

ANALYSIS TYPES AND FUNCTIONS OF TABOO WORDS IN “*THE WOLF OF WALL STREET*” MOVIE

*Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment for the Requirements to Obtain strata one (S1)
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Paper



By

Dewi Putri Rahmayani

15754/2010

Advisor:

Fitrawati, S.S, M.Pd

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS
UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG**

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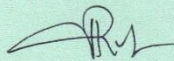
Judul : Analysis Types and Functions of Taboo Words Found in
"The Wolf of Wall Street" Movie
Nama : Dewi Putri Rahmayani
Nim/ BP : 15754/2010
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Jurusan : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

Padang, Agustus 2018

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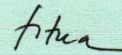
Ketua Jurusan

Dosen Pembimbing



Dr. Refnaldi, S.Pd., M.Litt.

NIP. 19680301.199403.1.003



Fitrawati, S.S., M.Pd.

NIP. 19801119.200812.2.002

HALAMAN PENGESAHAN LULUS UJIAN MAKALAH


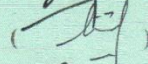
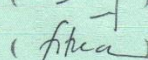
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Universitas Negeri Padang**

**Analysis Types and Functions of Taboo Words Found in “The Wolf of
Wall Street” Movie**

**Nama : Dewi Putri Rahmayani
NIM/BP : 15754/2010
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Jurusan : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni**

Padang, Agustus 2018

Tim Penguji

Nama	Tanda Tangan
1. Ketua : Dr. Rusdi Noor Rosa, S.S., M.Hum.	()
2. Sekretaris : Leni Marlina, S.S., M.A.	()
3. Anggota : Fitriwati, S.S., M.Pd.	()



UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG
FAKULTAS BAHASA DAN SENI
JURUSAN BAHASA DAN SAstra INGGRIS
Kampus Selatan FBS UNP Air Tawar Padang. Telp/Fax: (0751) 447347
Web: <http://english.unp.ac.id>

SURAT PERNYATAAN TIDAK PLAGIAT

Saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : Dewi Putri Rahmayani
NIM/TM : 15754/2010
Prodi : Sastra Inggris
Jurusan : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

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Ketua Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Saya yang menyatakan,

Dr. Refnaldi, S.Pd., M.Litt.
NIP. 19680301.199403.1.003

Dewi Putri Rahmayani
NIM. 15754

ABSTRAK

Rahmayani, Dewi Putri.2018. *“Types and Functions of Taboo Words Found in the ‘The Wolf of Wall Street’ Movie”*. Makalah. Padang. Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni. Universitas Negeri Padang.

Dalam ilmu bahasa, setiap orang memiliki cara tersendiri dalam mengungkapkan perasannya. Salah satu cara tersebut yaitu dengan menggunakan bahasa tabu. Bahasa tabu tidak hanya terjadi dalam kehidupan sehari-hari, tetapi juga dalam sebuah film. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan tipe-tipe dari bahasa tabu sekaligus fungsi yang terdapat dalam setiap ucapan yang digunakan oleh tokoh-tokoh dalam film barat yang berjudul *“The Wolf of Wall Street”*. Data penelitian ini berupa kalimat atau ujaran yang mengandung bahasa tabu yang diucapkan oleh setiap tokoh dalam film tersebut. Data dikumpulkan dari film *“The Wolf of Wall Street”* yang diambil dari www.layarkaca21.com, kemudian memilih ujaran-ujaran yang mengandung bahasa tabu dan mengelompokkannya kedalam kategori tipe dan fungsi dari bahasa tabu tersebut berdasarkan teori. Tipe penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif dan kuantitatif. Penelitian kualitatif digunakan untuk menganalisis data dalam bentuk teks. Penelitian kuantitatif digunakan untuk menghitung jumlah bahasa tabu dan fungsinya yang digunakan oleh tokoh-tokoh dalam film tersebut. Berdasarkan analisis data, ditemukan bahwa ada 3 tipe bahasa tabu yang paling banyak ditemukan dalam film *“The Wolf of Wall Street”* yaitu; obscenity (66,7%), epithets (13,7%), dan vulgarity (8,5%). Untuk fungsi dari penggunaan bahasa tabu itu sendiri, juga ditemukan 3 fungsi dengan persentase yang paling tinggi yaitu: to creartion of strong interpersonal (35,6%), provide catharsis (24,5%), dan to draw attention to oneself (17,8%).

