# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the introduction of the study. It includes background of the study, statement of the problem, research objectives, scope and limitation, research methodology, data source, data collection, data analysis, and the organization of the writing.

### 1.1. Background of the Study

Translation is an exchange of meaning from one language to another language. Catford (1965) states that translation is "...the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL)" (p.20). This implies that translation is a process to render the ideas contained in a text from the SL to the TL. This process aims to achieve an equivalent message in the target text as closely as possible with the source text.

A translator acts as a bridge between languages. A good translator not only needs to master the source and the target language, but also needs to

understand the context within the text to be translated. Therefore, before doing the translation, a translator must understand the whole meaning and context in the source text in order to transfer the information well in the target text. According to Newmark (1988), in translating a text, the meaning in the TL must be in accordance with the meaning in the SL which allows the readers or listeners to understand the intention of the translated text derived from the SL.

Hatim and Munday (2004) state that translation is a large field which has many categories in it, such as literary translation, non-literary translation, subtitling or audiovisual translation, computer-generated translation, and also includes interpreting. Form of translation is not only found in printed material but also in electronic material. Printed form of translation includes textbooks, novels, newspapers, and magazines. Electronic form of translation includes subtitling or audiovisual translation.

Subtitling is a type of audiovisual translation that has its own specifications, rules, and criteria. It is a kind of translation that has restrictions of time and space which directly affect the final result. Subtitling can be defined as "diasemiotic translation in polisemiotic media (including films, TV, video, and DVD), in the form of one or more lines of written text presented on the screen in sync with the original dialogue" (Gottlieb, 2004, p.219). The subtitles should synchronize with the audio and it should sound natural and subtle in order to make audiences understand what the characters are saying without changing the spoken language or dubbing it to make the speech more natural. Subtitling is not only a process of transferring the characteristics of the spoken dialogue into the written mode, but also a process to match the

translated dialogue to the audio and the image, with determined time and space.

There are subtitles that are translated insufficiently that it often gives a wrong idea or impression of the actual meaning in the dialogue. The subtitles that do not convey the actual meaning of the dialogue can mislead the audience. The misleading also occurs when the subtitles are not synchronized with the audio. Therefore, a translator has to make a good translation while putting the subtitle right at the moment when the characters talk. That is why they really need to understand the SL to convey the message in the TL. It is not a simple thing to do as different languages have different cultures with different characteristics. Sometimes, the source language culture has such a specific and exclusive attribute that they have no equivalence in the target language culture. According to Nida (1945), "translation-problems, which are essentially problems of equivalence, may be conveniently treated under (1) ecology, (2) material culture, (3) social culture, (4) religious culture, and (5) linguistic culture" (p.196). The main problems of translating any text include five different systems and structures between TL and SL, namely ecology, language, social culture, religion, and material.

The cultural differences among countries can cause problems, for instance problems in regards to swearing. Swearing can come in a form of words or phrases that are generally considered blasphemous, obscene, vulgar, or sometimes offensive by the majority of people. Allan and Burridge (2006) state that "...to swear at someone or something is to insult and deprecate the object of abuse, as well as to use other kinds of dysphemism" (p.76). Based on

their theory, swear words are employed to insult, denounce, or speak offensively to other people or to some unexpected things. Swear words are also used to express emotions when people are happy, angry, surprised, disappointed, etc. According to Timothy Jay (2009), swearing is one way that can be used to describe an emotion like anger, frustration, excitement, and surprise. Pinker (2007) argues that swear words can be distinguished based on the way it is used, which is in other words it is distinguished based on its function of aiming. There are 5 (five) types of swearing functions according to Pinker. They are dysphemistic, idiomatic, abusive, emphatic, and cathartic swearing.

Swear words are often found in media such as books, televisions, radios, and movies. Swearing has become so prevalent that the media has proven it could be used at any time, for any specific conditions. Preston (2008) states that swearing in media nowadays has become more normal than before, and the normality of swearing in media becomes a public concern because people worry that swearing can cause moral degradation. Such fear of moral degradation creates swearing problematized in the media, especially in movies.

DuFrene & Lehman (2002) reported "a perception of increased use of profanity in the everyday lives of Americans and in Hollywood films and network television" (p. 48). This implies that swear words which include in profanity have been widely used in many Hollywood movies. Teenagers are among those most often exposed—they are a targeted audience segment for movie makers because they comprise a significant and loyal portion of the

movie-going public (Stern, 2005). It is very easy for everyone to access various movies that they want to watch in this era of globalization. In this case, children and teenagers are no exception. Hence, it is undeniable that underage children will find any movies easily that sometimes are not suitable for their age or contain elements of swear words. To overcome this, *Lembaga Sensor Film of Indonesia* (LSF) holds a movie rating system to filter the contents in the film such as violence, pornography, drug abuse and religious aspects, and harsh language before being consumed by the public in Indonesia (Hapsari, 2017).

A translator cannot easily translate swear words because these types of words contain cultural aspects which have characteristics depending on the reason why people swearing, education background, and the situation. Therefore, a translator needs to understand the purpose and the situation of the words first in order to convey the equivalences from SL into TL. Translating swear words in movies is not simply replacing the swear words in one language into another language, but also, transferring the equivalent meanings of the SL into the TL so that the TL text contains the closest, the most natural and appropriate meaning to the SL. Therefore, translating swear words is quite a challenge since a translator needs extra skills and experiences to properly convey the closest meaning of the swear word from the SL to the TL. Hence, an examination of swear words translation used in movies is interesting to explore.

