

**Politeness Strategies of Representative Act in Discussion Forum  
Indonesia Lawyer Club (ILC)**

**THESIS**

**Submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor  
Degree of English Department Faculty of Arts and Humanities State Islamic  
University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya**



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Surabaya, 11 January 2018



Nurul Fatimatazzahro

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**2018**

## THESIS EXAMINER'S APPROVAL SHEET

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argumentation can then be seen as composed of elementary speech acts belonging to the category of assertive act or representative act. In this present study, researcher focuses to investigate representative in argumentative concept.

Deliver kinds of representative act need strategies to avoid controversy or misunderstanding between speaker and hearer. Indonesia which have different culture may have different understanding in deliver each utterances. So, it is important for speaker to have face saving in deliver an utterance. Based on Villki (2007), she said that Fraser (1990) posited main ways of viewing politeness in research is for face-saving and face threatening.

In other hand, politeness become important in some roles of communication: to redress some rude utterances, to succeed the speakers speaking goals and to make the utterances acceptable by hearers. It is not only in concept of directive utterances but utterances such state, claim, complain and so on also need strategy to deliver well. These kinds are types of utterances included to linguistic branch, speech act (representative act). Whereas representative act itself is an act “to commit the speaker (in varying degrees) to something's being the case, to the truth of the expressed proposition” (Searle:1976). In other words, representative act is to commit the speaker to the truth expressed by the speaker. It is also means that utterances which contain the speakers’ attempt to fit their word to the world or incorporates their belief in what they speak.

Goffman (1959) first define concept of face, then Brown and Levinson (1987) established that idea as something that is managed in interaction through the use of politeness features. That concept are threatened to varying degrees, giving rise to the FTA (Face Threatening Acts) and require the use of politeness strategies to maintain harmony and undamaged face.

In linguistic studies, politeness strategies and speech act (representative act) are branches that can use to investigate that language phenomenon together. It is because some types of speech act also need strategies to deliver well and extend appropriately. Leech (1983) states that “when we talk about speech acts, we must distinguish between positive politeness, which increases the politeness in the case of inherently polite speech acts, and negative politeness which reduces the impoliteness of inherently impolite speech acts.” It means that the study of speech act is closely related to the concept of politeness strategies. Positive and negative politeness strategies represent polite and impolite speech act. In conclusion, it makes the researcher want to investigate the combination of politeness and representative act in concept of argumentation in discussion forum.

In recent years, there are some researches that combining politeness strategy with some types of illocutionary act. Those researches that have been done commissive act (Nurhasanah et.al., 2014) and (Al-Bantani, 2013), directive (Afrani, 2015, Trisnawati, 2011) commissive and directive act (Wise, 2011), expressive (Utami et. al. 2013, Trujillo, 2011, Wegner, 2012, Kurdghelashvili, 2015, Fauzi, 2017) and representative (Aulia, 2013).

In Al-Bantany (2013) study, she focuses to examine the use of commissive in debate. To examine these combination theory, the previous researcher described the types of politeness strategies of commissive by descriptive concept that not considering the truth or falsity of the data obtained. He also used quantitative method to identify the most use of commissive speech act, then he was interpreted it to show the implication of politeness strategies.

In Wise (2011) study focuses on combining politeness with directive and commissive in language differences use, Spanish and English, in magazine advertisements. In this study, the previous researcher found that speech acts within the Spanish and English advertisements in this data set tend to orient towards positive politeness strategies.

Same with Aulia's (2013) study that investigates politeness strategies of representative act in utterances that triggering controversy, this study also investigates the same theme. But, the differences between the previews study is this study investigates utterances in concept of argument in discussion forum. And also the present researcher increase it with add the analysis condition of the speaker when use in uttering politeness strategies of representative act. It makes us know what condition can be token to be fulfilled when speech act is performed.

