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The Use of Verbal and Non-Verbal Taboo Words in School Area

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Abstract

This research aim to analysis the use of verbal and non verbal taboo words in school area. Taboo words can be considered a phenomenon in society. Taboo language is a broad conception and there are different ways that people have attempted to categorize them and taboo refers to forbidden phenomena in our custom in general. Taboo words has two categories, first is verbal taboo for the classification of verbal taboo such as ephitet, profanity, obscenity, and vulgarity. The second one is non verbal taboo refers to daily behavioral patterns because of traditional values or social life. The method applied is descriptive qualitative. This study will analyze the data with natural semantic and sosiolinguistics approach. There are some function of taboo words such as humor, catharsis, or showing powers. Even though taboo are prohibited or forbidden to say and to hear, but one of taboo function is humorous effect as long as the meaning conveyed and do not offend to people as the targets. This research provides some contribution and references for any futher research related to the use of taboo words in every situation and condition and also in any languages.

Keywords: Taboo Words; Semantic; Verbal; Non-Verbal

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis penggunaan kata-kata tabu dilingkungan sekolah. Kata-kata tabu dapat dianggap sebagai fenomena di masyarakat. Bahasa tabu adalah konsepsi yang luas dan ada berbagai cara bahwa orang telah berusaha untuk mengkategorikan mereka dan tabu mengacu pada fenomena terlarang dalam kebiasaan kita secara umum. Kata tabu memiliki dua kategori, pertama adalah tabu verbal untuk klasifikasi tabu verbal seperti efitet, kata-kata kotor, cabul, mengutuk, yang kedua adalah tabu non verbal mengacu pada pola perilaku sehari-hari karena nilai-nilai tradisional atau kehidupan sosial. Metode yang diterapkan adalah deskriptif kualitatif. Penelitian ini akan menganalisis data dengan pendekatan semantik dan sosiolinguistics alami. Ada beberapa fungsi kata-kata tabu seperti humor, katarsis, atau menunjukkan kekuatan. Meskipun tabu dilarang atau dilarang untuk dikatakan dan didengar, namun salah satu fungsi tabu adalah efek humoris selama makna yang disampaikan dan tidak menyinggung orang sebagai target. Penelitian ini memberikan beberapa kontribusi dan referensi untuk setiap penelitian yang terkait dengan penggunaan kata-kata tabu dalam setiap situasi dan kondisi dan juga dalam bahasa apa pun.

Kata Kunci: Tabu, Kata, Semantik, Verbal; Non-Verbal

1. Introduction

Language is closely related to social attitude as a social phenomenon. Language as a social and cultural phenomenon cannot be studied without particularly concerned with the social characteristics of the people who live in a particular society. Language is a vital means of human communication. Without human language, it is difficult to build relationships of life between people, shape, develop, and inherit culture, people often disagree or differ from one

another. Faced with this later situation the linguist often vent their emotions with various taboo words, in addition to the subtle words of sarcasm as an expression of displeasure, resentment, or anger over the situation.

In society the language used can reflect the personality and characteristics of a person, if we talk communicating with the other person, we must adjust to the other person such as when speaking to an older person must use polite language. Unfortunately, there are still many people use unpolitely language to other person, such as cursing, swearing, and taboo words. Taboo word becomes a phenomenon in today's life, it occurs in most languages because every member of society has different ways to express their mind in language. The existence of taboo words can be found from various sources such in movies, song lyrics, social media, and television shows or television series, online games, or in daily conversation.

Taboo language is a broad conception and there are different ways that people have attempted to categorize them, and taboo refers to forbidden phenomena in our custom in general. Some expert have their arguments on taboo language. According to [2] state taboo is a local forbidden word including a thing that is not allowed within a cultural of view. In relation to sociolinguistics, culture are born inside because they are associated with language, tradition, and habits of society. There are some factors of using taboo words based on some previous relevant studies. According to [1] taboo used to swear, used by people in lower social status or less educational background.

