

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

As we know that child language is influenced by some factors from their surrounding as has discussed in chapter before. And this chapter will discuss more about the theory of taboo language used by children.

#### **2.1 REVIEW OF RELATED THEORY**

##### **2.1.1 Taboo words**

People often need ways to express themselves or to communicate with another. Everyone has different style to communicate. Taboo words or ‘dirty words’ or some people called as ‘curse words’ are the word to express certain meaning in the communication. Those words mostly refer to insult someone or something. The English word “taboo” itself derives from the Tongan tabu, which came to notice towards the end of the eighteenth century. The taboo word appears because there is an emotional, joke, pain and any other reactions that make people produce those words. Taboo word normally used by adult but nowadays so many children use that word as adult use. According to Leach in *The Psychology of Language* book by Jay, he says that:

Used a sociocultural model to explain how animal names are used as insult. The guiding principle is that of taboo, forbidden behavior and speech. The speech associated with any taboo behavior is also taboo. Taboos produce social norms of avoidance, and they also become personally relevant. Taboos become embodied through the process of classically conditioned avoidance. The more frequent the pairing of taboo term and behavior with negative consequences, the stronger the avoidance of the taboos. The culture’s values are represented in taboo on language (2003:463).

In Leach views, taboo is some word—animal names or something else—that used for describing something to insult. Many animal names are used as insult for example pig, ass, cow, horse so on. Actually taboo is negative word, and it is forbidden to speech but this occur also become personal choice to produce them or not. People especially adult, they often use taboo words to express themselves in communication. Adult do not only use that word to express bad thing but they often use for joke, name calling, vulgarity, or swearing. In addition, Read views in Fairman, he says that, the taboo persists because there is an emotional reaction, or “fearful thrill,” that generates from speaking the forbidden word. If you use the word to insult someone or to feel the thrill of doing something that is forbidden, you are actually observing the taboo; this is often labeled as “inverted taboo.” Thus, the taboo word is perpetuated through both its use and nonuse (2009:46).

From the previous statement, according to read, in emotional and fearful reaction, people often express the forbidden word in their speaking. Those words used to insult or to make sensation in their speech. If those words used not only in emotional condition, it is meant that the user of those word actually observing the taboo because those words actually not only use in negative condition but it also use for other situation although just for joke. Furthermore, Roger states in his book, the most common and recognized form of taboo, in language, is cursing. Cursing is an important part of all languages in both cultural and communicative realm. It play role in humor in many cultures, it is used to insult and to tease, also bond with other member of society (2010:1).

In Roger views, in the previous paragraph, cursing or insulting is used not only to express the emotion but it is to shoe some humor or to insult someone in

their cluster or another of that. Taboo words commonly used by adult, but nowadays children often used those words to express their speech. They begin to utter those words when they acquire from their surrounding.

From both statements, Jay, Read and Roger theories, the researcher conclude that taboo is took from names of animal or something else that mostly has negative meaning. Taboo or curse words sometimes used to express emotion, although it is has another purpose to express those words. For example, used for joke, feel a pain, call a name of friend and so on. Those words regularly used in a group in a certain society. Taboo words commonly used by adult, but nowadays many children also use those words. If children already use those negative words, although they do not know the meaning of the words, it is meant that the children often heard those words, because children are always imitating word or sentences from their surrounding. And they produce spontaneously what they heard before, they will save what their heard and they will produce it in another occasion. As in Slobin and Welsh in Clark argument, they say that, the child they studied could not always imitate sentences she herself had produced spontaneously on other occasions (1977:336).

Children are often has an interaction with their surrounding. They also study language most from the society. They acquire all what they heard and they will produce it, although it is a good or a bad thing. Children are producing language always by imitating from people around. They produce spontaneously what they heard in another occasion because in his mind they do not know the meaning of that word. For instance, it is occurs in car when the father talk to the mother and there is the son hear the conversation.

Father: Where did you learn to drive, asshole?!

Mother: Hmmm

Father: (The father immediately turns to the child and says) Do not EVER repeat that word to your mother!

From that example above, the child will take note of the new and unknown word 'asshole' and remember that for some reason. When the father says that he is not allowed to say it, he would never produce it in front of the father but he will produce in another occasion, for examples when he plays with his friend in play ground. From this example shows that child language really influenced by adult, although 'bad' words or 'good' words because children are never imitating their language by themselves, their always imitate the language from people around.

Taboo can be classified into some part, according to Wardhaugh (2006:239). He says that, tabooed subjects can vary widely: sex; death; excretion; bodily functions; religious matters; and politics. Tabooed objects that must be avoided or used carefully can include your mother-in-law, certain game animals, and use of your left hand (the origin of sinister). From Wardhaugh's statement, he says that, taboo can be classified into subject matter and object matter. Here the researcher will give an example of each:

- a) Sex: this term refers to sexual activities. In Javanese, this word taboo refers to some words such as: Jangkrik (making love or exclamation used as a euphemism for diancuk).
- b) Death: this term refers to something that makes afraid to people who hear that word. For instance: matek or modhar (you are death), tak pateni (kill you).

- c) Bodily functions: refers to human's organ such as: tol (nick name for boy, cock), wok (nick name for girl, vagina).
- d) Religious matter: this part refers to the God.
- e) Excretion: this part has connected with human excretory. In Javanese such as: taek (excrement), kopoken (ear-ache), entut (flatus), and so on.
- f) Mother-in-law: this part used to woman who make affair. In Javanese such as: sundel, perék (a kind of ghost).
- g) Certain game animals: this term refers to names of animal. In Javanese such as: asu kowe (you are dog), wedus kowe (you are goat).
- h) The left hand (the origin of sinister): this last part refers to sign something by using hand (finger). Such as showing middle of finger by saying fucking you!! (sexuality).

