

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter discusses about pragmatics, speech act, context, taboo words, movie, review of *Straight outta Compton* movie, and previous studies. All sections which have been mentioned above are discussed as follows.

A. Pragmatics

Nurhayati and Yuwartatik (2016: 67) state that pragmatics as a subfield of linguistics that learns the ways in which context contributes to meaning. Through this study people can learn the relation between language and context (Levinson, 1983: 9). Leech (1993: 8) in Retnaningsih (2014: 4) states that pragmatics is dealing with the situations including time, place, purpose, and addressee. In addition, Yule (1996: 4), pragmatics is a study about people's goals and kinds of actions that they are performing in conversation.

From the definitions above, it can be concluded that pragmatics is a study about language and its context related to the situation around the conversation. As stated by Jazeri et al (2018: 184) pragmatics is a study of language usage in social life. It helps people to understand the goals and meanings of speech uttered by the speakers.

According to Levinson (1983: 27), pragmatics has several scopes as follows.

1) Deixis

Deixis refers to the context of an utterance. Yule (1996: 10-14) classified three kinds of deixis as follows.

- a. Person deixis as personal pronouns to point people such as *I, he, she, it*.
- b. Spatial deixis to point location by using demonstrative pronouns, *this, these, that, and those*. It can also use adverb of place, *here* and *there*.
- c. Temporal Deixis to point time, such as *now, then, soon, today, and yesterday*.

In movie, the viewers can see the context to understand the deictic expression that characters use in their dialogue. Deixis can be seen in the sentence, “*Nigga, this a dope house that you already disrespecting.*” The word *this* is spatial deixis and *you* is person deixis.

2) Implicature

According to Brown and Yule (1983: 31), implicature used to know what the speakers mean. The goals of conversation can be gained when the speakers and listeners understand each other about what they mean even though they do not express their want literally. The example of implicature can be seen as follows.

Dre : “*We got a cool-ass song though. I think you could hit that shit.*”
 Eazy : “*I’m not sold, Dre.*”

The conversation above contains request from Dre to Eazy to start singing a song. Eazy does not answer directly. The sentence “*I’m not sold, Dre.*” has meaning that he could not help Dre because he could not sing well.

3) Presupposition

Presupposition is something what people assume to be true. It should be assumed by the speakers and listeners to be considered as utterance that suitable with the context, such as “*Have you worked with anybody this decade?*” The presupposition is the listener had once worked with anybody.

4) Speech Act

Speech act is action performed by the speakers when they are talking. It describes the speakers’ intention such as requesting, informing, and promising. For example, “*I’ll call you when I’m on the way to Miami, see about getting you on a flight.*” means that the speaker makes a promise to call the listener later.

5) Conversational Structure

Conversational structure describes as a way how the speakers and listeners negotiate the exchange of meanings in the dialogues to keep flow the conversation. It contains the opening conversation, topic, turn-taking, and closing conversation.

Opening conversation can be seen when the speakers greeting others. Then they talk about some topics for example taking about record and business. In turn-taking, they discuss the topics by knowing when they should talk and stop to talk to let other express their opinion. For the closing conversation they say goodbye.

B. Speech Act

Yule (2010: 133) states speech act is an action performed by the speakers. Speech act helps to understand the possible functions of language by analyzing the kinds of actions that performed in speech (Baktir, 2012: 203). Nurhayati and Yuwartatik (2016: 69) state the relationship between form and function influenced by speech act since it focuses on what people doing when using language. In short, speech act is an action in using language as a way to deliver the intention of communication. It means that people also perform a certain act when they speech an utterance.

Fasold (2013: 162) states Austin proposed three levels of speech act as follows.

1. Locutionary act as an act produced by the speakers when they are uttering a sentence. For example, "*Hey, I grabbed some of your stuff.*" means that the speaker helps to bring the listener's thing.
2. Illocutionary act as action that is dealing with what the speakers meant. For example, "*That's what I'm saying, man. Start a label or something, man.*" Means that the speaker offers the listener to make a label of their record.
3. Perlocutionary act is dealing with the reaction given by the listeners for the speakers' utterance. It produces some reactions on the listeners. For example, "*That's what I'm saying, man. Start a label or something, man.*" means that the speaker performs perlocutionary act to get the listener makes a label of their record.

