CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents general outline of this study. It covers the research background, research problem, research objective, scope and limitation, research significance and definition of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Sociolinguistics is the study of language in its social contexts and the study of social life through linguistics (Coupland and Jaworski 1997: 1). It elaborates about the relation between language and society. There are some types of sociolinguistics such as slang, jargon, register, and swearing. Swearing is quite popular among teenagers because of some reasons. The first reason is, they are dealing with peer pressure and are trying to “fit in” with their friends who also swear. Next, they might not know what it means and are experimenting with a new word. Lastly, it is normal part of their home life (they hear their parents and siblings swearing), and they are also trying to act older/more mature.

Swearing is an exclusively verbal practice, blasphemy, profanity, and obscenity covering a wide variety of modes, including violations of taboos through insulting signs or outrageous actions (Hughes, 2006: 16). Thus, it might be harm other people. Moreover, people will always put their self. It has a long history. In ancient times, people did not put swearing words in writing. However, as time goes by, the use of swear words are increasingly used. In the Middle Ages, swearing was regarded as subversive of social and religious institutions.
Swearing is used to express intense emotions (fear, joy, anger, excitement) (Gawinkowska, Paradowski & Bilewicz, 2013; Jay 2009). For example, in Indonesian context teenagers swear using jancok (fuck). This swearing is used to express their emotion to others. Jay (2009) elaborated swearing generally elicits negative reactions in others, even though there are typically no obvious negative effects found in terms of harm to the swearer, listener or society.

Swearing has some impacts to speakers and the listeners. Most of people normally swear in their daily life because of their habit. Many speakers who swear will be satisfied after swearing caused they feel relieved by what has been uttered. Furthermore, some speakers who swear would be sorry because they can hurt others. For listeners, they are sometimes fine when people uttered swear words to them. They thought that swearing is just for making good relation between them and their friends. However, many people do not like getting some swearing as well. They can get angry to get a bad word from others. The effect of swearing is a kind of mix feeling. It caused the positive or negative to the speakers and listeners.

Furthermore, bad words are not only found in the real life, but also in social media such as movie and YouTube. Susetyaningsih (2014) elaborated that there are 4 types of swearing that used by the main character of The wolf of wall street movie such as, expletive swearing, abusive swearing, humorous swearing, Auxiliary swearing. Esterika (2016) elaborated that the types of swearing words found by white and black characters in 12 years a slave movie are various such as, epithet, profanity, and obscenity. Novita (2015) investigated that there are thirty-one
swearing words that categorized in three types of swearing in Bayu Skak’s YouTube video such as Abusive swearing, Emphatic swearing, and Cathartic swearing. It shows that, nowadays, swearing words are very popular in social media as well. This research will focus on investigating swearing used by Rush Hour 3 movie because of most of swearing words are in the US Culture so the researcher can take direct knowledge by investigating this movie as object research. Lastly, there was no others researchers before who had been investigated this movie as object research so the researcher decided to choose this movie as an object research.

1.2 Research Problems

Based on the explanation in the background of study above, the researcher would like to investigate the swearing used by The Main Characters of Rush Hour 3 Movie. The questions of the research are:

1. What types of swearing do the main characters in the Rush Hour 3 Movie use?
2. What is the function of swearing used in the dialog by the main characters of Rush Hour 3 Movie?

1.3 Purpose of Study

Dealing with statement of problems, the purposes of this study are:

1. To find the types of swearing spoken by main characters of Rush Hour 3 movie.
2. To understand the function of swearing used by main characters of Rush Hour 3 movie.

1.4 Research Objectives

The significance of this study is directed to everyone particularly Students of English Department University of Muhammadiyah Malang learns about Sociolinguistics especially swearing so they have broader and deeper understanding about swearing use and function in a social communication. The contribution to the lectures is to raise awareness of the advantages and disadvantages of swearing in the classroom context. The use of swearing is expected to make the lecturers able to create effective teaching and learning process. Furthermore, for the researcher in the field of swearing, it can contribute in the richness of the research especially of swearing researcher at University of Muhammadiyah Malang.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study investigates types of swearing and the function of swearing. Then the limitation is types and function used by main characters in the Rush Hour 3 Movie.
1.6 Definition of Key Terms

The researcher provides definition of key terms as follows:

1. **Swearing** is a form of expression. It is viewed as a popular way in which a person can express anger such as fuck you in English, anjing “dog” in Bahasa Indonesia etc. Swearing is a term indicating specific type of linguistic that often used in English learning proces in other languages to present linguistic (Siswanto, 2016).

2. **Movie** is a recording of moving images that tells a story and that people watch on a screen or television (Merriam-Webster).

3. **Rush Hour 3** is a cop action comedy movie as the third installment in a series of American police buddy directed by Brett Ratner (Wikipedia).

4. **Jackie Chan** is one of the main characters in the Rush Hour 3 Movie as Chief Inspector Lee.

5. **Chris Tucker** is one of the main characters in the Rush Hour 3 Movie as Detective James Carter.