

**A SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF SWEAR WORDS USED
BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE PROFESSOR MOVIE**



By

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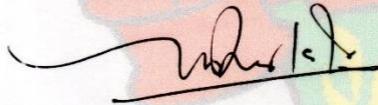
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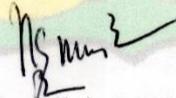
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THESIS

A SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF SWEARING WORDS USED BY THE
MAIN CHARACTER IN *THE PROFESSOR* MOVIE

By

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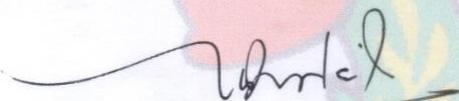
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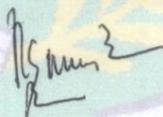


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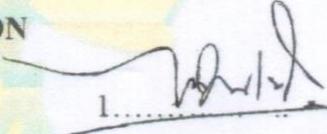
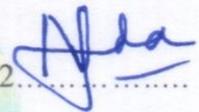
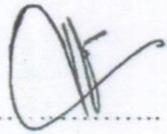
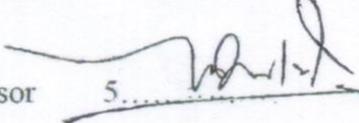
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**A SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF SWEAR WORDS USED BY THE
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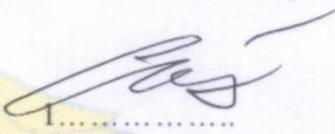
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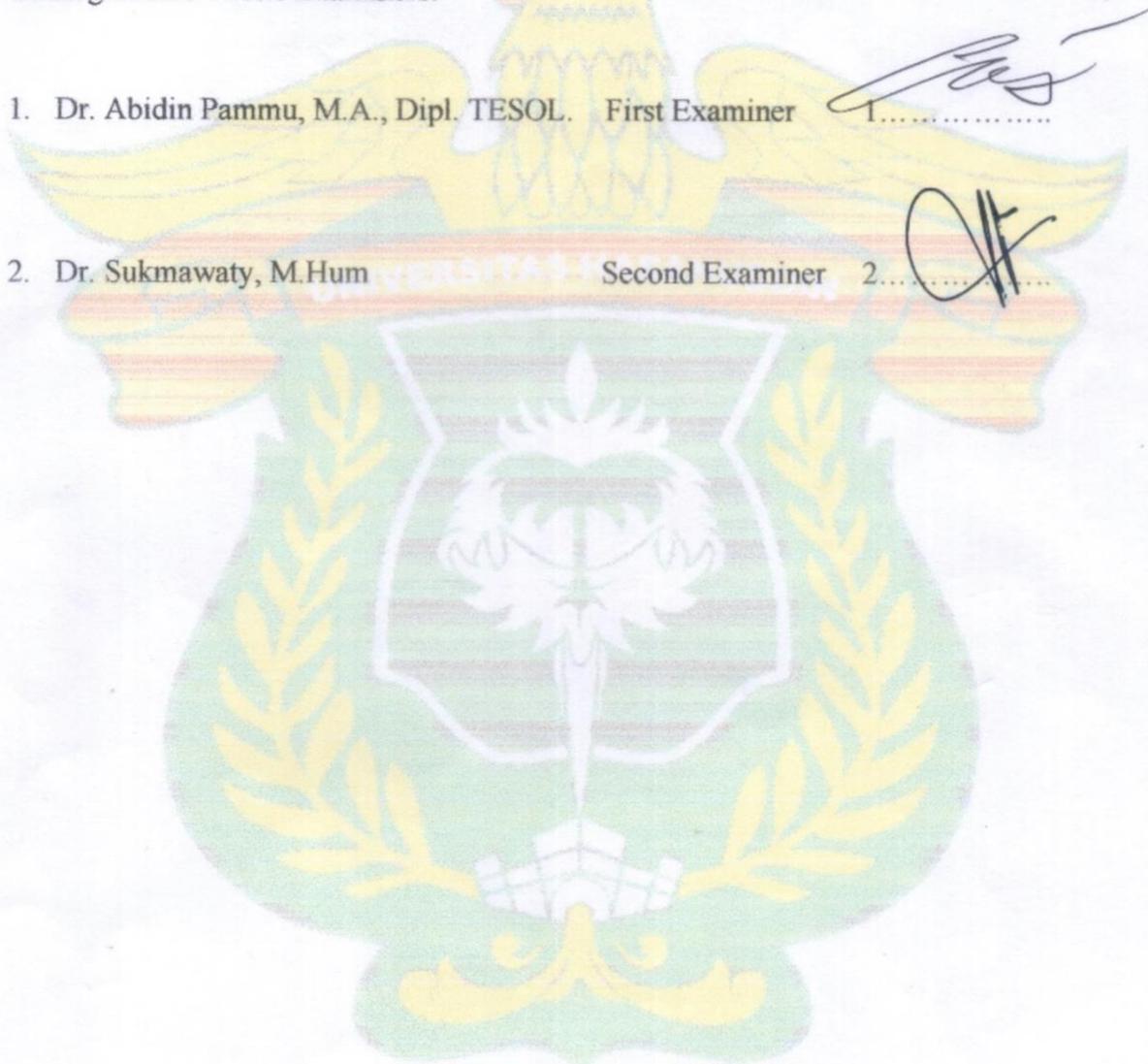
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DECLARATION