Searle (1969: 16) as cited in Nurhayati (2014: 54) states that speech act as the basic unit of linguistic communication. It means that the basic unit of communication is not a word or sentence, but speech act. Levinson (1983: 240) divided basic kinds of action into five types that can be performed in conversation based on Searle theory. Those are explained as follows.

- a. Representatives as acts that commit the speakers to something which is being the case such as stating, complaining, and reporting. For example, *“That shit was dope.”* means that the speaker describes his opinion based on his belief that what the listener does is cool.
- b. Directives as efforts of the speakers to make the listeners do something as they want such as ordering, recommending, and advising. For example, *“Get off of me, nigga!”* means that the speaker asks the listener to go away from him.
- c. Comisives as acts to commit the speakers to future actions such as refusing, offering, and promising. For example, *“I will make you legit.”* means that the speaker promises to make the listener cool.
- d. Expressives as expression of what the speakers feel such as thanking, congratulating, and apologizing. For example, *“Nice job, very, very nice.”* means that the speaker congratulates the listener.
- e. Declaratives as kind of acts that change the world by an utterance such as naming, declaring a war, and baptizing. For example, *“I’m out. I’m out of Death Row.”* means the speaker performs the ending of working together.

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that speech act is an action performed by the speakers in an utterance such as informing, requesting, questioning, and promising.

C. Context

Nunan (1993: 7) states that conversation influenced by the situation around that called as context. He divides it into linguistic context connected to the language refers to the utterances and nonlinguistic context connected to the types of communication, topic, purpose, setting, participants, relationship between the speakers and listeners, and background knowledge of the participants. It is in line with Holmes (2013: 9) that states the conversation influenced by participants, setting or social context, topic, and function of why they are speaking. In addition, Cruse (2006: 3) defines that the meaning depends on context becomes the central topic in linguistic pragmatics. Thus, in pragmatics analysis it is crucial because focuses on the meaning of utterances.

From the explanation above, it can be said that context focuses on the meaning of utterances. It cannot be ignored to analyze because different context will also have different meaning. When taboo words uttered in different context, they also have different meaning. They may be used to hurt others or make a joke. When the speakers utter taboo words to their friends, it could be meant as joke to strength their friendship. But when the speakers utter taboo words in anger whether to their friends or others, it can be meant to hurt the listeners. So, taboo

words can have different meanings and functions when uttered in different context.

D. Taboo Words

People usually use impolite words to show their strong emotion. Those impolite words are considered as taboo words. Yule (2010: 260) states taboo words as avoided words connected to politeness and religion. Taboo words considered as offensive words that refer to people's race or sex (*Oxford Advanced Learner's English-Chinese Dictionary*, 2004).

The word *taboo* is borrowed from Tongan, a language of Polynesian, assumes that sacred things forbidden to touch and talk about. According to Wardaugh (2006: 239), taboo is the prohibition in a society of any behavior that is believed to be harmful to use by its member that it would cause trouble and disgraceful. Allan and Burridge (2006: 1) state that the existence of taboo words in society can cause discomfort and injury. It can be said that taboo words are words tabooed to utter since the using of taboo words can hurt others.

People usually utter taboo words in daily life to show their anger, surprise, disappointed, and frustration. They usually utter the words such as *crap*, *fuck*, *damn*, *shit*, *bitch*, *bloody*, *bullshit*, *bastard*, *asshole*, *clit*, and many others. Reasons for uttering taboo words depend on the purpose of the speakers in conversation.

Akmajian et al (2001: 306) state that taboo is determined by culture. Therefore, people should understand the norms that exist in their place,

understand things they should or should not do in their society, and learn words they should use or should not use to communicate with others. A newcomer also should take much attention for these things because the culture and society of different places are also different.

1. Types of Taboo Words

Jay states taboo language as cursing. He divides taboo language into obscenity, profanity, insulting, name calling, swearing, blasphemy, verbal aggression, vulgarity, slang, taboo speech, scatology, and ethnic-racial slurs (Jay 1999: 25). Each type is explained as follows.

