CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

The first chapter is the introduction which contains an explanation of reseach baground, statement of problem, purpose of research, research significance, and definition of key term.

1.1 Research Background

Conversation is identified as a rational cooperative exchange of information (Horn & Ward, 2006), and the center of human society (Sidnell, 2010). Conversation is made up of multiple practices by which an ensemble of participants creates by which they coconstruct an occasion of interaction over its course in actual environments (Schegloff, 1999). However, in conversation, there are units that form patterns of interaction between humans which are called pragmatics.

According to Horn and Ward (2006) pragmatics is the study of context of an utterance of human conversation. In another hand, pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that refers to the study of the general conditions of use of language (Ambarwati & Rositasari, 2016). One of pragmatics flied is speech act which can explains how conversation in a part of human life.

Speech act, according to Austin (1960), is a functional unit in conversation in which the speaker really does something with the words uttered. Given the strong relationship among speech act and context, it is a true social activity and in what sense (Bianchi, 2010). They are three devices of speech such as locutionary, illocutionary, perlocutionary.

However, the illocutionary act, is typically understood to be the act that a speaker successfully completes when speaking a phrase with a certain aim

under specific circumstances, a person successfully conveys that intention to the hearer (Searle, 1969). The five primary categories of illocutionary acts, according to Searle, are represensative, commesive, directive, expressive, and declaration (Searle, 1976). However, conversation can be non-cooperative. One's innermost sense of linguistic and cultural identity is experienced as a contradiction – more, as an experience of violence (Wei, 2010). Thus, this device may be non-cooperative and harmful in human conversation, such as verbal abuse.

Verbal abuse typically takes the form of verbal conduct in which the actors engage in communication patterns that include insults or utterances that harass individual (Ambarwati & Rositasari, 2016). Verbal abuse is classified as psychological violence since the purpose is to reduce the capacity of normal mental capacities rather than directly on the body.

Gaslighting, which one of verbal abuse, is manipulative communication. At its core, a social phenomenon (Sweet, 2019). It creates a climate of "surreality" (Lunan-taylor & Bousflied, 2021). Currently, Sweet also argued gaslighting is a concept that is rapidly being applied to characterize abusive people's mind-control strategies in both politics and interpersonal relationships. In fact, the gaslighting abuser can do this manipulative one to people whose not have any relationship, which means, stranger, can be the target (Taha Assaggaf, 2019). Political figures, such as Donald Trump, for example, have been accused of gaslighting entire nations; but more commonly, gaslight- ing is used to refer to abusive behavior that occurs in domestic settings. This creates a distinction between individual and collective gaslighting (Podosky, 2021). Furthermore, since the goal of gaslighting is not being rude or to do 'cute aggression' in close relationship but for making victim do whatever abuser ask in irrational concept to think and also to making the victims confused about theirselves. Thus, close relationship is also can be arisen in gaslighting communication.

The sociological theory of gaslighting by Sweet (2019) can clarify how every component of society, including cultural norms, expectations, and context, influence how language is used, as well as how society influences language (Tamfuh, 2022). Howeverm this study has two impor- tant features in common: an idealistic approach to communication and context-centeredness (Kecskes, 2012).The aim of rules-based approaches is to describe connections between permissible language usage and certain sociocontextual parts (Compernolle, 2018). Power-laden and gender inequality constitute some of the characteristics underlying gaslighting communication.

Power defines as an individual, collective, or systemic capacity to attain desired outcomes using the use of force, influence, or authority (Dobratz et al., 2016). As a consequence, Castell believes that interaction characteristics have significance for understanding the arrangement of power discourses and their capacity to affect the thought processes of social participants in manners which establish an important connection between human viewpoints and the contents and structure of discursive practices in which dominant preferences are embedded (Castells, 2016). As therefore, it has an additional source of power: authority over the places of junction of various strategic networks.

Gender imbalance is one of the elements of the abuser's gaslighting speech. Wharton (2005) defines gender as a complex structure with impacts at all levels of life in society. Wharton additionally emphasizes the importance of gender in shaping individual identities and societal choices. Gender determines how people see themselves, behave, and perceive others. Furthermore, gender effects social interaction in a variety of ways. The social construction of masculinity and femininity affects the body and determines how it is seen (Krais, 2006). From this point, gender research is, today, one of the major fields of sociology, both academic and applied (Connell, 2014), which, gender is currently one of the largest fields of empirical sociology. In little more than a decade, the study of gender has moved from the margins of social science to

occupy an increasingly important position (Gerson, 2016). Sweet also claims that this design leads to inequity in relationships such as marriage.