This thesis by **NAMIRAH ISLAMIYAH PUTRI (F041181338)** entitled, **A SOCIO-LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF SWEAR WORDS USED THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *THE PROFESSOR* MOVIE** has been revised as advised during examination on 28 January 2022 and approved by the board of Undergraduate Thesis Examiners:

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STATEMENT LETTER

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Hereby, the writer declares that this thesis is written by herself. This thesis does not contain any materials which have been published by the other people, and it does not cite other people's ideas except the quotations and references.

Makassar, January 13, 2022



Namirah Islamiyah Putri

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Assalamualikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Al-hamdu lillahi rabbil 'alamin. All praises to Allah, the Almighty God, who has always been giving me blessing, grace, and mercy, that I can finish this thesis entitled “**A Sociolinguistic Analysis of Swear Words Used by the Main Character in The Professor Movie**” as requirement to obtain the title Sarjana Degree of English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

In writing this thesis, there are many challenges and obstacles. However, with all the supports, assistances, and helps from some parties, the writer can overcome the difficulties that leads to the accomplishment of this thesis. For that, I would like to give my sincerest gratitude and appreciation for these amazing people.

My first gratitude goes to Dra. Marleiny Radjuni, M.Ed as the first thesis advisor and Dra. Nadira Mahaseng, M.Ed. as the second thesis advisor whom I really thankful for their guidance, advice, corrections, suggestions, encouragement, and patience in accomplishing this thesis. I extremely grateful for having my advisors to guide me until the very end.

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Finally, the writer realizes that this thesis is not perfectly written. Therefore, the author humbly expects some constructive criticisms and suggestions from readers as an evaluation to improve this thesis. The author then, hopes that this thesis can be useful and provide enough information for all parties, especially, for further studies. Amen.

Makassar, December 5, 2021

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ABSTRACT

Namirah Islamiyah. 2021. *A Sociolinguistic Analysis of Swear Words Used by the Main Character in The Professor Movie.* (Supervised by Marleiny Radjuni and Nadira Mahaseng)

This study analyzes the use of swearing by the main character in *The Professor* movie, to identify the types of swear words and to describe their functions in social communication.

The method conducted in this study is descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data in form of utterances produced by the main character in *The Professor* movie as the source of the data along with the movie transcript. The data were gathered by watching the movie, reading the script and selecting the utterances of the main character containing swear words. Then, the data found were observed and described. And in supporting the data analysis, the writer collected some additional information from literatures and studies relating to sociolinguistics and swearing.

In result, the writer found the uses of swearing uttered by the main character, Richard, in *The Professor* movie. First, the types of swear words used are epithet, profanity, vulgarity and obscenity. And in his utterances, Richard mostly produced the obscenity words. Second, Richard conducted the offensive words into several functions which are abusive, cathartic, dysphemistic, emphatic and idiomatic. Commonly, Richard used dysphemistic swearing in his dialogues.

