MALE AND FEMALE'S GOSSIP IN MEAN GIRLS MOVIE (2004)

THESIS



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ABSTRACT

Nabilah, Danah Inas. 2019. *Male And Female'S Gossip In Mean Girls Movie (2004)*. Thesis. English Department, Faculty of Arts and Humanities. State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

The Advisor: Murni Fidiyanti, M.A.

Keywords: Woman Language, Gossip, Stereotype

Through this study, the researcher examines the usage of gossip by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. As many people assume that gossip is a kind of conversation which only uses by woman, the aims of this study are to discover that gossip is not only used by woman. Thus, this study analyzes the types of gossip which are used by male and female characters and the functions of gossip which are used by male and female characters in movie. In analyzing this study, the researcher uses Deborah Jones's theory (1980) and Robert Foster's theory (2004). Moreover, the researcher uses qualitative methods to analyzing this study. The result of this study shows that both female and male characters in this movie use four of four types of gossip, including Chatting, Scandal, House Talk, and Bitching. Moreover, both of genders often use Scandal as the type of gossip in their conversation. Furthermore, the female characters use four of four functions of gossip in their conversation, including Provide Information, Enhance Friendship, Give Entertainment, and Influence Others. Otherwise, male characters use three of four functions of gossip in their conversation, including Provide Information, Enhance Friendship, and Influence Others. Through the result of this study, the researcher has proven that gossip is not only restricted to woman. Male characters in the movie tend to use similar type of gossip as female characters, it means that gossip is not a kind of conversation which is associated to woman

INTISARI

Nabilah, Danah Inas. 2019. *Male And Female'S Gossip In Mean Girls Movie (2004)*). Thesis. English Department, Faculty of Arts and Humanities. State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

Pembimbing: Murni Fidiyanti, M.A.

Kata Kunci: Bahasa Wanita, Gosip, Stereotipe

Melalui penelitian ini, peneliti meneliti penggunaan gossip oleh pemeran pria dan pemeran wanita pada film Mean Girls. Sebagaimana banyak orang beranggapan bahwa gosip adalah tipe pembicaraan yang hanya digunakan oleh wanita, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui bahwasannya gosip tidak hanya digunakan oleh wanita. Dengan demikian, penelitian ini menganalisa penggunaan tipe-tipe gosip oleh pemeran pria dan pemeran wanita dan penggunaan fungsi-fungsi gosip oleh pemeran pria dan pemeran wanita. Untuk menganalisa penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan teori milik Deborah Jones (1980) dan Robert Foster (2004). Selain itu, peneliti menggunakan metode kualitatif untuk menganalisa penelitian ini. Hasil dari penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kedua pemeran wanita dan pemeran pria di film ini menggunakan empat dari empat tipe gosip, termasuk Chatting, Scandal, House Talk, and Bitching. Selanjutnya, pemeran wanita menggunakan empat dari empat fungsi gosip, termasuk Provide Information, Enhance Friendship, Give Entertainment, and Influence Others. Sebaliknya, pemeran pria menggunakan tiga dari empat fungsi gosip, termasuk Provide Information, Enhance Friendship, and Influence Others. Melalui hasil dari penelitian ini, peneliti telah membuktikan bahwa gosip tidak hanya untuk wanita. Pemeran pria di film ini cenderung menggunakan tipe gosip yang sama dengan pemeran wanita, ini artinya bahwa gosip bukan jenis pembicaraan yang berhubungan dengan wanita.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses about background of study, research of statements, objectives of study, significance of study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of Study

Woman and man speak differently. They have their own rules when they are talking with someone. Either woman or man has different characteristics of language while they speak. It could be grammatical, pronunciation, or even politeness. As Coates states that woman will use more prestige forms than man while they speak to other people (Coates, 2004: 52). Many people think that woman tends to be talkative and man tends to use more swear words than woman (Coates, 2004: 97). There are many researchers who had analyzed and investigated the woman's speech and men's speech, such as Same-sex Conversation (Jakobsson, 2010;Broadbridge, 2003; Wright, 2002), Movie (Andhira, 2014;Mazidah, 2013;Aini, 2016;Rohmania, 2016), Mixed-sex Conversation (White, 2003;Subon, 2013). One of other issues which had been analyzed in language and genders' field by several researchers is gossip.

Gossip itself has been considered as the way for woman to share her feelings or emotion to others (Coates, 2004: 103). When woman are gossiping, they will express their feelings toward someone who are they addresses to. Through gossip, woman will reveal their real feelings, such as anger, sadness, disappointment and happiness.

Many researchers defined gossip as *chit-chat* or a *relaxed-talk* in a group of women and it is considered as the characteristic of women's interaction (Holmes, 2001; Ahmed, 2010; Coates, 2004). Gossip is one kind of conversation that women have when they meet their friends or relatives which has close relation with them. Women are always creative to make a conversation with their friends. In gossiping, women attempt to take turns and give a compliment to build a conversation (Ahmed, 2010: 1).

Most of people think that gossip is only for women, but some researchers stated that it is possible for men to do gossip with their friends (Ahmed, 2010; Coates, 2004). Johnson and Finlay (1997) argue that it is possible for men to participate in gossip (Coates, 2004: 104). They stated the differences between man and woman's gossip is the topic of their conversation itself (Coates, 2004: 104). Woman tends to discuss about their feelings, personal experience, and even others behavior or others life to build a conversation while they are gossiping (Coates, 2004: 103). Otherwise,

man tends to talk about something which they are interested with, such as football and online games (Coates, 2004: 104). Deborah Cameron (1997) also stated that 'sports' is the most common topic of men's conversation (Coates, 2004: 104).

Through women's conversation, there are many types of gossip and functions of gossip which could be found. Jones (1980) stated that there are four types of gossip which are used by women, including *house-talk*, *bitching,scandal* and *chatting* (Talbot, 2010: 76). Each type has different purposes. Otherwise, the functions of gossip were stated by Eric K Foster, including *enhance friendship,provide information,influence others,give entertainment* and *make social comparison* (Foster, 2004: 84-87). There are some researchers who had been interested to analyze this issue.TV series (Sari, 2015), Same-sex Conversation (Ahmed, 2010; Rosita, 2001), Society Opinion (Meinarno,Bagaskara& Rosalina, 2011) and Workplace (Kuo, Chang, Quinton, Lu and Lee, 2015).

However, previous researches in this field have concentrated on analyze gossip and investigated the usage of woman's speech features on gossip. Each of those researches has limited their focus. Sari (2015) prefers to only analyzed type and function of gossip which were used by female characters in TV series. Ahmed (2010) decided to analyze the function of gossip through the daily conversation between two

female students. Rosita (2001) focused her research to analyze the types of gossip and women's speech feature in daily conversation among female students. Meinarno, Bagaskara & Rosalina (2011) focused their research only to find out the role of gossip in teenager's everyday life. Kuo, Chang, Quinton, Lu and Lee (2015) prefers to analyzed the behavior of employees can affect the way they talk to each other.

There are no researchers who had analyzed types and functions of gossip which are used by male and female, also find out the differences usage of gossip between two genders. This present research aims at filling these gaps by analyzing gossip in *Mean Girls* movie which is tried to find the usage of types of gossip and the function of gossip by female and male characters which are appeared in *Mean Girls* movie. As some researchers stated that gossip does not restricted to women, it also seeks to find out the differences usage of gossip between male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie.

Mean Girls is an American movie told about teenager's everyday life and how a girl named Cady can survive in her new school with her new infamous friends. Cady is a home-schooling girl. She never go to school for her entire life. Suddenly, her parents decide to send her to high school. The journey of Cady's life begins here. She

has to face the fact that her new friends have a habit to talk behind each other's back.

Cady has a plan to destroy their friendship by reveal their secret.

Mean Girls is relatable with the topic of this research as it tells about daily conversation between students in high school which is mostly showed how each character expresses their feelings, emotion, or their experiences to other person. In this movie, it also shows some of characters who are really interested to talk about other's personal life. Basically, this movie is all about how people is intervening other's people life.

From the explanation above, this present research tries to find out the usage of gossip by male and female characters in Mean Girl movie. Moreover, it also tries to seek the differences usage of types and functions of gossip which are used by male and female characters in Mean Girls movie.

1.2 Research of Problems

According to the background of the study, writer excitedly wants to find the answer of these following questions:

1. What are the types of gossip used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie?

2. What are the functions of gossip used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie?

1.3 Objective of Study

Through this research, the writer would like to present the following aims:

- 1. To identify the types of gossip used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie.
- 2. To identify the functional categories of gossip used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie.

1.4 Significance of Study

This research analyzed the types and functions of gossip which are used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. The writer expects to give more knowledge in the field of language and gender for the next research. Through the result of this research, the writer expects it can be source information about language and gender especially types and functions of gossip.

