CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses some points related to the introduction in the thesis. The points include background of study, statements of problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key term.

1.1. Background of Study

The existence of graffiti is frequently supposed to convoke controversy (Davis: 2011). Some of the graffiti functions are providing the opportunity individual to express controversial content information on the public (Hanauer in *Farnia*: 2004). This is because most of the graffiti functions are corrosive (Sandles: 2011). According to Arthur Danto, on *Nirmana*, *Demotic Art* basically make chaotic of an aesthetic view (Wicandra & Angkadjaja: 2006).

Graffiti not only gives but also offends some information correction (Ellis on Australian Institute of Criminology: 1987). Simon O'Sullivan stated that some of the theme of graffiti are disruptive, for example, graffiti which is delinquent is able to disrupt the power of relationship and may be able to become the major themes next (as cited in Cullen: 2009). Graffiti which has function to damage disagreement was called vandalism. Roos, H. Edvard explain the vandalism as:

Vandalism is a voluntary degradation of the environment with no motivation of profit whatsoever, the result of which is considered or damage by the actor (s) as well as by the victim in relation to the norms that rule the situation (Roos, Hans – Edvard, 1992 p. 54).

Graffiti is growing rapidly in line with necessary of graffitists. The term of graffiti had approximately appeared since there was primitive era which was written on the stones as a tool of communication (C.F Fraser 258, Malhom and Romig 30 on Raisul: 1993). For many years, the use of graffiti has function as a tool of communication (Alonso, 1998, p. 2). Being developed as a tool of communication presumably seemed had one function. Contribution of the old graffiti is important to develop an advance of the future graffiti (Davies & Sarpong, 2013). Nowadays, the function of graffiti in society has grown up as a tool of power expression that used by people, either for existence or protest action. The more graffiti functions used can make the more graffiti themes emerged (Ashley, et.al: 2005). Many researchers categorize the function of graffiti as the goal of graffiti form or theme. According to Yuswadi, a function can determine occurring of the form (Saliya: 1999). Among many themes of the emerging graffiti, the writer just studies about the themes generally, they are like expressions of love, advice, communication, politic, drawing, tags, invocations, allusions, eponym, urban, self - expression, and character.

There is a variation of graffiti types which has function to identify the different types of graffiti. Gadsby (1995) classifies graffiti into six main categories: *latrinalia*, *public*, *tags*, *historical*, *folk epigraphy*, *and humorous*.

In this study, the writer would like to analyze graffiti on trucks. In Indonesia, the existences of trucks graffiti are banal because most of them have shoddy notions, for example, graffiti which shows sordid words or images is bad. Most of them show women as the display on tub. The graffitists have indirectly exploited

and misapplied the identity women as the context of visualization (Wicandra: 2007). Looking at the Gadsby's classification, the examples of trucks graffiti are including in the *Public* graffiti because they have written on the public spaces. By scratching any transcription on the tub – truck, they can pour expression much about their status. Bansky avowed that graffiti is one of the few tools you have if you have almost nothing (as cited in Ozer: www.academia.edu.com).

In An Initial Intimation of a Banal Discourse of Trucks Graffiti Journal,
Bashtomi Yazid defines the scope of graffiti,

"Graffiti is any kinds of scratches, drawings, paintings, symbols, signs on walls, or anywhere no matter what constitutes the motivation of the writing. He categorizes themes of trucks graffiti as an objection of women, religious belief/teaching, mild — porno — related expressions (innuendos), geographical reference, ancestral reference, passion, frustration, social status, and acknowledgement".

(Bashtomi: 2007).

Nowadays, form of graffiti is becoming the visual language of personal expression so that it is intriguing the readers to comprehend what graffiti is (Ashanti: 2014). Graffiti has shown up the variety of function and theme and has grown up in line with the social culture that is happening. The problem lays the development of trucks graffiti view. How is the view of trucks graffiti recently? Is there any literature which has relation with social culture? How is the meaning of trucks graffiti as a social culture?

The study of graffiti had already expanded by many researchers with the plenty of focuses. Two of them were (Wicandra dan Angkadjaja, 2006 & Leridawati Journal). In Wicandra and Angkadjaja, they focus on what are the motivation and the reasons of graffitist to create graffiti. They collect the data

used qualitative approach and conducted *the grounded theory*. In the result of their study, they explained the motivation and the reason the graffitists in create graffiti. The motivation of graffitists was to give some aesthetic on the wall spaces and the second motivation was to be graffitist should have vandalism character. Meanwhile, the reasons were by letting the white wall did not give some aesthetic, it just keep clean the wall. Looking at the social culture, this study did not influence social culture effect yet.

The second is Leridawati, she had the goal to describe lingual ones form of graffiti on trucks traffic Padang – Solok Sumatra. She collected the data used qualitative method. She conducted the data comprises of three strategies stages, they were, providing data, analyzing data, and providing of analysis data. The result of this study was there were three lingual ones forms, they were, words, phrases, and sentences. Further, those data analyzed the meaning. There were three categorizations, they were, lexical, grammatical and contextual meaning. The analysis of trucks graffiti by her could explain the structure of transcription, both of syntactically and semantically. However, this discussion did not give any characteristic area from trucks graffiti in Sumatra yet.

In sum, before delving into a discussion of other trucks graffiti in Indonesia, it should be clear as to what themes of trucks graffiti need to be addressed. In this study the writer categorizes the themes of trucks graffiti such as expressions of love, advice, communication, politic, drawing, tags, invocations, allusions, eponym, urban, self - expression, and character.

1.2. Statement of the Problems

- 1. What are the themes of trucks graffiti?
- 2. How is the language function on trucks graffiti?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

- 1. To describe the themes of trucks graffiti
- 2. To describe the language function on trucks graffiti

1.4. Significance of the Study

The present study is addresses for giving both theoretical and practical contributions. Practically, this study is may be able to useful in the development of linguistic devices, which are, firstly, this study can give an input of trucks graffiti themes so that the study is able to display the renewal of those themes. Secondly, the study is able to give some examples of language function that was proposed by George Yule and Gillian Brown's theory, it is language function.

Theoretically, by explaining the significance of this study, the writer hopes the study is able to give some contribution of the development theory; it is themes of trucks graffiti. The writer also hopes this study can help the researchers to understand of graffiti discussion next. Some examples discussion about language function is rather seem useful to be escort for further researchers.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study undertakes several kinds of themes on trucks graffiti and analyzes trucks graffiti based on the language function by Yule. There are two

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points on language function, they are, transactional and interactional view. That is

language function applies mechanism how to analyze function on language use.

The categorization of trucks graffiti themes are expressions of love, advice,

communication, politic, drawing, tags, invocations, allusions, eponym, urban, self

- expression, and character.

1.6. Definition of Key Terms

a. Graffiti

Graffiti is a performance of marking various points of contact between

individuals and the world whether they are a celebration of existence or a

declaration of resistance.

Tracey Bowen: 2010

Graffiti is all the transcription form such as scratches, writing, drawing,

marks, and other transcription which was written on the wall spaces and has a

certain meaning.

b. Graffiti Purpose

The aim of graffiti is to gain an attention from the readers / receivers in order

to those graffiti's work could be paid much attention.

c. Language Function

• Language function is the way of people to convey language with the

particular function. The aim is how to make that language could be

conveyed and accepted by the receiver.

d. Transactional and Interactional View

- Transactional function is language which has function to confer information directly in purpose that language could be understood and implemented.
- Interactional function is language which has function to confer information indirectly in purpose that language could not only be understood but could also be interaction tool.

