CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Holding a conversation is one of the ways to communicate among human being. In conversation, there are some aspects that people should do to make it effective yet enjoyable. One of them is giving a small response without interrupting while other is talking. Small responses to an ongoing conversation are basically important. It really matters to the coherency and continuity of a conversation. Small responses can be an indication that the interlocutors are still listening to the conversation and understand what others saying. Moreover, it can be the tool for decreasing the probability of a boring and awkward conversation.

Conversation is supposed to be active so that the intention and message will be well delivered and received. Therefore, the transition between speakers has to be smooth (Yule, 1996, p. 72). The transition smoothness in a conversation can be seen by how the listener act and give responses before the speaker finished their turns. There is an exchange role between the speaker and listener. When a speaker takes turn in talk, then the other may give reaction while listening.

Sometimes a turn is extended, therefore the speaker anticipates whether their listener are keep listening or not and hopes they give a clue (Yule, 1996). In casual conversation, people commonly use some of utterances that come as a response when the speaker is talking. The small response occurs in the form of short utterances like

mmm, *uh-huh*, *really*, *okay*, *and then* and so on. However, it also can be a silent response such as eye gaze, head nod, smiles, or laugh (Pipek, 2007). Yule (1996) represented those simple responses as backchannels or backchannel signals. The use of backchannels response can be seen in a dialogue below:

Extract (1) – Example of backchannel response

1 Caller : if you use your long distance service a lot then you'll

2 Mary :   uh-uh

3 Caller : be interested in the discount I'm talking about because

4 Mary :   yeah

5 Caller : it can only save you money to switch to a cheaper service

6 Mary :   mmm

(Yule, 1996)

The example above is an extract of a telephone conversation. It can be seen that the caller is explaining the discount to the customer. When the current speaker is talking, then Mary as a customer is giving feedback by using backchannel response like "uh-uh", "yeah", and "mmm". The backchannel response above provides a signal that the listener is still on the telephone and the message is being received.

This kind of small responses is quite necessary. The absence of backchannel response in telephone conversation might cause the caller wondering whether the call is still connecting or not. Meanwhile, according to Yule (1996), the absence of

backchannel in face-to-face interaction can be considered as showing the disagreement. It also can create a long silence in a conversation. Not only in casual conversation, the backchannel responses might also occur and applied in institutional and formal setting talk-in interaction, such as office meeting, interview, academic places, and courtroom.

In a courtroom, someone's attitude and behavior to communicate is really matter. It is because courtroom is a space where the effective and active communication is needed. It is a place where judges, witnesses, and defendant are involved. They hold a conversation in order to seek for justice and resolve a criminal case. Hence, small responses giving during conversation in this situation is really important. Backchannel provides an indication that the message is being received and understood.

Backchannel in courtroom conversation is used for many reasons. One of them is to encourage defendant to continue their statement because sometimes defendant easily got nervous to speak. Besides, the defendant uses backchannel responses to represent their comprehension of the massage delivered by current speaker which is the judge. Therefore, the backchannel response in courtroom becomes one of the aspects that interested to be investigated. More or less, backchannels influence and matter to the legal processes.

This research focuses on the use of backchannel responses by the judge and defendant in an American courtroom. The data in this research are taken from

YouTube especially the Caught in Providence TV Shows channel. Caught in Providence is a TV Shows program of a law process in municipal court. This program solve the cases include the traffic light violation, parking violation, and arrangement for criminal offences in Providence, Rhode Island. This program carried by Judge Frank Caprio and the defendants who did the violations.

Caught in Providence TV Shows is selected as the object of this research because of this program gets many attention since it shows the trial of traffic violations. Furthermore, this program has gained 500 million views in 2022. This show became popular because of its unique ways in law process and sees the legal system through the humane perspective. It represents a courtroom conversation which packaged in an easier way to understand by the common people. Moreover, the frequency of extended turn and listening during the trial in this courtroom conversation is pretty high.

The backchannel response often happened unconsciously and naturally. Therefore, it can leads to the several perspectives. Backchannel may convey politeness, express concern, and understanding. On the contrary, it can express hesitation or misunderstanding. In addition, the disappearance of backchannel is considered as resisting agreement (Yule, 1996, p.76). Thus, the investigation of backchannel needs to be discussed.

