

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

This section addresses the research design, which encompasses the research design, subject of the study, technique of data collection, technique of data analysis, and trustworthiness of the study.

3.1 Research Design

The research design was a descriptive qualitative study to understand and interpret the so-called social phenomenon in its natural setting. Therefore, this study employs a qualitative approach as it is appropriate for analysing discourses such as song lyrics as data and how they are discussed deeply concerning some linguistic aspects that build them. According to Moleong (2007: 6), qualitative research is research that seeks to comprehend the phenomena of what the research subject is experiencing. He points out that a qualitative approach deals with data that is not numerical, but rather in the form of statements, sentences, quotes, descriptions or interview scripts, photos, and video recordings.

3.2 Subject of the Study

The subject of this research is song lyrics from Harry Style entitled "*Sign of the Times*" which was released on 7 April 2017 by Columbia Records.

3.3 Technique of Data Collection

The data for this study were obtained by searching the internet to understand the language of judgement used in song lyrics. The main data itself was downloaded from: www.billboard.com.

3.4 Technique of Data Analyse

In analysing interpersonal meaning data in song lyrics using the Mood System and Appraisal Theory, follow these steps:

1. Dividing the lyrics into clauses.
2. Analysing the mood of the clauses.
3. Applying attitudinal analysis from the appraisal theory to identify the evaluative language in the lyrics.
4. Interpreting the results of clause structure analysis and attitudinal analysis.
5. Making the conclusion whether the interpretations are justified through the use of mood analysis and attitudinal analysis based on the research target.

3.5 Trustworthiness of the Study

This research is a critical paradigm research with a subjective assessment that tries to see the meaning of song lyrics. Lincoln & Guba, (1985) proposed four general criteria in their approach to trustworthiness in qualitative research, which are:

1. **Credibility:** This refers to the degree to which the findings of the research accurately reflect the experiences and perspectives of the participants. To

establish credibility, researchers may use methods such as member checking, peer debriefing, and prolonged engagement in the field.

2. **Transferability:** This refers to the degree to which the findings can be generalised to other contexts or settings. To establish transferability, researchers may provide rich descriptions of the context and the participants, and use purposive sampling to ensure a diverse range of perspectives.
3. **Dependability:** This refers to the consistency and stability of the findings over time and across researchers. To establish dependability, researchers may use techniques such as triangulation, audit trails, and inter-coder reliability.
4. **Confirmability:** This refers to the objectivity of the findings and the degree to which they are free from researcher bias. To establish confirmability, researchers may use techniques such as reflexivity, member checking, and peer debriefing to ensure that their own biases and assumptions are not unduly influencing the findings

These criteria provide a framework for establishing trustworthiness in qualitative research and are widely cited and used in the field.