

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter describes the data findings and discussion of the research results. In the findings, it presented the types and functions of taboo words used in *Straight outta Compton* movie. In the discussion section, it discussed about the types and functions of taboo words used in *Straight outta Compton* movie.

A. Findings

1. Data Presentation

In this section, the researcher presented the findings of taboo words used in *Straight outta Compton* movie. This research got 81 data. It divided into types and functions of taboo words used in *Straight outta Compton* movie. The results of this study are presented as the following.

Table 4. Data Presentation of Types of Taboo Word

No	Type	Expression	Indicator
1	Epithet	<i>Motherfucker</i>	Slur related to gender used to attack one's sense of manhood.
2	Epithet	<i>Faggot</i>	Slur related to sexuality refers to homosexuality.
3	Epithet	<i>Nigga</i>	Slur related to the ethnic of an African American.
4	Epithet	<i>Fucker</i>	Slur related to one's appearance uttered for unpleasant person.
5	Epithet	<i>Bitch-ass</i>	Slur related to one's appearance uttered for weak or unmanly men.
6	Epithet	<i>Blood</i>	Slur related to one's appearance refers to a street gang or a bastard.
7	Epithet	<i>Monkey ass</i>	Slur related to one's appearance by using animal imagery, usually addressed to black people who act badly or stupid.
8	Epithet	<i>Bitch</i>	Slur related to one's appearance uttered for unpleasant person.
9	Epithet	<i>Crazy</i>	Slur related to disability/inability which connected to an illness "insane or

			crazy”.
10	Epithet	<i>Nuts</i>	Slur related to disability/inability which connected to an illness “insane or crazy”.
11	Epithet	<i>Clown-ass</i>	Slur related to disability/inability connected to stupidity like a clown.
12	Epithet	<i>Fool</i>	Slur related to disability/inability connected to stupidity.
13	Epithet	<i>Dumb</i>	Slur related to disability/inability connected to stupidity.
14	Epithet	<i>Punk-ass</i>	Slur related to disability/inability connected to stupidity.
15	Epithet	<i>Stupid</i>	Slur related to disability/inability connected to stupidity.
16	Epithet	<i>Whack-ass</i>	Slur related to disability/inability refers to craziness or stupidity.
17	Profanity	<i>Goddamn</i>	An expletive word refers to damnation by God.
18	Profanity	<i>Damn</i>	An expletive word refers to someone who is damned by God.
19	Profanity	<i>Crap</i>	Cursing used irreverent word, the meaning is same as <i>bullshit</i> .
20	Profanity	<i>God</i>	Irreverent word by mentioning God.
21	Profanity	<i>Jesus Christ</i>	Irreverent word by mentioning Jesus Christ.
22	Profanity	<i>Bullshit</i>	Cursing used irreverent word refers to something worthless.
23	Profanity	<i>Hell</i>	Cursing used irreverent word refers to place where sinners suffer after death.
24	Vulgarity	<i>Ass</i>	Refers to bodily part: excretory organ .
25	Vulgarity	<i>Mark-ass</i>	Refers to bodily part: excretory organ , means non tough person.
26	Vulgarity	<i>Assholes</i>	Refers to bodily part: excretory organ .
27	Vulgarity	<i>Jackasses</i>	Refers to bodily part: excretory organ , means stupid.
28	Vulgarity	<i>Dick</i>	Refers to bodily part: sexual anatomy .
29	Vulgarity	<i>Motherfucking</i>	Brings down the thing referred to (sexual anatomy).
30	Vulgarity	<i>Country-ass</i>	Refers to bodily part: sexual anatomy refers to nice butt on a white country girl.
31	Vulgarity	<i>Pussy</i>	Refers to bodily part: sexual anatomy .
32	Obscenity	<i>Fucking</i>	Refers to sexual activity .
33	Obscenity	<i>Fuck</i>	Refers to sexual activity .
34	Obscenity	<i>Shit</i>	Refers to disgusting excretion .