In this research, the writer aims to find the types and functions of backchannel response used by the judge and defendant in Caught in Providence TV shows. This

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research will be investigated under the scope of Conversation Analysis. Furthermore, this research is expected to add the contribution to the study of backchannel by investigating the types of backchannel used in courtroom situation.

1.2 Theoretical Framework

1.2.1. Conversation Analysis

The spoken discourse or talk-in interaction is viewed by applying Conversation Analysis. Before discussing the aspects of conversation, the first thing that needs to be understood is the concept of CA itself. Conversation Analysis or CA is one of the approaches in linguistics. It is under the scope of pragmatics. This approach is related to the social action. Conversation analysis or commonly known as CA is an approach to the study of spoken language. It analyzed the structure and term of how language is carried by the speaker. A natural feature or patterns of a conversation can be seen by applying CA (Pstahas, 1995, p.2). In Conversation Analysis, the features of how human do the process of talk-in-interaction is examined. CA performs an examination of a conversation through the various aspects on it.

According to Hutchby & Wooffitt (1998), Conversation Analysis is the study of recorded, naturally occurring talk-in-interaction. They stated that this study examines the understanding and feedback of the speakers when taking turns at talk to one another. Moreover, CA concerns on how the sequence of action is produced (Hutchby &Wooffitt, 1998, p. 14). Every detailed of conversation such as who talk first, what

happened next after the first speaker talks, how the recipient takes action during the interaction are seen through CA.

The process of interaction in a conversation is normally flow within the situation. However, it would be possible if one of the participants is not get into the conversation. It can cause the occurrence of the variety disorganization in conversation. Therefore, CA comes to find out the reason and answer how this situation could happen. CA is designed to recognize the sequences whenever it is not occurs as the normal way. In other words, CA aims to discover the reason why a talk-in-interaction is not produced sequentially and how a conversation is constructed.

1.2.2. The Development of Conversation Analysis

As mentioned above about the definition of conversation analysis. This part will explain a brief history and development of this approach. Conversation analysis is developed in the early 1960s at the University of California, Los Angeles (Paltridge, 2012, p.90). It is proposed particularly by Harvey Sacks, Emanuel Schegloff, and Gail Jefferson. At that time, they were graduate students of the Sociology Department. Before CA is invented, other researchers have already done some research related to interaction process in sociology (Psathas, 1995, p.3). Hence, the development of CA is more or less influenced by those several approaches.

Harvey Sacks found out the idea of conversation analysis is when he worked as an employee at the Suicide Research Center in Los Angeles (Psathas, 1995). He was inspired by his lecturers, Harold Garfinkel and Erving Goffman. The work of

Garfinkel and Goffman focused on everyday talk which produced the social order and later on developed by Sacks and his colleagues. Sacks and his colleagues started to rises CA from sociology field to an independent approach that concern on the structure of talk (Liddicoat, 2007, p.4).

During his job as a staff center, Sacks did his analysis about the talk interaction. He examined the telephone call by using tape recorder. The recorded telephone calls at the Suicide Prevention Center were analyzed by Sacks as the main data. By examining the recorder, Sacks found various difficulties in talk interaction, such as the difficulty for identifying caller's name. Instead of saying the name, the caller answered with the utterance 'I can't hear you' (Wooffitt, 2005). This problem made Sacks become interested and curious in analyzing the opening of the telephone calls. He wondered how this thing could happen. Furthermore, he examined several utterances in order to get the explanation and the reason behind those talks order. Sacks focused with the organization of social interaction and how the speakers in conversation understand one another (Psathas, 1994). In order to understand the detail of the data, Sacks was helped by Jefferson to do the transcription of the recorder. Moreover, the transcription symbol was developed to provide the detail transcription of the data (Psathas, 1994. p.12). It contains various symbols that used for giving the details context in conversation, such as pause, gap, overlap, and others. Later on, Jefferson's finding becomes the transcription convention symbols in conversation analysis.

