

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

People in the United States, especially the African-Americans, use sexual taboo terms not only in daily communication but also in music. The African-American people often sing songs which contain sexual taboo terms. One of the songs intended is Rap music. Rap music is very interesting to discuss because from its very beginning Rap music has always been controversial. The lyrics of Rap music are so vulgar and violent that there are a lot of extreme aspects to be discussed.

The famous rapper who is mostly using sexual taboo terms in her song lyrics is *Nicki Minaj*. The sexual taboo terms which are found in the lyrics have a lot of varieties and certain purposes of usage. Take a look at the following examples:

(1) But I was still staring at the *titties* though

The word *titties* belongs to a sexual taboo term. It is concerned with gender identity because it means a female breast of small or big sizes, which is beautiful, and has sexy nipples. This term is aimed to show a pleasure by looking at the breast.

(2) The bad ass bitches doing make up
And hair *fucks* with you

The word *fucks* in the lyric above belongs to a sexual taboo term. It is classified as a sexual term because it refers to sexual activity, namely a sexy bitchy woman who wants to make love with hair of a hairy man. This lyric is used to express a humor because the woman is not beautiful, but she wants to make sexual intercourse with hair of man who has much hair in his body.

The evidence above is the phenomenon in linguistics which is very interesting to analyze scientifically. Therefore, this research tries to discuss the sexual taboo terms in the lyrics of *Nicki Minaj's* songs.

1.2 The Reason of Choosing the Topic

There are so many problems in sociolinguistic study and its variations. One of them is concerned with taboo terms, especially sexual taboo terms. The use of sexual taboo terms is chosen as the main topic of the discussion in this research because it is a very interesting topic. Besides, it can enrich the knowledge about the phenomenon of language variation in linguistics. Furthermore, the topic bears great problems to discuss, such as the kinds and the purposes of using sexual taboo terms. The kinds and the aims of using sexual taboo terms can be interpreted differently based on context. Consequently, it is very important to discuss the topic in order to get detailed information about sexual taboo terms.

1.3 The Statement of the Problem

In relation to the topic of the discussion in this research, two main problems are formulated as the following:

1. What kinds of sexual taboo terms are found in the lyrics of *Nicki Minaj's* songs?
2. What are the purposes of using the sexual taboo terms?

1.4 The Objective of the Study

To answer those problems as stated above, this research has the objectives as follows:

1. To describe the kinds of sexual taboo terms found in the lyrics of *Nicki Minaj's* songs
2. To reveal the purposes of using the sexual taboo terms.

1.5 The Scope of the Problem

It is necessary to limit the scope of problem in order to get detailed understanding about the discussion. This research is concerned with sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics is the study of the relation between language and society, including the varieties of language. There are a lot of varieties of language, such as slang, colloquialism, jargon, argot, register, and taboo terms. Taboo terms have several types. One of them is sexual taboo terms. Moreover, this research is focused on sexual taboo terms. Sexual taboo terms here are analyzed in terms of their kinds and the purposes of usage.

1.6 The Significance of the Study

It is hoped that the result of this research may contribute something valuable not only for the researcher but also for the readers. By reading this work, the readers may have good understanding about the topic of discussion, namely sexual taboo terms. Theoretically, this research is expected to improve the readers' understanding and competence on the study of taboo terms, especially the use of sexual taboo terms. Practically, the result of this research may motivate other researchers to do some other researches on the same topic seen from different points of view.