

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

Review of Related Literature

In this chapter the writer will present some theories related to the topic. First of all, the writer will explain about the theory associated with the swear word.

2.1 Theoretical Framework

2.1.1 Sociolinguistic

Sociolinguistic is the study about language that is related to society that the language related with the use of the languages spoken by society in the habit. According to Holmes (1992:1) sociolinguistic is the study that has relationship with language and society in the world. It is same with Fasold (1990) who says that sociolinguistic is science that combine linguistic and society. Brown (1994) also says that sociolinguistic is sub discipline of linguistic which examines and relationship between language and culture and language and society.

According to Wardhaugh (2006:13) Sociolinguistics is concerned with investigating the relationships between language and society with the goal being a better understanding of the structure of language and of how languages function in communication; the equivalent goal in the sociology of language is

trying to discover how social structure can be better understood through the study of language, e.g., how certain linguistic features serve to characterize particular social arrangements

In others argument, base on Hudson in Wardhaugh (2006:13) sociolinguistics is the study of language in relation to society, whereas the sociology of language is the study of society in relation to language,

2.1.2 Swear Words

Swear words are part of the taboo words but the words are used for swearing only. Because not all the taboo words are swear words. According to Karjalainen (2002:18) A lay person might think that all use of taboo words or words that refer to taboo is swearing, and although all swear words are taboo, not all taboo words are swear words. Because taboo words that are used for swearing is the words that relation with swear words. So, not all taboo words used in swear words.

In a society, something taboo is forbidden to discuss. Because of the taboo it is inappropriate to discuss and have a negative meaning. In addition to the negative meaning, swear words or cursing words are the words to vent expression, and to offend and insult someone. As stated by Jay, T (1999:9) Cursing is the utterance of emotionally powerful, offensive *words* (e.g., *f*ck*, *sh*t*)

or emotionally harmful *expressions* (e.g., *kiss my ass*, *piss off*, *upyours*) that are understood as insults.

Swear words is dirty words that do not deserve to be spoken to interlocutors that are usually used to express anger or to insult the other person. According to Hughes, (2006) Swear word is a perennial source of fascination for those interested in language and society, continuously provoking controversy and raising topical issues. An extraordinary range of style and content has evolved in oaths, profanity, foul language, and ethnic slurs over the centuries, on a scale from the most sacred utterances to the most taboo and according to Webster (1986) swear words is a profane and obscene oath or word.

2.1.3 Kinds of Swear Words

This section the writer will show the kinds of swear words. There are many kinds of swear words. In this point, the writer shows the kinds of swear words. There are seven kinds of swear words. According to Wardhaugh (1986) in halimah (2008:9) there are types of swear words.

1. (one's) Mother in law: term of describing a woman has affair with many partners, for examples: "slut" "son of a b*tch" "mother f*cker", "b*tch".

2. Animal: this term is related to animal and a behavior of animals, religious beliefs and practices from prehistoric times. For examples: “anjing” (dog), “bullsh*t”
3. Death: this term is refers to something that makes people afraid such as: “go to h*ll” “d*mn on you”
4. Excretion: for this term, the term is related to excretory of human. Hughes says in his book, it is general feature in swearing that term for excretion come to be used to express insult, annoyance, and contempt (2006:432). For examples: “sh*t” “piss”
5. Body function terms: this term is elation with “genital” that means organ sex of human for examples: “cunt” “rooster” “cock” “ass” “asshole”. Cunt is vulgar term
6. Religious matters: the term is relation with something religious or god such as “gosh!” “dolly!” referring to god “godd*mn”
7. Sex term: Term refers to sexual activities, such as “f*ck”
8. Left hand: the term is refers to showing middle finger of the left hand.

2.1.4 The Reason of Swearing

All of the words has meaning and swear words are not exception. Swear words also have meaning. Not only meaning but swear words also have purpose. One of the purposes of swear words is to express human expressions. When people feel sad, angry, or disappointed people use swear words to express their feeling.

According to Mark Leigh and Mike Lepine (2005:33) Swearing is basically a way to relieve anger and frustration way for us to express our dislike of someone without resorting to kicking seven shades of sh*t out of them.

In line with Mark Leigh and Mike Lepine, Grohol says that Swear words can be used for a variety of reasons, usually in order to express frustration, anger or surprise (up to two-thirds of our swearing is for just such expressions). These insulting swears can be name calling or wishing someone harm, so it is no wonder they are often a defining feature of hate speech, verbal abuse, sexual harassment and obscene phone calls

According to Neel Burton (2012) the reason of swearing is

1. **Pain relief.** Swearing activates the so-called 'fight or flight' response, leading to a surge of adrenaline and a corresponding analgesic effect. Richard Stephens of Keele University in England found that people who swear are able to hold their hands in ice-water for twice as long. However, this only holds for people who swear a few times a day, not for so-called 'chain-swearers'. Presumably chain-swearers are desensitized to their swearing, and so not particularly aroused by it. It remains unclear whether some swear words are more effective than others. But it seems very likely.

2. **Power and control.** Swearing can give us a greater sense of power and control over a bad situation. By swearing we show, if only to ourselves, that we are not passive victims but empowered to react and fight back. This can boost our confidence and self-esteem, and also provide the impetus for further corrective action to be taken. As Mark Twain put it, 'When angry, count to four; when very angry, swear.
3. **Non-violent retribution.** Swearing enables us to get back at bad people or situations without having to resort to violence. Instead of punching someone in the face or worse, we channel and disarm our anger by swearing instead. True, swearing can also have hurtful consequences, but better a few sharp words than a sharp dagger. Swearing can also serve as a warning signal or as a marker of rank and authority, a bit like an animal's growl: "Watch out. Stop it. Or you're d*mn well going to pay the price."
4. **Humor.** Swearing among friends can be quite hilarious. In such circumstances, it represents a release from normal social constraints or, like play-fighting, makes light of a potentially threatening person or situation.
5. **Peer and social bonding.** Swearing can serve to show that we belong in a certain group, or that we are able to be ourselves and so wholly comfortable with the members of that group. If done

correctly, it can also signal that we are open, honest, self-deprecating, easygoing, and barrel loads of fun.

6. **Self-expression.** Swearing can be a way of showing that we really mean something or that it is really important to us. That's why swearing is so much a part of any sport. It also broadens our register and makes us more lively and interesting, being used, for example, to add emphasis or 'punch' to our speech.
7. **Psychological and physical health.** The health benefits of swearing include increased circulation, elevated endorphins, and an overall sense of calm, control, and well-being. The key is to do it sparingly and not to get angry at the same time, which would be very bad for you—as well as terribly vulgar

2.2 Related Study

In previous studies section the writer shows the related topic with his study. The first study the writer used Siti Halimah's study (student of IAIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya) who analyzes swearing in "8 MILE" and "VIRGIN" movie. This study was published in 2005. The focus of Halimah is in the social values and purpose of swear words.

The second study is come from Nur Aini (student of IAIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang). The title is *The Sexist Swear Words Used by The Characters in Shottas Movie*. This study was published in 2010. The focus

of Aini is in gender to swearing words. She explain how are sexist swear words used by the characters in Shottas movie

From the previous study contained above, it has differences with the study which will be conducted by the writer. The Focus are discussed by the writer is on what kinds of swear words and why the speaker uses the words swear words.