CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Language functions as a tool for human communication because humans are social creatures who cannot live alone without the help of other people. According to (Finocchiarno, 1964, p.8), language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols, enabling all people in a particular culture or other people who have studied that culture to communicate.

(Pei and Gaynor, 1954, p. 119) describe language as a communication system that uses sound. The language humans possess is a distinguishing characteristic from that of other creatures created by God. With a unique language structure, we can understand what the universe wants, whether materialistic or metaphysical. With language, we can communicate with other humans worldwide to create a balanced and harmonious world (Saussure, 1988, p.90).

Language and society are an inseparable relationship. Language is a system of social interaction regardless of location and time. The relationship between language and society and the function of language in society is usually studied in sociolinguistics, one of the branches of linguistics.

Sociolinguistics is a science that studies the characteristics of various language variations. Linguistics and these linguistic variations within a community

are closely related, and language substantially impacts culture (Kridalaksana, 1978, p.94). The study of sociolinguistics examines the traits of different language varieties and the connections present within a society between speakers of these variations. Sociolinguistics is a theory that has a significant influence on society. There are many sub-topics regarding sociolinguistics, such as Slang, Register, Woman Language, code-switching, code-mixing, etc.

Sociolinguists stated that there are differences between the language used by men and women. Lakoff (2004) states that many basic things appear in the language of men and women. Men's language is more firm, mature, and concise regarding the topics discussed. (Coates, 2004, p.97) explains that men use *mhm, yeah,* and correct responses. Men also give explicit commands such as *gimme, going to,* and *gotta*. Men also use a lot of swearing and taboo language in same-sex conversations. When men talk to members of the same sex, they discuss current events, travel, and sports. Men also ask questions to get information, but the pattern differs from women because women use tag questions.

Lakoff is a linguistics expert who has discovered features of a woman's language. Lakoff (1975) proposed ten features of women's language, namely lexical hedges or fillers, intensifiers, tag questions, emphatic stress, rising intonation on declarative, avoidance of strong swear words, super polite forms, empty adjectives, precise color terms, hypercorrect grammar.

Many researchers have done the study of women's language. The source of data also varies. Nuringtyas and Navila (2022) and Aziz et al. (2022) conducted

research by using movie scripts as the source of data; Utami (2022) used novels; Pratama (2018) tried to use data from the utterances of female teachers; and Dewi et al. (2023) used YOUTUBE as the source of data. In contrast, the above research focused on women's language features. There are also research studies on social factors. Annasya Mia Darmayani and Subandi Subandi (2023) analyzed a woman's language features and social factors that influence speech in a film, but the researchers used Qi Pan's theory of social factors. However, in another study, Winengsih, Aibonotika, and Nimashita (2018) carried out a social analysis of social factors and dimensions according to Janet Holmes's theory.

Social factors are the main trigger for the emergence of this feature, and I wanted to find out more deeply about women language features. Janet Holmes (2001) explains that social factors influence language: function, participants, settings, and topics. Social factors can influence language style and the relationship between speakers.

I selected a drama series titled "The End of the F***ing World S1," which was first created by Charles Forsman and released as a book in 2013. Charles Forsman was encouraged to make a drama series by Jonathan Entwistle in 2014. On October 24, 2017, the film went public in the UK, and on January 5, 2018, Netflix made it available globally. The movie's primary characters are James, an adolescent who is confident that he is a psychopath, and Alyssa, a classmate who is arrogant and believes that James is a chance for her to escape her problematic home life. The language in this movie, which follows the tale of two teenagers, is particularly intriguing. Alyssa is the main female character in the drama series, and

I will analyze the use of women's languages and the social factors that influence them.

This research aims to analyze women's language features and determine how social factors influence them. I will identify how social factors support the emergence of these features and classify woman language features into several types, such as function, participants, settings, and topics. Currently, there are no researchers who have analyzed the drama series "*The End of the F***ing World S1*" using Janet Holmes' theory (2001) to analyze social factors in women's language features, as explained by Lakoff (1975). I attempted to correlate these two approaches in this research. This research will benefit readers and can become a reference for further research on this topic.

1.2 Limitation of the Research

To make this research more focused, I am restricting the data to the utterances of the main female character. Data was collected from 6 episodes by movie script of the drama series "The end of the F***ing World Season 1", I only focused on the woman language features used by the woman main character and looked for social factors that influenced the appearance of these features. Furthermore, the analysis is focused on women's language features and the social factors that influence those features.

1.3 Research Question

In achieving research success, it is important to formulate clear and relevant research questions to help readers understand the paper's content. In this section, I explore fundamental questions that underpin the investigation of women's language. These questions primarily focus on women's language features and the social factors that influence them. The research questions are as follows:

a. What are women's language features in the drama series "*The End of the F**ing World S1*"?

b. What social factors influence the woman language features used by women main character in this drama series?

1.4 Objectives of the Research

These objectives help me to provide definite direction, which is an important first step in designing relevant research. At this stage, the focus is on developing a conceptual foundation that describes the research topic's background, urgency, and relevance. Before concentrating on the research objective, readers should have a firm understanding of the research's context. The Objectives of the Research are as follows:

a. To identify and analyze the language features specific to female characters in the first season of the drama series "The End of the F**ing World" and examine their significance in the narrative and depth of character.

b. To investigate the influence of social factors on the language features exhibited by the female main character in this drama series.