Moreover, the writer hopes that the result of this research can help other students to gain inspirations for their research. The writer also hopes this research can help the readers to learn more about types and functions of gossip and help the readers to analyze about gossip with different subject for their research in the future.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This present research discusses about gossip which focuses to analyze types of gossip, and functions of gossip which are used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. Types of gossip by Jones (Talbot 2010: 76) is used to analyze types of gossip which are used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. Moreover, Foster's function of gossip (Foster, 2004: 84-87) is also used to analyze the functions of gossip which are used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. This research is aiming to analyze the dialog of all male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. There is no specification of characters to be analyzed in this research.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

a) Woman's Language

Woman's language is a language which defines the character of woman, including evade a forceful and direct statement and/or depending on conform which shows uncertainty and hesitation (Diraisyah, 2014: 6).

b) Gossip

Gossip is a women's talk and it has a word or phrase which has negative connotations (Coates, 2004: 103).

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This chapter explains the theories which are used to analyze the data of this present study. The theories which are explained in this chapter is the theory that answers the question which has been mentioned on the previous chapter. Through this chapter, the researcher gives a brief explanation about the related theory of this study, including gossip, types of gossip, and functions of gossip.

2.1 Gossip

Gossip is a women's talk and it has a word or phrase which has negative connotations (Coates, 2004: 103). Tannen defines gossip as a conversation between women which has a very personal style of conversation to share their feelings or even their own personal experiences (Jones, 1980: 194). Otherwise, Besnier argues that gossip is a kind of conversation when the speaker talks about someone who is absence on the conversation (Foster, 2004: 81).

Many of researchers state that gossip is a conversation which is associated with woman (Coates, 2004; Talbot, 2010; Holmes, 2001). Otherwise, there are some researchers who disagree with those statements, and state that gossip is not restricted for woman (Johnson & Finlay, 1997; Cameron, 1997). It is possible for man to have this kind of conversation while they are talking with their same-sex. Through their paper, Johnson and Finlay argue that men also participate in gossip (Johnson &

Finlay, 1997: 131). They state that the thing that makes man's gossip is different with woman's gossip is the topic of man's talk itself (Coates, 2004: 104). Cameron states that men tend to talk about sport in their conversation (Coates, 2004: 104). Otherwise, women tend to talk or share their ideas, personal experience, and even others behavior or others life to build a conversation while they are gossiping (Coates, 1996: 80).

2.2 Types of Gossip

Commonly, women are sharing their feelings, emotions, and personal experience through gossip. While they are talking with their same-sex friends, women tend to tell anything that they feel or think even it is about another girl's behavior that is bothering them. Jones identifies four kinds of gossip, including, house-talk, bitching, scandal, and chatting (Talbot, 2010: 76).

2.2.1 House-Talk

According to Jones, house-talk is a kind of occupational conversation which involves housewife's conversation about shopping (Talbot, 2010: 76). Moreover, house-talk can be defined as the exchange of information and resources related to the roles of the woman on her occupation, occupation itself means the position of a woman in the situation of her topic of conversation, organization, and society (Sari, 2015: 24). House-talk can be something to show emotional needs for

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recognition and support (Sari, 2015: 24). The example of house-talk gossip is

showed below:

Example:

Cady: It's pronounced like Katie.

Mr. Duval: My apologies. I have a nephew named Anfernee and I know

how mad he gets when I call him Anthony.

The example above categorized as house-talk gossip. On that conversation,

Cady tried to tell Mr. Duvan how her name is pronounced. Instead of correct his

mistakes, Mr. Duvan change the subject of their conversation to his nephew. Mr.

Duvan wanted everyone knows that he is an uncle for his nephew, it means that

he needs recognition for his occupation.

2.2.2 Bitching

Bitching is the type of gossip when women express their anger to other

woman privately. It can be a complaint of a woman about a man, and she delivers

it to other woman privately (Talbot, 2010: 76). Women show their anger or their

frustration of something that annoys them to other woman. Women do not expect

to change the situation that had been happening in the past, but they want their

anger to be understood by the environment (Sari, 2015: 25). The example of

bitching gossip is showed below:

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Example:

Cady: Regina seems sweet.

Janis: Regina George is not sweet. She's a scum-sucking road whore!

She ruined my life!

The example above showed the anger of Janis towards Regina. Cady tried to

states her opinion about Regina, but Janis refused her opinion about Regina. Janis

expressed her anger to Cady. It is categorized as bitching gossip.

2.2.3 Scandal

According to Jones, it is involves the verbal policing of other woman's

behavior (Talbot, 2010). In this type of gossip, women are judging and criticize

the behavior of other people. It is clearly shows in this type of gossip that

woman's interest in another woman's life. The terms that used by woman to

criticize other people is domestic morality (Sari, 2015: 24). The example of

scandal gossip is showed below:

Example:

Cady: Who are The Plastics?

Janis: They're teen royalty.

Damien: If North Shore was us weekly. They would be always on the cover.

Janis: That one there, that's Karen Smith. She is one of the dumbest girl

you will ever meet.

The example above categorized as scandal. Cady tried to find out who are

The Plastics, and Janis tried to explain who they are by judging them. It was

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pretty clear that Janis described Karen negatively by saying that Karen is the

dumbest girl.

2.2.4 Chatting

Chatting is the most intimate kind of gossip (Sari, 2015: 25). According to

Jones, chatting is a phatic form of gossip (Talbot, 2010: 76). It is a kind of

storytelling where a woman tells a personal story with an emotional plot where

the other woman will respond the story by saying some unique response to

underlying the emotional content of the story (Sari, 2015: 25). The example of

chatting gossip is showed below:

Example:

Gretchen: So have you seen any guys that you think are cute?

Cady: Well, there's this guy in my calculus class..

Gretchen: Who is it?

Karen: It's a senior?

Cady: His name's Aaron Samuels.

The example above categorized as chatting. Cady answered all of her

friend's curiosity. This conversation between Cady and her friends also

categorized as an intimate talk because Cady told them about her personal

feelings toward this guy in her calculus class.

2.3 The Function of Gossip

Every gossip that is used by someone will always has its purposes. It has its own function and it can be seen through the content of the gossip itself. Stirling states there are four functions of gossip which are commonly used by woman in gossiping (Foster, 2004: 84-86). Four functions of gossip which are stated by Starling are gives entertainment, enhance friendship, influence others, and provide information (Foster, 2004: 84-86).

2.3.1 Give Entertainment

Gossip is a form of storytelling, enjoyable activities, and an obvious source of pleasure (Foster, 2004: 84). Gilmore states that gossip provides the basic source of entertainment (Foster, 2004:85). Women really enjoy this activity when they are talking with their friends to amuse themselves or their friends. The amusement or the entertainment function in gossip is that the gossip is separated from work tasks (Sari, 2015: 32).

Roy states that gossip is not serves an immediate purpose for the gossipers but it can exist to providing distraction and a relief from a monotonous of routine tasks (Foster, 2004: 84). So, the gossipers will talk about something that makes their audience feel entertain, for example when a woman admire her friend's dress and saying that her friend is looks like Kyle Jenner. So, her friend will feel amused by it.

2.3.2 Influence Others

According Foster, influence others is capable to establish a friendship (Foster, 2004: 85). In this function of gossip, the speaker gives information about something which is valuable to the audience, or even not valuable. The information will influence the audience to do something just like what the speaker says. In this function, people can learn how to act, what to do and what not to do from listening to gossip (Sari, 2015: 35).

2.3.3 Enhance Friendship

Foster stated that gossip is related to a friendship as it has an important role to build a relationship through the friendship or intimacy function (Foster, 2004: 85). Talking about something that the two of speakers interested with will build the relationship between them as a friend. Sari (2015) found the conversation between two females in TV series talking about someone who attract them and their conversation become more intimate because they are talking about something that they like.

2.3.4 Provide Information

Through gossip, people capable to learn the other cultural, social world, and someone who shares the information because it is an act of the mechanism of information to be spread (Foster, 2004: 84). Moreover, gossip could be the way we know about other cultural even it helps us to know the social world

information. Dunbar (Foster, 2004: 84) states that gossip could be the way to discover the other group information. This function of gossip is to provide the exchange of information between the speaker and recipient.

2.4 Previous Study

Some researchers had analyzed gossip in many different subjects. First, Sari (2015) entitled *A Sociolinguistics Analysis of Gossip among Female Characters in Gossip Girl season* 1. She aimed to find out about the types of gossip, the woman's speech features of gossip, and the functional categories of gossip which were used by female characters in TV series entitled *Gossip Girl* season 1. The utterances from the female characters were the data of this research. The result of her research showed that the conversation between the female characters in TV series *Gossip Girl* season 1 consisted of all the types of gossip, four features of women's speech feature, and five functions of gossip.