The table above presents four types of taboo words based on Battistella (2005: 72) used in *Straight outta Compton* movie. The characters in the movie uttered taboo words called as epithet, profanity, vulgarity, and obscenity. The most type of taboo words found in the movie is epithet. It appears 16 times as a kind of slur to insult others. It usually used to offend people's appearance and disabilities. The second type used is vulgarity. It appears 8 times by mentioning something vulgarly. The third, profanity appears 7 times as religious cursing. The characters in the movie uttered religious speech to curse someone or something by saying irreverent words. For the last type, obscenity appears 3 times in the movie by mentioning something disgusting like saying about sexual activity and disgusting excretion.

Table 5. Data Presentation of Functions of Taboo Word

No	Function	Expression	Indicator
1	To Draw Attention	"Open the <i> fucking </i> door. Open the door. Hurry up, man."	to get the listener attention to open the door soon.
2	To Draw Attention	"Oh, <i> shit </i> . Hey, that was dope, E."	to draw the listener attention to make him believe the speaker.
3	To Draw Attention	" <i> Fuck </i> y'all, niggas."	to draw the listener attention trying to show that he will do what they want in a pinch.
4	To Draw Attention	"Wait a minute my <i> ass </i> , motherfucker."	to draw the listener attention to stay away from the speaker.
5	To Draw Attention	"She's sucking <i> dick </i> , though."	to draw the listener attention that she is still having time with the speaker.
6	To Draw Attention	" <i> Goddamn </i> ! I will get you your money, man. Just.... <i> Goddamn </i> it!"	to draw the listener attention to stop his action.
7	To Draw Attention	"What the <i> hell </i> is going on out here?"	to draw the listener attention to tell what is

			going on.
8	To Draw Attention	“It’s a start. <i>Damn!</i> Why you riding me so hard?”	to draw the listener attention not to ride the speaker so hard.
9	To Draw Attention	“Hey, can this <i>motherfucker</i> Jerry Heller bring in more pussy?”	to draw attention without any intention to insult the listener.
10	To Draw Attention	“You’re <i>crazy</i> , man. I’m sorry. That is what I can do for you.”	to draw the listener attention to believe what the speaker says.
11	To Draw Attention	“So, look, uh, I gotta tell ya, those little <i>fuckers</i> , they went gold last year.”	to draw the listener attention to believe that he made little groups success last year.
12	To Draw Attention	“Cube was right, <i>fool!</i> ”	to draw the listener attention to believe what Cube and the speaker said.
13	To Draw Attention	“But I ain’t no <i>faggot.</i> ”	to draw the listener attention to believe that he is impossible in that situation because he is not a <i>faggot.</i>
14	To Draw Attention	“Are you fucking <i>nuts?</i> ”	to draw the listener attention that he shouldn’t behave like that.
15	To Draw Attention	“ <i>Jesus Christ</i> , man! What the fuck are you doing, Cube?”	to draw the listener attention to stop doing his action.
16	To Draw Attention	“Oh, my <i>God</i> . What’s going on, man?”	to get the listener attention to tell the speaker about what happened to him.
17	To Draw Attention	“You want some <i>pussy?</i> ”	as a tease to get the listener attention .
18	To Draw Attention	“ <i>Stupid</i> man. Tell your moms to fix this fucking AC.”	As a joke to get the listener attention .
19	To Draw Attention	“Some <i>whack-ass</i> lyrics though, man.”	to draw attention by saying that lyrics will be created insanelly.
20	To Draw Attention	“The flyest one you know, <i>nigga.</i> ”	to draw attention to show their closeness between friends.
21	To Show Contempt	“People used to tell me I was too young when I had you. Said I wouldn’t be <i>shit</i> . Said you wouldn’t be <i>shit.</i> ”	to show contempt that the speaker and the listener wouldn’t be something that totally worthless and can’t be respected.
22	To Show Contempt	“ <i>Fuck</i> you! <i>Fuck</i> you!”	to show contempt that the listener cannot be

