CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS RELATED TO POWER RELATION IN FILM “THE JUDGE”

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ABSTRACT
The researcher analyzed power relation in film “The Judge” by using theory of CDA in interpreting hidden meaning of words. CDA was a theory that study about the relation between the social life and talk in interaction. The approach of this research was CDA’s van Dijk as it became the most appropriate theory to analyze since grammar, metaphor, intonation, social cognition and societal structures were included. In this research, descriptive qualitative was applied to analyze the data. “The Judge” film script was used as the source of data. The researcher focused on the main character’s words which contain power in the social relation especially in court. Some powers had been found in this research, there were power as control and threat that main characters used in building their conversation. In this research, main characters used power in the community because they wanted to dominate the conversation.

Keywords: CDA, Power, Social Cognition, Court, Societal Structures

In a healthy society, people are creating communications as proof that they are alive. Communication which consists of language can increase and keeps the relationship around people and makes them socialize. It is supported by Harmon and Wilson that from language, people can know what the world they live in, socialize, develop and maintain the connection between them (2006:1). An utterance of statement can indicate who are well educated person and uneducated person, bad guy and good guy, the stronger and the weaker. Well educated people will think the effect of their statements before talking but uneducated people never really think about what they have said. Bad guys always talk dirty words and good guys remain silent instead of speaking something completely useless.

The stronger and the weaker nowadays are not only expressed with the shape of body but also position such as the judge and the lawyer, the host and the caller in radio talk show, and bosses and employees. For example in a court, lawyers have to ask permission to the judge before saying something “Excuse me your honor, on behalf of my client, I would like to thank you for agreeing this hearing. My client would like to say a few warranted words to enlighten this case” and the form of asking has to be in formal statements. This utterance happens because judge has power over lawyer. It can be uttered in different way like this “hey buddy, I want to explain to you about this problem and I’ll tell you all of it to make things clear”. These utterances may happen between friends. Friends have equal position in communication. It is common to use informal language. The usage of language is to construct a human relation by using language to signal what kind of connection we have, want to have, or is trying to have with the hearer and the reader or other people, associations, intuitions about whom we are speaking (Gee, 2005: 99). Different position contains power relation in it and that difference should be analyzed to know which is more powerful than others in communication.

Languages can control and manipulate people because language has power in it. If people are under control by the language, the world will be easy to control. As stated by Harmon and Wilson that language is an element that learning of it has many functions, such as manipulating and controlling the world and those in it (2006:1). It is supported by Wagner and Cheng that for seduction and manipulating people in social relationship, language is a very useful device to use (2011:1). Many people can communicate and express about their problems, their thoughts through language. Languages can help people how to interpret the meaning of words. Wareing states that the way of finding about the relationship between meaning and perception is using language (2004:2). All language users can do the interpretation of their idea, their feelings, and their thought by language.
When discussing about language, it always has connection with discourse because discourse is the language used by people. People usually use language whenever they want to build conversation with others whether they are in schools, hospitals, prisons and even courts of law. Discourse can be assumed that language in used has two purposes, mean something and do something. Mayr states that the usage of language is linked to the meaning and doing (2008:7).

Because of the discourse concept which is language can be interpreted about the meaning and doing at the same time, CDA needs to be applied in every conversation analysis. Mayr states that because CDA is emphasizing language as an action and social practice, it is worth to analyze language in speech and writing (2008:8). Duchene says that language is more than just to communicate with others, it has determined itself as an important instrument which is strengthening and increasing social (2008:10). Those theories more or less means that language is necessary to analyze because it has implied meaning and always has connection with human life.

Then, because the researcher focuses on CDA, discourse becomes the main discussion in this research. Discourse refers to language in use in the text, spoken and written. Some examples of text in written are novels, film script, poetry, and etc. The example of spoken discourse are speeches and every conversation that are communicated with utterances such as classroom discourse, courtroom discourse and wherever. In this research, the researcher uses the film script of “The Judge” film. This film is fiction but its plot of the story can happen in everyone. The genre of this film is drama and law becomes the major context in this film. Film script is the only one kind of data that can be used to analyze the dialogues in this film. Film script is built by a group of conversation that consists of topics and words. Based on the context in the film script, more or less the researcher can find what the dialogues about.

