Chapter III

Research Methodology

This chapter presents the research methodology, which includes an explanation of the research question, method of the research, data source, data collection, data analysis, and data presentation.

3.1 Research Question

The research is conducted to answer these following questions:

1. What type(s) of homophobic attitude(s) is depicted in the text?

2. How is homophobia constructed in the text?

3.2 Research Subject and Context

The analysis of this research is focused on a screenplay entitled 'Milk' released in 2008. The movie, written by Dustin Lance Black, nominated for eight Academy Awards and won two awards for Best Actor in a Leading Role for Sean Penn and Best Original Screenplay. The story tells about the life of gay activist Harvey Milk and the movements of gay rights in America, particularly in San Francisco. The research focuses on aspects of the type(s) of homophobic attitude(s) and how homophobia is constructed in the framework of Queer Theory.

3.3 Research Procedure

The research employs descriptive analysis, which is qualitative in nature. The research explores the phenomena of type(s) of homophobic attitude(s) and how homophobia is constructed as evidenced in the text that not arrived at by means statistical procedures or other means of quantification (see Straus & Corbin, 1990; Myers, 2002).

3.4 Data Collection

The data that were collected from 'Milk's screenplay is in the form of words, utterances, and dialogues that are purposively selected and directed to answer the research questions.

3.5 Data Analysis

The collected data are then analyzed using the framework of Queer Theory. In analyzing the data the following steps have been taken:

1. Making a printed copy of the original movie script to be read thoroughly and carefully.

2. Identifying collected data by underlining words, utterances, and dialogues that might help in representing the idea of homophobia.

3. Categorizing all collected data that are related to the issues of homophobic attitude(s) and how homophobia is constructed.

4. Analyzing and interpreting the collected data within the framework of Queer Theory.

5. Making conclusions and suggestions for further researches.

3.6 Data Presentation

The following tables are the samples of the analyzed data and the characters that, directly or indirectly, involve in constructing homophobia and the attitudes of it. The complete table of homophobic attitudes can be found in appendix.

Table 3.1
SAMPLES OF HOMOPHOBIC ATTITUDES

No.	Homophobic attitudes	
1.	**Verbal Abuse**	**COP** Name's Robert Hillsborough. Did you know him? **HARVEY MILK** He used to come into my shop. Are there any witnesses? **COP** Just the "**trick**." Jerry Taylor. **HARVEY MILK** Jerry wasn't a trick. They were lovers.
2.	**Non-Verbal Abuse**	**JOHN BRIGGS** Mr. Milk, **we don't allow people who believe in practicing bestiality to teach our children**, and the reason we don't is because it is illegal.
3.	**Physical Abuse**	**JACK LIRA** My father **beat me when he found out**... So I came here. I stay in this man's house. But I don't like him.

Table 3.2
CHARACTERS AND CHARACTERIZATIONS

Character	Characterization
Harvey Milk	Played by Sean Penn; a gay activist and politician who is the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in California and the first gay member of San Francisco Board of Supervisors. He's assassinated by his ex-colleague.

Cleve Jones	Played by Emile Hirsch; a young gay with big glasses who met Milk on the street and became Milk's key adviser to City Hall as his campaign manager.
Dan White	Played by Josh Brolin; Milk and Moscone's assassinator. A Vietnam veteran and former police officer and firefighter. He is known as politically and socially conservative and has a difficult relationship with Milk thus develops a growing resentment for Milk when he opposes various projects of White's.
Jack Lira	Played by Diego Luna; Milk's partner, a sweet-natured Mexican-born young man but emotionally unbalanced. He cannot tolerate Milk's devotion to political activism, and eventually committed suicide.
Scott Smith	Played by James Franco; Milk's much younger ex-partner and former campaign manager. He left Milk because of his growing frustration toward Milk's devotion to politics but still managed to be his friend.
John Briggs	Played by Denis O'Hare; a California state politician who served in the California State Assembly and the California State Senate. He is the one who is sponsoring Proposition 6 which attempted to remove all gay or lesbian school employees or their supporters from their jobs.
Anne Kronenberg	Played by Allison Pill; the fiery lesbian who helped lead Milk to victory in his campaign to be a supervisor and became an adviser to Milk at City Hall

George Moscone	Played by Victor Garber; the Democratic mayor of San Francisco and ally of Milk. He supports Milk efforts to defeat Proposition 6 and was murdered because of it.
Anita Bryant	Played by Anita Bryant; an American singer, leader of Save Our Children organization in Dade County, Florida. Her strong views against homosexuality trigger her prominent campaign, along with Briggs, to repeal a local ordinance that prohibited discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.
Danny Nicholetta	Played by Lucas Grabeel; worker at Castro Camera owned by Milk and Smith and later on worked for Milk on his political campaigns for office.
Dianne Feinstein	Played by Ashlee Temple; the first female President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the one who announced the assassinations in a press conference originally organized by Moscone to announce White's successor. She became mayor after Moscone's death.