

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

The way people communicate one another is by using a language. Many people use their formal language to communicate while some others use slang to communicate in order to make the messages in the slang are not easily known by other people and to make the communication among groups become easier.

Slang is a label that is frequently used to denote informal or faddish language in speech community and slang is more widespread and familiar to big numbers of speakers. Slang also can represent solidarity if used in the same group among the members (Katamba and Southerland, 1996, p.558). Thus, it can be said that slang is a word which is formed to deliver some messages in some groups and if it is related with a group or community, there will be differences in Address Terms among the members of the group. In addition to the usage of slang in a group, there will be differences in how each member calls one another and also the name that is formed may not be separated from its association with the slang. For example:

A: *Suhu kasi tau tips nya donk*

(Suhu please give your tips)

B: *Oke!*

Suhu is a slang which is also a form of an address term to call someone who knows more about something. The literal meaning which is closest to the word *suhu* is master. Thus, this paper tried to show the meaning of the slang and how the slang words in internet forum are formed; also how the Address Terms such as tu-vous dimensions are occurred.

Wardagh (1998, p.255) says that the Tu form is sometimes described as “familiar” and vous as “polite” form. So it can be said that tu-vous dimension is a kind of Address Terms in which the tu is an informal way of terms and vous is a formal way to address someone. Address Terms not only happen in verbal form but also in writing form, as in the letter, the forum on the internet, phone and so on.

Some of those things make the writer interested to analyze the slang and Address Terms which occur in the thread log on an internet forum called *Indo Dunia*, especially in the *Konsultasi Sex dan Dewasa* (Sex & Adult section).

In order to analyze the data list of the slang words, the writer made a qualitative study to analyze the slang and Address Terms in *Indo Dunia* internet forum. There are many sections available to be the object of this study, but the writer only focused on the *Konsultasi Sex dan Dewasa / Sex & Adult* section.

That section is really interesting to be analyzed and it has many slang words in the threads. Moreover, the writer focused on analyzing the slang

and Address Terms which are found in the *Indo Dunia* Forum to complete this research.

1.2 Field of the Study

This research is in the field of Linguistics within the domain of Sociolinguistics which is related with Address Terms and morphology because this study is about slang and how the slang words are formed also Semantics field which deals with the meanings.

1.3 Scope of The Study

In this research, the writer joined in the *Indo Dunia* internet forum with Rabenti as a nickname then examined the thread logs in that forum then collected the data from the forum. The data that are collected by the writer are analyzed in three parts, first is the meaning of slang words which are used and how they are formed and second is the Address Terms used in the forum.

1.4 Problem Formulation

Based on the explanation above, the writer conducted a research to answer the following questions:

1. What are the meanings of the slang words which are used in the internet forum *Indo Dunia* in the *Konsultasi Sex dan Dewasa* (Sex & Adult section) and how many slang words which have denotation and connotation meanings?
2. How the slang words in *Indo Dunia* Internet Forum are formed and what is the percentage of each word formation processes?
3. How are asymmetrical T-V and symmetrical T/V dimension reflected in *Indo Dunia* Internet Forum when the members opened threads?

1.5 Objectives of The Study

Based on the problem formulation above, the objectives of this study can be elaborated as follows:

1. To find out the meaning of slang words which are used in the internet forum *Indo Dunia* in the *Konsultasi Sex dan Dewasa* (Sex & Adult section) and discover about the numbers of slang words which have denotation and connotation meanings.
2. To describe how the slang words in *Indo Dunia* Internet Forum are formed and reveal the percentage of each word formation processes.

3. To find an explanation about how the asymmetrical T-V and symmetrical T/V dimension reflected in Indo Dunia Internet Forum when the members opened the threads.

1.6 Significance of The Study

This study is expected to contribute people the knowledge about the slang and Address Terms which are used in the internet forums. The word formation process helps people to know how the slang words in the internet forums are formed when Address Terms help people to know how the members address one another. As a result, this study might become a reference for those who want to join the internet forums.

1.7 Definitions of Terms

1. Denotation and Connotation

Denotation is a more popular term derived from the semantic term referential meaning. Referential meaning itself has the definition of “the real-world object or concept described by language” (Finegan, 1999, p.187)

Connotation is commonly defined as the string of thoughts that is aroused by a particular word. For instance, the word sheep might evoke ideas of weakness, foolishness, gentleness, and so on. These ideas are the connotation of the sheep, but they are not its meaning since sheep can still mean “an animal with a thick coat kept on

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2. Slang

Slang is a label that is frequently used to denote informal or faddish language in speech community (Katamba and Southerland, 1996, p.558). Thus, it can be said that slang is a word which is formed for delivering some secret message in some groups.

2. Address Terms: Tu-Vous

Wardough (1998, p.255) says that The Tu form is sometimes described as “familiar” and vous as “polite” form. So it can be said that tu-vous dimension is a kind of Address Terms in which the tu is an informal way of terms and vous is a formal way to address someone.