Those theories needed to identify about taboo words in this research, but in this thesis the research took Wardhagh's theory to analyze this problem statement mostly about taboo words. From that theory, this research can identify the kind of taboo words and the meaning of those taboo words. In this thesis, taboo words theory does not enough to analyze the data, context theories also needed to identify in this research.

### **2.1.2 Context of speech**

Context is the setting of the discussion in conversation. Related to Clark in Jay's, he argues that, the topic of discussion in conversation—the joint project—is people are talking about and what they are trying to achieve by conversing. Joint project exist in conversation layers that can shift and establish a new common

ground. Common ground shift to accommodate the circumstances and the parties with whom we are conversing. The way we learn to converse is also a culture model that specifies the who, what, where, and when of speaking (2003:451). In Clark views, context is important thing that needed for people who are doing some conversation. The rules that occur when conversation is the court of the conversation are the object, the place, and the time of speaking. When the conversation occurs between one another, it may have different meaning in the conversation. Context also refers to the culture model, by different person, different place and different time, the meaning of the speech may be different also. Furthermore, in Nunan views about context, it is an important concept in discourse analysis. Context refers to the situation giving rise to the discourse, and within which the discourse is embedded (1993:7). This statement above explains that, to understand the speech, context is really needed and context will make sense the conversation. Comparing emotional speech is also can be responsive from the context. People who use taboo word expresses is not always in emotional condition, but depend on the context, it can be seen the purpose of the word.

In Gleason's, Ferenczi states that, differential emotional context of language acquisition appears to be a sufficient explanation for greater emotionality of words and expressions in the L1. However, the implications for taboo words are not obvious (*passim*). The statement before shows that, emotion can be understood from the language acquisition which people have and it is appears to explain the condition of the speech. Most people express their emotion in their first language because first language is their native language that easily to produce and express by another way. In addition, Jay states in Roger's, people

curse to express emotion. It so happens that the most common emotion cited as a cause for cursing is anger (*passim*). From this statement, Jay show that ‘bad’ ‘curse’ or ‘taboo’ word mostly expresses in emotional context although not at all use for it. For instance, if a person is walking and trips on a crack in the sidewalk, stubbing his or her toe, he or she may be injured and angry all at once. His or her gut reaction may be release an expletive (fuck).

The phenomenon above shows that we should examine the urge to use a curse in the first place. That words expresses caused by pain, which trigger a gut reaction to release emotion. People tend to release such strong and short lived emotion through curses. It could be the case that a curse word can have so much power that uttering it causes. From the statement above, Pinker support by his argument and he states, the reason curse words lend such an effective release of emotion is because they have such great power. Then, people use ‘curse’ or ‘bad’ or ‘taboo’ words as a way to release emotion. It is show that that people have a great power. But taboo words not only express for emotional condition. There are also used in joke, slang, and some people used to insult. So many people used them for humors to a situation in some group of people depend on the context. From those statements above show that context very needed to express some speech, because some word or sentences which produce in different context will also appears different meaning. Taboo words or dirty words mostly used to express emotional condition, but just because some language is forbidden, it does not mean that it will never be heard. Those words may be used in context to context.

In jay's view, he says that, to demonstrate the power of context on appropriateness, I design an experiment to measure how the likelihood of using taboo words depended on who was speaking and where they were speaking (Ibid.452). For instant, college students' speech changes from context to context. What student talk about depends on who is listening (e.g student, junior, professor). And who is talking. Where the conversation takes place (e.g., dean's office, parking lot, dorm room) is also important. Furthermore, According to Hymes in Bauman and Sherzer, he adapted, rearranged, and extended his earlier model of a speech event, devoting attention also to the problem of the social locus of description. As reformulated, the framework is coded mnemonically by SPEAKING thus:

Setting or Scene

Participants or Personnel

E Ends (both goals/purposes and outcomes)

Act Characteristics (both the form and the content of what is said)

Key (tone, manner, or spirit in which an act is done)

Instrumentalities (channel and code)

Norms of Interaction and of Interpretation

Genres (categories types of speech act and speech event).

By using these tools (SPEAKING) to analyze one unit, such as particular speech community, this theory able to learn more about how people communicate and how that communication is often patterned. From those theories above, it will describe more about Hymes theory because this theory gives a good contribution to the research and help the researcher to analyze the factor of taboo used by



someone. This research does not need to use all the unit of SPEAKING theory, to identify the speech, the analyzing enough use some of the toll depend on the speech or conversation. For example, in some member of group, the research can focus on PAS component which describe P, who the participant are, A, how the action, and then S, setting which is taken from when and where the speech took.

Then this theory makes the research easily to analyze the data. Although, the theory useful to this research, a good manner to analyze are also support this research. Then, by using qualitative manner that would be helped this research, and the source of the data taken from recording, transcribing and fragmenting.

## **2.2 REVIEW OF RELATED RESEARCH**

This thesis used Ifan Yuwanto thesis (2003:21), who is analyze about taboo words and swear words produced by the people in Krian market. In his analyzing, he interested to discuss about taboo words used further. Firstly, he wants to know the different between taboo words and swearing words. Secondly, he eager to know the condition when and where the people in Krian used the swearing words. And the last, he also wants to know the motivation of using swearing words. In addition, this research also used Yolanda Charlin David thesis (2002: 1-29). Her thesis also interested to describe about taboo words in specific topic, that is: the use of taboo words by Sangiheri living at Perak Surabaya. In her thesis, she would like to describe three parts of taboo words used. First, the kind of taboo words used in Sangiheri. Second, the reason of using the words and the last is the condition of Sangiherese used taboo words.