ABSTRACT

Rahardhani, Armyta. 2010. The Ethnography of Speaking Influencing Young People in Using Swearwords as Reflected in Mike Nichols’ Film Closer. A Final Project. English Department. Faculty of Languages and Arts, Semarang State University. Advisor I: Galuh Kirana Dwi Areni, S. S., M. Pd., Advisor II: Dwi Anggara Asianti, S. S., M. Pd.

Keywords: swearwords, conversation, ethnography of speaking.

Human beings as social creatures cannot live alone. They need to communicate with others to share and complete their daily necessities. Communication is the process of human interaction to extent the information, share their ideas and feelings. Somehow, people include swearwords in speaking when they are in pain or anger. This study focuses on the ethnography of speaking influencing the use of swearwords since it belongs to taboo words and be impolite in society. This covers some various contents of swearwords, how they influence the characters and the elements of ethnography of communication which underlie the use of them.

In this study, I used a descriptive-qualitative method. The analysis involved interpretational qualitative data and was interpreted and reported descriptively. I used several steps in finding the ethnography of speaking used in the object of study. First, I collected and read the scripts. Secondly, I identified and classified the dialogues in which swearwords are used in and selected the supporting data. Then, I analyzed them one by one and reported the finding in order to find the various factors influencing the use of swearwords based on SPEAKING ethnographic framework by Dell Hymes (1974).

Based on the analysis, some various contents of swearwords used in Closer movie, as defined by Hughes (2006: xviii), there are six various contents; religious reinforces and sacred references, family origin, the attribution of various reprehensible behaviors and violation of moral codes, social stigmas, social conditions, insulting names, demeaning labels, and unflattering comparisons. The use of swearwords can be read as the characteristics of characters. The SPEAKING ethnographic framework underlies the use of swearwords in Closer movie.

By analyzing the elements of ethnography of speaking in using swearwords in the film Closer, I hope that it will be a guide for young people to speak appropriately. For those who intend to discuss more about swearwords, this study is expected to be one of the references in supporting the research. As swearing has been familiar since long times ago, the reader may have a further study about the use of swearwords and its kinship with speaker’s social background, such as gender or any different eras of literary work.