

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

A language is system of arbitrary, vocal symbols that permit all people in a given culture, or other people who have learned the system of that culture, to communicate or to interact (Finocchioro, 1980:98). A language is a means of communication that uses speech sounds as a medium (Ramelan, 1984:7). Language is a system that allows people immense creativity (Eva M. 2011:20). Like money, language is an economy of transaction with certain standards based on the context of use. Words are the medium of exchange from which understanding is derived (Mengham, R. 1993:155). Based on those definitions the researcher state that language is the way how to communicate or interact with others, through language she can deliver her expression, emotion, and message too.

Use language as a media to express inner thoughts and emotion, make sense of complex and abstract thought, to learn to communicate with others, to fulfill our wants and needs, as well as to establish rules and maintain our culture. Language can be defined as verbal, physical, biologically innate, and a basic form of communication. Behaviourists often define language as a learned behaviour involving a stimulus and a response (Orrod, 1995). Often times they will refer to language as verbal behaviour, which is language that includes gestures and body movements as well as spoken word (Pierce and Eplin, 1999).

Language is *social*, everybody <sup>1</sup> that a language is socially acquired, learned and then used. The language use and learn as a sociolinguistics. A term *sociolinguistics* is a derivational word, two words that form it are sociology and linguistics. Sociology refers to a

science of society, and linguistics refers to a science of language (Hudson, 1980:72). Sociolinguistics is that part of linguistics which is concerned with language as a social and cultural phenomenon. It investigates the field of language and society has close connections with the social sciences, especially social psychology, anthropology, human geography and sociology (P. Trudgill, 1974:32). Sociolinguistics is the study of language in relation to society. Sociolinguistics is the study of effects of various all aspects to society, including cultural, norms and contexts on the language is used (Hudson, 1980:56). Janet Holmes (1992: 16) state that the sociolinguist's aim is to move towards a theory which provides a motivated account of the way language is used in a community, and of the choices people make when they use language. From sociolinguistics we can take any subject about language.

Researcher can express language in many aspects such as in daily conversation, movie, poetry, and music. Music is an art or science of combining vocal or instrumental sounds to produce beauty of form, harmony, and expression of emotion (Roy Shuker, 1998:58). Music is an innocent luxury, unnecessary, indeed, to our existence, but a great improvement and gratification of the sense of hearing. It consists, at present, of melody, time, consonance, and dissonance (Charles Burney, 1776-89). Ludwig van Beethoven (1810) state that music is the one incorporeal entrance into the higher world of knowledge which comprehends mankind but which mankind cannot comprehend. Popular music is broader and vague in scope and intentions. The moving media image can be traced to particular social and technological developments within a particular period of history, and this provides a boundary for study in a way that has no parallel in popular music studies (Hayward, 1996: 109). So, music is collaboration between sound and soul expression of the creator.

By development of age, music is developing too. Researcher known any kinds of music, there is traditional music, classic, popular, and so on. Now, we are living in the popular culture music. In the popular culture, researcher found some kinds of music such as

rock 'n' roll, hip hop, pop, rock, and R&B. In this era music has been part of life because many things can be delivered by music.

Every kinds of music has lover, such as hip hop music that has loved by teenagers. Hip hop music originally comes from a region of America named Bronx.

*“Hip-hop constitutes a global urban subculture that has entered people’s lives and become a universal practice among youth the world over.... From a local fad among black youth in the Bronx, it has gone on to become a global, postindustrial signifying practice, giving new parameters of meaning to otherwise locally or nationally diverse identities. ”* (Levy 2001 in Pennycook 2007:7)

Hip-hop is a culture and form of ground breaking music and self expression with elements that consisted of the elements of graffiti art, DJing, MCing, and breaking. From quotation above the researcher can state that hip hop music comes from a region of America named Bronx which is developing to another region in the world. Faisal Ahmed (1995:38) also state that hip-hop, comes from different nationalities and races, especially from black people, hip-hop music in general is colorless and not racist.

The researcher assumed that some lyrics of hip-hop group that contained verbal obscenity is interesting, she wanted to explore it broader. According to Rothwell in Liedlinch (1973: 108), verbal obscenity is defined as a type of swearing that utilizes indecent words and phrases. Obscene means offensive or disgusting by accepted moral standards, especially in sexual matters (hornby, 1995:797).

In this chance the researcher wants to make analysis of verbal obscenity in D12’s lyrics. D12 (also known as D-12, and The Dirty Dozen) is an American hip hop group from Detroit, Michigan. D12 has had chart-topping albums in the United States, United Kingdom, and Australia. D12 has sold 10 million albums worldwide. The researcher thinks that D12’s

lyric is interesting and unique, it appear in their lyrics which is contained verbal obscenities, that's way the researcher chooses some of their song as an object of research.

## **1.2 Statement of the problems**

The problems will be discussed in this research are:

1. What are the verbal obscenities exist in D12's lyrics?
2. What is the impact of the use of verbal obscenity on listeners?

## **1.3 Purposes of the Study**

Based on statement of problems, purposes of this study are:

1. To identify the existence of verbal obscenities in D12's lyrics
2. To describe the impact of verbal obscenities used in D12's lyrics

## **1.4 Significance of the Study**

The researcher hopes that the study meaningfully contribute to sociolinguistics, practically to increase the understanding of verbal obscenity. Theoretically, this research can learn more about language, especially concerning in style of informal speech and the readers can understand it clearly. Besides, this study also expects to be more useful to avoid cultural shock and misunderstanding of another culture that is slightly, or even absolutely different from other people's.

## **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

The analysis of the study limited to firstly, verbal obscenities in the form of words; secondly, the significance of using verbal obscenities in its lyrics.

## **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

Researcher wanted to make the readers understand the terms used in this study easily, so the researcher presents several definitions of the key terms as follows:

- a. Sociolinguistics is the study of language in relation to society. Sociolinguistics is also the study of effects of various all aspects to society, including cultural, norms and contexts on the language is used (Hudson, 1980:56).
- b. Verbal obscenity is a moral concept in the verbal arsenal of the establishment, which abuses the term by applying it, not to expressions of its own morality but to those of another (Sharon M, 1973:2). .
- c. D12 (also known as D-12, and The Dirty Dozen) is an American hip hop group from Detroit, Michigan. D12 has had chart-topping albums in the United States, United Kingdom, and Australia. D12 was formed in 1996, but only achieved mainstream success when one of its members, Eminem, rose to international fame (D12profile.com).