1.2.3. Adjacency Pair

In this research, adjacency pair is one of the parts which related to understand the use of backchannel response. In studying conversation analysis, the first important term that should be understood is adjacency pair. The existence of adjacency pair really matters to a conversation. It is improbable for a conversation carried out without the adjacency pair. Liddicoat (2007) defined the adjacency pair as the basic unit that aims to build sequences in a conversation. A conversation happens because of the occurrence of adjacency pairs. Adjacency pair can be described as the utterances or responses in a conversation that appears in pairs. It is always in pairs, such as greeting and greeting, summon and answers, invitation and acceptance/declination, etc. (Stivers, 2013, p. 192).

Adjacency pair appears in a short way without any expanded. Accordingly, this is uttered by two different speakers just like the usual form of question and answer. According to Schegloff (2007), the two turns are differentiated into "First pair parts" (FPP) and "second pair parts" (SPP). Furthermore, adjacency pair devised pair types and the types are exchange such as question-answer, greeting-greeting, offer-accept/decline, and so on (Schegloff, 2007, p.13). The example of adjacency pair is shown below:

Extract (2) – Adjacency Pair

```
1 Bes:      Hell^o:,
2 Gen: Fb   Hi Bessie:_ it's Gennie,
3 Bes: Sb   Oh hi Genie,
4 Gen:      .mlkh And=uh thuh news is g^oo:d^_=h[h
5 Bes:                                  [Oh g^ood.
```

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(Stivers, 2013, p.193)

In the example above, Genie is calling Bessie on the phone. Here, the "Hello" in line 1 does not perform as greeting but as a response to the summons embodied in a telephone ring. Then, the greetings are seen in line 2 and line 3 as the base sequence. The initiation of greeting exchange "Hi Bessie" is done by Genie in line 2 and the return greeting "Oh hi Genie" in line 3 is its second pair part. This example is considered as adjacency pair with the pair types greeting and greeting.

1.2.4. Turn-taking

The relation of turn-taking with the backchannel response is necessary. Since a conversation involves two or more participants, the turn activity is obviously performed. The speakers take their turn to talk in exchange. In fact, there is no only one person who talks in a time. It is absolutely the speaker is change one to another. If one speaker finished his/her talk, then the other get his/her turn right after the first speaker talk.

Turn-taking can be defined as a term of how participants in a conversation speak alternately. Liddicoat (2007) stated that the nature of turn-taking is socially constructed. In other words, turn-taking is naturally happen, for example, when one person is talking, the other will give the respond either laughter or giving some gestures such as nods and shaking head. Sacks et al (1974) distinguished turn-taking system into two components, as below.

1.2.4.1 Turn-constructional component

This component is constructed of various unit types of turn taking such as sentences, clauses, phrases, and any words produced by the speaker to construct a turn (Sacks et al., 1974, p.702). The next speaker starts the turns right after the first speaker completed their turn. It can be a single-word, single-phrase, or single-clause constructions.

Extract (3) – Turn-constructional component

```
1 Fern:   Well they're not comin',
2 Lana:   Who.
3 Fern:   Uh Pam, unless they c'n find somebody.
```
(Sacks et al., 1974, p.702)

As shown in the extract above, Fern is seems talking to Lana about somebody not coming to an event by saying "Well they're not coming". Right after Fern's turn completion, Lana gives a response to Fern utterance with no gap. In this regard, Lana answered by uttered a token "who" as a response to Fern's utterance. Since Lana only produced a single word in her turn, thus, her response is considered to be the single-word turns.

Extract (4) – Turn-constructional component

```
1 A:       Oh I have the- I have one class in the
           e;vening.
2 B:       On Mondays?
3 A:       Y-uh::: Wednesdays.=
4 B:       =Uh- Wednesday,=
5 A:       =En it's like a Mickey Mouse course.
```

 (Sacks et al., 1974, p.702)

Extract (4) shows the appearance of a single phrase turn uttered by B. In the example above, A tell B that she/he have a class in the evening. Then, B gives the response by asking 'On Monday?'. The 'On Mondays?' response which given by B on A's utterance is considered as the turn constructional unit (TCU). This is counted as single-phrase of turn constructional unit.

