CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Men and women are human beings who are physically different. The differences between men and women can not only be seen from their physical appearance but also in the way of their utterances. In other words, men and women have their characteristics when they speak. In the matter of the choice of words, they are also different.

Language and gender studies focus on differences in language used by men and women. As part of language and gender studies, women's language features become one of the studies that are interesting to discuss. According to Robin Lakoff in her book entitled *Language and the Woman's Place* (1975, p. 30), (she claims that) women distinctively use language due to their insecure position in society. She points out that what they do in the world of men and women are different. This means women in society are aware that their status is lower than men; so they use a more standard form of language. This happens because women are considered as a subordinate in society. The gap between men and women is seen in terms of physical and sociocultural factors in speaking (such as politeness). Hence, sociocultural factors in speaking are one of the examples of women should pay attention to their utterances, and it turns out the features of women's language. In the field of work, women rarely get a position above men, whereas women often occupy the second position. Lately, women's position in society is equal to men's. Many social substances occupy by women, and even some of them lead the substances itself, for example, in the field of politics. Many female politicians play an important role in society; for example, Julia Gillard, Angela Merkel, MargarethThatcher, Hillary Clinton, etc.

This research is about Hillary Clinton's utterances. Hillary Clinton is interesting to discuss because of her status and background in society. Hillary Clinton is one of the figures who has proved that there is no gender division either men or women. Regarding this phenomenon, this research will be talking about women's language features of Hillary Clinton's utterances. Clinton's political career as a senator and a secretary of state lead the writer to study her language use. Hillary Clinton was the First Lady of the United States from 1993-2001, she was a United States senator from 2001-2009, and the 67th United States secretary of state from 2009-2013. Clinton was the Democratic Party nominee for president of the United States in the 2016 election, and she was the first woman in US history that receive the presidential nomination for a major U.S. political party.

In general, a debate is a form of communication between two teams or individuals by arguing the idea logically and used supporting evidence to convey their ideas. According to Freeley (2009, p.6), the debate is the process of inquiry and advocacy to seek a reasoned judgment on a proposition. As one of the kinds of political needs, the presidential debate is used to convince the people that both candidates deserve to be elected. The writer chooses Hillary Clinton's debate video as the object of the research to find out the features of language related to women. The video that will be analyzed is the second presidential debate of Hillary Clinton in 2016. This debate is chosen because it has a special rule that demands each of the candidates to speak over a specified time. The writer assumes there are a lot of woman language features used by Hillary Clinton in this video.

This research aims to find out the use of woman language features in a reallife situation. Hillary Clinton's speech in her second presidential debate against Donald Trump. The questions in this debate come from the audience and the presenter, it also displays online questions obtained from social media. The presidential debate is the chance of the candidates to prove that they can lead a country. The topic of the debate appears very various, ranging from US public health issues to personal matters of the two candidates.

It is interesting to study the language features of Hillary Clinton's language as one sociolinguistics phenomenon. In this research, the researcher will be discussing the types of women's language features with Lakoff's theory (1975). Furthermore, the researcher will be using the theory proposed by Holmes (2013), which focuses on the function of women's language features.

1.1 Research Question

The research entitled Women's Language Features Found in Hillary Clinton's Second Presidential Debate Video in 2016 is focusing on answering two research questions as followed :

- 1. What types of women language features are used by Hillary Clinton on her second presidential debate video?
- 2. What are the functions of women's language features on Hillary Clinton's

utterances?

1.3 Objectives of The Research

This research has two purposes. They are :

- 1. To identify the types of women's language features found in Hillary Clinton's responses to an audience question.
- 2. To explain what is the functions of women's language features in Hillary

Clinton's second debate video.

1.4 The Scope of the Research

This research is limited to the use of women's language features used by Hillary Clinton and the functions of those women's language features in Hillary Clinton's utterances, as found in her second debate video. The data are taken from her debate video against her opponent Donald Trump on Youtube channel. Since there are so many political figures holding a debate on youtube, this study is limited to Hillary's utterances. The main focus of this research is analyzing types of women's language features by using Lakoff's theory (1975) and theory about the functions of women's language features proposed by Holmes (2013).

1.5 Methods of the Research

The descriptive method is used as the research method since the data are in the form of words and are descriptively explained by referring to Lakoff's theory (1975) of women's language features and Holmes's theory (2013) about functions of women's language. Furthermore, in conducting this research, the writer follows three steps. They are collecting data, analyzing the data, and presenting the result of the analysis.

The data for this research were taken from Youtube entitled The Second Presidential Debate: Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump: Full Video- NBC News. The topic discussed in this video is very various, ranging from the personal matters of the candidates, public health, social life, etc. In collecting the data, the writer using nonparticipant observational technique proposed by Sudaryanto (1988). It mean the writer observes the data without being involved in a source the data. There are several steps in collecting the data. First, the transcription of the data is downloaded via google engine. Second, the video is watched for several times. After that, the conversation among the debaters has listened, and for the last steps, it applies the note-taking technique to write women's utterances, which assumed as women's language features in that video. To answer the problem of the research. There are several steps in analyzes the data. The first one is the data related to women's language in the video are analyzed with Lakoff's theory (1975). Then, to answer the second question, it also explains the functions by relating them to the concept proposed by Holmes (2013).

In presenting the result of analysis, the writer uses two methods, they are formal and informal methods proposed by Sudaryanto (1993). The formal method is used for presenting the result of analysis by using table. Meanwhile, the informal method is used for presenting the result of analysis by using words or statements. The percentage will be shown in the form of a table to show the dominant types of language features and also the functions of its features. The percentage is calculated by dividing the frequency of women's language features by the total number of the data and then multiplied them by 100%.

The formula in finding a percentage of women's language features used by Hillary Clinton :

<u>The frequency of women's language</u> X 100 % =Total of the data