

**ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS EXPRESSED ON GARY WEBB
IN “KILL THE MESSENGER” MOVIE**

THESIS

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DECLARATION

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Surabaya, 10th July 2018

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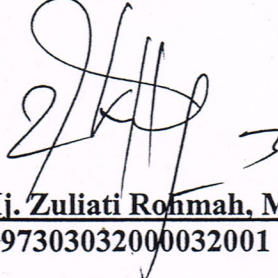
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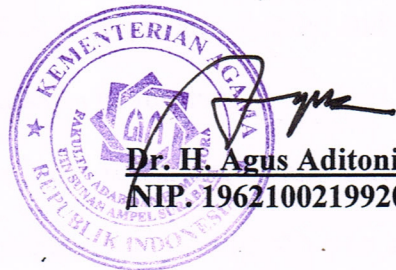
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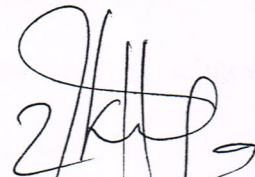
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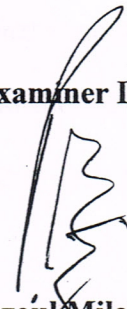
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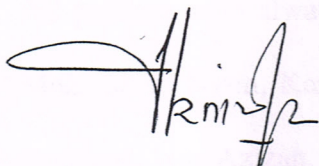
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order to get the certain purpose, it can be defined as speech acts although in written,

On the other hand, speech acts originally come from J. L. Austin's theory on his work *How To Do Things With Words* (1962). He mentions that in the way of saying something, we are (actually) doing something. It emphasizes that when people are uttering something, they give effect to the hearer (Brown and Yule, 1983). Besides that, he divides the part of speech acts into three sections: locutionary act which means as the act of saying something; illocutionary which is known as the act performed in saying something; and perlocutionary act which is understood as the act performed by uttering something (Riemer, 2010; Cutting, 2002).

The term of speech act which has been performed by Austin also produced 5 kinds of illocutionary acts types: verdictive, exercitivities, commissive, behavitives and expositives. In this case, verdictive means speech acts that refer to false and true. Then, exercitives indicates speech acts which occur because of privilege and directionary. While the term of commissive shows speech act which come from promise or action that makes the speaker doing action. Thus, behavitives is speech acts that show social responsibility or sympathy. Then expositive means speech acts utilized to simply a term or definition (Austin, 1962).

By that case, John R. Searle, a professor of Philosophy on University of California Berkeley, states that the term of Austin still need to be criticized

(Searle, 1979). He mentions that for several cases the largely term have no clear understanding. So that he divides the (new) term of illocutionary acts into five types: assertive which means committing speaker to the truth proposition; directive which is known as giving effect to the hearer by influencing through utterance; commissive which is understood as a form of utterance that function to state promise or offer; expressive which means as giving psychological attitude to hearer through utterance, and declarative which is understood as a form utterance that give the content of utterance to the reality (Leech, 1983).

Moreover, study of speech acts (especially illocutionary) have been investigated by many researchers. They apply illocutionary acts into any kinds of certain subjects, such as movie, news paper, drama script, novel etc. For instance, the research which contains illocutionary acts are: Azizah (2015); Rahmah (2009); Muttaqin (2013); Fitri (2011); Andriyansyah (2015); Syah et. all. (2014); Mashumah (2014); Muarifah (2016); Nisak (2016); and Putri (2016). All of those researchers examine the term of illocutionary acts in different methods and problem.

Furthermore, the study illocutionary act which is applied on movie have been done by Syah, et al (2014). They discussed illocutionary acts of commands on the main character in *Despicable Me* movie. They focused on identifying form of sentence used by main character in *Despicable me*. From their research, Syah et al found two forms in command utterances. They were imperative and declarative forms of sentence. Yet, this research also shows the weakness. They only focus on

obtaining the data from command on the movie, so that, they cannot find a lot of finding in the term of illocutionary acts that included apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, and promise or request etc. Moreover, the data are taken only from Gru's utterance as prime character. While, in this case the interesting of communication, in fact, occurred on minion who have unique pattern of communicating. So that, in this case the researcher tries to fix this gap into his research. He wants to complete the weakness by giving all of Searle's theory about illocutionary types on the main character of (Michael Cuesta)'s *Kill the Messenger*.

Then, Azizah (2015) also investigated illocutionary acts and the context on *Akeelah and the Bee* film. She focused on the utterance of main character. Her study found four types of illocutionary acts: directive, assertive, expressive and commissive. Here the most dominant type was directive illocutionary acts. Moreover, she chose to investigate the subject because there were a lot educational values on that movie. Then, this study also showed that the type of directive illocutionary acts occur when Akeelah—as main character—was doubt to answer, or even cannot answer. However in this study researcher cannot find the function of illocutionary acts, because Azizah did not focus on that. By that case this present study tries to complete the gap by finding the function of illocutionary acts.

Moreover, the similar research also has been finished by Muttaqin (2013). He also observed illocutionary acts to Mustapha Akkad's movie according to

Searle's theory. He focused on the utterance of Zaid as the main character. He found four types of illocutionary acts, there were representative (assertive), directive, commissive, and declarative. Based on this case, he found that the most dominant type of this research was representative illocutionary acts. In this study the researcher did not find the functions of illocutionary acts. So that, researcher tries to fix it into his research.

