

**TYPES OF TABOO WORDS FOUND IN THE MOVIE LAW ABIDING
CITIZEN BY RUPERT AMES, CLARENCE DARBY, NICK RICE, AND
CLYDE SHELTON**

PAPER

*Submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements to obtain Strata One (S1)
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By:

DOZARIA YULIANA

04719/2008

ADVISOR:

Rusdi Noor Rosa,S.S., M.Hum

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS
STATE UNIVERSITY OF PADANG
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HALAMAN PERSETUJUAN MAKALAH

Judul : Types Of Taboo Words Found In The Movie
Law Abiding Citizen by Rupert Ames, Clarence
Darby, Nick Rice, and Clyde Shelton

Nama : Dozaria Yuliana

TM/NIM : 2008/ 04719

Program Studi : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Jurusan : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

Padang, 30 Agustus 2013

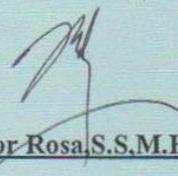
Mengetahui
Ketua Jurusan



Dr. Kurnia Ningsih, M.A

NIP 19540626 198203 2 001

Disetujui
Pembimbing



Rusdi Noor Rosa, S.S.M.Hum.

NIP 19770818 200312 1 001

HALAMAN PENGESAHAN LULUS UJIAN MAKALAH

Nama : Dozaria Yuliana

NIM/TM : 04719/2008

Dinyatakan Lulus Setelah Dipertahankan di Depan Tim Penguji Makalah

Program Studi Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni

Universitas Negeri Padang

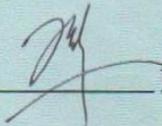
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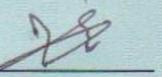
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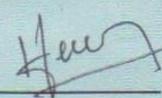
1. Ketua : Rusdi Noor Rosa, S.S., M.Hum.

()

2. Anggota : Prof. Jufrizal, M.Hum

()

4. Anggota : Dr. Hamzah, M.A., M.M

()



UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG
FAKULTAS BAHASA DAN SENI
JURUSAN BAHASA DAN SAstra INGGRIS
Jl. Belibis, Air Tawar Barat, Kampus Selatan FBS UNP, Padang. Telp/Fax: (0751) 447347

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Saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : Dozaria Yuliana
NIM/TM : 04719/2008
Program Studi : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Jurusan : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : FBS UNP

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Diketahui oleh,
Ketua Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Dr. Kurnia Ningsih, MA.
NIP. 19540626 198203 2 001

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Dozaria Yuliana

ABSTRAK

Yuliana, Dozaria. 2013. *Types of Taboo Words Found In the Movie Law Abiding Citizen by Rupert Ames, Clarence Darby, Nick Rice, and Clyde Shelton. Makalah*. Padang. Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni. Universitas Negeri Padang.

Pembimbing: Rusdi Noor Rosa,S.S,M.Hum

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah membandingkan jenis-jenis kata tabu yang digunakan oleh karakter-karakter dalam film *Law Abiding Citizen*. Sumber data dikumpulkan dari skrip film dan fokus analisis jenis kata tabu ditujukan pada karakter utama film tersebut. Dari hasil analisa karakter-karakter utama dari film tersebut menggunakan jenis kata, yaitu tabu kecabulan (taboo of obscenity), tabu ketidaksopanan (taboo of vulgarity), dan tabu tidak senonoh (taboo of profanity). Penulis mengumpulkan data sebanyak 53 data yang digunakan di dalam percakapan. Sebanyak 33 data berjenis kata tabu kecabulan (taboo of obscenity). Sementara itu sebanyak 13 data yang termasuk kedalam kata tabu berjenis tabu ketidaksopanan (taboo of vulgarity), dan sebanyak 7 data tabu yang termasuk kedalam tabu tidak senonoh (taboo of profanity). Dari hasil analisis kata tabu yang digunakan oleh by Rupert Ames, Clarence Darby, Nick Rice, And Clyde Shelton dalam film *Law Abiding Citizen* penulis menyimpulkan bahwa tipe kata tabu yang paling sering digunakan adalah kata tabu berjenis kecabulan (taboo of obscenity), karena dalam film *Law adibing Citizen* penutur lebih sering megekspresikan kemarahan.