Further, the researcher decided to choose the film script of the “The Judge” as the object of analysis. “The Judge” is the American drama film which was released in 2014. This film is about the connection between father and son. The father is Joseph Palmer (JP) as the fair and tough judge in Carlinville and the son is Henry Palmer (HP) as the great lawyer in Chicago. HP lived in Chicago and never come back home because he had problem with his brother and especially his father in the past. After all these years, HP had to go back home to attend his mother funeral that made him meet his family. The day after the funeral, JP accused for hit and run murder suddenly. HP’s knowledge about his father as the one of the tightest judge in Indiana didn’t believe that. That’s why he had to stay and defend his father in courtroom.

As far as the researcher’s knowledge from the societal structures in America that in courtroom discourse there were always jurors to help the judge in making decision. They have to analyze the evidence that is presented by opening their mind and paying attention so they can make a decision based on the law. In term of law, jurors will contribute to the trial because of their responsibility of being a citizen and opportunity to serve the community.

In this film, there are many conflicts. And those conflicts involved emotionally in what happening mostly in court. Furthermore, the conflicts of the main characters against others contain power relation in it. The researcher tries to analyze power relation as one of CDA’s principle by dividing into two types, power as control and power as threat. This film contains of how the main characters fight and survive by using power in their words and how they dominate the conversation to control or to threaten their opponent. Based on those facts, the researcher tries to make a research about power relation discourse on “The Judge” film by applying CDA as the theory and method.
Theoretical Review

_Discourse_, is the study of language in use. That sentence is agreed by Blackledge’s statement that the important of language in the study of social connection has already been well-known, the term “discourse” refers to any language in use (2005:7). Discourse which is concerned with the connection of language and context that is used can also be divided into two kinds, written discourse includes written texts of all kinds, and spoken discourse which is conversation includes formal conversation or even informal conversation (McCarthy, 1991:5).

Discourse is the way people express their thought by talking and uttering the speech through language in every context of conversation in this community. Discourse works in context even if it is consist of one or two words. For instance, in the motel there is always a board that inscribed with “No/Vacancy”. The intention of that board can be used as notification. First, if the word “No” is shining means that the motel is full. Second, if the word “Vacancy” which shines, it indicates that there are empty rooms in the motel. According to those words, the customer can decide whether they can spend the night at that motel or not.

As stated by Blommmaert that CDA practice is very important in linguistic methodology because it offers clear and conscientious linguistic categories for analyzing the relations between discourse and social meaning (2005:23). It is general that discourse and CDA can be used to study the relation between language and social life.

_CDA_, is often focusing on the real definition of emotions, feelings, and whatever it is in mind which can be known from the language that is used by human beings in every conversation in this social world. Rogers in Paltridge states that Critical Discourse Analysis can be assumed that using language always related to the social and discourse can depict and build social universe (2006:179). Wodak and Chilton also stated that Critical Discourse Analysis has three precepts. They are; discourse is a social practice, discourse as a social action that can build social relations in reality, and discourse as a language in use (2005:23). Social people can express the thought and feelings when they speak. In speaking, discourse as language in use will be helpful to build a conversation. Having a conversation is one of the ways to construct the social connection between people. Definitely, universe of discourse is about to occur when they have same knowledge and that is caused by their success in constructing interaction so they might feel like “connected”.

There are variations in how people watch and see what Critical Discourse Analysis is. However, according to Fairclough and Wodak (1997) in Rogers’s book (2004:2) that the following list of principles are CDA’s principles, they are: 1) Social and Political Problems are built and depicted in discourse, 2) Power Relations are consulted and implemented through discourse, 3) Ideologies are declared and produced in the use of discourse, 4) Discourse both described and reproduced social connections. In this research, the researcher will focus on the second principle which is power relation. It means that power relation will be discussed further in this research. Thus, it can be said that this research is about CDA related to power relation.