Keywords: sociolinguistics, swear words, *The Professor* movie

ABSTRAK

Namirah Islamiyah. 2021. *A Sociolinguistic Analysis of Swear Words Used by the Main Character in The Professor Movie.* (Dibimbing oleh Marleiny Radjuni dan Nadira Mahaseng)

Studi ini menganalisis penggunaan kata-kata umpatan oleh tokoh utama dalam film *The Professor*, untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis kata umpatan dan mendeskripsikan fungsinya dalam komunikasi sosial.

Dalam penelitian ini, metode deskriptif kualitatif digunakan untuk menganalisis data berupa ujaran-ujaran yang dihasilkan oleh tokoh utama dalam film *The Professor* sebagai sumber data yang juga ditemukan dalam transkrip filmnya. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan menonton film, membaca naskah dan memilih ucapan dari karakter utama yang mengandung kata-kata makian. Kemudian, data yang ditemukan diamati dan dideskripsikan. Kemudian, untuk melengkapi analisis data, penulis mengumpulkan beberapa informasi tambahan dari literatur dan studi yang berkaitan dengan sosiolinguistik dan umpatan.

Sebagai hasilnya, penulis menemukan beberapa penggunaan makian yang diucapkan oleh tokoh utama, Richard, dalam film *The Professor*. Pertama, jenis kata makian yang digunakan adalah *epithet, profanity, vulgarity, dan obscenity*. Dan dalam tuturannya, Richard lebih banyak menggunakan *obscenity*. Kedua, terdapat beberapa fungsi makian yang digunakan Richard, yaitu *abusive, cathartic, dysphemistic, emphatic and idiomatic*. Pada umumnya, *dysphemistic* merupakan fungsi makian yang sering kali ditemukan dalam ujarannya.

Kata kunci: sosiolinguistik, kata-kata makian, film *The Professor*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In daily life, people utter thousand or even million words to deliver messages. It leads to the important of language in our life whether to exchange information, express our feelings, and to keep our social relationship. In using language, people conventionally develop their own language style, or even construct language structures/grammar shared among society. For that, language becomes an identity of a community or individuals reflecting their characters. By the language they carry, we can identify one's background and preference.

In a culture, as the members conventionally conduct language based on sociocultural perspective, there is language considered bad, taboo or better to keep shut since they break the custom and show offensive manners. Even so, taboo words are still commonly found in everyday communication as they carry emotive functions of language. The use of taboo words for emotive functions in expressing and referring ideas is known as swearing. There are many kinds of swearing transmitted around the world based on their function and its context, it's also commonly categorized according to some varieties from human's body to animal's.

People from all of ages and genders can freely utter and choose their language, including swearing, wherever and whenever they want. However, some people really enjoy swearing bluntly without concerning the situation and social factors that can trigger offensiveness and destruct one's moral. The use of swearing then, can be really taboo in daily conversation, especially in formal settings like in school or college as the members carry their social status in communication. Culturally swearing is considered to be used by lower class or uneducated people, and its implementation in well-educated environment becomes inappropriate. It's then necessary to know what factors can trigger the use of swearing words by people who seem to abandon their social status in needs of communication.

The use of offensive words can be seen in movie clip that portrays social and cultural life of a community in a particular period where the dialogue between the characters can show the variation and use of language, including swearing. The implementation of swearing in the movie becomes important aspect to understand more about characters' feelings, personality, relationship, and others. However, some people may still think the use of swearing in the movie is offensive and better to avoid. Especially, when swearing words is implemented by well-educated characters that seems breaking the social values. The audiences, especially, students, can get influenced and encouraged to apply the use of swear words in school environment.

We can see the importance of swearing both in real life and in movie. It's unavoidable tool to deliver messages since it gives emotional force, yet the use of it becomes taboo and immoral in some situations for some people. For that, the writer is interested in exploring and analyzing the use of swearing in movie. "The Professor" or also known as "Richard Says Goodbye", is one of the movies which conduct the use of swearing. The writer chooses this movie as the object of the research because it shows and presents the main character's, Richard's life where he communicates, socializes, builds and fix his relationship through language usage.

