

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This research explains about how taboo language used by people on Twitter. To understand the general parts of this research, in this chapter the researcher will show the introduction of the research. This chapter deals with the background of research, statement of problem, purpose of research and significance of research.

1.1 Background of the Research

Language has an important role in human life. By the language, human could express their feeling, thought and desire. It is in line with Goldstein (2008:294) who states that language is a system of communication using sounds or symbols that enables us to express our feelings, thoughts, ideas, and experiences. Then, it could also use a language to communicate each other, it could be between people in same community or outside of the community. We could imagine what it could be if there is no language in human life, they could be difficult to interact and understand each other. In this case, language can view as *Lingua Franca*. According to Lucas (2004: 33) *lingua franca* is the language chosen by speakers of diverse languages in the hearing world for many sorts of needs, from science and technology to business and scholarship. It means that the language is used as a bridge for people, who do not have the same mother tongue.

English is *lingua franca*, people use English to communicate with other people from abroad or used by people in particular occasion. Then, people

could communicate with others with various ways, for example people could communicate directly or through a media such internet. Internet gives many advantages for the increasing and spreading the language particularly English to the world. One of the advantages is language could be known and accessed by people. But, internet gives some effects to the language itself. Internet makes language out of control. It means every particular of language including English could be known and used by people whether the language good or bad. In this way, good or bad language can called as cultural context. One kind of bad language is taboo language or taboo words

The use of taboo language could be seen in people conversation in daily activities, such as movies, books, especially social media including *Twitter*. *Twitter* is a famous social media today. More than fifty five million people use *twitter* as their tool to express their feeling and argument. Moreover, *twitter* used as tools to communicate with others. There are so many people use taboo words on their post and replying of the posting on the *twitter*. The example of people's post on the *twitter* is *She's ugly. how does she have a boyfriend?" Maybe she has an amazing personality and her boyfriend isn't a judgmental asshole like you.* In the example above the writer found that *twitter* user feel guilty or hate to someone there for she express their feeling by word "asshole".

People who use taboo language on their posting on *twitter* is not limited by gender. It means male or female still have opportunities to use taboo language. According to Lakoff (2004:80), women are expected to speak

properly and they usually use euphemism to replace off-color or indicate expression. If we refer to the argument above, female would use euphemism to express their feeling. She does not use a rude language when she wants to show their feeling. It means female expect to use the taboo words less than male. Despite, we certainly do not know whose gender be the most user of taboo language.

The researcher has found a research about taboo language entitled “Taboo Language in Sex and The City – An Analysis of Gender Differences in Using Taboo Language in Conversation” by a teacher education in Kristiandad University. The object of the previous research is a movie. The research examine the differences and similarities of using taboo language in male and female speech in terms of gender differences and conversational in general. The findings of this study confirm that both male and female characters use taboo related to verbal taboo, euphemism, and neutral term in differentiated way.

Based on the reasons above the researcher decides to conduct a research about taboo language. This research is different from the previous. The researcher choose different object from the previous. Therefore, the researcher tries to discuss about this case and entitle the research by “Male and Female Taboo Language on Twitter”.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on background of research, the researcher found that many people talk about taboo language in social media. Moreover, the researcher does not know whether they know and understand what they talk or not. Therefore, the researcher sums some questions about this case. It can be formulated into the research questions are follows:

1. What are kinds of taboo language that male and female use on Twitter?
2. What are the differences between male and female taboo language on Twitter?

1.3 Purpose of Research

The purposes of this research are:

1. To know kinds of taboo language that male and female use on Twitter
2. To know are the differences between male and female taboo language on Twitter

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1.4 Significance of Research

The significance of this research is for anybody who interesting about the kinds of taboo language. Then, for them who want to recognize the differences between male and female taboo language on Twitter.

I.5 Definition of Key Terms

- 1. Male** : belonging to the sex that does not give birth (Bull, 2008: 267)
- 2. Female** : the sex that produce young (Bull, 2008: 163)
- 3. Taboo language** : things that you're not supposed to say with (Fairman, 2009: 27),