Kata Kunci: Bahasa Tabu, The Wolf of Wall Street Movie

ABSTRACT

Rahmayani, Dewi Putri. 2018. “**Types and Functions of Taboo Words Found in the ‘The Wolf of Wall Street’ Movie**”. Makalah. Padang. Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni. Universitas Negeri Padang.

In linguistics, everyone has his own way of expressing his feelings. One such way is by using taboo language. Taboo language not only happens in everyday life, but also in a movie. This study aims to find the types of taboo language as well as the functions contained in every utterance used by the characters in the western film entitled "*The Wolf of Wall Street*". The data of this research are in the form of sentence or utterance containing taboo language which is spoken by every character in the film. The data were collected from the film "*The Wolf of Wall Street*" taken from the Layar Kaca21, then chose the utterances containing the taboo language and grouped them into categories of types and functions of taboo words based on theory. The type of the research is qualitative and quantitative research. Qualitative research is used to analyze the data in text form. Quantitative research is used to calculate the number of taboo languages and their functions used by the characters in the film. Based on data analysis, it was found that there are 3 types of taboo words with the highest percentage in the movie "*The Wolf of Wall Street*" namely; obscenity (66.7%), epithets (13.7%), and vulgarity (8.5%). For the function of the use of taboo language itself, it was found 3 functions with the highest percentage; to creation of strong interpersonal (35.6%), provide catharsis (24.5%), and to draw attention to oneself (17.8%).

Keywords: Taboo Language, The Wolf of Wall Street Movie

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Padang, Mei 2018

The Researcher

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- OB : Obscenity
- EP : Epithets
- VU : Vulgarly
- PRO : Profanity
- CU : Cursing
- SL : Slang
- TDA : To Draw Attention to Oneself
- TSC : To Show Contempt
- TBP : To be Provocative
- END : Endearment
- TCSI : The Creation of Interpersonal
- PC : Provide Catharsis

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Communication plays an important role in human's life because through communication, people can share the information and idea to the others by using several media. This explanation related to the definition of communication itself where communication is the process of transform the message or idea from sender to receiver through some media, like letter, phone and etc. In doing communication automatically involve two people as a speaker and the other as hearer. Communication can work well if two people are involved understand about the context of what they are saying like social context and cultural context.

Furthermore, in order to make social context function and transmit properly, people need a language as means of communication. It means language has several functions. One of the functions is to show personal identity. The other people will know the character and identity of someone through their languages that they use. Therefore, every person has their own way to choose the language variation which can confirm one's identity. Some people may prefer to use language that has a strong impact when they are sad or angry. For instance, people sometimes use certain kind of words that are considered as bad language which is actually inappropriate to use.

Holmes (2001:73) states that language variation is linguistics form which used based on social circumstances and also included vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation of dialect, and spelling in different language. So language variation is determined by social itself, their background, status, education, and degree of formality of a situation where the language is used. It means that all language in the world are involved in great deal variation. Because of the variation, the speaker of the language speaks differently. The variation offers the speaker have a certain ways or to make the expression in different ways. Related to variety of language, Holmes (2001:6), says that a variety is a set of linguistics form used under specific social circumstances such as with a distinctive social distribution. It also includes different accents, different linguistic styles, different dialects, and even different languages which contrast with each others for social reason. It means that all languages speakers have a variation of the language.

In daily life, people may have a certain ways in using language to expose their feeling. For example, people using bad language when they want to show anger, disappointed, and frustration. Bad language is a term that people use in their daily life when they use inappropriate language in order to communicate among them, but in linguistics study specifically in sociolinguistics field, the term of bad language as known as taboo language. According to Allan and Burridge (2006: 2-3), taboo refers to a term of language that people use to hurt people and therefore it must be avoided. In addition, taboo language is language variation used by people to show their feeling such as angry, disappointment and dissatisfaction. People usually produce taboo

words because it is the most powerful ways to express their dissatisfaction. They sometimes emphasize people's real attention.