The study of swearing has been conducted by many researchers. One of them is a thesis by Anggita, "A SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF TABOO WORDS IN BAD TEACHER MOVIE". This previous study also identified the types and functions of swearing used by characters in movie. We use the same theory in identifying the types of taboo words to answer the first research question. However, for the second research question, the writer applies another theory in analyzing the function of swearing to see how taboo words used in different perspectives. Besides, while Anggita collected data from the utterances of the entire characters who used taboo words in *Bad Teacher* movie, the writer only focuses on analyzing the swearing by the main character in different movie, *The Professor*, to find various different swearing.

The main character, Richard, develops a variety of swearing words as he deals with different situations and different people. He is a figure who should keep himself in good manner as he is a professor. However, Richard can't control his attitude due to his problems and environment. It's shown then, that a person's language can be influenced by some factors. For that, the above explanation made the writer interested to do a research entitled "A SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF SWEARING WORDS USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE PROFESSOR MOVIE" by identifying some types and function of swearing words.

B. Identification of the Problems

According to the background, there are some problems identified:

1. Since the main character in *The Professor* movie tends to swear a lot, it is hard to recognize the types of swear words used.
2. The swearing uttered by the main character in *The Professor* movie, have different functions that are difficult to be identified.
3. The use of swearing in educational environment are considered as offensive and inappropriate to some audiences.

C. Scope of Problems

Based on the problems identified, the research focuses to:

1. Identify the types of swear words used by the main character in *The Professor* movie.
2. Describe the functions of swear used by the main character in *The Professor* movie.

D. Research Questions

The researcher conducts two research questions as follow:

1. What types of swear words used by the main character in *The Professor* movie?

2. What are the functions behind the swearing uttered by the main character in *The Professor* movie?

E. Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions, this study has two objectives as follow:

1. To identify the types of swearing words that are used by the main character in *The Professor* movie.
2. To describe the function of swearing uttered by the main character in *The Professor* movie.

F. The Significances of the Study

The researcher hopes the best for this study as a beneficial reading material for English Department students, general readers and further studies.

1. Theoretically

This research can help students and people who interest in linguistic area to understand language variation under the study of sociolinguistics. Then, it provides information relating to the types of swear words and their functions in social communication.

2. Practically

The study of swear words encourages students to learn more about the use of language in social conversation through sociolinguistics, especially language style like swearing itself, so the students can apply it in a proper way for educational purposes. Knowing more about swearing can help people to adjust the use of swear words in daily life to apply and respond it in right way. And hopefully, this study provides enough information as one of references for future studies in similar field.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A. Previous Studies

There are some studies of swearing that researcher used as the references for this research. The first research is by Dewi R.A (2017) in her thesis “A STUDY OF SWEAR WORDS USED BY THE CHARACTERS IN JOJO MOYES: ME BEFORE YOU”. Conducted with qualitative research method, The objectives of the study is quite similar with this research to analyze the types of swear words and the functions behind it. However, she categorized the swearing according to Wardhaugh’s and Hughes’ theories, and explained the reasons behind it using Rothwell’s theory. Besides, Dewi obtained data from a novel, whereas this study obtains data from a movie.

The second research is thesis by Permadi (2017), “THE ANALYSIS OF SWEARING UTTERED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE TERENCE WINTER’S MOVIE *THE WOLF OF THE STREET*”. Permadi’s research conducted the same aims to analyze the types and the purposes of swear words. However, his reasearch was based on Jay and Janchewit theory. In this research, Permadi’s found four types of swearing which were expletive swearing, abusive swearing, humorous swearing, and auxialiary swearing. And the reasons behind swearing found in the movies were psychological motives, social motives, and linguistics motives. Then, the final result shows that expletive swearing was the dominant type and psychological motive was dominant reason.

Then, there is also thesis “THE USE OF SWEAR WORDS IN PEWDIEPIE’S YOUTUBE VIDEOS” by Timur O. (2017). Her study had the same objective which was to identify the types of swear words. However, Timur focused on the dominant

types based on meaning and meaningless swearing. Besides, the object of the study was data from youtube videos. She used Pinker's theory for the types of swearing, but for the second research question, she used Fairman's in identifying the meaning of the swearing. Timur concluded that the most type used in Pewdiepie's video was idiomatic swearing and the least type used was Abusive swearing. Then, based on the meaning of swear words, the non-referential meaning was the dominant ones than the referential meaning.

