

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a means of communication used by everyone in whatever kinds of communication and characterized by the use of oral language, written language, symbol language, and so on. It means that language is a medium of interaction to communicate our feeling, desire, experience and emotion and so on. Someone cannot share something to the others without language. In order to make the communication easy to understand, the language usage is sometimes followed by the body movement such as our eyes, hands, head or the other parts of our body.

Language itself sometimes can make problem (misunderstand) and also can be used to solve the problem itself, based on perceptions of the users of language. The human's language may be used by two users or speakers of different sexes that are, man and woman or male and female called language and sex.

Both man and woman hold on their own characteristics, for instance, a word that refers to man, a word that refers to woman, a word that refers to both sexes, and also the alternative words to naturalize both sexes into non sexist especially for certain sex. It is an interesting phenomenon for the writer to make such a kind of research on the problems.

The writer of this thesis feels that both man and woman are different in language usage especially in the form of topic discussion, how a man talks to another man, and a woman talks to another woman or how a man and a woman

interact in daily conversation. It is the real phenomenon that happens in human's daily life as a social creature.

Biologically, man and woman are different, characterized by the differences of the sex itself, physical conditions, powers and capabilities, and so on. In relation with the language, these differences of both sexes should be in the form of voice intonation, dialect, idiolect, diction, and so on. Although both of them have the same organs of speech, man and woman have differences in a form of structure of organs of speech. For example, man has an Adam's apple while woman has nothing, so woman's voice is softer than that of man. In topic of discussion, man are focused on business, sports, politics, legal matters, and so on, meanwhile woman are focused on fashions, hobbies, life styles and also issue spreads or gossips, and so on. This phenomenon does not mean that man is superior to woman or woman is inferior to man.

Another fact indicates that men are different from women. For instance the English language always uses the third pronominal like " he, his, him, for Lord as a creator to all creatures and it is impossible to substitute by "she, and her", meanwhile we will never know whether the Lord is male or female like the examples below that are found in Christianity's bibles:

- a. God will always forgive those who believe in *Him*. (Matthew; 27:46).
- b. One must do everything what *his* conscience tells *him* to do. (Mark; 14:39)

Another example still exists in the English language, as shown in the sentences below:

- a *Mr. Smith* was a father of economics science.
- b *Mr. and Mrs. John* were teachers of English grammar in senior high school.

The italic terms in both sentences above indicate the social status of both sexes. The term Mr. in sentence (a) refers to Smith individually, and his social status in society is not known, whether he is married or not; meanwhile the terms Mr. and Mrs. in sentence (b) indicate that both of sexes are married, Mr. John had got married to his wife Mrs. John; both of them were teachers of English grammar. In this case, the terms Mr. and Mrs. are the real phenomenon to indicate the sex discrimination in using language.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

There are so many kinds of language that can be found in society, like Indonesian language, English language and also so many local languages as the mother tongue or native language. So the language usage phenomenon is so wide. The writer on this thesis only chooses the sex aspects in the use of English language based on perspective of some English magazines as the object of observation. In order to make this observation is easy to be analyzed, the writer makes the limitation of the problem as follow:

1. What are the kinds of words that refer to man?
2. What are the kinds of words that refer to woman?
3. What are the alternative terms to neutralize both sexes into non sexist?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

In order to get a specific discussion in this thesis, the writer has certain purposes as follows:

1. The writer wants to describe the words that refer to man.
2. The writer wants to describe the words that refer to woman.
3. The writer wants to describe the alternative words to neutralize both sexes into non sexist.

1.4 The Source of Data

This thesis talks about sex aspects in the English language based on perspective of English magazines, the writer collects some English magazines like *Newsweek* magazine, *Time* magazine, and *Playboy* magazine as the sources of data. After getting the data, the writer classifies the data that are needed to be analyzed. In this case, the writer chooses these magazines because they are familiar English magazines and read by common people in the world. So the writer feels that it is a valid data to be analyzed.