

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Today, teenagers tend to use slang in their communication. Slang is an informal word that usually used by groups of the teenager which tend to create new words. This means the slang word is legitimate and is used by a certain social group in America. For those who are not part of the group, they cannot understand what the others talk about. On the other hand, slang is used only by low-social class. Slang is also a trend language in teenager area which is used in film, newspaper, TV, and magazine for teenagers. From this trend, according to Zhou and Fan (2013) opinion, we can see how this American slang becomes more broadly used and plays a role in influencing the daily conversation (p. 2209).

Muhartoyo and Wijaya (2014) argued that the important of the use of slang for teenagers is to reach the social dynamic that can reveal their ideas with how they want to be seen and want to be understood of what their means. In fact, teenagers use slang nowadays because it is influenced by some factors, like in the song lyrics, film or TV program, and social media. Many song writers write the lyrics indirectly influenced by their environmental conditions. Therefore, it is not surprise if the slang words appear in the song lyrics. They also appear in Film or TV program, and social media because its existence is increasingly popular nowadays in teenagers environment (p. 199-201).

There are many slang word used in song lyric, especially lyric of song by Black Eyed Peas. Black Eyed Peas was created in 1955 in Los Angeles, California. “Behind The Front” was released on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1998 through Interscope Records and Will.i.am Music Group.

This research is important to be analyzed because the Black Eyed Peas' songs in their album of "Behind the Front" have also known with slang words. For example, some lyrics from their second album of "Behind the Front" as below:

***Karma***

*Ain't no running from*

*Karma, and no running*

***Positivity***

*Na, na, na...*

*We **gotta** keep it on the positive (positive...)*

*Na, na, na...*

*We must keep it on the positive (positive...)*

(<https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/blackeyedpeas.html>)

The lyrics contain some slangs, such as *ain't* and *gotta* which mean 'to be +not /has+not'. They are ungrammatical words. Thereby, the slang in the song such as *ain't* and *gotta* are called "blending" which means that produce one single term. Black Eyed Peas songs are containing many slang words. In order to know the meaning of the slang, the writer refers to Oxford Dictionaries, Urban Dictionary and some Slang Dictionaries.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

This research answers the following research questions:

1. What kinds of word formation of slang are used by Black Eyed Peas' song lyrics?
2. How the slang implies the social status of the teenagers?

### 1.3 Objective of the Research

The aims of this research are:

1. To categorize the kinds of word formation of slang in Black Eyed Peas' song lyrics.
2. To find how the slang can imply the social status of the teenagers.

### 1.4 Scope of Research

Black Eyed Peas song is used as the object of this research . Their “Behind the Front” (1998) album song include *Karma, Say Goodbye, Be Free, Communication, Positivity, Clap Your Hands, Love Won't Wait, Fallin' Up, Head Bobs, [¿Que Dices?](#), A8, Duet, Joints & Jam, Movement, The Way U Make Me Feel, and What It Is*. Yule and Marttinen's theory is applied in this investigation.

### 1.5 Methods of the Research

This research is followed several steps as proposed by Sudaryanto (1993). According to Sudaryanto (1993), there are three steps to conduct research; they are collecting the data, analyzing the data, and presenting the result of analysis.

The method of collecting the data is an observation method. In this context, the song lyrics are found one album which is considered as a slang. The observation method; firstly, the music is listened three times, the lyrics are copied to Microsoft Word, then the lyrics have to be read and understood by the researcher. Secondly, the writer identifies the slang used by Black Eyed Peas.

In analyzing the data, the distribution method is used as proposed by Sudaryanto (1993). The distribution method is the method that explains the meaning and the form of the slang words (p. 13). The distribution method is applied to identify the slang words that are used by Black Eyed Peas and the theory of slang as proposed by Yule (2010) and Marttinen (2010).

Two methods are used in presenting the result of the analysis based on Surdayanto's book (1993), they are informal method and formal method. The informal method is the method that presents with language commonly and descriptively used by the writer to explain the slang words in Black Eyed Peas' lyrics. The formal method means that the writer presents the result of analysis in the form of datum (p. 145). Each datum is described according to the sequence of slang word appeared in each song.