Second, Ahmed (2010) entitled *Analyzing Women's Talk and Gossip between Two Female Friends*. Her research aimed to find the usage of functions of gossip which were often used by woman. Ahmed took her data from the recording of two friend's conversation. Moreover, Ahmed found that the equal status of participant could maintain the power of their relationship as friends. The result of her research showed that all functions of gossip were found on the conversation.

Third, Rosita (2001) entitled A Sociolinguistic Study on Speech Features of Females Student of Petra Christian University while Gossiping in Campus. She analyzed the types of gossip and woman's speech features by female student of Petra Christian University while they are gossiping. Recording was used to conduct this research. The result of this research was she found that female students tend to used lexical hedges or fillers and intensifiers as their speech features while they are gossiping. Moreover, the types of gossip which were used by female students are chatting and house-talk.

Fourth, Meinarno, Bagaskara, & Rosalina (2011) entitled *Apakah Gosip Bisa Menjadi Kontrol Sosial?*. They analyzed about the role of gossip as a social control. Questionnaire and FGD (*Focus Group Discussion*) was used by the researchers. Moreover, they used GFQ (*Gossip Foster Questionnaire*) to arrange their questionnaire. This research focused to analyze the role of gossip on adolescents and used teenager opinion about gossip as their data. The result of this research showed the reader that 55.2% teenagers use gossip to influence other people.

The last researchers who had analyzed gossip are Kuo, Chang, Quinton, Lu, and Lee (2015). The title of their research is *Gossip in The Workplace and The Implications for HR Management: A Study of Gossip and its Relationship to Employee Cynicism*. This research aimed to analyze about how the relationship of employees can be affected by their behavior. Moreover, they wanted to find about whether the employees relationship can affect their cynicism to each other. The

cynicism means the way they talk about others on their back. Questionnaire was used to conduct this research. The result showed that the relationship between the employees affected to their cynicism to each other.

Although many researchers who had analyzed gossip, but they limited their focused only to women. However, this present research aims to analyze types and functions of gossip which are used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. The gaps between this present research and the previous research can be seen from the object of the research. This present research tries to find the usage of types and functions of gossip by two genders which are male and female.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter shows the procedures of conduct this study. The procedures which are shown in this chapter are research design, data and data source, instrument, technique of data collection, and the last procedure is the technique of data analysis.

3.1 Research Design

Qualitative method was used in this research. According to Vanderstoep and Johnston, the result of qualitative research is going to be a descriptive text that explains about the phenomenon of the study (Vanderstoep and Johnston, 2009: 7). The researcher used qualitative method to analyze types and functions of gossip which are used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie.

3.2 Data Collection

3.2.1 Data and Data Sources

The utterances of conversation among the characters in *Mean Girls* movie was the data of this research. The researcher tried to find out the types and functions of gossip from the utterances of the characters in *Mean Girls* movie. The utterances which were used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie reflected their purposes when they were gossiping. Moreover, the form of

the utterance which was analyzed in this research was words, phrases, and sentences which were uttered by all male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie.

The sources of data were taken from the transcript of *Mean Girls* movie. Moreover, the researcher watched *Mean Girls* movie to see the situation which was happened in the movie, so it helped the researcher to decide which types and functions of gossip that is uttered by male and female characters.

3.2.2 Instrument

The instrument which was used to analyze the data in this research was the researcher herself. As Creswell stated that the instrument of qualitative research is the researcher him/herself (Creswell, 2002: 211). In qualitative research, the researcher is collecting the data, analyzing the data, and drawing a conclusion by him/herself (Creswell, 2002: 208). The researcher was the instrument for this research because the researcher collected the data and analyzed types and functions of gossip by herself.

3.2.3 Technique of Data Collection

To conduct the data, the researcher followed some steps to get the data.

The process of collecting data is divided into several steps:

- 1. First, the researcher downloaded the transcript of *Mean Girls* movie from www.subscene.com.
- 2. Second, the researcher watched *Mean Girls* movie, this step was used to make the researcher know the situation when the characters were uttering gossip, and checked the suitability of the transcript of the movie.
- 3. Third, the researcher highlighted the transcript of *Mean Girls* movie which were shown which types and functions of gossip that was used by the characters.
- 4. Fourth, the researcher re-watched the movie one more time to make sure the data which the researcher got was right.

3.4 Data Analysis

After collecting data, the researcher analyzed the data by following these steps below:

1. Developing Codes

The researcher made codes to mark the data and to classify the data into the categories of types and function of gossip. The purpose of this method was to make the researcher read the result of the data easily. Moreover, it made the researcher counted the frequency of types and functions of gossip easily to conclude the result of this research. The researcher gave codes to underline the data with these following rules:

A. Coding for Types of Gossip

- House-Talk (HT)
- Scandal (S)
- Chatting (C)
- Bitching (B)

B. Coding for Function of Gossip

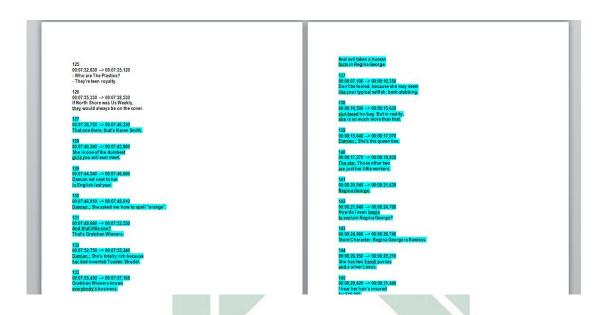
- Enhance Friendship (EF)
- Provide Information (PI)
- Influence Others (IO)
- Give Entertainment (GE)

Moreover, the researcher gave color or highlight to the transcript data to identified which one was the types and functions of gossip which were used by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie.

Table 1 the colors used to identify the data

	Categories	Color
1.	Types of Gossip	
2.	Function of Gossip	

Picture 1 the process of identify the data using colors



2. Classifying the data into categories of types and functions of gossip

The researcher used data sheet to classify the data. The data sheet was made by the researcher herself to make the researcher analyzed the data easily. Moreover, the data sheet covered two focuses which were analyzed in this research including, types and functions of gossip. The data sheet for classify the data was looked like:

Table 2 Process of classifying data

Length of		Types of Gossip			Function of Gossip				
scene	EXCERPT	HT	S	С	В	EF	PI	Ю	GE
03.45	Mr. Duval: I have a nephew named anfernee and I know how mad he gets when I call him Anthony.	√							

3. Counting the result of types and functions of gossip

After analyzing the data, the researcher counted the result of each category of types and function of gossip which were appeared in the conversation. The researcher used a formula to count the result of this research. The researcher used this following formula:

Percentage of each categories: $\frac{x}{y} \times 100\%$

x = Frequency of each categories of types of gossip and functions of gossip

y = Total number of frequency

4. Interpreting the data

From the data analysis, the research interpreted the data with these following steps:

- 1) First, the researcher explained the situation that happened in conversation.
- 2) Second, the researcher described the researcher's interpretation about the situation that happened in conversation. The researcher did interpretation to explain the data more detail.

5. Drawing conclusion

The last steps of analyzed the data was drew a conclusion. After analyzed all of the data and counted the result of the data, the researcher made a conclusion of her research.

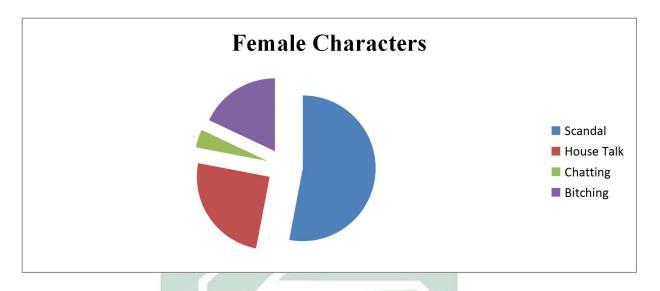
CHAPTER IV

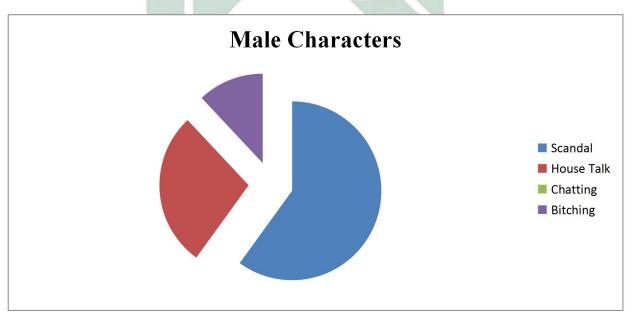
FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter shows the findings and the discussion of the study. Through this chapter, the result of the analysis is presented and interpreted. It also shows the percentage of the data result.