Wagner and Cheng (2011: xvi) stated that language has significant roles in building and maintaining relationship for every profession such as attorney, judge, jury, criminal and victim. Human beings often reveal the relationship with others from the language such as accent, choice of words, grammar, spelling and style, even the power of voices. Sometimes power relation is created by people in their language in use. Power can affect people in their production of words such as in conversation, giving information or even small-talk. CDA is concerned with those facts about the connection between language and power. Fairclough also concerns about one of the CDA’s principle which is power relation. Fairclough (1989) in Wooffitt (2005:140) has distinguished two factors of the connection among language and power. First, there is power behind language and second is there are various methods in which power can be used in language.
An example for the first is when there is someone wants to make an application to work, the
decision of words can be seen in the interview. Sometimes different accent can be the reason why the
application is rejected. Formal speech and informal speech are the example of the second aspect.
Informal speech may exist between the persons and their friends. It is informal because the conversation
does not have a power in it. Friends have equality in position. It is different if the conversation happens
between the lawyer and the judge in court or tribunal. Judge has power in position over lawyer. It has
to be in formal language and some lawyer’s statements will be heard if the judge permits it.

Language is a social phenomenon. When human produces language, the different views on
everybody who listens to it may lead to the different perception. Wooffitt stated that critical discourse
analysis is the methodology of how the conversation analyzed critically. To understand languages
fluently and clearly, it is significant to picture from social broader and political context (2005:145).

The purpose of CDA is to analyze something opaque and language is opaque. Even though
language is just the basic unit of communication, every language that is produced has an objective.
Resolving this objective becomes the problem for researcher. It means that more or less that language
in use can be showed with different meanings which come from society. Language that is used in
communication is the expressions of thoughts of the researcher. It may contain about power relation,
political, social and gender according to its context but the researcher gives full attention to power
relation discourse in this research.

There are six steps in analyzing CDA:

1. **Context.** Van Dijk stated that “context” is used to refer to several phenomenon, incident, measure or
discourse that needs to be watched or learned in relationship to its surroundings, that is, its
“surroundings” situations and consequences (2008:4). It is in rhyme with Vine’s statement that context
is a necessary factor to explore the intended meaning of utterances (2004:48). Context decides what
speaker and hearer plan the utterances and reach the goal of context in conversation activities. Context
can also help hearer to catch the speaker’s actual meaning from every statement. Affirmatively, the
information from the context somehow not intended. That is the reason why the context should be
observed and studied in the connection among people according to its condition.

2. **Topics: Semantics Macrostructures.** Since there are dialogues in every text especially in film script,
the researcher tries to find the topics of every conversation that happen in the judge film. Critical
discourse analysis is a great way to get to know the topics that usually controlled by the characters.
Topics decide how the characters show their ideas and how to say an argument coherently so that the
reader or the hearer do not have to ask “what is this sentence / discourse all about?”. As stated by van
Dijk that Critical Discourse Analysis analyzes semantic macrostructures that are topics or themes and
they are controlled by the speaker (2009:7).

3. **Local Meanings.** CDA also focuses on local meanings because it is important to be analyzed and
examined critically. Local meanings consist of the meaning of words, structures of statement,
coherence, and other relations between statements, such as implications and presuppositions. Structures
of statements mean analyzing speech that contains words grammatically. Local meanings are controlled
by the context. Not all local meanings are appropriate in the conversation because language can be used
formally and informally. Speakers will use formal language in a meeting and informal language in the
neighborhood. Speakers with their knowledge about the context usually try to talk about things that
hearer does not now about it to control the communication. Those facts are the reason why context can
control local meanings.
4. Social Cognition. CDA is concerned in power, domination and social inequality. It tends to focus on groups, organizations and institutions. CDA needs a cognitive approach to account for social cognition that is shared with others of their group or community: Knowledge, attitudes, values, norms and ideologies (van Dijk, 2009:17). Everyday discourse such as conversations, news in television, books and everything that produces knowledge in human beings mind, social attitudes, ideologies, fundamental norms and values can express and explain how the social group beliefs influence personal belief. Groups and power are able to affect discourse and vice versa.

