

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of some subchapters. They are background of the study, statements of the problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study, and scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they describe this study in general.

1.1 Background of the Study

Gender is a pervasive topic in the history of sociolinguistics. The concepts of 'standard' and 'vernacular' have been repeatedly recruited to characterize gender differences in language. Over time, differences in the use of conventional and innovative features have come to be seen as part of acquiring and deploying symbolic capital. Based on Cheshire (1982), boys tend to use more non-grammatical forms. Then, Robin (1975) said that women use hedges and fillers, tag questions, apologetic request, indirect request, speak less, use fewer expletives, more intensifiers. He argued that these features of speech make women seem more interior, weak and needy and prevents women from being taken seriously. While men more concerned with status interrupt more, gives more direct orders, more intensifiers in getting facts and solving problems, but females are more interested in for bonds tend to talk less and agree more, more polite indirect orders, to avoid conflict, aim to show understanding by compromising and offering support rather than solution (Tanner, 1990).

Clark (1977, p. 3) he states that language is very important in life and be the power that are used as mean of thinking, understanding, and expressing thoughts and feelings in the community. As the tool of communication, language plays a very important role in conversation

as a social interaction instrument among people.

Gender differences in language has always been complex. It is not only regarded as a Linguistics phenomenon but also as a social phenomenon, and become the popular subject of Linguistics and Sociolinguistics. The study of gender is important to the study of language, and the first step to study gender is to explore the difference between men and women. It is quite clear that men and women have a lot of differences in many fields. Gender differences are the fundamental facts of social life and human differences. It reflects that there is a long historical origin in language difference phenomenon. Men and women have different status and different roles, thus they have different duties and different rights. Generally speaking, females have more fat and less muscle physically; women are not as strong as men and they mature more rapidly and usually have a longer life span. Females and males often show different advantages and skills in doing their work.

The fact that surveys have found differences between men and women in internet use is not in itself surprising. Media exhibit patterns of language use that show differences between men and women. Some theorists state that male values have been institutionalized in the technology through its creators, embedding a cultural association with masculine identity in the technology itself.

Facebook is one of social media that is always used by some people in this era. Some of them use Facebook just to find some friends or make some conversations with old and new friends. By Facebook, they can connect with all of the people in this world. But sometimes, most of them always use Facebook to share their feeling or some informations by write a status. Men and women have different way to write a status on their Facebook, because they have different characteristics. Thompson and Loughheed (2012) examined gender differences in feelings toward

Facebook, and they found that female reported more stress caused by Facebook, more anxiety if they cannot access Facebook, and a higher loss of control over checking Facebook.

This research will discuss the differences in language use by men and women when they make some statuses on Facebook, and also discuss about the relation of men and women statuses in language and gender. Male and female has different characteristics in real life even in social network

From the topics, female also more active to share their emotional, fashion, final test, or about anything. It is different in male users that is more relax, and usually share the topics about sport, game, and business. Men also usually makes a status based on certain topics. The writer decided to analyze about this topic, because there are so many data that can be found from Facebook users that write some statuses on their Facebook and some statuses from different gender, it is totally different between men and women in using the language and topic to make their statuses on Facebook.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problems

1. What are the status topic that men and women usually write on their Facebook?
2. How do men and women status topics related to their gender?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

1. To give information about what status that men and women usually write on their Facebook.
2. To increase the knowledge about the relation between men and women status topics to their gender.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The study is expected to give both theoretical and practical contributions. Theoretically, the result of this study is expected to give understanding about the differences status topic between men and women. And the writer hopes that this study can be references for the readers who have same topic analysis about the differences language that male and female use when they make a status on their Facebook.

Practically, the purpose of this study is to help people can see the differences between men and women when they write a status about their own topics on Facebook, and also can make the reader understand about the relation between language and gender with the statuses written by men and female facebook users

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is in the field of Sociolinguistics that focusing on language and gender using two theories. The first theory is used to analyze the differences of language that usually used by men and women proposed by Robin Lakoff (1993) and to analyze the relation between men and women status topics to their gender proposed by Tannen (1994). Then the limitation of this study is some statuses that written by male and female Facebook users.