A journal article "Swear words among young learners: A case study of the elementary students" by Sukanob-Nicolau M. (2016), also studied the use of swearing. This research was conducted to analyze the dominant type of swearing, the intense emotions behind swearing, the way to minimize swearing, and contributors to learn swearing. In collecting the data, she applied both quantitative (scale survey, open-ended survey, data elicitation from drawings) and qualitative research (interview) among 109 students from school A. moms. The study found the dominant swearing used was intellectual and religion terms; the reason behind swearing was caused by anger; the way subjects toned down the swearing were to use acronyms; and the contributors behind swearing were the subjects' moms.

Next research is a final project by Alifiani R.A (2018), "A SOCIOLINGUISTICS ANALYSIS OF SWEAR WORDS IN THE HEAT MOVIE". The aim of the study was to identify the types of swear words by their functions using Ljung (2011) theory where he classified two functions of swearing which are stand-alone and slot-fillers. Then, the study analyzed social factors influencing the use of swear words. It was conducted with qualitative approach and purposive sampling technique. Similiar with this study, Alifiani only analyzed the bad words used by the main character. However, while she focused on the gender of the character (female) as the social factor in swearing, the writer concerns more about the social status of the character (professor).

B. Literature Reviews

1. Sociolinguistics

Sociolinguistics concerns with the involvement of language in everyday life used by the members of certain community to exchange and deliver messages in order to build and maintain their social relationship. According to Wardhaugh (2006), sociolinguistics is the study of language and society identifying language function and structures constructed. Accordingly, the study focus on language function applied in a social interaction creating language variation and styles developed by society in dealing with some social factors, like ethnicity, religion, status, gender, level of education, age, etc. (Gumperz J and Cook-Gumperz J, 2008). Through language, the relationship between members of community is built and developed by sharing same cultural context and creating mutual understanding, so that they can recognize their roles, adjust their language, and achieve their goals in communication. Sociolinguistics then, focus on analyzing the participants, place and time settings, how language conveyed, language variation, language functions, in social communication.

Society plays an important role in sociolinguistics as participants who use language as a tool to communicate their thoughts and desires. In a community, society is the center of people who shares the same social behaviours in achieving their goals (Hornby, 2000). Accordingly, Chaika (1982) states that language becomes an identity of the speaker because every words, sentences, voice, tones, and others, reflects the speaker social background marked as their characteristics where a community tend to share the same characteristic and language style conventionally to communicate. By that, language is a social phenomenon where it takes social

norm and cultural context to interpret meaning in communication between members of a community. People convey their thoughts using language according to some rules applied conventionally in certain community that influenced by some social value to meet the cultural expectancy and appropriateness.

2. Taboo Words

There are things in particular community considered as a good or bad thing to conduct based on the society's view. Taboo is a kind of behaviour considered as bad thing to do because it leads to harmful behaviour. In every culture, it is associated with politeness and face which people try to maintain, enhance, or damage for themselves or others (Allan and Burrige, 2006). In much society, taboo words are utterances about sexual and/or reproductive organs and behavior, excretory organs and/or fluids, taboo breaking behavior, racial/ethnic slurs, and blasphemy (Brown & Attardo, 2005). It's not only recognized by behavior, but taboo is also shown in a form of speech. Lindahl (2008) states that taboo words are language out of accepted standards of morals, and beliefs in one culture that the implementation of it is better to avoid.

Therefore, there are words in every culture considered bad as the community members believe that their meanings can break the social norm and values. Taboo words are shared through social interactions to emphasize and give emotional force and reaction in utterances, rather than using the polite synonyms because they can strongly trigger the unpleasant feeling to ones' cultures and beliefs where the moral tend to be destructed even just to think about the words. The act of taboo words then is considered as impolite since it leads to negative social values where the interlocutors feel embarrassment and shame as their face of self-value is threaten.