1.2.4.2   Turn allocation component

Sacks et al (1974) distinguished turn allocation into two categories: (1) The current speaker selects next speaker for the next turn; and (2) The next speaker is not selected by the current speaker but by the self-selection. Furthermore, the current speaker selected next speaker has a role to reduce the overlap and gap in conversation (Psathas, 1994, p.38). However, self-selection is also necessary to confront the multiple speakers in talk-in interaction because it is impossible for a current speaker to choose the next speaker all over the time. In consideration of somehow a question is free to be answered by anyone in a conversation.

Extract (5) – Turn allocation component (selects next speaker)

```
1 Sara:   Ben you want some (   )?
2 Ben :   Well alright I'll have a,
3         ((pause))
4 Sara:   Bill you want some?
5 Bill:   No,
```

(Sacks et al., 1974, p. 703)

In extract (5), Ben and Bill's turn are selected by Sara. Sara as the current speaker selects the next speaker to take a turn by addressing the recipient's name. She

addresses Ben to take the next turns (line 1). Then, she addresses Bill too for the next turn (line 4).

Below is the example of self-selection turn:

Extract (6) – Turn allocation component (self-seletion)

```
1 Jim:    Any a' you guys read that story about Walter
2         Mitty?
3 Ken:    I did.
4 Roger:  Mm hmm
```

(Sacks et al., 1974, p. 703)

In this regard, all of the turns are allocated by self-selection. Here the current speaker did not select the next speaker to take turn, but by a self-selection. There is no indication of addressing name or showing gesture for the next speaker. Jim's question in line 1 is intended to both of them, Ken and Roger. Thus, they are free to select themselves to be the next speaker.

1.2.5. Backchannel Response

Backchannel is a term in CA that can be described as a feedback given when someone is talking. In some other research, backchannel is being introduced in various terms such as 'receipt tokens' (Heritage, 1984) and 'reactive tokens' (Clancy al., 1996). The main function of backchannel is to show if the listener is still stay on that conversation. In other words, backchannel is used to show interest or willingness of hearing to what anybody else saying. Later on, this response becomes signal to

show the attention, respect, and an availability to keep listening. Moreover, it can be an indication or sign that the information is received by the listener.

Backchannel can be performed in two ways. It can be presented by uttering the words and without utter the words or in silence. Heinz (2003) divided backchannel signal into two groups, verbal backchannel and non-verbal backchannel. The verbal backchannel is performed in some small utterances. However, the non-verbal backchannel is presented in silent by using body gestures such as nodding, smiling, eye gazing, etc.

1.2.5.1 Types of Backchannel

1. Verbal Backchannel

Backchannel mostly occur in terms of small utterances such as *yeah*, *uh-huh*, and *mmm*. This kind of response is called as verbal backchannel. The use of verbal backchannel is common in every conversation. Those utterances in conversation can help a speaker to develop their topic of talk. Moreover, it can give an encouragement to the speaker to continue his speaks. When a listener applied this backchannel, unconsciously they show the excitement and interest of the discussion.

To classify the types of backchannel, the researcher use theory proposed by Sungkaman (2006) that adopted from Heinz's research towards Mon language in 2003. He proposed the 6 types of backchannel. Those are

repetition, short question and answer, short verbalization, lexical item, phrase, and sentence.

1. Short Verbalization

    This kind of backchannel response occurs in a single form or set of short verbalization. It is performed in a minimal response, for example *yeah*, *uh-huh*, *okay*, and *mm-hm*. This type of backchannel has a function to pay attention to what the speaker said on the floor without interrupting.

    Extract (7) – Short Verbalization

    ```
    T1  A:'Oh! You are going to the market,

            together'

    T2  B:  'Go to the market.'

    T3  A:  'Um um um um'
    ```

    (Sungkaman, 2006)

    The example above shows the use of short verbalization in a talk-in interaction. As A said "Oh! You are going to the market, together', and then B answer with "Go to the market". After that, A response by saying short utterance "Um um um um" to express his attention and agreement to what B said at that time.

2. Repetition

    This type of backchannel response is uttered by repeating the speaker utterance in the first place. Repetition aims to support the speaker utterance previously. It also functions to signal the attention and asking clarification.

In this case, the listener usually performed the partial repetition. It is called as partial repetition when the listener repeats only the content word from the complete sentences.

