

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of the Study

As social creature, people could not be separated from influences of others, and almost all of human activities are connected to other people. The way to keep good social relationship in verbal communication, the speaker must avoid the term or the words which is insulting the listener, embarrassing the interlocutor, attaching the listener's self esteem or in another word make the listener loss his face. The term known as dangerous word, taboo word or dysphemism which known by speaker but avoided in some, most, or all forms or context of speech, for reason of religion, decorum politness, and etc. It is clear when we used taboo word it means we attack the listener or make the listener undergoes loss is face.

Allan & Burridge (1991:52) say that the subject of taboo can vary widely like in sex area, bodily effluvia, bodily function, death, religious matter, dangerous animal, political issue even, and diseases. Sometimes people hardly to mention the spesific organ of reproduction because the name of the spesific organ is taboo to be mentioned and they prefer to change the name of spesific organ into other terms.

Taboo words were prohibited to mention and gave the bad effect, people create a new words or renamed them to get better sound but still have a meaning that related to it. That is the reason why they applied Euphemism. Centralized to Allan & Burridge (1991), Euphemism used an alternative to dispreferred

expression in order to avoid possible loss of face either one's own face or through giving offense, that of the audience, or of some third party.

This euphemism surely gave an effect to language change through the emergence or loss of face of some sense of lexemes, or suitable replacement in the higher style. Many euphemisms were figurative, and some of them were being the cause of semantic change. This semantic change lead the new meaning may changed because of the exchange of perception or the similarity of characters.

Movie is the one of literary works and it is one of the objects of literary criticism. Movie is a form of entertainment that give visualization through a sequence of images giving some pictures of continous movement and it is also called term that create story into motion pictures completed by audio and as a form dramatic performance that is recorded as a moving image, even it is added special effects to make a magnificent image.

There have been some studies related to euphemism used in utterances. Farida (2008) conducted a research and found that euphemism in English was not just used smooth idiom or phrase, but to make the words as smooth as possible and avoid the misunderstanding and uncomfortable situation in conversation. Generally euphemism is divided into three categories, they are fear, unpleasant topics and taboos. All categories was found in Dan Brown's novel *The Da Vinci* that represent the *death*.

Hojati (2012) was said that the use of euphemisms has increased by the media and new and controversial euphemism have also been born. This study was

carried out with the aim at eliciting and qualitatively examining a number of high-frequency euphemisms employed by English-speaking media. He calculated frequencies of different euphemisms used by the media organizations revealed that poverty- and military-related euphemism figured prominently in the news bulletins, while euphemisms dealing with economy, disability, death and sex had lower frequencies of use. This divisiveness also holds true for the military euphemism *collateral damage/deaths*, which as this study shows, had a high frequency of use. It has been used many times by warring parties to mildly refer to the allegedly unintentional infliction of harm to non-combatants in war situations.

Different from the two studies, Rusdiah (2013) who studied on code-switching serves a euphemism, and to investigated euphemisms used by the Indonesian speakers in their utterances in Bahasa Indonesia, local languages, and foreign languages English and Arabic. The result of the research indicated that there were 30 euphemism in words or phrases found in the Indonesian speakers, they are five euphemisms from Bahasa Indonesia, 11 euphemisms from English and 13 euphemisms in Buginese language.

From those studies above, this research would be different. This research would be focused on euphemism terms taken from The *Dressmaker* movie script. The writer chosed this movie because it had a reflection about human life, and this movie has the point how characters used euphemism. This movie is directed by Moorhouse in 2015, in this movie Myrtle Dunnage as a main character and branded a murderer Stewart's Pettyman. Myrtle tried to prove that herslef not guilty but Dungatar people were not care, moreover some of Dungatar people

were still moked her with bad words by using euphemism. In conducting this research the writer focused on the euphemism term used in the movie.

### **B. The Problem of the Study**

Based on the background of the study described above, there were two problems of the study:

1. What types of euphemism are used by characters in their dialogue in The *Dressmaker* movie script?
2. Why are the types of euphemism used by characters?

### **C. The Objective of the Study**

The objectives of this study based on the problems described previous were:

1. To find out the types of euphemism are used by characters in their dialogues in The *Dressmaker* movie script.
2. To describe the used of euphemism by characters in their dialogues in The *Dressmaker* movie script.

### **D. The Scope of the Study**

In this study, the writer limited the discussion of euphemism which is used by characters in The *Dressmaker* movie. The analysis would based on the theory of Euphemism by Allan and Burridge.

### **E. The Significance of the Study**

The writes is expected the findings of the study would be useful and relevant theoretically and practically:

1. Theoretically, the results of this study were expected to enrich the knowledge of students in euphemism.
2. Practically, this research could give more contributions for everyone especially whole members of English and Literature Department Statre University of Medan.

