

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Theoretical Description

1. Sociolinguistics

The field of study known as sociolinguistics is focused on how language and the environment are used in interaction (Mu'in et al., 2019). So it investigates how language and society are related. Sociolinguistics explains that the way everyone speaks is different from one another. The study of sociolinguistics has demonstrated a systematic connection between linguistic form variations and the social characteristics of speakers, as seen in variances in social interactions, social events, and so on (Fairclough, 1989). According to Holmes (2013), sociolinguistics aims to advance a theory that offers a motivated account of how language is used in a community and individuals' choices when using it. Based on Wardhaugh & Fuller (2015), the main topic in sociolinguistics is the relationship between the structure, vocabulary, and ways of using a particular language and the society of men and women who speak that language.

2. Language and Gender

Language is simply a tool for interacting and communicating, which aims to convey some things, such as opinions, ideas, or suggestions (Eckert & Ginet, 2003). Meanwhile, gender refers more to the differences in the characters of men and women based on culture, which is related to the nature of their status, position, and role in society (Holmes, 2013). Sociolinguistics posts language concerning how it is used in the community and sees language as a communication system. Women tend to speak using more words, reinforcement, and questions than men (Ehrlich et al., 2014). In addition, women's language shows the impression of

politeness. However, men speak without paying more attention to grammar and use slang words.

Language affects how we conduct ourselves publicly (Eckert & Ginet, 2003). The speaker's gender influences word differences. Gender has an impact on language usage and variance. Gender and language are interrelated (Litosseliti, 2013). The language used by men and women differs in ways that are already common knowledge in our society. However, each uses a unique set of language characteristics to communicate.

3. Masculinity and Femininity

Gender includes both femininity and masculinity. Generally, masculine is described as a typical male gender and feminine as female (Reeser, 2010). People are labeled masculine if they appear and act like men, while feminine people look and act like women. According to Paechter (2007), a person's masculinity or femininity is not innate or unnatural but something that is learned constantly reworked and applied to ourselves. Masculinity and femininity are active states. Masculinity and femininity are what we do, how we appear and think of ourselves at certain times and places (Paechter, 2007). Male characters who are more feminine or female characters who are more masculine are familiar.

Anyone might determine if a person is masculine by the way they speak. According to Coates (2013), the masculine side can be visible in five different ways: in the conversational topics they choose, in their monologue and expert roles, in their questioning, in their use of strong swear words, and their verbal sparring.

a. Topic choice

According to Coates (2013), masculine people typically avoid discussing personal matters and instead prefer discussing broader subjects like politics, sports, automotive, technology, or

the economy. A masculine people discourse turns personal when it is pertinent to the circumstance. Masculine people typically have a limited vocabulary regarding words that describe color, needlework, or fashion. Masculine women usually talk about significant subjects more often than feminine women do.

b. Monologue and playing the expert

A monologue is a variety of discussions in which the speaker speaks at length. Masculine people typically like to talk in the expert role and monologue about topics they have particular experience with (Coates, 2013). Masculine people also favour highlighting their accomplishments. When performing a monologue, they typically give the other person a little or nonexistent answer. For example, *cos you know we've got BT internet at home (mhm), and I've set it up so that. Um, through the BT internet WAP portal so that Kate can read. Her email that she gets.*

c. Question

When someone performs a monologue, questions arise because it encourages the other person's curiosity. When speaking, everyone must have questions. However, depending on the person's gender, the question is typically phrased differently. Women ask questions in a manner that differs from how males do. Women usually ask in various ways, but their main objective is always to learn more. Women typically ask inquiries in the form of tag questions because they occasionally are aware of the solution but are not sure of it (Lakoff, 2004). Because of this, women frequently convert their inquiries into statements, leaving the other person with a "yes or no" choice. Men prefer to ask questions when they genuinely don't know the answer; therefore, they ask to gain information, whereas women

typically inquire using a generic format in the form of an actual question (Coates, 2013). Typically, masculine people ask questions to get to the point and provide specific information (Coates, 2013). People who tend to be masculine will ask questions when essential and utilize the format of questions to receive the information they want. For example, *do you know of the Pennsylvania experiment? Why are you so loyal to Nokia?*