5. Actors, are the participants in the communication event according to its situation. In a social activity friends and enemies are actors. Politicians are actors in politic roles. According to the context, actors may also in various identities at the same time. They can be stronger and weaker than others in their conversation. The context can be affected by discourse and vice versa. Actors should be analyzed by CDA because in discourse situations, they have a relation of membership with societal structures. Actors as the speakers or hearers are members of social groups whether they are conscious of it or not.

6. Societal Structures, CDA is concerned with the role of discourse in reproduction of power and power abuse (dominance), between the structures of discourse and the structures of society. Structures of society are participants as parents, lawyers, judges, party members, or company executives and others. They have actions in legislation, education, discrimination and dominance, often within institutional frameworks such as parliaments, schools, families, or research institutes.

   Power, is one of the principles of critical discourse analysis that have connection with the social world. Wodak and Meyer stated that CDA is concerned with a set of ideas that is opaque such as Dominance, dissimilarity, power as control can be seen clearly in language in use (2001:2).

1. Power as control sometimes ensued by social context between people in their problems of money or low and high position. Power as control can be bad influence for some groups if it is happening so far or too much because thoughts and actions can be controlled by those groups who have control in every conversation (van Dijk, 2008:89).

2. Power as Threat, As Davies stated that threat is happened in every personal identity and caused fear (2001:134). In international law occurs the fear in suspect’s heart because power as threat “played” by the judge. Another view is from Devkota, stated that power only flow out if there is a participant who is disjunctive (2010:8). According to CDA, although within the language there are contexts of about power, but this power is not from the language itself but depends on the powerful people that use it (Wodak and Meyer, 2001:10). There is always someone who is defeated or ’lose’ from the mental side even if it is unconscious.

Illocutionary Act, As stated by Austin in Paltridge’s book that The Illocutionary act is hidden meaning that connected with the speaker’s purpose in every language in used (2006:55). It is matched with another view of Austin in Searle’s book that Illocutionary act is the utterance of words which has certain force (2007:3).

Basically, a word can be described in many ways and this research will give the example of those words which have many intent meanings based on the atmosphere, entity and time that make the words utter in the first place. It might be Explicit or perhaps implicit. However, the intention of statement should be analyze in order to know what does it means. Deciding the meaning without research is embarrassing. What if someone says “Fire!!!” and then all of people are getting down because they think that there is
someone who commands to shoot people, whereas the purpose of “Fire!!!” means that person wanted to tell people that his house is full of fire so he needs help. That is why illocutionary act is very important to know.

**Method of the research**

**Research Design**, Creswell stated in his book that there are four kinds of qualitative data which can be collected, they are observations, interviews and questionnaires, documents and audiovisual materials (2012:212). It is right for researcher’s purpose because gathering data from film was needed for the research. There were so many things in this life that visualized in pictures. Researcher collected data from film which is visual images and this qualitative data was in rhythm with Creswell’s statement that to help researcher absorbs core phenomenon under study, researcher should collect Audio visual materials that consist of images and sounds (2012:224). The data which are taken by researcher consist of images and utterances and they were depicted and constructed in form of words and sentences as in the film script.

**The source of data** in this research is The Judge film script which downloaded from http://subscene.com/subtitles/the-judge/english/1046792 in February 14th, 2015. The researcher takes the script from the subtitle of this film which is published in February 2nd, 2015.

**The data** are utterances of dialogue that contain power relation discourse among the characters: Henry Palmer, Joseph Palmer, Kattan, Deputy Hanson, Deputy Bobby, Mr. William and others.

