

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter shows introduction of the study that includes some points such as: background of the study, limitation of the study, problem formulation, objective of the study, significance of the study, and organization of the study.

A. Background of the Study

Not all of the people can stay in one place. Some of immigrants can decide to move in one city to another city or one country to another country. They are called as immigrant. “Migrants, like sojourners, are an extremely diverse group. There are wide variations in the relative cultural distance between society of origin and society of settlement across immigrant group” (Buchner 23). They move in other countries because they have some reasons such as education, economic, or desire to be better in the future etc. According to Rose, there are a lot of new immigrants from different countries with different reason came to new world for hope (5). They move to other countries to make a better life and they have a good hope in a new country. Indeed, there is parent move in other country with carry out their kids. Some of the kids do not like their movement because of the different of the culture.

Many immigrants will feel a different culture in a new country. They will feel a difficulty because they meet different culture, language, food, physical,

clothe and others. Every country has their own language, typical of foods and traditional clothes are different. Every country also has own physical characteristics, as seen in China, Chinese has white skin, slanted eyes, and straight hair. It is very different from an American Negro that has black skin, curly hair, and different language that in American people speak English but Chinese people speak Mandarin. If the immigrant rejects to follow the new culture who they meet, they will get the difficult way to socialize. But, if they try to adjust the new culture who they meet, they will get their happiness. According to Jeannotte “culture, lifestyle and identity measures of the extent to which cultural resources and capital are used to constitute specific lifestyles and identities” (14). So, life's identity and culture depend on how the culture is determined by oneself. How someone responds to the new culture they get.

Lin et al tells “shock stems from inherently stressful life changes, so people engaging in cross culture encounters need to be resilient, adapt, and develop coping strategies and tactics. Adjustment is regarded as an active process of managing stress at different systemic levels both individual and situational” (1979). The important things to get happiness in the new country of immigrant is adjustment. Every immigrant must learn how to adapt to the new culture in that country. They can make socialization with a host society.

An immigrant needs to work together with the host society to make them close each other. This one of the strategy to adaptation with the new country that they meet. Van de Vijver & Phalet tell

In individuals and groups need to work out how to live together, adopting various strategies that will allow them to achieve a reasonably successful adaptation to the new culture as well as society. Many modern acculturation theories claim that ethnic minorities, including immigrants, refugees, and sojourners can favor either the dominant culture, or their own minority culture, or both, or neither (2004).

Based on definition above, adaptation to the surrounding environment needs to be done. Because of adaption, we can know how the environment around us, so that we can easily adjust. Socializing with people around is also needed. Being a person who lives socially makes it easy for us to accept the new culture that we meet. Based on Jeannotte tells “Socialization helping individuals become integrated in a social, political, and economic order” (15). With socialization it can make an immigrant live together and work together in a new country. The immigrant can learn about the political, social, and economic order in a new country.

Sometimes, an immigrant rejects to learn about a new culture but there are immigrants who want to learn about culture in a new country. So, this research will discuss about process for immigrants who want to learn about a new culture.

Acculturation comprehends those phenomena which result when groups of individuals having different cultures come into continuous first-hand contact with subsequent changes in the original culture patterns of either or both groups. Although

acculturation is a neutral term in principle (that is, change may take place in either or both groups), in practice acculturation tends to induce more change in one of the groups than in the other (Berry, 1990a).

Based on the theory of acculturation, explaining that a person can accept the culture encountered but not forget the old culture. However, one can also accept a new culture and forget the old culture. This is explained also in this theory that according Berry and his associates tell that acculturation theory developed have four generic types of acculturation strategies are now commonly labeled “Assimilation is the strategy when there is little interest in cultural maintenance combined with a preference for interacting with the larger society” (Berry *et al* 194). So, it depends on how the person responds to the new culture that is encountered. An immigrant combines their own culture with the culture in a new country. It also explains if assimilation is a strategy of an immigrant in interacting with host society.

Like in *The Karate Kid* film tells about an American boy and he has to follow his mother to move to China. He gets many trouble like different language, the way for eat and the culture until he gets a bully. In the first time, he cannot receive this condition. He feels regret, grief, fear, until hope and enthusiasm because they move to China. He is always angry with his mom and cry so that he can back to America. But the condition is change, after he meets Mei Ying and fall in love with her. Then, Dre rises up. He meets with Mr. Han who is a

mechanical engineer and coach of Kung Fu, Dre interest with Kung Fu. Dre begin to get used to and begin to follow culture in China.

Based on the film *The Karate Kid*, the writer take a different side. It is not only merely assimilation but also the portrait of assimilation toward the main character's struggles. Hence, the writer chooses a title *The Portrait of Assimilation toward the Main Character's Struggles of Adaptation in the Film The Karate Kid*.

B. Limitation of the Study

Related to the background of the study, the limitation of this study is to identify the meaning of assimilation for new immigrant living in other country. This reseach focuses on the portrait of assimilation toward the main character's struggles as reflected in the film *The Karate Kid*.

C. Problem Formulation

1. What is the meaning of assimilation for new immigrant living in other country?
2. How is the portrait of assimilation toward the main character's struggles of adaptation as reflected in *The Karate Kid* film?

D. Objective of the Study

The objective of the study on this reseach are initiated as follows:

1. To identify the meaning of assimilation for new immigrant living in other country as reflected the main character in *The Karate Kid* film.
2. To analyze the portrait of assimilation toward the main character's struggles as reflected in *The Karate Kid* film.

E. Significant of the Study

This study helps the readers to understand assimilation theory easily. To make the reader knows the process of assimilation and to make understanding assimilation that portrait in immigrant such as difficulties in adaptation, language differences, assessment issue, and educator awareness of cultural differences and immigrant issues.

F. Organization of the Study

In this paper there are five chapters. Chapter one is an introduction of subchapter. Subchapter consists: background of the study, problem formulation, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and outline of the study. In chapter two is an review on related literature that consists: synopsis of *The Karate Kid* film and the discussion of the theory which is used in this study such as assimilation and the portrait of assimilation toward the main character's struggles as reflected in the film *The Karate Kid*. In chapter three consists of research method, types of the data, data organizing, analyzing the data. Chapter four mentions findings and discussion the point of the meaning of assimilation for new immigrant living in other country and the portrait of

assimilation toward the main character's struggles as reflected in the film *The Karate Kid*. The last chapter contains conclusion and suggestions.