This gaslighting communication is can be seen in Short Film Your Reality. It is about domestic abuse, and Alicia is the victim of her abusive husband, Mark. Her husband is always participating in manipulative communication described as gaslighting. However, he is continually saying irrational things in order to harm his wife's psychology. This short film is chosen since it contains obvious manipulative utterances that can be evaluated using sequential speech acts. There are several examples of manipulating language as keywords of gaslighting. As a result, the researcher believes that this short film is worth researching.

There are three previous reseaches of this type. These are to demonstrate similarities and differences with the issue examined in this research.

First, The Social Media , Human Dignity and Linguistic Violence in Cameroon : A Socio-Pragmatic Perception (Tamfuh, 2022). The focus of this research was to gather and analyse particular illocutionary act examples for forms of abuse utilized by social media practitioners to describe verbal or language abuse witch speech act theory. Illocutionary acts as a particular element to the verbal abuse utilized in various social media reports. Declarative illocutionary acts that are informative. The speaker utilizes informative actions to describe each action, which is an example of illocutionary utterance.

Second, the previous research is titled Verbal Abuse in Adolescents (Speech Act Study on Dating Chat). Verbal abuse against women manifests itself in a wide range of directive, expressive, representational, declaratory, and commendatory speech acts (Ambarwati & Rositasari, 2016). key observation is that threats, mockery, and being branded as discriminating, insulting, domineering, and demeaning are all types of verbal abuse that occur among young women. According to the results of the illcoutionary act categories, verbal abuse on girls took on the characteristics of a directive, expressive,

representative, declarative, and commissive. Invective, ridicule, calling discriminatory, ruling, and underestimating are examples of verbal abuse.

Third, the research discovered by researchers is Jenny Gage's Emotional Abuse of the Main Characters in After Movie (Yulianti & Setiawan, 2019). They discuss the film "After" by Jenny Gage 2019. The reseachers discover that Tessa is being verbal and emotionally abused by both her mother and her partner Hardin.

This research has the difference from previous researches. The object in this reseach is a short film titled Your Reality. In other hand, those three previous researches do not employ social study. Thus, researcher will conduct this reseach with gaslighting with sociopragmatics, which not only explain the illocutionary act on speech act, but also discuss specificly in sociological theory of gaslighting. Furthermore, less study of the subject of verbal abuse is particularly discussed from these two social and pragmatic approaches. These factors can be the reason why this study will create a new discourse and contribute to the advancement of applied linguistics research.

1.2 Statement of Problem

The problem statement is a general statement about the subject area that will be investigated, and the research problem formulation takes the form of questions. Based on the research background presented above, the researcher decides that the following two questions will be the primary emphasis of this research:

1. What types of illocutionary acts are implemented in gaslighting communication in the Short Film *Your Reality*?
2. How the speech acts in Short Film *Your Reality* according to sociological theory of gaslighting?

1.3 Purpose of Research

Based on the formulation of the research question above, the researcher is intended:

1. To analyze types of illocutionary acts in gaslighting communication using the Short Film *Your Reality*.
2. To identify sociological theory of gaslighting used in illucotionary acts in language abuse of gaslighting communication in the Short Film *Your Reality*.

1.4 Research Significance

The researcher expects that the results of this study can be useful and bring some benefits for the use of language theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically, this study is expected in enriching the knowledge and theoretical perspective in speech act study specifically on illocutionary acts.
2. Practically, this study can be employed in helping readers to analyze verbal abuse on gaslighting communication. It is also hoped that this study can be an empirical source for the next researchers and readers who are concerned about this kind of communication. The researcher also expects that this research will be further developed by those who are interested in linguistic studies, especially in illocutionary acts of verbal abuse.

1.5 Definition of Key Term

Pragmatics

The study about meaning which communicated by a speakers and interpreted by a listener or reader.

Speech act

Speech act is utterance delivered by a speaker during a conversation. There are three types of speech acts: locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary speech acts.

Illocutionary Acts

Illocutionary act involves designing speech, including uttering specific sounds, making marks, using precise words, adhering to grammatical rules, and utilizing senses and references gathered from language rules.

Gaslighting

Gaslighting is a social phenomenon involving manipulative communication and mind-control strategies that create a "surreality" condition.

Power-laden

An individual, group, or structural capacity to achieve desired effects through the use of force, influence, or authority.

Gender inequality

   Gender is a multilayered structure that has affects at all levels of social life. A movement carried out by a group of women who want to fight for women's rights to achieve gender equality.