

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of some subchapters, namely background of the study, statements of problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study and scope limitation of the study. All subchapters are essential to be explained because they introduce this study broadly.

1.1. Background of the Study

Language is a system of communication which is used by the people in this universe. The system of communication is not only oral but also written. Written language is the expression of both people's ideas and emotions in writing without involving mouth. In contrast to written language definition, oral language is defined as the expression of the ideas and emotions of people orally. Deliberately, People involve the mouth and produce the sounds of human speech. By and large, the addressee understands of what the speaker means. Human speech which is produced by a speaker has a sense that makes the interlocutor receive the information completely.

Language used by people has its variation in any individual speech. The way of the people pronounce the words associated with the norms of linguistic behavior caused by different linguistic knowledge which appears within individual behaviour in a particular group. For instance, There are two people who come from different groups (American and British) utter some words in different way and different pronunciation. The different pronunciation heard by the

interlocutor who come from different group make them think that “why does American pronounces this way but British pronounces another way ?” To answer the question above, we have to know the reason behind their different pronunciation. It may have been influenced by external factors including identity, group, membership, power and socialization factors.

It cannot be denied that every individual has its own identity when he or she builds the interaction with others. The identity of every individual resulted from its socialization such as experiences from other individual inside or outside the group. Subsequently, the interaction and experience are also caused by the existence of race, ethnicity, gender, occupation, social class, kinship, and age which are linked to each other. The individual and group identities are underlined as the key factor of their linguistic behaviour in terms of language usage. It demonstrates that language is a primary indicator of individual or groups' identities. However, those identities lead the speakers to the concept of solidarity among members.

On the other hand, the role of social class power affect to language usage. Bourdieu (1991) defined a language: *“a language as symbolic market place. Some people have more control than other goods. In certain languages or varieties, the language is described to be more symbolic power than others”*. In addition, the language usage is marked as a greater value such as standard languages, certain accents, a particular gendered style of speaking and specific type of discourse.

According to the explanations above, there is a phenomenon occurs in our daily lives interconnected with linguistic variation and social variation based on social class. The recent phenomenon is found in six talk shows in Hollywood. There are some interesting episodes in which the talk shows program invited the most fascinating people in the world. They were Chadwick Boseman and Priyanka Chopra. They are famous actor and actress in Hollywood.

One of them is black speaker originally from South Carolina, USA. Meanwhile, Priyanka Chopra is a speaker from Mumbai, India. As the information, two speakers above is the source of data in this study taken from six talk shows in Hollywood. The six talk shows in Hollywood have been watched more than a million times by the people around the world. Those talk shows attracted the attention of the audience over a million subscribers in youtube. These talk shows are so fascinating to be analyzed because the speakers come from different race, ethnicity, gender, occupation and social class are known as social variation.

The speakers above are the main attention of these talk shows because they are from different social background who pronounce the words in different ways. It triggers a phenomenon namely hypercorrection. Hypercorrection is language change in which the speaker overextends in terms of particular usage of pronunciation in order to emulate other speakers from prestige group. This phenomenon occurs when there is different dialect among them which create a social variation. The social variation is marked as a group membership. For example, there is a certain different pronunciation of consonant or rhotic (r)

among speakers. The speaker who is from lower class may have difficulties to pronounce the consonant sound or rhotic (r) in the word *year*. The result is the speaker pronounces the word *year* with the absence of rhotic sound (r) *year* /jɜ/ instead of *year* /jɪr/. It seems that the speaker who pronounces rhotic (r) sound is marked as nonstandard English (Kerswill, 2006). Even though, the speaker pronounces the word *year* in different pronunciation, but basically the meaning is the same.

It can be seen, the speaker commits hypercorrection. The pronunciation closely related to the dialect of the region in where the speaker lives and in which it is used. It is totally clear to hear the speaker's pronunciation in which that pronunciation will be symbolized as the markers of group membership. The markers of group membership divides into several categories such as an educational scale in two categories according to educational background like well educated and less educated.

On the other hand, there is also social class or stratification differentiated into three categories: *upper class*, *middle class* and *lower working class* (Wardhaugh, 2006 : 149). The criteria of social classes describe the characteristics of linguistic behaviour in a group. From this reason, this phenomenon leads the speaker to feel linguistic insecurity. Linguistic insecurity arise when the speaker has negative feeling of his or her native variety. It occurs when the speaker uses his or her own language variety and thinks that his or her language variety is inferior, ugly and bad (Mayerhoff, 2006: 172). However the speaker will try to

adapt and adopt the speech forms of what he or she thinks and believes that is more prestigious.

So far, there is a limited study about hypercorrection in Sociolinguistics field. Even though, there is a limited study about hypercorrection but the phenomenon of hypercorrection still appears. The existence of hypercorrection phenomenon can be found at this time, for example: the utterances of David Beckham contain language change in which he changes his speech pattern from the absence of rhotic (r) to the existence of rhotic (r). He imitated the speech pattern of prestige group when he moved to America.

Henceforth, hypercorrection phenomenon is interesting and necessary topic to be investigated in this study. The writer found a study which have the same interest to this issue. Previous study was conducted by Karen Steffen Chung (2006) with the study entitled "*Hypercorrection in Taiwan and Mandarin*". She investigated hypercorrection in a conversation between Taiwan and Mandarin people. The data of her study was the utterances of family members, students and colleagues in any kinds of situations.

Conversely, This study presents wide aspects of hypercorrection. This study not only investigates hypercorrection phenomena in general but also investigates external factors like social factors which influence the presence of hypercorrection between American and Indian speakers.

1.2. Statement of Problems

1. What are the types of hypercorrection which are frequently used by speaker in six talk shows in Hollywood ?
2. What factors which influence the presence of hypercorrection that used by speaker in six talk shows in Hollywood ?

1.3. Objective of the Study

The objectives of this research are to investigate :

1. To categorize the types of hypercorrection which are frequently used by speaker in six talk shows in Hollywood.
2. To explain the factors which influence the presence of hypercorrection used by speaker in six talk shows in Hollywood.

1.4. Significances of the Study

Theoretically, the findings make an important contribution to improve other researchers understanding to the field of Sociolinguistics in terms of hypercorrection. It could be beneficial for other researchers to extend new insight into the types of hypercorrection and the factors that influence the presence of hypercorrection in language usage among the speakers within social variation in which they use the same source of data or use the same theory.

On the other hand, Practically this study can be a reference for researchers that concern about their language and society in terms of hypercorrection. Hypercorrection phenomenon is an interesting issue to be analyzed because it is a

complex issue of language variation of individuals. In this case, a language becomes a social marker of a group membership during their conversation. Consequently, their conversation contain different pronunciation in some words that lead them to easily commit hypercorrection. It occurs when the speakers think that their language variety is distinguishable from what they have believed so far. Hence, it needs an insightful understanding in order to analyse hypercorrection phenomenon.

In addition, this study is essential for other researchers to gain more understanding about the factors that influence the presence of hypercorrection occur in six talk shows in Hollywood. In this circumstances, this study presents new perspective of hypercorrection that is resulted from linguistic insecurity related to the feature of individuals' speech.

1.5. The Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study investigates the types of hypercorrection which are frequently used by the speakers in six talk shows in Hollywood. The scope of this study is Sociolinguistics concerning the phenomenon of hypercorrection in term of the social factors which contribute to use language variation during the conversation.

In addition, the limitation of this study is only in the way of the speakers' utterances containing hypercorrection under their conversation. The utterances which fulfil the criteria of hypercorrection analyzed in the next chapter. The utterances of the speakers are in the area of both the types of hypercorrection and the factors which influence the presence of hypercorrection.