Extract (8) – Repetition

```
T1 A:'Grandma Thiam is the younger sister.'

T2 B: 'Younger sister.'

T3 A: 'my grandma is her older sister.'
```

(Sungkaman, 2006)

From the example above, it can be seen that there is a repetition uttered by B. It is considered as partial repetition because B only mentions the content word. The backchannel response that speaker B uttered is 'younger sister' which comes as a phrase.

3. Lexical Item

It is possible if the backchannel response performed in the form of lexical item. Some example of lexical items performed are *right*, *yes*, *true*, *know*, and *good* (Sungkaman, 2006, p. 72). This kind of lexical items is also performed in English conversation. Sungkaman (2006) also claims that this type of backchannel shows agreement and become a signal that the listener is hearing. The example of lexical item is shown below.

Extract (9) – Lexical Item

```
T1 A:'This morning, while I was in bed, I

        thought that… thought that it's Phorn.'
```

```
T2 B: 'Yes.'
```

(Sungkaman, 2006)

It can be seen from the example above that A tells B "This morning, while I was in bed, I thought… thought that it's Phorn". Then, to give the hearing signal, B uttered "yes." which functions as a backchannel response. It is categorized as backchannel response because "yes." here does not mean an answer because A's utterances is not a question to B.

4. Phrase

This type of backchannel is presented in a phrase form. The examples of phrase that can be used are *very good*, *it's true*, *that's it*, etc. This backchannel somehow also comes after short verbalization. This phrases aims to support ideas and express agreement. The dialogue below is an example of backchannel response in the phrase form.

Extract (10) – Phrase
```
T1 A:'If the stair is inside, ough! So
        narrow.'
T2 B: '(It's)so true.'
```

(Sungkaman, 2006)

This dialogue shows that B responds A by uttering phrase form "It's so true." when A tells about the stair. It is performed to express agreement about the stair inside.

5. Short Questions and Answers

In talk-in interaction, a backchannel might be performed as short questions and answers. This type of backchannel has goals to express awareness, clarification, and exclamation to the speaker. The short questions and answers can be performed in the form of 5W + 1H; *what, where, when, who, why,* and *how*. Moreover, it also can be performed in the form of stressing word such as *really?* In addition to it, this type of backchannel uttered with the rising intonation.

> **Extract (11)** – Short Question and Answer
> ```
> T1 A:'He is either a younger or an older
>
>         brother of Grandpa Mong, who lives at
>
>         Pakkhlong.'
>
> T2 B: 'really?'
>
> T3 A: 'Yes.'
> ```
> (Sungkaman, 2006)

From the dialogue above, it can be seen that A tells B about Grandpa Mong. Then, B responds A by performed a short question form "Really?" which is a stressing word. It is performed to ask a clarification from A's statement about Grandpa Mong's brother. Further, A answers with "Yes'" to clarify his statement.

6. Sentence

Backchannel can be performed in the sentence level. Backchannel in sentence form comes after the speaker completes their sentence. It aims to indicate agreement and disagreement. Not only to shows agreement, but also to support the speaker's idea.

Extract (12) – Sentence

Sarah	: What do we have for dinner tonight, mom?
Mrs. Anne	: I will make roast beef and cream of mushroom soup.*
Sarah	: ***We will have cream of mushroom soup tonight!*** Wow, did you need help, mom?
Mrs. Anne	: No, go do your homework and leave it all to me.
Sarah	: Thanks mom, I do not want to be late for cream of mushroom, call me as soon as possible when the dinner is ready.

(Wulandari, 2017)

This dialogue shows a conversation between Sarah and her mother, Mrs. Anne. Sarah asks her mother about the dinner's menu. Then, Mrs. Anne tells Sarah that they will have roast beef and cream of mushroom soup. Further, Sarah answers by repeating her mother's utterance in the form of sentence "We will have cream of mushroom soup tonight!" This utterance shows Sarah's agreement about the menu and supports Mrs. Anne idea for the dinner.

2. **Non-verbal Backchannel**

The non-verbal backchannel responses come in the form of body gestures. Kuswandi & Apsari (2019) mention that smiling, nodding a head, or

doing body language is included as non-vocal backchannel. The non-vocal or non-verbal backchannel performed in silence without the listener speaks.