Several years ago, people rarely use taboo words such as *fuck* and *cunt* in printed media such as newspaper, it will make someone prosecuted and imprisoned. However, nowadays, the function of taboo words has already changed. The changes happened because there is no legal sanctions anymore and there were tendency that now people are getting more relaxed to accept taboo words. As a result, taboo words are now commonly found when someone expresses the emotive feeling.

The existence of taboo words can be seen from various sources such as in movies, song lyrics, and television shows. The existence of various taboo words in those sources is caused by the fact that some people believe that employing taboo words is an appropriate way to express a strong feeling and emotion, especially in the form of swearing. Taboo words in the form of swearing are not only uttered to express anger and emotive feeling but also uttered to express friendliness, familiarity, or identity among communities. For example, American Negroes says that "*Hey you bastard!*" the word *bastard* in that sentence does not refers to the sentence that can hurt the other people, but the word "*bastard*" in that sentence means "friend". It is usually uttered by American Negroes to call their close friend or their family. Therefore, nowadays people can accept the use of taboo words because it is considered as the best way to deliver their strongest feeling.

There is an assumption that taboo words are mostly uttered by lower class people with lower educational background since it is believed that educational background

affects the way people speak. The way people speak is an indicator of their social background. On the other hand, the assumption is somehow not true because people with good educational background in some occasions still use indecent and offensive language in their conversation. When people utter taboo words whether they are educated or uneducated, there must be reason that lies behind it. Some people are not merely uttered taboo words because they want to do so. Sometime they speak taboo words for certain goal such as attracting attention from other people or to show their contempt.

There has been a number of research about taboo words several years ago. For instance, the research from Kusuma (2013), he discusses about *The Function of Taboo Words and Their Expression in Bad Boys Movie*. Another research also done by Wiadnyana (2012), she discusses about *Taboo Words in Hollywood Movie Bad Teacher*. Then, Aditia (2011) also discusses about *Taboo Words and Swear Words in Dustin Lee Abraham's How High Movie*. The last research of taboo words come from Zamzam, Permatasari, and Mahyuni, they discusse about *Sociolinguistic Analysis of Taboo Words in The Wolf of Wall Street Movie*.

Based on the previous research, most of them discussed in the case of functions and the expression of taboo words. In addition, the other researcher conducted the research about the types of taboo words and the use of taboo language in women's, men's, and mixed gender conversation. Moreover, the other researcher have ever been conducted the research by combining taboo words and swear words to find out the types of taboo words and also the factors which cause the characters to use taboo words and swear words.

This research is close with the research from Zam-Zam et al, because the researcher also looking the case of taboo words in the same movie; *The Wolf of Wall Street*. In this research, the researcher conducts the research by using two theories for types and also for the functions of taboo words; one theory comes from 90s and the other is the new theory. This is what makes the research different from previous research.

Based on this consideration, the researcher is interests to analyze taboo words phenomenon in a movie especially on the types of taboo words used and the functions of taboo words uttered by the characters in the movie. In conducting the research, the researcher chooses a movie as the source of data rather than conducting a kind of field study. Moreover, since movie is the representation of human real life, the researcher thinks that it is acceptable to use a movie as source of data.

The researcher uses a movie entitled *The Wolf of Wall Street* as the source of this research. The researcher chooses this movie to be an object of this research because a certain reason. The main reason is in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie, the characters frequently use taboo words in their conversations so that the utterances can be analyzed easily.

For example:

“How the *fuck* else could you do this job? Cocaine and hookers, my friend, the key to success”.

Moreover, the characters in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie mostly come from people with higher educational background. Therefore, it is interesting to analyze the use of taboo words by the characters that have a good educational background. For

example, in this movie, there is a character named Jordan who works in stock broker. From his job, it indicates that Jordan is educated person, but when he wants to express his anger, he uses taboo words “*Fuck Naomi!*” Hence, it can provide a good example of the occurrence of taboo words in well-educated society.

B. Limitation of the Problem

This paper was limited on the types and functions of taboo words found in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie. To analyze the types of taboo words, the researcher combined the theory from Batistella (2005:72) and the theory from Timothy Jay (1992: 2-9). Based on Batistella’s theory, there are four types of taboo words, such as epithets, profanity, vulgarity, and obscenity. In addition Jay states that there are nine types of taboo words; obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, epithets, blasphemy, cursing, slang, insult and slur, and scatology.