			respected.
23	To Show Contempt	“I had a Crenshaw Mafia O.G. get on the bus, pulled a gun out on us, gave a <i>fucking</i> motivational speech and then bumped out.”	to show contempt that the speech of the mafia is totally worthless as threat.
24	To Show Contempt	“I want you to keep these fat <i>asses</i> shaking.”	to show contempt because sexy ladies who dance hotly there can't be respected as prostitutes.
25	To Show Contempt	“I said she got a <i>motherfucking</i> dick in her mouth, nigga!”	to show contempt that the thing is totally worthless.
26	To Show Contempt	“How about you get your <i>country-ass</i> homeboy?”	to show contempt that getting nice butt on a white country girl is totally worthless.
27	To Show Contempt	“We don't hit back with bullets. We hit back with lawyers. We drain these <i>assholes</i> .”	to show contempt of the lawyers that are worthless.
28	To Show Contempt	“I thought that was a job for fucking <i>jackasses</i> .”	to show contempt in order to insult the listener that what he has done is worthless.
29	To Show Contempt	“Hey, can this motherfucker Jerry Heller bring in more <i>pussy</i> ?”	to show contempt that the girls that the speaker is talking about are worthless and cannot be respected.
30	To Show Contempt	“Compton's <i>crap</i> !”	to show contempt that the music talking about Compton is totally worthless.
31	To Show Contempt	“Nigga, them fat niggas was <i>bullshit</i> !”	to show contempt in order to insult the men that the speaker is talking about are worthless.
32	To Show Contempt	“About all you <i>motherfuckers</i> taking up my time, and that's coming outta your pay.”	to show contempt in order to insult the listener and friends that cannot be respected.
33	To Show Contempt	“ <i>Bitch-ass</i> niggas.”	to show contempt that those men that the speaker is talking about are totally worthless.
34	To Show Contempt	“I like that shit. <i>Clown-ass</i> .”	to show contempt in order to insult the listener that considered as stupid person.
35	To Show Contempt	“I wish that <i>dumb</i> shit really would've never popped off between us.”	to show contempt that what happened to the speaker and the listener

			was totally worthless.
36	To Show Contempt	“ Punk-ass niggas, man.”	to show contempt that those men that the speaker talking about are worthless.
37	To Show Contempt	“ Bitch , I just said I wasn’t thirsty!”	to show contempt in order to insult the listener by saying that she is worthless.
38	To Show Contempt	“Y’all niggas ready to die today?”	to show contempt to insult the listeners and show that they are totally worthless.
39	To Show Contempt	“Now, see, I’m this close to firing your monkey ass .”	to show contempt that the listener is worthless.
40	To be Provocative	“ Fuck the police! Fuck the police!”	to provoke people around there to say that word.
41	To be Provocative	“Nigga, fuck Lench Mob. Come here motherfucker .”	to provoke the listener anger.
42	To be Provocative	“What? What the fuck you say, Blood ?”	to provoke the listener anger.
43	To be Provocative	“Whatcha gonna do, mark-ass nigga? Hey.”	to provoke the listener to choose doing what he wants or what the speaker wants.
44	To be Provocative	“Eat a dick .”	to provoke disputation with the listener.
45	To be Provocative	“ Damn , E. Who work for who?”	to provoke the listener to ask someone that he is talking about for taking that matter together.
46	To Mock Authority	“ Fuck the law enforcement community.”	to mock the authority of law enforcement community.
47	To Mock Authority	“Not a fucking lawyer.”	to mock the lawyer authority .

The table above presents all functions of taboo words based on Wardhaugh (2006: 239) used in the movie. Those functions are to draw attention, to show contempt, to be provocative, and to mock the authority. Based on the data, taboo words mostly used to draw attention. It becomes the most dominant functions since it appears 20 times. Taboo words uttered by the characters in the movie to

get the attention from the listeners such as for asking the listeners do what they want. They usually make a joke to tease their friends. It shows that the characters usually utter taboo words to their friends to show their closeness and make their friendship stronger.

For the second, taboo words used to show contempt appears 19 times. The characters utter taboo words to show contempt by insulting the addressee. They utter taboo words while trying to show that the addressee is worthless and cannot be respected.

In the movie, taboo words also used to provoke the listener response. This function appears 6 times to provoke the listener anger and disputation. For the last, taboo words in the movie has a function to mock the authority. The characters utter taboo words to express their disappointed with the reality. It appears only twice to revolt the lawyer and the law enforcement community that aren't suitable with their expectation.