1.2.5.2 Function of Backchannel

Various kind of backchannel function has been proposed by some linguists. McMullan (2006) as cited in Pipek (2007) in his work "On Backchannels in English Conversation" proposed and specified the functions of backchannel into four classifications. The functions have been classified into backchannel as 'continuer', backchannel as a 'captured interest token', backchannel as 'consonant token', and backchannel as an 'information confirmation token'.

1. Backchannel as 'continuer'

This is the primary function of backchannel in conversation. Backchannel as 'continuer' comes as a support which given to the current speaker to continue their turn. Besides, it helps to maintain the flow of the ongoing conversation. Pipek (2007) claims that backchannel as 'continuer' provides feedback of the paid attention to what has been uttered. It will increase the speaker's desire to continue their speech.

Extract (**13**) – Backchannel as 'continuer'

```
A:    NO - ə:m - - ə we we HAVE it in in the PURVIEW as a as a closed system
      WORD I'm pretty SURE - - ə: YEP we HAVE ☆-☆ which means
B:    ☆★m ⟍hm★☆
A:    that it is sui GENERIS you see ☆ • ☆ and • we
B:    ☆★m ⟍hm★☆
A:    would • certainly preliminarily • pattern in with PREPOSTIONS
B:    ★m ⟍hm★
A:    the ɔuw the only • the only OTHER • POSSIBILITY • ə:m WELL • not the ONLY
      othe POSSIBILITY • but  it seems to me that you've got two • two THINGS ə:m
      • that you can • DO with THIS …                              (S. 1.1: 667-683)
```

(Pipek, 2007)

From the example above, it can be seen that as long as A speaks, the B only respond with "mm-hm" which functions as a continuer. There is no other intention and interruption. It is just purely to express the listener attitude to let the speaker continue his turn. Therefore, this backchannel is categorized as continuer.

2. Backchannel as 'captured interest token'

Backchannel provides the clue of excitement. This is claimed as the captured interest token which means that by uttering backchannel, the listener can show their interest toward speaker's utterance. Moreover, it expresses the listener strongest attention to the context of conversation (Pipek, 2007). As well as continuer, backchannel as captured interest token also presents high attention to the speaker. However, continuer aims to encourage the speaker. Meanwhile, captured interest aims to show excitement to the information that given by the speaker.

Extract (14) – Backchannel as 'captured interest token'

A:	do you remember that • that girl from the PARTY • I mean last Friday
B:	yeah, I do
A:	I met her yesterday in the morning at the ☆ corridor and she ☆ asked me how YOU were doing
B:	☆★hmmm, ↗GREAT★☆
A:	so I think she MUST have noticed you there • I mean you should invite her for coffee ɔ: something

(Pipek, 2007)

It can be seen from the dialogue above that A told B about the girl they met at the party. A said "I met her yesterday in the morning at the corridor and she asked me how you were doing'. Then, B as a listener give the response "hmm great" which signs the excitement to the topic discussed. It shows the high interest and encourage the current speaker to continue her speak.

3. Backchannel as 'consonance token'

The consonance token shows an indication of agreement. It informs that the listener agrees with the conveyed idea of the speaker. The consonance token somehow represented in the form of repetition of the previous utterance.

Extract (15) – Backchannel as 'consonance token'

A:	I mean if I don't LIKE it I can always send it BACK ↘CAN'T ☆I☆	
B:	☆COURSE☆ you can YES	
A:	well what does he SAY - ☆stick an initial label☆ on the	
B:	☆★stick an initial LABEL★☆	
>A:	BACK	(S.1.4: 561-567)

(Pipek, 2007)

In the dialogue above, it can be seen that B shows an agreement to conveyed A's idea. A said "well what does he say- stick an initial

label- on the". Then, B as the listener agrees with the standpoint of the speaker. The response which given by B is performed in a repetition of a part of A's preceding turn "stick an initial label".

4. Backchannel as 'information confirmation token'

According to Pipek (2007), information confirmation token takes a role as the signal of receiving information. In other words, it used to express that the listener has received information from what the speaker said before. Furthermore, it also shows the agreement and disagreement of the topic discussed.

