CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

It is believed that different gender may show different linguistic features. This may be caused by several reasons. One of the reasons is the society's judgment. This may lead to different treatment and division of roles on them. Çakici (2011) stated that the difference between men and women's speech is the effect of their different roles in society. While men are required to be firm and strong, women are more expected to be softer and polite as they are expected to be good role models for their kids. Moreover, women are restricted to do an activity outside the house and required to take care of their families or do household activity. On the other hand, men may leave home freely and spend more time outside the house as they are supposed to be breadwinners. Furthermore, men are also expected to be the leaders of the family. As a result, men like to talk explicitly and the languages of men are more firm and mature (Oktapiani, Natsir, & Setyowati, 2017). In contrast, women tend to be cautious when uttering words that may make them use soft and polite words.

In this decade, even though gender inequality still happens, women's empowerment has made it different. The role of women in today's world has improved. Women can go outside the house, do multiple activities such as going to work or study. Ziman (2013) stated that over the past sixty years, there has been a good achievement of women in accomplishing higher education and utilizing

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education in the workplace. So, as their roles change, women's language may change too.

Zhu (2019) stated that there are three changes in women's language. Firstly, women currently start to use words that are against social morality. They are braver to use taboo, cursing and swearing words. Secondly, since women are allowed to have more activities outside the home, some external topics like sports, politics, and even international issues are presently being discussed by women. Thirdly, women are no longer hesitant to express what they want to speak. Rather than speak to someone with indirect meaning, they will speak what they want more straightforwardly.

Since women's language has changed, women's linguistic feature is an interesting topic to study. Some studies have investigated women's linguistic features using film as an object. A study by Itmeizeh and Ma'ayeh (2017) analyzed the evolution in gender roles and women's linguistic features using two films of Disney which are "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (1937) and "Brave" (2012). They uncovered that the image of weak and powerless from the princess is no longer used in the modern films of Disney. Similarly, a study of Azmi, Rashid, Rahman, and Safawati Basirah (2016) analyzed the female speech characteristic using "Frozen" (2013). The result of the study shows that the female characters in the "Frozen" (2013) cannot be said powerless because they perform similar characteristic with the heroic male characters.

However, this study has some differences from those studies. The object used for this study is film remake which is played by real human not an animated one like "Frozen" or "Brave" by Disney. Furthermore, this study has more focus on finding the similarities of women's linguistic features between two characters in two different films. This study also used women's linguistic features theory from Coates (2013). The theory by Holmes about social factors (2013) also used to explain the possible factors which may influence the women's linguistic features between two characters in two different films.

Moreover, there are a lot of previous studies that have investigated women's linguistic features using non-animated films. Most of the studies have an aim to discover women's linguistic features of one female character in one film. A study by Megasari (2017) focused on analyzing women's linguisitc features of one female characters in "Made in Dagenham". In contrast, there is a study which tries to find the linguistic features of two female characters. One example of that is a study by Ramadhani (2017) which analyzed the characters of Katherine Watson and Betty Warrens in "Mona Lisa Smile".

However, only one study has a focus on finding linguistic features between men and women character in two different films. The study which compared four women characters and men characters is a study conducted by Sidabutar (2017). Concerning that, it can be said that the attention to compare women's linguistic features of two characters in two different films is still little. Therefore, in this study, the writer analyzed women's linguistic features using the utterances performed by two

women characters in two different films to explore the study about language and gender phenomenon. The study of language and gender phenomenon is interesting to be discussed because women's linguistic features are often related to powerless speakers. Meanwhile, in today's world, the role and the status of women experience big development compared with the past. Moreover, a lot of women around the world have received appreciation for their achievement. The writer would like to gain knowledge about whether women's current role and status may affect their linguistic features or not.

Based on the previous studies, a film can be used as an object for the study to analyze women's linguistic features. It usually brings the issues that happen in the real world. Furthermore, the dialogue of a film is believed to have a similarity in reality. A film's characters also can reflect the position and variations of today's issues (Busso & Vignozzi, 2017). Therefore, the status of the character in the film may illustrate the status of someone as a member of a group in reality. Regarding to this, a film remake probably is suitable as an object of study to compare women's linguistic features at different times. In the film remake, a film is remade to bring fresh or new ideas to be implemented. The character, plot, genre theme, and setting also usually changed and adjusted to the issues in the current periods.

In this study, the writer tried to compare women's linguistic features performed by Esther in "A Star Is Born" (1976) to those performed by Ally in "A Star Is Born" (2018). There are some reasons behind the two films remake chosen for this study. The first is because both films have the same main characters who are

male and female singers. The second reason is the main story. It is still maintained even though some changes are made. Those two reasons are become the important aspects. It is considered important to use the same variable if we want to compare something.

