

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the background of research, the research questions, the research objectives, the research significances, research paradigm, research problem and the previous studies.

A. Background of Problem

The women language is a reflection of women's position in society. In patriarchal society men have control to rule which implied women have a subordinate position. This classification explains that men are superior and women are inferior. The inferiority of women creates their image in society that they are powerless and pre-empted by men. It affects how women are supposed to behave and how women are supposed to speak. The society tends to create women as feminine as should be based on construction of men, they have to be more polite and became standard of the society. Eventhough in implementation women express their thought and feeling in language should have various consideration. This phenomenon creates the characteristics of women language which differ from men.

The phenomenon of complicated problem of women language in implementation has been described by Lakoff in Cameron (1998) she describes that two choices are highly painful, women are damned if they do and damned if they do not. If women position themselves in conversation as they should be, they will be called as people who can not speak about serious problems and think clearly. But in contrast if women position themselves not properly they will be ridiculed as unfeminine. This is the consequence of being subordinate, the superior one have control although seems inconsistent.

Furthermore, Lakoff pionereed of the study language and gender by defining the women's language features. Those language features are lexical hedges or fillers, tag questions, rising intonation on declarative, empty adjectives, precise colour terms, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, superpolite forms, avoidance of

swear words, and emphatic stress. Those ten of women's language features are claimed use often by women rather than men in their conversation.

The defined women's language features are some of expressions of women that have been constructed which identify of uncertainty and lack of confidence. Whereas, the ability of women in language is extraordinary that naturally given. They have a part of brain and the excellent ability of listening. This advantage of women in language if compared with men is described by Chaer (2015), he explains the relax condition related to the brain between men and women.

Relaxing in men is the same as shutting down reptilian brain work that triggers primitive emotional expressions in the form of aggression and violence. While in women relaxing is the same as turning off the cingulate gyrus, which is the part of the brain that controls symbolic expressions, such as motion and words. In other words, in an active state men tend towards aggression and physical movement, whereas women when active are more civilized they tend towards moving and speaking. Moreover, the ability of speaking can be came from the excellent ability of listening if it assumes the output of listening is speaking. It is proven by the phenomenon of a mother is more sensitive to the crying of the baby at night compared to a father who sleeps well. Therefore, it is common if women talk more than men because the ability of women in language is given and habituated.

Based on two advantages of women ability in language can be conclude that women language explains how potential of their ability which distinguish them from men. Somehow, this differentiation shapes the pattern and way of women express their thought or feeling in different forms of language. It is influenced to the different perspective that rarely makes a different understanding to see something. Therefore, sometimes what the women mean different to what the men mean.

Women's language features can be observed in a movie for example *Split* (2017) movie. Movie is chosen because it can be a reflection of the society, moreover, contains some utterances as a part of conversation or dialogue includes the context. The movie of *Split* (2017) is selected for two reason; the genre of the movie that is American psychological thriller which raised the issue of mental

illness, dissociative identity disorder or can be called as DID, and the characters of this movie mostly are women. The characters of this movie are Kevin who has DID, his psychiatrist namely Dr.Fletcher, and three women are Claire, Marcia, and Casey.

Split (2017) movie tells the story of a DID patient namely Kevin who kidnapped three women, Claire, Marcia, and Casey after birthday party and kept in a basement. DID means a mental illness which has many personalities in a body, commonly it is caused by trauma in the past. Kevin's consciousness has control over by the other personalities. In the basement the women have conversation with those personalities of Kevin as often as he has conversation with Dr.Fletcher. In the end of the story, the women are dead in the hand of Kevin's personalities, The Beast, unless Casey who survive because he leaves her to live.

The basic interest of researcher to *Split (2017)* is not the process of how the story flows in the beginning until the end of the story. But, the utterances in conversation that used by the women characters when they spoke to DID patient. How they use women's language features when dealing with kidnapper who has odd personalities and what purpose of their utterances when they speak to him. In addition, there is also a possibility appeared of other language features as a representation of human experience. Specifically, this research will discuss more to Casey's utterance because she seldom speaks like the other women characters and has different perspective, experience, and features when she expresses her utterances.

In conclusion, the researcher interests to discuss the women's language features used by Casey in her conversation with the other characters as well as the meaning of those features. Because the utterance somehow is a representation about personality and experience which express in linguistic features. While the meaning of those features are depended on context of the utterance in conversation. However, the conversation happens between speaker and interlocutor take turn which means there are stimuli and responses between them. Either Casey who gives stimuli or even she who has a response to the other characters.

