CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORITICAL
FRAMEWORK

This chapter discusses the theories used in the research and the references that support the analysis. In this chapter, the researcher explains about language and gender, and features of women language.

2.1 Review of Related Theories

2.1.1 Language and Gender

Gender is one of the essential topics in sociolinguistics, which studies the connection between the structures, vocabularies, and methods of language use and the social roles of the men and women who speak these languages. It is generally expressed through language. (Eckert & McConnell-Ginet, 2003) in her book entitled *Language and Gender* describes that gender as differences in function and social roles and responsibilities of men and women who are regulated by the community. Gender refers to the process conditions how should men and women play a role and act in accordance with the values of structured, social and cultural provision where they are. In a book by (J Coates, 2015) entitled Women, Men, and Language, (J Coates, 1996)focuses his research on variations in linguistic features related to gender and speakers. In his book, (J Coates, 2015) describes the differences he found in the way women and men talk. The difference that Coates found was the difference in the different

linguistic features they used. In addition to studying the differences in linguistic features used by women and men, Coates also relates these differences to their social roles in society.

2.1.2 Features of Woman's Language

According to R. T. Lakoff (1975), the language of women has several characteristics, especially linguistic characteristics which also represent a significant difference between both the language of women and the language of men. When it comes to expressing their feelings, women are typically very expressive. Women are more cautious when speaking than men, who are more spontaneous. And most women lack confidence because they overthink what they have to say.

2.1.2.1 Lexical Hedges or Fillers

When speaking and pausing, filling sentences with insertions to fill in the blanks in the sentence is what lexical hedges or fillers are. Lexical hedges or fillers are occasionally used in women's language and illustrate their insecurity when speaking. Examples of lexical hedges in this Women's feature typically involve *you know, sort of, well, you see, perhaps, I think*. Apart from expressing a lack of confidence, hedges are commonly used when the speaker needs to distinguish between facts and claims in someone's statement. While pause fillers include *um, uh, and ah*. The purpose of pause fillers is to fill in the blanks in the speaker's sentence. Furthermore, there are numerous methods for reducing illocutionary stress, and hedging is

accomplished through the use of a variety of linguistic features. Hedging is an example of a female language characteristic, as are the words *can, may, will, and should.*

2.1.2.2 Tag Questions

Tag question is an important linguistic feature that can help us communicate in social conversations. Question tags are also common in people who speak in female language. Because women or people who speak women's languages use question tags in their sentences, whereas men's languages rule. For example, if someone asks the other person to close the door, a woman will say, *'can you shut the door, please?'* In contrast to men's language, which will say *'shut the door.'* Masculinity in male language for anyone who uses it gives the user a rough and powerful appearance.

2.1.2.3 Rising Intonation on Declaratives

R. T. Lakoff (1975) declare that there is a peculiar sentence intonation-pattern, found in English as far as I know only among women, which has the form of a declarative answer to a question, and is used as such, but has the rising inflection typical of a yes-no question, as well as being especially hesitant. The effect is as though one were seeking confirmation, though at the same time the speaker may be the only one who has the requisite information. Assertive rising declaratives are characterized by a high pitch accent which thus rises to a high boundary tone.

2.1.2.4 'Empty' Adjectives

Women, as we know, have a more diverse vocabulary than men. Women much more often use words like cute, charming, devine, adorable, and gorgeous. And, as Lakoff implies, it is an empty adjective (1975). Empty adjective is only concerned with the word emotional reactions to the specific information. Some of these adjectives were gender neutral, meaning that native speakers of either gender, men or women, could use them.

2.1.2.5 Precises Colour Terms

When it comes to color naming, women are more likely than men to use the correct color naming. When shown the same color, the responses of girls and boys may differ. If a girl and a boy were shown the color green, the girls would respond more specifically to that color. "That's turquoise," women will usually respond, while men will usually respond, "That's green," without being more specific about the color. When men be more specific or precises about color they see, one might will conclude he was imitating a woman sarcastically or as a homosexual or an interior decorator. Because it's common for women to be more specific about colour and it's not common for men when they be more specific about colour.

2.1.2.6 Intensifiers

One of the two examples of intensifiers in female language is *so* and *just*. R. T. Lakoff (1975) argues that intensive "so" is more frequent in women's than men's language, although men can also use it. We have an attempt to hedge on one's strong feelings, as though to say: I feel strongly about this but I dare not make it clear how strong. Example of intensifier in woman's language "I like that body scrub *so* much!"

2.1.2.7 Hypercorrect Grammar

According to Lakoff (as cited in Holmes, 1995), hypercorrect grammar is the consistent use of standard verb forms that women usually use.

2.1.2.8 Super Polite Form

Women typically use indirect requests as well as softening words in feminine language. According to R. T. Lakoff (1975), women's language uses a very polite sentence form.

