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Language and Gender in Bubunan, Buleleng Regency

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Abstract

This research discusses language and gender in the sociolinguistic field with the purposes of finding out what are the vocabularies that is commonly used by the female teenagers and the male teenagers in Bubunan Village. Thus, this research is included as the types of observational research. In collecting the data of this research, the researcher conducted observation through the teenagers' conversation in Bubunan Village and sometimes the researcher will involve in the conversation. The result of this research is the female teenagers more commonly using the standard vocabularies in their communication. When the female teenagers delivering a bad truth, they will choose polite words, so they are not using rude words and not hurting the speakers feeling. Meanwhile, the male teenagers commonly using the rude words to show their closeness and just being straightforward. In the interaction between male and female when they have interested each other, they will choose the polite words and speak softly. In the other hand, in the interaction between male and female teenagers if they have not interested each other or their relationship is close enough as a friend, they will speak bluntly.

Keywords

language and gender, vocabulary, sociolinguistics

Introduction

Humans are individual beings as well as social beings. According to Anto (2018), there are several reasons why human is considered as social beings as follows; first, humans obey the norms. Second, social judgment is considered important to human. Third, doing interaction with others is a need for human, and the last, lived in society makes human's potential increase. While the reason why human is considered as individual beings, it because human born as an individual, it means every human has their own characteristics (Anto, 2018). We know exactly, we as human being need each other in the daily life in society. Thus, in establishing a relationship in society, human have to do an interaction with each other. In the society we know that, interaction can occur between individuals, between individual with group, as well as between groups to the group. In fact, to interact with others we need to communicate and we as a human need a language as a tool to communicate. According to Chaer & Agustina (2014:15) as cited in Rabiah (2012), in traditional way, language is defined as a tool of communication or interaction, which means it is convey the ideas, the concepts or the feelings. In addition, Rabiah (2012), states that the communication tool used by humans as a means to convey arguments and information or idea to others in everyday life is called as a language. According to Chaer (1995:14) as cited in Rabiah (2012), states that the characteristics of the language are as the sounds' system symbol are arbitrary, dynamic, diverse, productive, and humane. Moreover, according to Finegan (2008), in oral communication, this involves an intonation and a tone of voice to convey the information, and face to face communication that will also involve the posture, the gesture, and the physical closeness between the speaker and the listener. Moreover, according to Rabiah (2012), language is also considered as a tool of self-expression and as a tool to show person identity.

Furthermore, based on Finegan's book (2008), states that linguistics is defined as the systematic inquiry on the human language, on its structures and its use and also the connection between them, and also into the development and the acquisition of the language. Moreover, the linguistics' scope is included both the language structure (relates with the grammatical competence) and the language use (and it relates with the communicative competence also). Based on Davies (2007) the applied linguistics defined by Guy Cook, it is as the academic discipline relates with language knowledge to decision making in the real world. Furthermore, according to Gumperz (1971) as cited in Wardhaugh & Fuller's book (2006), sociolinguistics is about the correlation between a social structure and a linguistics structure. The function of the language from a sociolinguistics' perspective is that can be seen in the terms of the speakers, the listeners, the codes, the topics, and the conversation goals (Rabiah, 2012). Furthermore, according Amberg & Vause 's book (2010), language is considered as the main communication tool, and a communication always occur in a social context, so it requires an understanding of the acknowledgement of the relationship between a language and the people who use it so that communication can run effectively. Besides a reflection of the speeches between man and woman is considering as a gender difference, their different living styles and attitudes also included in it (Gu, 2013). Therefore, there is a relation between the language and gender. According to, Wardhaugh (2010) as cited in Van Han (2014), states that women more likely to use polite forms and more compliments than men. Also,

women prefer to avoid powerful, authoritative and masculine ways of speaking. According to Shazu (2014), about the differences between a man and a woman in their verbal communication in the quality of speech, such as; a men like to talk loudly, a men has deep pith, a men has relaxed tone, a men has a powerful style, a men has slow rate, and a men has downward inflection. Meanwhile a woman, they like to talk softly, a woman has high pitch, a woman has strident ton, a woman has a powerless style, a woman has fast rate, and upward inflection (Shazu, 2014).