B. Research Questions

Based on the background into problem can be formulated into research questions as follows:

1. What are the women's language features that Casey as a woman character has?
2. How does Casey give verbal stimuli and refusal responses in pragmatics towards the other characters?

C. Research Objectives

This research as a response to the statement of problems proposes to achieve some objectives, as follows:

1. To identify the women's language features used by Casey in *Split (2017)*.
2. To find out the meaning of women's language features that used by Casey through stimuli and responses in pragmatics of refusal toward the other characters in *Split (2017)*.

D. Research Significances

There are at least two significances expected in this research, theoretical significance and practical significance.

1. Theoretical Significance

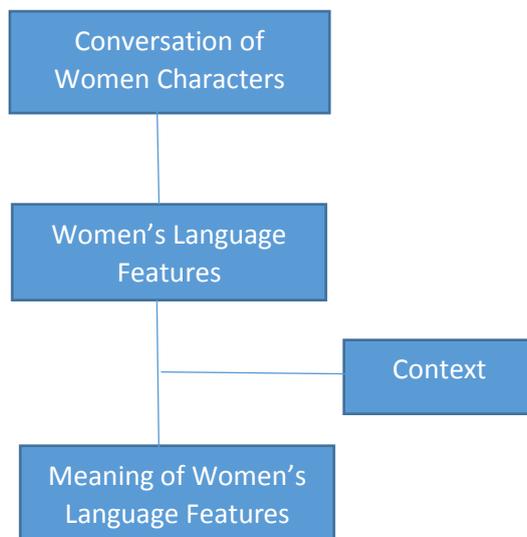
Theoretically, this research is expected to reveal theory of language and gender also the theory of pragmatics to discover the meaning, what is the speakers mean when they utter something through verbal stimuli and responses. Therefore, the research under title women's language features used by Casey as a woman character in *Split (2017)* is expected to apply the theory of language and gender as main theory also involved pragmatics theory as secondary theory.

2. Practical Significance

Practically, the result of this research can be a reference for another research which has the same issue about language and gender which related to pragmatics.

Through understanding the issue of language and gender hopefully understand the pattern of language that used by women as well as pragmatics theory to understand what is the true meaning of women as speaker utterance through verbal stimuli and responses approach.

E. Research Paradigm



This research discusses about women's language features as part of conversation in the movie of *Split* (2017). The movie at least contains the narration that shows visually and the narration that shows in the dialogue or conversation which expressed by characters through the language. Language defined as a media of human to communicate either spoken or written. Obviously the kind of language that used in the movie is spoken or it can be said as verbally. The spoken language is spontaneous, therefore even a word said it can not be pulled over again. It is different with the written language that is if a word has been written it can be erased or revised. Eventhough the movie is based on the movie script, which is everything in the movie happened by design. But, in the other hand, movie could be a representation of people in the real life. Therefore, the spoken language in the movie still can be worthed to research because it is the representation of the real life.

In the discourse of language and gender, women's language is a reflection of women position in the society. Certainly, women's language is applied in conversation, how the language is expressed. The language expression has a shape or pattern either in the way of pronouncing, choice of words, or in the structure of the sentence. A woman linguist named Robin Lakoff catches this pattern then formulates into the ten women's language features. The function behind those features are to distinguish the language of men and the language of women as well as explains how the construction of the society shapes the characteristics of women's language. Basically, the women language is identified with the position of women such as being subordinate, second-sex, pre-empted, full of hesitation and so forth which refers to women as powerless creature. Therefore, when women express a thing in the pattern of women language it shows there is another thing which they do not express. In other words, there are some meanings behind the women's language features which is hidden because of the limitation in the use of their language.

The discussion of meaning in linguistics divided into semantics and pragmatics. But in this research will be focused on pragmatics because meaning in the pragmatics involved the context which will be relevant to reveal the meaning of the utterance. Revealing of meaning in women's language features at least able to know what the speaker means by knowing the proper message of the speaker. It is aimed to avoid misunderstanding of the speaker because the utterance of 'Yes' could have the meaning of 'Perhaps' or 'Perhaps' could have the meaning of 'No' which means it could be understood by understanding of the context behind those utterances.

F. Research Problem

This research is a qualitative research which is hypotheses or temporary answers based on assumptions or prosthetics are unusual to be used because qualitativaive does not need statistical calculation. As stated in the book of Pedoman Penulisan Skripsi, Tesis, and Disertasi of Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Gunung Djati (2019), "For qualitative research, hypotheses are unusual because qualitative approaching research does not use the statistical calculations necessary to prove the hypothesis.