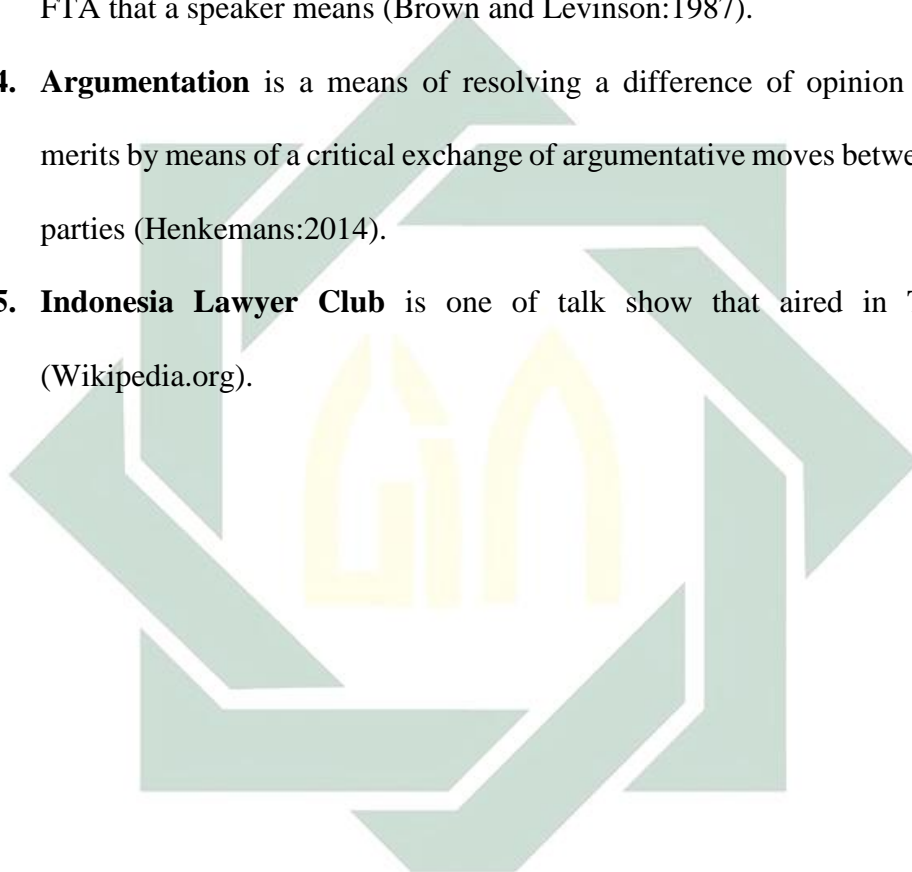
Indonesia Lawyers Club chooses as the subject of this study because this is a discussion forum that have and contain argument situation. This forum discusses about topic that be trending in Indonesia. The topic of discussion in this talk show contains controversy among audiences in the discussion. The







- 1.6.2. Representative act** is to commit the speaker (in varying degrees) to something's being the case, to the truth of the expressed proposition (Searle:1976).
- 1.6.3. Politeness strategies** are strategies that are used to avoid or minimize the FTA that a speaker means (Brown and Levinson:1987).
- 1.6.4. Argumentation** is a means of resolving a difference of opinion on the merits by means of a critical exchange of argumentative moves between two parties (Henkemans:2014).
- 1.6.5. Indonesia Lawyer Club** is one of talk show that aired in TVOne (Wikipedia.org).







speaker performs when he/she makes an utterance (Austin:1962). According to Yule (1996), speech act is the actions performed via utterances. Speech act include real-life interactions and require not only knowledge of the language but also appropriate use of that language within a given culture.

Base on the Austin opinion, there are three kinds of speech act; locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. First, locutionary act is performance of an utterance, it also the simple act of a speaker saying something, the act producing a meaningful linguistic expression. Second, illocutionary act is the real actions which are performed by the utterance, such as request, giving, apology, greeting, etc. Third, perlocutionary act is the effect of the utterance on the listener. It refers to the effect this utterance has on the thoughts or actions of the other person (such as someone does that somebody wants). According to Searle, illocutionary act was divided into five categories:

- a. Declarative are the acts containing utterances that are intended to alter the world.
- b. Directive is refer to the attempts made by the speaker to get the addressee to do something.
- c. Representative speech act is the act to commit the speaker (in varying degrees) to something's being the case, to the truth of the expressed proposition.
- d. Expressive are the acts which express the psychological state specified in the sincerity condition about the state of affairs specified in the propositional condition.





























## 2.2. Review Related Literature

There were some researches have been done that focus on combining politeness strategies with one of the types of illocutionary act. Al-Bantany (2013) entitled *The Use of Commissive Speech Acts and Its Politeness Implication: A Case of Banten Gubernatorial Candidate Debate*, she focused to examine the use of commissive in debate. To examine these combination theory, the previous researcher described the types of politeness strategies of commissive by descriptive concept that not considering the truth or falsity of the data obtained. He also used quantitative method to identify the most use of commissive speech act, then he was interpreted it to show the implication of politeness strategies. The result of the study found that commissive speech acts were mostly realized through guarantee (53.7%), followed by promise (38.9%), and refusal (7.4%). It is also found that in terms politeness, all the candidates appear to behave in relatively the same way. This seems to result from the weightiness which is not largely different and the candidates' consideration that the panelists and other candidates are only media to speak to a party that has the ultimate power, i.e. the people of Banten.

In Utami et. al. (2013), *Expressive Speech Act Of Judges' Narratives in X-Factor Indonesia Talent Show on Rajawali Citra Televisi Indonesia (Rcti): A Pragmatic*, was found the types of expressive speech act of juges' narrative and politeness strategies and substrategies used in X-Factor Indonesia talent show. In this study used descriptive method. The data of the study was the judges narrative of X-Factor Indonesia. The data analyzed according to Searle's speech act and Brown and Levinson's politeness strategies. the result show that expressive speech

act of judges narrative of X-Factor Indonesia are praising, congratulating, thanking and criticizing in positive politeness, bald on record and off record strategies.