B. DISCUSSION

1. Types of Taboo Words

From the findings above, four types of taboo words based on Battistella (2005: 72) found in *Straight outta Compton* movie. Those types are explained as follows.

a. Epithet

Epithet is taboo words connected to gender, ethnicity, sexuality, race, one's appearance, and disabilities (Battistella, 2005: 72). It is more

powerful than other type of taboo words since it short but strong (Rahmayani & Fitrawati, 2018: 337). Jay (1999: 25) defines words to hurt others by using animal imagery, abnormal physical and psychological called as insulting, for example *dog*, *fatty*, and *fool*. Moreover, Gao (2013: 2311) that states taboo language is about discriminatory language containing word refers to ethnic such as *japs*.

The characters in the movie mostly use epithet as slurs to attack the listeners by talking about gender, sexuality, ethnic, one's appearance, and one's disability. It appears 16 times in the movie. It is mostly used by the characters since the movie tells about five young black men in America. They utter the words such as *motherfucker*, *faggot*, *nigga*, *monkey ass*, and *dumb*.

b. Vulgarity

Vulgarity considered as words connected to bodily part used to bring down the thing or individual referred to, such as *ass*, *cock*, *clit*, and *dick*. Jay (1999: 25) states vulgarity is street language uttered rudely such as saying *kiss my ass* and *suck my dick*. Gao (2013: 2311) also writes sex as the variety of taboo language that refer to sexual anatomy and sexual activity such as *breast* and *having sex*.

In the movie, vulgarity stands in the second position used by the characters. It appears 8 times. The characters in the movie tend to use vulgarity by mentioning sexual anatomy and excretory organ such as *dick*, *pussy*, *country-ass* and *asshole*.

c. Profanity

Profanity considered as religious curse to express people emotional response. Battistella (2005: 72) defines that profanity is religious cursing involves the rude use of sacred things. In line with him, Jay in Doyle (2006: 2-3) states profanity as taboo words used to express the use of religious term in irreverent. The examples of profanity are *hell*, *heaven*, *Jesus Christ*, and *God*.

In the movie, the characters also utter profanity that known as religious speech used when they are shocked or upset with the situation. It stands in the third position that appears 7 times in the movie. They utter words such as *God*, *damn*, *crap*, and *hell*.

d. Obscenity

Obscenity is words considered as lack of morality by mentioning sexual activity and excretion such as *fuck* and *shit*. Rahmayani & Fitrawati (2018: 338) write that obscenity is most aggressive and rarely used in public. Moreover, Jay (1999: 25) explains this type is considered as sexual reference such as *cunt* and *motherfucker*.

In the movie, the use of obscenity becomes the least type uttered by the characters. It appears only 3 times. The characters utter this type by mentioning sexual activity and excretion such as *fucking*, *fuck*, and *shit*.

From the explanation above, it can be seen that the dominant type of taboo words used in *Straight outta Compton* movie is epithet since it appears 16 times. On the contrary, obscenity becomes the least type used in the movie. It is different

with the previous studies that found obscenity as the dominant type used by the characters. Anggita (2015) found that obscenity has the biggest number of appearance in *Bad Teacher* movie. In her opinion, obscenity becomes the most effective way to insult others. Besides, she found epithet as the least type used in the movie. Giri & Budiasa (2018) also found obscenity as the dominant type used in *21 and 22 Jump Street* movie. In addition, Rahmayani & Fitrawati (2018) found obscenity as the highest number used in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie and vulgarity as the least.

2. Functions of Taboo Words

The functions of taboo words become the second focus in this study. Based on the findings, four functions based on Wardhaugh (2006: 239) appear in *Straight outta Compton* movie. Those functions are explained as follows.

a. To Draw Attention

According to Mc Guire (1973: 6) the speakers use strong and powerful language with connotations to make an immediate emotional response from the listeners. In line with him, Liedlich (1973: 108) explains that taboo word can be used to get public attention. He also states that taboo words as term of endearment that used to make the relationship between the speakers and listeners closer than before. From their explanation, it can be said 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*."

In the movie, taboo words used to draw attention stands as the highest function used by the characters that appears 20 times. They utter taboo words as strong emotion to draw the listeners' attention. They intend to ask the listeners to do something they want. Besides, they also intend to tease and make a fun to others. It becomes the most used in the movie because they utter taboo words to their friends or somebody that have strong relation with them.