d. Strong swear words

According to Coates (2013), men or women who look masculine often use swear words that differ from those used by women. Masculine people use strong swear words to describe their emotions, but women use nice and subtle swear words. These expressions include *"God damn it," "Shit," and "Fuck"*. For example, *fucking 'ell, harsh that . . . , bit harsh that.*

e. Verbal sparring

In certain situations, men debate verbally more than women (Coates, 2013). They do this to demonstrate their strength in the discussion and avoid appearing weak to the opposing partner. In a conversation, if we disagree with the other person, we could argue by stating our thoughts. However, if the other person also disagrees with our opinions, there will be a debate, not a fight but a cordial debate. For example, *Ray: crate! Sam: case! Ray: what? Sam: they come in suits, Ray, not bins. Ray: oh, same if you must be picky over every one thing. Sam: just shut your fucking head, Ray! Ray: don't tell me to fuck off fuck (. . .)*

4. Women's Language Features

Some research has been conducted to investigate the differences in the language characteristics of men and women. According to Lakoff (2004), women utilize several aspects of

language to differentiate women's language from men's. In the study, Lakoff (2004) mentioned ten characteristics of language used by women, such as:

a. Lexical hedges or fillers

According to Lakoff (2004), women frequently make expressions that indicate they are unsure of what is being stated. This category of words includes, *I think, well, you know, like, sort of, I suppose, probably, I guess* and the others. People can use these words if they lack confidence, which everyone occasionally does (Lakoff, 2004). Because they have been conditioned to believe that exerting themselves firmly is not a desirable or graceful thing, women utilize it more frequently.

b. Tag question

The question tag is a phrase used to emphasize the end of a sentence. A person makes a statement when a person has confidence in his knowledge and is reasonably sure that his statement will be believed (Lakoff, 2004). It is frequently used to get consent or confirm data. For example, *aren't, right, don't we?* And other questions.

c. Precise color terms

English contains female languages at every level (Lakoff, 2004). Women are thought to be more attentive and thorough than men. This is evident from the extensive vocabulary that women have regarding color. Most men might only be able to identify primary hues like *red, white, blue, and purple*. However, women have more color options. *Broken white, lavender, beige, maroon, nude,* and other colors are among them (Lakoff, 2004).

d. Empty adjectives

Women often use the empty word adjective to indicate that they accept and admire something (Lakoff, 2004). Empty adjectives convey emotional reactions rather than specific information, and are neutral to the speaker's gender. They focus on conveying affective meanings rather than important meanings. These words include *beautiful, fantastic, lovely, charming, divine, sweet*, and so forth.

e. Rising intonation on declarative

The high intonation pattern is employed in sentences when women use a statement with a question structure. Women frequently transform declarative responses into questions, such as "*yes*" or "*no*," question to respond to a question. Women often make statements like these because, as Lakoff (2004) said, they are unclear about what they are saying. Even though the speaker might be the only person with the essential information, it gives the impression that someone is seeking confirmation. For instance, *When will dinner be ready? Oh, around seven o'clock?*

f. Intensifiers

Intensifiers seem to amplify utterances or sentences (Lakoff, 2004). Adverbs called intensifiers are used to highlight certain adjectives, verbs, or other adverbs. Such include *very, really, so, entirely, utterly*, and other terms containing intensifiers. Women use intensifiers more than men. Women often use it only as reinforcement to emphasize, to reinforce the intended meaning (Holmes, 2013).

g. Hypercorrect grammar

Using English in line with established standards is known as hypercorrect grammar. Many studies have found that

women are more likely than men to use formal language. Women should not use harsh language (Lakoff, 2004). If a man says *singin'*, a woman will respond with the actual word, *singing* with the g-word at the end. Besides that, women typically utilize common phrases based on the structure of their grammatical usage.