In other side, Ma'shumah (2014) investigated the illocutionary acts (function and types) in Reader Forum of *Jakarta Post News Paper*. She found that all of the types of illocutionary act were used in the reader's forum of *Jakarta Post*. They were assertive act, directive act, commissive act, expressive act and declarative act. Her study concluded that the most dominant type of illocutionary acts used on her subject was assertive, and the most dominant function of illocutionary acts was collaborative. In other side, this study shows that the subject of research is based on written. This condition influences the result of study. So that, in this side the researcher tries to fix his research by identifying another subject; it is the utterance on main character on *Kill The Messenger* movie.

By this condition, researcher is convinced to investigate the utterances of Gary Webb on this movie. At least there are several reasons appear. First of all, *Kill The Messenger* movie is adapted from true story of Gary Webb, so, the data taken on this movie are closely to the real life. Secondly, from the website <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1216491/awards> can be seen that this movie gained

2.2.2. Perlocutionary acts

Perlocutionary act is the result or the effect of illocutionary act which is done by hearer. From the example above, the effect of the words CC and BB, AA brings the social books from bookstore. It concludes as perlocutionary acts. It is because the effect has been done by hearer. It deals with what Curtin (2002) said that perlocutionary act is ‘what is done by uttering the words’; the effect on the hearer, and the hearer’s reaction.

2.2.3. Illocutionary Acts

Mey (2009) noted that illocutionary act is a connection of the reality to the action when people say it with some goals. On other hand, it means an act that is doing in speaking. Therefore, in Mey’s definition, the term of illocutionary act includes accusing, apologizing, blaming, congratulating, declaring war, giving, permission, joking, marrying, nagging, naming, promising, ordering, refusing, swearing, and thanking (Mey, 2009).

From the example above, illocutionary act can be seen when CC and BB deliver their utterance to the AA. *Could you bring me social book, please?* and *Me as well?*, are the types of utterance that concern to request to the hearer to do something, and this term called as illocutionary acts (Cutting, 2002). Moreover, Reimer (2010) conducted the illocutionary act as the act which occurs in saying something. Thus, Reimer continued, in illocutionary acts appeared illocutionary force such as, thanking, congratulating and advising (Reimer, 2010). Furthermore,

the issue. The agreement runs so complicated, but in the end, director of media grants Garry wishes.

Gary then goes to many places; from prison, forest, in another country, until near of the circle of American Defense officials. He asks to one informant into another. Shortly, he is convinced and found the fact that the CIA is really involved. He is also eager to publish it to the public.

A few days before he writes the story, he is called by several CIA. Those people do not like Garry's efforts to publish the story. They even mention Gary's family, which can be meant that they are seriously threatening if the news really came out. Gary is not afraid to face it. In fact he decides to speed up to write the story.

He writes the news and publishes into the public. Public runs sensationally and strongly condemned what CIA has done. Demonstration happens everywhere, while the big newspapers felt beaten for losing start in preaching the issue. Finally, other newspapers flock and find out more about the issue. Gary starts to be called everywhere.

At the same time, some people are digging and looking for the mistake in the news Garry wrote. The results of his coverage are investigated, and the content in the news is highlighted. He (Garry) is considered to do false coverage, because some respondents in the news source inform that they do not know about Garry and argue that they never give details for the news. Unfortunately, during the

The conversation happens in the phone between Gary and Rich (a reporter from Washington post). At that time, the news written by Gary already spread in public. But some official's government deny the news and assumes that the story from Gary. It culminates when a Washington Post reporter traces the results of Gary's investigation. But Gary regrets, because, almost all the sources of the news of Rich tend support CIA.

This situation shows that Gary complaining to Rich, his colleague on San Jose Mercury News. He complains about his story about CIA that does not put any informant out of CIA. It also shows that the function of illocutionary acts here, is reprimanding. Moreover, it is supported with the sentence *Are you following up on anything I wrote or are you just talking to the CIA?* That beckons Gary reprimands Rich about the story.

4.3. Discussion

In the *Kill The Messenger* movie, Garry pronounces almost all types and functions of illocutionary acts. In this case, the researcher focuses on two main themes: illocutionary acts based on Searle's theory, and illocutionary function which has been initiated by Leech in 1983. This research concludes that the largest illocutionary acts type and function applied by Gary in his communication is assertive illocutionary acts, or especially is stating. This type of illocutionary act gives much domination in Garry's utterances. Generally, Gary uses the

communication on Radio Mayangkara Blitar. In his research Fikri mentions that the way of communication journalists there based on events that occur, follow-up on news that has been obtained from the editorial room. Besides that, the dominations of Gary's speech of using stating style is probably done as an attempt to further dig the data from the informant. Because, in the field, most of the interviewees interviewed by Gary tend to be silent and do not want to reveal more data.

Meanwhile, similar research also has been done by previous researchers. Putri (2016) shows that, the biggest result of Barrack Obama in Election Debate 2008-2012, is representative (assertive) especially informing to assert. This result is understandable because from the beginning, the research focused on the issue of representative illocutionary acts. Sources of the data in Putri's research also taken from the utterance of Obama in Election Debate in the video traced since 2008-2012.

The difference of the result of Putri's research with this research is from the beginning Putri does not involve all elements of illocutionary acts in his research, but she only focus on the issue of representative. While, here, this study contains all types of illocutionary acts proposed by Searle in Leech (1983).

Meanwhile, the results of this study also different from the research that has been done by Muarifah (2016). Muarifah examines all types of illocutionary acts which were contained in "The Zoo Story" drama by Edward Albee. The results of this study reveal that the dominant type of illocutionary act used by

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