

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter consists of the background for the translation project, the project objectives of the translation, and the translation material that the writer is going to use.

### **1.1 Background**

When we were born, the doctor announced if we were male or female. When we grow up, this is usually called sex. Sex is a label given for the first time by the doctor when we are born. After knowing what your sex is, your birth certificate was written as male or female. When you grow up with your sex type, society will demand you to act and live as a female or male; this demand is called gender. Gender is how society thinks we should look. Sex and gender are different from gender identity. Gender identity is how you feel inside and show your gender by your outfit, behavior, and personal appearance (Baum & Westheimer, 2015). In other words, gender identity is an individual's sense of being male or female.

People always have a different way of showing their gender to the world; this is called gender expression. Gender expression can also be defined as societal expectations on expressing their gender in appearance. For example, a girl who likes wearing an oversize t-shirt and pants or dressing up like a man is considered a tomboy. This label can create a negative opinion for some people. A girl with this look may not be suitable for their gender, and some people will bully her

because it is not fulfilling their expectations about gender expression (Baum & Westheimer, 2015).

Humans experience physical, emotional, or romantic attraction to others; this is usually called sexual orientation (Baum & Westheimer, 2015). People might identify as bisexual, queer, or pansexual, using other words to describe the attraction to more than one sex, or not feeling interested. For example, a boy is attracted to a girl and vice versa. In a common setting, we are usually attracted to our opposite sex or usually called heterosexual. It means a boy and a girl are attracted to the opposite sex, then get married and have a child to continue their generation. This sexual orientation might be changed and can also stay the same throughout our lives. Not all people in this world have the same sexual orientation; so, it does not rule out the possibility that they are attracted to the same-sex.

Sexual orientation includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT). Members of the social public view the LGBT community as a social problem and even tend to spread ideologies violating the norms of religion and morality. LGBT people have the right to defend themselves from any danger. Prohibiting their creative space is considered a violation of human rights, which is not related to Pancasila. A state-based on Pancasila here refers to a state which creates protection for humans to protect humanity and LGBT human rights. Based on Pancasila, every human has the right to show their identity as what they want. For example, through appearance, self-awareness, freedom, independence, love, etc. Citizens who have special needs, such as blind, disabled, and deaf people, and

people who have gender issues, such as LGBT, should have equal dignity. Some people or public figures have already come out with their sexual identity in Indonesia. Yumi Kwandy is one of the actual examples of people who experience LGBT. Yumi is known as a talented girl who joined Indonesia's next top model in 2021; she had many experiences in modeling, fashion, etc. Yumi already has a girlfriend named Chika Kinsky. People knew about their relationship through social media TikTok. Also, Chika and Yumi share their romance and sweet moments over there. In Deddys Corbuzier's podcast that invited Chika, she claimed to have been married and had one son before she dated Yumi. She also shared one of the reasons why she decided to become a lesbian. On the podcast, she shared that her ex-husband has hurt her. She seeks comfort and safety, but she never finds that feeling when she is with a man. She has been through a rough and traumatic love story with her ex-husband. From this case, it can be seen that love trauma can be one of the reasons why people choose to be LGBT.

Another real-life story comes from one of the writer's best friends. The writer's best friend started to act differently when she was in junior high school. Since that day, she has chosen to come out as a lesbian. The writer is looking for a reason why she decided to become a lesbian. One of the reasons she found out is because her best friend is being mistreated by her father. The writer's best friend never felt love from her father. At some moment, her father did physical or verbal violence to her family members, and her father has been doing the violence for a long time. After that incident, she never liked men because she believed that all men were like her father. This experience can cause someone to become LGBT

from psychodynamic factors due to the bad parenting experience since she was a kid.

According to the journal I Nyoman Sujana, the LGBT community cannot be separated from human rights. Human rights are a set of rights attached to the nature and existence of human beings as creatures of God and protected by the government. The purpose of the existence of laws and regulations is to uphold justice. If there are no laws and regulations, it can obstruct social development. To prevent the LGBT community from negatively impacting society, they should be equipped with a deep understanding of norms of law and religious norms. Besides understanding the law and norms, they also need to know of the danger of same-sex relationships or other sexual behaviors. Since the effect of same-sex relationships will have a negative impact on the younger generation (Sujana et al., 2018).

Teachers should have their knowledge regarding LGBT students. The teacher may have a unique perspective on LGBT students' inside the school, and the teachers should understand that bullying in the LGBT community is a serious thing to discuss. Most of the time, students who get bullied at school choose not to report the incident to the teacher. They felt the conditions could worsen if the school staff knew that they were LGBT. Some students stated that students who reported bullying at school experienced that the school staff did not pay any attention and even did not support their choices to become LGBT (Kolbert et al., 2015). LGBT youth said they do not feel any support outside or inside the school.

Many school staff or the police did not see homophobic bullying as a serious problem. Even when the teacher is aware of the problem, educators cannot help them solve their problems. Educators might think that if they help LGBT youth at school, they can lose their job, fear discrimination, or receive negative comments from the parents, students, and other school staff (Kolbert et al., 2015). Those who teach and work with LGBT youth must educate themselves about sexual minority communities and lifestyle diversity. They must see that people might have different sexual orientations in this world and must be treated equally with other humans. School professionals must have proper treatment if they find one of the students coming out as LGBT youth. Schools should think about how they can handle the student and how the other student can accept the differences instead of if they bullied the LGBT student.

*Star Crossed* by Barbara Dee is a fictional novel that raises LGBT as the book theme. The main character is a teenager who suddenly falls in love with a girl at her school, but before that, she already has a feeling for her classmate (a boy) and it turns out her classmate does not even realize that she exists. She is not completely a lesbian because she also likes both boys and girls. From the novel itself, she is considered bisexual; it is the condition when we can put interest in more than one gender. This book makes the writer realize that LGBT could happen to anyone no matter how old they are, and many people have their own experiences that can put them in these kinds of dilemmas about their sexual orientation.

The awareness of LGBT people in Indonesia is still low. People are bullied, and it is hard to accept LGBT people even in the work field. LGBT issues cannot be separated from our lives, and having LGBT issues is not a mistake when we're not putting someone or ourselves in danger. These issues can come up from anywhere; one of the examples is from family. At some moment, LGBT people come from their childhood experiences or due to their parents' parenting. From now on, parents should educate themselves about LGBT issues. They can get information about parenting or LGBT issues on the internet and try to get close to their children so they can feel safe and happy around their parents. Besides that, Indonesia's knowledge of gender equality and human rights is deficient. They still discriminate against and underestimate people based on their gender, especially LGBT people. People will judge if LGBT people are immoral and LGBT do not have any right to defend themselves. By bringing up this topic, the translator hopes people can treat one another nicely without seeing what their gender is, and all people have the right to be treated equally.

## **1.2 Project Objectives**

The objectives for the translation project are as follows:

- Provide Indonesian Translation for Star Crossed Novel by Barbara Dee
- Raise awareness of LGBT in Indonesia
- Raise awareness to all parents in parenting their children
- To give an understanding of gender equality and human right