

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter will present some sub chapters, namely background of study, statements of research problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitations of the study. Those are important to be explained because they will describe this study generally.

1.1. Background of study

Language has important role being the tools to interact among human in their daily activity. As a tools of communication, people should be really know what actually the function or the role of language they use in daily life. Language can be functioned as tools to share information such as giving information to the other, and also doing gossip which usually did by the society. The most important point of communicating with other people is the hearer knows and understands what actually the speaker's mean. In other words, the process of communication run well when both sides understand about the content of communication.

Generally, the styles of language use when someone communicates with other people are divided into two types, they are formal and informal. Those style of language are used based on the context of the speaker or interlocutor. For example, in teaching learning process, a student should use formal language to show respect to their teacher. Likewise when a child does communication with their parents. In formal style sometimes can be found in media like in book, journal, and magazine.

In informal styles more tend to something deviate from the role of language and usually tend to use the informal language. Informal language commonly found in media or in real life. For example in media is in the comic, literature, and song lyric. In real life like our daily conversation. Sometimes, people also use taboo words in their informal communication style.

In sociolinguistics theory, taboo words belong to language variation topic. Generally, taboo is a word or something which usually break about norms and role in certain society. Taboo words commonly refers to impolite word. According to Mercury (1995:30) he defines taboo language which is also known as obscene language or cursing as expression that have their use restricted in public either explicitly or implicitly. Nevertheless, Mercury (1995: 29) argues that taboo language is an essential part of contemporary communication and should be included in teaching. In other word, it means that even though taboo words is considered as impolite word and it is prohibited to be used, but this is not out of possibilities that taboo words could be taught to the society in order to they have additional knowledge about taboo words.

Although the society have known which types of word can be included to taboo words or not but they still use it in their daily conversation with various purposes. For example people in English will use taboo like word “shit” although it consider as vulgar word, and that people still use this kind of taboo words because that society were accustomed to use taboo words in daily life to expresses their feeling. As we know that the word “shit” is actually refers to fecal matter (excrement) and also refers to defecate. When someone include taboo word in their conversation usually they have purpose

such as to express their feelings, to make a joke, to add stress of their statement and so on.

The society believe that the using of taboo words as an appropriate ways to show or express their emotional feeling especially when they are swearing. Taboo words in the form of swearing is not always used in negative thing such as when they are getting anger. However, people also utter taboo words used toward their friend to show their friendliness, even it is used to something which can give entertainment (Jay, 2009). Therefore, nowadays taboo words can be found around us like in entertainment program such as in movie, radio, and song lyric. In daily life, song has very close relationship with society.

Song lyric is one of written communication which use language when the author makes about it. Song lyric usually is made to express the author's feeling, to describe the idea and thought from the author by using the beautiful language in order to be able to get the response from the listener, they also create a song to be able to console the listener. When the author makes the song lyric usually they have a purpose. Every sentences found in song lyric usually are created to be enjoyed by the listener, so they can perceive every message from each sentences in lyric. During the process of making song lyric usually the author needs time to think and to arrange the word, but in other side there are also many song lyric which the sentences are unfinished and even not grammatical either.

The using of taboo words in song lyric is not only that the author wants to do it, but also sometimes they insert taboo words to make song lyric more colorful until

the using of taboo words can attract the intention from the listener. This is the reason why the writer wants to make a research in terms of taboo words in song lyric. The writer chooses Nicky Minaj song in Queen album as her object because in that album there are a lot of taboo words exist.

Nicky Minaj is a famous singer in America especially in the field of rap. Besides become a singer, Nicky Minaj also a songwriter, actress, and model. She has start her career since 2002 until present. As long as being a singer she has been singing many song in many album, one of the album she has is in Queen album. Queen is the fourth album from Nicky Minaj which consist of 19 songs and gain many praise from the other reviewer, one of the praise from the reviewer is queen exists to show Nicki's proven longevity, which is enough of a rarity and finally from this album declare her as well-deserved rap royalty. It is proved that Queen album by Nicky Minaj has its characteristics which make this album appropriate to get the royalty.

After the writer listened several songs in Queen album by Nicky Minaj continuously, the writer found word in song lyric use taboo words. The example of taboo words in one of song in Queen album is:

*You the **motherfucking** fairest, Nicki*

The word motherfucking is one of taboo words which has vulgar meaning and that word is not appropriate to be said.

The other example is:

*I like money more than dick, **nigga**, that's a fact.*

In this lyric song also exist taboo words, the word is “nigga”. Nigga is a derogatory term used to describe black people (taken from urban dictionary).

Song lyric above is a short example from the song by Nicky Minaj in Queen album consist of taboo words. Based on this consideration, the researcher interested to analyze taboo words phenomenon especially in song lyric in terms of categorization and the function of taboo words in song lyric. In conducting this research, the researcher chooses song lyric because music is entertainment which very popular by time to time, and it makes the author more often to create something new about song lyric with use language variation like they insert taboo words inside. The researcher chooses Queen album by Nicky Minaj because in that album the author puts a lot of taboo until it can be easily to be analyzed by the researcher. So the researcher thinks that song lyric by Nicky Minaj can be useful to be her data.

1.2. Statements of research problems

Based on the background study that has explained above, the writer formulated some problems in this part which are trying to be discussed in this study. The problems are stated as follows:

1. What are the categorizations of taboo words used in the song lyric by Nicky Minaj in Queen album?
2. What are the functions of taboo words used in the song lyric by Nicky Minaj in Queen album?

1.3. Objectives of the study

Based on the previous research problems which has formulated above, there are two purpose of the study, namely:

1. To identify the categorizations of taboo words in the song lyric by Nicky Minaj in Queen album
2. To explain the functions of taboo words in song lyric by Nicky Minaj in Queen album.

1.4. Significance of the study

There are two significance in this study, they are both theoretically and practically:

Theoretically, the researcher expects this study can give additional knowledge in the field of taboo words in song lyric. In addition, the readers will know and understand about the categorizations and the functions of taboo words.

Practically, through this study the researcher hopes the readers will change their perspective about taboo words. Even though the using of taboo words is prohibited, but this is not out of the possibilities they learn taboo words so that they have a better understanding about taboo words. Moreover, the writer hopes this study will be useful for the next researcher when they want to make similar research or if they want to make different research.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is taboo words from sociolinguistics theory on selected song lyric by Nicky Minaj in Queen album focusing on categorization of taboo words proposed by Ronald Wardhaugh (2006). The writer also use theory proposed by Ronald Wardhaugh (2006) to explain about the functions of taboo words. The limitation of this research is utterance which contains taboo words in the song lyric of Nicky Minaj in Queen album.