Furthermore, for the function of those expression can be applied by using the theory of Wardhaugh (2006: 239), taboo words are disregarded in particular occasion because they have several functions such as to draw attention to oneself, to show contempt, to be provocative, and to mock authority. The researcher also uses the theory of Liedlich (1973:108-115); endearment, provide catharsis, create attention, discredit, and provoke violent confrontation.

C. Research Questions

Based on limitation of the problem, the researcher will be formulated in the following questions:

1. What are the types of taboo words used in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie?

2. What are the functions of taboo words uttered in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie?

D. Purposes of the Research

Related to the problems of the study, the purposes of this research are;

1. To describe about the expression of taboo words used by the characters in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie.
2. To analyze the function of taboo words used by the characters in *The Wolf of Wall Street* Movie.

E. Significance of the Research

Regarding the background and the purposes of the research, the researcher expects that the research can be contributed a great significance both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the research finding can give additional information to the other linguistic researchers. Practically, the research gives some benefits for certain parties.

1. To the university: this research can be used as a supplementary material for teaching activities especially in sociolinguistics subject.
2. To other researchers: this research can be used as a valuable reference in investigating the same subject.
3. To the readers in common: through this research, the readers will have new knowledge about taboo words especially about the types of taboo words and the functions of taboo words in conversation. Moreover, the readers will be able to understand that taboo words are bad forms of language that cannot be spoken in any situation.

F. Definition of Key Terms

Some items of terminology are defined in order to avoid misinterpretation:

1. Taboo Words: Language variation used by people to show their feelings such as angry, disappointment and dissatisfaction.
2. The Wolf of Wall Street Movie: is a 2013 American black comedy directed by Martin Scorsese and written by Terence Winter, based on the memoir of the same name by Jordan Belfort.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

The first objective of this research is to identify and to describe the types of taboo words in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie. There are nine types of taboo words but in the movie only appear six types consist of obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, epithet, slang, and cursing. The highest frequency of the types of taboo words is obscenity. Obscenity appears 79 times out of 118 total data (66.7%). The lowest frequency is obtained by cursing with 3 data (2.6%). Obscenity becomes the most frequently used taboo words because it is considered as the most effective way to insult someone.

Moreover, obscenity type is frequently used by the characters when they want to show their disrespect toward the addressee. By using obscenity that contains disgust to the sense, is repulsive, indecent, and lack of morality, the speaker can easily debase other people's pride and their goal to hurt other people's feeling will be easily accomplished.

The second objective of this research is to describe the functions of taboo words in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie. There are seven four functions of taboo words but only six functions that appear in the movie: to show contempt, to draw attention to oneself, to be provocative, to mock authority, endearment, the creation of strong interpersonal, and provide catharsis. The creation of strong interpersonal gets the highest percentage with 35.6% and appears 42 times. The lowest function is to show contempt with only 3 occurrence (2.5%). To show contempt appears as the function

to occur in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie because it can represent the speaker's intention of using taboo words that is to show their disrespect toward other people. Moreover, it can be the most effective function to express the disrespect feeling toward other people since it is directed and aimed to hurt someone's pride.

B. Suggestions

Based on the conclusions above, some suggestions can be stated as follows. For the students of linguistics, in analyzing taboo words, students of linguistics had better pay more attention to the functions of taboo words which do not always mean that the speaker wants to hurt other people's feeling. They can be functioned to show intimacy or to maintain a good relationship by calling one's name with certain types of taboo words. Next, for the English lecturers. This research use a movie as the object of this research, in fact, there are several media like novel etc. so, the English lecturer can give a other suggestion to the students when they want conduct the research about taboo words.

And the last for the other researchers. This research focuses on identifying and describing the types and the functions of taboo words in *The Wolf of Wall Street* movie as general. There are other problems that can be analyzed in the case of taboo words such as analyzed taboo words based on gender differences and also analyze taboo words based on social status which are not analyzed in this research. Similar researches that will be conducted in the future are better to discuss those problems. The other researchers can observe the relationship between the use of taboo words in gender perspective. They can also observe the relationship between the use of taboo words in social status perspective.

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