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Dozaria Yuliana
NIM/BP 04719/2008

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Language is the most important means of communication. It does not matter whether it is in the spoken or written form. By using language people may understand one another very well. In other words, language enables people to express their ideas, feeling, emotions and information to the others. People cannot deny that all of them need to communicate in their daily activities. Thus, language is a means to transfer information and ideas containing meaning.

In addition, meaning is not made by language itself. In a speech, it is accompanied by gesture, postural, situational, and paralinguistic information. On the other hand, in the case of writing, it is accompanied by choices in the visual coding of words and other graphical information. The meaning of any text or discourse even always depends on people who try to connect it to the textual and contextual information (Lengka in Mahmuda, 2003:3).

Moreover, since language is bounded by context, understanding the language and the context within communication is inseparable. It means that true meaning often lies not in the actual words uttered or written, but in the complexity of social knowledge. Chaika in Abidin (2003:2) states that the actual meaning of utterance depends partially on the social context in which it occurs. Therefore, language will make the language user free as individuals in forming and uttering but chain their socially.

Language can be used to express feelings and information to other people. By using language, other people will understand what we mean and what we are talking about. Everyone use different language variation to communication. Language and communication is related to language variation. The language will look higher and creative by making a variety in our communication. According to Wardhaugh (2006:135), language variation is one way of characterizing in certain variations is to say that speakers of a particular language sometimes speak in different dialect of that language. There are several characteristics of language and variation, which is social variation and regional variation. Studies of social variation in language means grew out of studies of regional variation.

One of the variations of language today is taboo words. According to Wardhaugh (2006:239) taboo is one way in which a society expresses its disapproval of certain kinds of behavior believed to be harmful to its members, either for supernatural reasons or because such behavior is held to violate a moral code. Taboo is ideas which are generally forbidden or discourage. Taboo words can be extremely negative aspects of social group. Taboo words exist in every language. The writer sees that this kind of word is generally related to sex, genital organ, excretion, holy Spirit, and death. Taboo words are also the kind of word which would make some definition of this term. They are usually used by lower classes. It occurs because of the lack of knowledge and the environment.

Taboo is a word and expression that are deemed by society to be appropriate for the used by its member, at least in a polite company. This includes a large body of curse words and expressions, typically referring to sexual act, and epithet which are used to describe different religions, nationalities, and races; i.e. words and phrases used to negatively degrade religious beliefs or symbols (Fromklin and Rodman, 2005: 476). Taboo words are those that are considered in bad taste by some people or that are better to be avoided because they mention realities that are stark or vulgar. They refer to sex, religion, and necessities such as the act of emptying the bladder or the bowels, and so on, for examples: fuck, fornicate, masturbation, prick, cunt, the devil, crap, shit, god, die, kill, Jesus Christ, bastard, damn, asshole, ass, etc.

Wardhaugh (2006:239) state that taboo subjects can vary widely: one's mother-in-law; certain game animal; sex; death; excretion; bodily function; religious matters; and the left hand (the origin sinister). English has its taboos and most people who speak English know what these are and observe the "rules". From the statement above, it is clear that taboo words still appear in the society, even the words are forbidden to be said because the meanings embedded scarified thing or negative connotation. Taboo words are usually avoided to be said in formal or polite conversation, it gives a bad impression to the hearer.

Certain words in all societies are considered taboo-they can not to be used, or at least in certain circumstances. The word taboo was borrowed from Tonga, a Polynesian language which refers to some things that are forbidden or to be avoided.

