

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter discusses the relevant theoretical framework of the study and the review of previous studies in the area.

2.1 Sociolinguistic

Sociolinguistic is the field that studies the relation between language and society. It means the usage of language depends on the social structures, in which the language users lived. In this case, the language users are implied in some characters which are stated in *To Bed A Beauty*. The characters are figured as a high class member and low class member. According to Sankoff (2008: 682), the analysis of sociolinguistic is involved a variety of context. In this study, the sexist word is influenced by the context where it is stated. Yule (1985: 192) added that female and male choose the different vocabularies while they speak. In this study, the vocabularies which are used by female and male will be categorized and identified.

2.2 Semantic

Semantic refers to the study of meaning. Jerrold Katz, a linguist and philosopher, has focused on studying the meaning in natural language. Katz with Fodor (1963) published a paper that proposed the meaning of lexical items and the

structures containing them. Then, Katz (1972) suggests two central ideas in his theory, as follows:

1. Semantic rules have to be recursive for the same reason as syntactic rules in which the number of possible sentences in a language is very large, possibly infinite.
2. The relationship between a sentence and its meaning is not arbitrary and unitary. For example, syntactic structure and lexical interact like this *John killed Fred* and *Fred killed John* have the different meaning though they have the same lexical elements.

In point one, semantic rules have the number of possible meaning in the sentence in a language. Automatically, many words that construct a sentence have many meanings too. One word can be defined in many meanings. The word *man*, for example, can be defined as ‘adult male human being’; ‘person, either male or female’; ‘male person with the qualities of strength and courage associated with men and many others’ (Bull, 2008: 267). This is similar to syntactic rule, in which one word can be combined to many forms like the word *man*. It can be combined with adjective *clever* to make *clever man* or with the word *sales* to form *salesman*. Then, those combination words have different meanings though the root of those words is *man*.

In point two, the meaning of a word is not arbitrary and unitary, refers to the meaning of each word that can not be replaced. Eventhough the structure can be changed, the meaning cannot. Therefore, analyzing the lexical meaning from the word is very important.

Overall, this theory suggests that the meaning is compositional. It means the meaning of word is composed by semantic marker and distinguisher. Both of them are discussed separately below.

2.2.1 Semantic Marker

Semantic markers are the formal elements that a semantic component uses to express general semantic properties. (Katz as cited in Christoph, 2007:2). According to Katz (1964) semantic marker is also the symbol for items in the vocabulary of an artificial language. Semantic marker refers to the element binding the vocabulary together. The element must contain a selection restriction which expresses the condition of another element when it is combined. The decision for considering the restriction between elements is needed for the disambiguation of sentences and avoiding the anomalous interpretation (Geeraerts, 2010: 103). Another marker is the word class when the individual word is represented. In Katz theory, semantic marker is signed by round bracket. For example: The word *bachelor* is shared by restriction elements such as: (noun), (human), (male) and (young).

2.2.2 Distinguisher

Distinguishers are the formal elements employed to represent the idiosyncratic meaning of a lexical item (Katzin in Christoph, 2007:2). According to Katz (2007) distinguisher can be signed by square bracket to differentiate from semantic marker.

The example of distinguisher of word ‘bachelor’ based on Geeraerts (2010: 102) can be defined as follows:

Bachelor → [knight serving under the standard of another knight]

[who has never married]

[who has the first or lowest academic degree]

The word ‘bachelor’ has three different meanings. To avoid the ambiguity between word-meaning the ‘marker’ is needed. It is needed because each word has its characteristic. It can be an adjective, a female, a male, an animal, a human, etc. Therefore, it is really important to involve the term of distinguisher and semantic marker in this study.

2.3 Sex differences in Language

Sex refers to biological or bodily classification of human being as female or male (Sally McConnell-Ginet, 2011: 6). Dictionaries define sex as a state of being male or female (Bull, 2008: 403). Overall, sex is defined as attributes that are stated on human to differentiate between female and male. The example of this distinction can be found in bicycle design, especially for the bike saddles. Bike saddles for women are designed wider than saddles for men because women have a wider pelvic. Another example is clothing. Skirt is designed for women, not for men. In the past time, women are not allowed to wear trousers because it is worn by men. It is the evidence that women and men are different.

Based on the term that women and men are different, sexist language becomes

an interesting subject of study for linguists. Otto Jespersen (1922) identified a range of male-female lexical variations. He claimed that women's language is polite and more refined than men, but they tend to 'hyperbole' their words (Jespersen in Speer, 2005: 21). Another suggestion comes from Lakoff (1973), who suggests that the term of sex differences in language can be seen from the usage of names between men and women. Women use their father's name at birth and they use their husband's name on marriage but men do not. They never use the name of their mother or their wife behind their name. In addition, men interrupt women more than they interrupt other men, and more than women interrupt other women. From their frequency for interrupting, the men act as if they have higher right than women. For further, sex differences in language is well-defined as sexist language.

