

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

“Language and gender” has been an interested topic of discussion since Lakoff wrote “*Language and Woman’s Place*” in 1975 (Kuntjara, 2004). The book “*Language and Woman’s Place*” provides a thought that men’s and women’s speech are different. The differences of men’s and women’s speech are not only in their pronunciation but also in their lexical choice, sentence structure, and the way to convey certain meaning. After the publication of her book, the study of language and gender has been evolved and her book has become a pioneer of the language and gender studies.

Holmes (2008) stated that the linguistic forms used by men and women contrast to different degrees. She prefers to use the term *gender* to *sex*. Accordingly, *gender* means the concept for being male or female on the basis of their socio-cultural behavior while *sex* means the biological characteristics of people. Thus, she chooses to use the term *gender* for explaining the differences of men’s and women’s linguistic forms because speech included to socio-cultural behavior.

Since men’s and women’s socio-cultural behavior are different, their linguistic behaviors as a part of socio-cultural behavior are also different. There are some differences between men’s speech and women’s speech.

Concerning to the topics of the talk, Coates (2003) stated that men's talk and women's talk are different. She explained that men tend to talk about sports and automotives, while women tend to talk about the feeling and gossip about everything happens in their daily life. Interestingly, there is another thing related to the topics of the talk argued by Wardhaugh (2006). He stated that men's talk is about gossiping as much as the women do, but they do gossiping in the different ways. In man-all-talk there is a phatic small talk which involves insulting, challenging and negative behavior. It makes analyzing gender differences is interesting since there is different finding about the characteristics and stereotype of male and female conversation, specifically in face-to-face interaction in a certain community.

Another difference of men and women in using language is the language strategies. Tannen (1994, p. 31) explained the language strategies used by men and women differ in terms of indirectness, interruption, silence versus volubility, topic rising, and adversativeness or verbal conflict. According to Coates (2003), the silence of conversation that she called as 'mask of silence' or 'to mask up' refers to man-all-talk to show their defensive emotional. On the other hand, the volubility of conversation refers to woman-all-talk which always raises their topic of talk. In same gender interaction, interruptions are pretty evenly distributed between speakers, while in cross gender interaction, almost all the interruption are from men.

Coates (2004, p. 143) also suggested language strategy in man-all talk and woman-all talk. She stated that man and woman all-same talk are also different: man-all talk is competitive while woman-all-talk is cooperative. Competitive is identified

by exploring and challenging the hegemony of competition, while cooperative is identified by giving feedback. Moreover, a typical man-all-talk uses himself as main character and becomes the focus in the story. It differs with woman-all-talk in which the main character is not herself so that she is not the focus of the story; even man-all-talk and woman-all-talk use the same point of view as the narrator of their story. She added that one of common characteristics of man-all-talk is the use of *swear word* or *taboo language* (fucking, piss off).

The differences of men's and women's speech occur in most societies or communities. According to Holmes (2008) the fact that there are clearly identifiable differences between men's and women's speech in the communities reflect the clearly demarcated gender roles in all communities. One of the evidence that shows the reflection of gender roles in communities is gender-exclusive speech forms, some forms of speech features that are used *only* by men and others are used *only* by women. The theory of gender exclusive speech differences is provided by Holmes (2008) and clearly shows the gender roles of men and women in society. One of the examples of gender exclusive speech differences provided by Holmes (2008) is the different vocabulary items which are chosen by Japanese men and women. In traditional Japanese language, there are some distinctions between the vocabulary items chosen by men and women.

In the writer pre-observation, the writer also found some of the difference vocabulary items chosen by men and women in BIGREDS Surabaya community that conform Holmes' gender exclusive speech differences theory. The vocabulary items

are the word *lady kopite* and *liverpudliangel* for replacing ‘a woman who supports Liverpool’ (this word refers and utters *only* to woman supporter) and *wool* which means ‘a man who support Liverpool from another city in another country, a non-native Liverpool occupant, or a Liverpool supporter who never come to the Kopstand tribune in Anfield stadium’. The word *wool* refers and utters *only* to man supporter. The word *lady kopite* and *liverpudliangel* are the terms for greeting and addressing ‘a woman supporter of Liverpool FC’ while *wool* is a greeting and addressing term for ‘a man supporter of Liverpool FC’ in BIGREDS Surabaya community. Women members of BIGREDS Surabaya simply use the word *mas* for addressing men members, while men use the word *mbak* or call women’s name directly for addressing women’s members.