3. Swearing

People have their ability to construct language showing their minds and thoughts for some purpose, and even to intensify their utterance using bad language to

strengthen their ideas. According to Jay & Janschweitz (2008), swearing is the use of taboo language to deliver messages and express emotions. This emotive function leads people to emphasize and strengthen their feelings through language. People swear to express their annoyance, aggression, insult, or solidarity and friendliness (Holmes, 2013). By that, swearing is not only used to express one's emotions, especially to deliver strong emotions, but it is also used to maintain relationship between participants in communication as it breaks the formality. Then, we can tell someone's feelings, whether anger or others, by the emotions carried through language, especially the use of swear words.

In swearing, speakers tend to share connotative meanings of the taboo words to express their emotions (Jay and Janschewitz, 2008). It means that most of swearing in society don't refer to their literal meanings. In addition, Karjaleinen (2002) states that swearing is included in behavioral taboos since speakers implement the words that are forbidden. For that, all the swearing can be considered as taboo, but the taboo words are not always part of swearing. Swearing then have several criteria like implementing taboo words, referring to connotative meaning, constructed by formula, and expressing emotive function.

In every culture, they develop variety of swearing according to sociocultural influences. There are some taboo words commonly used as English swearing. Jay in (Grohol,2009) classifies the bad words of swearing into: sexual references, profane or blasphemous words, scatological or disgusting objects, animal names mentioning, ethnic/ racial/ gender slurs, ancestral allusions (bastard), substandard vulgar terms, and offensive slang. There are also another characteristic according to Wardhaugh (2006), which are sex, death, excretion, bodily functions, religious subjects, and politics. Then, Hudghes (2006) categorizes taboo words into sex, sex activities, excrement, animal, personal background, mental illness, religion, and racism. Those characteristics of bad words are uttered as people have feeling of awing the god, fearing the hell and disease, disgusted by bodily effluvia, hatred of traitors, heretics, and minorities, and depravity for sexuality (Pinker, 2007).

Every culture has their own norms and values leading to variety of swear words as they interpret meanings and consider them differently. For that, swearing also have different level of rudeness, for example, *fuck* delivers strong emotion rather than *damn*, depending on how strong the emotions expressed. To understand the use of swear words in a culture, we have to be familiar with sociocultural aspects.

Furthermore, According to Jay (2000), the reasons why people curse or swear can be studied under Neuro-Psycho-social (NPS) theory. It explains that, in swearing people are influenced by the historical, social, and psychological approaches. First, people construct swear words based on their sociocultural system which tells whether the swearing is appropriate, good, or bad, according to the cultural context. By that, people can learn and construct language based on their psychological aspect developed within sociocultural context leading them to swear by the effect of temperament, personality traits, religiosity, social rewards, and punishment. Then, the act of swearing is controlled by neurological system of human's brain which responsible in producing and regulating verbal expression leading people to produce different level of awareness and control over emotion.

C. Theoretical Framework

In this study, the researcher conducts some theories as the reference to answer the research questions, analyze the data, and draw the results, related to the types of swear words and its function in *The Professor* movie (2018). The theories are implemented to analyze the swearing used by the main character, Richard, English Professor whose attitudes and language should reflect his social status. Furthermore, Richard also faces some social issues around him affecting the way he behave and communicate. Mesthrie R. (2000) states that language is not merely a tool to communicate, but also an identity of someone which reflects the his/her social's background.

The First theory relating to the first research question, is the types of swearing by Batistella (2005), which are ephitets, profanity, vulgarity, and obscenity. Then, the second research question is supported by Pinker's (2007) theory, the functions of

swearing, they are abusively, catharicly, dysphemisticly, emphaticly, and idiomatically.