Instead, problem statements can be used in qualitative research." Therefore, problem statements are available as a substitute to hypotheses.

Problem statements are the statements of the researcher about the problem of the research which endeavor to solve. There are some problems to be raised such as women's language features as a reflection of patriarchal construction, the meaning of women utterance, and how both of them are applied in the context of kidnapping.

Women's language features as a reflection of patriarchal construction becomes the main problem because it is the part of gender topic which will have no end discussion. Men have the control to the society which construct how they become, either men should be and women should be, men have no problem in the construction but women do because they have to obey the ruler of the society. Therefore, there is a movement which fight for gender equality. The movement is changed time by time as well as a dynamicity of human. This phenomenon somehow influences to linguistics aspect how the women speak and behave. It means that women's language features that pioneered by Lakoff (1975) in application will be adaptable follows the society, there are probabilities that some features of women's language will be obeyed and even violated.

The differentiation of women language from men language based on the language features shows that both of them are different in the way of expressing the language which automatically influences to how to understand the language or utterance. Therefore, the revealing of women's language features meaning aims to understand what the women mean behind the utterance. Eventhough it might be complicated things to understand what do exactly the women mean, but at least can be understood from the context which can not be separated with the utterance. It is said as complicated to understand because the process of being women is based on the men's construction which implicated to consideration of women before they want to express something. In other words their thought and feeling have been shaped behind the shade of men. This is the portrayal of women's femininity.

The last is how women's language features as well as those meanings are applied in the context of kidnapping in the *Split (2017)* movie. It will be fascinating

when complicated construction of women language is applied to the complicated situation of women. How the language expression of women characters adapt with the kidnapper who has a lot of personalities, or it is said as dissociative identities disorder. The language expression of women character can be found in the spoken language or in other words when conversation happen among them.

G. Previous Studies

There are some relevant previous studies that helps the researcher to write this research. The previous studies will be explained briefly about the difference of aspect of previous researchs and this research. It is needed to make sure that this research is not a duplication or plagiarism. The previous studies are taken from Lisda Miftahul Aini (2016) with the tittle *Women Language Used by the Main Characters of Mockingjay Movie*, Annisa Aga Febrianti (2013) with the tittle *Women's Language Features Used by Indonesian Female*, Cornelia Selly Amanda (2017) with the tittle *An Analysis of The Use of Women's Language Features by Hillary Clinton in Presidential Debates*, Ai Umi Istiqamah (2014) with the tittle *Women's Language Features in Writing Journal Used by Female Students in English Department of State Islamic University Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung* and Yuliani Kusuma Putri (2010) with the tittle *Refusal Studies in English Speech: A Pragmatic Study*.

First, Lisda Miftahul Aini (2016) with the tittle *Women Language Used by the Main Characters of Mockingjay Movie* is a study that discusses the women language used by main characters in Mockingjay Movie. The difference between this study and Lisda's research is from the object of his research, this study took the Split object (2017) while Aini took the mockingjay movie as object of research. In other words, if the object of the research is different then the data that will be discussed will be different even though it is the same topic about the women language. Later, Aini discusses more about the social factors in women's language features, while this study will discuss the meanings which influenced by context. The meaning of women language can be categorized as stimuli and responses, because in a conversation there must be some dialogues involving two or more

people that indirectly everyone will provide stimulus or recipient response. But the meaning in the women language is likely to occur the meaning of bias caused by gender construction of the society.

Furthermore, the research of Aini categorizes as qualitative research because she is analyzed and described in the form of words and sentence where the data are taken from the conversations uttered by the main characters of *Mockingjay* movie as well as movie script in order to get exact utterance. The data of that research identified and analyzed based on the term women's language features determined by Lakoff. Moreover, the selected data analyzed based on social factors theory proposed by Holmes. By using qualitative qualitative method Aini found some women's language features that used by the main characters of *Mockingjay* movie. The female character, Katniss Everdeen used six types of women speech features, they are rising intonation, lexical hedge, intensifier, super polite form, tag question, emphatic stress and precise discrimination. Meanwhile the male character only used five types; they were raising intonation, super polite form, lexical hedge, intensifier, and tag question. There were three features which were not used by them, they were; empty adjectives, hypercorrect grammar, and avoiding using strong expletive.

