CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the research, the problem of the research, the objective of the research, and the significances of the research.

1.1. Background of the Research

Bullying is a widespread social issue that occurs in various environments, particularly in schools. It is characterized by an imbalance of power between the perpetrator and the victim, repeated harmful actions, and intentional cruelty. Victims often suffer long-term psychological and emotional consequences, ranging from anxiety and depression to social withdrawal. While most discussions focus on the victims, bullying also affects perpetrators, who may later struggle with guilt, regret, and a desire for redemption.

The bullying does not only exist in real life, but also in fiction world such as film. Film is one of the literary works which is entertaining. It records the reality of people's life (Anastasia, 2023). There are a lot of styles of film, one of them is animated. Animated films are ones in which live actors are not used to generate the majority of the visuals instead, the images are made using animation techniques. One of the film who potrays bullying is Naoko Yamada's film entitled "A Silent Voice". This film presents bullying through the character of Shoya Ishida, who, as a child, torments his deaf classmate, Shoko Nishimiya. He mocks her disability, encourages others to isolate her, and deliberately destroys her hearing aids. However, when Shoko transfers to another school, Shoya faces the consequences of his actions his classmates turn against him, branding him as a bully and leaving him in social isolation. The shift in his status forces him to experience the alienation and loneliness that Shoko endured, sparking a deep realization within him.

Over the years, Shoya becomes consumed by guilt and remorse for his past behavior. Unable to form meaningful relationships due to his reputation, he

closes himself off emotionally. However, upon reuniting with Shoko, he resolves to redeem himself. His transformation is gradual initially driven by guilt, then evolving into genuine empathy. As he learns to understand Shoko's world and builds relationships with others, he experiences profound personal growth. His journey illustrates how a former bully can break free from past mistakes, seek redemption, and change his attitude toward compassion and self-acceptance.

The emotional depth of Yamada's film "A Silent Voice" profoundly resonates with audiences, offering a nuanced portrayal of bullying and its aftermath. The film challenges viewers to reflect on the consequences of their actions, emphasizing the importance of empathy and second chances. Shoya's transformation serves as a powerful reminder that people can change, and redemption is possible through genuine efforts to make amends. By illustrating both the victim's pain and the perpetrator's guilt, the film encourages meaningful conversations about bullying, accountability, and healing.

Bullying might have severe and sometimes fatal consequences, affecting both victims and perpetrators in profound ways. The impact extends beyond immediate harm and can lead to lasting psychological, emotional, and even physical damage such as trauma. Therefore, it is important to observe this issue and conduct a study about bullying. From these points of view, the researcher formulates a study entitled **"*The Impact of Bullying on the Attitude Transformation of Shoya Ishida, the Main Character and Former Bully in A Silent Voice by Naoko Yamada.*"**

1.2. Problem of the Research

After stating the background of research, the researcher formulates the problems of this research as follow:

1) "How does the main character, Shoya Ishida, bullies in the film "A Silent Voice" by Naoko Yamada?"
2) "How does Shoya's attitudes transformed after he realized his act of bullies in the film "A Silent Voice" by Naoko Yamada?"

1.3. Objective of the Research

After stating the problem of research, the researcher formulates the objective of this research as follow:

1) To find out how the main character, Shoya Ishida, bullies in the film “A Silent Voice” by Naoko Yamada.
2) To find out how Shoya’s attitudes transformed after he realizes his act of bullies exposed in the film “A Silent Voice” by Naoko Yamada.

1.4. Significances of the Research

There are some significances of this research such as for audiences and for further researchers.

1) For Audiences

It is expected that this research provides information to the audiences about the **impact of bullying on the attitude transformation of the main character and former bully, Shoya Ishida,** in the film “A Silent Voice” by Naoko Yamada.

2) For Further Researchers

It is expected that this research serves knowledge for further researchers who are interested in analyzing the literary work such as films, as well as to be a reference for those who are interested and developed the similar research in Yamada’s film “A Silent Voice”.

3) For the Writer

To remind themselves to avoid bullying and to stop bullying from happening if it does happen around them.