

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains the research by presenting the background of the study, research questions, aims and objectives, scope of the study, and the significance of the study. This chapter also gives an insight regarding the clarification of key terms as well as the organization of the paper.

1.1 Background of the Study

Bullying is a social phenomenon that could happen to anyone and anywhere. It is an act that could cause dangerous impacts. The impacts are not only felt by the bullies but also the victim of bullying. However, a lot of people are not aware of this issue.

Bullying occurs when the bullies are physically, socially, and/or intellectually stronger (Espelage & Swearer, 2003; Olweus, 1993). For that reason, bullying is not continuously concerning age and size any longer, but the power that the bullies hold to bully their friends. To elaborate, Menesini and Salmivalli (2017, p. 247), bullying is considered as an aggressive behavior when bullying occurred intendedly and repeatedly to show the bully's power. With the criteria given, bullying is considered as the abuse of power. Therefore, bullying is a dangerous act that needs to be noticed.

When I was nine, I remember my friends bullied me. They told me I am trash and badmouthed me. I graduated from elementary school, but the bullying did not stop. Some of the bullies continued their studies at the same junior high school. I was at the point where I did not come to school for a month because I did not want to see my friends. At that time, my parents did not know that I was a victim of bullying until they realized that I did not have the energy whenever I had to go to school. In this case, bullying has made me did not want to socialize with others. In addition, other bullying victims are also depressed to continue to study.

News released by Kompas entitled *4 Kasus "Bullying" di Sejumlah Daerah, Dibanting ke Paving, Amputasi hingga Korban Depresi Berat* (Kurniati, 2020).

One out of 4 cases written in the article came from an elementary student in SDN 2 Wirosari Ngadiman, Central Java. RS (initial of the victim) used to be a bullying victim. RS experienced verbal and physical bullying. Masrikah, RS' mother stated that her child once was locked in his class by classmates. His hair was cut, spat on, doused in water, and other violence. RS has experienced bullying for two years and as a result, he is extremely depressed. He does not want to go to school and often locks himself in his room.

In addition, according to a study entitled *Bullying in Indonesia: Key Facts, Solutions and Recommendations* (2020) conducted by UNICEF, bullying in Indonesia, especially in the school settings occurred in many ways, for instance: hitting, pushing, destroying toys, and excluding the bullied on purpose. From the previous study, UNICEF agrees that bullying, especially in the school settings should be prevented, simply by educating the students. With my experience and the reported cases, bullying should be an issue that needs to be raised and paid attention to. Considering the effect of bullying, people should know more about what bullying is and how bullying is constructed in society. Therefore, the urge of educating people about bullying becomes important, especially in children's lives. Children need to learn not to bully their friends so they could grow as good people. Besides learning from parents and teachers, children can also learn from children's books.

Hence, this research looks into a book which dealt with bullying from a book entitled *Llama Llama and the Bully Goat* by Anna Dewdney (2013). Different from other books, this study uses a book that is represented by animals. Furthermore, the book portrayed different types of bullying in a kindergarten setting. By analyzing bullying in the chosen story, the researcher expects to find out the way bullying is portrayed in children's books.

1.2 Research Questions

The study focused on bullying in children's book *Llama Llama and the Bully Goat* (2013) through the questions below:

1. How is bullying portrayed in *Llama Llama and the Bully Goat* (2013)?
2. What possible meanings can be made through the portrayals?

1.3. Aims and Objectives of the Study

Through this study, the researcher aims at examining the portrayals of bullying in a children's book. Furthermore, the researcher aims to explore the possible meanings of the portrayals. In order to achieve the aims mentioned previously, the researcher collected the data: bullying in the text and pictures in *Llama Llama and the Bully Goat* by Anna Dewdney (2013) and identified how bullying is portrayed based on the literature framework.

The objectives for this research were the behaviors of the bullies and the bullied. To identify the data, the researcher used the theory of Character (Klarer, 1999, p. 135) and Characterization (Reams, 2015) as the theoretical framework.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The scope of this study is bullying between students in a kindergarten school. All the characters; the bully, the bullied, the teacher, and other students are represented by animals. This study focused on how bullying is presented in the book and constructed potential meanings behind the text and the pictures in *Llama Llama and the Bully Goat* (2013).

1.5 Significance of the Study

The findings of the study are expected to answer the research questions. Furthermore, the background of the researcher as the bullied has made the researcher conducted this study. Using children's literature to educate bullying, especially for children in the school settings, this study tries builds awareness for readers. Therefore, through this research adults, especially, teachers and parents could learn how to raise their kids to prevent an act of bullying.

1.6 Clarification of Key Terms

1. Bullying

Bullying is defined as intended aggressive behavior that takes place repeatedly and requires an imbalance of power between the bully and the bullied (Olweus, 1993).

2. Character

Refer to Klarer (1999, p. 135), characters are the figures who presented in a text whether they are considered protagonist, antagonist, major, or minor characters.

3. Characterization

Characterization is how the author presents and reveals the characters personality to the readers. Through characterization, the author builds certain images to characters. (Reams, 2015)

1.7 Organization of the Paper

This study is formed with the following structure:

1. Chapter I: Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher proposes the introduction about this study which comprises the background of the study, research questions, aims and objectives, the scope of the study, the significance of the study, the clarification of key terms as well as the organization of the paper.

2. Chapter II: Literature Review

This chapter provides the theoretical framework utilized in the research and previous studies which identifies with the subject of this study. The theoretical framework used in this research are theory of Character (Klarer, 1999, p. 135) and Characterization (Reams, 2015).

3. Chapter III: Methodology

The third chapter clarifies the methodology conducted in the research. Whereas this chapter elaborates the design of the research and the steps in research analysis.

4. Chapter IV: Findings & Discussions

This chapter examines the findings to answer the research questions of this research dependent on the data and the discussion regarding the finding of this research.

5. Chapter V: Conclusion

This last chapter elaborates the conclusion based on the findings of this study. Therefore, this chapter states the interpretation from the study.

