North Korea,

as reported by CBC News: The National (2014) that North Korea thought the film as 'an action of war'. According Wahington Post (2014), Sony Pictures Entertainment, the entertainment company which houses the production process of the film, was also hacked once because of the issue depicted in the movie. There was also an issue that the hacker comes from North Korea, which the purpose of the action is because Sony 'dares' to produce a movie with such sensitive issue. Even though North Korea denied the accusation, they called it a "righteous" deed and said that it may come from the supporters of the regime.

Other than the hacking action, James Franco himself, as well as Randall Park stated that they become afraid after doing the shooting process. As reported on the Los Angeles Times (2014), they even hired guard just in case there were North Korean people who might come and do something dangerous to them. Therefore, it can be said that there is no purpose to drop the real Kim Jong Un and the making of the film is pure for amusement sake only. However in the end, this movie was released, even though it was banned at the beginning, in the end of December 2014.

Even so, actions taken by North Korea cannot be justified. However, quoting Foucault's (1980) opinion, power is different from repression where people are forced to obey. Looking at the act of Sony Entertainment hacking, it can be seen that North Korea seems to impose its power on something. Seeing from this point of view, the 'action of war' discussed above is no longer interpreted as a defense action, but as a threat where the film producer is forced to obey North Korea's power.



Looking at the issue discussed above, hence, it is also necessary to look at the political condition between North Korea and America. People must know that these two countries do not have such a smooth relationship. Their politic has been going on in such a long and rough journey. It was all started from the end of the World War II where Korea Peninsula split into two zones of occupation; South Korea occupied by the US troops and North Korea by the Soviet Union. According to the USA Today (2018), Kim as the leader of North Korea is obsessed to have nuclear weapon to deter any military moves by America to topple his dictatorial regime. In addition, there seem to be a political motive behind it, that the nuclear program is ‘a point of great national pride’. Considering this matter, Barrack Obama in 2014 said that Washington would cooperate with South Korea to reject the nuclear project. He also said that the threats by North Korea will get isolation from global community as the sanction.

The issue above is a serious matter to be considered in the movie production process. From the above passage, it can be seen that the relation between the two countries is not really good. This then can be seen as a reference why some people do not support to *The Interview* movie, as well as North Korea which takes this movie as ‘an act of war’. Hence, it can be said that, politically, this movie is not well accepted by small part of the international public, especially North Korea.

In Chapter II, it has been stated that power is different from repression which simply forces people to obey, but spreads to form networks and not just centered on

government or police. However, seeing how things occurred before the release of *The Interview* movie, it can be seen that there are deviations in how power works. By declaring the release of *The Interview* movie as an ‘act of war’ and also the hacking action on Sony Pictures Entertainment, it can be concluded that North Korea tried to show their power as a country that can take action on what is deemed incorrect; in this case the depiction of how dictatorship took place and how the leader of their country was killed. In addition, this can also be interpreted as a way for North Korea to form a new ideology in the international community that North Korea is not a country as how the movie depicts. It has been also mentioned in chapter II that ideology was formed for the benefit of power. From here, it can be drawn the assumption that North Korea used the film as a tool to prove that they are the victim, moreover the relation between North Korea and America at that time was tense. Thus, the international public, excluding the two countries involved in this issue, are expected to be able to judge that North Korea is a ‘victim’ who has the right to defend.

#### **4.1.4 Public’s Perception of The Interview Movie**

From the consumers’ side, since the text was produced in 2014, the way they respond to the movie is by seeing their comments in some articles on the Internet and Youtube, especially on the movie trailer since the full movie was not uploaded there. There are 1,841 total comments on the trailer video which is uploaded on Youtube. Since the amount of the comments posted on Youtube is large, therefore the writer

will use the help of corpus tool to ease the grouping process of those comments. The grouping will be based on the 26 key terms which have been mentioned in Chapter III.

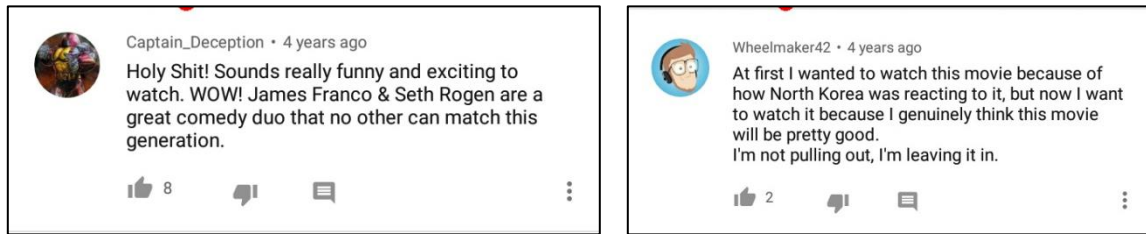
Since the amount of comments is large, so the writer uses the help of corpus tool to sort and then analyze and group the comments into three main groups: the pros; people who agree to call the film as a good media to critic North Korea as a dictator country, the cons; people who take the movie as a dumb product that can cause global tension, and also the neutral group who simply call this movie as an entertainment media which the main aim of the creation is to entertain the viewers of the movie, based on the key terms that have been selected by the consideration of the words' appearance frequency. This appearance frequency is got by reading the whole comments on the movie trailer video.