- a. Obscenity as a sexual reference such as *cunt* and *motherfucker*.
- b. Profanity as words connected to religious term such as *Jesus* and *God*.
- c. Insulting as words to hurt others by using animal imagery, abnormal physical and psychological such as *dog*, *fatty*, and *fool*.
- d. Name calling as words used to insult someone by calling rude name such as *terrorist* and *commie*.
- e. Swearing as words used to express emotional meaning of the speakers such as *shit* and *damn*.
- f. Blasphemy as words used to disrespect God and something holy such as *Bible* and *Qur'an*.
- g. Verbal aggression as words including name calling and swearing such as *bum* and *fuck*.
- h. Vulgarity as a reflection of street language that used rudely such as saying *kiss my ass* and *suck my dick*.

- i. Slang as popular term commonly used in informal situation such as *pimp* and *cupcake*.
- j. Taboo speech as words connected to some parts of body and sexual activity such as *cock*, *pussy*, and *fuck*.
- k. Scatology as words connected to the process and product of excretion such as *poop* and *piss*.
- l. Ethic-racial slurs as words connected to ethnicity such as *nigger* and *half-breed*.

Moreover, Gao (2013: 2311) writes all varieties of English taboo as follows.

- a. Bodily excretions as words deal with excretions such as *pee* and *poo*.
- b. Death and disease as words deal with death and serious illness such as *die* and *cancer*.
- c. Sex as words deal with sexual anatomy and sexual activity such as *breast* and *having sex*.
- d. Four-letter words as words deal with four-letter words such as *fuck*, *damn*, and *tits*.
- e. Swear words as words deal with cursing and swearing containing taboo words of sex, excretion, four-letter words, bodily part, and name of God. For the examples are *fuck*, *shit*, *damn*, *dick*, and *Jesus*.
- f. Privacy as words deal with personal matters such as *age*, *religion*, and *income*.

- g. Discriminatory language as words deal with discrimination such as *dagos* to call Italian and *japs* to call Japanese.

Furthermore, Battistella (2005: 72) defines taboo words as offensive language that divided into four types. His theory was chosen in this study to analyze the types of taboo words used in *Straight outta Compton* movie. Those four types of taboo words are as follows.

- a. Epithet

Battistella (2005: 72) states epithet is related to gender, ethnicity, sexuality, race, one's appearance, and disabilities. For example *fag*, *bitch*, *motherfucker*, *midget*, *gimp*, *tit*, and *retard*.

- b. Profanity

Profanity considered as religious curse because it usually includes foul-mouthed of what is considered sacred. The purpose of the speakers uttering this type of taboo words is not to vilify God or anything related to religion. It is used to express their emotional response. The examples of profanity are *hell*, *heaven*, *Jesus Christ*, and *God*.

- c. Vulgarity

Vulgarity connected to bodily part used to bring down the thing or individual referred to. People may use the words such as *ass*, *cock*, *clit*, and *dick*.

- d. Obscenity

Obscenity is about the words that considered as lack of morality by mentioning sexual activity and excretion such as *fuck* and *shit*.

2. Functions of Taboo Words

When people use taboo words, there must be a reason that lies behind it. According to Jay (1999: 84), using taboo words can help people to relieve stress, express feelings, and create identities and status by speech. He states that the use of taboo language could be positive if it is used in the sense of humor. It could be negative when it is used to insult others.

Furthermore, Gauthier et al (2015) and Jay & Janschewitz (2008) as cited in Kremin (2017: 21) state that swearing is considered as masculine habit. It means that men usually utter taboo words for showing their masculinity.

Liedlich (1973: 108) defines the goals of taboo words are as follows.

- a. Creating attention means that taboo words used to get public attention.
- b. Discrediting means that taboo words used to discredit someone or institution.
- c. Provoking violent confrontation means that taboo words used to get certain response such as provoking some violent acts.
- d. Term of endearment means that taboo words are not used to insult but to close the relationship between the speakers and listeners.
- e. Creating strong interpersonal identification means that taboo words used to show the identity of the speakers.
- f. Providing catharsis means that taboo words used to express the speakers feelings.

