

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The aim of this section is to give a review of related literature that focuses on the theoretical framework of a study area related to the movie.

#### 2.1 Verbal bullying

In this section, the main focus of the research is verbal bullying. The researcher will present a definition of vocabulary along with support from several of experts on the topic.

##### 2.1.1 *Definition of Verbal Bullying*

Bullying can take many various forms and includes both direct acts, like beating and name-calling, and indirect behaviors, like spreading rumors or creating isolate someone socially or its commonly called verbal bullying, Bjärehed et al. (2020). One particular instance of bullying that is simple to carry out in plain sight of people is verbal bullying, because verbal bullying can occur anywhere and at any time, Muntaha et al. (2022). Verbal bullying in particular, when occurs in private conversations or behind closed doors, it can have lasting impacts and be challenging to recognize. Furthermore, it might be challenging for people to spot verbal bullying because it may be difficult for people to recognize it. Alfiah et al. (2022) stated that verbal bullying is one type of bullying that is more frequent than other types of bullying, and this might be the case because verbal bullying is simpler to conceal or ignore by people. Unlike physical or cyberbullying, verbal bullying does not leave any physical marks or signs behind. Moreover, because words can have a long-lasting effect on a person's self-esteem, verbal bullying can be especially harmful. Origins and underachievers are more likely to

experience verbal bullying. Due to a lack of social support and resources, people from families with low incomes or those whose parents have less education may be more at risk for bullying.

### 2.1.2 Types of Verbal Bullying

Verbal bullying can be sorted into four different kinds, stated by Barus et al. (2023), such as :

#### 1. Dubbing

In this kind of verbal bullying, the bully gives the person a mean name or nickname. They do it to make the person feel embarrassed or ashamed. For example, in the class, "Hey Alex, you look *so idiot*", Jordan calls Alex by calling them "Idiot" to make him look foolish in front of the other friends

#### 2. Insulting

Insulting means using offensive language or comments to criticize someone's character, appearance, or abilities, with the aim of causing harm or distress. For example, Lili receives rude comments from her friends, who make fun of her looks and physique, like "Lili is *disgusting fat* like a pink pig".

#### 3. Swearing

Swearing is a kind of verbal bullying where someone uses mean or impolite words loudly to put down the person. It can happen when people are together in groups or doing things together. For example, Jalu uses inappropriate words and swearing,

like “*you guys are crap, things like this are incompetent.*” to disparage and criticize his friends during a group discussion.

#### 4. Mocking

Mocking includes making fun of someone or something in a harsh or scornful manner, typically by imitating or mimicking in a way meant to belittle or ridicule. It can happen directly to the person or indirectly, and it can be done in person or on the internet. For example, on social media, Lisa's friend created a meme by writing "*Lisa's 'unique' talents: 1. Awkward dancing 2. Bizarre laughter 3. Zero fashion sense #FailLisaFail*". Lisa is mocked indirectly by her friends who create memes making fun of her, by using mocking as a form of verbal bullying.

#### 2.1.3 The Effects of Verbal Bullying

Verbal bullying can hurt someone deeply, causing anxiety and low self-esteem to the person being targeted, Pradhan & Joshi (2019). Using verbal bullying can make someone feel really bad about themselves, and it can leave lasting marks on how they see themselves. This can make their mental health suffer for a long time. Verbal bullying can cause problems like feeling very worried, low self-esteem, or even having a condition like anxiety. It doesn't just stop there—it can mess up different parts of their life, like friendships, school, or work. This not only hurts them right away but also makes it harder for them to grow and do well in the future. It is important to stop and prevent verbal bullying not just to avoid immediate harm but also to keep the mental and emotional health of those who are targeted safe in the long run.

#### *2.1.4 Factors that Contribute to Verbal Bullying*

One's personality plays a significant role in shaping their actions and behaviors, particularly in relation to bullying, as it greatly influences their personality traits, Fan et al. (2019). Another theory from, Glover et al. (2000) stated that there are some factors that contribute to verbal bullying, such as :

- Hostility is like unfriendly or aggressive behaviour towards others. Hostility in the context of verbal bullying refers to behaviours or actions that are intentionally aggressive, mean-spirited, or hurtful towards another person through spoken words. This can include insults, threats, teasing, name-calling, or any form of verbal abuse aimed at demeaning or belittling the target. Verbal bullying often involves repeated occurrences and is intended to assert power over the victim, causing emotional distress and undermining their self-esteem.
- A sense of lack of confidence and attention-seeking, someone who lacks confidence may seek attention, and one way they do that is by bullying. When they bully others, it gives them a sense of satisfaction, and makes them feel stronger, and more in control.
- A feeling of resentment, when someone has been hurt or mistreated, they often hold onto a grudge and may try to make others feel the same way by resorting to bullying.
- The negative influence of the media, the media can have a harmful impact, especially when it shows a lot of violent scenes on TV and the internet. It can set a bad example and make someone resort to violence without any clear reason.

## **2.2 Circus Performers**

### *2.2.1 Definition of Circus Performers*

Circus performers is a people in the circus that do all kinds of acts to show off what they're good at, like acrobatics, doing tricks in the air, juggling, and balancing, De Medeiros et al. (2018). They perform in front of crowds to entertain them. Moreover, Toulmin (2018) stated that circus performers are individuals involved in a type of show that features different acts like acrobatics, animal performances, clowns, and aerial displays. This kind of entertainment was trendy in 19th-century Britain and elsewhere globally.