1. Types of Swear Words

There are four types of taboo words used in swearing according to Battistella (2005). There are epithet, profanity, vulgarity and obscenity.

a. Epithet

According to Battistella (2005), epithet is words or utterances of slurs, such as racial slurs, ethnic slurs, gender slurs, and sexual slurs. Some words that belong to this type are *bitch, slut, whore, motherfucker, bastard, cocksucker, tit-man, nigger, yankee, kaffir, faggot, woe, kike, coon* etc. The animal term is also part of epithet like, *dog, pig, bullshit*, etc. (Esterika, 2016). Then, it also refers to appearance, disabilities, or other characteristics, for example *midget, gimp, and retard, idiot*. Since epithet consists of slurs and insults of a thing/person characteristic, it is then a swearing used mostly to abuse.

b. Profanity

Religious connotations are very sacred in some English communities that the use of them must be conducted for religious matters only. Jay (1992) states that it is considered profane to behave unnecessarily ignoring religious orders of one beliefs. Battistella (2005) states that profanity words contain of religious terms that are implied outside religious needs or customs, taking the God, religion or holy affairs in vain and ignorance. For that, some speakers try to mild down the use of profanity by replacing some words with euphemism like the word “hell” for “heck” and “damn” for “darn”. On the other hand, the profanity is still commonly applied in communication. For example, *god, Jesus, Christ, hell, goddamn it*, etc. They are taboo since it's considered sacred and disrespect the god if uttered outside religious needs.

c. Vulgarity

Vulgarity is the type of swearing that relate to the use of sexual part of body and also about excretory function (Batistella, 2005). For example, *ass, cock, dick, tits, cunt, pussy, asshole, scumbag, etc.* This type of swear words are usually found in everyday conversation, whether in referring their the literal sexual object, or in making dirty jokes. Supported by Jay (1992), vulgarity is socially accepted which means that the use of it can refer to actual meaning in order to make sense of things which make the use of it is tolerable. However, some parties still avoid the use of vulgarity since they trigger the image of words spoken into the participants' minds in conversation.

d. Obscenity

Batistella (2005) defined obscenity as swearing which contains or shows sexual activity and bodily function causing disgust feeling. According to Jay (2000), many swear words and slang comes from sexual terms. For example, *fuck, shit, piss, suck my dick, jerk, blow job, etc.* Obscenity is the most offensive swear words, yet the most used by English native speakers. The offensiveness makes the words worth it in expressing emotions. For that, as it lacks morality, the use of obscenity in public is best to avoid.

2. The Functions of Swearing

According to Steven Pinker (2007), there are five possible functions of swearing:

a. Abusive Swearing

Finn (2017) states that abusive swearing is the use of swear words as weapon to harm others verbally. As speaker feels strong emotion towards others, they want to punish or intimidate the hearer to cause psychological harm, and other feelings like shame, anger, upset, etc. by referring or associating them with the swear words (Pinker, 2007). In other words, this swearing is used whether to insult listener or defend the speaker itself where they feel superior and become dominance in intense situation between participants. In other hand, listener as the victim of verbal abuse,

feels intimidated and insulted as they are labeled with epithets or associated with disgusting and inappropriate things, the obscenity or vulgar words.

For example:

- Fuck you asshole!
- You're a dirty bitch!

b. Cathartic Swearing

Cathartic swearing is used to express the feelings or emotion of pain, misfortune or regret that lead people to curse (Pinker, 2007). We curse to show that the misfortune or bad things suddenly happened, triggers our emotional level leading to our worst thoughts. With the use of swear words, people somehow can tolerate pain and cool with a situation. It's supported by Crystal (2003) that swearing can release emotional tension of a person. In reacting towards bad things, people commonly utter words like *ouch*, *ow*, *yuck*, *oops*, and others. However, in dealing with bad things, the speaker replaces this exclamation with bad words as it describes more of the situation. This is the power of swear words that a speaker becomes offensive in order to ease with the situation and feel relieved.

For example:

- Ouch! Fuck! (responding towards pain)
- What the hell?! (surprised)

c. Dysphemistic Swearing

Based on Pinker (2007), taboo words is used to describe things negatively when speaker considers something awful that bad words reach their minds. Related to anaphoric pronoun in Ljung's theory, there are times when swear words are more appropriate to refer one's emotions or things in conversation that polite words can't do (Ljung, 2011). Then, describing or referring things with swear words, dysphemistic is also can be categorized into curses, name-calling, and others. Furthermore, using swearing in sentence means breaking taboo between

participants. For that, dysphemistic function also becomes signals to indicate people's intimacy.