Extract (16) – Backchannel as 'information confirmation token'

A:	☆*I expect it's the •☆ kind of MATERIAL he GETS it with ☆it's either FACTUAL • DETAILED stuff*☆
B:	☆*2syll*☆ • *in his NOTES or all in ADVANCE*
A:	*it's not like a lecture on* ↗*CHAUCER* ☆*or*☆
B:	☆★ ↘*NO* • ★☆
A:	*or ELIOT or something of THAT kind but that was only bay the WAY I SAID well I don't ACTUALLY do it like THIS and he said you KNOW that • kɔ:p* ☆ *how* (S. 1.4: 702-715)

(Pipek, 2007)

The example above shows that B stated a confirmation token 'no'. The information confirmation token 'no' which uttered by B is an evidence that B agrees to what A's said previously by using the negative form confirmation. B as the listener here accepted and received the information given by speaker A.

1.3 Review of Previous Study

The investigation of backchannel signals have been done by some researcher in linguistics studies. In order to support the main theory of this research, the writer has review some works related to backchannel responses. The writers found out some previous studies in the form of articles and thesis to be the references of the theory used later.

The first research to be reviewed is an article written by Nurjaleka (2023) entitled "Backchannels Responses as Conversational Strategies in the Interaction of Indonesian Speakers in Interview Setting". The aim of this research is to investigate the use of backchannel in Indonesian conversation in interview setting. There are 20 Indonesian native speakers which have been chosen as the data. The data is divided into 10 males and 10 females of Indonesian university students. This research concerned on the non-verbal backchannel responses that used by Indonesian native speakers. Backchannel classification theory by Otsuka's (2016) and Horiguchi's (1997) theory of backchannel function are applied by the researcher here. The researcher found out that both verbal and non-verbal backchannel in Indonesian conversation did occur. However, the non-verbal backchannel is widely used. The finding of this research shows Indonesian speakers mostly used nodding as the non-verbal backchannel. The frequency of using by each gender is quite similar. It is around 42% of appearance.

The strength of this research is the writer presented the data of analysis by mixing the quantitative and qualitative approach. The amount of the usage by gender is explained in quantitative approach. Meanwhile, the role and function of backchannel signals in Indonesian conversation is described in qualitative approach. Therefore, by combining these two approaches, the explanation of results of the analysis is very clear and detail. Moreover, the writer provides it with a percentage table of backchannel category.

The second previous study is a thesis entitled "A Conversation Analysis of Verbal Backchannel Response in Radio Program Valentine in The Morning Interview with Michael Buble" written by Wulandari (2017). This study discussed the types and functions of verbal backchannel which found in a radio program. The data of this study are taken from a video conversation between Sean as announcer and Michael Buble as the guest star in the radio.

In this research, the writer found out that there are 6 types (*Lexical Item*, *Phrase*, *Sentence*, *Short Verbalization*, *Repetition*, and *Short Question and Answer*) of backchannel uttered in the conversation. The most backchannel performed in the conversation is *short verbalization*. The other finding of this study is there is only 1 function from 7 functions (*Supporting the idea and indicating agreement*, *Showing awareness*, *Requesting clarification, Expressing exclamation*, *Indicating reference*, *Attempting interaction*, and *Waiting for the complete utterance*) of backchannel that does not appear in the conversation. The *attempting interruption* does not perform in

the conversation. However, *showing awareness* became the main function of backchannel appearance in the dialogue between announcer and guest.

The strength of this study is the writer made an analytical construct which helps the reader understand and have an overview about what and how this study is conducted. Furthermore, the writer explained the theoretical framework from the very general into the specific theory. Moreover, the writer provides the data analysis with the table. The writer applied the descriptive qualitative method to present the result of analysis. The detail description of the data is also presented with an easy explanation in a narrative way.

Then, the third previous study is an article written by Fitriawati & Suhatmady (2021). The title of this research is "The Backchannels on English as a Foreign Language Teaching Classroom Discourse Analysis of Lecturer and Students' Interaction of Borneo University Tarakan". This research is conducted in order to investigate the backchannels types that used in teaching classroom. The researcher took the data from the EFL (English Foreign Language) interaction classroom of female lecturer and female students. By doing this investigation, the researcher adopted Pipek's (2007) theory of backchannel types. Pipek (2007) claims that the backchannel is categorized into *vocal backchannel* and *silent backchannel*. Then, the researcher of this study classified vocal backchannel into 4 forms. Those are *word form*, *phrase form*, *sentence form*, and *sound identification*. Meanwhile, the researcher also found that lecturer and her students also produced silent backchannel

during interaction. The silent backchannel performed are *eye movements*, *head nods*, *facial expression of a smile*, and *gesture signals*.