2.4 Sexist Word

Sexist words refer to the words that differentiate men and women. The term that represents sexist words is argued by Lakoff. Lakoff (1973) suggests the words 'bachelor' and 'spinster'. The category of bachelor is considered as a status that may be chosen by men who do not want to marry. In contrary, spinster is considered as an unmarried woman who is past the usual age for marrying. The meaning of this word tends to make women to be subordinate to men.

There are other words that show sexist meanings. For example, a linguist feminist Sally McConnell (2011: 70), who suggests the term like *lady* to elevate female reference. This word is used to refer to women in the words such as *cleaning*

lady compared to *garbage gentleman*. The word *cleaning lady* is used to describe a female person that cleans up trash. The word ‘trash’ or ‘garbage’ does not appear in this word to elevate the women’s language. In contrary, the word *garbage gentleman* shows derogatory meaning. The meaning of *gentleman* is drowned because of the word ‘garbage’ while the words *cleaning lady* looks more chivalrous than *garbage gentleman*.

However, sexist word can discriminate the women’s status in some occasions. Although men may get some disadvantages too from the sexist word, but women seem more often to be insulted from it.

2.5 Overt Sexism (Direct Sexism)

Overt sexism is a clear and unambiguous form of sexism. The type of usage can be straight forwardly identified through the use of linguistic markers or through the analysis of presupposition which has been associated with the expression of discriminating opinion about women, which makes women seen as inferior to males (Mills, 2008: 11). The presupposition means an implicit assumption which is associated with women. For example, the adjective ‘shrill’ is used exclusively to describe women and seems to have connotation of excess, even when it is used positively. The ‘shrill’ is generally presupposed with women’s voices which are unpleasantly high or loud, in relation to an assumed female norm of quietness and a male norm of low pitch (Mills, 2008: 44).

Overt sexism is intentional. According to Zwicky (as cited in Mills, 2008: 35), people use the choice of word which is recognizing the intuitional nature of sexism and recognizing that individuals can intervene in the way that sexism develops.

To analyze the detail form of overt sexism, Mills suggests the form of overt sexism in the term of words and meaning. This term is related to sexist word that used in some dictionaries, books and novels. According to Mills (2008: 43) people, who use sexist word begin to develop negative connotation among the society. In novel, *To Bed A Beauty*, the author is often using the word *mistress* and *hostess* to show the position and power of women. They tend to be inferior and lack of power. However, the usage of *footman* to refer to male-servant tends to make men to be lower in job's position. Based on this term, Mills (2008: 43) classifies the term of sexist word and its meaning into three terms, such as naming, generic term and semantic derogation.

2.5.1 Naming

Many feminist theorists analyzed sexist word in 1970s and 1980s. They focused on naming practices (Mills, 2008: 43). Spender (as cited in Mills, 2008: 43) comments:

“Names are essential for the construction of reality for without a name it is difficult to accept the existence of an object, an event, a feeling. Naming is the means whereby we attempt to order and structure the chaos and flux of existence which would otherwise be an undifferentiated mass”

Naming is really important term because it will sign the existence of an object, an event and feeling of someone. Therefore, giving a name to someone must be done carefully. In this study, the name usually deals with the family name of women and men.

In Britain, the family name or surname has displayed a form of woman's possession by her husband on marriage. In the 1930s, taking the husband's surname coincided with the appropriation of the wife's possessions and properties to the husband (Mills, 2008: 62).

Hellinger and Pauwels (2007) argued that the use of males' surname on marriage identified women in terms of their relationship to men (married or unmarried). For example, when Victoria Caroline Adams married with David Beckham, she took her husband's name as her surname. She changed her surname Adams to be Beckham.

Another form of naming is the usage of title for women and men. Woman's title can be categorized into three terms, such as: Ms, Miss, and Mrs. To gain the understanding about woman's title, Schwarz (as cited in Mills. 2008: 68) held a survey. In this survey, some women stated that they considered Ms to refer to women who were divorced, women who were cohabiting, in which women did not want others to know that they were in a relationship with men, women who felt too old to be married, and women who thought they might be treated differently if they married. Then, the title Miss is used to refer a young unmarried woman. In contrary, the title

Mrs is used as a signal of woman maturity and affiliation with her husband (Mills, 2008: 68)

2.5.2 Generic Term

The generic term refers to generic pronoun and noun. They are more important element to consider when analyzing sexist word. Hellinger and Busman (as cited in Mills, 2008: 47) suggest that pronoun and noun are used to identify people as individuals or as members of various groups.

To get the fully understanding about generic pronoun usage, Graham (as cited in Mills, 2008: 47) held a survey. It was a survey of the use of pronoun 'he', 'his', and 'him' in contrast to 'she' and 'her' in *American Heritage School Dictionary*. Graham wanted to discover how many the pronoun usage of 'he' in fact generic and how many had singular masculine reference. Out of sample of 100,000 words, there were 940 uses of 'he', in which 744 referred to males, 128 male animals, 36 professionals which was assumed as males (e.g. farmer). And only 32 referred to the singular subject that used generically (Mills, 2008: 47). Based on this survey, there were many references to males than females in the dictionary.