**Data Collection**

a) Watching the film “The Judge” to identify power relation in it  
b) Reading the film script many times to identify implicit meaning about power relation  
c) Selecting topics that contains power relation and making some notes

**Data Analysis**

a) Dividing data into eight excerpts based on selected topics  
b) Making an interpretation or meaning of the data  
c) Collecting some information and supporting information’s to analyze the meaning of the data (such as books, internet, article and any other informations that are relevant to the researcher’s study)  
d) Analyzing the data using critical discourse analysis with the theory from Woffitt (2005) and Van Dijk (2009) focuses on power relation discourse  
e) Drawing conclusion based on the analysis of the data

**Findings and Discussions**

In this part, it is discussed the finding of the research. It is found that there are eight dialogues based on selected topic in “The Judge” that contain power relation as control and power relation as threat. Those powers will be described by using the power relation discourse theory which is part of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to find what really means behind those dialogues.
4.1 Power as Threat

Excerpt 1:

Henry Palmer: If the great state of Illinois can't meet its burden of proof.
If I walk with a guilty client, it's on you!
So I suggest you do your job, Kattan.

Kattan: And, and, and how does that feel, Hank? Knowing every person you represent is guilty?

Henry Palmer: It's fine. Innocent people can't afford me. Burden of proof Kattan.

The topic of this first excerpt was about the trial between Henry Palmer (HP) as the lawyer for the culprit and Kattan (K) as the representative of the victim in the court. Only both of them in the rest room, when they had a break during the trial. In excerpt 1, the word ‘if’ mentioned twice in two clauses as if HP shows several evidences which press K that there is no alternative and another choice which raises HP’s self confidence that he can win the trial. HP’s self confidence is supported by the phrase ‘burden of proof’ in line 2. It means evidence that can encumber K and his client that refers to everything that can clarify the truth such as blood, surveillances, security cameras and others depend on what kind of crime and its crime scene. In line 1-3 the conditional clauses ‘if the great state of Illinois can’t meet its burden proof, if I walk with a guilty client’ showing that the statement may possibly happen. If K can’t find a proof that can militate HP and he ‘Walk with a guilty client’, it is K’s responsibility.

At other words that worth to be observed is HP’s words in line 3 ‘Walk with’ can be interpreted as friend relation, but it is just his professional work. Professional work means defending his client who is estimated as the suspect and winning the trial. So, ‘walk with a guilty client’ in line 3 has intended meaning that he believes he can verify his client is innocent and pass the trial victoriously. When HP utters the words ‘it’s on you’ in line 3, he rises his voice up. His rising tone may indicate a threat. It means that K has to work and supply the real proof, if K cannot find a proof and let the guilty client free from punishment, it is K’s fault not HP’s responsibility.

In that statement above, HP shows power higher than K because he thinks that K doesn’t have many things as proof that can militate against his client. Verifying proof is the most important thing during the trial. It doesn’t matter who is the guilty, what that matter is who can collect and show the proof and alibi convincingly. From those statements where HP was so sure about his success in representing his client, there is a power relation in his words. In this occasion, HP can influence K to do the job harder than before by finding burden of proof.

There is a condition when HP shows power lower than K after K’s question in line 5 ‘how does that feel hank, knowing you represent is guilty?’, because HP answers that question with ‘it’s fine’ in
line 8. According to that, HP has power lower than K by accepting and using the utterance ‘it’s fine’. It means that HP agrees with K’s statement that HP represents the criminal. Even though HP has already known that his client is guilty or doing criminal, but he still carries on the case because he has the obligation to win his client in the trial.

HP’s statements contain power as threat because he causes fear in K’s personal identity. Threat may threaten every personal identity and causes fear (Davies, 2001:134). Because of HP’s words, K might be afraid that his client will be sent to prison instead of his innocence because a shortage of evidence to cast the guilt into a prison. HP uses his power as threat in his words to drop K’s mental and challenge K to denunciate evidences and he also keeps his image for his career as a famous and professional lawyer concurrently.

**Power as Control**

*Excerpt 1:*

**Deputy Hanson**: We got a witness that he puts his car on route 30 heading toward Shelby road at the approximate time of the accident.

**Henry Palmer**: Oh boy! That’s not enough for his car to be at the scene. Any schmuck lawyer is gonna chew that up and spit it out – stolen vehicle. You need him behind the wheel.

**Deputy Bobby**: Hank, let’s go Pal.

**Henry Palmer**: Go where? Oh Bobby, graduation night, the quarry, your grand chevy, I remember everything. You and Kevin Thompson in the back seat naked, huffing whippet. Shall I continue? I can elaborate.