A study that is conducted by Dong (2014) about Gender differences in Language under sociolinguistics. He conducted this research to find out how significant the gender differences in language. Due to different genders, it affects the differences in physiology or psychology, and it affects the characterization of a person in the use of language. It was also stated that men and women differed to a certain degree in terms of phonology, vocabulary, grammar, and choice of syntax. Therefore, the conclusion obtained from this study that, the phenomenon of gender differences is a reflection of cultural psychology and orientation language user social value which is not only influenced by social and environmental pressures but also involves culture and the environment around. Besides that, it is also influenced by the degree of education, age, occupation, status, and changes according to social development.

Moreover, the research about the relationship between language and gender that is conducted by Nguyen Van Han in 2014. This research provides an explanation of the relationship between language and gender using a sociolinguistics approach and this research took place in Vietnam. In this study, the researcher analyzes the social culture that occurs and affects the use of the language by men and women there. However, this study focuses on the socio-cultural in Vietnam.

From those research, we know that there is different language gender in each region which is influenced by social and cultural environment in each region itself. Thus, the research questions of this research as follows; what are the vocabularies usually used by female teenagers in Bubunan Village? And what are the vocabularies that are used by male teenagers in Bubunan Village? Thus, the research objectives should be; to know the vocabularies usually used by female teenagers in Bubunan Village and to know the vocabularies that are used by male teenagers in Bubunan Village.

Method

The type of this research is observational research because the researcher will conduct this research by observing the participants' behavior and speech. This research is using moderate participation since the researcher has relation with the subject and also doing observation towards the subject. The samples of this Research are female teenagers in Bubunan village and male teenagers in Bubunan village. The setting of this research is Bubunan village, which this village is included as a part of Seririt district, Buleleng Regency in Bali province. The researcher conducts the research by taking a note of vocabularies that were used in the daily conversation among female teenagers, taking a note of vocabularies that were used in the daily conversation among the male teenagers,

and taking a note of vocabularies that were used in the daily conversation between the female teenagers and male teenagers.

Results

The data that were found by the researcher are, the female teenagers more used the standard language which is more polite than male teenagers but sometimes there is also female teenagers using rude words when interact with the male friends to show her friendly attitude toward the male friends (with a note if they are close enough). Meanwhile, the male teenagers more likely use the rude words and talk so bluntly when talk with the same gender. Yet, the male teenagers will talk softly if they interact with the opposite gender that they are interested with and same goes for the female teenagers. Here are the data were collected by the researcher, as follows:

Table 1. *Vocabularies used by female teenagers and male teenagers*

Female teenagers vocabularies used	Male teenagers vocabularies used
Tyang/ Iyang (me)	Ake (me)
Rage (me)	Cang (me)
Oke (me)	Awake (me)
Ye (you)	Cai (you)
Yane (you)	Ci (you)

Table 2. *Vocabularies used by Female/ Male teenagers when interested with opposite sex*

Female/ Male teenagers vocabularies used when interested with opposite sex
Kamu (you)
Aku (me)
Ayang/sayang (equal with my love)
Beb (equal with baby)
Bli (affectionate call to an older man)
Adi (affectionate call to younger woman)

Table 3. *Vocabularies used by Female/ Male teenagers when just try to friendly with opposite sex*

Female teenagers vocabularies used when just try to friendly with opposite sex
Cai (you)
Ci (you)
Oke (me)
Ake (me)
Awake (me)

Conversation 1

- Rani : "Eh Santi kenapa adi sedih keto?"
("hey, why you look so sad?")
- Santi : "Oo Ran, duh jelek ti be jenenge nganggo bajune ene oo? Menurut yane engken Ran?"
("Well, Ran. Do I look ugly using this cloth? What do you think Ran?")
- Rani : "Tusing melah seh bajune, jegeg kok. Cuman warnane agak bes terang tapi melah kok."
("No, it is good on you, you are beautiful, just the color is a little bit bright but still it is good on you")

