CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter, the writer presents the two parts of review of related literature: review of related theories and review of previous study. In review of the related theories, the writer explains the theories that are closely related to this study. In the second part, the writer reviews one of the previous studies which inspires and motivates her in studying the research.

2.1 Sociolinguistic

As we know, sociolinguistic concerned with the language and society. Sociolinguistics also emphasizes the study of the use of language by social groups and the way people use it in different social situation. As Holmes states that (2001:1):

> Sociolinguistics studies the relationship between languages on society. They are interested in exploring why we speak differently in different social context and they are concerned with identifying the social functions of language and the way it is used to convey social meaning.

From the statement above, the writer conclude that language has an important role in society. People speak different language depend on their society. People use language to show their feelings, opinions, or idea.

As Wardhaugh (2005) There are several possible relationships between language and society. One is that social structure may either influence or determine linguistic structure and/or behavior. Second possible relationship is directly opposed to the first: linguistic structure and/or behavior may either influence or determine social structure. Third possible relationship is that the influence is bi-directional: language and society may influence each other.

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Trudgill (1974: 32) states that sociolinguistics is a part of linguistics which is concerned with language as a social and cultural phenomenon.

2.1.1 Social factor

Language is strongly influenced by social factors. They are the participants or the users of language: who are speaking and who they are speaking to; the setting or social context of the interaction, which is related to its users: where they are speaking; the topic, which deals with what is being talked about; and the function of the interaction, which deals with why they are speaking (Holmes, 2001: 8).

2.1.1.1 The participant

Holmes (2001: 8) declares that "The participant is who is speaking and who are they speaking to." Participants are people who participate in speak events. It is including addressee and addresser, sender and receiver, speaker and hearer.

2.1.1.2 Setting

According to the Holmes (2001:8) states, "The setting or social context of the interaction is where are they speaking". It means that setting is a place or location where the participants are speaking includes school, home, etc.

2.1.1.3 Topic

Holmes (2001: 8) says, "The topic is what is being talked about". It can be education, politics, terrorist, financial problem, etc. For example, two female university students hang out in food court together and have a chat. Their topic can be discussing a thesis examination, gossiping their male friends, or checking timeline of the Korean-star.

2.1.1.4 Function

Holmes (2001: 259-260) offers a number of ways of categorizing the function of speech. They are: expressive (to express the speaker's feelings), directive (an attempt to get someone to do something), referential (to provide information), metalinguistic (to comment on language itself), poetic (focused on aesthetic features of a language), and phatic (to express solidarity and empathy with others). Function or goal of the interaction is the language being used for. It is molded by the force of a complex social and cultural system (Clark and Clark, 1977: 515).

2.2 Language and Gender

Language which is used by society consist of two main languages, they are men and women languages. Though they both use the same language to communicate with other, but still there are some differences if it looked more deeply, Holmes (1995:6) states that women tend to be more polite rather than men. In general, the language they use tends to show positive politeness and hospitality, also women's language is more corcern about for not offending to whom they talk to.

Gender differences in language are often one aspect of linguistic differences in the society reflecting social status or power differences. Gender also influences in language use. Penelope Eckert (2003:10), in her book entitled *Language and Gender* describes the definition of gender. According to her, gender is the social elaboration of biological sex whereas sex is biological categorization between men and women based primarily on their reproductive potential. Eckert (2003) also says that biological differences between men and women can determine gender which can cause the difference in their capabilities and disposition. For example, men are considered have higher testosterone, it causes that they are said

to be more aggressive than women. In addition, dominance of men's left-brain also leads them to be more rational than women. Those biological differences can cause gender dichotomy between men and women. As Pynton (1989: 4) states "Gender is identification a feminine or masculine (social)". It means that gender refers to the social and cultural dimensions of being male or female. Most of society operates in terms of two genders; masculine and feminine, and it is tempting to treat the category of gender as a simple binary opposition.