h. Superpolite forms

Extremely polite language is something that ladies are expected to employ. Women should frequently use words like *please, thank you, and will you...?* to respect social conventions. Standard procedure dictates that requests should be made in polite discourse and then left to the recipient's discretion (Lakoff, 2004). *Will you close the door?* For instance, in the following sentence. If you phrase it positively, you assume that the recipient would say "yes" and agree to help the speaker.

i. Emphatic stress

When a speaker is unclear about what he is saying, emphatic stress might be used to highlight a statement (Lakoff, 2004). As a result, his adversary will believe all he says. The phrase "*It was a brilliant performance*" is an example. Brilliant is used as an emphatic stress to highlight the word performance.

j. Avoidance of strong swear words

According to Lakoff (2004), swear words are employed to stress a point. Typically, using this word to criticize something or someone. *Oh my goodness, oh dear*, and similar expressions are used by women more frequently than *shit, dammit*, and other terms in this context. Apart from those who reject masculine women, it's noteworthy to observe that women use men's language more frequently, while men do not generally adopt women's language (Lakoff, 2004).

According to Parab (2015), women utilize four major languages to differentiate women's language from men's. The four major in women's language features are phonology, vocabulary, grammar, and conversational topics and styles.

a. Phonology

According to Parab (2015), in phonology, pronunciation, pitch, and tone are the most prominent features of women's language.

1) Pronunciation

Women's and men's pronunciations generally differ, and women tend to be more "correct" or standardized than men (Parab, 2015). For example, when it comes to the initial [h], men and women pronounce it differently. When it comes to the term "*home*," women say [hum], while males say [um]. In short, numerous research has proven that female pronunciation is more similar to standard English than male pronunciation.

2) Pitch

According to several research, the high pitch employed to turn statements into inquiries is characteristic of female language (Parab, 2015). Women frequently make remarks like this because, as Parab (2015) noted, "strange sentence intonation patterns that turn declarative answers into questions" are employed by women due to their doubts. It is also present in our society. "*When do you want to go to school?*" a father can ask his daughter, and she answers, "*How about five-thirty?*"

3) Tone

Tones in women's voices can be changed to express their emotions. In addition, women usually use higher tones

while responding to men's questions (Parab, 2015). Women typically respond to inquiries with rising intonation rather than decreasing intonation because women can demonstrate tenderness in this way (Parab, 2015). For example, “*You have to do the best!*”, Obviously, when parents encourage and motivate their children before a test, they will use a high tone because it shows that they love their children and want them to be excited. Furthermore, when the child hears it, they will feel more at ease.

b. Vocabulary

Based on Parab (2015), women's language features in vocabulary are mostly observed in using intensifiers, adverbs and adjectives, expletives, euphemisms and polite terms.

1) Intensifiers

Intensifiers are used to make speech or sentences more powerful. Women utilize intensifiers more often than males (Parab, 2015). Some adjectives are more common in female languages, such as *awfully*, *pretty*, *extremely*, *very*, *good*, *enough*, etc. Women frequently utilize it to emphasize and reinforce the intended message.

2) Adverb and adjective

Parab (2015) states that women are more likely to utilize intensifiers and hyperbolic adjectives. A woman, for example, might thank the hostess for one dinner by saying, “*This is amazing food,*” or “*Thank you a lot.*” According to studies, women are more likely to use adjectives like *adorable*, *cute*, *divine*, *dreamy*, *stunning*, *heavenly*, *cool*, *terrific*, *lovely*, *great*, *wonderful*, and so on.

3) Expletives

According to Parab (2015), women are more cautious and avoid harsh statements than men. This expression is similar to *My darling, my goodness*. Kindness is frequently used in women's language. These nasty words and attitudes were frowned upon. More women use "*Oh, honey*" to communicate their strong emotions.

4) Euphemism and polite expression

Euphemism is one method of substituting one implicit, ambiguous term for another (Parab, 2015). Women use the euphemism substitution. For example, women say "*other place*" instead of "*hell*" or "*I fell off the roof*" to signify "*menstruation.*" Women are more likely to speak politely (Parab, 2015). Besides that, women are more likely to communicate well. They frequently utilize polite expressions like "*thank you,*" "*please,*" "*you are so kind,*" "*would you...*", "*would you mind...*", "*Would you mind...*", and *the like* (Parab, 2015).

c. Grammar

Linguists discovered that women use the following grammatical structures, including tag questions, hedges, and hypercorrect grammar, after analyzing linguistic data collected by experts (Parab, 2015).

