

CHAPTER I

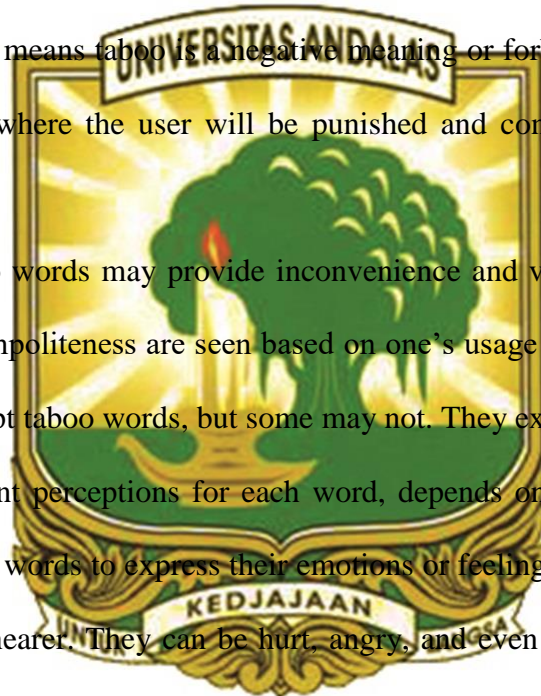
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Research

Taboo is one of the social structure that is reflected both in language and action. It is characterized as some behavior that believed to supernaturally forbidden or regarded as immoral and improper (Trudgill,1995 p.17 as cited in M. Babou p. 30, 2014). Moreover, Wardhaugh stated that taboo is the prohibition or avoidance in any society of behavior believed to be harmful to its members in that it would cause them anxiety, embarrassment, or shame (2006, p. 239). It means taboo is a negative meaning or forbidden tradition that refers to prohibited activities where the user will be punished and considered as a violator in a specific group.

The use of taboo words may provide inconvenience and violate the rights of others. Hence, politeness and impoliteness are seen based on one's usage of taboo words. Likewise, certain people may accept taboo words, but some may not. They exist in almost all languages, and people have different perceptions for each word, depends on the context. In this case, people tend to use taboo words to express their emotions or feelings. Then, taboo words have several impacts on the hearer. They can be hurt, angry, and even led to break the norms. It can be seen from the different ways of using language in which it influenced by some factors such as social status, age, sex, and educational background of the speaker.

Nowadays, taboo words not only found in the daily conversation in a certain society, but also novels, comics, plays, televisions, and movies, including in song lyrics more found in Eminem's song. The song is considered one of the communication media. The lyric of a song generally has particular messages and meanings. Thus, the composer spends the time to think, to choose the words, to reread, revise, and rearrange what he writes.



The song is a short musical work set to poetic text, with equal importance is given to the music and the words; it may be written for one several voice and generally is performed with instrumental accompaniment (Jack 1999, p. 15 as cited in Ramadinata 2013, p. 2). However, the song is always identical to lyrics, which is mostly in the form of poetry. Lyric is self a set of words that make up a song, either by speaking or singing, was made by a songwriter from their idea, thought, emotion, and expression of their feeling that originally referred to a poem that intended to be sung. Then, the composer chooses taboo words for getting perfect lyrics to hear.

People often hear taboo words such as shit, fuck, damn it, or nuts when they hear western songs. However, there are many differences between the black people taboo words and white people, like how people use it, from the diction, the movement, the meaning, etc. It is different not only from the shape but also from the diction. For instance, white people maybe will say 'motherfucker,' but the black people will say 'muthafucka.' Those taboo words are the same in meaning, yet different in diction. Besides, the black people also commonly uses taboo words such as damn and hell, while the white ones were commonly equating people with animals, such as fucking, bitch and fucking pussies.

One of the individual singers is Eminem. He is an American rapper, songwriter, and music producer. Eminem is one of the best-selling musicians of the 21st century and one of the most influential rappers of all time. Born Marshall Bruce Mathers III in 1972 in Missouri, Eminem had a turbulent childhood. He dropped out of school in the ninth grade and worked odd jobs until finally making it as a rapper upon the release of The Slim Shady LP in early 1999.

In Eminem's song, it can be seen that so many taboo words available, for example, some lyrics from the "kill you" Eminem's song lyrics.

Verse 3

They said I can't rap about bein' broke no more
They ain't say I can't rap about coke no more
Slut(1), you think I won't choke no **whore(2)**
Til the vocal cords don't work in her throat no more?!

