

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, the problems of the study, the objective of the study, the significant of the study, scope and limitation and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Movie is a series of images which, when shown on a screen, creates the illusion of moving images due to the phenomenon. This optical illusion causes the audience to perceive continuous motion between separate objects viewed rapidly in succession.¹ Movies also provide cultural artifacts created by specific cultures. They reflect those cultures, and, in turn, affect them. Movie can give alternative way to teach children with learning disabilities or other problems, to teach English as a second language, to teach specific aspect of life and living.

Learning is needed for everyone. No one in this world can live without learning process. Everyone and everything around us can be used as the sources of learning. A thing is called the source of learning if we can learn from it. Therefore, the source of learning around us is unlimited number. To learn foreign language, for example, we can attend a language class or join a course. However we can also learn by ourselves out of the class. Watching movie especially English movies and speaking with native speakers are some

¹ Sheldon Renan, *An Introduction to the American Film* (New York: E.P DUTTON AND CO., INC, 1976), 18

examples of learning language out of class. It means that we learn a thing from many sources. Human life can learn and enrich their knowledge by learning everything around them. Learning becomes the important part of human life.

We can take one source to learn more about life, such as movies. Movie introduces us the new experience in the world. It increasing our knowledge and in the movie there is moral value given by the author. The study of watching movies can enrich our lives in all kind of ways. Movie can be funny, entertaining, beautiful and tragic. It takes us beyond our limited experience of life to show us the other people live at the other time. The studies of movie give an understanding of our history, our society and sometimes us. So, it is clear that the study of movie can improve our knowledge of life and by watching English movie can improve our understanding in listening and speaking skill.

Talking about teaching and learning using movies, there is a movie that teaches us about education. it is *The Freedom Writers Diary* movie. This movie tells about the way and strategy in teaching and learning process. And used to teach bad attitude students and also motivate the students to learn.

Nowadays, we often hear the news about the bad attitude from the students. The government made an effort to solve the moral deficiency and destructive behavior of students by proclaiming "character building" in every level of education. And we are as the teacher should build the student's characters by educational character based on government program because the students are as nation generation. And by watching this *The Freedom Writers*

Diary movie we get the inspiration about the ways and strategy to educate the students especially the students who have bad attitude.

The *Freedom Writers* movie is based on the true story directed by Richard La Gravenese, based on the book, *The Freedom Writers Diary*, by The Freedom Writers with Erin Gruwell. The story in this movie took from Woodrow Wilson High School at Long Beach, California. Erin Gruwell as a new English teacher in this school faced problems in education institution, racism, gang members among students, juvenile delinquents, and underprivileged students.

The problems in education institution are such as teaching-learning process and school policy which have to be faced by Erin Gruwell as a new teacher. In the racism problem it appears when Erin Gruwell watches as separates racial territories that are created within the room, as the students take their seats: the back right section is filled by black gang members, and the Latinos sit on the back left side of the room. Besides, The Asians take seat on the front right and one Caucasian boy sits in the front.

Erin Gruwell feels shock when she sees the riot a fight among gang war in and out her classroom. Almost all her students are underprivileged students. Most of them go to school taking three buses and almost ninety minutes to arriving at the school and they also do not have good capability in reading lesson. In addition, her students do not obey her and continuously talk back to her. At the beginning her teaching, Erin never gets respect from her students.

Erin never surrenders to change her student's behavior and attitude. Although she does not get support from another, she has conviction that she can do the best for her job. She tries several teaching strategies in her teaching-learning process. She invites Holocaust survivors to talk with her students about their experience and then takes them on a trip to The Museum of Tolerance. Erin also asks for them to read *The Diary of a Young Girl* or *Anne Frank's Diary*. Her colleagues and her department chair of Wilson High School regard her methods as an unorthodox so they scorn her. Erin tries not to care. She thinks that she has to make changing. She knows that her students do not only need theory in classroom but also they need real experience.

In this research, *The Freedom Writers Diary* movie is chosen because this is educational movie and this movie is good for teacher especially, and the whole viewer generally, this movie shows us the way to handle and manage the bad behavior of students. The teacher in this movie uses contextual learning strategy on motivating student to learn.

In this study the writer will also search the personality on main character namely Erin Gruwell as the teacher and implication of this movie in relation to education. The writer hopes that this research can give solution to the problems of education in our life. Moreover, the writer hopes this research is good for everybody to apply this value of this movie in daily life, especially for teacher.

From the explanation above, the writer interest to analyze, the teaching strategies and the implication on *Freedom Writer Diary* movie in relation to

education in order to develop better teaching strategies. There are methods and techniques how to handle and motivate students. For instance, the teachers give a reward and get to know students. Beside of that, teaching strategies which are used at *The Freedom Writer Diary* Movie always make students feel happy and motivated.

B. The Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the writer proposes statements of the problems as follows:

1. What are Erin Gruwell personalities in *The Freedom Writers Diary* movie?
2. What are the teaching strategies found in *The Freedom Writer Diary* Movie?
3. What is the implication of this movie in relation to education?

C. The Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of the problems above, the objectives of the studies are as follows:

1. To describe Erin Gruwell's personalities in *The Freedom Writer Diary* Movie
2. To describe Erin Gruwell's teaching strategies used on teach students in *The Freedom Writers Diary* movie.
3. To reveal the implication of the movie in relation to education.

D. The Scope and Limitation

The scope in this research is the movie entitled "*Freedom Writer Diary*" as a educational movie genre. To carry out the study, the writer needs to limit

the study. The writer is going to analyze the Erin Gruwell character's personality and her problems in teaching bad attitude students used the contextual teaching and learning strategies which is done by Mrs. Erin Gruwell as a teacher in Woodrow Wilson High School and also find out the implication of the movie in relation to education.

E. The Significance of the Study

The significance of the study are as follows:

1. The writer herself intends to recognize the effect of teaching strategies in learning process will give good impact to the students thus the students more motivated in learning process.
2. For the teacher: The writer intends to construct teaching strategies effectively in learning process. The writer hopes that the teacher can use the way of Erin Gruwell to improve the students' enthusiasm and in learning process. It will make learning become fun and enjoy.

F. The Definition of Key Terms

The writer considers that it is important to define some term used in this study. The terms are as follows:

1. Education : According to The National Education System of Republic Indonesia No. 20 of 2003 article 1, states the meaning of education as the conscious and deliberate effort to create an atmosphere of learning and the learning process so that learners are actively developing the student's potential to have the spiritual strength of religious, self-control, personality,

intelligence, noble character, and the skills needed them selves, society, nation and state.

2. Teaching strategies : a purposefully conceived and determined plan of action which includes structure, desired learner behavior, in terms of the goals of instruction, and an outline of tactics necessary to implement the strategy.