1) Tag question

A tag question is between a statement and an outright question in grammar and usage (Parab, 2015). The question tag appears in the middle of a statement and is a direct question in both syntax and usage: *the sky is amazing*. They use the tag when a speaker makes a claim but is not completely confident in its honesty. As a result, in some

cases, the question tag is the completely valid form of the statement. Women utilized a different type of tag question than males. For instance, *right? Isn't it?* The idea is to communicate uncertainty (Parab, 2015).

2) Hedges

According to Parab (2015), hedges are words that convey the idea that the speaker is uncertain about what they are saying or cannot guarantee the accuracy of a statement, such as "*kind of,*" "*sort of,*" "*you know,*" "*I think,*" "*I guess,*" "*I suppose,*" and others. Hedges appear more frequently in female speech.

3) Hypercorrect grammar

Using hypercorrect grammar to avoid phrases considered vulgar or coarse, such as "ain't," and using accurate pronunciation (Parab, 2015). According to numerous research, women are more inclined than men to employ formal language. A woman will answer a man saying *singin' and goin'* with the actual word, *singing and going* with the g-word at the end.

d. Conversational topic and style

Speech acts while speaking will reveal gender identity, and linguistic aspects in dialogue will help us learn more (Parab, 2015). Two factors typically distinguish women's speech acts there are subject and discourse.

1) Subject

Women are thought to be more attentive and thorough than men. Parab (2015) states that men and women talking differently when they speak. Typically, men are unfamiliar with terms such as materials, colors, sewing, makeup, and fashion. Men generally are familiar with words

related to automotive, sports equipment, and construction equipment (Parab, 2015). Males are more likely to employ subjects that are considered important and meaningful. Besides that, other topics are generally controversial for women to discuss, including sex, death, religious, and political issues. Women are typically embarrassed and awkward when starting sex-related talks since they are regarded as triggering negative stigma.

2) Discourse

According to Parab (2015), conversation for women is a negotiation for connection in which people try to find and provide affirmation and support and reach an agreement. When conversing or discussing, women often divide the bigger group into multiple smaller conversation groups (Parab, 2015). This is because women prefer to focus on talks so that, in a small group, they are deemed more active, and no one is the audience. In contrast, men tend to utilize patterns in which there is one speaker in a group and the others as the listener during a conversation or discourse.

Based on the explanation, several theories discuss women's language features, including Lakoff's (2004) and Parab's (2015) theories. The researcher use both of the theories to analyze the data of the research. The researcher chose similar indicators from the two theories and found the most potential research indicators. In this study, distinct indicators are not employed to examine data. Eight indicators are similar to the theories Lakoff (2004) and Parab (2015) mentioned regarding women's language features.

a. Hedges

Lakoff (2004) and Parab (2015) suggest that women use expressions such as *"I think," "well," "you know," "kind of,"*

"*sort of*," "*I guess*," "*I suppose*," and others to indicate they are unsure of what is being said. Hedges are words that convey the idea that the speaker is uncertain about what they are saying or cannot guarantee the accuracy of a statement and appear more frequently in female speech.

b. Tag question

According to Lakoff (2004) and Parab (2015), a tag question is a phrase used to emphasize the end of a sentence. It is used when a speaker makes a claim but is not confident in its integrity. Women use a different type of tag question than males, such as *Right? Isn't?* It communicates uncertainty. The question tag is used to get consent or confirm data, such as *Aren't, right, don't we?* and other questions.

c. Intensifiers

Based on Lakoff (2004) and Parab (2015), intensifiers make speech or sentences more powerful. Intensifiers are used to highlight certain adjectives, verbs, or other adverbs. Women use intensifiers more than men, often as reinforcement to emphasize and reinforce the intended message. Some adjectives are more common in female languages, such as *so, really, very, good, enough*, and so on.