When an act is taboo that is the first people are forbidden to do something; and then they are forbidden to talk about it. Forbidden acts or say some words reflect the particular customs and views of the society. Some words may be used in certain circumstances and not in other. Most people think that all taboo words are forbidden and it is usually used to mock people and to discriminate someone. Taboo words are likely to shock people with obscene language such as swear or curse people. Taboo words are something forbidden because of the strong religious or social custom. So, it depends on the context which it is used. For example:

Rupert Ames: what the *fucking* are you doing? (00.02.20)

The taboo word that used in example is *fuck*. The word *fuck* is commonly used to express the feeling of anger and the word *fuck* above means what happens. Rupert Ames says *fuck* when he looks Clarence Darby his partner want to rape someone. Because he is surprised, automatically he says that word to show that felling. The taboo word *fuck* is to express the feeling of surprising of the speaker. It means that in the word *fuck*, the speaker does not try to mock, underestimate or discriminate people but want to show their feeling.

Based on the problem above, the writer is interested to analyze taboo words as found in the movie *Law Abiding Citizen* by Rupert Ames, Clarence Darby, Nick Rice, and Clyde Shelton. In the movie writer found that there are conversation of the

movie players used taboo words. Most of these words have lower meaning. It means the words give bad image to the listeners.

Law Abiding Citizen is a 2009 American thriller film directed by F. Gary Gray from a screenplay written by Kurt Wimmer, the main actors are Christian Stolte as Clarence J. Darby, Josh Stewart as Rupert Ames, and Jamie Foxx as Nick Rice is supported by Gerard Butler. The film takes place in Philadelphia and tells the story of a man driven to commit multiple murders while targeting not only his family's killer but also the corrupt criminal justice system itself. *Law Abiding Citizen* was released theatrically in North America on October 16, 2009. The film focuses in law and criminality so that the characters in this film use taboo words. For example: fuck, shit, die, fornicate, masturbation, prick, cunt, the devil, crap, god, etc.

Furthermore, the writer wants to analyze the types of taboo words. The writer tries to analyze when a word can be said a taboo words based on type and the function of each taboo words. To find our type of taboo words the writer will be helped by the context utterances because types of taboo words are influenced by the context.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem, the problem can be formulated as follows: “*what are the types of the taboo words found in the movie law abiding citizen by Rupert Ames, Clarence Darby, Nick Rice, and Clyde Shelton*”.

1.3 Purpose of Writing the Paper

The paper is aimed at finding out the types of taboo words found in the movie *Law Abiding Citizen* by Rupert Ames, Clarence Darby, Nick Rice, and Clyde Shelton.

1.4 Technique of Data Collection

This study concerns about taboo words that usually occur in human conversation. For this chance, the writer tries to analyze the taboo words found in conversation made by the characters of a movie. A western movie titled *Law Abiding Citizen* becomes the data of this paper. There are several steps that can be used in collecting the data. The steps are as what follows below:

a. Downloading the movie script

First, the writer downloaded the movie script in order to ease her in writing the script of the scenes that contained taboo words.

b. Watching the movie and classifying the data

The writer watched the movie carefully and found the scenes contained taboo words, classified it and wrote them down into a note. Then, the writer gave marks, in what minute the taboo words found in each scene.

c. Transcribing the data

Next, the writer transcribed the taboo words linguistically in order to know how the process of taboo words used by the characters and what kind of taboo words that they used.

d. Typing the data

Finally, the writer typed the data into a soft data form in order to make it easy to be moved to this paper.

1.6 Technique of Data Analysis

In this paper, there are several steps conducted in the process of analyzing the data. The steps are:

a. Making a list

The writer made some lists of taboo words according to the study questions that were kinds of taboo words in the movie *Law abiding Citizen* by Rupert Ames, Clarence Darby, Nick Rice, and Clyde Shelton.

b. Analyzing the data

After that, the writer analyzed the data to support the idea why it is categorized as taboo of obscenity, taboo of vulgarity, and taboo of profanity, based on the theory that quoted from linguists. Then, the writer determined the types taboo words used by the characters in Movie *Law Abiding Citizen*.

c. Drawing the conclusion

In this last step, the writer drew the conclusion based on the findings.