

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Although Indonesia has more than 536 languages and dialects, which belong to different ethnic groups spoken throughout the archipelago, the country is united by one national language, *Bahasa Indonesia* (Ragam Bahasa Indonesia, www.indoindian.com). Indonesia has a motto "*Bhineka Tunggal Ika*", which means Unity in Diversity: One Nation, One Country, One Language. *Bahasa Indonesia* is still developing and many foreign words (from English, Dutch, Portuguese, Chinese, etc) are integrated in the language. The languages that have the most speakers are Javanese, Sundanese, Madurese, Balinese, Minangkabau, Batak and Malay. Each of those languages has its own unique dialect and structure. And nowadays homosexual especially gay people come up with their new variation in development of Indonesia language, they involved gay words. Gay word is a word, which is usually used by gay people in Indonesia among their groups. The purpose of using this kind of word is to conceal message from outsiders.

Gay word is also known by gay men and other Indonesians as *bahasa banci*. *Banci* is nationwide and maybe term for male to female transformation. In contemporary Indonesia, male to female transformation is also known as *waria*, a mixture of *wanita* (woman) and *pria* (men). *Waria* can also be a joking term between gay men, maybe like *faggot* in English. Then *bahasa banci* also has the

connotation *waria* and gay language. Maybe it appears that gay word originally as a variant of *bahasa waria* because both has many similarities and are spoken in overlapping everyday conversation and also borrow the words from each other.

Homosexual community in Indonesia doesn't have certain norm and rule. They live in the middle of society and we cannot identify homosexual easily. The homosexual will join their own community when they want to talk about the same interest, for example about sex. In Indonesia, homosexual community exists because of certain rejection from normal society that is why the homosexuals make their own community. The homosexual community has some reasons why they make their own groups. The first one is they need social support from other gay. The second is they have the same basic needs, in this case is sexual needs. The last is they need a space for their own privacy, out of the normal society. As the result, it is one of the factors why they make their own word.

Gay community in Indonesia creates some special words to conceal a message from outsiders, when they talk about homosexual and something secret especially about their sexual orientation. Moreover they uses gay word to show intimacy and solidarity between communities, but sometimes they also uses it as joke and have fun with their word. Because the gay word also has a pattern for the words that they created. For example, the word *lekong* means *laki* (a man) is formed by changing vowel in the first syllable to become [e] and the consonant in the second syllable to become [ong], *laki* → *leki* → *lekong*. Therefore, gay word also can be used as a mark of identity of the gay people. But his kind of word

cannot stay longer, it will change time by time according to the era (Sahertian, 2007:10).

Gay word at present is not only used by gay people but also by normal society like, teenagers, young executive, celebrities, students, and also gay language used in the movie script. In the *Arisan* movie there are some gay words for example, “Sayang kamu santailah! Malah kalau marah-marah gitu kelihatan ngodeknya loh!” (Relax honey! If you get angry you looks spoiled!), and other gay words like *jentong* which means macho, *racun* which means a woman, *brondong* which means a young gay, and *gilingan padi* which means crazy.

Like other languages, gay word also experiences word formation processes. Gay words a few years ago were formed by insert (-in), like the word *bule* (western people) becomes *binuline*. Nowadays the forms of gay language develop in complicated form because the form of gay words has no standard rule of how to form a word, for example the word *cakep* (handsome) becomes *cakrabirawa*. It can cause headache for people who do not belong to the homosexual community.

However, as Yule states (2006), although many new words and terms emerge in a language, people can still understand the meaning of those new words or terms, because of the development of medias like television, radio, magazine, newspaper and the advertisement that popularize the use of new words in daily communication. As a result, the media is considered as one of factors that influence the development and the spread of language. Magazine maybe one of

the most influential media today, it contains many articles that may affect people, especially young people in their lifestyle and mostly in their speech form because the context is about their daily life. Therefore, that is one of the reasons why the writer chose *GAYa NUSANTARA* magazine as the source of data. Moreover, Surabaya is a big city and there are many homosexual communities here. *GAYa NUSANTARA* itself is also a pioneer of gay community in Indonesia and takes place in Surabaya, so the writer didn't find any difficulties in finding the data.

After the writer did some search about gay, he realized that the previous study of gay only analyzed about their behavior, sociolinguistic, and narrative. The writer didn't find any study which talks about gay words, so he thinks it is important to analyze about how gay words are formed through word-formation processes.

There are three other reasons why the writer is interested in analyzing gay word in *GAYa NUSANTARA* magazine. The first one is *GAYa NUSANTARA* magazine is a gay magazine which contains gay word and represents gay community. The second is gay word becomes a trend, many people use this gay word like fashion designers, young executive, celebrities and even in the movie. The gay word has a special and unique word formation processes and gay community is a part of normal society, so the writer has the opinion that the normal society must learn this word, at least understands some of the expressions of the gay people. So, the last reason is that the writer is interested in knowing how the gay word is formed. For example the word *jentong* means *jantan* (macho),

kurcaci means *kurus* (thin), and *gembala* means *gemuk* (fat). This phenomenon really attracts the writer to look further about Gay word.

The theories uses in this study are the theory of Word Formation Process taken from Goerge Yule's classification (The Study of Language, 1996) as the main theory. To support the main theory, the writer uses the theory of Indonesian Word Formation Processes written by Harimukti Kridalaksana in *Pembentukan Kata Dalam Bahasa Indonesia*, and also the classification of gay Word Formation Processes taken from Dede Oetomo in *Memberi Suara pada yang Bisu* (2001).

1.2 Statement of the problem

The writer is interested in knowing more about gay word, that is why he focuses the analysis in order to discover about this following:

1.2.1 How are the word formation processes of gay words in *GAYa NUSANTARA* magazine?

1.2.2 What kind of word formation processes, word classes, and language origin are mostly used in gay words?

1.3 Objectives of the study

1.3.1 The objective in this study is to know how the word formation processes of gay word in *GAYa NUSANTARA* magazine are.

1.3.2 And what kind of word formation processes, word classes, and language origin are mostly used in gay word.

1.4 Significance of the study

The writer considers that this study may give better understanding for readers about how gay words formed through word formation processes. And also can help people to understand gay expression through gay word, so people will have better communication and understanding towards its users. Moreover, this study may be used as a refence for those who are interested in studying further about word-formation processes, expecially in gay word.

1.5 Scope and limitation

The scope in this study is Morphology, especially word formation processes. The writer limited this study by only analyzing the word-formation processes of gay word, word classes and language origin. The writer took the data from 10 editions of *GAYa Nusantara* magazine in the year of 2009.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To make this study easier to understand, the writer defined the terms that are used in this study.

1. Gay

Gay can be characterized as behaviour involving sexual relations with a member of the same sex.

2. Word formation processes

Word formation processes are the linguistic processes of creating new words of terms from the old word to the new uses. The processes are

consists of coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, clipping, beackformation, conversion, acronyms, derivation, prefixes/suffixes, infixes and multiple processes (Yule, 1996:64).

3. Gay Word

Gay word is uses by she-males and gay people in Indonesia to comunicate with each other among their community. The purpose of using this word is to conceal message from outsiders.

1.7 Organization of The Study

The writer organizes this study into five chapters. The first is the introduction part which describes the background of the writer in choosing this topic, the statement of the problem, objective and significance of this study, the scope of limitation, definition of key terms, and the organization. In the second chapter, the writer present the literature review which consists of theories that the writer uses to analyzed the data and related study as a comparison. The third chapter is describing the methodology uses by the writer in doing the research. While the analyzing and the finding is in chapter four and the last chapter is the conclusion.

CHAPTER 2