**Deputy Bobby**: It’s just a rumor.

In the conversation above, it can be seen that there were argumentations between Henry Palmer (HP) against Deputy Hanson (DH) and Deputy Bobby (DB). The context was about an interview of car accident which makes HP’s father, judge Palmer became the suspect. The setting was in the precinct. At first, DH put an idea about finding the proof by saying ‘got’ which is past tense means that the proof
is already in police hands and HP is not happy with that because it is nonsense. HP suggests DH to find another proof especially the make sense one. HP is very confident about his statement in defending his father because all this time and all people of Carlinville, Indiana assume that his father is a great judge who serves the country very well.

It is worth to be observed that HP realizes that his father is a good person. But he cannot ignore the fact that police has a witness who believes that his father drives his car on route 30 according to line 1-2 ‘we got a witness that he puts his car on route 30’. This proof is getting more specific when DH says ‘heading toward Shelby road’ which has the meaning that his witness sees HP’s father goes to the Shelby road. Shelby road is the crime scene. ‘The approximate time of accident’ in line 3-4 makes HP’s father is the one and only suspect because he was driving his car to the Shelby road at the time of accident happens.

Based on line 5-6, HP tries to express his idea about the nonsense proof. He thinks that his father’s car on the scene is not enough to be the proof because everyone will be able to use that car to do the hit and run. It is mentioned in line 7 ‘schmuck’, it is US slang language for foolish. The words ‘chew that up and spit it out’ means that the proof is not very strong, hence every lawyer, even the less-educated can strongly win the argument without opening their mind. HP uses those metaphors because analyzing proof will be very easy just like chewing food and spitting it out. In line 8-9 ‘you need him behind the wheel’, HP tries to express his understanding that DH should find the stronger evidence such as proving his father is exactly the driver of the car because all people can steal and use that car even though HP’s father is the only one that can access the car. Societal structures believe that Indiana especially in Carlinville is like another place where bad people can do bad things. Stolen vehicle is very common to happen in the city.

To counter HP’s utterances helping his father, DB tries to ask HP to go from the precinct by saying ‘let’s go pal’. This speech act may also function as a warning for HP not to intrude during his father’s interview. DB says that because he thinks that HP’s words can influence the whole investigation. But, HP changes the topic immediately to reply DB’s words which makes HP has power higher than DB and his friends as the police. Lines 11-16 are the words that HP uses to control DB. HP knows DB’s secret which raises his self confidence that he can control DB. He threatens DB to tell the story in front of DB’s partners in the police force. The story about how DB spent the night when they graduated. His memories can tell the fact more detailed that DB is gay and he uses word ‘shall I continue?’ indicates a threat that can control every DB’s movement. Although DB tries to build a statement ‘it’s just a rumor’ that it is not like what people think, but HP’s power is actually higher than DB by spreading that rumor.

This excerpt verifies that HP will do anything to help his father. One of the ways is winning the argumentations by changing the topic. And the changing topic makes HP dominant in those conversations. His experience being a lawyer that produces knowledge how to analyze the case is the power to control DH to find stronger evidence and his awareness of DB’s secret controls DB to be quiet and speechless. HP uses those facts as the power to beat them in the conversation and that power indicates power as control because HP’s words can control everything that happen in the interview. The reason he uses that power as control is helping his father to pass the trial.

Excerpt 2:

**Joseph Palmer:** Do you have anything(1)

else to say for yourself? Anything

that would enlighten us concerning this?
**Mr. William**: What do you want
to hear? Nobody's hiring. You can't get(5) spinach out of Petunia. I can't afford
to pay child support.

**Joseph Palmer**: You can't, huh? But
your new truck, out front…

**Mr. William**: Which one? Yeah (10) 10)10 (10)

**Joseph Palmer**: 'Yeah', is not
an affirmation a man uses in court.

**Mr. William**: Yes sir, judge...Sorry.

The topic of the conversation above was about a divorce trial and property division. The conversation was between Joseph Palmer (JP) as the judge and Mr. William (MW) as the husband. MW had pregnant wife who brought a lawsuit divorce to the court. Being the judge, JP has power over everyone in the court including MW. From his statement to MW in line 1-2 ‘Do you have anything else to say for yourself?’ JP shows power to control MW to say anything that may help, save, or defend himself. It may indicate sympathy from JP’s statement, but his reason is just being fair to MW and his wife. If, there is something that can enlighten the case it would be very close in solving problem.