Holmes (2006 : 6, in her book entitled *Gendered Talk and Work*) classfied features of interactional styles which may index femininity and masculinity in different social contexts based on extensive research on language and gender over the last 30 years as summarize in the table below:

Table Index femininity and masculinity in different social contexts :

Feminine	Masculine
1. Facilitative	1. Competitive
2. Supportive feedback	2. Aggressive interruptions
3. Conciliatory	3. Confrontational
4. Indirect	4. Direct
5. Collaborative	5. Autonomous
6. Minor contribution (in public)	6. Dominates (public) talking time
7. Person / process – oriented	7. Task / outcome – oriented
8. Affectively oriented	8. Referentially oriented

2.3 Women's Language

Woman as defined by Hornby (1995:1372), in *Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary*, is adult female human being. The term woman is usually reserved for

adult, with the term girl being the usual term for a female child or adolescent, whereas man is adult male human being or male person with the qualities of strength, courage, etc.

From the definition above, we can say that man and woman are two different creatures. As human beings, women have their own characteristics which men do not have. Man and woman have different features which make them different in several aspects. Physical appearance and voice quality are two things of women and men differences which can be seen clearly. Mills (1995:197) says that the important difference between men and women speech lays in their vocal track resonances. Since male's vocal tract tend to be larger than female's vocal tract.

2.4 Women's speech features

In analyzing the kinds of women's speech features, the writer uses theories of Lakoff as fundamental in working the analysis. Meanwhile Lakoff in Holmes (2001: 286) states that:

Women speech features are the language form or elements used by Lakoff, such as: lexical hedges or filler, tag question, rising intonation on declaratives, emphty adjective, precise colour term, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, super polite form, avoidance of strong swear words and emphatic stress.

The writer considers that Lakoff's theory of women's speech features is appropriate to be used as the fundamental theory. Lakoff's study of women's language is widely influential study of language-use features.

2.4.1 Lexical Hedges or Filler

Lakoff argued that in women's speech features, there are Lexical Hedges or Filler which are often used such as "well", "you know", "kind/kinda", "sort of", "you see",etc. Holmes said that "Like" is also classified into hedge. It fuctions to mitigate the force of utterance. The word "sort of" classified as hedge, while

"well" and "you see" are categoized as " meaning less particles" and assumed as "pause fillers" such as uh, um, and ah. The features used by speaker when she uncertain about what she said. In other hedges features are use of "I guess" and "I think " which use as prefacing declaration, while another is "I wonder" which used to preface question. In addition, Lakoff argued that when women used those hedges like a question intonation, it gives the impression that the speaker lacks authority or does not know exactly what they are talking about.

2.4.2 Tag Question

Taq Question is kind of feature which is use by women more rather than man. According to Lakoff, women often add Taq Question to statement. They do this because they are less sure about themselves and their opinion. The syntactic rule in taq question it self is that settled by the social context (as it can be seen in society when one speaker wish addressee give respect each other).

Lakoff (1975:15) said that a tag in its usage as well as its syntactic shape is midway between an outright statement and a yes-no Question : it is less assertive than the former, but more confident than the letter for example:

a.   "You will go at nine o'clock won't you?"

This question asks about certainty or uncertainty to others that she will go at nine o'clock. Holmes (2001: 288) states that tag question is more relevant to be used by women than by men instead of the speaker can avoid committing himself/herself and avoid conflict with the participant. A tag gives the addressee leeway that does not straightly drive the addressee to go along with the views of the speaker. Therefore, a tag question is a kind of polite statements that does not force the hearer in approving the statements of the speaker.

2.4.3 Rising intonation on declaratives

In women speech, this fiture is usually used. Women use this kind of fiture when they lack of certainity to ward something which have been said. The declarative function also as a statement seeking for confirmation from the addressee. For example :

   a. When will dinner be ready?

   b. oh… around six o'clock …?

From the sentences above we can say that what is meant by *b* statement is that if six o'clock is ok with *a*. Sentence in *a* is put in the position of having to provide confirmation, and *b* sounds unsure. Here we find unwillingness to assert an opinion carried to an extreme. The consequence is that this kind of speech patterns are used to reflect something real about character and play a part of not taking a woman seriously or trust her with the real responsibilities, since she cannot make up her mind and is not sure of herself. Those features are probably part of general fact that women's speech sounds much more polite than men's. One aspect of politeness here is leaving a decision open, not imposing mind, views, or claims on anyone else.

2.4.4 Empthy adjective

Empty Adjective is a group of adjective which are only used by the women within their speech. Empty adjective also have their specific and literal meaning and indicate the speaker's approbation or admiration for something.