The lyrics contain some words that can be considered as taboo words, the writer found in the third line they are *slut* and *whore*.

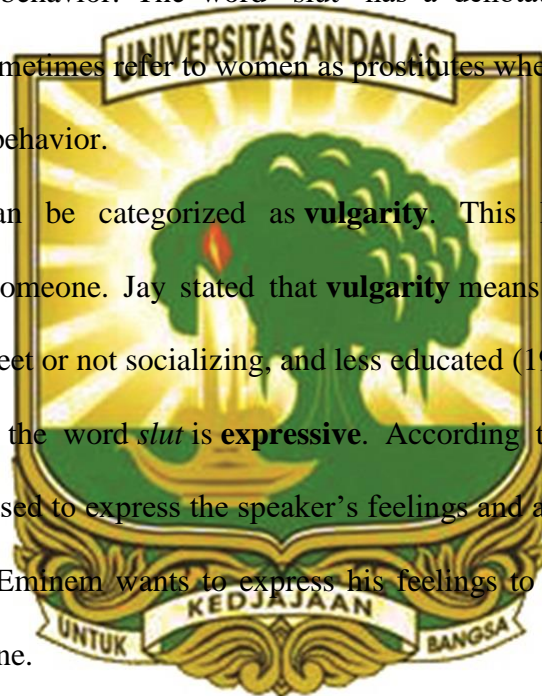
The meaning *slut* is a person that has promiscuous sex (online Urban Dictionary, 2018). People sometimes refer to a woman as a slut when they consider her to be very immoral in her sexual behavior. The word 'slut' has a denotative meaning as 'sexually promiscuous'. People sometimes refer to women as prostitutes when they consider them to be immoral in their sexual behavior.

The word *slut* can be categorized as **vulgarity**. This lyric is an offensive or inappropriate word to someone. Jay stated that **vulgarity** means the language of ordinary people, people on the street or not socializing, and less educated (1992, p.6).

The function of the word *slut* is **expressive**. According to Leech (1974, p.40), **the expressive function is** used to express the speaker's feelings and attitudes of the speakers. In the lyrics of this song, Eminem wants to express his feelings to the listener through insult words directed at someone.

According to a online Urban Dictionary (2016), *whore* means a woman very willing to participate in sexual acts including but not limited to: making sex, sending nudes, accepting money for sex. So, the word 'slut' and 'whore' have the same meaning, but the word 'whore' can be specified as a commercial sex worker.

The function of language from the lyric belongs to the **expressive function** category. Leech (1974, p. 40) stated the **expressive function** is used to express the speaker's feelings and attitudes of the speakers. The same thing with the case above; Eminem wants to express his emotions towards someone.



In this case, the researcher aims to describe when and where people can use the taboo word. Sometimes people use taboo words in the wrong place and situation. In WatchMojo youtube channel 2018 mentioned that “The most controversial rapper in the world is Eminem,” which is excellent to be found in his song lyrical content shocking. Still, of course, it’s nothing new for Eminem, whose back catalog littered with homophobic references and slurs, including the frequent use of “faggot” and the term “gay-looking” in his 2013 ‘Rap God.’ After several years of not launching his album, in August 2018, Eminem drops his new controversial album ‘Kamikaze’ it’s essential the writer analyzes taboo words in Eminem’s songs, especially in his new album.

1.2 Identification of The Problem

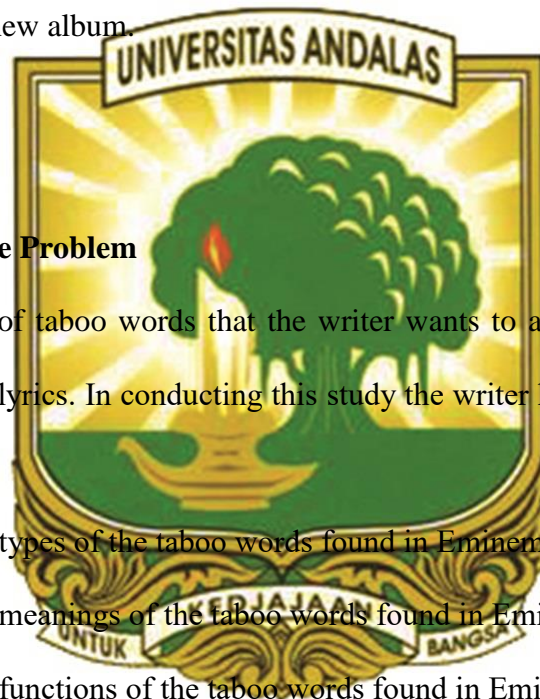
The phenomena of taboo words that the writer wants to analyze are the taboo word found in Eminem’s song lyrics. In conducting this study the writer has three research question as follows:

1. What are the types of the taboo words found in Eminem’s song lyrics?
2. What are the meanings of the taboo words found in Eminem’s song lyrics?
3. What are the functions of the taboo words found in Eminem’s song lyrics?

