

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is an introduction of this study. It covers background of the study, identification of the problems, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, the aims of the study, and the significance of the study.

1.1. Background of the Study

Group work is recognized as method which is essential to be used in learning process. According to Flowerdew (2013) group work is an appropriate methodological tool for students to involve in learning process. It is caused, group work has been demonstrated to be an effective active learning technique to enhance students' learning (Freeman, et.al, 2014). Therefore, students take more time to interact one another in a group work because it's kind of students catered learning. According to Taqi & Nouh (2014) group work also depends on the attitude of the students. While the Oxford Advanced Learners' Dictionaries (2005: 85) defined attitude is the way of someone thinks and feels about somebody or something. Thus, students would react based on their feeling and thinking. It means, students' feeling is influence for the successful of group learning.

Feelings refers to the way of people express what in the previous happened. It is include many expression such as like and dislike, disappointing and satisfying, preference, anxiety, and also discomfort. In addition, Graham (1984) state that students' thoughts would show their feeling, then the feelings determined what they do. It means, feelings is crucial for learning process. Consequently, evaluating students feeling cannot be ignored.

A few studies have investigated how students actually feel about group work. White, et.al (2005) reported feelings toward group work is generally being positive experience for students in learning. The opposite result by (Cantwell & Andrews (2002) indicated that cognitive factors such as metacognitive awareness related to a reference for group work whereas psychological factors such as social anxiety. However, those two studies determined the topic research based on observation on the previous research to be consideration.

In this study, research on students' feelings toward group work has a practical gap which I did the preliminary observation with 6 students on English Education Department. In the briefly and informal interview researcher point out that the problem is related to students' involvement and responsibility in a group work. Researcher conclude that all member in a group learning might be has variance of feelings. Yet, the previous studies are less explored to be discussed as a research. Moreover, the previous study have not been under students' phenomena consideration.

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Based on short interview conducted by researcher, it can be conclude that some students at English Education Department in Islamic private University of Indonesia have different feelings and reaction in a group work which influence to their involvement in group activities. Furthermore, they assume that feelings give important role in group learning. For these reason, the problems become interesting to be studied.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

This study will describe students feelings that are most used by students batches 2016 and 2017 in English Education Department in an Islamic private University in Indonesia.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

The following questions were utilized to guide this research study:

1. How are Indonesian undergraduate EFL students' feelings towards group work?

1.5. Objective of the Study

1. To describe the Indonesian undergraduate EFL students' feelings towards group work.

1.6. Significance of the Study

The result of this research gave contribution to students, lectures, and for other researchers. Firstly for students, this research is expected to help students how to behave in learning activities, especially in group work. Secondly for lecturers, this research is expected to help lecturers to understand students' feelings during the class. Therefore, teachers know how to facilitate the students during group work. The last for other researchers, this study is expected to bring benefit such as, provide information for further research regarding students' feelings toward group work.