

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Research

Comedy is known as form of entertainment consisting of jokes and satirical communication that intended to make audience laugh (Schwarz, 2010: 8). Recently, comedy is commonly performed not only in TV series, but also performed in a Stand-up comedy show. A stand-up comedy commonly known as an inherently rhetorical discourse which strives not only to entertain but also to persuade the audience/listeners (Greenbaum in Andriani, 2016: 16).

The performer of the comedian is commonly known as a "comic", "stand-up comic" or simply a "stand up". In performing stand-up comedy, the comedian usually recites a grouping of humorous stories, jokes and one-liners typically called a monologue, routine or act (Greengross et al, 2012). In delivering humorous stories, most of the performers will express their own language style and topic. The interesting point of stand-up comedian that they can express their idea on the stage about anything, starts from certain community, race, even culture and politics mostly in the form of satire. In other words, a stand-up comedian can only be successful if they can convince the audience to persuade them to look at the world through their comic vision (Greenbaum in Andriani, 2016: 16).

In one example, when there is a political event in a country, such as new presidential election, stand-up comedian will express their thought through their performance to the audience so that the audience is not only know about the political event, but

also feel entertained with the joke presented by the comedian. As an example, in the political element, when Trump is chosen as the President of United State, there are quite various ridiculous moment and decisions made by him during his reign in America. Thus, it makes many of comedians make fun of his actions by creatively telling Trump's actions to the audiences using sarcasm expression. Riloff et al (2012: 1) explained sarcasm as ironic or satirical intelligence that is intended to insult, mock or amuse about something (can be community, certain race or even political act) and it can be manifested in many different ways.

However, the interesting part of being comedian is, in doing the performance, he or she must use paralanguage, such as gestures and various facial expression instead of telling the joke monotonously without any help of animation or other pictures (Andriani, 2016: 17). In other words, language element also plays important parts in delivering the humor to the audience since the verbal component take dominant in stand-up comedy.

Further, by using the CDA study, the writer is interested to analyze one of the stand-up comedy performances that contain with political sarcasm performed by one of the famous comics, Trevor Noah. In this case, the writer chooses Noah as the object of research since he wins many awards. One of them is he becomes comic of the year twice in South African Comics' Choice Award in 2012 and 2014. Also, he won the category as the Best Host on the Daily Show with Trevor Noah in 2017 and many else (biography.com, 2016). In delivering his topics, Noah has his own language style so that commonly the language that he is uttered contains with ambiguity. He is also has performed stand-up comedy show in many states in America. Thus, since there are so many performances of stand-up comedy by Noah,

the writer chooses one of his famous performances with theme "Son of Patricia" to be analyzed. Since in this theme, Trevor is delivering his comedy about Trump's political ideology that sounds odd and ridiculous which he expressed sarcastically. In accordance, by using the study of critical discourse, the writer aims to investigate the political sarcasm that he mentioned in his performance.

Study of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is a type of discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context (Van Dijk in Tanen et al, 2015: 466). Critical discourse analysts take clear position, and thus want to understand, expose, and ultimately resist social equality. The object of CDA is public speech, such as advertisement, newspaper, political propagandas, official documents, laws and regulations and so on. Its aim is to explore the relationships among language, ideology and power (Van Dijk in Tanen et al, 2015: 467). Therefore, based on the explanation from Van Dijk, it can be said that CDA is the proper study that can be used to analyze political sarcasm.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the research, the writer formulates the research question as follow:

What are of political sarcasms found in *Son of Patricia* performed by Trevor Noah?

1.3 Objective of Research

Regarding to the research question, the purpose of this research is to describe the political sarcasms in *Son of Patricia* performed by Trevor Noah

1.4 Uses of Research

1.4.1 Theoretical Uses

Theoretically, the writer hopes this research can be as additional reference about Fairclough's theory. Also, this research is expected to have some significant point to enrich knowledge related to the stand-up comedy and its relation to the sarcasm.

1.4.2 Practical Uses

Practically, the writer hopes that the readers are able to understand about the importance in learning Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) study that is related to language, power and ideology of a discourse. The discourse in this context can be various, can be in the form of speech, articles or other form of discourses.

1.5 Scope of Research

There are so many aspects that can be analyzed from the stand-up comedy performance by Trevor Noah. However, the writer is only focus in revealing the political sarcasm behind the performance of Trevor Noah in one of his shows with theme "Son of Patricia" by using the theory of Fairclough (2010) of Three Dimensional Framework.