Moreover, Wardhaugh (2006: 239) defines that taboo words have functions to draw attention, to show contempt, to be provocative, and to mock

authority. His theory was chosen in this study to analyze the functions of taboo words used in *Straight outta Compton* movie. Those functions are explained as below.

a. To Draw Attention to Oneself

People sometimes utter taboo words to draw attention to the listeners. Mc Guire (1973: 6) states that the speakers use strong and powerful language with connotations to make an immediate emotional response from the listeners. Connotation is a vague component of the meaning of an object (Nurhayati, 2015: 219). It means that taboo words uttered by people to have strong power in getting the listeners' attention by saying connotations such as saying "Hey you son of *bitch*."

b. To Show Contempt

In conversation, taboo words can be uttered by the speakers to show contempt. According to *Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary* (1995: 249), contempt is the impression in which a person or may be something is totally useless and cannot be regarded. People utter taboo words to insult the addressee because they think that somebody or something is totally worthless and cannot be respected. When people utter taboo words to show contempt, they will insult the addressee that can offend their pride. People may utter sentence such as "You're just a *retarded* kid!".

c. To be Provocative

Taboo words uttered to provoke certain responses from the listeners. They may utter taboo words to provoke fight and anger. The goal of provocative can be said success if the listeners' response is suitable with the speakers' expectation. People may provoke an anger of someone by uttering sentence such as "Hey *stupid ass!* Do you want to fight with me back?"

d. To Mock Authority

Taboo words uttered for expressing profound contempt, rebellion against authority, and irreverence for sacred things (Mc Guire, 1973: 6). From his statement, it can be said that taboo words are also used to express people disappointment to the realities that are different from what they have expected. Therefore, some people may prefer to utter certain taboo words that are directed to mock the authority such as saying sentence "*Fucking stupid politicians!*"

E. Movie

Movie means as a visual communication to entertain people. It usually describes a condition of life that can be as real life or fiction only. According to Graham (2005: 117), movie has function as a method to record people and historical events. Nowadays, many movies are made by the imagination of people that famously called as fiction. However, there are many movies based on true story in real life.

A movie has character, scene, plot, point of view, and conflict. It writes a story about people means that the writer has to create one or a set of character in a movie. It has a part called as scene as a section which is unified by time, setting, and character. In a movie, there is a sequence of events or incidents called as plot. Plot can help the onlooker to understand how is happening in a movie. Movie also has an angle of vision called as point of view. Furthermore, there is a conflict as problem that the character faces with struggle. It allows the onlooker to have the same emotional as what is really happening in the movie.

Burns (2009: 6) defines fives genres of film as follows.

- a. Action adventure that contains physical action and fights.
- b. Comedy that includes romantic comedy (focuses on a romantic relationship) and clown comedy (contains a comic figure).
- c. Drama that focuses on the plot and script. It conveys moral value through emotion.
- d. Horror that allows onlookers to go in horror and terror.
- e. Science fiction that tells about science and technology of the future.

F. Review of *Straight outta Compton* Movie

Straight outta Compton is an American drama released in 2015. It directed by F. Gary Gray. It tells about the real story of five young men who set up a group called N.W.A (Niggaz With Attitud). It shows their effort in translating their experiences in Compton's street, California. They produced hip-hop music with vulgar lyrics that are stirring up public unrest.

The main characters of the movie are Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, Eazy-E, Yella, and Mc Ren, but the narrative here only focuses on Ice Cube, Dr. Dre and Eazy-E. Ice Cube is a high school student. He writes many amazing poems. Dr. Dre is a talented deejay at a local club, but he was unappreciated. Eazy-E is a little runner in the lowest drug trade. They deal with discrimination, violence, and harassment.

This movie tries to show a glimpse of injustices in America as an inspiration of N.W.A to produce hip-hop with vulgar lyrics. In this movie, police are shown repeatedly treating innocent black bystanders in Compton as criminals, harshly throwing them down, handcuffing them, threatening them, and treating them badly. This movie informs us about racial inequality and persecution in America. Besides, it shows the rappers' struggle to shout out the justice.

These five young men collaborate on their songs. Their songs evoke many emotions where happiness, anger, frustration and sorrow come to one's heart. They first get a contract with Jerry Heller. They get many fans and it motivates them to create new songs. Absolutely, their songs trigger a public protest because the lyrics are vulgar and dangerous for young generation. Then, Ice Cube gives clarification that they create art as a reflection of the reality in their life.

The contract with Jerry is done after the song "*Fuck the Police*" was published. Ice Cube refuses to be manipulated by Jerry that only wants to manipulate and use Eazy-E. He pushes away a new contract and leaves the band over the dispute. These five guys split up from their band and start to go on their own contracts. In the end, Eazy-E died after battle with AIDS. It breaks the heart

of his wife, friends, and fans. Then, the movie ends when Dr. Dre out of his group in Death Row to start his own new and fresh thing.

