

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Language is an important tool for interaction and communication. In some societies there are a number of words that may not be spoken or approved. These words are called taboo. If taboo words are mentioned or spoken in the community, they will be considered rude.

Taboo comes from Tonga, a Polynesian language that describes activities that are prohibited or should be avoided. In the Oxford Learner's Pocket (1995:421) taboo is something that is forbidden because of strong customs or religion. When an act is taboo that is the first people are forbidden to do something and then they are forbidden to talk about it. Forbidden acts or say some words reflect the particular customs and views of the society. Some words may be used in certain circumstances and not in other.

Trudgill (2000: 29-30) says that taboo words as things that are related to behavior that are supernaturally believed are prohibited or considered immoral and inappropriate. Taboo words occur in most languages and mistakes using them often make a person accept punishment or shame in public.

Then, Wardhaugh (2000: 29) says that taboos are related to cultural meanings expressed in language. Further, he said that taboo is one of the ways that is used to express an act or habit that is believed to be harmful to them, caused by behavior or an attitude that does not comply with moral rules. Thus it can be said that language is used to avoid saying something that is considered immoral and not worth saying in certain things.

Therefore, taboo words still manage as offensive and savage words in most languages, such as English. Long time ago in America, there were strict rules to avoid the

use of taboo words in public such as in printed media. The use of taboo words such as *fuck* and *cunt* would lead to prosecution and imprisonment so that they were not used in printed media such as newspaper.

Apart from our attitude about taboo language, it actually exists in our society, and very often occurs in several conversations in certain situations of society. Because of a social change, now legal sanctions are beginning to disappear and there is a more violent tendency that society has been more relaxed in accepting taboo words as part of communication. This phenomenon proves that what was taboo then, is now not taboo and it is part of communication and its existence is undeniable because taboo words are often used as oaths (Trudgill 1974: 31). The use of taboo words, especially on television programs that display movies and newspapers can make provocation for listeners or readers.

The existence of films in the community has a strong position among other communication media. Although many films have negative meanings and use the taboo words contained in them, people still enjoy them. The existence of films containing the word taboo can affect the community on their environment. Of course the impact is people use taboo words that come from movies that they have watched to be used when they make a short or long conversation with others. Most Indonesian people do not understand the meaning of taboo words in English when they speak to others. They just assume that English always sounds cool no matter what, even though the definition of the word is not good. They use taboo words to be considered cool when communicating with others. This is an issue that must be discussed so that people are getting better at sorting words that are appropriate to use when communicating. This is the reason researcher wants to use this case as a title.

One of movies that actively used utterances that contain taboo words in the conversations of its characters was *Deadpool*. The *Deadpool* movie told the story of a man named *Wade Wilson* who was a former member of a special army who left his old job and now worked as a mercenary or rather a paid bouncer. At one point, Wade was involved with super human experiments which resulted in him having a faster response and healing powers (like *Wolverine*). With his new strength, he tried to pursue someone who had destroyed his life.

The reason why researcher wanted to use this film as the object of this research was because it related to the topic of taboo words and each character in the film often used taboo and abusive words with each other. In addition, this movie was included in nine best-selling films in 2016, generating revenues of \$783 million in 2016. Not only that, various good criticisms discussed in this film because it could combine 2 genres in a good way namely action and comedy. This incredible entertainment production film also entered the box office.

The words like *shit*, *fuck*, *bastard* were some of the words that are often found in the *Deadpool* movie. Here some of the pieces of manuscript contain taboo words.

Deadpool : “Oh **Shit!** I forgot my ammo bag.”

Dopinder : “Shall we turn back?”

Deadpool : “No, no time.”

In the conversation above, *Deadpool* suddenly remembered that he forgot to bring his ammo bag. Spontaneously, he said “*Oh, Shit!*” with a little emphasis. It meant that he felt annoyed for forgetting to bring his bag which should not be left behind. He said *shit* not for others but for himself because he was careless. Based on the context of the utterance as described above the intention of *Deadpool*'s utterance was to express annoyance because

he felt annoyed suddenly remembering his bag was left behind. According to Jay (1990), the category of taboo word on the conversation was epithets.

Here another manuscript contains taboo words that are used by other characters in *Deadpool* movie.

Vanessa : "I've been trying to tell you *asshole*, you've got the wrong girl.
My old boyfriend, he's dead."

Francis : "See, I thought that too, but he keeps on coming back.
Like a cockroach but uglier."

The reason why *Vanessa* said *asshole* to *Francis* is because he was a bad guy and with her emotions she insulted him by saying *asshole*. Based on the context of the utterance as described above the intention of *Vanessa's* utterance was to show her dislike to *Francis*. She called him *asshole* because she hated him so much and for her that was an accurate description for bad guy like *Francis*. According to Jay (1990), the category of taboo word in the *Vanessa's* utterance on the conversation was insult and slurs.

In this research, the researcher tried to identify the types of taboo words used by *Wade Wilson's* character in *Deadpool* movie and the motives of using taboo words between *Deadpool* movie. *Deadpool* movie contained an action comedy genre where the story was very interesting and not only monotonous that serves violent acted but also interesting with funny scenes that made the atmosphere was not only terrified but also hilarious.

B. The Problems of the Study

In the relation to the background of the study, the problems were formulated as the following:

- 1) What types of taboo words were used in *Deadpool* Movie?

- 2) What were the motives of the first character in using taboo words based on the context in the movie?

C. The Objectives of the Study

In line with the problems, the objectives of the study are :

- 1) To describe the types of taboo words in *Deadpool* Movie
- 2) To describe the motives of the first character in using taboo words based on the context in the movie.

D. The Scope of the Study

In relation to keep the study on the focus, the limitation of the study was needed. The study investigated about taboo words in *Deadpool*. In this case, the researcher discussed about taboo words from Wade Wilson's and Deadpool's utterances to show types of taboo words and also motives of using taboo words in this movie. The researcher used Jay's (1990) perspective as the theory for analyzing the movie.

E. The Significances of the Study

Regarding the background and the objectives of the study, the researcher expected that the study could contribute a great significance both theoretically and practically.

- 1) Theoretically, the findings add up more horizons to theories of sociolinguistics, particularly the use of taboo words. In addition, the findings could be influenced for further studies.
- 2) Practically, the research would give some benefits for certain parties:
 - To lecturer, this research could be used as a supplementary material for teaching activities especially in sociolinguistics subject.

- To other researchers this research could be used as a valuable reference in investigating the same subject.
- To readers in common, through this research, the readers would have new knowledge about taboo words especially about types of taboo words, and motives of using taboo words in conversation. Moreover, readers would be able to understand that taboo words were bad forms of language that cannot be spoken in any situation.



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