Second, Annisa Aga Febrianti (2013) with the title *Women's Language Features Used by Indonesian Female* is a study discussing the language of women used by female bloggers in a blogspot.com published from October 2011 to September 2012. The topics covered in the site are written text about their routines, business, fashion, and special events. The difference between Febrianti's research and this research is from the object of the research, although it has similar topics that are discussing women's language features. Therefore, different research objects will produce different data for analysis. The main theory used to analyze the data is Robin Lakoff's theory that proposed ten women's language features. However, only nine women's language features that used to analyze written text from blogspot.com such as; lexical hedges or fillers, tag question, empty adjectives, precise color terms, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, superpolite forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress.

Febrianti's research uses descriptive qualitative methods. But despite being categorized as qualitative research, she also uses quantifications to support the qualitative findings in revealing the percentage of women's language features used by Indonesian female bloggers. The findings reveal that there were ninety- seven postings which can be categorized into eight features. However, intensifiers tend to be the most frequent feature used by the female bloggers (34.92%), followed by empty ajectives (5.71%), and the least is avoidance of strong swear words (0.27%). Moreover, regarding the reasons by using the features is most respondents claimed that they use those features because they tend to reflect uncertainty and reflect women's lack of confidence in conversation. In contrast, only few of respondents who stated that they use those features because women have higher level of vocabularies than men.

Third, Cornelia Selly Amanda (2017) with the title *An Analysis of The Use of Women's Language Features by Hillary Clinton in Presidential Debates* is a research which discusss women's language features that used by American woman Politician, Hillary Clinton, in the context of presidential debates in 2016. The different between Amanda's research with this research is in the object of research eventhough has the same topics of women's language features. Amanda's research used Hillary Clinton's research object in presidential debates specifically in the first and third presidential debates while this research uses Split (2017) movie specifically Casey as a woman character who deals with mental illness patient who kidnapped her. Afterward, she classifies the women's language features into some language functions while this research defines the meaning behind those features.

Moreover, the research of Cornelia uses a mixed method research method that combines qualitative with quantitative. While this study does not use mixed methods but instead uses descriptive qualitative method. Using this method, she found seven out of ten women's language features used by Hillary in the presidential debates. It includes lexical hedges or fillers (41.54%), rising intonation on declaratives (1.56%), empty adjectives (0.96%), intensifiers (14.65%), hypercorrect grammar (21.25%), superpolite forms (0.24%) and emphatic stress (19.81%). The absent features are tag questions, precise color terms, and avoidance

of using strong swear words. It was influenced by the topic discussions and speaker's confidence. Hillary tends not to use some of the women's language features to show uncertainty or to express a lack of confidence. In contrast, Hillary expresses herself as a confident woman due to her status and the role as a politician which indicates woman's leadership.

Fourth, Ai Umi Istiqamah (2014) with the title *Women's Language Features in Writing Journal Used by Female Students in English Department of State Islamic University Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung* is a research that discusses women's language features in writing journal of female students. There are two main discussions about Istiqamah's research: about how women's language features are used by female students in their writing journals and what features are mainly used by female students in writing journals. The research of Istiqamah used qualitative approach in particular descriptive method. It uses the main theory of Lakoff (1975) about 'Language and Gender'. It has the similarity to this research in the use theory of language and gender that determined by Lakoff, but it has a different object of research which this research takes the spoken language eventhough the movie script is involved to convince the data.

In addition, by using the method of qualitative in particular descriptive qualitative method Istiqamah found there were only seven types of women's language features used in writing journal, such as *lexical hedges or fillers*, *'empty' adjectives*, *intensifiers*, *superpolite forms*, *specialized vocabularies*, *avoidance of strong swear words*, and *emphatic stress*. Two kinds of features which were not used by female students were *tag question* and *hypercorrect grammar*. Furthermore, The use of *intensifier* tend to be the mainly features of women's language features used by female students in writing journal with the percentage 43,11 %, then *Lexical hedges* in second position (30,22%), and *emphatic stress* (12%) took the third position, and there were *empty adjectives* (1,11%) in four position, *avoidance of strong swear word* (1,77%) in fifth position, *superpolite form* (1,33%) and the last position *Precious Color term* (0,44%). In addition female student in their journals used women's language features reflect that they are uncertainty and lack of confidence.

Fifth, Yuliani Kusuma Putri (2010) with the title *Refusal Studies in English Speech: A Pragmatic Study* is a research which discusses refusal studies in the frame of pragmatic study in particular speech act. This research involved serial movie of *Ugly Betty* to gain the data of refusal English speech. Her research uses qualitative descriptive method especially to analyze the data she uses the technique of document analysis research. The grand theories that she used to describe and analyze the data are Beebe at all (1990) and Gass and Houck (1999). Moreover, the difference between the research of Putri (2010) and this research are the data even though has the same media that is movie and the discussion of women's language features.