d. Hypercorrect grammar

Women are more likely than men to use formal languages, such as hypercorrect grammar and accurate pronunciation. Studies have found that women are more likely to respond with the actual word, *singing* with the *g*-word at the end. This is known as hypercorrect grammar, based on Lakoff (2004) and Parab (2015).

e. Polite expression

Women are more likely to use polite language and respectful phrases to respect social conventions. Standard procedure dictates that requests should be made in polite discourse and left to the recipient's discretion. They commonly use polite expressions such as *"thank you," "please," "you are so kind," "will you..."*, *"would you mind..."* and similar expressions based on Lakoff (2004) and Parab (2015).

f. Rising intonation on declarative

According to Lakoff (2004) and Parab (2015), women often use intonation patterns to turn declarative responses into questions. When they are unclear about what they are saying, this is due to the high pitch employed to turn statements into inquiries, which is characteristic of female language. Women often make remarks like this as a result of their doubts, and it is also present in our society. For example, in a dialogue, *"When do you want to sleep?" "how about nine and thirty?"*.

g. Expletives

Women are more cautious and avoid harsh statements than men, and use more kindness and swear words to communicate their strong emotions. According to Parab (2015), women are more likely to use men's language more frequently than men. Lakoff (2004) suggests that swear words stress a point and are often used to criticize someone or something. More women use *"Oh, honey," "Oh my goodness,"* and *"Oh dear"* to communicate their strong emotions.

h. Adverbs and Adjectives

According to Lakoff (2004) and Parab (2015), women are more likely to use adverbs and adjectives, such as *adorable, cute, divine, dreamy, stunning, heavenly, cool, terrific, lovely,*

great, and wonderful. An example is the phrase *"It was a brilliant performance,* "emphasizing the word performance. When a speaker is unclear about what they are saying, emphatic stress can highlight a statement.

B. Review Previous Study

There are several studies similar to this research. The first study was *Women 's Language Features On Utterances Of Charlie's Angels Movie* (Nuringtyas & Navila, 2022). In this study, the researcher used qualitative descriptive research to explain the data clearly. The study focuses on the types of women's language features in the movie and the reason the characters use the features. According to this study, there are lexical hedges or fillers, intensifiers, rising intonation on declarative, tag questions, emphatic stress, empty adjectives, avoidance of powerful swear words, super polite forms, and hypercorrect grammar. The characters in this film utilized intensifiers the most (45.5%), and the tag question was the least used characteristic. The purpose of using intensifiers in this movie is to give the other person a strong opinion. Tag questions are rarely used because they can help the listener understand the speaker's message.

A further study on women's language features in *Women Linguistic Features in Craig Gillespie's Movie " I, Tonya "* (Purnata et al., 2021) found nine language features except for precise colour terms. Researchers discovered that intensifiers were the most commonly utilized women's language elements, accounting for 74% of all utterances (103). Furthermore, the function of women's language in this film is to demonstrate uncertainty, demand response through heightened intonation, emphasize utterances, express feelings, and soften phrases. This study applied mixed-method, a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. Therefore, the researcher describes the data clearly with narrative data and numbers so that the data can be more valid.

The other study was *The Comparison of Women's Language Between Ellen DeGeneres and Oprah Winfrey in Their Conversation with Michelle Obama Talk Shows* (Pamekasih, 2017). This research uses mixed methods there are qualitative and quantitative methods, to analyze the data. This study finds five features of women's language in Ellen DeGeneres and Oprah Winfrey's interview with Michelle Obama: intensifiers, adjectives and adverbs, expletives, euphemisms and polite expressions, hedges and hypercorrect grammar. Ellen DeGeneres used more women's language features than Oprah Winfrey.

These several studies describe women's language features using Lakoff's theory and also Parab's theory. The difference between the other study with this study are most of the previous research focuses on movies but this study focus to discuss women's language features in two speeches in different century and also will examine the differences and similarities between the two speeches. This study also used two basic theories then find out the most potential research indicators to analyze the data.