4.1 Findings

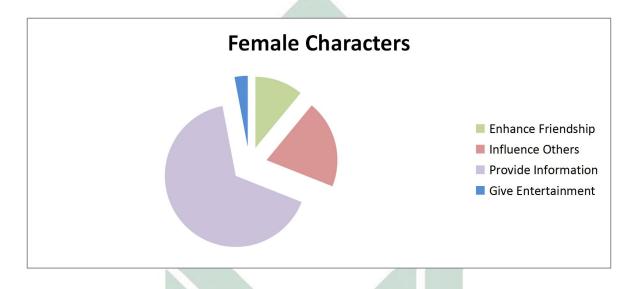
The result of the data analysis is showed in this chapter. The first result of data analysis is the types of gossip which are used by female and male characters in *Mean Girls* movie. The researcher uses Deborah Jones's theory about types of gossip which she divides it into four types, including *House Talk, Scandal, Chatting*, and *Bitching*. All types of gossip are used by female characters in their conversation. Otherwise, there are only three types of gossip which are used by male characters in their conversation. The types of gossip which are used by male characters are House Talk, Scandal, and Bitching. The second finding is the use of functions of gossip by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. Foster divides the functions of gossip into four functions, including Enhance Friendship, Influence Others, Provide Information, and Give Entertainment. Through the conversation of female characters, all functions of gossip are used by them. Otherwise, male characters only use three functions of gossip in their conversation. For further explanation about the findings, the researcher explains it below.

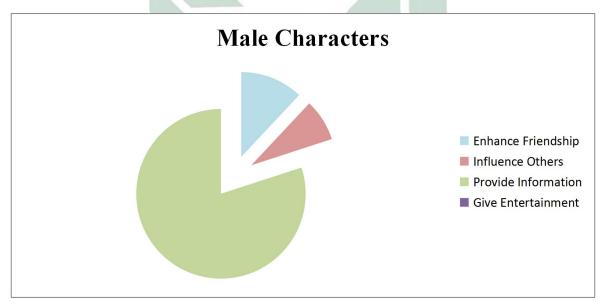




Pie chart shows the result of types of gossip which are used by female and male characters in *Mean Girls* movie. The first pie chart shows that female characters are often use Scandal as the type of their gossip. The percentage of Scandal is higher than the other types of gossip. Scandal is 53%, House Talk 25%, Bitching 18%, and the last type of gossip is Chatting with percentage 4%.

The other pie chart shows the percentage of types gossip which is used by male characters. It shows through the pie chart that the highest percentage of type gossip is Scandal, 60%. Then, the second type of gossip which is used by male characters is House Talk, 28%. Moreover, the usage of Bitching is 12%, and none of male characters use Chatting as their types of gossip.





Pie chart shows the result of the functions of gossip which are used by female and male characters in the movie. The result shows that female characters are often use Provide Information as the function of their gossip. The percentage of it is 66%. The next function of gossip which is used by female characters is Influence Others, the percentage of Influence Others is 20%. The third is Enhance Friendship, the percentage of it is 11%. The last function of gossip is Give Entertainment, the percentage of it is 3%.

Another pie chart shows the usage of functions gossip by male characters in the movie. The result shows that the function of gossip which is often used by male characters is Provide Information, the percentage of it is 80%. The second function which is used by male characters is Enhance Friendship, the percentage of it is 12%. Influence Others has the lowest percentage, the percentage of Influence Others is 8%. None of male characters use Give Entertainment as the functions of their gossip. Moreover, the researcher shows the explanation about the analysis data of this study below.

4.1.1 Types of Gossip

Deborah Jones divides types of gossip into four types, including House Talk, Scandal, Chatting, and Bitching. This part shows the discussion about the types of gossip which are uttered by female and male characters in the movie. For further discussion is presented below.

4.1.1.1 House Talk

Types of gossip which are conveyed by female and male characters in the movie are House Talk. House Talk is a type of gossip which is used by woman to show her position or her role in the situation of the conversation. This type of gossip shows the needs of recognition and support which is expressed by woman toward the recipient. As it states by some researchers that woman tends to express their feelings towards each other, this type of gossip proves the way of woman tries to show and express what they thought about themselves to the others. The main purpose of this type of gossip is to gain recognition from the recipient. The usage of House Talk as type of gossip by female and male characters is found in the movie. The explanation of this type of gossip is presented below.

Datum 1

Cady: His name's Aaron Samuels.

Gretchen: No! Oh, no, you can't like Aaron Samuels. That's Regina's ex-

boyfriend.

Karen: They went out for a year.

Gretchen: Yeah, and then she was devastated when he broke up with her last

summer.

The datum 1 showed the usage of House Talk as gossip by female character in movie. It is pretty clear that Gretchen wants to show her position as Regina's friend. On this scene, Cady convinces that she interested with a guy named Aaron Samuels. However, Gretchen tries to make her understand that she cannot be with Aaron

because Aaron was Regina's ex-boyfriend and Regina was devastated when she

broke up with Aaron. Gretchen convinces Cady to stop her feelings and avoid Aaron

because it can hurt Regina if she finds out that Cady hang out with Aaron.

As it has explained, house talk is a kind of gossip or woman's talk which is

used by woman to show the needs of recognition. Through this conversation, it is

identified as house talk gossip because Gretchen wants to be recognized as Regina's

best friend as she tries to support Regina. Another conversation which is shown the

usage of house talk as a type of gossip is reflected in the next datum.

Datum 2

Mrs. George: Hi. Welcome to our home. Just want you to know, if you need

anything, don't be shy, OK? There are no rules in this house. I'm not like a regular mom. I'm a cool mom. Right, Regina?

Regina

: Please stop talking.

Mrs. George: OK.

As it showed on the previous datum, female characters shows their roles or even

they need to be recognized by others that they have an important position in their

conversation. It also appears in the conversation above. Datum 2 shows that Mrs.

George who is Regina's mother wants to be recognized as a cool mom in front of

Regina's friends. It is pretty clear that Mrs. George needs support as she asks for

Regina's approval about her being a cool mom. Mrs. George also tries to emphasize

her role as Regina's mother.

As we can see through datum 2, Mrs. George says "There are no rules in this house" it reflects her role as the one who control and manage the rules in Regina's house. The conversation above shows the usage of house talk as type of gossip by female characters because Mrs. George express her needs to be recognized as it stated that house talk is a kind of gossip which is used to gain a recognition from other people of speaker's position. The usage of House Talk by female characters shows on the next datum.

Datum 3

Gretchen: Regina wanted me to tell you that she was trying to hook you up with Aaron, but he was just interested in getting her back. And that's not Regina's fault.

Cady: No, I know.

Gretchen: OK, so you're not mad at Regina?

Cady: God, no. Gretchen: Oh, OK, good.

Moreover, the usage of House Talk as type gossip by female character also reflected in this conversation. The conversation shows the moment when Gretchen tries to show herself again as Regina's best friend. It is different from datum 1, it reflects how Gretchen needs to be recognized as someone who is trusted by Regina. She wants Cady know her role or her level on her friendship. Regina has intention to make Cady angry. Regina is getting back together with Aaron after she knows that Cady has feeling with Aaron and the person who knows Regina's plan is Gretchen.

Through this scene, Gretchen tries to cover Regina's behavior by saying to

Cady that Aaron is the one who wants to come back with Regina. Gretchen plays her

role as Regina's best friend. She wants to be recognized as a good friend for Regina

and her level which is higher than Cady on their friendship. As it has explained that

House Talk is a kind of gossip which is used by woman to gain recognition of

themselves, the conversation above shows the way Gretchen wants to be recognized

as someone who is trusted by Regina. More explanation about House Talk is

presented below.

Datum 4

Mr. Duvall: I have a nephew named Anfernee and I know how mad he gets when I call him Anthony. Almost as mad as I get when I think about the fact that my sister named him Anfernee. Well, welcome,

Cady.

Cady

: And thank you, Mr. Duvall.

Moreover, House Talk is also used by male characters in the movie. Although

some researchers state that gossip is a kind of conversation which had by women, but

the researcher found some of conversation which shows that male characters used

some types of gossip. Through this conversation, Mr. Duvall tells that he has a

nephew. It is obvious that he wants to be recognized as an uncle. He wants everyone

knows that he has a nephew whose name he hate. The usage of House Talk as the

type of gossip by male character can be seen from the way he tried to state that he has

nephew and wanted to be recognized by people that he is an uncle. The need of

recognition which is reflected through this scene can be defined as House Talk.

4.1.1.2 Scandal

Although scandal is the type of gossip which is really identified woman's talk,

but this type of gossip is used by male character and found in the movie. This type of

gossip involves verbal policing of other woman's behavior. Women tend to judge

other people appearance or even others behavior. This kind of conversation is

presented through this type of gossip. For further explanation about this type of

gossip, it is presented below.