For example:

- Money is not a goddamn thing
- This shit again!

d. Emphatic Swearing

This swearing words are used to emphasize one thing, so the hearer can pay attention to it. Pinker (2007) mentioned that emphatic swearing helps people to put emotional force through construction of words which describes more speaker's feelings towards something, some situations, someone, or others. It can be used in different way, intensifying utterance, describing negative or positive things, and also expressing exciting feeling (Jay et al., 2008). In other words, their functions are the same which is as emphasize. However, their implementation in constructing sentence may be various.

For example :

- Stay the fuck out of my way!
- Look at this fucking mess!
- I abso-bloody-lutely love him!

e. Idiomatic Swearing

Offensive words can be used without any specific meaning rather than showing that the situation is informal, intimacy, where the speaker can communicate freely breaking taboos between participants. According to Pinker (2007), this function also shows that people swear to evoke power to their language through words arrangement and orders, without concerning the meaning. In idiomatic swearing, phrase or idioms are constructed to express the speaker's feeling (Fromkin et al., 1998). For that, there is a time when cultural norms are avoided when using swear words. Swearing becomes acceptable when group of people or participants in

communication have the same perspective towards the swear words or mutual understanding that they can get familiar with it, accept it and tolerate it.

For example:

- I'm fucked up
- Fuck, man

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A. Research Method

In this study, the researcher conducts qualitative method to obtain descriptive data of swear words in movie. There are two theories used to analyze data which are proposed by Batistella's (2005) for the types of swearing words, and Pinker's (2007) for the functions of swearing.

Qualitative method is the best way to analyze the data of the research because it helps to observe the content of the study based on human interaction. In order to obtain data of visual or written material, the approach of document or content analysis is needed (Ary et al. 2010). According to Prasad (2008) the content analysis allows researcher to identify the meanings, contexts, and intentions of human interaction. Therefore, the data of this study are in form of utterances delivered by the main character of the movie, reflecting real life phenomenon that can help the researcher to identify swear words based on social background and context.

B. Data Sources

The data of this research is the swearing uttered by the main character of *The Professor* movie (2018), whether in a form of words, phrases, clauses, or even sentences. This subject is chosen since Richard as the main character tends to use some swearing words according to the situations, especially when he decides to live his life freely after being diagnosed over cancer. Besides, his social status as professor becomes the main concern in social interaction where it is supposed to reflect his attitudes and behaviours.

The researcher gathers data from *The Professor* movie retrieved from <http://149.56.24.226/the-professor-2018/>, and the printed movie script retrieved from <https://transcripts.thedealr.net/script.php/the-professor-2018-So4w>. The script helps the researcher to analyze the swearing since it provides the data in written form (dialogues). Meanwhile, the movie becomes the media to observe visually the situations and social relationship that the main character involved in.

C. Research Instrument

The research needs human as an instrument or investigator in planning, collecting, analyzing, and reporting the data. According to Moleong 2000, qualitative research is conducted by the researcher itself directly in obtaining the data. For that, with descriptive qualitative method, researcher can analyze human interaction through characters in the movie and their roles based on researcher's knowledge and theories conducted to achieve better understanding and clear information.

D. Techniques of Collecting Data

The data for this research is gathered through some steps.

1. First, finding some information related to the study from articles, theories, books, and previous researches.
2. Second, preparing some instruments, which are the researcher's mental, downloaded movie, printed script, and printed table. Printed table is used to categorize swearing words found based on their types and functions.

3. Third, watching the movie carefully along with checking the script in every scene of the movie to help identifying the swearing.
4. Fourth, filling and marking the table of swearing according to the data found

E. Techniques of Analyzing Data

In analyzing the data, there are some steps to conduct.

1. Identifying the swearing uttered by the main character in movie and script
2. Analyzing swearing words found and categorizing them into four types based on Batistella's theory (epithet, profanity, vulgarity, obscenity) and five functions based on Pinker's theory (abusive, cathartic, dysphemistic, emphatic, and idiomatic)
3. Quantifying the occurrence of each type and make percentage to help describing the data
4. Explaining and interpreting data found to answer the research questions of what types swear words and their functions used by the main character of the movie
5. Concluding the finding and discussion of data to answer the research problems