1.3 Objective of The Research

Dealing with the identification of the problems above, there are two purposes of this research:

1. To identify the types of taboo words found in Eminem’s song lyrics.
2. To analyze the meanings of taboo words found in Eminem’s song lyrics.
3. To explain what the functions of taboo words found in Eminem’s song lyrics.



1.4 Scope of The Research

Sociolinguistic perspective is used in this study. The study of language in sociolinguistics has a relationship with society proposed by Hudson (1970, p. 24). In this study, the writer focuses on taboo words that are often used by people in daily conversation, as seen in songs.

The writer limits the analysis of the use of taboo words used by Eminem's song, specifically in 4 songs, such as **The Ringer, Lucky You, Fall, and Kamikaze**, because there are many taboo words in the lyrics of the songs. Then, these songs contained in the new album of Eminem Kamikaze. EveningStandard's article (2018) mentioned that which is the Kamikaze album viral and controversial, which is Eminem dissed the new album from Donald Trump to Dake. Another argumentation this album makes rap music lovers surprised and then, a lot of taboo words used in each lyric when compared to other songs in the new album of Eminem **Kamikaze**.



1.5 Methods of the Research

1.5.1 Source of Data

Data were taken from Eminem's Music Album in 2018 'kamikaze' that has been uploaded in YouTube Channel. First music video 'The Ringer' is published on Dec 14th, 2018 with more than 8.630.000 viewers. The next song 'Lucky You' is published on Sep 13th, 2018, this video more than 100.748.000 viewers. Then 'kamikaze' is published on Aug 30th, 2018 with more than 20.983.000 viewers. The last music video from this album 'fall' is published on Sept 4th, 2018 serving as the project's final track. Eminem dissed his own toxic fans and the entire news media industry. Then, he walked away stronger, this video has more than 157.747.238 viewers.

1.5.2 Collecting Data

In collecting data, the writer uses an observational method done by observing the use of language using a non-participant technique (Sudaryanto, 1993, p. 133). It means that the writer does not participate in the conversation of people who talk to each other, they are only as observers with listening to the words were spoken (Sudaryanto, 1993 p. 134). The data of this research are collected by following some steps. For the first steps, the music video is searched on Youtube by typing the keywords related to the video. Next, the music video opened and downloaded. Then, the music video watched and listened carefully. Fourth, the lyric from the music video transcribed into text. Fifth, looking for taboo words from the text. In the last step, each datum is identified based on the three research questions above.

1.5.3 Analyzing Data

In analyzing the data, the writer follows some steps to analyze the data. The procedures for analyzing the data divide through the following steps:

1. Identification

This section begins with identifying the taboo words that find in Eminem's song lyrics such as Kamikaze, Fall, Lucky You, and The Ringer released in 2018.

2. Classification

The writer classifies the taboo words that found in the four- songs that related to Eminem's album "kamikaze" the writer has already chosen.

3. Description

In this part, the writer describes types, meanings, and functions of taboo words that found in those four songs related to Eminem's album "kamikaze" by using Jay (1992, p. 1), Leech (1981, p. 9) and Leech (1974, p. 40).



4. Conclusion

The last step in analyzing the data is a conclusion. The researcher concludes all the data analyzed to acquire the answer to the research question.

1.5.4 Presenting of the Result Analysis

After analyzing the data, the results of the analysis presented descriptively to explain the type, meaning, and function of taboo words displayed in the lyrics of the song Eminem. From 55 data, the researcher only describes 17 data in this thesis.

The researcher uses the table to find out the percentage of types and functions of taboo words utterances found in the research. The result of the analysis contains three tables, All data shown in table 1, the percentage of the type of taboo words found in Eminem's song lyrics shown in table 2, and the percentage of the function of taboo words found in Eminem's song lyrics shown in table 3.