Datum 5

Damian: If North Shore was Us Weekly, they would always be on the cover.

: That one there, that's Karen Smith. She is one of the dumbest

girls you will ever meet. Damian sat next to her in English last year.

Damian: She asked me how to spell "orange".

As it has explained that Scandal is a kind of conversation which involves a

verbal policing. It happens when woman express their impression towards other

people by judging their appearance or behavior. Through the conversation, it is

obvious that Janis criticizes Karen's behavior. Janis says to her friends that Karen is

the dumbest girl. Moreover, Janis also tells her friend that Karen had sat next to

Damian and did some stupid things. Through this conversation, it shows that Janis

really interested to share what she knows and thinks about Karen to her friend. It also

proves that Janis likes to criticize someone behavior and appearance.

The conversation above is categorized as Scandal because it shows the way

Janis judges Karen behavior. As some researcher state that women tend to judge or

criticize other people appearance or behavior when they have conversation with their

relatives and the conversation above shows the way woman judges other people

behavior. Furthermore, the examples about Scandal as gossip which is used by female

characters in movie is presented below.

Datum 6

Gretchen: Trang Pak is a grotsky little byotch

Regina

: Still true.

Gretchen: Dawn Schweitzer is a fat virgin.

Regina

: Still half true.

The next excerpt which is shown the usage of Scandal as gossip by female

character in movie is reflected above. The conversation above is showed the moment

when Gretchen judges other people appearance. Gretchen mentions the information

that they had written through their book about other girl in their school. It is obvious

that Gretchen is criticizing other people appearance. Even Gretchen's friends agree

with her about that.

This conversation is categorized as Scandal because it shows that Gretchen

and her friends criticize the appearance and behavior of other girl in their school.

Moreover, Gretchen gives a label to the girls who they do not like in their school. As

it mentioned that Scandal is a kind of gossip which is used by woman to judge other

people appearance and behavior. Thus, the conversation above is reflected the usage

of scandal as the type of gossip by female character in movie. More explanation about

Scandal as gossip is presented below.

Datum 7

Aaron

: Really? How do you know?

: Because she told me. She tells everybody. It's kind of cute, actually.

She's like a little girl. She, like, writes all over her notebook, "Mrs. Aaron Samuels<mark>." And she ma</mark>de th<mark>is T-</mark>shirt that says"I heart

Aaron" and sh<mark>e wears it unde</mark>r all <mark>he</mark>r clothes.

Aaron

: Oh, come on.

Regina : Well, who can blame her?

The other example of conversation that shows the usage of Scandal as gossip

by female character is presented above. It shows the moment when Regina judges

Cady in front of Aaron. It is different with the other previous conversation, this

conversation shows Regina criticize Cady's behavior on purpose. The purpose of her

action is she wants to ruin Cady's name in front of Aaron. Regina tells Aaron about

Cady who has feeling toward him. Instead of making a good image for Cady, Regina

makes Cady looks bad in front of Aaron. Moreover, Regina tells Aaron about Cady's

weird behavior.

It is obvious that Regina criticizes Cady. Regina makes judgment towards

Cady's behavior and appearance. Although all of Regina's statement about Cady is

not true, but her utterance is indicated that she criticizes other woman's behavior. The

conversation above is categorized as Scandal because it shows the way Regina

criticizes Cady's behavior and appearance. As it mentioned that Scandal is a type of

gossip which is used by woman to judge other people. Thus, the conversation above

is reflected the usage of Scandal as gossip which is used by female character. Further

example about the use of Scandal as gossip by the character in the movie is shown

below.

Datum 8

Damian: In the name of all that is holy, will you look at Karen Smith's gym

clothes?

Janis: Of course all The Plastics are in the same gym class.

Cady: Who are The Plastics?

Damian: They're teen royalty.

However, Scandal gossip is a kind of gossip which is often used by woman

than man. The conversation above shows the usage of Scandal as gossip by male

character in the movie. This datum shows when Damian tries to criticize Karen's

appearance. Damian gives a label to Karen and her friend as teenager royalty which

represent their role in their school. Karen and her friends are really popular and many

students follow their style and obsessed to be one of *The Plastic* member. That is the

reason why Damian says that Karen and her friends are teenager royalty.

From the conversation, it is obvious that Damian criticizes Karen and her

friends. Indirectly, Damian criticizes Karen's clothes by being sarcastic when he sees

Karen. This conversation is categorized as Scandal which is used by male character in

the movie. The way Damian being sarcastic when he sees Karen's appearance and the

way he judges Karen and her friends is showed that Damian criticizes other people

behavior and appearance. Thus, the conversation above is categorized as Scandal.

4.1.1.3 Chatting

Chatting is types of gossip where the speaker tells something emotional or

even something that make her happy, then the recipient responds it with the

emotional or supportive answer. This kind gossip is used by the female and male

characters in the movie. The discussion about this kind of gossip is presented below.

Datum 9

Regina: Oh, my God, I love your bracelet. Where did you get it?

Cady: Oh, my mom made it for me.

Regina: It's adorable.

Gretchen: Oh, it's so fetch.

The usage of Chatting as gossip by female character in the movie is showed in

this conversation. Gretchen and Regina show the way they share their emotion on

something. Through the conversation, Regina shows her interest toward Cady's

bracelet. Regina amused by Cady's bracelet and says that Cady's bracelet is adorable.

Then, Gretchen answers Regina's utterance and says that she agrees with Regina's

opinion about Cady's bracelet by saying "so fetch." which is a British slang word of

awesome. Gretchen says something which is shown that she supports Regina's

feeling when she sees Cady's bracelet.

As it has explained that Chatting is a kind of gossip when the speaker shares

her feelings to recipient and the recipient will give a good response to the speaker.

The conversation above is showed chatting gossip because Gretchen gives the same

emotion as Regina when Regina adores Cady's bracelet. Furthermore, the explanation

of the usage of Chatting as gossip by female character is showed above.

Datum 10

Cady: She took him back. Regina took Aaron back.

Janis : Oh, no, Cadv.

Cady: Why would she do that?

Janis : Because she's a life-ruiner. She ruins people's lives.

Other conversation which shows the usage of Chatting as gossip by female

character in the movie is showed above. The conversation is showed the support and

the way Janis calm Cady when she feels angry to Regina. Moreover, Janis tries to

support Cady's feelings as she tries to tell her that Regina likes to ruin someone life.

As it can be seen through the conversation, Janis tries to follow the emotion of Cady.

Cady feels angry because Regina betrays her and Janis tries to balance Cady's

emotion by saying something which express her anger toward Regina's action.

Through the conversation is identified as Chatting. It shows the way Janis

tries to follow Cady's emotion. As it has explained that Chatting is a conversation

when the speaker shares her feelings or thoughts to the recipient and the recipient will

give a good response to the speaker which makes the speaker feel supported by the

recipient. The other example of the usage of Chatting by the female character is

presented below.

Datum 11

Mrs. Norbury: How much trouble did you get in for telling the truth?

Cady

: A lot.

Mrs. Norbury: You didn't write that whole book yourself. Did you tell Mr.

Duvall who else did it?

Cadv

: No, because I'm trying this new thing where I don't talk

about people behind their backs

This conversation is presented the usage of Chatting by Mrs. Norbury towards

Cady. Cady has a problem which makes her feel down lately. Mrs. Norbury asks her

about her condition and tries to show her support towards Cady. Cady tells Mrs.

Norbury that she has many troubles and Mrs. Norbury shows her emotional response and tries to give some advices to Cady.

The conversation above is showed the usage of Chatting as gossip by female character in the movie. Chatting is a kind of conversation to share feelings between the speaker and recipient, and get a good response from the recipient. The emotional response which is shown by Mrs. Norbury is identified as chatting gossip. Thus, the conversation above is represented the usage of Chatting as gossip by female characters.

There are no conversations which involved male characters used this type of gossip. Male characters in the movie did not use this type of gossip as their kind of gossip. As it can be seen through the pie chart above, chatting gossip is not appeared or used by male characters in the movie. The researcher assumes that it because man does not tend to share their feelings to the others and gain any supports from it.

4.1.1.4 Bitching

The types of gossip where the speaker express her anger towards other people behavior is known as bitching. This type of gossip is showed how the speaker expresses their anger and disappointment towards other people. Female and male characters in the movie use this type of gossip on their conversation. The discussion of bitching gossip is showed below.

Datum 12

Cady: Regina seems sweet.

Janis: Regina George is not sweet. She's a scum-sucking road whore! She

ruined my life!