This function of taboo word can be seen in the following expression.

- a) "Open the *fucking* door. Open the door. Harry up, man."
- b) "*Stupid* man. Tell your moms to fix this *fucking* AC."

In the example a) taboo word used to get the listener attention to open the door soon. In the example b) taboo word used as a joke because it uttered to get the speaker's friend attention.

b. To Show Contempt

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. Liedlich (1973: 108) states taboo word can be used as discrediting. It means that taboo words used to dishonor someone or institution.

In the movie, the second position of taboo words has function to show contempt that appears 19 times. It is an insult to offend the listeners

pride by showing that they are cannot be respected and totally worthless. It is by one point from the highest function. From its appearance, it can be concluded that this function is effective to hurt someone's pride such as by saying "*Bitch*, I just said I wasn't thirsty!"

c. To be Provocative

Taboo words uttered to provoke certain responses from the listeners. They may utter taboo words to provoke 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?" It is in line with Liedlich (1973: 108) that states taboo words aimed to provoke confrontation. It means that taboo words used to get certain response from the listeners.

In the movie, the function of taboo words as provocative stands in the third position that appears 6 times. It is used to provoke an emotional response from the listeners. Taboo words can be the strong words to provoke some violent acts such as by uttering "Nigga, fuck Lench Mob. Come here *motherfucker.*"

d. To Mock Authority

According to Mc Guire, (1973: 6, taboo words uttered for expressing profound contempt, rebellion against authority, and irreverence for sacred things. 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!*”

In the movie, the function of taboo words to mock authority becomes the least used because it appears only twice. It happens because the movie focuses in the friendship matter of five young men to hold their career, not focuses on authority criticism. The characters in the movie utter taboo words to mock authority such as by uttering “*Fuck the law enforcement community.*”

From the explanation above, it can be seen that the dominant function of taboo words in the movie is used to draw attention from the listeners. It is different with the previous studies. Anggita (2015) found the most function appears in *Bad Teacher* movie is to show contempt and the least is to mock authority. She writes that taboo words mostly used to show disrespect to others. In addition, Rahmayani & Fitrawati (2018) found taboo words to create strong interpersonal as the most function used in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie. It means that they found taboo words mostly used to create the speakers identity.

The discussion above informs that types and functions of taboo words depend on the context of the conversation. *Straight outta Compton* is a movie tells about five young black men struggle in holding their career against discrimination in America. The characters in the movie mostly used epithet as slurs related to race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, one’s appearance, and disabilities.

The movie tells that discrimination in America exist by uttering taboo words and treating black people badly. Ajrouh & Ismail (2010) and Clark & Williams (1999) as cited in Smith et al (2020) state that racial discrimination is a common pressure on American Africans. In the movie, the characters mostly insult black people by calling their name *nigga*. In addition, they insult black people using taboo words connected to one's appearance such as saying *bitch-ass* to attack unmanly men and *fool* to show disability.

The movie also shows that policemen in America treat them as criminal. They attack whoever black people stand in street. They treat innocent black men as criminals by handcuffing them, threatening them, and treating them badly. Brunson (2007: 95) writes that based on young men explanation, police often threat them by using violence to reach compliance and as an investigative tool. From this phenomenon, police and society consider the majority of black people involved in the crime. This case called as "black matter". The elimination of serious violence in the city on "black matter" may have only a superficial response or, worse still, was ignored by the police department (Braga & Brunson, 2015:2).

The function of taboo words in the movie mostly used to draw attention to their friends. The speakers utter strong and powerful language with connotations to make an immediate emotional response from the listeners (Mc Guire, 1973: 6). It happens since the movie focuses in the friendship of five men where they can also use taboo words as joke to strength their friendship. Carnaghi & Fasoli (2011) and Saucier et al (2015) as cited in Kremin (2017: 22) state that slurs may

have function to bring a group of men closer and create a group by how masculine they are.

Based on the theory explained in the Chapter II, the researcher gets the point that the meaning of an utterance in different situation has different meaning. The situation around that influences the conversation called as context. It cannot be ignored to analyze the meaning of an utterance. Since the movie in this research has different theme from the previous studies, the dominant type and function of taboo words used are different.