Many researches have been conducted to investigate swear words in movies. There is research conducted by Bangun Purwa Aji (2014) entitled

"The Use of Swear Words in Four Brothers Movies". He analyzed the types of swear words and the reasons of the speaker using swear words in the movie. The finding of the research revealed that there were seven types of swear words (sex term, excretion term, body function term, death term, mother in law term, animal term, and the last is religious matter term) and six reasons of swearing (pain relief, power and control, humor, non-violent retribution, self-expressions and peer, and social bonding).

Another previous research conducted by Kusumayani (2010) who wrote an undergraduate thesis entitled "*An Analysis of the Translation of Swearing Words in the Film Entitled "Bad Santa"*. The purposes of her study were to describe the techniques used in translating swearing words in *Bad Santa* and how the techniques used by the translator in translating swearing words influenced the accuracy and acceptability levels of the translation. The result of her study mentioned that there were five translation techniques found in the swear words translations of *Bad Santa* film. Translation by omission is the technique mostly used in the translation consisting of 100 data. There are 55 data translated by translation using swear words having similar expressive meaning, 32 data translated by translation using neutral words, 26 data translated by translation using interjection, and 14 data translated by translation using swearing word. In accordance with the accuracy, the translation of swearing words in this film is less accurate. From 227 data, 87 data (38. 33%) were accurate, 104 data (45.81%) were less accurate, and 36 data (15. 86%) were inaccurate. Dealing with the acceptability, the translation of swearing words in this film is acceptable. From 227 data, 204 data (89.

87%) were acceptable, 23 data (10.13%) were less acceptable, and no one of the data was unacceptable.

The review of the aforementioned research has similarities with the research conducted by the researcher. All of these researches were conducted to analyze swear words in the film. Aji (2000) used Wardhaugh (1986) theory of swear word types, while Kusumayani (2010) used Andersson and Trudgill (1990) theory of swear words. Research by Kusumayani (2010) also analyzed translation techniques used in translating swear words by using Baker (1992) theory of translation techniques. What distinguishes this research from the previous ones is that the researcher wants to analyze the types of swear words based on Pinker's theory of five different types of swear words namely dysphemistic, idiomatic, abusive, emphatic, and cathartic swearing and analyze the translation procedures used in translating swear words in the *Deadpool 2* film by using Newmark's translation procedures. Nevertheless, theory which is used between all of the previous research is different. This study does not analyze accuracy level of translation of swear words like Kusumayani, however, this research figures out the categories of swear words used in the translated swear words that is found in the subtitle of *Deadpool* film.

The researcher expected that this research can be beneficial for the reader. It can enrich the reader's understanding of how swear words are translated in movie subtitles. As Ljung (2011) states, taboo and swear words have a number of linguistic features involving vocabulary, grammar and meaning that make them well worth studying.

**1.2. Statements of the Problem**

1. What types of swear words are found in the *Deadpool 2* movie subtitles?

2. What is the swear words type mostly used in the *Deadpool 2* movie subtitles?

3. What procedures applied in translating the swear words in the *Deadpool 2* movie subtitles?

**1.3. Research Objectives**

1. To identify the types of swear words used in *Deadpool 2* movie subtitles.

2. To identify the swear words type mostly used in *Deadpool 2* movie subtitles.

3. To analyze the translation procedure applied in translating the swear words in *Deadpool 2* movie subtitles.

**1.4. Scope and Limitation**

The study is focused on the swear words in the *Deadpool 2* movie subtitles in English and Indonesian. There are more than 100 data found in the movie, but due to limitations of time, this research needs to be limited. Hence, the researcher chose only 20 data to be analyzed. However, the result of the study can be applied in other swear words in other movies.

## 1.5. Research Methodology

### 1.5.1 Method

In this study, the researcher used descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive qualitative research is characterized by its aims, which relate to understanding some aspect of social life, and its methods which (in general) generate words, rather than numbers, as data for analysis (Michael Quinn Patton, 2002). The data were analyzed by referring to Parker's theories for types of swear words and Newmark's translation procedure.

### 1.5.2 Data Source

In this research, the researcher used a movie entitled *Deadpool 2* as the data source of the research. The swear word translations are displayed in a subtitle of *Deadpool 2* as part of the dialogues in the film. *Deadpool 2* movie is the second sequel of *Deadpool* movie. The *Deadpool* movie, which is directed by Tim Miller, is a famous American superhero film based on the Marvel comics character of the same name, produced by Marvel Studios. It got a lot of success despite being an R-rated film. The researcher found that the *Deadpool 2* movie used a lot of swear words to express the characters' emotions. Thus, the researcher decided to use this movie as data for the study. The researcher used the subtitles from the DVD Original of *Deadpool 2* movie. The Indonesian subtitle translated by PT. Vision Interprima Picture in 2018.

### 1.5.3  Data Collection

Here are the steps of the data collection.

1. At first, the researcher gathered 150 English swear words from the movie.

2. Then, 20 were chosen to be analyzed using Pinker's theory about the types of swear words.

3. Then, the translations of the 20 swear words were taken from the subtitles of the movie. The data then were put into a table and the context of the data were written in order to give the proper analysis.

### 1.5.4  Data Analysis

The analysis was conducted in several steps.

1. Classifying the swear words used in the movie based on Pinker's types of swear words.

2. Classifying the collected data using Newmark's translation procedure.

3. Analyzing each swear word by its type and the translation procedure applied by the translator in translating the swear words.

### 1.6.  Organization of Writing

This research is divided into four chapters. Chapter I is an introduction of the study that consists of the background of the study, statement of the problems, research objective, scope and limitation, research methodology, and

organization of writing. Chapter II is a theoretical framework that consists of theories used for analysis of the data. Chapter III is a data analysis which is analyzed by using the theories explained in Chapter II. Chapter IV consists of conclusions and suggestions.