Based on the 26 key terms selected, 107 utterances are found which indicate that people are neutral toward the film, 20 utterances which indicate that people are supporting the issue to be depicted in the movie, and 50 utterances indicating that people are protesting the issue being depicted in the movie. To get clearer insight about the result, the writer summarizes it in a table below:

**Table 4.3 The grouping of public's comments on The Interview movie trailer which is uploaded on Youtube using a corpus tool**

No.	Word	Appearance frequency	Neutral toward the movie	Supporting the issue to be depicted in the movie	Rejecting/protesting the issue to be depicted in the movie
1.	Joke	5 times	3	1	1
2.	Upset	Twice	-	1	1
3.	Amazing	5 times	5	-	-
4.	Good	9 times	6	1	2
5.	Ww3	8 times	-	-	8
6.	War	13 times	4	1	8
7.	Hilarious	5 times	5	-	-
8.	Funny	27 times	17	6	4
9.	Want	24 times	19	-	5
10.	Insulting	Once	-	-	1
11.	Nuclear	5 times	2	-	3
12.	Nuke	5 times	1	-	4
13.	Hate	6 times	3	1	2
14.	Wow	3 times	1	1	1
15.	Tension	Once	-	-	1
16.	Angry	Twice	2	-	-
17.	Forward	Once	1	-	-
18.	Realise	Once	-	1	-
19.	Watch	26 times	22	4	-
20.	Nice	12 times	7	3	2
21.	Netflix	7 times	6	-	1
22.	Korean	5 times	-	2	3
23.	Great	8 times	8	-	-
24.	Funniest	3 times	3	-	-
25.	Worst	Once	-	-	1
26.	Offended	Twice	-	-	2
Total			110	22	50

To support the result data of the movie trailer comments analysis, here are the sample comments which show how people respond or react to the movie. Taking the first group category, here are the screenshot of sample comments of people who are neutrally responding to the release of the movie, or in other words, they are just taking the movie as only an entertainment:



**Figure 4.5. *The Interview* movie comments on Youtube**

As can be seen from the screenshot picture of the Youtube comments above, some people said that the movie is just funny and they are anticipating it. However, there are also people who consider the movie in a kind of serious way. The pros group said that the film is quite brave since the movie brings the issue of North Korea which is a very closed country, moreover, the ending scene of the film depicts the death of the country leader. They figured the movie as a support for North Korea that there is a way they will be free from the dictator leader, as well as the critique for the dictatorship itself.

Moving to the second group category, here are the sample comments which show that people support the movie:



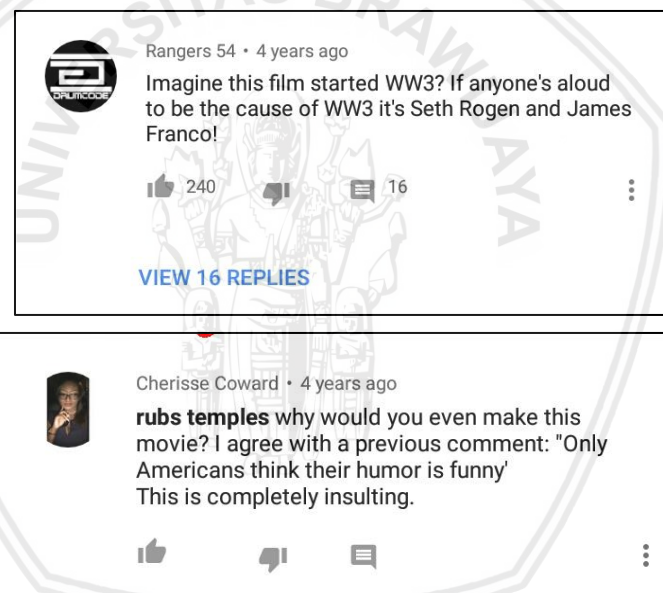
**Figure 4.6. The *Interview* movie trailer comments on Youtube**

It can be seen from the sample comments above that the people are supporting the release of the movie. They figure the movie as a good media to give a depiction of the dictator country where the freedom of the people living there is very limited. In the first screenshot, the commentator also said that it is good if the North Korean people can watch the movie, since by watching the movie, the belief that they have been long holding is a lie to keep the North Korean people obeying the rule of the country.