2.4.5 Precise colour term

Lakoff claims that "Women make far more precise discriminations in naming colors than do men. Men fund the discussions about precise color terms are amusing because they consider such a question trivial and irrelevant to the real

world" (cited in Cameron, 1990:223). Technically speaking, women are more specific in choosing the term of colors such as beige, ecru, aquamarine, lavender, and maroon are the example of unremarkable word in a woman's active vocabulary, but those are absent for most men. When men say something in precise color terms, other people might conclude he is imitating a woman sarcastically or homosexual because possess by women.

2.4.6 Intensifier

Women use more intensifiers such as 'so', 'very', 'quite', and 'just' than men. For example, *I love him so much* is commonly uttered by women. Lakoff in Coates (2004: 13) supported and has a section on the intensifiers so she asserts that so is more frequent in women's language. Look at the following sentence:

a. I feel so unhappy!

b. That movie made me so sick!

Men seem to have the difficulty to use this construction when the sentence is in unemotional condition or non-subjective without reference to the speaker himself. Lakoff (cited in Cameron, 1990: 223) said that "Substituting an equative like so for absolute superlative (like very, really, utterly) seems to be a way of backing out of committing oneself strongly to an opinion, rather like tag questions".

2.4.7 Hypercorrect grammar

Women tend to use more formal syntax than men do and the way they pronounce something is always closer to prestige norm. They always try to have correct pronunciations. Hypercorrect grammar involves avoidance of coarse language as means of more frequent apologizing and the usage of superpolite

forms are additional features. In this instance, women speak as close to the British standard as possible. Lakoff connects these features with each other since they all come down to the fact that women are not supposed to talk rough or less polite than men. (Norman 2006:8). In other words, they generally show greater preference to speak formally than men in the same situation do, for example consistent use of standard verb form.

2.4.8 Super polite form

Women tend to use more polite form than men. Stockwell (2002: 50) says that women are more likely to use polite forms of register and indirectness. The following phrases are regularly inserted to the sentences, such as:

a.   Would you please…

b.   I'd really appreciate it if…

c.   Would you mind…

d.   If you don't mind… etc.

These kinds of sentences reinforce the notion that it is a request rather than an order. This feature, superpolite forms, is favorite used by women. They use this word if they want to ask for help or express their feeling.

2.4.9 Avoidance of strong swear words

Swear word is a negative word and generally used by men to express anger and disappointed. Hughes (1991: 3) states that swear words are the obscenity words which are used to swear and viewed as indecent and taboo in society. Men are allowed to express stronger means than women because men have strong position in the real world. The more strong and forceful someone expresses opinions, the much likely he/she to be taken seriously. Therefore, men usually

also have the ability to use strong particles like 'shit'. 'hell', 'damn', and etc. It means that swear words are used to insult, curse, denote the speaker has strong emotion. However, women avoid swear word. Women usually use softer forms such as "Oh, dear" or "Darn". For Example:

a. Oh, dear, you broke my bike again.

b. Shit, you broke my bike again.

Those pair of sentence is syntactically identical. The differences are only in the choice of the "meaningless" particle. People would classify the first sentence as part of "women's language", and the second as "men's language", even women are also able to use sentence *b*. As said by Lakoff (cited in Cameron, 1990: 225), the language of the favored group, the group that holds the power, along with its non-linguistic behavior, is generally adopted by the other group, not vice versa.

2.4.10 Emphatic Stress

Emphatic stress is an expression to show the admiration of person. It is used when people see something amazing. Lakoff identifies the use of a question intonation on sentence that is not question as a central she characterized as women's and powerless or weak. This question intonation has a high rising tone at the end of the sentence (Eckert, 2003:174). Women tend to use words which are used to emphasize the utterance or strengthen the meaning of an utterance. Mostly of women use this expression in showing their amazement of thing. Women use the word 'so', 'such', 'very' when they speak about appearance or performance. They use euphemism to avoid strong swear word. Women also use high intonation when they want to express their feeling. For example, *"It was so brilliant"*, it means that they want to emphasize the meaning of utterance or strengthen what they want to say. Women emphasize their utterance because they

think that they will not be heard or paid attention due to the women's lack of confidence (Lakoff cited in Holmes, 1992:316).

2.4 Previous Study

In this part, there are some researches about women's language features that already done, many of them only focused on several language features that Robin Lakoff listed.