The conversation is presented the usage of Bitching as gossip by female character in the movie. Through the conversation which shows above, Cady expresses her opinion about Regina George. Cady thinks that Regina is a good and kind person. Otherwise, Janis says to Cady that Regina George is not nice and she has to avoid Regina because Regina can ruin her life. Instead of obeys what Janis said to her, Cady

be friended with Regina George and she thinks that Regina is a good person.

The conversation shows how angry Janis is. Janis says that Regina ruined her

life and that is the reason why Janis says that Regina George is not nice. The type of

gossip which is suitable with the conversation above is bitching because it shows how

Janis expresses her anger toward Regina to Cady. As it has explained that Bitching is

kind of conversation when the speaker express her anger or disappointment toward

someone to the recipient. Thus, the conversation above is categorized as Bitching.

The other examples of the usage of Bitching as gossip by female characters in movie

are presented below.

Datum 13

Cady: This is ass, you guys. It's been a month, and all we've done is make

Regina's face smell like a foot.

Damian: I've been really busy with choir.

Janis: We gotta crack Gretchen Wieners.

The next conversation which shows the usage of Bitching as gossip by female

character in movie is showed above. The conversation which was mentioned above

shows the moment when Cady expresses her disappointment towards Regina who is

still behaved like everything is fine. Although Cady tries to ruin Regina's status as a

queen bee, but no one hates Regina or avoids her. Cady feels that all of her plans are

useless.

Through the conversation above, it obvious that Cady shows her anger to her

friends because she does not get what she wants. As some researcher said that woman

tends to share her feelings and thoughts to the other people and Bitching is one kind

of conversation which is used by woman to share her anger and disappointment

toward someone or something. Thus, the conversation above is categorized as

bitching because it shows the moment when Cady shows and expresses her anger

towards Regina to Janis and Damian. For further explanation about Bitching as

gossip which is used by female characters in movie is presented below.

Datum 14

Karen: Did he say why?

Regina: Somebody told him about Shane Oman.

Gretchen: Who?

Regina: He said some guy on the baseball team.

Karen: Baseball team?

Regina: I gave him everything. I was half a virgin when I met him.

Moreover, the conversation which is mentioned above is showed the moment when Regina George breaks up with Aaron. Regina cries and tells all of her friends about it. Through this conversation, she shows her anger towards Aaron who suddenly wants to be separated with her. She expresses her disappointment by saying that she had given everything to Aaron.

Through the conversation above, it is obvious that Regina shares her anger and disappointment to her friends about her boyfriend. Thus, the conversation is categorized as bitching because it shows how Regina expresses her anger and disappointment towards Aaron to her friends. The other example which shows about the usage of Bitching as gossip by male character in the movie is showed below.

Datum 15

Mr. Duvall: I have a nephew named anfernee and I know how mad he gets when I call him Anthony. Almost as mad as I get when I think about the fact that my sister named him Anfernee. Well, welcome, Cady.

Cady : And thank you, Mr. Duvall. The next conversation which shows the usage of Bitching as gossip is presented above. Some researcher said that gossip is restricted to woman because woman tends to share her feelings, thoughts and emotion to the other people. However, Bitching gossip is found in the movie and it also used by male characters in the movie. Through the conversation above, Mr. Duvall express his anger towards his sister who named her son Anfernee. Mr. Duvall feels mad as he knows that his nephew name is not Anthony but Anfernee and he keeps spell it wrong.

The conversation above shows the moment when Mr. Duvall shares his anger or expresses his disappointment to the other people. As it has explained that Bitching is type of conversation where the speaker shows her anger or disappointment, the conversation above shows how the speaker shares his disappointment to the other. Thus, the conversation above is categorized as Bitching.

4.1.2 Functions of Gossip

The functions of gossip which were used to analyze the data are the theory of Foster. Foster states that there are four functions of gossip, including Enhance Friendship, Provide Information, Influence Others, and Give Entertainment. Through this discussion, it shows the usage of functions of gossip by female and male characters in the movie.

4.1.2.1 Enhance Friendship

One of purposes of having gossip with other people is to enhance friendship with those people. It means that the purpose of the conversation that they build is to make their relationship more enhance and closer. Some of conversation among the characters in the movie shows this function as their purposes. The explanation about Enhance Friendship as the functions of gossip which wereused by male and female characters in the movie is presented below.

Datum 16

Regina : Oh, my God, I love your bracelet. Where did you get it?

Cady : Oh, my mom made it for me.

Regina : <u>It's adorable.</u> Gretchen : **Oh, it's so fetch.**

The conversation above shows the way of the female characters to use their conversation as the enhancement of their friendship. Through the conversation above, Regina tries to get along with Cady who is a new student in her school. Regina keeps looking for something which is interested to talk about with Cady. Once, she looks at Cady's bracelet and tells Cady that her bracelet is adorable.

Through the conversation above, it shows Regina's effort to enhance her friendship with Cady. Regina's purpose to build a conversation with Cady is obvious that she wants to get close with Cady. Thus, the conversation above reflects Enhance Friendship as the function of gossip. It shows Regina's effort to build up a

conversation with Cady. The other explanation about Enhance Friendship as the

function of gossip which is used by female characters in movie is presented below.

Datum 17

Cady: I hate her! I mean, she's totally failing me on purpose because I

didn't join those stupid Mathletes! She was so queer. She was like,

"I'm a pusher, Cady. I'm a pusher."

Regina: What does that even mean?

Gretchen: Like a drug pusher?

Cady: Probably.

The other conversation which shows Enhance Friendship as the function of

gossip which is used by female characters in movie is showed above. The

conversation above is showed when Cady and her friends talk about Mrs. Norbury. It

is different with the previous conversation when the character wants to enhance a

friendship by admire something which owned by their friend. Meanwhile, the

conversation above shows the way Cady enhance friendship by judging Mrs. Norbury.

Cady knows that her friends are not a type of diligent student who likes to admire

their teacher. Cady build a conversation by discuss about Mrs. Norbury who annoys

her. Cady tells her friend about Mrs. Norbury who pushes her to join as a member of

mathematic students which is called as Mathletes. Cady impersonates Mrs. Norbury

to make her friends interested with her topic. The result is her friends really excited to

talk about Mrs. Norbury.

From the conversation above, it is obvious that Cady tries to build a

conversation which makes her friends interested. The purpose of the conversation

above is to make Cady's friends more interested to be her friend and closer to her. As

it has explained that Enhance Friendship is the function of gossip which is used by

woman to get the enhancement of her friendship, the conversation above is proved

the way how Cady wants to enhance friendship with her friends. Thus, the

conversation above uses Enhance Friendship as the function of gossip. Furthermore,

the other explanation about the usage of Enhance Friendship as the function of gossip

by female characters in movie is presented below.

Datum 18

Karen: Who's this?

Gretchen: Gretchen.

Karen: Right. Hold on. Oh, my God, she's so annoying.

Regina: I know. Just get rid of her.

Moreover, the dialog on datum 18 shows Karen uses Enhance Friendship as

her purposes of doing gossip. Through this conversation, Karen talks about Gretchen

to Regina. Karen knows that something wrong happened between Regina and

Gretchen, so she takes this as her advantages to enhance her friendship with Regina.

She tells Regina that Gretchen is annoying and Regina agrees with her and asks her to

avoid Gretchen. Karen makes Regina likes her by supporting Regina to hate Gretchen.

From the conversation above, it is obvious that Karen wants to get closer with Regina by supporting Regina when Regina is annoyed by Gretchen. The conversation above shows the way Karen enhances her friendship with Regina by supporting Regina's feeling which was annoyed by Gretchen. Thus, the conversation above is showed the usage of Enhance Friendship as the function of gossip by female characters in movie. The other example which is shown the usage of Enhance Friendship as the function of gossip is presented below.

Datum 19

Damian : <u>Does that mean I'm morally obligated to burn that lady's outfit?</u>
Oh, my God, that's Ms. Norbury.

Janis : I love seeing teachers outside of school. It's like seeing a dog walks on its hind legs.

The usage of Enhance Friendship as the function of gossip is not only used by female characters in movie, but male characters also use this function when they have a conversation with other people. The conversation which is mentioned in datum 19 is shows the usage of Enhance Friendship as the purpose of gossiping by male characters in the movie. Through the conversation above, it shows Damian who build a conversation with his friends. Damian criticizes someone to build a conversation with his friend. Hence he talks about Mrs. Norbury's odd outfit. He knows that his friend likes to talk about their teachers, so he takes this topic as their conversation.

Through the conversation above, it shows that Damian knows that his friends are interested to talk about this kind of topic. It is obvious that Damian wants to enhance his friendship with his friends. Thus, the conversation above is showed the usage of Enhance Friendship as the function of gossip by male character in movie.

