

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is needed by people. Language is used to communicate and interact with society to get or share any information from the society. Language is divided into two which are formal and informal communications. Generally, formal language is used when someone wants to give a good impression on people in a respectable position. In a daily life, formal language is used according to the speaker and interlocutor contexts. Examples of Formal language can be used to teacher, policeman, neighbor, principals and so on.

Informal language is used when someone is talking to a peer or an adult who may feel close to and may speak in a more relaxed manner, using slang, taboo and shorter words, Informal language is commonly found in media or real life such as postcards, invitation letters, film, Facebook status. Sometimes people tend to use informal language to express their feeling or while communicating because it is simply used without any burden even it is inappropriate.

Informal language is known as bad language such as slang, contraction and taboo. According to Chaika (1982, p. 2) that people use language to reveal or conceal personal identity, character, and background without realizing that they are actually doing so. It is why people mostly used language such taboo to show the deepest feeling they dissatisfactions, find out mysteries and looking private information.

Taboo language or expression is kind of bad language which is inappropriate to use in formal situations or should be avoided. According to Allan and Burridge (2006, pp.2-3), taboo or known as tabu is a Tongan term, a language spoken by Polynesians in the Pacific islands. It is a term that insults a person (bully), object or act which is dangerous. Therefore, it must be avoided. People can insult somebody. But, it should be noted that the man or woman who got bullies it may get angry because of it. There are some people who have a close relationship with another. So, even they are bullying each other, they will not get angry. For some reason, doing taboo is something that is not supposed to do and saying taboo is not supposed to say. Taboo expression is very common in society particularly in youth.

Taboo expression can be found easily in real life or in media such as novel, magazine, interview, song lyric, television and radio. Taboo expression is related to words those are inappropriate to say and it cannot be used in conversation. Some people is not saying taboo because they want to do it. Sometime people speak taboo for certain purpose such as attracting attention from other people or to show their contempt. According on this consideration, the researcher is interested to analyze taboo words, phrases and sentences phenomenon in a film especially on the kinds of taboo words, phrases and sentences used and the functions of taboo uttered by the characters in the film.

The researcher uses a film entitled *The Walking Dead* as the source of data of his research. In *The Walking dead* films, the antagonist characters frequently use taboo in their conversations such gangster Negans group. Negans is one of group or gangster that all of the characters of the group are claiming their self as Negan and belong to antagonist characters

as the rulers of several regions. Therefore, it is interesting to analyze the occurrence of taboo words, phrases, and sentences uttered by people who are the most evil people.

Taboo words such as *shit* and *fuck* would make the interlocutors feel disturbed or disgusted also it can lead to prosecution even imprisonment. Such words can be found in *the walking dead* films. Some characters utter a strong expression or feeling because some characters look more appropriate when they express their feeling. Such as in a group of Negan in *the walking dead* films, they call their friends with the use of taboo in example form of swearing in a sentence “hey you fucking old man!”. The word “fucking” it is taboo word since there is a more polite word that can be used, it is not to express anger but it means “fucking” expression used to familiarity or friendliness.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problems

based on the background of the study above, the writer formulated two research questions about taboo expressions used by Negans in *the walking dead* films:

1. What kinds of taboo expressions are used by the Negans in *the walking dead* films?
2. What are the functions of the taboo expressions uttered by the Negans in *the walking dead* films?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research problems, the writer has some objectives as follows:

1. To explain kinds of taboo expression used by the Negans in *the walking dead* films?

2. To explain the functions of the taboo expressions uttered by the Negans in *the walking dead* films?

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, the writer hopes this study can be used as a valuable reference in investigating the same subject, especially for students that interest in the study of taboo expression. Practically, the writer hopes this study helps the reader know about taboo expression used, what are the functions of taboo expression and also tells the reader that taboo expression is bad language and inappropriate to use in some conversations carelessly.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The study of taboo expressions in *The Walking Dead* films is only based on the research problems, which are kinds of taboo expressions used by the Negans characters. The writer not only focuses on the Negans words or utterances that use taboo expressions, but also, the functions of taboo expressions that Negans frequently utters.