There are some functions using taboo words, such as (1) show power which breaks the rules and norm to swear as being powerful, (2) catharsis which is to provide harmless verbal substitute when someone gets extremely anger, (3) taboo may refers to something humorous, create intimacy between the speakers as long as the speakers have the same understanding [5].

Characteristic of taboo being concerned with someone behavior which is believed to supernaturally forbidden, or regarded as immoral or improper its mean deals with behavior which is prohibited or inhibited in an apparently irrational manner [9]. The classification of taboo has two categories. One called is verbal taboo, the second one called nonverbal taboo or behavioral taboo. The behavioral taboo or nonverbal taboo refers to daily behavioral patterns because of traditional values or social life. For the classification of verbal taboo such as ephitet, profanity, obscenity, cursing. The aim of this study is to analyze the use of taboo language even its verbal and nonverbal in conversations of mixed ages between each students. This research is expected to provide a comprehensive understanding of the use of taboo language in the form of both verbal and nonverbal and can be used as literature, especially related to the use of taboo language in semantic and sociolinguistic perspectives and even in the realm of other linguistic approaches.

2. Method

The method used is descriptive qualitative approach. Qualitative research is a means to explore and understand the meaning of the individual or group that is considered as a social problem or a human. Data collection in this study used listen and note techniques. Listening technique is a technique used to listen to the data found. While the recording technique is a technique used by recording data related to research focus. Then, data are analyzed and classified into taboo words by selecting one by one to the types whether epithets, profanity, vulgarity, obscenity [5] and then explain why those words used based on the function.

3. Result and Discussion

The data sources in this study are some high school students and some of people in researcher's society. Taboo language can classified in two terms. The first result that researcher found is about verbal taboo. For the classification of verbal taboo such as ephitet, profanity, obscenity, vulgarity [5]. There are many reason for someone to use taboo language. First to express their feelings, relieve their negative stress, the function of taboo words such as humour, catharsis, or showing powers.

3.1. Verbal Taboo

By showing of the Table 1, it can be seen that ephitet is the dominant types of verbal taboo. The data below is a speech containing verbal taboos spoken by students to their teachers when KBM takes place.

Table 1. Type of Taboo Words

NO.	TABOO WORDS	MEANINGS	TYPES OF TABOO			
			Ephitet	Profanity	Vulgar ity	Obscenity
1.	Bodat	It refers to kind of animal monkey/ugly face	√			
2.	Kampret	It refers to shucks of an animal like bats/freak	√			
3.	Bocah	It refers to brats	√			
4.	Brengsek	It refers to jerk/bad attitude	√			
5.	Bencong	It refers to girlish/transgender	√			
6.	Halu	Its mean crazy	√			
7.	Pengecut	Its mean chicken/coward	√			
8.	Najis	It refers to something profane		√		
9.	Haram	Its mean forbidden		√		
10.	Kontol	Penis/dick				√
11.		Vagina/pussy				√
12.	Itil	Clitoris				√
13.	Tot (ngentot/kentot)	It refers to having sex/making love				√
14.	Pukimak / kimbek	It refers to vagina/asshole				√
15.	Anjeng	It refers to an animal dog			√	
16.	Babi	Pig			√	
17.	Taik	Its refers to feces/shit			√	
18.	Bacot	Its refers to bullshit			√	

3.1.1. Vulgarity

Vulgarity contains sexual and excretory of humans but vulgarity is more often used to the things, individual, or even groups as the targets. It is also offensive and humiliates by referring to private organs of the human body and functions.

Miss, excuse me izin keluar sebentar saya mau berak (Data 1)

The underline words is refers to human function means feces, shit, defecate, extrete. The function of verbal taboo above is showed that In the taboo word above shows the used of taboo language in the form of irreverence speaker to a teacher. The use of the taboo word can be replaced by using a euphemism. Euphemisms are used to smooth out words that seem disrespectful and deserve to be heard or known. the underlined word *berak* can be replaced with the word defecation or can use the word “excuse me” or want to go to toilet/water closet.

3.1.2. Obscenity

Obscenity refers to the words that are prohibited from public use in the other hand obscenity is a term of expressing a strong feeling word that is associated with sexual, excretory function, human anatomy.