4.1.2.2 Provide Information

The main purposes of talking with someone is to get some information from the person to whom we speak. Provide information is one of the functions of gossip which is used by male and female characters in the movie. Some of the conversation among the characters uses this function as their purposes of having conversation with other people. The discussion about the usage of Provide Information as the function of gossip which is used by male and female characters in the movie is presented below.

Datum 20

Janis : And evil takes a human form in Regina George. Don't be fooled, because she may seem like your typical selfish, back-stabbing, slutfaced ho-bag. But in reality, she is so much more than that.

Damian: She's the queen bee. The star. Those other two are just her little workers.

The conversation above is showed the usage of Provide Information as the function of gossip by female characters in movie. Through the conversation which is

shown above, Janis explains to her friend about who Regina George is. Janis gives

information to Cady as a new student in her school about all students and Regina

George is one of them. Janis tells Cady that Regina is not as good as she looks, so

Cady can be careful with Regina.

The information provides Cady's knowledge about Regina. As it has

explained that Provide Information is the function of gossip which is used to gain any

information from the speaker or share any information to the recipient. Thus, the

conversation above is categorized as Provide Information because Janis provides

information about Regina to Cady. For Further explanation about the usage of

Provide Information as the function of gossip is showed below.

Datum 21

Gretchen: Yeah, and then she was devastated when he broke up with her last

summer.

Karen

: I thought she dumped him for Shane Oman.

Gretchen: OK, irregardless. Ex-boyfriends are just off-limits to friends. I

mean, that's just, like, the rules of feminism. Don't worry. I'll

never tell Regina what you said. It'll be our little secret.

The next example of Provide Information as the function of gossip which is

used by female character in the movie is presented above. The conversation above

shows that Gretchen tries to make Cady understands that Cady cannot get along with

Regina's ex-boyfriend. Gretchen tells Cady about the rules of feminism. Through

conversation above, Gretchen tries to tell Cady that she and her beliefs on the rules of

feminism and Cady has to follow the rules if she wants to be their friend.

Through the conversation above, it is obvious that Gretchen provides some

information to Cady. One of information which Gretchen tells to Cady is Regina is

not going to like the news of Cady attracted with Regina's ex-boyfriend. Thus, the

conversation above is presented the usage of Provide Information as the function of

gossip which is used by female character in movie.

Datum 22

Cady: And they have this Burn Book where they write mean things about all

the girls in our grade.

Janis: What does it say about me?

Cady: You're not in it.

Janis: Those bitches.

Next example which shows the usage of Provide Information as the function

of gossip which is used by female characters is shows above. Datum 22 shows the

conversation of Cady and Janis. Cady tries to get along with Regina and her friend

and gain information about their secrets. Hence Cady give the information about

Regina's secret book to Janis. Cady has intention to ruin Regina's status as the most

popular student in her school by spreading all of her secret to everyone. Janis is the

one who helps Cady to make the plan. When Cady knows about Burn Book, she tells

Janis immediately. She gives Janis information about the book which was used by

Regina and her friend. The book contains their rudeness toward other student in their

school.

Through the conversation above, it shows that Cady provides information to

Janis and Janis gain information from Cady about Regina. Thus, the conversation

above shows Cady uses Provide Information as the function of gossip because she

gives information to Janis about Regina's secret book. Furthermore, the usage of

Provide Information as the function of gossip is presented below.

Datum 23

Janis: And that little one? That's Gretchen Wieners.

Damian: She's totally rich because her dad invented Toaster Strudel.

Janis: Gretchen Wieners knows everybody's business.

The conversation above is showed the usage of Provide Information as the

function of gossip by male character in movie. The conversation above shows

Damian who tells Cady about the background of Gretchen Wieners. Damian tries to

provide information about Gretchen to Cady because he knows that Cady is a new

student and she needs to know about the people around her. He tells Cady that

Gretchen's father is the inventor of Toaster Strudel which means that Gretchen has a

high status in their school. Damian's information makes Cady gain more knowledge

about people around her.

Provide Information is one of function of gossip which is used by woman to

provide any information for the recipient. Otherwise, the conversation above shows

the usage of Provide Information as the function of gossip by male character in the

movie to provide information for the recipient. Hence the conversation above is

identified as Provide Information.

4.1.2.3 Influence Others

Influence others is identified as function of gossip which is often used by

woman. As it states by Foster that Influence Others is capable to establish a

friendship. This function of gossip makes the recipient to do what the speaker wants

them to do. Some of conversation among the characters uses this function of gossip.

For further explanation about Influence Others as function of gossip which is used by

female and male characters in the movie is presented below.

Datum 24

Damian

: Regina started this rumor that Janis was...

Janis

: Damian! Shall we not? Now, look. This isn't about hating her,

OK? I just think that it would be, like, a fun little experiment if you were to

hang out with them and then tell us everything that they say.

The conversation above is showed the usage of Influence Others by female

character in movie. Through the conversation, Janis tries to make Cady agree to be

Regina's friend. Janis tells Cady to give her information about Regina and her friend.

It can benefit Janis because Janis wants to ruin Regina's life by spreading her secrets.

Janis makes Cady do something which Janis wants and she also tries to persuade

Cady to do what Janis wants.

The conversation above shows the way Janis tries to convince Cady to do

what Janis wants. The result of Janis's persuasion toward Cady is she makes Cady

agrees to be Regina's friend to gain some information about Regina and her friend.

As it has explained that Influence Others is a function of gossip when the speaker can

influence the recipient to do what the speaker wants. Thus, the conversation above is

used Influence Others as the function of gossip. Furthermore, the other explanation

about the usage of Influence Others by female and male characters is showed below.

Datum 25

Janis: No. Cady, you gotta steal that book.

Cady: No way!

Janis: Oh, come on. We could publish it, and then everybody would see what

an ax-wound she really is.

Cady: I don't steal.

The next conversation which shows the usage of Influence Others as the

function of gossip is showed above. Moreover, the conversation above shows Janis

pushes Cady to steal Regina's book for her. Janis tries to persuade Cady to do what

Janis wants. Even Janis tries to convince Cady the advantage which they will gain

together if Cady steal Regina's book for Janis.

Although Cady refuses to do what Janis wants, the conversation above is

categorized as Influence Others because Janis tries to convince Cady to do something

which she wants her to do. Influence Other is the function of gossip which is used by

woman to make the recipient do something that the speaker wants. Therefore, the

conversation above is presented the usage of Influence Others as the function of

gossip in their conversation. The other conversation which shows the usage of

Influence Others as the function of gossip by female and male characters is presented

below.

Datum 26

Gretchen: I mean, why would Regina send you guys candy canes and not me?

Karen: Maybe she forgot about you.

Cady: Yeah, Regina has been acting kind of weird lately.

Moreover, the conversation above is showed when Cady plays her plan to ruin

Regina's life. Cady tries to make Gretchen believes her. Because Gretchen is

Regina's closest friend and she is the one who knows all Regina's secret, Cady tries

to make Gretchen feels that Regina had been acting weird and tried to avoid her.

When Gretchen thinks that Regina does not want to be her friend anymore, Cady can

take advantage of that and convince Gretchen to share Regina's secret.

Through the conversation above, Cady tries to influence Gretchen's mind

about Regina behavior. Cady tries to make Gretchen to do what Cady wants which

makes Gretchen feels that Regina does not want to be her friend anymore. The

conversation above reflects how the speaker makes the recipient to do what the

speaker wants. Hence it is categorized as Influence Others. The conversation which shows the usage of Influence Others by male character is presented below.

Datum 27

Aaron: It's not fair to Regina. Cady: Why do you like her?

Aaron: Look, I know she can be really mean sometimes, but...

Cady: Then why do you like her?

Aaron: Why do you? Look, there's good and bad to everybody.

Right? Regina's just... She's just more up-front about it.

The conversation which presents in datum 27 is showed the usage of Influence Others as the function of gossip which is used by male character in the movie. Even though Influence Others is the function of gossip which is commonly used by woman than man, but some of male characters in this movie also use this function to be their function of gossip. Through the conversation above, it shows the way Aaron tries to make Cady changes her perception about Regina. He tries to make Cady understand that Regina is not a bad person. However, Cady still thinks that Regina is not a good person and Regina is not a good partner for Aaron. Aaron tries to convince Cady that Regina has a good side.

The conversation above is reflects how the speaker tries to make the recipient to change her thoughts and follow what speaker thinks. Although Cady does not want to do what Aaron asks her to do, it is still categorized as Influence Others because it shows Aaron's effort to make Cady change her perception of Regina.

4.1.2.4 Give Entertainment

The last function of gossip which is discussed in this research is Give Entertainment. This kind of function has purposes to entertain the recipient or make them happy by discussing what the speaker says. This function of gossip is only used by female characters in the movie. For further explanation of the usage of Give Entertainment by female characters in the movie is showed below.