### *2.2.2 The Stigma Associated with Being a Circus Performer*

The circus has long been considered "the very paradigm of independence, diversity, difference, and deviance" by capitalism, as have the performers who make it, Stephens (2015). Popular media and cultural narratives have presented circus performers as "freaks," "misfits," and "disadvantaged" people who operate outside the confines of normal society, creating this perception of the circus as a "deviant" arena. The stereotype of circus artists as deviants has rendered them highly susceptible to diverse types of discrimination, such as verbal harassment. In the circus industry, verbal bullying manifests itself in various ways, including but not limited to calling names, diminishing self-esteem, and circulating unverified stories or rumours about the actors.

## **2.3 The Greatest Showman Movie**

### *2.3.1 Definition of Movie*

Movie is one form of media that can convey a message to its people, Yastanti & Widhiyanto (2018). Movies have the potential to be effective mediums for expressing difficult ideas and emotions to viewers. Additionally, by providing a shared cultural experience, they can facilitate connections between people from diverse ethnic backgrounds, fostering communication and understanding. Hanum et al. (2022) stated that movie is a type of visual communication that uses image-based media to represent a drafted or planned story. Children, teenagers, adults, and even parents all are fond of movies, making them one of the most favourite forms of entertainment. Although the scenes in a movie are frequently based on actual situations, it's essential to remember that they could not be fully accurate or realistic. Pangestu & Julianti (2021) stated that a movie is a literary product that emerges as a result of the growth of the modern technology age. Typically, a movie is adapted from a written work of fiction, such as a novel or short story, or it may simply be the result of the director's original idea.

### *2.3.2 The Important Elements of Movie*

A movie contains several important elements that enhance its overall impact. Rao et al. (2020) stated that the scene is the most important storytelling element of movies and is made up of intricate actions and exchanges between characters in a real-world setting. Scenes work as structural components that add to the entire story, advancing the storyline, creating characters, and reflecting feelings in the audience.

### *2.3.3 Character of the movie*

In "The Greatest Showman," characters are the individuals who drive the story forward. Each character has their own unique traits, motivations, and development throughout the film. Characterization is the process by which these traits are revealed to the audience, allowing viewers to understand and connect with the characters on a deeper level. In the movie, P.T. Barnum is the central character, portrayed as a charismatic and ambitious showman. His character is characterized by his relentless pursuit of success and acceptance, as well as his willingness to take risks and challenge societal norms. Through Barnum's actions, dialogue, and interactions with other characters, such as his wife Charity and business partner Phillip Carlyle, the audience gains insight into his complex personality and motivations.

Other characters, such as Anne Wheeler, Lettie Lutz (the Bearded Lady), and various performers in Barnum's circus, are also characterized in unique ways. Anne is characterized as a talented trapeze artist who faces discrimination due to her race, while Lettie is characterized as a woman who embraces her uniqueness and finds strength in her identity. Throughout the film, characterization is achieved through a combination of dialogue, music, choreography, and visual storytelling. Each character's journey contributes to the overarching themes of ambition, acceptance, and the power of embracing one's true self.

### *2.3.4 Setting of the movie*

In "The Greatest Showman," the setting refers to the time and place in which the story unfolds. Primarily set in mid-19th century New York City, the film showcases

various locations that reflect the social and cultural context of the era. From the busy streets of New York City to the luxurious interiors of P.T. Barnum's Hall, the setting serves as a backdrop for the characters' journeys. Central to the narrative is Barnum's circus, a vibrant and colourful world filled with performers and spectacle, which travels from town to town, bringing joy to audiences across the country. Additionally, scenes set in theatres and concert halls highlight the growing popularity of entertainment during the Victorian era. Through its rich and immersive setting, "The Greatest Showman" captures the spirit of the time period and provides a vivid backdrop for the characters' experiences of ambition, love, and self-discovery.

#### *2.3.5 Conflict of the movie*

In movies, conflict means the problems and tough situations characters deal with as they try to achieve their goals. In "The Greatest Showman," characters like P.T. Barnum face challenges inside themselves, like feeling unsure of their worth, and outside, like people treating them unfairly because of who they are or not having enough money. They also have problems in their relationships, like disagreements between Barnum and his wife Charity. The movie also shows bigger issues in society, like how some people are treated differently because of how they look. These problems push the characters to grow and learn, making the movie about reaching for dreams, finding out who you are, and overcoming tough times.

#### *2.3.6 Theme of the movie*

In "The Greatest Showman," the theme of the movie refers to the central ideas or messages that the film explores and conveys to the audience. One of the primary themes



of the movie is the pursuit of dreams and the desire for acceptance. Throughout the film, characters like P.T. Barnum face obstacles and challenges as they strive to achieve their aspirations, whether it's building a successful circus or finding love and belonging. Another theme is the power of embracing one's uniqueness and celebrating diversity. Characters like Anne Wheeler and Lettie Lutz, who face discrimination and prejudice, ultimately find strength and acceptance within themselves and their community. Additionally, the movie touches on themes of family, friendship, and the importance of staying true to oneself. Through its storytelling and visual spectacle, "The Greatest Showman" communicates these themes to the audience, inspiring viewers to embrace their passions, overcome adversity, and find joy in their differences.

#### 2.3.7 Plot of the movie

The plot of a movie is like a story unfolding. In "The Greatest Showman," it is about how P.T. Barnum starts from nothing and builds a famous circus. Along the way, he faces challenges like people being mean to him, not having enough money, and problems with his family. We see important events, like him starting the circus, finding talented performers, and making his shows a big success. The plot shows us how Barnum works hard to achieve his dreams and learns important lessons about what's truly important in life.