Based on the phenomenon of gender speech differences above, this study is aimed to find out the kind of linguistic features in men’s and women’s speech in a football supporter community, which is BIGREDS Surabaya, a branch of BIGREDS, the first football supporter community in Indonesia which has an official status.

Providing a good football supporter community, BIGREDS has become the first football supporter community in Indonesia which got an official status from their adorable football team, Liverpool Football Club (Kurniawan, 2012). Because of its official status, BIGREDS has become a football supporter community whose member is the biggest among other football supporters in Indonesia. BIGREDS members are well known by the society because of their famous red shirt and their greatest slogan, which was *YNWA*, stands for *You’ll Never Walk Alone*. Until 2011-2014 period,

BIGREDS member attains 8.000 members ([www.big-reds.org/membership](http://www.big-reds.org/membership)). BIGREDS also had social activities, such as *OGOT*, auction sale of jersey and saving money for helping others. The social activities which are held by BIGREDS changed bad image of football supporter which usually known as bad tempered and contribute a riot.

As a branch of BIGREDS, BIGREDS Surabaya has many activities and events. The regular events of BIGREDS Surabaya are *nonbar*, which stands for *nonton bareng* (watching Liverpool's match together, usually holding in a café) and futsal. The other events are badminton, basketball, and off season activity which is held while the season of English Premier League was over.

BIGREDS Surabaya also adopted a social activity through *nonbar* of BIGREDS IOLSC, which is called *OGOT*. *OGOT* stands for *One Goal One Thousand*. *OGOT* is an activity in which a member of BIGREDS who attends *nonbar* has to donate a thousand rupiahs if Liverpool's player scored. The money will be used for social activities such as for education, helping orphans and other activities which concern to football (Vetriciawizach, 2011: 36-37).

Most of members of BIGREDS Surabaya community always attend every event held by their community. The routine agenda held are *nonbar* (nonton bareng), futsal and badminton, while the others agenda are *cangkruk* (gathering and talking in a certain place, usually in a café or warung kopi), attending another member's wedding, or only watching a cinema. For convenience reason, they always separate fitting to their gender: man always gets together with all man and woman always gets

together with all woman when they gather. The man and woman get together when the number of woman who attend an event is just one person. The separation of men and women in attending events indicates the differences in talking in the face-to-face interaction between man-all talk and woman-all talk. Therefore, the writer conducted this study to find out the kind of speech features particularly occur in men's and women's speech of BIGREDS Surabaya community.

Because of the separation of the gender when they gathered in an event, the writer assumed that the men and women had different topic of conversation that they choose which lead them to produce different phonological, morphological, syntactical and lexical items, even they are in the same community. In addition, men and women of BIGREDS Surabaya used different kind of language. Men used Javanese language more than women while women used Bahasa Indonesia more than men. Thus, the data of this study is either in Javanese language or in Bahasa Indonesia. The analysis of speech features in Javanese language is based on Sudaryanto (1991) while the analysis of speech features in Bahasa Indonesia is based on Putrayasa (2008) and Muslich (2010).

Concerning on the gender exclusive speech differences, Holmes (2008) stated that men and women do not speak exactly the same in any other community. Further she added that the differences in men's and women's speech can be distinguished into some aspects that are morphological differences, syntactic differences and lexical differences. Besides of those linguistic features above, she also explained that the

way of addressing to men and women are also different. All of those differences are influenced by social factors. She argued that the differentiation of men's and women's speech can be used as a tool to represent the status of men and women in society. In this case, she stated that through the gender exclusive speech differences men's status are higher than women's in most of societies or communities.