Nasi uduk
Ikan tongkol
Kamu duduk
Nampak kontol (Data 2)

Saying those words may show immorality and give an unpleasant impression to anyone, but the function of that taboo words is just for fun as a humor. The third function of used taboo words refer to something humorous, creates intimacy among the speakers as long as the speakers have the same understanding and do not violate or intend to negative because taboo language can be the expression to relieve negative stress and establish identity or status through speech [5].

3.1.3. Profanity

Profanity related to the word that related to the religion or profanity means some curses connected with a religious way, it is also a form of foulmouthed by any speaker but not to defame God. It has some particular reasons to do such as being annoyed or frustrated.

Najis kali memang aku liat si moli (guru) itu udah jelek, gendut, sok tegas, gak suka kali aku sama ibu itu gara-gara dia hp ku disita. (Data 3)

The context why Data 3 said that word to show her anger to someone. Najis refers to Profane/Unclean. From the data 2 above show the used of taboo words means in addition to feeling anger, the speaker expresses other words in the intention of mocking a teacher who has scolded her and is an act of body shaming too.

3.1.4. Epithet

Epithet is word or an expression that contain by existence several types of slurs, such as racial slurs, ethnic slurs, gender slurs, and sexual slurs.

Pala kau petak, homo itu jangan kau tonton bikin malu orang Medan aja. Udahlah di Jerman aja di sana gosah balik ke Medan lagi ntah apa kau tonton kayak gitu jijik kali nengoknya. (Data 4)

There are many taboo words to describe types of slur, such as lonte, homo,lesbi, bocah, ect. The word *homo* refers to someone who has sex disorder in othe hand we call that gay. The word *homo* above refers to one of the content creators who come from Medan and married a fellow type with someone of German nationality and settled there. There is also a taboo word in the sentence above, its *Jijik* which is part of vulgarity that has the meaning of disgusted/mucky/beastly.

3.2. Non-Verbal Taboo

The second categories of taboo words is non-verbal. Non-verbal taboo refers to daily behavioral patterns because of traditional values or social life.

3.2.1. Sex Education

In Indonesia discuss about sex education still has a negative side. Sex education is one of the examples of non-verbal taboos that can be seen in the surrounding environment that discussing sex education is still considered taboo and unfit to be a talking point.

3.2.2. Tattoo/Piercing

In ancient cultures, tattoos were used as a marker of ethnicity or social status, but today tattoos are used as an art. Non-verbal taboo about piercing or tattoo are considered taboo because they signify crime or violence in someone who has them.

3.2.3. Smoking Girl

The other example of non verbal taboo is smoking girl. Girl who smoke can be seen as women who are not good, in the family or association because smoking is commonly done by men and tis considered to have bad characteristics, rude.

3.2.4. Mask

The last nonverbal taboo are found, its wearing mask. Before of the corona virus the use of masks on the road, in public places and even at mall is a taboo because it is considered not used according to the situation and conditions but at this time the mask is an important thing that must be used anywhere and anytime, especially in public places.

4. Conclusion

After having the results and discussion, the researcher can concluded that taboo words can be considered a phenomenon in society. The word taboo itself can be interpreted as a language that is not justified in everyday use because it contains a bad meaning. And the taboo words itself can be divided into 2 categories , namely non-verbal and verbal. Non-verbal taboo is usually an act that is considered inappropriate in a society, while verbal taboos are in the form of harsh words that are often used by some people with certain intentions and purposes. In this study the word verbal taboo was divided into 4, namely obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, and ephitet. Even though taboo are prohibited or forbidden to say and to hear, but one of taboo function is humorous effect as long as the meaning conveyed and do not offend to people as the targets. This research is expected to help readers and writers who are interested in writing scientific studies with taboo or semantic approach and also expected to provide a comprehensive understanding of the use of taboo language in the form of both verbal and nonverbal and can be used as literature, especially related to the use of taboo language in semantic and sociolinguistic perspectives and even in the other of linguistic approaches.

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