Another reason the films are chosen for this study is that both of the films are the third and fourth remake version of the original film "A Star Is Born" which was released in 1937. The original version and the other remake versions of the films always had been a big hit and nominated for academy awards. This may happen because the films have a remarkable romantic and tragic story and the actors and the actresses who participated in the films perform great acting skills. Furthermore, the writer chose both of the films because they provide entertainment industry as the background of the story which may illustrate the condition of women as a singer in the entertainment world in the two different times. Moreover, the gap of the film is forty-two years which may provide pictures of women's linguistic features at different times.

Additionally, Esther and Ally who are the female main characters in both of the films are illustrated as independent and strong women while facing the obstacles in life. In both films, they work to earn their own money. Esther works as a bar singer before she became a famous singer. Meanwhile, Ally works as kitchen staff and part-time singer in a drag queen bar before she became a famous singer. Then, after they receive help from their partner to become a big singer, they continue to handle their career independently. Moreover, besides their career life, they do not remain silent

and fight back whenever their partners hurt them. Furthermore, Ally is illustrated as a brave person because she fearlessly fights with a cop and straightforwardly conveys her disagreement to his manager when she has an opposite opinion with him. Considering their characters in the films, Esther and Ally can be said as powerful women. Because of their representation as powerful women, Esther and Ally are interesting characters to be investigated. Their powerful characters as women may influence their usage of linguistic features. Therefore, in this study, the writer chose Esther and Ally as the subject of the study.

In addition, the findings found in women's linguistic features performed by Esther's and those by Ally's were expected to uncover the women's role or social status in 1976 and that in 2018. Women's status is affected by the women's movement support. Women's movement may rise in the 1960s. It means that when the third remake of "A Star Is Born" released in 1976, the women's movement may bring an influence to the film. According to Mulyani (2014), the 1960s is the time when "second wave" feminism fight against sex discrimination and struggle for equal opportunity and the emancipation of women. Moreover, Flotov (2004) states that in the late 1960s and early 1970s, women's movement tried to display how women's transformation from men was in many ways due to the artificial behavioral stereotypes that come with gender conditioning.

In contrast, according to Wrye (2009), "fourth wave" feminism is raised around the 21st century. In this wave, women have realized if there is shifting in their roles which give them a chance to do multiple tasks outside the house. Therefore,

they do not only focus on gender inequality or gender stereotypes but they also focus on issues like racism that happens with women who have different skin colors. Moreover, Zimmerman (2017) states that the fourth wave feminism actively works on a social media platform and discusses more on racism and feminism. Regarding that, it shows that the change of women's linguistic features may happen when "A Star Is Born" (2018) released.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study, the writer tried to find the answer to the following research questions:

1. What are the women's linguistic features performed by Esther in "A Star Is Born" (1976) and those by Ally in "A Star Is Born" (2018)?

2. What are the similarities between the women's linguistic features performed by Esther in "A Star Is Born" (1976) and those by Ally in "A Star Is Born" (2018)?

3. What are the social factors that may influence the women's linguistic features performed by Esther in "A Star Is Born" (1976) and those by Ally in "A Star Is Born" (2018)?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

From the research question above, the writer elaborated the objectives of the study below:

1. To identify the women's linguistic features performed Esther in "A Star Is Born" (1976) and those by Ally in "A Star Is Born" (2018).

2. To find the similarities between the women's linguistic features performed by Esther in "A Star Is Born" (1976) and those by Ally in "A Star Is Born" (2018).

3. To identify the social factors that may influence women's linguistic features performed by Esther in "A Star Is Born" (1976) and those by Ally in "A Star Is Born" (2018).

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study has a purpose to compare women's linguistic features performed by Esther in "A Star Is Born" (1976) to those by Ally in "A Star Is Born" (2018). In doing this study, theoretical and practical benefits are expected by the writer may be presented greatly for the readers. Theoretically, the writer hopes that the result of this study will contribute to the sociolinguistics field especially in the topic of women's linguistic features. Instead of that, the study will also help the readers to understand more about women's linguistic features theory proposed by Coates. Practically, the writer expects that the study may be useful for readers who interested in the study with similar topics. Lastly, the writer hopes that the study may make readers aware of women's linguistic features phenomena.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

1. Social Factors : Factors that possibly affects the way people speak in a certain social context. The four social factors that proposed by Holmes (2013) are participants, setting, topic, and function.

2. Women's linguistic features : The theory proposed by Coates (2013) that can identify linguistic features performed by women. They are minimal responses, hedges, tag questions, questions, commands and directives, swearing and taboo language, and compliments.

2. "A Star Is Born" (1976) : A film which tells a story about Esther Hoffman, an unpopular but talented female bar singer, meets a famous male musician, John Norman. Since some events make her meet him unexpectedly, she falls in love with him. She also starts her music career with him.

3. "A Star Is Born" (2018) : A film which tells about Ally, a singer from a drag queen bar, meets Jackson Maine, a famous musician. As she spends a lot of time together with him working on her music career, she faces many ups and downs in her life.