In addition generic noun such 'man' is used to refer both men and women, but it is often refer only to men. Spender (as cited in Mills, 2008: 49) commented that the use of 'man' generically is often interpreted as referring only to men. For example, the word 'fisherman' is mostly used rather than 'fisher' though both of them are available to be used. The word 'fisher' seems archaic (Mills, 2008: 50). Fisherman

refers to a person (especially a man) who catches fish whereas fisher refers to people, who fishing.

Overall, the generic term in this study will be categorized into male reference, female reference, male's job and female's job.

2.5.3 Semantic Derogation

Semantic derogation is a term that has been associated with women which has historically become pejorative. According to Schultz (as cited in Mills, 2008: 46), a semantic derogation of women is a systematic process whereby words and phrases which are associated with women become negatively inflection. Schultz traces the pattern of pejoration from this example. This is a 'democratic leveling' for referring to women's position and authority within these words 'lady', 'governess', 'madam', and 'dame'. These words are initially used only for powerful women, but then degenerate to have wider reference such as: mistress and elderly women whereas the male equivalent of these terms retained their association with high status, such as: 'lord', 'governor', and 'Sir' (Mills, 2008: 56).

However, there are many terms which are associated with women and men that tend to take on negative connotation, restricted and specific reference. As the example, the word 'manageress' is used to refer to female manager, this word becomes more narrow in reference. 'Manageress' is only used to refer to a woman who manages shop whereas the word 'manager' is used to refer to a business manager. Another word is 'priestess'. It is restricted to refer to woman priest in pagan

religious group, and the word ‘priest’ or the more specific ‘women priest’ are used instead.

Schultz (1990) suggested that there were any terms used to refer to woman in sexual connotations. Schultz found over a thousand words referring to women in sexual derogatory ways, but very few for men (Mills, 2008: 61). Hellinger (as cited in Mills, 2008: 59) added that using an affix to refer to women could bring additional negative connotations. For example, the term ‘authoress’, it will be used in negative way when male reviewer gave a negative review for female author. In addition, the word ‘hostess’ is lack of equivalent with the word ‘host’ because of affix –ess. The word ‘host’ means person who entertain guests in their house, whereas the word ‘hostess’ can mean a bar-worker who is sometimes a sex-worker (Mills, 2008: 58). Overall, the term of semantic derogation in this study can be identified by adding affix in sexist word.

2.6 Indirect sexism

Indirect sexism is often used in books, newspapers, novels, certain radio, etc. the indirect sexism is largely associated with men. Benwell (as cited in Mills, 2008: 12) showed about Chris Moyles, a UK BBC Radio DJ, who is regularly insult female colleagues and female listeners with the term such as: ‘stupid cow’ and ‘daft slapper’. He also makes assertion about females which can be classified as sexist. He says that women are not good at football. On the other hand, netball and hockey are stupid games and men who play them are emasculated and gay (Mills, 2008: 12).

To define the form of indirect sexism, Mills suggests the type of indirect sexism as collocation.

2.6.1 Collocation

Collocation is a particular combination of words. The example of collocation can be seen in the media. There are a number of words which do not appear to be sexist in themselves, but they are collocated or associated with a range of negative connotation. For example, news reported in the local Sheffield newspaper, the *Star* (as cited in Mills, 2008: 149) about a woman, who had been sent to jail on a part-time basis for trying to defraud social services. She referred as ‘part-time jail fraud mum’. This woman is being a wife and mother. Therefore, she is called as ‘mum’. In this term the word ‘mum’ is not sexist by itself, but it is collocated with ‘part-time jail fraud’. So, the word ‘mum’ becomes more negative in this context because it is relevant to the crime that she has committed.

In British magazine, female celebrities are often described by negative words which are collocated with their habitual. For example, Victoria Beckham was represented in negative connotations, such as: ‘exhausted’, ‘fad’, and ‘punishing’ (Mills, 2008: 149) when she did a diet.

Romaine (as cited in Mills, 2008: 150) examines the 1995 British National Corpus for the collocation of ‘spinster’ and she finds the majority of words collocating with ‘spinster’ have negative connotations, such as: gossipy, nervy, over-made up, ineffective jealous and frustrated.

Carron and Kowitz (as cited in Mills, 2008: 150) find that certain adjectives tend to collocate with male- referent, such as: 'rich, 'poor', 'brave', 'short', 'lazy', 'important', 'famous' 'pleased' and happy. Then, female referent can be categorized as 'angry', 'beautiful, and 'pretty'. Overall, the pattern of collocation in this study will be identified by certain word that is collocated with sexist words in order to make them to be more negative. In this study, the certain word will be signed by underline.