On the other hands, there is also a group of people who stated that the movie is a dumb product and there is no point in producing such movie which contents many sexual jokes inside. There are also many arguments stated that only Americans can accept American joke. This means that the movie, somehow, cannot be accepted

by the consumers because some issues, especially those who have different culture from Americans. In addition, the important point is that they made a parable if there is a film about Barack Obama (the US president at that time) who is killed like Kim Jong Un in *The Interview* movie, and they are also having opinion that this movie may cause World War III.

Here are the sample comments which show that people are complaining the issue depicted in the movie:



**Figure 4.7. *The Interview* movie trailer comments on YouTube**

However, according to the total utterances resumed in the table 4.3, the amount of people who neutrally comment on movie trailer video is more dominant than those who are supporting or criticizing the issue being depicted in *The Interview* movie. Most of the viewers can accept the issue being depicted by how they



anticipate the movie release. Even though the movie is said to be controversial; known by the comments which stated that the movie might start World War III, the hacking action of Sony Pictures Entertainment etc., the movie is still considered entertaining. Therefore, it can be concluded that public can accept the issue being depicted in the movie.

Related to the movie ban issue and the hacking action toward Sony Pictures Entertainment, *The Interview* movie was almost failed to be released. However in the end, according to CNN Money (2015), the movie was finally released in the end of 2014 and even can be watched online in Netflix. Further, also reported by CNN Money (2015), the movie hauled in \$40 million through on-demand rentals and another \$6 million in theaters. This amount has passed the production budget, which spent about \$44 million. It can be said that the director is successful in depicting the issue of dictatorship in North Korea even though there are some people who cannot accept the movie because of the cultural difference. It can also be marked as a successful for promoting a comedy film with the theme of dictatorship without significant social resistance in the international environment where such issue is considered very sensitive.

## 4.2 Discussion

After analyzing the data, the writer found several points that are related to the portrayal of the dictatorship in North Korea, the power, ideology as well as public's perception on *The Interview* movie which depicts North Korean dictatorship. There is actually no obvious scene which depicts the dictatorship in North Korea, and the portrayal is instead inserted in some dialogs. From the analysis, it can be seen that the dictatorship in North Korea is depicted by Kim Jong Un's attitude toward his people.

The first thing which is considered as the most important message which the movie tries to depict is Kim Jong Un's effort to hide the reality of his country; poverty and starvation. Besides, Kim Jong Un is a liar who brainwashed his people in order to get their attention; by convincing that he is the god who has the absolute power in ruling his country. He is also a man who has no mercy. This statement is related to the point which stated that he lets his people starving and keeps developing the nuclear project instead, even he misuses the money which should be spent to cover the starvation problem for the nuclear project. The last point is that actually there are some groups of people who want to drag him down from his leadership. Those groups come from outside the country; in this case is CIA, and inside the country; Sook, the personal staff of Kim Jong Un himself.

From the depiction of how Kim Jong Un runs the system of government in his country as well as how he articulates the ideology that he is a God who has absolute

power, it can be seen that there is a deviation of power as Foucault (1980) has said about power. However, as mentioned earlier, film is a representation of life that is not necessarily true or in accordance with reality. However, looking at how the community responded to this film, which can be seen from the trailer video comments on YouTube, it may indeed be concluded that there is a similarity between what is depicted in the film and the reality that occurs in society.

The producer, in this case is Sony Pictures Entertainment, used a film as a media to show how the dictatorship in North Korea occurred. However, rather than showing how North Korean leader treats his people badly, the producer places more emphasis on humor, which means that this film is not an ‘act of war’ as reported in several news publishing media such as CBC News: The National, which sounds as if it has very dangerous content, but more like a parody of North Korean leadership and government system. Moreover, the genre of the film is comedy, as Seth Rogen said when he was invited on Real Time with Bill Maher talk show (2014), therefore, it is certain that there was no intention to trigger something serious like ‘an act of war’.

From the portrayal of the North Korean dictatorship in *The Interview* it can be seen that the power is focused on one particular person. This is inversely proportional to Foucault’s power relation theory that states power is diffuse throughout the society. In North Korea, as well as depicted in *The Interview* movie, the power focuses on one particular person, in this case is Kim Jong Un, as the supreme leader. There is also no transparency in the power system of the country since the leader

hides the reality of the country and he tends to articulate the belief that he is the true 'god' to maintain his power in his country.

Actually, godliness is not a new thing for a leader to lead his country. It has been long used as legitimacy for power. Almost all leaders uses it to get his people's attention and obedience; commonly by creating rules and punishments as the consequence of disobeying the rules. However, it seems a bit different for Kim Jong Un; he indeed uses this kind of way to get his people's attention, but he also acts as if he is the real 'god' that has absolute power which no one can interfere, as well as the statement he made that he also has some kind of supernatural power which allows him to speak with non human creations, and also the statement that he does not urinate and defecate, which is impossible to be done by ordinary human. Hence, beside of using the godliness, Kim Jong Un also adds some divine nature that make his people can do nothing except obeying him. Then, it is known how Kim Jong Un articulates an ideology to maintain his power in his country.