Datum 28

Gretchen: You totally have a crush on that guy.

Cady : No, I don't.

Gretchen: That's why you wanted to join the Mathletes.

Aaron: Mathletes? You hate math.

Gretchen: Look how red she is. You love him. And he totally

complimented you. That is so fetch.

From the conversation above, Gretchen wants to entertain her friends by teasing Cady. Gretchen knows that it will be funny enough to tease Cady in front of her friends as her friends like to tease everyone. Gretchen says that Cady has a feeling for Kevin who has opposite level of friendship with them. Gretchen wants to entertain her friends after they performed. Although Regina does not approve Gretchen's joke, but Karen and Aaron give Gretchen a good feedback by laughing and being pleased with the conversation which Gretchen build.

Through the conversation above, it is obvious that Gretchen entertain her friends by teasing Cady. Give Entertainment is one of the functions of gossip which

has purpose to make the recipient feels happy. Thus, the conversation above is

presented the usage of Give Entertainment as the function of gossip by female

character in the movie. Moreover, the other explanation about the usage of Give

Entertainment as the function of gossip is showed below.

Datum 29

Mrs. Norbury: And I'll see you guys tomorrow.

Cady : Bye. Mrs. Norbury : Bye.

Janis : Oh, man, that is bleak.

Moreover, the conversation which is mentioned above is showed when Janis

tries to build a conversation with her friends after their teacher left them. Janis tries to

light up the conversation by stating that Mrs. Norbury is boring. The topic which

Janis brings to build the conversation among her friends succeeded to make her

friends feel entertain. Janis knows that her friends interested to talk about their

teacher. Even they like to judge their own teacher. When Janis talks about Mrs.

Norbury, it definitely makes her friends feel entertain by it.

Give Entertainment is function of gossip which is used by woman to entertain

the recipient of the conversation. The conversation above shows Janis tries to

entertain her friends by criticizing their teacher. Thus, the conversation above is

categorized as Give Entertainment because it shows the way Janis tries to build a

conversation which make her friends feel entertain by it.

The usage of Give Entertainment as the function of gossip by male characters is not found in the movie. There are no male characters which use this function of gossip in their conversation. As it can be seen through the chart above, there are no male characters use Give Entertainment as the function of gossip. Hence the researcher assumes that it may be because man does not tend to talk about something which is unnecessary, they tend to talk directly about what they want to say.

4.2 Discussions

Based on the findings of this study, the researcher has finished analyzing gossip which was used by female and male characters in *Mean Girls* movie. The findings of this study involve the answer of two research problems which were stated before, including the types of gossip which are used by male and female characters in the movie and the functions of gossip which are used by male and female characters in the movie.

The first finding which is discussed through this study is the usage of types of gossip by female and male characters in *Mean Girls* movie. Jones's theory about types of gossip is used to analyze the conversation among the characters in the movie. Jones divided the types of gossip into four types, including *House Talk, Scandal, Chatting, and Bitching*.

As it has discussed through the findings, female characters use four types of gossip in their conversation. Types of gossip which is used by female characters in

Mean Girls movie were *House Talk, Scandal, Chatting, and Bitching*. Otherwise, male characters are only used three types of gossip in their conversation. The types of gossip which are used by male characters in *Mean Girls* movie are *House Talk, Scandal, and Bitching*. There are no male characters used *Chatting* as the type of their gossip.

The second finding which is explained in this study is the usage of functions of gossip by female and male characters in *Mean Girls* movie. There are four functions of gossip which had analyzed through the conversation among the characters in *Mean Girls* movie. The functions of gossip which are found in the conversation among the characters are Enhance Friendship, Influence Others, Give Entertainment, and Provide Information.

As it showed through the findings of this study, there are four functions of gossip which are used by female characters, including Enhance Friendship, Influence Others, Provide Information, and Give Entertainment. The function of gossip which is often used by female characters on their conversation is to Provide Information. It is because woman likes to share information to each other. As it can be seen through datum 20 until 22, the female characters show that they like to share information to their friends.

However, the functions of gossip which are used by male characters in Mean Girls movie are only three functions, including Enhance Friendship, Influence Others,

and Provide Information. The function of gossip which is often used by male characters is to Provide Information. This result shows that man likes to share information to other people like woman does. Moreover, there are no male characters uses Give Entertainment as the functions of their gossip.

Based on the findings above, the researcher wants to compare this present study with the previous studies. Sari (2015) analyzed the types of gossip, woman's speech features, and functions of gossip. Ahmed (2010) analyzed the functions of gossip. Rosita (2001) analyzed the types of gossip and woman's speech features. Eko A. Meinarno, SunuBagaskara, and MelyPutriKurniati Rosalina (2011) analyzed teenager's opinion about function of gossip. Kuo, Chang, Quinton, Lu, and Lee (2015) analyzed the effect of gossip towards employee.

Moreover, this present study gives new findings. It can be seen from the subject that analyzed on this present study. All previous studies chose woman as their subject of study. Otherwise, this present study chose man and woman as the subject of study. None of previous studies choose man as their subject of study. The result of this present study shows that gossip do not restricted to woman, it is possible for man to have a gossip on their conversation.

As a moeslem, we know that talk about other people behind their back is not good. It can hurt someone's feelings when you talk about him/her behind their back and Allah forbids us to hurt each other. In Islam, it is not allowed for us to say

something bad or rude about someone. As it stated in Quran, surah Al-Hujurat verse 12:

(QS. Al-Hujurat49: Verse 12)

The surah above explained that we have to avoid prejudice and we also have to avoid to criticize or judge other people. AsySyaukani said on his book that Allah Almighty described a *backbiting* as activity where the speaker is eating the carcass of a person. It because the carcass does not know who ate the meat and this is the same thing with people who are lived, they never know who backbite him/her. Moreover, AsySyaukani said that the verse above is explained that gossip is the worst thing to do and that is the reason why we as a Moesleem have to avoid this kind of conversation.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter shows the conclusion of the study as it answers the research questions which had mentioned on the first chapter of this study. It also contains suggestion to give more information for the future research which is interested to analyze about gossip.

5.1 Conclusion

This study analyzed gossip which was used by female and male character in Mean Girls movie. It concerns to find the usage of types and functions of gossip which were used by female and male characters. As it stated by some researchers that gossip is a kind of talk which restricted to women, the researcher proves through this study that men also do gossip. This study focused about two points of problem, including types of gossip and functions of gossip.

Moreover, the researcher uses types of gossip which is stated by Deborah Jones. These types of gossip are stated by Jones through Mary Talbot's book entitled *Language and Gender 2nd Edition*. The types of gossip which were analyzed on this present study are House Talk, Scandal, Bitching, and Chatting. Moreover, the researcher uses the theory of functions of gossip to analyze the data of this study. The theory of functions of gossip which were used to analyze the data is taken through Foster's journal entitled *Research on Gossip: Taxonomy, Methods, and Future Directions*.

Foster states through his journal that there are four functions of gossip, including Enhance Friendship, Influence Others, Give Entertainment, and Provide Information.

Moreover, the method which was used to analyze the data for this study was qualitative method. The researcher used qualitative method because it allows the researcher to interpret the data itself. Moreover, the researcher uses qualitative method to analyze the usage of types and functions of gossip by male and female characters in *Mean Girls* movie. Thus, the researcher is capable to explain more detail about the data which is presented on the previous chapter.

Based on the result of this study, the researcher finds the usage of types of gossip by female and male characters in the movie. There are four types of gossip which were used by female characters in the movie, including House Talk, Scandal, Bitching, and Chatting. The type of gossip which was often used by female characters is Scandal. The second type of gossip which was often uses by female characters is House Talk. Moreover, Bitching and Chatting are on the last types of gossip which were used by female characters in the movie. Otherwise, there are three types of gossip which were used by male characters in the movie, including House Talk, Scandal, and Bitching. The type of gossip which is often used by male characters is Scandal.

Moreover, the next result to answer the second question of this study is the usage of functions of gossip by female and male characters in the movie. There are four functions of gossip which were used by female characters in the movie, including Enhance Friendship, Influence Others, Provide Information, and Give Entertainment. Furthermore, the female characters are often used Provide Information as the function of their gossip. Meanwhile, male characters only use three functions of gossip, including Enhance Friendship, Influence Others, and Provide Information. Male characters are often uses Provide Information as the function of their gossip.

5.2 Suggestion

This chapter shows suggestion as the consideration for the next researchers who are interested to analyze about gossip. The researcher suggests for the next researcher to explore more about gossip in different aspects. The researcher who are interested to analyze gossip can make his subject wider, for example analyzing gossip in a real daily conversation or any other object which shows the usage of gossip. Moreover, the next researcher can use different theory of gossip. Thus, the next research can develop different result of gossip.

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