Furthermore, in this research the writer found some of the reasons why backchannel is used in the EFL teaching classroom. There are four reasons of using backchannel here. Backchannel signal is uttered to show a statement signal, to show the continuer signal, to show the emotional signal, and to show the social condition. The researcher analyzed the data by using content analysis. The results and findings in this article are explained with the detail explanation. Moreover, the words chosen in this article are quite simple and easy to understand. Furthermore, by doing this research, the writer mentioned and suggest for the further research of backchannel in English for Special Purposes (ESP) teaching classroom.

The fourth previous study is a thesis written by Khapsoh (2017) with the title "An Analysis of Pauses, Overlaps and Backchannels in the *Reasonable Doubt* Movie by Petter Howitt". This research has 3 main focuses to be investigated. As like title, the writer concerned on the types of pauses, overlaps, and backchannels and how is it performed. The writer takes the data from the conversation in a movie entitled *Reason Doubt*. This movie is directed by Petter Howitt and released in 2014. It was found that there are 2 types of pauses (filled and un-filled pauses), 2 types of backchannel (verbal and non-verbal), and 3 types of overlap (turn-turminal, turn-initial, and mid-turn) occur in the conversation. From this finding, the writer then explained and described how these points are used during the conversation. The

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backchannels that found in this data is categorized into two which are verbal and non-verbal.

This research has some weaknesses. Since the focus of this research is divided into three aspects. The data result is not well explained and described. The description of the finding seems only fulfill the minimum and general explanation. It is not described in detail. Therefore, the three aspects of findings in this research can be more developed in other research. The other researchers can do some others research which specified it into only one aspect. Moreover, by reviewing this research, the writer finds this as a gap with the further research later on. Since this research is not using a natural setting as the data, then the writer has a chance to investigate those aspects in natural setting such as courtroom.

The fifth and last previous study is written by Wibowo (2019) entitled "Backchannel in Casual Conversation During Pre-Service Coaching in Senior High School in Yogyakarta". This research is conducted in order to classify the function of backchannel in conversation of coaching process pre-service teacher. The writer applies the observational studies to investigate this topic. The data of this research were taken from a casual conversation during pre-service coaching. 2 pre-service teachers from different school have been chosen by the writer. The source of the data is taken from the talk-in interaction between the pre-service teacher and the supervisor teacher.

In this research, the writer classified the backchannel functions into; continuer (CON), convergence tokens (CNV), engaged response (ER), and information receipt tokens (IR). From this classification, the writer then found out that there are 61 continuer (CON), 19 convergence tokens (CNV), 14 engaged response (ER), and 0 information receipt tokens (IR). From this finding, it can be concluded that the most dominant function of backchannel used during coaching process is CON. Besides, the most rarely function is ER. The strength of this research is the writer classifies the data in proper way. The simple explanation within the function code of backchannel helps the reader to understand it easily.

1.4 Research Questions

This study is conducted in order to find out the use of backchannel by judge and defendant in Caught in Providence TV Shows. Related to the topic observed in this research, the questions have been formulated as follows:

1. What are the types of backchannels used by the judge and defendant in Caught in Providence TV Shows?
2. What are the functions of backchannels used by the judge and defendant in Caught in Providence TV Shows?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

Based on the research questions about, the objectives of this research will be:

1. To identify the types of backchannel used by the judge and defendant in Caught in Providence TV Shows.

2. To investigate the functions of backchannels used by the judge and defendant in Caught in Providence TV Shows.

1.6 Scope of the Research

This research focuses in identifying and analyzing the types and functions of backchannel in courtroom conversation between judge and defendant. The data is taken from the Caught in Providence TV Shows. There are 10 videos of Caught in Providence chosen as the data. The writer applied the theory of backchannel types by Sungkaman (2006) and the functions of backchannel proposed by McMullan (2006) as cited in Pipek (2007).