Conversation 2

- Lara : "Din, engken jeneng make up yange, melah sing?"
("How do my make up? Is it good or not?")
- Dina : "Yehh be dueg sehhh jani meseh, tapi warna lipstick ne bes merah, lain kali warna ne ane ringan ringan gen anggo"
("how awesome you can do make up now, but your lipstick's color is too red, maybe next time you should choose the light one")

Conversation 3

- Indri : "Aduhhh jegeg ajaan timpal yange jani"
(woow my friend looks so beautiful nowadays")
- Gita : "Iiii bise dogenan neee nok"
(Equal with do not exaggerate it in shy way)

The Female teenagers more likely give sweet response or give compliment rather than say it bluntly and they are more expressively in their conversation. They also prefer using the polite subject like "Yange, and Yane"

Conversation 4

- Dedek : halo engken kabare ci jani? Adi makin ngemokohang gen cai jani ne
(Hey, how have you been? It looks you get fat now)
- Gede : oo nok, makan gen gegaen ake ne jani dijumlah
(Yeah, I eat a lot these days)

Conversation 5

- Danang : (come to the ceremony event in Nyoman house)
Nyoman : "Yeek Danang, mai negak malu, be makan? Biasane ci mai kan ngalih makan.
Mai nae makan de misi lek lek keto."
("Hey Danang, sit here first. Have you already eaten? Isn't it you come to this event to eat? Come on don't be shy let's eat!")
Danang : "Oke jani cang kemu"
("alright I will go")

The male teenagers more likely to say it honestly and kind of blunt to show their closeness. They also use the rude subject to show his closeness like; Cai, Ci, Cang, and Ake.

Conversation 6

- Gede : "Adi be makan semengan?"
("honey, have you eat this morning?")
Iluh : "sube bli, men bli sube?"
("already honey, how about you?")

Conversation 7

- Nyoman : "Beb aku kal ngae tugas malu nah, nyanan biin aku nelfon kamu"
(Babe, I am going to do my task, later on I will call you again")
Ketut : "Enah beb, semangat nugas"
("Okay Babe, cheer up do the task")

It shows that the conversation between the female teenagers and the male teenagers when they are dating they will choose the affectionate word when they are interact each other like; Bli-Adi, beb or bebeb.

Conversation 8

- Female : "Woy engken kabar ci?"
("Hey how are you?")
Male : "Ake baik, men ci engken?"
(I am fine, how about you?)

It is rarely happened, except the female and male know each other well and consider their relation just as a close friend.

Discussion

So from the explanation above, after seeing the data that were collected by the researcher we know that, the vocabularies used by the female teenagers in Bubunan village is more polite and does not say the fact bluntly they choose polite word to say the truth to make the speakers not feeling hurt by the words and also they like to express their words by using "iii...) or "aaa..." to make their conversation more lively and add some emotional feeling into it. Therefore, the vocabularies they used such as: "Iyang", "Yane", "Tyang", "Saya" which means "I" or "Me". Meanwhile the male teenagers tend to choose rude vocabularies to show how close they are and say the fact honest and bluntly, such as; "Cang", and "Awake". Then for the interaction between male and female

when they are interested each other they will choose the polite words and speak softly, in the other hand the interaction between male and female teenagers if they are just a friend or close friend they will speak bluntly.

Conclusion

From the explanation above we know that there are several different vocabularies used by male and female teenagers and this is adjusted by the relationship between the speaker and the interlocutor. Since this research is taken place in Bubunan village only, please note that not every person in Bubunan village is the same, but commonly teenagers choose that kind of vocabulary when interacting with each other. Thus, it is expected not to use these types of vocabulary when interacting with older people or when interacting with a person who has higher status by using those vocabularies because it will be considered as an impolite attitude. That kind of vocabulary used commonly happened among teenagers, but it does not mean all teenagers. Since there are also several things that need to be considered, including the environment, and the relation between the speaker and the listener, not to mention everyone has their own characteristics, although they are in the same area, there are people who still hard to accept to be treated like that.

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