The first thesis was conducted by Futika Permatasari(2010) from State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. She analyzed about women's speech features used by the characters of "Sex and The City" movie. She used Lakoff's theory to find her research problem. She used qualitative method. The finding of her research showed that the characters of "Sex and the City"movie used women's speech features which reflect uncertainty and lack of confidence. There were only eight types of women's speech features used in the dialogues, such as lexical hedges or fillers, tag question, rising intonation on declaratives, empty adjectives, intensifiers, superpolite forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress. Two kinds of features which were not used by the characters were specialized vocabularies and hypercorrect grammar.

Second, Khoirul Umami Mazidah (2013) from State University of Surabaya. She analyzed about women's speech features used by character Margaret in "The Iron Lady" movie. She used Lakoff's theory. She used qualitative method and she found nine types of women's speech feature that used by Margaret, that are lexical hedges or fillers, tag question, risingintonation on declaratives, empty adjectives, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, superpolite forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress. She did not find specialized vocabularies (precise colors item) in her research. Margaret still has feminity side as women in

Common as The Iron Lady and Woman Prime Minister. It found based on her utterances that she uses her sentences correctly and will not damage her reputation as a woman and A Prime Minister.

Third, Siti Dara Nirmala Aulya (2014) from Brawijaya University. She analyzed about Woman Linguistic Feature Performed By Margaret Thatcher In The Film *Iron Lady*. She used Lakoff's theory. The linguistics feature of women speech is one of the topics discussed in Sociolinguistics. In this study, the writer concerns to find out the linguistic features of woman found in the film *Iron Lady*, the mostly used linguistic features in the utterances produced by Margaret Thatcher of the film *Iron Lady*, and the purpose of using these linguistic features.

This research is a descriptive qualitative as it means to gain understanding about woman speech style in the film *Iron Lady*. The data were taken from the utterances of the main character of this movie. The utterances were classified and analyzed into 10 (ten) linguistic features by Lakoff (1975) then calculated all to find out the mostly linguistic features used by Margaret Thatcher and drew it in conclusion.

The result of analysis revealed that there were 114 utterances spoken by Margaret Thatcher which can be classified into 8 (eight) woman's linguistic features. There were 20 lexical hedges and fillers, only 2 (two) tag questions, 8 (eight) rising intonations, 30 empty adjectives, 33 intensifiers, 14 superpolite forms, 3 (three) expression expressed avoidance of strong swear words, 4 (four) emphatic stress spoken by the main character in the film *Iron Lady*.

The last is Isni Al Rofi' (2014) from State University Sunan Ampel Surabaya. He analyzed about Women's Speech features used by the main characters in "the Chronicles of Narnia: the lion, the witch and the Wardrobe" Movie. He used

Lakoff's theory to find his research problem and also he used qualitative method. He found nine types of women's speech features used by the main characters' utterances of the movie.They are lexical hedges or filler, tag question, rising intonation, empty adjective, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, superpolite form, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress.

The writer found that the type of women's speech features which occurs most frequently by the main characters in "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" movie are lexical hedges or fillers and intensifier. It was used by all main character for 26 times each type from 261 utterances and the percentage was 31,3%. As Lakoff (cited in Holmes, 1992:316) claimed that hedging devices explicitly signal lack of confidence. She claimed women use hedging devices to express uncertainty, and they use intensifying devices to persuade their addressee to take them seriously. So, the writer concluded that the main characters of the movie can be categorized as people who might have a tendency to be lack of self-confidence and uncertainty. They also use intensifier to express their strong feeling about something. Besides, the writer concluded that the least of women's speech features are rising intonation and avoidance of strong swear word with the percentage 1,2%. It shows that as a woman, the main characters of the movie should keep their 68 attitude especially in the way they are speaking. So, they have to use some kind of women's speech features which show their femininity and avoid using swear words. As a women, they tend to use the softer form of strong swear words to keep her attitude and show her politeness.

From previous studies that the writer found, all of them focused on movie. They analyzed the dialogues on the movie or film on Tv series. Furthemore, the result of their studies, they showed not all types of women's linguistic features as

Robin Lakoff (1975) listed. Meanwhile, the writer analyzes the utterance which used by female character in the movie entitled *"Letters to Juliet"*. The similarity of the previous study and this thesis is analyzing the women's speech features.The writer believes that the previous study can be as reference of the writer to find the features of women's speech features used by female character in the "Letters to Juliet" movie by Gary Winick, which is used method by comparing the previous study and the writer's study.