There are some studies investigating about gender speech differences. The first study is conducted by Hannah and Murachver (2007) entitled "*Gender Preferential Responses to Speech*". Their paper examined the impact of conversational responses to speech style of men and women. The second study is conducted by Safitri (2012) entitled "*An Analysis of Women Linguistic Features in Legally Blonde I*". Her study analyzed women's conversation in that movie. Her finding is the women's conversations occurred in that movie supports Lakoff's theory of ten women's linguistic features. The third study is conducted by Ye and Palomares (2013) entitled "*Effects of Conversation Partners' Gender-Language Consistency on References to Emotion, Tentative Language, and Gender Salience*". Their study examined how a conversation partner's gender and gender-language influence communicators' gender based language and gender identity salience. Those three studies above are different with the writer's study since the writer discussed the kind of linguistic features of men's and women's speech in face-to-face interaction, starting from morphological differences, syntactical differences and lexical differences. Because the focuses of the analysis are different, the result of the writer's study also different from those three

studies above.

The research of gender exclusive speech differences through men's and women's speech of a football supporter community is an interesting topic because the research in football supporter community is different with previous research in English Department which the researcher concerned in register. Moreover, most researches in English Department about football are conducted by men. Thus, the writer is challenged to do this research. In addition, sports, specifically football is usually liked only by men, not women. The delight of something will lead people to talk about it every time (Coates, 2003), no exception of football. Consequently, football becomes trending topic of conversation, which relates to the biggest football event in the world, which is World Cup 2014 which held in June- July this year. That is the reason of the writer held a research on a football supporter community, specifically BIGREDS Surabaya. Therefore, the aim of this study is to find out the kind of speech features particularly occur in men's and women's speech of BIGREDS Surabaya community through face-to-face interaction.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

In doing the study, the writer has formulated the research questions as follow:

1. What kind of particular speech features occur only in the men's speech of BIGREDS Surabaya community?



2. What kind of particular speech features occur only in the women's speech of BIGREDS Surabaya community?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study are to describe the speech features which occur only in men's and women's speech of BIGREDS Surabaya community. The gender exclusive speech differences theory is used to find those speech features. Therefore, the analysis of gender exclusive speech differences is expectantly a tool to explain what kind of particular speech features occur only in men's and women's speech of BIGREDS Surabaya community.

### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

This study is expected to give a contribution to the sociolinguistic study, specifically to the language and gender. Theoretically, the writer expects that this study will be a reference for finding the gender exclusive speech differences of men's and women's speech in face-to-face interaction. The finding of this study is expected to contribute to the evidence of gender exclusive differences in Indonesia. The results of this study show that in Indonesia is found gender exclusive speech differences in BIGREDS Surabaya community which support gender exclusive speech differences with the data that provided by Holmes in Japanese or other languages. Further, the writer also expects this study will be a reference for people who are interested in analyzing the kind of speech features of men's and women's speech in any other communities, not only focus on football supporter community. Practically, the writer hopes this study will be advantageous for the people who like to join a community,

particularly a football supporter community to understand the linguistic features of men's and women's speech in conversing with other members.

### 1.5 Scope and limitations

This writer limited this study on morphological differences, syntactical differences and lexical differences occurred of men's and women's speech of BIGREDS Surabaya community. Because linguistic covers many fields and it needs broad analysis to analyze all of the fields, the writer only focuses on morphological differences, syntactical differences and lexical differences based on Holmes' (2008).

### 1.6 Definition of Key Terms

**Gender** : the state of being male and female (typically used with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological one) (Holmes and Meyerhoff, 2003)

**Gender exclusive speech** : some forms of speech features that are used *only* by men and others are used *only* by women (Holmes, 2008)

**Speech features** : the features which are used in someone's speech including phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics (Holmes, 2008)

- Morphological differences** : the difference word-shape specifically in using affixes occurred in men's and women's speech (Holmes, 2008)
- Syntactic differences** : the difference sentence structure occurred in men's and women's speech (Holmes, 2008)
- Lexical differences** : the difference of lexicon or word occurred in men's and women's speech (Holmes, 2008)
- Face-to-face interaction** : direct communication of two or more people (Coates, 2003)
- BIGREDS Surabaya** : the official branch of BIGREDS IOLSC in Surabaya (Kosyu, 2012)