However, showing a scene where a leader of a country being assassinated is not a trivial thing, especially for a country where the people consider the leader as a 'god'. In addition, American and North Korean political conditions, at that time, belonged to the tense category, where North Korea had declared that they are ready to overthrow any country that dare to interfere in its country's affairs (USA Today, 2018). Taking this into account, it is understandable why North Korea took action, including the Sony Pictures Entertainment hacking event, so that this could be used as

an example of how to demonstrate their power as a state of authority, both as a form of self-defense and condemnation of any party that dares to interfere in their state affairs.

Public's response toward *The Interview* movie also vary. However, even though the movie is labeled as 'controversial'; considering the events happened when the movie was produced such as the hacking action of Sony Pictures Entertainment etc., public seem to be able to accept the issue being depicted. This statement is supported by the amount of comments on the movie trailer video which shows the enthusiasm toward the film. There are also two other groups of people in responding the release of the movie, but the amount of the comments is less than the amount of people's comments which show that they are anticipating the movie as an entertainment which the main aim is to entertain the viewers of the movie.

Compared to the two previous studies, this study uncovers a more complicated issue. The two previous studies were more focused on the ideology that was tried to be conveyed in the film without including an analysis of which parties were involved in making the film, for example which countries and how were their real conditions in real life. In relation with the first research question about how dictatorship in North Korean happened, it can be seen through portrayals in dialogues that say that Kim Jong Un is a liar and so on. Meanwhile, the second research question was answered with various considerations; the opinion of the producer as well as how consumers respond to to the film, the genre of film, etc., that America

sees this film only as a parody or entertainment media that depicts North Korean government system by showing off more the humor sense rather than being serious . Therefore, besides showing how dictatorships occur in North Korea, this research also provides an understanding that a film is not only created as an entertainment media, but also as a parody that may twist a serious issue such as dictatorship in a comedy movie which literally having strong humor sense.



## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 5.1 Conclusion

A film does not always depict the issue being raised explicitly. Sometimes, it brings the actual message by only inserting some small parts in the dialogs or inserted implicitly in some particular scenes. However, a film does not always present the issue as it is in the real life, but it takes the close way to describe the issue being depicted. Plainly, the viewers of *The Interview* movie enjoy it as an entertainment which brings the story about two journalists who travel to North Korea to make an interview. They are not really disturbed by the scene where some issues of dictatorship in North Korea is being depicted; they focus more on the comedy served as how the director purpose this movie to be. Then, the purpose of Critical Discourse Analysis is to find how the dictatorship issues are depicted in the movie.

Related to the first research question, there are two ways of the dictatorship in North Korea is depicted in *The Interview* movie, those by the utterances with the total amount of 24 and four scenes. Those utterances and scenes then show that the dictatorship runs in North Korea by the ideas that (1) Kim Jong Un tries to hide the reality of the country from the world, (2) Kim Jong Un is a liar, (3) North Korean people have been brainwashed by the dictator leader, (4) There are actually people



who want him dragged down from his leadership, and (5) Kim Jong Un is a man who has no mercy, as well as the idea that (6) There is a hope for North Korea to be free from the dictatorship.

Answering second research question, public have different perceptions about *The Interview* movie which is said to bring a sensitive issue in it. It is found that there are pros and cons on the movie. Some people argued that the movie may cause mass chaos, but there are also people who consider the movie as a critique for North Korea for their dictatorship regime. However, the amount of people who anticipate the movie as an entertainment is larger than the two previous groups mentioned. In other words, the movie can be accepted by the public even though the issue being depicted is sensitive. This statement is also supported by the little amount of the dictatorship scene which is for the sake of public's 'acceptance'. However, since the movie brings such a sensitive issue while at the time the political relationship between North Korea and America cannot be said as 'smooth', some other issues appears to respond. The cyber-attack on Sony Pictures Entertainment as well as North Korean response that the film is 'an act of war' can be seen as the rejection to the movie. However, the financial advantages mark that the movie is successful in bringing such sensitive issue in a comedy-genre movie.

## 5.2 Suggestion

The small scope of this research does not cover all the issue concerning dictatorship in North Korea. Hence, the next researchers are expected to find something new and analyze more detail about the dictatorship in North Korea, which may come from other different sources such as talk show, news video, poster, and so on. The next researchers are also expected to use other theories such as corpus or semiotics in order to get deeper research result. More profound research on this issue is expected to make significant contributions to deepen the understanding that a movie as an entertainment can also be a parody which depicts the original events or conditions of something; can be a country such as North Korea, without really describing it in a serious way, but rather by showing off the humor sense more to cover the sensitive issue being depicted.

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