Aulia (2013), *Politeness Strategies Usage in Accompanying Assertive illocutionary Acts on Barack Obama's Speech and Interview Toward the Development of Islamic Center Near Ground Zero*, has done her study about politeness strategies that focus on assertive (representative) acts in Obama's speech that can trigger the controversy within American society around the world. She examine the types of politeness strategies on Obama's utterances, assertive acts. From these review of researches above, research about the combination of politeness strategies in representative acts is rarely done by some researchers. It is because some types of representative acts rare apply with politeness strategies.

Wulandari (2015) has done her thesis entitled *Representative Illocutionary Acts in Hans Christian Andersen's Selected Fairy Tales*. In her thesis was to find out representative illocutionary act and to reveal the reason why those representative s are employed in 10 selected fairy tales of Hans Christian Andersen. This study found 9 paradigm cases of representative illocutionary act which appear in 10 selected fairy tales; asserting, explaining, believing, convincing, suggesting, describing, affirming, swearing, and telling. The most dominant used is asserting and believing. It is to show the speaker's care toward the hearer and to convey information in order to make the hearer understand.

In Riza (2017) thesis entitled *Positive Politeness Strategies as Reflected by the Character in Medea Drama Script* examined positive politeness strategies that expressed and maxim violation that applied by the character *Medea*. The result





## **3.2. Data Collection**

### **3.2.1. Data and data sources**

The data of this research was be conversations or utterances of participant in the discussion forum Indonesia Lawyer Club (ILC) that contained of politeness strategies in representative act. The data collected from video that had been download in YouTube channel Indonesia Lawyer Club. The source of data selected randomly based on the topic that triggering controversy of Indonesia society in current time. Theme about Ahok apology was always triggering controversy among some groups of religion especially in Islam and Christian. There were seven videos entitled “Setelah Ahok Minta Maaf” chosen as the data sources. The duration of the video was more than twenty minutes each.

The researcher typed the transcription of the video in Microsoft Word because there is no script that is provided. Total transcription that was typed is 55 pages from seven videos. This discussion included Karni Ilyas as the presenter and the audiences from police; Komesnu Polri, Boy Rafli, and Kombes POL Sulistiono, from figure of Moslem; Dahnil Azhar, Syafii Maarif, Syaifudin Amtsir, and Tengku Zulkarnain, supporter of Ahok (Basuki Tjahaja Purnama); Muannas, Guntur Romli, and Effendi Choirie, Ahmad Dani as a musician, Brili Agung as a linguist, Buni Yani etc.

### **3.2.2. Instruments**

In this research instrument is a mechanical tool or implement, especially one for delicate or scientific work (Dictionary.com). So the main instrument is the researcher itself that was be one of important thing in collecting and analyzing data. Another instrument in this research is video discussion of Indonesia Lawyer Club (ILC) that downloaded from YouTube. It is because the impossibility of the writer to collect the data from talk show directly. So, the researcher only download the video of talk show that was available in YouTube channel Indonesia Lawyer Club.

### **3.2.3. Techniques of data collection**

In data collection, the writer downloaded the data source from YouTube. First, the writer watched it to inspect the source of data are clear and select based on the topic that trigger controversy. The data sources that were collected then transcribed based on the transcription convention. It got the script transcription to make a code to identify the utterances that contained representative act.

### **3.3. Data Analysis**

The data analyzed by using descriptive method. The researcher described the data use representative theory by Searle (1976) and politeness strategies by Brown and Levinson (1987). There are some steps that will do:













24,35% (77 utterances) of statement as the most type that spreaded by the speaker. Explanation types found 23,71% (74 utterances), conclude found 9,05% (22 utterances), report found 6,73% (21 utterances), assert and suggestion found 4,80% (15 utterances), hypothesis found 2,05% (5 utterances), claim found 0,64% (2 utterances) and then swear found 0,32% (1 utterance).

Different with positive politeness strategies, in the types of negative politeness strategies not found all types of representative act. There are eight types that found in 33 utterances; explanation, suggestion, conclude, report, assert, complain and claim. The most types of representative act that used this strategies is statement. Statement types found 4,48% (14 utterances). The other types not much found such as explanation and suggestion found 1,28% (4 utterances), conclude and report found 0,96% (3 utterances), assert found 0,64% (2 utterances) and complain and claim found 0,4% (1 utterance) each.

In bald on record types, there are also found eight types of representative act; assert, explanation, statement, complain, conclude, hypothesis, claim and report. Statement types used most in this strategies. The data of statement found 4,48% (14 utterances), complain found 3,20% (10 utterances), report found 1,92% (6 utterances), explanation and conclude found 0,64% (2 utterances) each, and assert, hypothesis and claim found 0,64% (1 utterance) each.





























