2.1.2.9 Avoidance of Strong Swear Words

Women, as explained previously, have a more polite language structure and a wider vocabulary than men. Women are known to avoid using swear words, because although men are known to use swear words on the spur of the moment. In addition, women are usually considered immoral when they use strong swear words, whereas men are considered natural when they use strong swear

words.

2.1.2.10 Empathic Stress

Emphatic Stress is a type of special emphasis that a speaker appears to give to a word in a sentence, usually to single out, compare, correct, or clarify something. Women prefer to use words which also emphasize or strengthen the meaning of their utterances.

2.2 Previous Studies

First, Khoirot, A. U., Rohmah, Z., & Puspitasari, D. (2016). This study examines describing linguistic features of two women who have two different characteristics—feminine and less feminine—as apparent in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" and "The Lover" dramas. Using Robin Lakoff's (1975) women's linguistic features, the research found out that not all features occur in the dialogues of the two female characters with other characters. Nine features were applied by Martha in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" drama and seven features were used by Sarah in "The Lover." Based on the analysis of the data, it is uncovered that the use of the women's linguistic features reflects uncertainty and lacking of confidence on the part of the women in their conversation (Khoirot et al., 2016).

Herman, H., Sinurat, V., Marpaung, T., & Sihombing, P. (2021). This study was aimed to find out women's language feature used by Jacinda Arden in speech about COVID-19. The researchers conducted the study with Lakoff's theory. This research investigated the type and function of women's language

in speech about COVID-19 used by Jacinda Arden. The research formulated a question as the problem "What are the women's language feature used by Jacinda Arden in speech about COVID-19?". Hence, it was to find out the women's language feature used by Jacinda Arden in speech about COVID-19. The researchers used qualitative research design by employing content analysis to answer the research question. There were 2 research instrument used in this research, they were the researchers as the human research and observation sheet. The researchers conducted the research by using the record and video script of Jacinda Arden in her speeches about COVID-19 that delivered on March 21 and April 6, 2020. The result of this study showed not all types of women's language feature used Jacinda Arden. The researchers found seven types of women's language feature. Those feature were divided into lexical hedges 18,15%, rising intonation 0,89%, empty adjectives 1,19%, intensifier 16,96, hypercorrect grammar 20,83%, super polite form 1,19%, and emphatic stress 40,77%. The absent women's language features were tag question, price color term, and avoidance of using strong swear words. The most dominant women's language feature was emphatic stress function of emphatic stress in this speech is to emphasize the main idea or word that she wanted to focus on (Herman et al., 2021).

Chandra D, Yulia M (2018) The researcher examined the features of female language used by Nicki Minaj, one of the judges of American Idol Season 12 in this study. In this study, the researcher uses Lakoff's theory as a reference point to draw conclusions for their research. The researchers chose

to investigate the use of language by Nicki Minaj, one of the judges of American Idol Season 12, whose speech stands out above the rest of the other women. According to researchers he findings reveal that the features characterizing women's language which appear in Nicki Minaj's comments are intensifier, emphatic stress, filler, rising intonation, and lexical hedge. The remaining features do not appear in her speech; they are tag question, 'empty' adjective, precise colour term, 'hypercorrect' grammar, 'superpolite' form, and avoidance of strong swear words. The absence of these features can be accounted for by four possible factors. They are father's speech, ethnicity, community of practice, and different social psychological perceptions (Chandra & Yulia, 2018).

Naovaratthanakorn P, Tangkiengsirisin S (2019) This study aimed to identify women's language features and functions used in the animated movie Zootopia. The study adopted critical discourse analysis to examine the dialogue spoken by female characters in the movie collected from the screenplay, and to interpret the meanings of specific social situations. The findings show that women in the film use a cooperative style and the language of rapport in communication to build relationships and establish connections with other people. With regard to the features of women's language, eight linguistic features were found in the study: fillers/hedges, minimal responses, questions, tag questions, politeness, directives, compliments, and swearing. This present study highlights that women use particular language features and styles in communication and that social ideologies are embedded in their language.

These findings may increase the understanding of current trends in language use and raise awareness regarding the prevailing attitudes and values in society (Naovaratthanakorn & Tangkiengsirisin, 2019).

Women's Language Feature has been the subject of several studies in the past. But in the previous researcher they only use one or two person in their research and mainly is an political field or a character in fan fiction. Meanwhile, in my research there are three speech in one person and a singer as my subject.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

The main theory that used for this research entitled Women Language Feature, while other supporting theories to analyses data and answer each of research questions are the theories of Lakoff. Lakoff (1975) proposed ten women's language features in the form of written text namely lexical hedges or fillers, tag question, rising intonation on declaratives, empty adjectives, precise color terms, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, super polite forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress. As well as the researcher will use this theory to determine what features of the female language are used and what most dominant women's language feature in the Dua Lipa selected speeches.