G. Previous Studies

There are some previous studies which are related to this study. The first previous study is a thesis written by Fika Nur Anggita (2015) entitled “A Sociolinguistic Analysis of Taboo Words in *Bad Teacher* Movie” from English Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts Yogyakarta, State University. She applied descriptive qualitative supported by quantitative method to present fixed percentages in numerical form. For the results, she found four types and four functions of taboo words used in *Bad Teacher* movie. Those types of taboo words are obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, and epithet. Obscenity becomes the dominant type of taboo words used in the movie. Then, four functions of taboo words are found to show contempt, to draw attention to oneself, to be provocative, and to mock authority. To show contempt becomes the most function used in the movie.

The second previous study is a journal written by Ni Luh D.S. Giri and Gede Budiasa (2018) entitled “Taboo Words in Movie *Sequels 21 and 22 Jump Street*” from English Department, Faculty of Arts, Udayana University. They applied qualitative supported by quantitative method to present fixed percentages in numerical form. For the results, they found four types of taboo words in the movie. They are obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, and epithet. Four functions of taboo words are also found in the movie. They are to show contempt, to draw attention to oneself, to be provocative, and to mock authority. They found

obscenity as the dominant type of taboo words used in the movie. They did not focus on the dominant function of taboo words in the movie.

The next previous study is a journal written by Kadek Dwi Indrayasa (2018) entitled “The Use of Taboo Words in the Film *Dirty Grandpa*” from English Department, Faculty of Arts, Udayana University. He focused on types, functions, and meanings of taboo words used in the movie. He applied descriptive qualitative method. He found ten types of taboo words namely epithet, profanity, vulgarity, blasphemy, obscenity, cursing, slang, taboo, insult and slur, and scatology. He also found six functions of taboo words. They are to create attention, discredit, provoke violent confrontation, endearment, the creation of strong interpersonal identification and provide catharsis. For the meanings of words he found affective meaning, social meaning, and connotative meaning.

The last previous study is a journal written by Dewi Putri Rahmayani and Fitrawati (2018) entitled “Analysis Types and Functions of Taboo Words in *The Wolf of Wall Street* Movie” from English Departmen, Faculty of Languages and Arts, State University of Padang. They employed qualitative and quantitative method. For the results, they found three types and three functions of taboo words. Those types are obscenity, epithet, and vulgarity. For the functions, they found taboo words to create strong interpersonal, provide catharsis, and draw attention to oneself. The dominant type of taboo words is obscenity and the dominant function is to create strong interpersonal.

The first study written by Fika Nur Anggita (2015) used same method with the second study written by Ni Luh D.S. Giri and Gede Budiasa (2018). They

used descriptive qualitative supported by quantitative method to present fixed percentages in numerical form. They also used same theory to analyze the types and functions of taboo words in the movies they chose. Those theory proposed by Battistella (2005) to analyze the types of taboo words and Wardhaugh (2006) to analyze the functions of taboo words. They also found the same dominant type of taboo words called as obscenity.

For the third study written by Kadek Dwi Indrayasa (2018) used the theory proposed by Jay (1992) to analyze the types of taboo words, Liedlich (1973) to analyze the functions of taboo words, and Leech (1981) to analyze the meanings of taboo words. For the last study written by Dewi Putri Rahmayani and Fitrawati (2018) used the theory of Jay (1995) to analyze the types of taboo words, Liedlich (1973) and Wardhaugh (2006) to analyze the functions of taboo words.

This research has strong relation with a thesis written by Fika Nur Anggita (2015) and a journal written by Ni Luh D.S.G and Gede Budiasa (2018) since the theories used to analyze the types and functions of taboo words are same. Both of them applied qualitative supported by quantitative method to present fixed percentages in numerical form. Even though they used different movies but the results they found are same. Both of them found that the dominant type of taboo words is obscenity. In this research, the researcher interested to analyze the same topic by using same theories, but she takes a different movie. Using different movie means having different context, so the results also will be different. The researcher would like to analyze the types and functions of taboo words in the different movie called *Straight outta Compton* movie. Besides, the researcher

applies descriptive qualitative only without using quantitative method to support the interpretation of data to present fixed percentages in numerical form.