From MW’s statement in line 4-5 ‘what do you want to hear? Nobody’s hiring’, he tries to challenge the judge and authenticate that he has alibi. In line 5-6 the word ‘can’t’ said twice in MW’s statement means that he shows his incapability to find a job and earn the money. This speech act implies that it is not his fault if he can’t afford to pay the child support because he doesn’t have a job which makes that the big reason why his wife wants a divorce. JP as the judge offers resistance very much. JP replies by overlapping MW’s utterance in line 6-7 ‘I can't afford to pay child support’ which means that MW doesn’t really have that much of money with ‘You can't, huh? But your new truck, out front….’ in line 8-9. JP refracts the fact that MW has new truck outside the court means that MW lies about his property. MW has a lot of money but he doesn’t give it to his wife and buy the new truck instead.

The other argumentation fight stated by MW which is shown in line 10. MW fights JP’s statement back with ‘which one?’ in line 10. It sounds like MW denies everything. But the new truck as proof is already outside the court. There is nothing to say except confessing. MW confesses with the long pause and says ‘yeah’ showing expression that he is wrong and guilty.

JP as the judge dominates in every conversation in court because he can influence everyone in court by using his power as control. In law, the language that is used must be formal language. In whatever a person’s background, participants must speak formal language based on law in American experience. For example, JP uses his life experience as the judge to correct MW’s response. JP’s words in line 11 ‘Yeah’, is not an affirmation a man uses in court’ is a warning. It is released because MW’s word in line 10 ‘yeah’ as the defendant is not appropriate to use in court. MW, who knows the fact that he uses not appropriate affirmation, apologizes immediately to JP.

JP uses his power as control for every situation during the trial. Technically, as the judge, the leader of court session is the higher position in court. JP can control actions, movements, and thoughts
of everyone he wants to give a testimony. It is similar with van Dijk’s that power as control sometimes ensued by social context between people in their problems of money or low and high position and power as control can be used to control some groups in every conversation (2008:88). Becomes an honest judge makes JP uses his power as control to fix the problems and relieve the feeling of many people at that time after listening to his decision and punish someone who is supposed to be punished.

**Conclusion**

The life of people can never be separated from their society. People will always react to the world around them. Through their words, they have their own way to express their feelings. The words that they create are always linked with the social conditions in the community. The researcher has found some power that occurred in “The Judge” film. It is shown in dialogues between characters especially Joseph Palmer (JP) and Henry Palmer (HP).

There are factors which indicated that power occurred in the dialogues between main characters and supporting characters such as grammar, grabbing turn-taking, metaphors, intonations, pause, and hesitation. All of them have an important role that can help the researcher decide how power can affect the conversation and influence the society. Those are the form of power relation discourse that depicted in “The Judge” film.

Power as one of the principles of CDA has an important role in building conversation anytime. The researcher with the basic concept of CDA, which is analyzing hidden meaning in text, has been found power after studying the entire film script. In this film script, JP and HP implicitly mentions the utterances that contain power as control and power as threat to make people feel controlled and threatened. Power occurred in most of the conversations represents that between two main characters have different thought from each other. When each of them afraid, means that the attack has been success to threaten another opponent. This situation makes JP, HP, or the weaker have to think hard and find a way to dominate the conversation nonetheless they should change the topic.

There are reasons why characters use their power as control and threat in “The Judge” film. For instance, HP uses power as control to control the judge, jurors, and the audiences in court by his convincing words in offering proof. He uses power as threat to put fear in the strangers who insult his father. He uses those powers for one reason, to defend his father from the accusation of being murder as his father is the tightest judge of Indiana. All of that power could happen in every one if they want to win the conversation. It works for people in the society because all human beings are equal.

**References**


